



Bay of Kotor

Includes ➔

Herceg Novi.....	35
Morinj	40
Risan	41
Perast	41
Dobrota	43
Kotor	44
Prčanj	50
Stoliv	50
Lastva	50
Tivat	51
Luštica Peninsula	55

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Konoba Čatovića Mlini (p41)
- ➔ Konoba Feral (p38)
- ➔ Galion (p49)
- ➔ One (p54)
- ➔ Restaurant Conte (p42)

Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Old Town Hostel (p48)
- ➔ Camp Full Monte (p39)
- ➔ Palazzo Radomiri (p43)
- ➔ Forza Mare (p44)
- ➔ Villa Kristina (p56)

Why Go?

Coming from Croatia, the Bay of Kotor (Boka Kotorska, or simply 'the Boka') starts simply enough, but as you progress through fold upon fold of the bay and the surrounding mountains get steeper and steeper, the beauty meter gets close to bursting. It's often described as the Mediterranean's only fjord and even though the geological label is not strictly correct, the mental image that phrase conjures is spot on.

The Boka's compact size means that you can choose a base and put down roots for a week or two, spending your days exploring its hidden nooks. Active types can spend their time kayaking, mountain biking and hiking. Culture vultures can search out interesting art in the museums and numerous churches. History buffs can soak in the ambience of the remnants of the various empires that have passed through. Whatever your angle, there's no escaping the romance of this breathtaking bay.

When to Go

- ➔ May is mainly dry and sees mild temperatures and fragrant Mediterranean foliage in bloom.
- ➔ June is the best month, with temperatures in the high 20s, low rainfall and off-peak prices.
- ➔ The hottest and driest months, July and August, are the busiest and most expensive.

History

While it overlaps at times, this geographically compact area's history stands at a slight remove from that of the rest of Montenegro. Like most of the eastern Adriatic, the Boka was populated by the Illyrian tribes. The bay subsequently became part of the Roman province of Dalmatia and before long lavish Roman villas sprang up along Risan's

waterfront. By the end of the 5th century, with the empire crumbling under barbarian incursions from the north, the Bay of Kotor briefly fell into the hands of the Ostrogoths and then the Slavic tribes.

The Slavic clans of the Boka lived in virtual city states, maintaining allegiances to both the west (Rome) and east (Byzantium). Kotor was eventually incorporated into the



Bay of Kotor Highlights

1 Randomly roaming the atmospheric laneways of **Kotor's Stari Grad** (Old Town, p44) until you're at least a little lost

2 Winding your way to dizzying views on the snaking **back road from Kotor to Lovćen National Park** (p48)

3 Admiring the baroque beauty of historic **Perast's palazzos and churches** (p41)

4 Cooling off in the shade with an icy beverage on **Herceg Novi's Trg Herceg Stepana** (p38)

5 Hiking up to peaceful views and heartbreaking

ruins in the village of **Gornji Stoliv** (p50)

6 Losing yourself within the olive groves in the remote byways of the **Luštica Peninsula** (p55)

7 Paddling your way to island fortresses, remote beaches and sea caves on a **kayaking day tour** (p37)