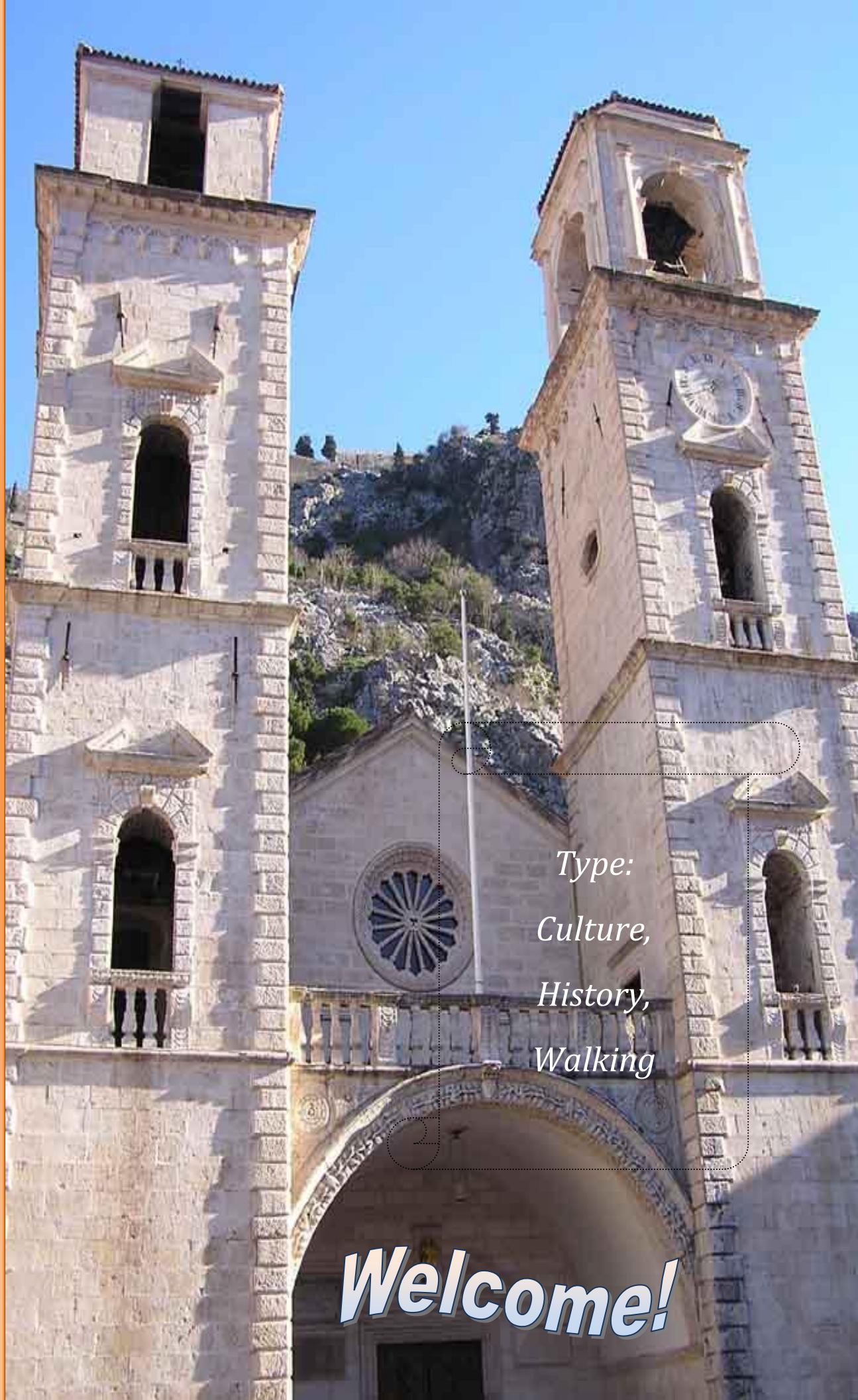


KOTOR WALKING TOUR



Type:
Culture,
History,
Walking

Welcome!

ABOUT TOUR



This walking tour of the Kotor's old town is perfect if you only have a short time visiting from a cruise ship. The tour provides an excellent orientation to Kotor and visits St. Tryphon Cathedral and the Maritime Museum.

Type: Culture, History, Walking

Length: 2 Hours

Walking: Easy (but on cobblestones)

Mobility: Folding wheelchair OK, some sites may be inaccessible (advance notice required)

Guide: Licensed Guide

Language: English, Italian, French, German, Russian (other languages upon request)



ABOUT KOTOR



Kotor is situated on the southeastern part of Boka bay, on a foothill of the mountain Lovcen. The area of community of Kotor is 355 km². Kotor is cultural, educational, economical and sport center of this area.

As the only fiord on the Mediterranean, Boka Kotorska was added to the list of twenty five the most beautiful bays in the world in July 2000, the others being mainly in Scandinavia. The history of Kotor can be traced to the most ancient times. In the surrounding caves there have been found various tools and ceramics witnessing humane existence from the Neolithic period, as well as drawings on the walls of the cave at Lipci near Risan.

In the antique period the Illyrian tribal state was the first organized humane community on these territories. Roman conquest began by the end of the third century BC and since the year 169 BC these territories had been under the rule of Rome, and then were taken over by the Byzantines. The first Slav tribes settled there in the 12th century. Its first state was Doclea, later called Zeta. Since the end of the 12th century Kotor was in power of the members of the Nemanjic Dynasty until 1420 when the Republic of Venice occupied it and stayed there until 1797, the time of the Napoleon wars in Europe. After the stormy period from 1797 to 1814 when this area was alternately under the Russians, French, Austrians and Montenegrins, at the Vienna Congress in 1814, Kotor became the constituent of the Austro-Hungary Monarchy and remained under the rule of Austro-Hungary until 1918 when this region became a part of Yugoslavia until its disintegration.

For its unique mixture of different cultures, Kotor entered the list of the world cultural heritage under the protection of the UNESCO. In the past, the most developed industry in this area was trade and maritime affairs. Seafarers used to bring different products from overseas which they would exchange for the goods they were in need of. In that way Kotor became one of the most important trading centers in this part of the Adriatic coast.



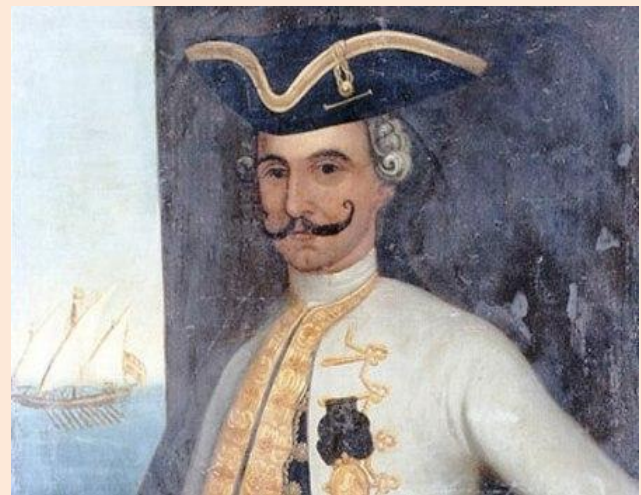


The Grgurina Palace - Maritime Museum

The palace Grgurina belonged to the noble family Grgurina. It was built in the eighteenth century in the Baroque style, with the façade on which dominate stone balconies with balustrades. Particularly interesting is originally preserved lay out of the floor rooms according to the Venetian pattern which says: the master's house has four rooms and one parlor. Today in the palace is situated the Maritime Museum whose collection shows development of maritime affairs and cultural level of the inhabitants of the Montenegrin Littoral and Boka Kotorska in the past.



The Maritime Museum of Montenegro in Kotor has grown out of the collection founded by the "Boka Marine" Fraternity, around the year 1880 and opened to public in 1900. It gradually enlarged and in 1938, it was re-arranged and opened to visitors on the first floor of the present Museum building. It was only after the end of World War II, in the period 1949-1952, that the whole building, Baroque palace of the noble Grgurina family from the beginning of the 18th century was completely restored and adapted to meet the needs of the Museum.



St. Tryphon Cathedral



St. Tryphon Cathedral

The Romanesque church built in 1166 on the foundations of the small Romanesque church from the ninth century. It is three-nave Basilica, extensively restored several times, especially after the 1667 earthquake when the bell towers and a part of the façade were destroyed. After the earthquake, new bell towers were made in the Baroque style. The rose windows on the façade are those which attract the special attention. Once they were Romanesque but today they are with Gothic-Renaissance motives.

St. Tryphon's Cathedral has in its possession a rich collection of art paintings preserving the works of Marin Lovra Dobricevic, Tripo Kokolj, Paolo Veroveza, Hieronim Santa Croce and other great artists. The church has a rich collection of gold and silver relics, the works of local masters from the period from the fourteenth to the eighteenth centuries. The interior of the Cathedral is depicted with frescoes done by Greek masters-pictures greci.

The most important part of the interior decoration of the Cathedral is the Romanesque Gothic ciborium from the fourteenth century above the main altar.

On the wall of the apse there is the Golden Altarpiece with figures of Christ, the Virgin, St. John the Baptist and St. Tryphon and sixteen other saints. It is the masterpiece of Kotor goldsmiths' work of the first half of the fifteenth century.



St. Nicola's Church



St. Nicola's Church

Church of St. Nicholas is the most important Orthodox Church in Kotor. It is located in the northern part of the old town. The twin towered, frontal facade of the church shares the same square as the pretty St. Luke's Square. A church was originally built here in the 17th century but was destroyed in the 19th. The building of the church started in 1902 and according to the inscriptions on the facade it was finished in 1909. It was built in the Pseudo-Byzantine style as one-nave church. The main façade is framed with two bell towers. Of special value in the church is iconostasis of the church made in 1908. The church standing in its place dates from 1909. The interior of the church is well worth investigated for its peaceful atmosphere and beautiful icons. You can get a different view of the church by walking through the Karampana Tower in the western corner of the old town and along the Skurda canal where you will reach the back of the Church. Hanging from the front facade is the flag of the Serbian Orthodox Church.



St. Luka's Church



St. Luka's Church

Another important Orthodox church is St. Luka's Church, also located in the Old Town. It was built during the reign of the Serbian dynasty Nemanjic,

late 12th century. St. Lucas's Church is situated in the centre of the urban core of Kotor. The church was built in 1195. The iconostas of the church is the work of art of Dimitrije Daskal, the founder of the Boka Kotorska Rafailovic iconographic school, from the 17th century. This is the only edifice in the town that did not suffer significant destruction during the earthquake. The floor in the church consists of tombstones on the joint tombs of the citizens of Kotor, since until the 1830's burials were being carried out in the church itself.





THE OLD TOWN MAP





ADRIA LINE

TRAVEL AGENCY
Budva, Montenegro

Web: www.adrialine.me
E-mail: info@adrialine.me

Business Center
„PODKOSLJUN“

Phone: + 382 (0) 33 402 114
Fax: + 382 (0) 33 402 115
Cell: + 382 (0) 67 733 177



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