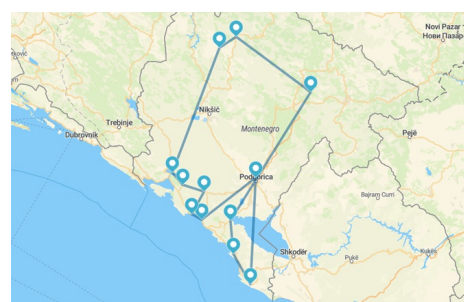




Montenegro, 7 Days · Tailor-made by car

Unrivalled Mediterranean Route

From the capital of Podgorica, an exciting itinerary will take you on a journey by car that will enable you to get to know one of the most interesting and unknown corners of the "Mare Nostrum". The sea breeze and Mediterranean coolness will accompany you on this breathtaking route, which winds between the coast and the interior, rewarding the traveller with beautiful beaches, cities packed with history, charming fishing villages with Italian influences, magnificent national parks such as Durmitor, Biogradska Gora or Lake Skadar... Moulded by land and sea and far from throngs of tourists, Montenegro is an ideal destination to be explored by car and for those who wish to enjoy a quiet seafront holiday. During your trip you will become acquainted with unique places such as the capital, the delicate beauty of the towns located around the Bay of Kotor, the sublime coastal prints starring the island of Sveti Stefan and the town of Budva... Montenegro is also a land full of history and tradition. A border between two worlds, the East and the West, the country is a captivating destination from which to make sense of Europe's historical journey. Among its cultural gems you will find Roman villas, Orthodox monasteries, Catholic churches, mosques crowned with elegant minarets... Its walled cities, fortresses and castles remind the traveller that these places were coveted for centuries. Today, Montenegro is a welcoming land for the traveller to feast upon its delicious local gastronomy - which includes elements of Mediterranean, Italian, Balkan and Turkish cuisine - that goes hand in hand with excellent national wines. Explore the "Unrivalled Mediterranean Route" and discover why Montenegro is one of the latest fashionable destinations. Its lively evening atmosphere and the warmth of the Montenegrins will fascinate you.



CULTURAL

Departure date: Departures from July 2026 till June 2027

From: Cork, Shannon, Dublin

Travel details

● DAY 1 · CITY OF ORIGIN - PODGORICA

Flight departure from the city of origin to Podgorica. Arrival at the airport where we will pick up the rental car and drive to the hotel. You have the rest of the day off to explore Podgorica, the attractive capital of Montenegro, at your own pace. Located in the Zeta Valley, right at the point where the main range of the Dinaric Alps ends, the largest city in the country is also its political and administrative centre. Situated between the mountains and the coast, and crossed by rivers such as the Ribnica, the city captures the traveller with its restaurant and shop-lined central shopping streets, as well as its wonderful parks and green spaces. Its historic streets and buildings juxtaposed with trendy establishments tell the traveller a long history, passing through periods of war and laying out a promising future symbolised by constructions such as the Millennium Bridge, which proudly crosses the Morca River. Land of Romans and home to many great figures from the Empire, such as Emperor Diocletian, Podgorica's cultural and culinary world was also enriched with Turkish and Austro-Hungarian influences. Nowadays, Podgorica charms visitors with its array of artistic and cultural events. Discover its vibrant cultural calendar and leisure activities! Don't leave without taking a stroll around the Stara Varoš neighbourhood, where you can visit authentic enclaves such as the Tvrdava Ribnica (Ribnica Fortress), the Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ, the Clock Tower, the ruins of Nemanja's Town, the St. George's Church... Those who love shopping should head to Nova Varoš and Trg Republike (Independence Square), where they can track down the best souvenirs of this welcoming country. For those with an interest in history, the nearby Illyrian and Roman site of Duklja will reward them with a place to remember.

The city is also a great point from which to make worthwhile excursions: the reason for our return to stay overnight in Podgorica for the last few days of this rewarding trip.

Overnight stay in Podgorica.

● DAY 2 · PODGORICA - SVETI STEFAN ISLAND - CVRENA GLAVIZA BEACHES - BUDVA

After enjoying a few hours in Podgorica, we get on the road. Today, a 72-kilometre journey which is full of surprises and memorable places awaits us. Off we go!

On the way to Sveti Stefan, you will be able to make stops at several viewpoints that dot the roadside to allow you to admire the island of Sveti Stefan from high above. The island is a small piece of land connected to the mainland by a narrow strip of sand. Its interior accommodates a miniature medieval village, so beautiful that visitors have an overwhelming desire to get there and discover every nook and cranny. Located south of Budva, the sight of Sveti Stefan is one of the most famous images of the country, as well as one of the most touted attractions for promoting tourism in Montenegro. Sveti Stefan is now home to one of the most famous luxury hotel resorts. Monarchs, actors, singers and other celebrities have passed through the luxury resort, continuing to feed the reputation of this picturesque location. Entrance is reserved for guests only. Those who aren't guests are always free to enjoy the beach stroll through the forest to Pržno and take a never-ending stream of photos. The islet is connected to the mainland by a narrow causeway, and its photogenic patchwork of 15th Century stone villas dominates a pristine pink sand beach and a timeless turquoise sea. If you are one of those travellers who enjoys discovering beautiful beaches, you're in luck. You only need to walk a couple of kilometres south from the island to reach idyllic Cvrena Glaviza. There awaits a collection of seven beautiful beaches of rock and red sand. What better way to combat the heat? After enjoying the blessings of the local climate and some of the most beautiful snapshots you'll find on this trip, we return to our Route until we reach Budva, our final destination located just 10 kilometres away. Prepare to encounter photogenic Budva Riviera at the wheel! Long stretches of road await you, from which you can take in a coastline of breathtaking landscapes. Its climate and the Mediterranean temperatures mean you can enjoy warm summers and mild winters. And we arrive in Budva! One of the most visited enclaves in the country lies before you. Budva's walled old town, which appears to rise up from the sea, its magnificent beaches, elegant bars and lively nightclubs guarantee relaxation and fun for everyone. With so many attractions it's not surprising that this beautiful spot has gained a reputation as the "Montenegrin Miami". Discover its romantic atmosphere, Mediterranean spirit and delicious cuisine. Any recommendations? Budva's archaeological ruins and temples - such as the outstanding churches of St. John, St. Nicholas and Holy Trinity - are unmissable... History lovers will find their own private retreat in the local museum. Thanks to the freedom your rental car gives you, you can easily head for the beaches of Jaz (to the north) and Bečići (to the south). Another option is to visit the Podmaine and Podostrog monasteries, which are located just a couple of kilometres apart. At the end of the day, discover why this town serves as a benchmark for Montenegrin nightlife.

Overnight stay in Budva.

● DAY 3 · BUDVA - CETINJE - LOVČEN NATIONAL PARK - NJEGUŠI - KOTOR

We continue to explore this beautiful town that envelops the traveller in a fascinating atmosphere forged by the depths of legend and history. The old part of the city, or 'Stari Grad', dazzles at every step with its elegant marble streets and imposing Venetian walls that stand proud over a clear blue sea. Although much of the Stari Grad was destroyed by two earthquakes in 1979, the area has been completely rebuilt and now houses more shops, bars and restaurants than homes. At the edge of the sea, the Citadel offers breathtaking views, a small museum and a library full of maps and rare objects that deserve to be discovered at a leisurely pace. In front of the Citadel you'll find a pleasant square dotted with churches and restaurants from which to contemplate the daily buzz of the city. We can't leave Budva without taking a look at the photogenic beach of Jaz one last time. After leaving it behind, we will continue along our Route away from the coast and heading towards Cetinje, the old capital of Montenegro located about 33 kilometres away.

Nowadays, this historical capital city boasts a calm atmosphere and lots of culture. Among our recommendations are the Cetinje Monastery and the Biljarda Palace, two jewels in the heritage of Montenegro. Take advantage of this stop to meander through the charismatic squares and cobbled streets of the historic centre. Cetinje is also one of the gateways to the enchanting Lovćen National Park. This small green space is home to another of the country's jewels: the Mausoleum of Petar II Petrović-Njegoš, situated on Lovćen's Black Mountain. Its prominence on the horizon makes it, without doubt, one of the country's landmarks. The Mausoleum is one of the most interesting monuments in Montenegro and houses the tomb of national hero, Petar II Petrović-Njegoš. More than 400 stairs will take you from the car park to the very heart of the mountain until you reach the monument. The views from the top are spectacular. Nearby, at the north end of the park, you'll find Njeguši, a traditional village dotted with stone houses that rose to fame for being the hometown of the Petrović dynasty and for making some of Montenegro's most delicious "pršut" (dry-cured ham) and "sir" (local cheese). The next stop will be the beautiful Bay of Kotor.

Overnight stay in Kotor.

● DAY 4 · KOTOR

Today we wake up in Kotor, one of the best-known corners of a country that to this day continues to hide from the tourist masses, something that gives it a special charm. Kotor invites the visiting traveller to make a trip back in time to the lands of Old Europe, characterised by walled cities, enigmatic cobbled streets and churches which preside in almost every square. Kotor is woven by a medieval labyrinth of streets that guard engaging museums, enchanting churches, elegant Venetian palaces and charming squares like that of Armas (Trg od Oružja), where welcoming establishments offer good coffee to enjoy while contemplating the harmonic hustle and bustle of everyday life. With all these attractions, it's no surprise that UNESCO has recognised Kotor as a Natural and Culturo-Historical Region, granting it World Heritage Site status. Towards the end of the day, the wall that stretches to the mountains contributes to the city's magnificent appearance. The high level of preservation of medieval features that you will find in the walls will amaze you, such as the moats, the towers, the drawbridges, the St.Jovan fortress...

Within the walls you can hear the hubbub of bars, live music and nightclubs. Discover the delightful local gastronomy that combines the best of Montenegrin cuisine with influences from Italian cuisine.

Overnight stay in Kotor.

● DAY 5 · KOTOR - PERAST - DURMITOR NATIONAL PARK - ŽABLJAK - BIOGRADSKA - PODGORICA

Today we have prepared a thrilling Route to show you some of the most beautiful spots in the country. We have two routes to suggest - a shorter or longer route - so that you can organise your journey to suit your tastes and to fit with the time you have available. Off we go! After breakfast we will head to the next town, Perast, located about 15 minutes away by car.

The romantic seafaring town of Perast - full of elegant baroque palaces built by wealthy noble families and beautiful churches such as St. Nicholas - has become, on its own merits, one of the main attractions in the Bay of Kotor. As soon as you set foot in the historic heart of the town, your surroundings will remind you of beautiful Italy. It really seems as if a small piece of Venice is anchored in this bay! Perast's history dates back to the Neolithic Age since, according to various studies, the town was already inhabited in this historical period. One of the most picturesque places to visit is the famous islet of Gospa od Škrpjela - or 'Our Lady of the Rocks' - home to the beloved Church of the same name. According to tradition, 15th Century sailors deposited a stone on the islet each time they returned from a trip, following the discovery by some sailors in 1452 of a painting of the Virgin on a rock that jutted out into the sea. (Note: You can take rowing boats from Perast to the islet. Not included).

If you have opted for the shorter route, after this visit you can head for Podgorica, where we will sleep tonight. Podgorica is located about 2 hours by car from Perast. Travellers who wish to lengthen their day are able to spend more time becoming acquainted with some of the most stunning natural attractions that the country has to offer. The first stop after Perast could be the Durmitor National Park, some 156 kilometres away. You will see before you a natural wonder whose peaks are reflected in 18 glacial lakes known collectively as "Gorske Oči" (Mountain Eyes). The largest and most beautiful of them all is Crno (Black) Lake. Taking a stroll around this easily accessible lake is a pure delight. After leaving Durmitor and passing through the town of Žabljak, you can finish the day - provided you have time - in the Biogradska Gora National Park. Diverse landscapes will greet you all along the route to Biogradska, making this leg of the trip hugely enjoyable and giving you a taste of the country's interior. (Note: Before arriving at Biogradska Gora National Park, you can take a road that runs parallel to the Tara River canyon. Its main attraction is the beautiful Biograd Lake, which can be reached by car). We end our day in Podgorica, where we will have a taste of the nightlife and sample the city's excellent restaurants.

Overnight stay in Podgorica.

● DAY 6 · PODGORICA - VIRPAZAR/LAKE SKADAR - BAR - ULCINJ - PODGORICA

Another exciting day awaits us. We have prepared an itinerary by car for a round trip from Podgorica. Our first stop will be Virpazar, situated halfway between Podgorica and Bar. Virpazar is the most important town located on photogenic Lake Skadar.

The local population resisted the Nazis in World War II right at this spot, as the monument on the ruins of the old Besac Fortress recounts. Virpazar is an ideal spot from which to take a leisurely boat trip or kayak on the lake, the largest in the Balkan Peninsula and one of the largest in Europe. Situated on the border of Montenegro and Albania, Lake Skadar is part of the national park of the same name. Discover this incredible unspoiled corner of Montenegro, dotted with bays, beaches, keys, islands and peninsulas! During this trip you will come across the "limani", or villages, that acquaint the traveller with local traditions. Ornithology enthusiasts can find hundreds of species of birds in this region. Take advantage of your visit to Lake Skadar to sample its fish dishes, smoked meat and cheeses, and to taste the excellent local wines. (Note: The high temperatures in summer beckon the traveller to cool off at beaches such as the one in Murići).

After enjoying the lake and its surroundings, we continue on to Bar, a seaport city that is visited for its ruins of the old city of Stari Bar. You will find the ruins atop a cliff which is scattered with ancient olive trees. (Note: This island, built 2,800 years ago, was left in its current dilapidated state after being bombed in 1878. The visitor can explore the area and enjoy its impressive views, imagining what life was like in times gone by). Before heading back to the capital, you can make one last stop in Ulcinj, the southernmost city of Montenegro, located half an hour away from Bar.

The elegant minarets of its numerous mosques give the town an Eastern feel.

Following the coastline, the rocky coves give way to the long sandy stretch of Velika Plaža Beach and the island of Ada Bojana.

Return and overnight stay in Podgorica.

● DAY 7 · PODGORICA - CITY OF ORIGIN

Arrival at the airport with enough time to drop off your rental car and flight back to the city of origin.

Arrival. End of the trip and our services.

Your trip includes

Your trip includes

- ✓ Return flight.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Podgorica.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Podgorica.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Budva.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Budva.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Kotor.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Kotor.
- ✓ Rent-a-car.

Your trip doesn't include

- ✗ Possible toll charges.
- ✗ Insolvency protection.
- ✗ Entrance to historic buildings, museums, natural parks, activities and attractions mentioned during itinerary (some are free).
- ✗ Boat to the island of Gospa od Škrpjela.
- ✗ Boat trip on Lake Skadar.

Destinations Visited

Podgorica



Sveti Stefan



Budva



Cetinje



Kotor



Perast



Durmitor National Park



Žabljak



Biogradska Gora National Park



Virpazar



Bar



Ulcinj



Important remarks

- Driving through Montenegro: Montenegro is the perfect country for lovers of mountain roads and coastal walks, with its magnificent stretches of panoramic road that afford stunning views.
- Triple rooms in Europe are generally rooms with twin beds or a double, in which a folding bed is installed to accommodate the third person. Due to the inconvenience this causes, we advise against using this option as far as possible.
- Check-in time at the hotel on the day of arrival depends on each establishment, but in no case will it be before 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise indicated.
- The proposed excursions and tours for each day are purely suggestions, as you can tailor the trip to suit your times, tastes and needs.
- A credit card is considered a guarantee, so sometimes you will need one for check-in at hotels.
- Hotels usually have cots available. Otherwise, babies will have to share a bed with an adult.
- To pick up your rental car, you'll need a credit (not debit) card in the name of the person who made the booking, who must also be the named driver of the vehicle.

- Consult the necessary documentation to enter the destinations visited and for transit in the countries where air stopovers are made.