

# CANYONS

***Welcome!***

*Type:  
Nature,  
Scenic Drive,  
Charming Village,  
National parks*



# ABOUT TOUR



Experience the whole Montenegro in just one day! This tour offers you the possibility to get to know Montenegro and its four different geographical areas, from the blue sea to the high black mountains.

**Type:** Nature, Scenic Drive, Charming Village, National parks

**Length:** 12-14 Hours

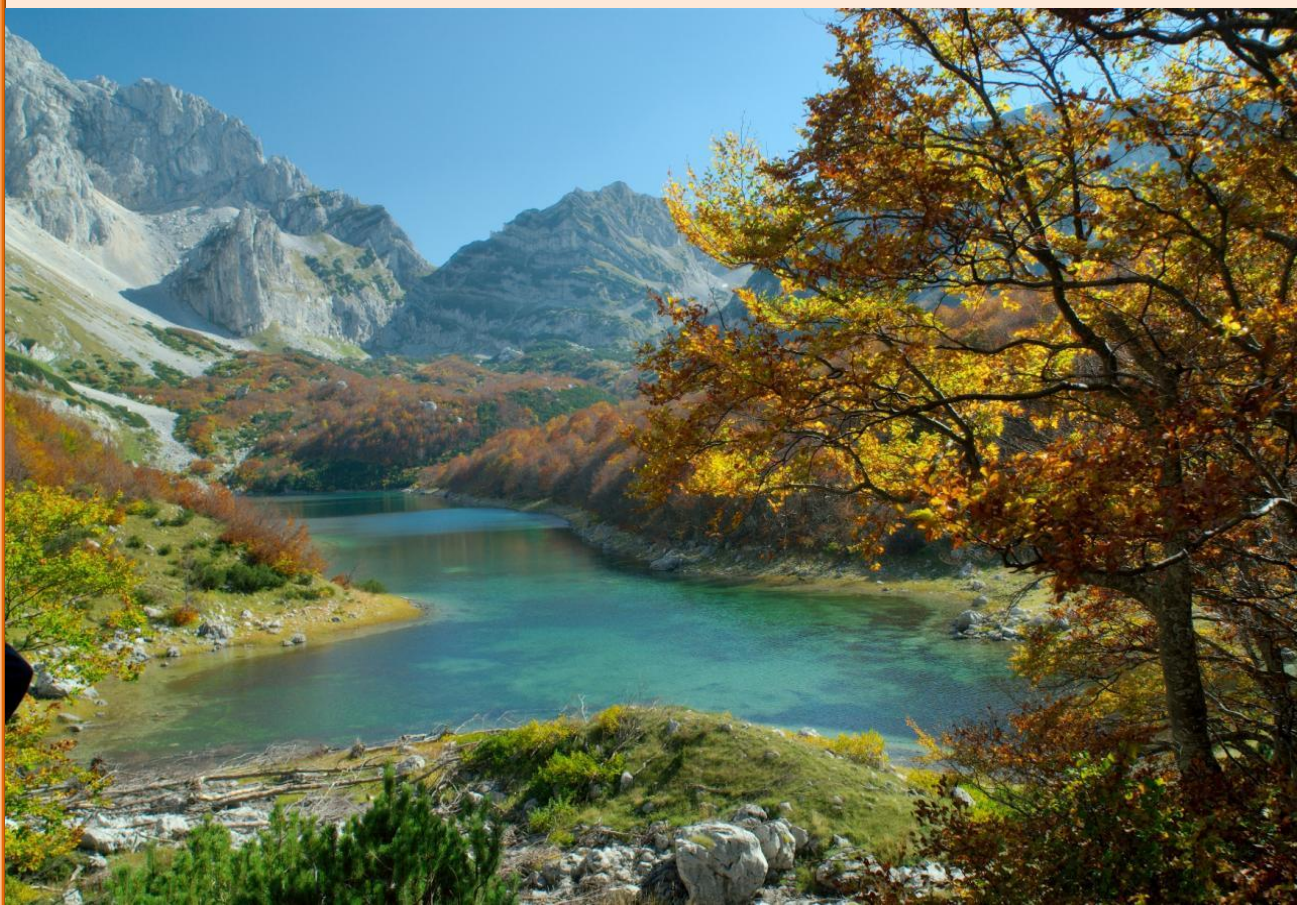
**Walking:** Medium

**Mobility:** No wheelchairs

**Guide:** Licensed Guide

**Language:** English, Italian, French, German, Russian (other languages upon request)

On your tour of Lake Skadar, we will drive you by the coastline besides towns like Budva, Milocer, Sveti Stefan and Petrovac. The road takes us along the slopes of Pastrovska Gora toward Skadar Lake, the largest lake on Balkan Peninsula. Our tour takes you on the perfect route to see a panorama view Lake of Skadar. Then comes Virpazar, a picturesque little town situated at the very lake shore. Further through the Zeta valley to the capital Podgorica. First coffee break will be 10 kilometers after Podgorica. After coffee break curvy road leads us through the stunning Platije canyon – Canyon of Moraca River, passing by Moraca Monastery and the towns of Kolasin and Mojkovac, along the Tara River, we continue towards the Durmitor massif. The highlight of the excursion is the view from the Djurdjevica Tara Bridge, one of Europe's most beautiful bridges.





# MORACA CANYON



There are many deep and long canyons in Montenegro, but there are not many like Platije – canyon of the river Moraca, which is truly amazing.

There are some parts of the canyon whose rocks are sharpened like diamonds and are so polished that only lichens and mosses can live on them. The sun illuminates rocks of the canyon in so many ways that every time you pass it you can see different colors and shadows, immortalized in paintings of many painters - not only from Montenegro. Moraca is one of the longest rivers in the central part of Montenegro. Its canyon and water are the habitat of many endemic species. Apart from brown trout, in Moraca you can find indigenous marble trout, one of the largest salmon species in Europe (*Salmo marmoratus*) but also endemic variety of tooth trout - trout with unusually large teeth (its name comes from Latin: *Salmo dentex*). In its lower course, the river is known for deep whirls, especially near the Vizier's Bridge (Vezirov most) in Podgorica. Even though it runs through the capital of Montenegro it is still wild and untamed. On its way to Lake Skadar it collects numerous tributaries and brings water to the largest lake on the Balkan Peninsula.





# MORACA MONASTERY



Moraca Monastery is a Serbian Orthodox monastery located in the northern part of the Moraca River Canyon in central Montenegro, and he is one of the most monumental Orthodox Medieval monuments in Montenegro, whose church is over 24 meters long and about 20 meters high. Moraca Monastery was founded in 1252 by Prince Stefan Nemanjic, son of Vukan Nemanjic, king of Zeta, the grandson of Stefan Nemanja. This is written above the western portal entrance with fresco of the Holy Virgin with the Christ and two angels, painted around 1260. Monastery was built at place where water of Svetigora falls down in Moraca. Many people consider this waterfall as the most beautiful in the Moraca River Canyon. The frescos and icons of Moraca Monastery are masterpieces of medieval art and they were made in period between the thirteenth and the sixteenth century. There are, among other things, a sacred host tray made of silver from 1723, baptistery made of marble and a rod, which according to a legend belonged to St. Sava and relics such as hand of St. Haralampije.

Moraca Monastery complex consists of an assembly church, devoted to the Assumption of Mary, a small church, devoted to Saint Nicholas, and lodgings for travelers. The main door of Moraca Monastery has a high wall which has two entrances. The assembly church is a big one-nave structure, with the dome and large narthex, completed in the style of Raska architecture which is quite different from the maritime churches built at that time. The main portal of Moraca Monastery is built in the Romanesque style.





# KOLASIN



Kolasin, a town near the River Tara, is located 960 m above sea level and is surrounded by miraculous nature.

Kolasin is a small fortress-town that was constructed by the Turks in the mid-seventeenth century. It is located where several routes cross and it developed under the Turks until 1878 when it officially became part of Montenegro. Along with surrounding, Kolasin is a significant climatic, hydrologic and ecological hub of Montenegro and the Balkans. Having in mind that Kolasin is a small tourist town development of Kolasin as a mountain tourism destination is based on winter and summer tourism, is one of the most attractive and most modern tourism centers in Montenegro and the region.

The offer of Kolasin is diversified and it may satisfy the tastes and needs of old and young, those who want tranquility and those who are attracted by the adventure and excitement. Only the stay in this area provides all the benefits of air spa. Mountain climate, an altitude and fresh air, along with healthy natural food guarantee refreshment and recovery.





# CANYON OF TARA RIVER



Tara River is the longest river of Montenegro (156 km). Tara River is derived of rivers of Opasnica and Verusa and of winter snow and seasonal rains, with its source in the foot of Komovi Mountains, and together with Piva River, close to the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina, forms Drina River from Scepan polje. Tara River carved one of the deepest canyon gorges in the world which is 93 km long and more than 1300 meters high what make Tara River Canyon the deepest river canyon in Europe and the second deepest canyon in the world right after the Colorado River canyon. Protected by UNESCO since 1977, Tara River Canyon is one of the top 25 recognized world nature heritage sites, accessible for hikers and bikers. Tara River water quality and purity is so clean that you can drink water from it. All along its flow, the Tara River gets large quantities of water from numerous sources, and form breathtaking waterfalls and scenic cascades, whose roar is heard on the very peaks of the canyon. There are rocky and pebbly terraces surrounded with thick pine forests, sandy beaches, high cliffs, steep sides and more than 80 large caves along the Tara River Canyon.

Part of the river Tara, known as "Tear of Europe" runs through in the National Park "Durmitor".







In a small area of Montenegro, nature is very complex, rich and dynamic. It changes now and then – from small valleys and the coast to rough mountain gorges, canyons and white waters. From climate to flora and fauna and lifestyles of people - diversity is the word that defines nature of this country.

At some points Tara River becomes calm and peaceful. Rare parts where you can cross the river from one side to the other are called "gazovi" (places where you can step in and walk to the other part). Near Bistrica, bed of the river is so narrow that according to the local people you could jump from one side to the other. This unusual place is called Djavolje lazi (Devil's Bush).

Banks of the river and sides of the canyon are covered in thick vegetation: black pine, black hornbeam, black ash, elm and some linden and at higher altitudes you can find, hornbeam, field maple, beech, etc. In the highest parts of the canyon above 1,000 meters above sea level there are fir trees and spruce. Black pine forest is particularly valuable including the area called "Crna poda", which is the area of rarely tall and thick trees. The trees are over 50 meters tall and 450 years old.

Today, the canyon attracts tourists looking for adventure and a thrilling and direct contact with nature.





# DJURDJEVICA TARA BRIDGE



One of the many attractions is the bridge "Djurdjevica Tara" (pr. Joor-je-vi-tcha Tara). It's a gorgeous building over the second largest canyon in the world, attracting travelers and stopping their breaths. The bridge was designed by Mijat Trojanovic, later, he was a professor of Belgrade University. Construction lasted since 1937. to the end of 1940. In that time, it was the largest road-concrete arch bridge in Europe. Even today, it is one of the most beautiful and highest road arch bridges in the world. Length of the bridge is 365 meters and the height is 172 meters. He has five arches, of which the largest range of 116 meters. Another proof of his builder skills is a construction of the world largest wooden scaffolding that had been made for building the bridge. It is almost incredible fact that people can dare to construct and build such a structure at that time, and with such a technique. However, bridge did not experience the grand opening. War has begun, already in the 17th of April in 1941. First invading tanks have crossed over that bridge. Professor Mijat Trojanovic was in a Nazi concentration camp and the bridge was destroyed. In order to prevent the penetration of the invading units Partisan supreme commander Tito ordered to demolish the bridge, but so that later it can be easily restored. Task was successfully completed by demolition of the smallest arch. After the war, the bridge was rebuilt and is currently one of the biggest attractions for many tourists in Montenegro.





# NATIONAL PARK DURMITOR



This breathtaking national park was formed by glaciers and is traversed by rivers and underground streams. Along the Tara river canyon the dense pine forests are interspersed with clear lakes and harbour a wide range of endemic flora. Durmitor National Park comprises Mount Durmitor plateau and the valley formed by the canyon of the River Tara, incorporating three major geomorphologic features: canyons, mountains and plateau. Because of its geographical location and range in altitude, the park is under the influence of both Mediterranean and alpine microclimates, which has resulted in an exceptional range of species. Durmitor National Park was proclaimed UNESCO Natural Heritage in 1980. Panorama from Durmitor Mountain is memorable and outstandingly impressive is the view to the surrounding mountain chains of Montenegro, intersected with river valleys and picturesque canyons.

As examples of the ethnological heritage of Durmitor Mountain, it is worth mentioning the types of rural houses, so called "savardaks" and mills scattered all over "katuni" – villages and Durmitor's brooks.

In summertime the Durmitor massif is an excellent place for all kinds of active forms of recreation. But in wintertime this is place with the central ski resort Zabljak (1,465 m above the sea level), the highest town in the Balkan region.





# Lakes



At above 1,500 meters above sea level there are 18 glacial lakes. Local people call them "mountain eyes". Among them Black Lake covered with ice and crystals of frozen snowflakes in the winter is the largest and the most beautiful lake. It was named "black" because of the reflection of tall coniferous trees in the lake surrounding it. The entire amazing landscape is dominated by the giant peak Medjed arising above the lake.

The Black Lake - Crno Jezero is divided in two parts by two peninsulas: smaller and larger lake. The narrow and shallow passage Struga connects peninsulas. Walking path goes around the Black Lake that provides premium experience while staying in the marvelous mountain. In midsummer water temperature in upper layers along the Black Lake shore can reach 20°C or more so is suitable for swimming. Black Lake - Crno Jezero is filled by few creeks and springs of which most powerful is Celina spring. In time of rapid snow melting appearance of the water of Black Lake is accompanied by powerful blast, like a mine explosion.

Between the steep hillsides hidden in the green thick foliage there are the magic beauties of Zmijinje, Barno, Riblje, Vrazje, Modro and the other Durmitor lakes.





# ZABLJAK



Zabljak is situated in the north-east of Montenegro, in the very heart of Durmitor area, at 1456 m above the sea level. It is the town at the highest altitude in the Balkans and the metropolis of mountain tourism in Montenegro.

Zabljak is surrounded with 23 mountain peaks over 2200 meters and 18 majestic glacial lakes. The unique and varied nature in such a small region recommended Zabljak as the ecological capital of the first ecological state on this planet. The deputies of the Folk Assembly of Montenegro, intoxicated with the fresh mountain air, in an out-of-order Assembly, right here, under the blue skies brought forth the Declaration unisonous, making Montenegro the first ecological state on this planet, and made Zabljak its capital. In Zabljak and in nearby villages some 4500 inhabitants live. Tourist season in Zabljak stretches throughout the year – you cannot say which period is best for visiting Zabljak, as every season is uniquely convenient. The breathtaking Durmitor National Park is truly exquisite in terms of its diversities which for its favorable climatic conditions and specific reflection of mountain lakes, breathtaking canyons and blossoming meadows provide unforgettable experience and impressions to every visitor.

In visiting this place you will for sure feel the real peace, the amalgamated tradition with the modern life, an astounding nature, nice highlanders, a lot of unexpected (but nice and interesting), and you will let unpleasant thoughts be bygone....





# NIKSIC



Niksic is the second largest town in Montenegro and it is bordered by six Montenegrin municipalities Kotor, Cetinje, Danilovgrad, Kolasin, Savnik and Pluzine. In the west is the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina. Favorable geographical position and natural conditions have made Niksic to be the crossroads and the junction point for the connection of the mountain, central and coastal region of Montenegro. Niksic played an important role as economic, cultural and administrative center of the central part of Montenegro and Herzegovina, throughout its centuries - long turbulent history and was an important junction point of roads leading from the coast to the interior of the Balkan Peninsula.

During the day, the perfect place to mingle in one of the cafes in the center of the town and have a good time with one of the trademarks of Niksic- world famous Niksic Beer.

Carev Most (The Bridge of the emperor) is situated on the edge of Niksic, on the old road to Podgorica and he is one of the most beautiful bridges in Montenegro. It was constructed in 1896 Carev Most was the biggest construction project from that period. It was built with the support of the Russian Emperor Alexander III after whom the bridge was named. This magnificent bridge was built of quarried stone, at a length of 269 meters, and over 13 meters high in the middle. The bridge was constructed on arches supported by 18 piers.





# PRICES



**Prices from 40,00 € per person**

**Price of the excursions includes:**

1) Transport

- Up to 2 persons – Car Transport
- From 3 to 7 persons - Minivan Transport
- From 8 to 18 persons – Mini bus Transport
- From 18-49 persons - Bus Transport

2) Entrance fee for NP "Durmitor"

3) Tourist Guide Services

PRICE EXCLUDES: Visiting the monastery Moraca - entrance is extra charged 2,00 € per person and meals

***Supplement of your choice: Lunch - usually from 12,00 € to 15,00 € per person at the National restaurant.***







# Price by type of transport:

## Price of this excursion by type of transport:

By Bus (19-49 pax)	Price per person
- Price for person	40,00 €

By Mini bus (8-18 pax)	Price per person
- Price for person	60,00 €

By Minivan (3-7 pax)	Price per person
- Price for 3 persons	170,00 €
- Price for 4 persons	150,00 €
- Price for 5 persons	120,00 €
- Price for 6 persons	100,00 €
- Price for 7 persons	80,00 €

By Car (1-2 pax)	Price per person
- Price for 1 person	350,00 €
- Price for 2 persons	170,00 €





## *ADRIA LINE*

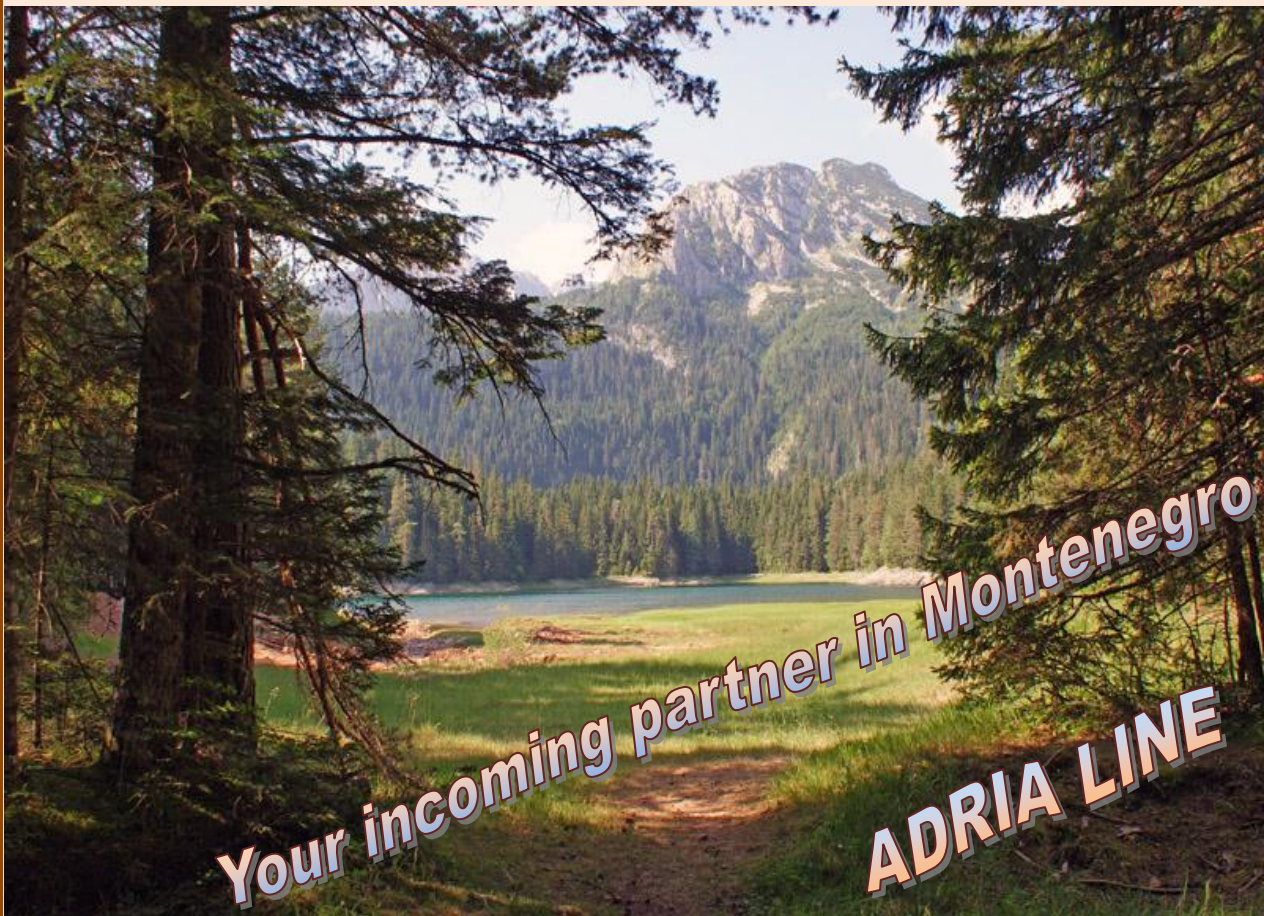
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