



Montenegro

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Konoba Čatovića Mlini (p794)
- ➔ Galion (p793)
- ➔ Restoran Lim (p790)
- ➔ Taste of Asia (p790)
- ➔ Juice Bar (p790)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Palazzo Drusko (p793)
- ➔ Palazzo Radomiri (p793)
- ➔ Hotel Astoria (p790)
- ➔ Old Town Hostel (p793)
- ➔ Hikers Den (p796)

Why Go?

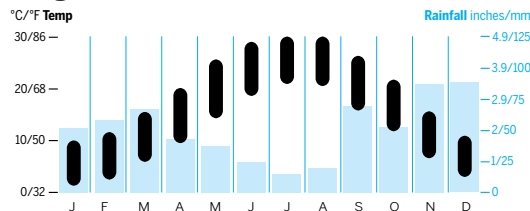
Imagine a place with sapphire beaches as spectacular as Croatia's, rugged peaks as dramatic as Switzerland's, canyons nearly as deep as Colorado's, palazzi as elegant as Venice's and towns as old as Greece's. Then wrap it up in a Mediterranean climate and squish it into an area two-thirds the size of Wales, and you start to get a picture of Montenegro.

More adventurous travellers can easily sidestep the peak-season hordes on the coast by heading to the rugged mountains of the north. This is, after all, a country where wolves and bears still lurk in forgotten corners.

Montenegro, Crna Gora (Црна Гора), Black Mountain: the name itself conjures up romance and drama. There are plenty of both on offer as you explore this perfumed land, bathed in the scent of wild herbs, conifers and Mediterranean blossoms. Yes, it really is as magical as it sounds.

When to Go

Podgorica



Jun Beat the peak-season rush and prices but enjoy the balmy weather.

Sep Warm water but fewer bods to share it with; shoulder season prices.

Oct The leaves turn golden, making a rich backdrop for walks in the national parks.



Montenegro Highlights

- ① Randomly roam the atmospheric streets of **Kotor** (p791) until you're at least a little lost.
- ② Drive the vertiginous route from Kotor to the Njegoš Mausoleum at the top of **Lovćen National Park** (p794).
- ③ Admire the baroque palaces and churches of pretty **Perast** (p793).
- ④ Seek out the spiritual at impressive cliff-clinging **Ostrog Monastery** (p796).
- ⑤ Float through paradise, rafting between the kilometre-plus walls of the **Tara Canyon** (p796).
- ⑥ Dive into Montenegro's history, art and culture in the old royal capital, **Cetinje** (p795).
- ⑦ Watch the beautiful people over the rim of a coffee cup in the cobbled Old Town lanes of **Budva**.