

## Dubrovnik

### Overview

The historical city of Dubrovnik is located along the coast of the Adriatic Sea, in Southwestern Croatia. Dubrovnik offers visitors much more than the medieval streets and red-roofed houses that it is world famous for; its beautiful crystal clear waters and the dramatic backdrop of the Croatian hinterland make it such a unique and beautiful city, and one of Croatia's prime tourist destinations.

A wide variety of architectural styles can be viewed throughout the city. The beautiful walled Old Town district is home to magnificent landmarks such as the Old Port, several famous churches, a synagogue and Dubrovnik's main drag - The Stradun. Dubrovnik's rich cultural past can be explored not only on its historical streets, but in the large number of museums dotted around the city, including the Maritime Museum, the Museum of the Franciscan Monastery and the Archaeological Museum. Hundreds of small islands and inlets are located off the coast of Dubrovnik, most of which are completely uninhabited and car-free and provide the perfect place to relax away from the hustle and bustle of the Stradun. Dubrovnik boasts a number of sandy beaches along with beautiful waters which are a great way to cool off from intense heat in the summer months.

The Croats take great pride in their cooking, and Dubrovnik has a reputation for having some of the best eateries in the country. There are a number of options to suit all tastes and budgets, from simple seaside cafes to prestigious high-end restaurants. Fresh seafood is caught by local fisherman and used in dishes such as Rizot (seafood risotto), and Buzara (mussels in a wine, garlic and tomato sauce).

Dubrovnik has an attractive Mediterranean climate. Summer generally lasts from May until September, with long hours of sunlight and temperatures that average around the late-twenties. Winters are mild and wet, with temperatures rarely dropping below 5°C. Visitors will find the winter months are much quieter, but also a pleasant and magical time to explore the city away from the crowds and the searing summer sun.

Most modern facilities can be found in Dubrovnik, including plenty of 24 hour ATM's, while many major restaurants, shops and hotels accept credit card payments. Foreign currency can be changed at Bureau de Change booths located inside of the Dubrovnik Airport, or inside of banks in the city centre. Helpful staff at the Tourist Information Centre are happy to give out free maps and guides to all visitors. The official currency used is the Croatian kuna (HRK), although some establishments accept the euro.