

Walking Montenegro –Simply Stunning!

Vista Trails is proud to be Montenegro's most comprehensive walking specialist. We offer the widest range of itinerary's to suit all tastes and abilities Single Centre, Two Centre & Multi Location all with excellent service so you can be sure to experience the best the country has to offer

- **Abundance of natural trails for all abilities**
- **Cultural Heritage**
- **Glorious National Parks**
- **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**
- **Truly Wild Beauty**
- **Stunning Scenery**
- **Natural & Social History**
- **Sun, Sea and Mountains**

Escape the crowds and enjoy the idyllic peace as you walk through the breath taking countryside

With bases in the UK and Montenegro we provide an excellent service that you can rely on for your holiday

- **Fantastic Itinerary's**
- **In Country English Host**
- **Excellent local knowledge & guides**
- **Experience the Real Montenegro**
- **Range of Accommodation for all budgets.**
- **Single and Multi Location Options**

Vista Trails Itineraries

We are extremely pleased to present 12 excellent itinerary's, personally organised by your in country host Hugh Chapman. These trails have been handpicked using our extensive walking knowledge and are what we consider to be the best in Montenegro.

Point to Point Walks with Luggage transfer

Forts & Lake Skadar - £595 ex flights
The Merchants Trail - £595 ex flights
King Petar Footsteps - £595 ex flights
Captains and Coronets - £475 ex flights
Montenegro Traveller Special - £695 ex flights

Single Centre Holidays

Coastal Mountains Single Centre Hotel - £595 pp ex flights
Coastal Mountains 4 star Villa All Inclusive - £650 pp ex flights (May 2014 offer price £595)
Durmitor National Park Explorer Single Centre - £595 pp ex flights

Multi Centre Holidays

Lovcen & Durmitor NP Explorer Two Centre - £595 pp ex flights
Durmitor, Sinjavena and Komovi National parks £695pp ex flights
Peak Walking Durmitor, Komovi and Prokletije high mountains £750pp ex flights
Montenegro Traveller Special - £695 pp ex flights
Best of Both Worlds - £595 pp ex flights inc transfers

Airport transfers: Please see rates for each holiday

Our Services

In Country English Host

Vista Trails has first hand expert knowledge of the areas you walk and your host for the week will be Hugh Chapman. He is available 24/7 to ensure the smooth running of your holiday so you can be confident that you have excellent back up support. You will not just be a tourist but will get behind the tourist façade and experience the real Montenegro.

Transfers & Transport

Some itinerary's include airport transfers and we are happy to arrange these where the transfer is not included. All transport whilst your walking ie. Luggage forwarding, trail drop off's & pick up's are included. Depending on party size this will be either our own mini bus or a taxi, we only use reliable and reputable taxi firms.

Guides / Self Guided

We provide trail packs and maps to enable you to self guide however we can offer highly experienced mountain guides to lead the higher grade hikes should you so wish at approx 80 euros a day. At the beginning of every holiday you will meet with Hugh or a local walking expert who will offer you advice on the trails and what to expect. Guides work closely with the Mountain Rescue Service and all the guides have the relevant certificates.

Accommodation & Meals

All our chosen accommodation we have inspected and met the owners so you can be sure of a warm welcome and good service. We prefer small cosy hotels that take in the local culture of the area and provide a more personal service. There are no buffets at this type of hotel enabling you to choose food direct off the menu. People's requirements for lunch vary so you can purchase your lunch from the local deli counters, bakeries and supermarkets or order a packed lunch from your hotel. If you wish to upgrade your accommodation from our selection then please request this when applying and we will do our best to locate you suitable accommodation.

Bespoke Holidays

We offer our standard itineraries however you can pick & mix off the these OR simply contact us with your requirements and we will organise your ideal holiday.

Who Are Vista Trails

Vista Trails has bases in the UK and Montenegro so you can be sure to experience an efficient service that you can rely on.

UK Office - Our UK Office ensures the financial protection of your holiday payment. Vista Trails is the trading name of Country Ventures Ltd a registered company in the UK.

Montenegro Base - Hugh Chapman is an excellent host with a terrific sense of humour. Originally from the UK he has had a varied career spanning agriculture and tourism, particularly anything connected with outdoor life. For 10 years he lived and worked in Kenya organizing wilderness camping and introducing visitors to not only the game parks and wildlife but to the very essence of Africa. He is well known for his support of conservation and rural sustainable development and has left behind many lifelong friends in Africa. Hugh has had connections with Montenegro and the Balkan countries for over six years and now lives and works in a beautiful setting beside the Adriatic. As a keen walker and great host he can make your trip into far more than just a walking holiday. His contacts and friends in ME mean that you will get behind the brochure and have a truly memorable experience.

This brochure does not have any photos so it is easy to print out.

Please look at our website www.vistatrails.com to see the wonderful photos.

Single Centre Walking Holidays

Coastal Mountains

Take this holiday at your own pace and enjoy all the spectacular highlights of the UNESCO Heritage towns, Lustica Peninsular, Lovcen National Park and Lake Skadar

7 nights B&B or All Inclusive single centre coast and mountains daily transfer

We have chosen a comfortable 3 star hotel Bed & Breakfast in Tivat, a lovely town with sea front walks, harbour and the swish Porto Montenegro or you can stay in the 4 star Villa Mandelina on either B&B or All inclusive basis. Accommodation upgrades available for hotels.

Your Bed and Breakfast holiday includes

Accommodation in a 3 star hotel / 4 star Villa (hotel upgrades available on request) All Breakfasts, Transport to and from Trails , Information packs on the area , Trail Packs , 24/7 In Country Host & Trail Support.

It does not include

Lunches / Eve Meals, Flights, Airport Transfers, Personal spending, Extra activities, Travel Insurance.

Costs

Single Centre Coastal Mountains B&B Option £595 pp

Return Transfers: Tivat Free, Podgorica £30 pp, Dubrovnik £40 pp

All inclusive Villa Mandelina Holiday

Dates: 19th April – early June, September and October any start date

Your holiday includes

Accommodation in 4 star Villa, All Inclusive option includes Hot breakfast, packed lunch, tea & cakes , Supper , wine ,beer, local spirits and water, Airport transfers ,Transport to and from Trails , Information packs on the area , Trail Packs , 24/7 In Country Host & Trail Support

It does not include

Flights, Personal spending, Extra activities, Travel Insurance

Costs

Coastal Single Centre Holiday All Villa Mandelina £650 pp sharing ex. Flights
NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT VILLA MANDELINA

Return Transfers: All transfers are included for All inclusive Villa Mandelina

Villa Mandelina has everything you need for a great walking holiday. Hugh Chapman renovated (2010) the property from an old stone village Farmhouse, the place is full of character and charm. The villa can sleep up to 12 in twin/double bedrooms all are ensuite. Enjoy the use of the comfortable lounge or sit and enjoy the sun on one of the many terraces with sea views. Help yourself to tea, coffee from the beverage bar. Enjoy home cooked hearty meals with wine and beer taken outside on the dining terrace or in the main dining room on the large oak table.

There is a flat deck Roman style pool (sun all day) and it is a totally private space with large fully equipped sun terraces, lawns and landscaped gardens. The grounds surround the house and have a volley ball net and table tennis

ITINERARY

This itinerary will enthral you with the constant stunning views and the excellent combination of Mountains, Sea and Heritage. Each day will take you on a different trail where you will experience the many beautiful aspects of coastal Montenegro.

Day 1 - Arrive and transfer direct to your accommodation in Tivat, discuss the walking for the week and receive your trail information.

Day 2 - Lustica Olive Trail

The Lustica peninsular was one the most important olive growing areas in Montenegro. This walk lets you experience the beauty and tranquillity of the Olive Groves some dating back to the Venetian period. Experience the pace of local life as you walk through the countryside. Highlights include stunning views Of Boka Bay and the Adriatic Sea, lunch amongst the olives at Zanjce beach with views to an old island fort and finish at the quaint fishing village of Fort Rose. Walk from the door with pick up at Rose. Distance: 16.5km Time: 5 hours Grade: Easy some gradual climbs.

Day 3 - Vrmac Fort Trail

Montenegro is full of history with many Austro Hungarian Forts, this walk takes you up to the large fort of Vrmac overlooking both the Adriatic Sea & the Kotor fjord. Enjoy exploring the fort and woodland paths before heading off along the ridge to stunning views descend along an old track with glimpses of the sea below. Visit the old village of Gornja Lastva and then descend down to the narrow mouth of the fjord, relax with a drink on the waterfront. 5 min transfer to trail and pick up at the end. (15 mins Villa Mandelina) Distance 16km Time: 6 hours Grade: Moderate Climb 380m Decent 765m to sea level.

Day 4 – King Petar’s Trail - Lovcen National Park

The Lovcen Massif is a beautiful area. The National Park has endless paths for all abilities (we advise on what paths for you to walk) that take in the Beech Woods and rocky ridges with fantastic views and a great ascent to the mausoleum of King Petra of Montenegro. Lovcen is definitely not one to be missed. There is an optional descent from the Park to the old town of Kotor via an old trade route which was once the only route to Kotor, it is a great walk down, a bit narrow in places but worth it for the views. 30 min transfer to National Park (takes out a very steep climb).

Day 5 – Kotor UNESCO World Heritage Site

Kotor is an ancient fortified town with tiny cobbled streets, churches, old palaces and museums. Explore the town and enjoy a coffee at one of the vibrant cafes before walking round the fortifications. Imagine the effort that went into building the walls hundreds of years ago ! At the top enjoy the stunning views across the fjord. 15 mins transfer to Kotor. Distance: 5km Time: 3 hours Grade: Moderate

Day 6 – Royal Palaces & Lake Skadar Trail

Your walk starts with a visit to Cetinje the old Royal Capital of Montenegro, a pretty town home to the beautiful old embassy buildings and Monastery. Your walk descends all the way down an old trade route to the village of Rijeka a tiny village beside one of the rivers that is a source of Lake Skadar. You will experience amazing tranquillity as you pass through tiny hamlets with stunning vistas down to Lake Skadar. In season enjoy a boat ride on the river and glide through the thousands of water lilies as they dance on the water. Take the climb up to the Odbod cave and have a swim in the clear spring pool. Distance: 16km Time: 5 - 6 hours Grade: Easy. Moderate climb to Odbod Cave optional

Day 7 – Poda to Budva

From above the tiny hamlet of Poda you strike out on a path that will take you up beside a stream onto the saddle between the peaks of Golis & Lovcen. With stunning views of the coastline, the tiny island of Sveti Stefan and the ancient town of Budva it is a magical place so quiet and peaceful you will want to enjoy it for a few minutes before heading off. The single track meanders downhill and through an oak wood with views all the way before you come to Stanjevići Monastery. If you are lucky you may be invited in for tea & cake and a short tour. Carry on down all the way to the ancient town of Budva where you can wander round the cobbled streets and spot the yachts whilst you enjoy an ice cream. Approx 13km 4 - 5 hours walking Grade: easy to medium.

Day 8 - Relax and Depart

Single Centre All Inclusive - sample menu

Our meals are all freshly cooked. We have a 24/7 beverage bar with teas, filter coffee, Decaf coffee, hot chocolate and drinking water. We cater for all tastes and have a range of dishes for vegetarians. You are welcome to bring your own choice of spirits and we will supply the mixers and ice.

Breakfast - Cereals, Fruit juices, Fresh local baked breads, seasonal fruits blueberries, raspberries, figs, strawberries cherries, local yogurts (delicious)! Homemade jams and local honey. Scrambled eggs, pancetta, sausages, mushrooms etc

Packed lunch - A selection of bread rolls, cheeses, ham & cold meats, salads and fruit. Cereal bars, biscuits and cake.

Supper - Local estate wines red, white and rose , beer , water and local Rakija. 3 courses are served every evening plus cheeses and the menu reflects what is available locally from the market. We discuss your preferences in the morning and tailor the menu to suit our guests.

Sample dishes

First course : Mediterranean roasted peppers with feta, pancetta basil and tomatoes, sardine and lemon pate, variety of soups, lemon marinated local trout, moroccan spiced pork pots, homemade hummus,pates & terrines.

Main courses : Fillets of local sea bass with minted pea mash and Black rice

Seafood casserole with local Fish and a homemade tomato base

Whole local trout poached in white wine, lemon and thyme

Squid on the BBQ

Pork fillet with sage cream sauce

Local roast lamb and all the trimmings

Beef fillet marinated in red wine and herbs

Variety of pasta dishes on request

Fresh local vegetables

Deserts : We always have a choice of desert British trifle, Chocolate and nut flan, fresh fruit in season, local gateaux, lemon cups, bread and butter pudding etc

Local Cheeses, crackers and breads

Coffee, teas and local brandies.

Durmitor National Park Explorer Single Centre Itinerary

7 nights Bed and Breakfast. Accommodation in Small 3 star Hotel, upgrade to 4 star available.

Your holiday includes

7 nights B&B accommodation (double /twin room) in 3 star or similar hotel, trail transfers, 24/7 Host, All National Park fees, Tourist tax and insurance, Trail Packs & Maps.

It does not include - Flights, Airport transfers, Drinks, Lunches, Personal spending, guides and mountain huts, extra activities, Travel Insurance (obligatory)

Dates - Available between 1st June and 31st October. Any departure date.

Cost of Durmitor National Park Itinerary

3 star – Bed and Breakfast £595 pp sharing ex. flights

4 star – Bed and Breakfast plus £70 pppw

Return Transfers - Tivat – £40 pp, Podgorica £40 pp, Dubrovnik £60 pp

Accommodation & Meals

The accommodation is in 3 star small family run hotels where you will receive a warm welcome and walk directly from the door. The holiday is bed and breakfast. Generally rooms in Montenegro are double or triple rooms and you may find that some are small apartments with a kitchen. If you require a single room a supplement

may apply and the amount would be confirmed at time of booking. The food is simple and well cooked and you may choose any dishes from the varied menus. No buffets. You can buy your lunch from the local deli counters, bakeries & supermarkets

Additional Activities

An additional activity in the NP is white water rafting in the Tara Canyon approx 45 euro per person inc transfers and lunch.

Durmitor National Park

The largest in Montenegro it was designated a national park in 1978 and since 1980 has been on the UNESCO World heritage list. It embraces within the Durmitor Massif nearly 50 peaks that reach to over 2000 meters. Ringed by lakes fed by melting snow from the peaks it is home to many varieties of plant and bird life and high on the peaks you find wild mammals such as brown bear, grey wolf and chamois. On the lower slopes there are woods of pine and alpine meadows. It is without doubt the most unspoilt area in Europe and due to its relative inaccessibility it has an air of complete peace.

Walking direct from your accommodation no transfers required.

Grades of Walk - Durmitor has approx 18 routed walks of varying grades from easy to full mountaineering hikes. There are 6 walks of 3/6 hours graded easy/ moderate that explore the forests and Black Lake near Zabljak. Lokvice Valley has several walks of 3/5 hours, graded easy to moderate. To follow are walks that explore some of the peaks of Durmitor.: Planinica Peak(2330m) is a 7/8 hour walk with a 900 meter climb. Medjed Peak (2287m) is a circular route with 729m of climbing and 5/6hrs hard in places.Savin Kuk Peak (2313m) takes 6hrs with a 897m climb. Bobotov Kuk Peak (2523m) takes 6hrs with a 1067m climb.SljemePeak (2455m)1039m of climbing takes7hrs and is hard in places. Prutas Peak (2393m) requires a short transfer and takes 4/5 hours with a 693m climb.

Itinerary

Day 1.

Arrivals in Dubrovnik or Tivat need to arrive before 2pm to transfer to Durmitor arrivals in Podgorica can arrive at any time. Transfer to Zabljak your base for the next few days. Zabljak is a tiny town situated within the National Park. It is the highest town in the Balkans at 1456m above sea level. You stay at a charming and comfortable family run hotel on a bed and Breakfast basis
Transfers are between 3 to 5 hours depending on your arrival airport.

Day 2.

After breakfast a short induction on the weeks walks and then you are free to explore as you wish.

Day 3,4,5,6

Walking in the Durmitor National Park.

Day 7.

Depart Durmitor returning to Tivat via the Komarnica Canyon with an opportunity to take a 30 minute walk along the canyon lip. The drive is through outstanding mountain scenery and we stop at the historic UNESCO walled town of Kotor before arriving at Tivat in time for dinner.

Day 8.

Depending on flight times there may be opportunities for a walk around the Olive Trails of Lustica, visit to the picturesque Pržno Beach or shopping for something to take home! Transfer to departure airport.
Breakfast only.

Point 2 Point Itineraries

Forts & Lake Skadar Itinerary

7 nights' accommodation with luggage forwarding staying in 3/ 4 star hotels

An 8 day circular walk, you start & finish at the sea in the harbour town of Tivat
Discovering Kotor, Lovcen NP, Cetinje, Rijeka Crnojevica, & Lake Skadar the largest lake in the Balkans.

Highlights

Vrmac Fort, Kotor Fortifications, King Petars Mausoleum, Cetinje Monastery & town, Boat ride on Lake Skadar, Stanjevici Monastery, Fort Gorazda

Walking is easy to moderate approx 4 to 6 hours each day

Your Holiday includes

7 nights B&B accommodation (double / twin room) in 3 star or similar hotel, trail transfers if required, 24/7 Host, All National Park fees, Tourist tax and insurance, Trail Packs & Maps.

It does not include - Flights, Airport Transfers, Drinks, Lunches, Personal spending, extra activities, Travel Insurance (obligatory)

Dates

This holiday is available from 1st May to early November any departure date

Cost - Durmitor and Lovcen National Parks £595 pp

Return Airport transfer – Tivat Free, Podgorica £40 pp, Dubrovnik £60 pp.

Day 1 - Arrive and transfer to Tivat. Relax explore the town and meet with Hugh and go through your walking itinerary and information.

Day 2- Tivat to Kotor (Vrmac Fort Trail)

The walk from the back of Tivat takes you out to the old village of Gornja Lastva and on up to the top of a ridge with incredible views across to the Adriatic Sea and the Fjord. Descend down to the Vrmac Fort and explore the ruins and woodland paths before finishing in the ancient town of Kotor. Distance 17km Time: 5 hours Grade: Easy Climb 700m Descent: to sea level

Day 3 - Kotor to Njegusi .After a relaxing night exploring the cobbled streets of Kotor you have a good climb from Kotor to the old mountain village of Njegusi. The walk starts beside the walls of the old fortifications before it joins a centuries old traders route that you will be following all the way to Skadar it was once the only access to Kotor from Cetinje and the interior of the country. The path winds up the mountain with stunning views all the way before levelling out as you walk through the hamlet of Krstac and then on to Njegusi . Njegusi is renowned for its production of the special Njegusi cheese and smoked ham which are the national dishes of Montenegro and produce is for sale at way side kiosks. The delicacies have been transported in the past along the very trade route that you will be walking! Njegusi is also the birthplace of all the Kings and rulers of Montenegro. Enjoy a well earned rest at your accommodation. Distance 10km Time: 5 hours Grade: Moderate/ difficult Climb: sea level to 878m (for those not wishing to walk the entire climb can transfer by car and pick the trail up as it crosses the road)

Day 4 - Njegusi to Lovcen National Park

Walk from the door and out into Lovcen National Park, today's walk takes you through the park to its centre Ivanova Korita. After a sharp climb up the walk then levels out as you walk along the ridge then continues to gently climb all the way, there are some fantastic views across this untouched wild and beautiful countryside. Look up at King Petars Mausoleum as it towers directly above perched on the highest ridge in the park. Do not miss a visit to the mausoleum it is worth the climb up. King Petar was the most revered King in Montenegro and in his honour they built this amazing mausoleum. From the Mausoleum descend down and follow the level path to the centre of the park and your accommodation. Distance 12km Grade: Easy to Moderate Climb: 878m to 1400, Mausoleum 1657m, Time: 5 - 6 hours

Day 5 - Lovcen to Cetinje

Today is an easier walk to the Old Royal Capital of Cetinje. This stunning walk takes you through the beautiful wild country side via the old trader's route. You gently descend all the way to the ancient Royal Capital of Montenegro. You have plenty of time to delve into its history and appreciate the architecture of the old palaces and the embassies as well as an ancient monastery. Stay at a comfortable pension. Distance: 12km Time: 3.5 hrs Grade: Easy

Day 6 - Cetinje to Rijeka

Leave Cetinje behind you as once again you descend down an old trade route & donkey paths to the village of Rijeka a tiny village beside one of the rivers that is a source of Lake Skadar. You will experience amazing tranquillity as you pass through tiny hamlets, famed for their wine and brandy production, with stunning vistas down to Lake Skadar. In season enjoy a boat ride on the river and glide through the thousands of water lilies as they dance on the water. This ancient tiny hamlet was once home to a thriving fishing industry and was a key strong hold in the Austro Hungarian and Turkish battles for the Serbians. . There are two optional diversions before you descend you can visit a very old cave and when you arrive in Rijeka there are two circular walks if you wish to stretch your legs further however they do contain a couple of short sharp climbs. You will then take a boat down the river as it meanders out on to Lake Skadar before being dropped off at the small town of Virpizar on the shore where your hotel is based. Distance: 13km Time: 3-4 hours Grade: Easy /Moderate

Day 7 - Pobori to Fort Gorazda

Set off from your hotel (approx 20 min transfer in taxi) to the village of Pobori where you pick up the trail to the Stanjevici Monastery before striking out on a path that will take you up into the hills and then out over the saddle between the peaks of Golis & Lovcen. Look back for stunning views of the coastline, the tiny island of Sveti Stefan and the ancient town of Budva. When you reach the saddle it is so quiet and peaceful you will want to rest and simply enjoy the feeling of peace. Descend down through the wood taking an ancient Austro Hungarian road and eventually to the Gorazda Fort. Explore the fort and either descend to Tivat or await your pick up. Stay in a comfortable hotel in Tivat. Distance 13km Time: 4-5 hours Grade: Moderate Climb: 600m

Day 8 - Depart for the airport

The Old Merchants Trail

7 nights' accommodation in 3 / 4 star hotels with luggage forwarding

8 day point to point walk following the old merchant routes from the harbour town of Tivat with a stopover in Lovcen National Park to discover the wild beauty and then onto the old royal capital of Cetinje and the beautiful hamlet of Rijeka Crnojevica with fabulous views to the largest inland lake in the Balkans - Lake Skadar

Highlights

Ancient town of Kotor, Njegusi Smoked Ham & Cheese, 1 day stopover to explore Lovcen National Park, Old Royal Capital Cetinje, Lipska Cave, Rijeka Crnojevica, choice of 4 star accommodation for your last night either in Kotor, Tivat, Hercig Novi or Budva so you can discover somewhere new.

Walking is easy to moderate between 4 to 6 hours a day.

Holiday Includes

7 nights' accommodation in double / twin room ,All breakfasts , Luggage transfers , 24/7 Host & In country support ,Meet & Greet first night ,Trail Packs ,Local information, Trail Transfers as stated , Tourist Tax

It does not include

Airport Transfers, Flights, Lunches or Evening Meals, Personal spending, Guides / Extra activities /Entrance Fees, Travel Insurance

Dates

This holiday is available from 1st May to early November any departure date

Cost Merchants Trail Point to Point £595pp exc flights

Return Airport transfer – Tivat Free, Podgorica £40 pp, Dubrovnik £60 pp.

Day 1 - Arrive and transfer to Tivat an old trading port on the Adriatic. Relax explore the town and meet with Hugh your in country English host and go through your walking itinerary and information. The route you will be walking has been used for centuries to transport each regions different produce to the next town or port. Along the route the same foods are still farmed , fished or produced and often in the same traditional way !

Day 2- Tivat to Kotor

The walk from the back of Tivat takes you out to the old village of Gornja Lastva and on up to the top of a ridge with incredible views across to the Adriatic Sea and the Fjord. Descend down to the Vrmac Fort and explore the ruins and woodland paths before a fantastic decent finishing in the ancient town of Kotor a UNESCO World Heritage site. Distance 16km Time: 5 hours Grade: Easy Climb 700m Descent: to sea level

Day 3 - Kotor to Njegusi Village

After a relaxing night exploring the cobbled streets of Kotor you have a good climb from Kotor to the old mountain village of Njegusi. The walk starts beside the walls of the old fortifications before it joins a centuries old trader's route that you will be following all the way to Skadar it was once the only access to Kotor from Cetinje and the interior of the country. The path winds up the mountain with stunning views all the way before levelling out as you walk through the hamlet of Krstac and then on to Njegusi. Njegusi is renowned for its production of the special Njegusi cheese and smoked ham which are the national dishes of Montenegro and produce is for sale at way side kiosks. The delicacies have been transported in the past along the very trade route that you will be walking! Njegusi also the birth place of all the Kings and rulers of Montenegro. Enjoy a well learned rest at your accommodation. Distance 10km Time: 5 - 6 hours Grade: Moderate/difficult Climb: sea level to 878m

Day 4 – Njegusi to Lovcen

Walk from the door and out into Lovcen National Park, today's walk takes you through the park to its centre Ivanova Korita. After a sharp climb up the walk then levels out as you walk along the ridge then continues to gently climb all the way, there are some fantastic views across this untouched wild and beautiful countryside, visit the small Lake Pod which sits under King Petars Mausoleum as it towers directly above perched on the highest ridge in the park. Do not miss a visit to the mausoleum it is worth the climb up. He was the most revered King in Montenegro and in his honour they built this amazing mausoleum. From the Mausoleum descend down and follow the level path to the Centre of the park and your accommodation. Distance 12km Grade: Moderate Climb: 878m to 1400, Mausoleum 1657m, Time: 5 - 6hours

Day 5 – Lovcen National Park

There are a number of walks available in this wild National Park but one which is a must is the circular walk out to the ridge that overlooks the Adriatic and south coastline. This walk takes you up to the other side of the park as you meander through oak and beech woods to the Babina Glava view point and amazing views - follow the ridge down to the remains of the ancient hidden village of Majstori and back along a track to the centre of the park. Distance: 12km Time: 4 hours Grade: Medium / Easy Ascent 1273m to 1441m

Day 6 - Lovcen to Cetinje

Today is an easier walk to the Old Royal Capital of Cetinje. This stunning walk takes you through the beautiful wild countryside via the old traders route. After a short climb you gently descend all the way to the ancient Royal Capital of Montenegro. Delve into its history and appreciate the architecture of the old palaces and the embassies as well as an ancient monastery. Stay at a comfortable pension. Distance: 12km Time: 4 hrs Grade: Easy

Day 7 - Cetinje to Rijeka

Leave Cetinje behind you as once again you descend down an old trade route & donkey paths to the village of Rijeka. A tiny village beside one of the rivers that is a source of Lake Skadar. You will experience amazing tranquillity as you pass through tiny hamlets, famed for their wine and brandy production, with stunning vistas down to Lake Skadar. In season enjoy a boat ride on the river and marvel at the thousands of water lilies as they dance on the water. This ancient tiny hamlet was once home to a thriving fishing industry and was a key strong hold in the Austro Hungarian and Turkish battles for the Serbians. There are two optional diversions before you descend you can visit a very old cave called Lipska and when you arrive in Rijeka there are two circular walks if you wish to stretch your legs further however they do contain a couple of short sharp climbs. Distance: 12km Time: 4 - 5 hours Grade: Easy/Moderate

From Rijeka we transfer you to your accommodation at the coast so you can relax and enjoy your last night beside the sea or take in the night life of Kotor etc. You have a choice of recommended 3 & 4 star hotels for your last night either in Tivat, Kotor, Hercic Novi or Budva.

Day 8 – Depart.

In King Petar's Footsteps

7 nights' accommodation with luggage forwarding staying in 3 to 4 star hotels
8 day point to point walk following in the footsteps King Petar II Petrovic Negus the most acclaimed ruler and poet of Montenegro, from the harbour town of Tivat to Budva. Delve into the history and culture of Montenegro and experience the wild beauty that so enchanted this ruler.

Highlights

Kotor fortifications, Birthplace of the King at hamlet of Njegusi, Kings Summer Palace in Cetinje, Kings Mausoleum in Lovcen NP, Saddle of Golis, Kings Winter Palace in Budva old town. Walking varies between 4 - 7 hours a day and is mainly easy to moderate.

Holiday Includes

7 nights accommodation in double / twin mainly 3 to 4 star small family run hotels, All breakfasts ,Luggage transfer ,24/7 In country support ,Meet & Greet first night ,Trail Pack ,Tourist Tax.

It does not include

Airport Transfers, Flights, Lunches or Evening Meals, Personal spending, Guides / Extra activities /Entrance Fees, Travel Insurance

Dates Available

May 1st to early November any start date

Cost In King Petar's Footsteps £595 pp ex. flights

Return Airport transfer – Tivat Free, Podgorica £40 pp, Dubrovnik £60 pp.

Day 1 - Arrive and transfer to the port of Tivat now home to super yachts rather than trading ships . Relax explore the town and meet with Hugh and go through your walking itinerary and information.

Day 2- Tivat to Kotor

Leaving the sea and port behind you where King Petar's ships would have landed make your way up to a centuries old track which starts at the old village of Gornja Lastva and then on up to the top of a ridge with incredible views across to the Adriatic Sea and the Bay of Kotor. Descend down to the Vrmac Austro Hungarian Fort and explore the ruins and woodland paths before finishing in the ancient fortified town of Kotor. Distance 16km Time: 5 hours Grade: Easy Climb 700m Descent: to sea level

Day 3 - Kotor to Njegusi

After a relaxing night exploring the cobbled streets of Kotor you have a good climb from Kotor to the old village of Njegusi the birth place of the Royal Petrovic Dynasty. The walk starts on the walls of the old fortifications before it joins a century's old trader's route once the only access to the town from Cetinje the Old Royal Capital of King Petar. The path winds up the mountain with stunning views all the way before levelling out as you walk through the hamlet of Krstac and then onto to Njegusi. In Njegusi you can visit the birth house of King Petar which is now a museum, and a school famous for being the first to educate the people of Cetinje founded by the King. Njegusi is now renowned for its production of the special Njegusi cheese and smoked ham which are the national dishes of Montenegro. Enjoy a well earned rest at your accommodation. Distance 10km Time: 5-6 hours Grade: Moderate/ difficult Climb: sea level to 878m

Day 4 – Njegusi to Cetinje

Today is an easier walk to the Old Royal Capital of Cetinje. This was the summer court of King Petar and home to his summer palace. This stunning walk takes you through the beautiful wild countryside via the old traders route. After a short climb you gently descend all the way to the ancient Royal Capital of Montenegro. Delve into it's history and appreciate the architecture of the old palaces and the embassies as well as an ancient monastery. Stay at a comfortable pension. Distance: 12km Time: 4 hrs Grade: Easy

Day 5 - Cetinje to Lovcen National Park & King Petars Mausoleum

Gently climb up to Lovcen National Park home to the resting place of King Petar and his impressive mausoleum. His mausoleum sits at the highest point with stunning views all around. It took five years to build and the solid stone statues are impressive. Stay in Lovcen National Park at the comfortable 4 star hotel. Distance: 12km 4 hours to centre of park – 5km Mausoleum 2 – 3 hrs inc return Grade: Easy to Moderate Climb: 676m to 1273m centre of park, 1273 to 1657m Mausoleum.

Day 6 – Lovcen to Budva

The longest walk of the week but all down hill. You set off from your hotel through the park and meander through oak and beech woods to the Babina Glava view point and amazing views - follow the ridge down to the remains of the ancient hidden village of Majstori then on down to the saddle between the peaks of Golis & Lovcen. Here it is so quite you could hear a pin drop. You get stunning double views across the Bay of Kotor and then down the coastline towards the ancient fortified town of Budva and the island of Sveti Steffan. Carry on to an old Monastery then take an ancient monastic route to the village of Pobori. From here follow an old path that links the villages on the way down to Budva. Arrive at the back of Budva and make your way to your hotel. Distance: 20km Time: 6 hours Grade: Easy to Moderate Descent: 1273m to sea level.

Day 7 –Budva the Winter Court of King Petar & the island of Sveti Stefan. Stroll through the town of Budva towards the sea and the old fortified part of town. Here you can explore the tiny cobbled streets and discover the winter palace of King Petar and enjoy a drink beside the Adriatic. You can then take the linear walk along the coast line and beaches approx 10km to the island of Sveti Stefan. Distance; 20km Time: 6 hours Grade: Easy

Day 8 – Transfer from Budva to the airport along the beautiful coastline of Montenegro.

Captains & Coronets

5 night point to point with luggage transfer
3 or 4 star Hotels and Pansions Bed and Breakfast

This walk is meant to be leisurely so it is easy to moderate and has several mainly level days. The time scales for the walks include time to take in the architecture and even have a swim!

The Captains and Coronets trail explores the Towns and Villages with a maritime connection Montenegro has a long history of maritime excellence. Sea captains were revered in Montenegro and indeed still are! This route covers some outstanding architecture and scenery all connected by the sea and includes the Queens Summer residence for good measure.

Highlights

Herceg Novi 17 C Captains Villas, Rose Iconic Fishermans village, Queen Teuta Summer Residence, Kotor UNESCO Heritage town, Perast unique Venetian stone town, Our Lady of the Rock island

Your holiday includes - 7 nights B&B accommodation 3 star or similar hotel (double/twin room), trail transfers, boat transfer Herceg Novi / Rose, 24/7 Host, All National Park fees, Tourist tax and insurance, Trail Packs & Maps, Tivat town tour, museum and attraction entrance fees.

It does not include - Flights, Airport transfers, Drinks, Lunches, Personal spending, Travel Insurance

Dates Available - May 1st to early November

Cost - Captains and Coronets Point to Point £475 pp sharing

Return Airport transfer – Tivat Free, Podgorica £50 pp, Dubrovnik £40 pp.

Day 1 - Arrive and transfer to Herceg Novi a waterfront town that had huge strategic importance as it faces the mouth of the Boka Bay. Relax explore the town and meet with Hugh and go through your walking itinerary and information. Take an evening stroll along the waterfront to spot the Captains Villas and climb the steps to the Castle.

Day 2 After breakfast walk to the Harbour and catch the tiny ferry across the Boka Straights to the fishing Village of Rose. Your walk for the day starts by the ferry with a climb up on a traversing path to the top of the hill and fantastic views across to Croatia, Herceg Novi and the Orjan Mountain range. Your walk continues on the Lustica Peninsular which was one of the most important olive growing areas in Montenegro. This walk lets you experience the beauty and tranquillity of the olive Groves some dating back to the Venetian period. Experience the pace of local life as you walk to Radovici. Distance: 16.5km Time: 5 hours Grade: Easy moderate in places.

Day 3 Leave Radovici by a small lane and meet the short trail across the Solia waterfowl reserve the walk winds through the countryside with a detour to see the Sea Farers monastery of Marko once out of the reserve you meet the outskirts of Tivat and can either walk into town or take a taxi. Check into your hotel and then why not pick a sunny spot for lunch either a picnic in the Arboretum or on the beach. In the afternoon meet your guide for a tour of the Tivat Heritage Naval Collection and Submarines, Queen Teuta summer residence, Arboretum and the sailing ship Jadran. Distance 10km Time 3 hours Easy downhill / level

Day 4 Tivat to Kotor (Vrmac Fort Trail)

The walk from the back of Tivat takes you out to the old village of Gornja Lastva a favoured place for sea faring folk in the summer as it was so much cooler and on up to the top of a ridge with incredible views across to the Adriatic Sea and the Fjord. Descend down to the Vrmac Fort and explore the ruins and woodland paths before finishing in the ancient town of Kotor. Distance 17km Time: 5 hours Grade: Easy Climb 700m Descent: to sea level

Day 5 Kotor UNESCO World Heritage Site to Perast

Kotor is an ancient fortified town with tiny cobbled streets, churches, old palaces and museums. Explore the town and enjoy a coffee at one of the vibrant cafes before walking round the fortifications. Imagine how so many years ago they managed the engineering feat of constructing the walls as you climb up the side of the mountain round the town. At the top enjoy the stunning views across the fjord. Retrace your steps to the town gates and transfer to the restored Venetian town of Perast (15 mins) Check into your hotel and take a boat to Our Lady of the Rock island an iconic place in Montenegro built of rocks by returning sailors and now home to a stunning tiny Catholic Church with a silver lined dome. Perast was a very important centre in the Venetian era and was home to a large ship building and maritime training facility another small Maritime museum celebrates these facts. Time 4 hours Grade Easy. Kotor steps moderate

Day 6 Depart after breakfast to your airport or onward travel

MONTENEGRO TRAVELLER SPECIAL

7 nights BB Self guided point to point with luggage transfer / daily transfer walking, local travel by boat and train plus Driver / Guide.

Starting by the sea in Tivat and ending on the high plateau of the Sinjavena travelling through the country this is a walk with endless new vistas!

Highlights

Kotor (UNESCO) Lovcen National Park, Lake Skadar, Moraca Canyon, Sinjavena Mountains. Walking easy to moderate 4 – 6 hours a day

Your holiday includes - 7 nights B&B accommodation in 3 star or similar hotel (double or twin room), trail transfers, 24/7 Host, All National Park fees, Tourist tax and insurance, Trail Packs & Maps, driver / guide for 2 nights, boat and train travel.

It does not include - Flights, Airport transfers, Drinks, Lunches, Personal spending, Travel Insurance (obligatory)

Dates - May 1st to October 31st any start date

Cost - Montenegro Traveller Special £695 pp sharing

Return Airport transfer – Tivat Free, Podgorica £40 pp, Dubrovnik £60 pp.

Day 1 - Arrive and transfer to the UNESCO Heritage town of Kotor. Relax explore the town and meet with Hugh and go through your walking itinerary and information.

Day 2 - Kotor to Njegusi

After a relaxing night exploring the cobbled streets of Kotor you have a good climb from Kotor to the old mountain village of Njegusi. The walk starts beside the walls of the old fortifications before it joins a centuries old traders route that you will be following all the way to Skadar it was once the only access to Kotor from Centinje and the interior of the country. The path winds up the mountain with stunning views all the way before levelling out as you walk through the hamlet of Krstac and then on to Njegusi . Njegusi is renowned for it's production of the special Njegusi cheese and smoked ham which are the national dishes of Montenegro and produce is for sale at way side kiosks. The delicacies have been transported in the past along the very trade route that you will be walking ! Njegusi is also the birthplace of all the Kings and rulers of Montenegro. Enjoy a well earned rest at your accommodation. Distance 10km Time: 5 hours Grade: Moderate/ difficult Climb: sea level to 878m (for those not wishing to walk all of the climb they can transfer by car and pick the trail up as it crosses the road)

Day 3 - Njegusi to Cetinje

Today is an easier walk to the Old Royal Capital of Cetinje. This stunning walk takes you through the beautiful wild countryside via the old traders route. You gently descend all the way to the ancient Royal Capital of Montenegro. You have plenty of time to delve into it's history and appreciate the architecture of the old palaces and the embassies as well as an ancient monastery. Stay at a comfortable pension. Distance: 12km Time: 3.5 hrs Grade: Easy

Day 4 - Cetinje to Rijeka

Leave Cetinje behind you as once again you descend down an old trade route & donkey paths to the village of Rijeka. A tiny village beside one of the rivers that is a source of Lake Skadar. You will experience amazing tranquillity as you pass through tiny hamlets, famed for their wine and brandy production, with stunning vistas down to Lake Skadar. In season enjoy a boat ride on the river and marvel at the thousands of water lilies as they dance on the water. This ancient tiny hamlet was once home to a thriving fishing industry and was a key strong hold in the Austro Hungarian and Turkish battles for the Serbians. . There are two optional diversions before you descend you can visit a very old cave and when you arrive in Rijeka there are two circular walks if you wish to stretch your legs further however they do contain a couple of short sharp climbs. You will then take a boat down the river as it meanders out on to Lake Skadar before being dropped off at the small town of Virpizar on the shore where your hotel is based. Distance: 13km Time: 3-4 hours Grade: Easy /Moderate

Day 5 Virpizar to Sinjavena

Your transport picks you up after breakfast and it is a 30 minute drive to catch the morning train in the capital Podgorica. The train is actually on its way to Belgrade and the first stop is Kolasin which is a mountain town - gateway to the Sinjavena. Sit on the left of the train or stand in the corridor once you are clear of the town as the views are quite astonishing the azure blue Moraca river runs like a thread hundreds of feet below and the train (quite safely !) defies gravity. Alight at Kolasin and walk down in to the town to your Hotel. Hugh will meet you and arrange an afternoon excursion into the Bijelasca National Park where you can walk around the lake.

Day 6 The Sinjavena After breakfast head up by transport to the base of the Sinjavena range a 2 hour walk takes you up a winding path to the flat plateau and then it is another 2 hour walk across to the Katuns - traditional summer shepherds huts. The place is stunning as not only are the view incredible but life continues here as it has for centuries. You will see herds of sheep with shepherds on ponies with wooden saddles, women collecting water with mules or ponies and friendly people everywhere. Many of our guests are welcomed into the Katuns and given local cheese and brandy all quite spontaneously. This is not a tourist attraction it is a fantastic traditional way of life that is a privilege to see.

Descend through wild flower meadows and the strange beehive shaped hay stacks and you will be met by Hugh to drive back to Kolasin for the evening. Walk: Mainly level Easy, Moderate in places.

Day 7 Choice of Walking in the Bijelasca National Park or transfer to Tivat depending on departure airport : Info see www.nparkovi.me

Day 8 Depart

Multi Centre Itineraries

DURMITOR AND LOVCEN NATIONAL PARKS

This fantastic two centre itinerary combines two of the best National Parks in Montenegro. Both offer a variety of different terrain enabling you to enjoy the stunning coastal scenery as the mountains meet the sea and the dramatic lakes and peaks in Durmitor

7 nights B&B accommodation staying in small 3 star hotels /Pansions.

Your holiday includes - 7 nights B&B accommodation (double / twin room) in 3 star or similar hotel, trail transfers, 24/7 Host, All National Park fees, Tourist tax and insurance, Trail Packs & Maps.

It does not include - Flights, Airport Transfers, Drinks, Lunches, Personal spending, guides and mountain huts, extra activities, Travel Insurance (obligatory)

Additional Activities - An additional activity in the NP is white water rafting in the Tara Canyon approx 45 euro per person Inc transfers and lunch.

Dates

Available between 1st June and 31st October. Any departure date no min number

Cost

Durmitor & Lovcen Two Center Holiday £595 pp ex. flights and insurance
Upgrade to 4 star Hotel Soa / Hotel Ivan Konak 7 nights £70 pppw

Return Transfers_Tivat – £40 pp, Podgorica £40 pp, Dubrovnik £60 pp

Accommodation & Meals – The accommodation is in 3 star small family run hotels where you will receive a warm welcome. The holiday is 4 night's Bed and Breakfast in Durmitor and 3 nights B&B in Cetinje. Generally rooms in Montenegro are double or triple rooms and you may find that some are small apartments with a kitchen. If you require a single room a supplement may apply and the amount would be confirmed at time of booking. The food is simple and well cooked and you may choose any dishes from the varied menus. No buffets. You can buy your lunch from the local deli counters, bakeries & supermarkets and in Cetinje there are plenty of restaurants and cafes for your evening meals.

ITINERARY

Durmitor National Park

The largest in Montenegro it was designated a national park in 1978 and since 1980 has been on the UNESCO World heritage list. It embraces within the Durmitor Massif nearly 50 peaks that reach to over 2000 meters. Ringed by lakes fed by melting snow from the peaks it is home to many varieties of plant and bird life and high on the peaks you find wild mammals such as brown bear, grey wolf and chamois. On the lower slopes there are woods of pine and alpine meadows. It is without doubt the most unspoilt area in Europe and due to its relative inaccessibility it has an air of complete peace.

Grades of Walk - Durmitor has approx 18 routed walks of varying grades from easy to full mountaineering hikes. There are 6 walks of 3/6 hours graded easy/ moderate that explore the forests and Black Lake near Zabljak. Lokvice Valley has several walks of 3/5 hours, graded easy to moderate. To follow are walks that explore some of the peaks of Durmitor.: Planinica Peak(2330m) is a 7/8 hour walk with a 900 meter climb. Medjed Peak (2287m) is a circular route with 729m of climbing and 5/6hrs hard in places.Savin Kuk Peak (2313m) takes 6hrs with a 897m climb. Bobotov Kuk Peak (2523m) takes 6hrs with a 1067m

climb. Sljeme Peak (2455m) 1039m of climbing takes 7hrs and is hard in places. Prutas Peak (2393m) requires a short transfer and takes 4/5 hours with a 693m climb.

Lovcen National Park

The Lovcen Massif is a beautiful area; the National Park has endless paths for all abilities that take in the Beech Woods and rocky ridges with fantastic views across to the Adriatic Sea and the fjord known as the Bay of Kotor. Not to be missed is the mausoleum of King Petar (1813. -1851) with amazing views and a solid 30tonne statue it is well worth the walk up the 200 steps!

Grades of Walk - Lovcen has a great variety of walks there are three routes that explore the centre of the park all easy in grade and approx 2 - 4 hours. There are four longer routes between 6 to 8 hrs easy to moderate that explore the outer regions of the park and visit tiny villages

Day 1 - Arrive and transfer to Zabljak your base for the next few days. Zabljak is a tiny town situated within the National Park. It is the highest town in the Balkans at 1456m above sea level. You stay at a charming and comfortable family run hotel on a bed and Breakfast basis and you can walk from the door. Transfers are between 3 to 5 hours depending on your arrival airport.

Day 2 - 4 - Receive your maps and trail info and plan your walking. There are 18 listed recommended walks, most are way marked for easier navigation and explore the lakes and surrounding peaks. We recommend on some walks that you book a guide. Guides are available at approx 80 euros a day.

Day 5 - Today you transfer to Cetinje the old royal capital of Montenegro on the edge of Lovcen NP. This charming town is steeped in history with many museums and a monastery to visit. You stay at a comfortable pension on a B&B basis. There are plenty of restaurants and cafes nearby for you to try the local dishes.

Day 6 & 7 - A short transfer takes you into Lovcen National Park. The Lovcen Massif is a beautiful area; the National Park has endless paths for all abilities that take in the Beech Woods and rocky ridges with fantastic views across to the Adriatic Sea and the fjord known as the Bay of Kotor. Not to be missed is the mausoleum of King Petar (1813. -1851) with amazing views and a solid 30 tonne statue it is well worth the walk up the 200steps! If upgrading to 4 star you will stay in the National Park and have a day visit to Cetinje.

Day 8 - Transfer to the airport and depart.

DURMITOR, SINJAVENA AND KOMOVI NATIONAL PARKS

3 nights BB Durmitor National Park 3 nights BB Sinjavena / Komovi National Parks 1 night BB Tivat
Driver / guide for 4 days in Sinjavena / Komovi

Walk the ring of Lakes or climb a peak in Durmitor, visit the untouched landscapes of the Sinjavena and Komovi a 2 centre holiday that tailors the walking to suit you.

Highlights

The Durmitor Ring and Savin Kuk, Untouched Sinjavena, Komovi National Park a shock to the senses.

Your holiday includes – 7 nights Bed and Breakfast accommodation in 3 star or similar hotel, trail transfers, 24/7 Host, All National Park fees, Tourist tax and insurance, Trail Packs & Maps, Dedicated driver / guide for 4 nights.

It does not include - Flights, Airport transfers, Drinks, Lunches, Personal spending, personal extra guides, Travel Insurance (obligatory)

Dates

Mid May to October 31st any start date

Cost for this holiday £695 pp sharing

Return Airport transfer – Tivat £40 pp, Podgorica £40 pp, Dubrovnik £60 pp.

Durmitor National Park

The largest in Montenegro it was designated a national park in 1978 and since 1980 has been on the UNESCO World heritage list. It embraces within the Durmitor Massif nearly 50 peaks that reach to over 2000 meters. Ringed by lakes fed by melting snow from the peaks it is home to many varieties of plant and bird life and high on the peaks you find wild mammals such as brown bear, grey wolf and chamois. On the lower slopes there are woods of pine and alpine meadows. It is without doubt the most unspoilt area in Europe and due to its relative inaccessibility it has an air of complete peace. Walking direct from your accommodation no transfers required! Grades of Walk - Durmitor has approx 18 routed walks of varying grades from easy to full mountaineering hikes. There are 6 walks of 3/6 hours graded easy/ moderate that explore the forests and Black Lake near Zabljak. Lokvice Valley has several walks of 3/5 hours, graded easy to moderate. To follow are walks that explore some of the peaks of Durmitor. Planinica Peak (2330m) is a 7/8 hour walk with a 900 meter climb. Medjed Peak (2287m) is a circular route with 729m of climbing and 5/6 hrs hard in places. Savin Kuk Peak (2313m) takes 6 hrs with a 897m climb. Bobotov Kuk Peak (2523m) takes 6hrs with a 1067 climb. Sljeme Peak (2455m) 1039m of climbing takes 7hrs and is hard in places. Prutas Peak (2393m) requires a short transfer and takes 4/5 hours with a 693m climb.

Day 1. Transfer from your airport to Durmitor National Park stopping en route for refreshments. From Dubrovnik / Tivat it takes approx 4 hours and from Podgorica 3 hrs. Maps and information on arrival.

Day 2 Choose your walk for the day perhaps walking past the Lakes to see the great views over the park.

Day 3 Choose your walk for the day.

Day 4 Hugh will meet you this morning and transfer you via the Tara Canyon to Kolasin your base for the next 3 nights. On the way you can have a go at the Canyon Zip wire not for the faint hearted! Hugh will arrange an afternoon excursion into the Bijelasca National Park where you can walk around the lake.

Day 5 After breakfast head up by transport to the base of the Sinjavena range a 2 hour walk takes you up a winding path to the flat plateau and then it is another 2 hour walk across to the Katuns - traditional summer shepherds huts. The place is stunning as not only are the views incredible but life continues here as it has for centuries. You will see herds of sheep with shepherds on ponies with wooden saddles, women collecting water with mules or ponies and friendly people everywhere. Many of our guests are welcomed into the Katuns and given local cheese and brandy all quite spontaneously. This is not a tourist attraction it is a fantastic traditional way of life that is a privilege to see.

Descend through wild flower meadows and the strange beehive shaped hay stacks and you will be met by Hugh to drive back to Kolasin for the evening. Walk: Mainly level Easy Moderate short climb at the start.

Day 6 A 45 minute drive brings you to within sight of Komovi the first glimpse is always a shock as the bare rock rises mightily from the green meadows and forests that surround the base. Walking here is to suit your ability you can keep to the meadows and lower slopes or you can tackle one of the peaks. These are well marked and walked in August by the locals but do involve some scrambling in places. If you venture into the valley between the two peaks at the highest point is a book for recording your climb. This is without doubt a strange and distant place looking like something from another planet we have walked here always alone and have never left without a sense of awe and achievement. It is something not to be missed! After walking return to your Hotel. Walks: Lower slopes easy, Peaks moderate to difficult can include some narrow paths and short areas of scrambling. Walk : (2115m) 782m climb 5 hours See www.komovi.com www.nparkovi.me

Day 7 Depart at leisure for the Coastal town of Tivat. If you wish to walk today an early start will mean you are in Tivat in time to do one of several local walks either Lustica Olive Trail, Vrmac to Kotor Trail etc.

Day 8 Transfer after breakfast

PEAK WALKING DURMITOR , PROKLETIJE and KOMOVI

The Daddy of them all! Walk the trails or climb the peaks it is up to you this holiday will leave your senses in a daze with unrivalled views only recently opened up to walkers and local culture of a very different kind!

3 nights Durmitor National Park, 2 nights Prokletije National Park, 1 night Komovi National Park, 1 night BB Tivat Driver / guide for 7 days

Highlights

Durmitor Bobotov Kuk, Prokletije Maja Kolata and Komovi three great climbs!

Your holiday includes – 7 nights Bed and Breakfast accommodation in 3 star or similar hotel, trail transfers, 24/7 Host, All National Park fees, Tourist tax and insurance, Trail Packs & Maps, Dedicated driver / guide for 7 nights.

It does not include - Flights, Drinks, Lunches, Personal spending, personal extra guides, Travel Insurance (obligatory)

Dates - June 30th to October 31st (holiday may be able to start earlier depending on weather conditions in the mountains)

Cost for this holiday £750 pp sharing

Return Airport transfer – Tivat £40 , Podgorica £40 pp, Dubrovnik £60 pp.

Durmitor National Park

The largest in Montenegro it was designated a national park in 1978 and since 1980 has been on the UNESCO World heritage list. It embraces within the Durmitor Massif nearly 50 peaks that reach to over 2000 meters. Ringed by lakes fed by melting snow from the peaks it is home to many varieties of plant and bird life and high on the peaks you find wild mammals such as brown bear, grey wolf and chamois. On the lower slopes there are woods of pine and alpine meadows. It is without doubt the most unspoilt area in Europe and due to its relative inaccessibility it has an air of complete peace. Walking direct from your accommodation no transfers required!

Grades of Walk - Durmitor has approx 18 routed walks of varying grades from easy to full mountaineering hikes. There are 6 walks of 3/6 hours graded easy/ moderate that explore the forests and Black Lake near Zabljak. Lokvice Valley has several walks of 3/5 hours, graded easy to moderate. To follow are walks that explore some of the peaks of Durmitor. Planinica Peak (2330m) is a 7/8 hour walk with a 900 meter climb. Medjed Peak (2287m) is a circular route with 729m of climbing and 5/6 hrs hard in places. Savin Kuk Peak (2313m) takes 6 hrs with a 897m climb. Bobotov Kuk Peak (2523m) takes 6hrs with a 1067 climb. Sljeme Peak (2455m) 1039m of climbing takes 7hrs and is hard in places. Prutas Peak (2393m) requires a short transfer and takes 4/5 hours with a 693m climb.

This holiday includes 3 big climbs alternative routes are available in the same areas for party members who may not wish to climb.

Day 1. Transfer from your airport to Durmitor National Park stopping en route for refreshments. From Dubrovnik it takes approx 4 hours and from Podgorica 3 hrs. Maps and information on arrival.

Day 2. Warm up with a walk / climb up Savin Kuk Peak (2313) 6 hours 897m climb or take an easier warm up climbing up through the lakes that ring Durmitor.

Day 3 The big one Bobotov Kuk Peak (2523) 6 hours 1067m climb

Prokletije National Park

Has a fantastic panorama, wide, flowery and green valleys, steep mountainsides, peaks pushing skywards, idyllic meadows, purling brooks and sight for the gods. But before everything else its most important characters are wildness and being undiscovered.

This is what summit post say ...

“It is almost impossible to find any travel report about the mountains because they do not exist. People are friendly, hospitable and the visitor is not threatened by any danger. Nevertheless, the atmosphere of the whole mountain range is extremely mysterious and wild. You can reach to passes and peaks where foreign tourists have never ever been and this gives the excitement of real discovery “

The highest peak and in dispute with Bobotov Kuk as to which is the highest in Montenegro is Maja Kolata (2534m) and that is the peak we have included in the itinerary. Check out the links for an abundance of fantastic photos and don't be put off the routes are quite attainable using valleys and natural slopes to wind up to the peaks!

www.balkansgeotourism.travelpsd-prokletije.org www.facebook.com/pages/psd-prokletije/119990338020176 www.summitpost.org/prokletije/153694

Day 4 Transfer to the Prokletije (3 to 4 hours) afternoon valley walk through an amazing scenic area with springs shooting out from the ground and a reverse waterfall all along the route is traditional farming and a sense of being on the edge of a wilderness. 3 hours Easy mainly level. Overnight Plav

Day 5 An early start as today we climb Maja Kolata and return. The first 2/3 rds of the climb is moderate with the last 1/3rd difficult with some scrambling and narrow paths. Touching on the Albanian border this is truly remote. You may book a guide if you wish and we put in place safety procedures as there is no mobile phone signal.(2534m) 1500m climb 10 hrs + depending on fitness Overnight Plav.

Komovi National Park

Is the third highest mountain formation in Montenegro situated between the Kuči Mountains and Bijelasca. It is known for its exceptional beautiful peaks, more or less accessible in winter and in summer. Highest landscapes consist of two almost parallel ridges with three highest peaks, each of these three peaks is named after one of the tribes who lived on this mountain and Komovi means a Dragon! At the foot of Vasojeviki Kom is a green plateau and all the walks start from here. The trail to the nearest peak Vasojeviki Kom is steep but not technically difficult in summer. Kom Kučki is further away and you need to pass through Međukomlje to reach it and it does have some narrow ledges. We have walked here in the summer and it is an exciting and different landscape with challenging peaks.

www.komovi.com

Day 6 A 45 minute drive brings you to within sight of Komovi the first glimpse is always a shock as the bare rock rises mightily from the green meadows and forests that surround the base. Walking here is to suit your ability you can keep to the meadows and lower slopes or you can tackle one of the peaks. These are well marked and walked in August by the locals but do involve some scrambling in places. If you venture into the valley between the two peaks at the highest point is a book for recording your climb. This is without doubt a strange and distant place looking like something from another planet we have walked here always alone and have never left without a sense of awe and achievement. It is something not to be missed! (2115m) 782m climb 5 hours. Overnight Kolasin.

Day 7 Depart at leisure for the Coastal town of Tivat. Overnight Tivat. If leaving from Podgorica airport your final night can be in Kolasin with further walking in the National Park on day 7.

Day 8 Transfer after breakfast for your departure airport

'Best of both Worlds' National Parks & Coastal walking

Get the best of both point to point and single centre walking in one holiday!

A great mix of coastal & mountain trails plus 4* all inclusive Villa for 4 nights

3 nights bed and breakfast in Lovcen NP , 4 nights in 4 star Lustica Villa on All Inclusive

Highlights: Lovcen NP and Mausoleum, Old Royal Capital of Cetinje, Lake Skadar, Kotor, 4* Villa

Dates: 19th April – end June, September and October any start date

Your holiday includes

3 nights bed and breakfast in Lovcen NP

4 nights in 4 star Lustica Villa on All Inclusive basis includes Hot breakfast, packed lunch, tea & cakes, supper , wine ,beer, local spirits and water.

Airport transfers

Transport to and from Trails

Information packs on the area

Trail Packs

24/7 In Country Host & Trail Support

It does not include

Flights, Personal spending, Extra activities, Travel Insurance

Costs - £595 pp ex. Flights

Return Transfers: All transfers are included for the Best of both Worlds holiday.

Accommodation: Comfortable Hotel well situated in the heart of Lovcen NP for 3 nights. 4 nights in our own Lustica Villas. The villas have everything you need for a great walking holiday. Hugh Chapman renovated the properties from old stone village farmhouses so the Villas are full of character and charm. The villas can sleep up to 12 in twin/double bedrooms all are ensuite. Enjoy the use of the comfortable lounge or sit and enjoy the sun on one of the many terraces with sea views. Help yourself to tea, coffee from the beverage bar. Enjoy home cooked hearty meals with wine and beer taken outside on the dining terrace or in the main dining room on the large oak table.

Itinerary

Day 1 - Arrive and transfer direct to your accommodation in Lovcen National Park, discuss the walking for the week and receive your trail information.

Day 2 – King Petar’s Trail - Lovcen National Park
The Lovcen Massif is a beautiful area. The National Park has endless paths for all abilities (we advise on the best paths for you to walk) that take in the Beech Woods and rocky ridges with fantastic views and a great ascent to the mausoleum of King Petra of Montenegro. Lovcen is definitely not one to be missed.

Day 3 – Walk from your Hotel down through the Park to the Old Royal Capital of Cetinje. Time in the afternoon to have a tour of the town with its interesting architecture and old embassies.

Day 4 – Lake Skadar Trail

Your walk descends all the way down an old trade route to the village of Rijeka a tiny village beside one of the rivers that is a source of Lake Skadar. You will experience amazing tranquillity as you pass through tiny hamlets with stunning vistas down to Lake Skadar. In season enjoy a boat ride on the river and glide through the thousands of water lilies as they dance on the water. Take the climb up to the Odbod cave and have a swim in the clear spring pool. Distance: 16km

Collection from Rijeka and transfer to Lustica Peninsular and your Villa.

Day 5 - Lustica Olive Trail

The Lustica peninsular was one the most important olive growing areas in Montenegro. This walk lets you experience the beauty and tranquillity of the Olive Groves some dating back to the Venetian period. Experience the pace of local life as you walk through the countryside. Highlights include stunning views Of Boka Bay and the Adriatic Sea, lunch amongst the olives at Zanjce beach with views to an old island fort and finish at the quaint fishing village of Fort Rose. Walk from the door with pick up at Rose. Distance: 16.5km Time: 5 hours Grade: Easy some gradual climbs.

Day 6 - Vrmac Fort Trail

Montenegro is full of history with many Austro Hungarian Forts, this walk takes you up to the large fort of Vrmac overlooking both the Adriatic Sea & the Kotor fjord. Enjoy exploring the fort and woodland paths before heading off along the ridge to stunning views descend along an old track with glimpses of the sea below. Visit the old village of Gornja Lastva and then descend down to the narrow mouth of the fjord, relax with a drink on the waterfront. Distance 16km Time: 6 hours Grade: Moderate Climb 380m Decsent 765m to sea level.

Day 7 – Kotor UNESCO World Heritage Site and Perast / Our Lady of the Rock

Start the day in the restored Venetian waterside village of Perast and take a 5 min boat ride to Our Lady of the Rock Island. Walk through Perast village and take a short transfer to Dobrota for an interesting level walk along the seafront to Kotor (7km easy). Kotor is an ancient fortified town with tiny cobbled streets, churches, old palaces and museums. Explore the town and enjoy a coffee at one of the vibrant cafes before walking round the fortifications. Imagine the effort that went into building the walls hundreds of years ago! At the top enjoy the stunning views across the fjord. 15 mins transfer to Kotor. Distance: 5km(Kotor) 7km (Dobrota) Time: 4 hours Grade: Easy Kotor steps are Moderate

Day 8 transfer to airport

Montenegro Fact File

Location

Montenegro borders Croatia, Serbia, Albania and Bosnia, it is opposite the heel of the Italy with a fabulous Adriatic coastline. Montenegro gained it's independence in 2006 from Serbia.

Airports & Flights

Flights to Tivat Airport

Direct flights Wed/Sun Montenegro Airlines
Air Serbia Daily one change in Belgrade

Flights to Podgorica Airport

Direct Flights on Tues & Sat with Ryan Air

Flights to Dubrovnik Airport (Croatia)

Direct daily flights Easy Jet, Monarch, Norwegian, Flybe, BA

Currency

Montenegro uses the Euro. There are cash machines and credit cards are accepted in some places but most of the time you require cash.

Language

The local language is a mix of serb/croat but many people now speak good English and all guides speak fluent English.

Population

662,000 most of which are clustered in the main and in the capital city, leaving the mountains free from crowds.

Surface Area

13,812 km² (Northern Ireland is just under 14,000km²).

Terrain

Montenegro's terrain is incredibly diverse from the coastal areas to the lakes and mountain peaks the scenery is unsurpassed. There are 150 Mountain Peaks over 2,000m (6561 ft). The highest is Bobotov Kuk (2525m in Durmitor. The Tara Canyon is 1,300m deep, the deepest in Europe and the second deepest in the world. Lake Skadar is the largest lake in the Balkan Peninsula and borders Albania. It is approx 44 km long and 14 km wide.

Towns & History

Podgorica is the capital a modern town near Lake Skadar, Centinje is the old Royal capital. The towns of Budva and Kotor are ancient fortified towns with beautiful architecture and cobbled streets. There are several Museums especially in Kotor & Centinje which are worth a visit. Montenegro has Austrian, Hungarian, Turkish and even Roman influences from the invasions over the centuries and these influences can be seen in the architecture and old fortifications across the country.

Your In Country Host

Hugh Chapman is an excellent host with a terrific sense of humour. Originally from the UK he has had a varied career spanning agriculture and tourism, particularly anything connected with outdoor life. For 10 years he lived and worked in Kenya organizing wilderness camping and introducing visitors to not only the game parks and wildlife but to the very essence of Africa. He is well known for his support of conservation and rural sustainable development and has left behind many lifelong friends in Africa. Hugh has had connections with Montenegro and the Balkan countries for over six years and now lives and works in a beautiful setting beside the Adriatic. As a keen walker and great host he can make your trip into far more than just a walking holiday. His contacts and friends in ME mean that you will get behind the brochure and have a truly memorable experience.

Booking with Vista Trails

We pride ourselves on offering an efficient service with a personal touch. You are not dealing with a nameless person but have a designated contact who will deal with all your requirements.

Contact

Please contact the office preferably by e mail and speak to Gail or Sarah to discuss any questions you might have and to check availability.

UK: 0044 (0) 1686 412042

Montenegro: 00382 (0) 69845172.

Skype Name : HughChapman

Email: info@vistatrails.com

Vista Trails UK : Pen y Banc , Oakley Park, Llandinam, Powys SY17 5BE.

Montenegro: Villa Josephina, Bogisici bb, Radovici 85323, Tivat, Montenegro.

Gail will confirm the availability, itinerary and any special requests and send you a booking form and our terms and conditions. You need to sign the booking form and return to provisionally book your holiday.

Confirmation & Deposit

Your holiday will not be confirmed until we have received a deposit of 25% of the total cost or full payment if less than 8 weeks to departure. Once this has been received we will confirm your holiday arrangements and send out your information pack.

Financial Protection

Your payment is held in a secure client account for your financial protection until after the event has taken place.

Payment

Vista Trails accepts payments in the form of bank transfer (BACS), Credit Card (2.3% surcharge) or personal cheque. Bank account details for BACS transfer payments may be requested at the time of booking. Cheque payments incur a £1 handling charge per cheque.

Your booking will only be confirmed when payment has been cleared through the Vista Trails bank account. If for any reason a payment by cheque is returned unpaid by the issuing bank or has to be re-presented a charge of £15.00 will be levied to cover bank and administration charges incurred.

VISTA TRAILS BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS

When booking your holiday you must sign a booking form accepting on behalf of all your party the terms of these conditions and pay the full amount if less than 8 weeks from departure or a 25% deposit as stipulated.

Vista Trails acts as a booking agent. All bookings are subject to the following terms and conditions and your acceptance of them constitutes a legally binding contract under English law. You will be deemed to have accepted the terms and conditions (a) at the time of booking if using our website or (b), for bookings made in any other way, unless we hear from you within seven days of you accepting this document.

PAYMENT

To secure your booking you must pay a deposit of 25% of the total cost per person and payment in full must be received by Vista Trails within 8 weeks of the date of the trip. We reserve the right to cancel your booking if payment is not received on time. Unless otherwise stated on the booking form, payment must be made in pounds sterling. Vista Trails accepts payments in the form of credit card, bank transfer (BACS) or personal cheque. Bank account details for BACS transfer payments may be requested at the time of booking. Credit Card payments incur a 2.3% surcharge. Cheque payments incur a £1 handling charge per cheque. Your booking will only be confirmed when payment has been cleared through the Vista Trails bank account. If for any reason a payment by cheque is returned unpaid by the issuing bank or has to be re-presented a charge of £15.00 will be levied to cover bank and administration charges incurred.

CHANGING YOUR BOOKING

Please check the details of your original booking carefully against your confirmation as there is a minimum administration charge of £10.00 for subsequent changes. Any administration costs incurred above this amount will be detailed to you prior to us making the changes on your behalf. Changes must be notified in writing with as much time as possible before the trip. Whilst we will try to accommodate any changes you may still be liable for any penalties or extra charges incurred.

CANCELLATIONS BY YOU

If you need to cancel your booking for yourself or any member of your party, we must receive your written notice of cancellation at least 8 weeks before the trip. If you cancel before 8 weeks from the date of the trip and have made a full payment, we will arrange a refund less a cancellation administration fee of 10% to cover the cost of bookings and deposits paid by us to third parties. If you cancel less than 8 weeks from the date of your trip then no refund will be given. If you take out travel insurance and you have to cancel due to ill health etc then you should be covered by your insurance.

CANCELLATION BY US

We will always try our best to avoid cancelling our service. In the event of circumstances that force us to cancel a trip you will receive a full refund. Vista Trails are not held liable for any additional expenses you incur through cancelling your service e.g. travel expenses. If there are circumstances beyond our control which cause us to cancel or change our service such as war, riot, industrial dispute, terrorist activity, natural or nuclear disaster, fire, adverse weather conditions or other circumstances that amount to force majeure we will not refund or pay you any compensation or be liable for any other expenses to you.

INSURANCE

You **MUST** be adequately covered by your own travel insurance policy before booking our service. This cover should be comprehensive enough to cover you for the activities you will be involved in on your trip and also any cancellation made by you.

LIMIT OF LIABILITY

Vista Trails have a duty of care to it's customers and staff but are only liable up to the cost of your trip with us. We cannot be held responsible for damage and / or loss to your personal possessions. We are also not liable for failure in carrying out the contract if the failure is due to the action of the participant or the action of a third party. We are also not liable for any theft or damage to bicycles or injury to you which occurs as a result of cycling on or off road or in transit.

Vista Trails accepts no responsibility for loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from action as a result of any information disclosed by Vista Trails during the service.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

You accept that walking can be a hazardous activity and may involve elements of risk or discomfort. By agreeing to these terms and conditions you take responsibility for your own actions. Vista Trails takes no responsibility for damage, death or injury caused to you or by you as a result of participation in your chosen trail or service. You must at all times walk within your own ability. We reserve the right to stop you from participating in a certain walk. You must be physically fit enough to participate in the routes you have chosen. If you have to drop out of the trip you will be responsible for any travel arrangements or costs incurred. You agree to act in a responsible way for the duration of your trip.

YOUR HEALTH & SAFETY

It is your responsibility to ensure you are sufficiently fit and adequately equipped to partake in your chosen activity. You must tell us of any medical conditions or dietary requirements at the time of booking. If you are not in a suitable condition to complete your trip or are under the influence of excessive drink or drugs we will ask you to leave. We will not be liable for any extra expense incurred by this and you will not be able to claim a refund.

As a sensible precaution, we recommend that: if you have not recently taken regular exercise outdoors, you have a disability, or have a previous injury or illness, which could affect your health, enjoyment or your ability to join in fully, that you consult your doctor before booking an event with our company.

ITINERARY / ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE TIMES

It is your sole responsibility to turn up on time for any part of the itinerary at the agreed times we cannot be liable for any loss or expense suffered by participants because of your late arrival or failure to turn up.

INFORMATION & DESCRIPTIONS

All information displayed on the website & information supplied on the routes is provided in good faith – Vista Trails cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies or misinterpretations.

FINANCIAL PROTECTION

Your monies are held in a Client Account until after the event has taken place. This will protect your payments.

PROVIDERS

Vista Trails works with a range of accommodation and service providers and cannot be held liable for any damages, losses or inconveniences resulting from them. We will always try you make sure these problems are minimal and will deal with any situations a they arise. Whilst staying with an accommodation provider you must agree to their terms and conditions.

COMPLAINTS

Should you have a problem or complaint about our service you must bring it to the attention of our staff as soon as possible and we will try to rectify the problem. If you feel that the problem was not resolved and resulted in a much reduced enjoyment of the trip you must inform us in writing within 28 days and will respond with 29 days to resolved the matter to the satisfaction of both parties.