

Tauck Adriatic Cruise Aboard the Ponant Ship Le Lyrial

August-September, 2019

The Adriatic Sea is an extension of the Mediterranean Sea, separating the Italian Peninsula from the Balkan Peninsula, and touching the countries of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Italy, Montenegro, and Slovenia. More than 1300 islands lie within the Adriatic.



Venice, Italy

Venice is the capital of the Veneto region of northern Italy. The city consists of more than 100 small islands in the northern part of the Adriatic Sea. There are no roads, only canals along which are many Renaissance and Gothic buildings. The Piazza San Marco, contains St. Mark's Basilica and the Campanile bell tower overlooking the city. Water taxis connect the many islands of Venice.



Campanile de San Marco, Venice



View Along the Grand Canal, Venice



Gondola and Academy Bridge, Venice



Gondola Parking Lot Along the Grand Canal, Venice



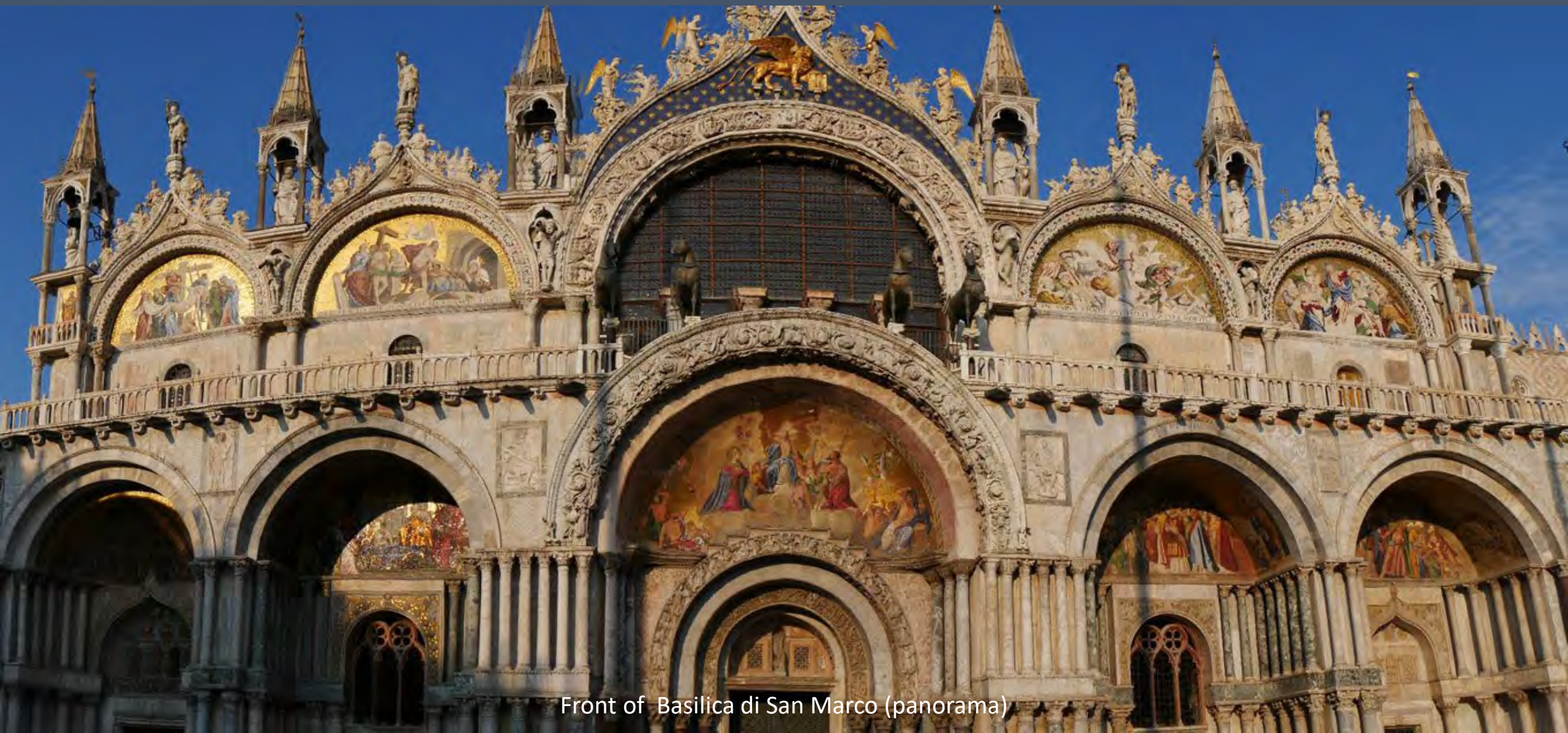
San Marco Campanile, Doge's Palace and Basilica de San Marco



Doge's Palace, Campanile, Columns of San Marco and San Teodoro, Venice



Canal Bridge and Bridge of Sighs, Venice



Front of Basilica di San Marco (panorama)



Façade Mosaics of Basilica Di San Marco



Mural and Statues, Basilica Di San Marco



Basilica di San Marco



The Moors Striking the Hours at the Top of St. Mark's Clock Tower



Venetian Lion on Façade of Scuola Grande di San Marco, Venice



Porta Magna of the Campo de l'Arsenal (Venetian Arsenal)



Porta Magna of the Campo de l'Arsenal (Venetian Arsenal)



Lobby of Daniel Hotel, Venice



Venice Waterfront



Venice Waterfront on Giudecca Canal



Santa Maria del Rosario Church on Giudecca Canal



Basilica di Santa Maria della Salute, Venice



Faro dell'Isola di Murano (Murano Lighthouse)



Chiesa di Santa Caterina, Mazzorbo



Leaning Bell Tower of Burano Island (Campanile of San Martino)



Burano Canal and Homes

Korcula, Croatia

Korcula is the sixth largest island in the Adriatic, one in the long string of 'pearls' forming a great archipelago that runs along the eastern coast of the Adriatic Sea. Most of the population lives in small villages and hamlets. Mountains run the length of the island, reaching up to 1837ft in elevation.

The ability to control navigation of galleys and sailing boats along the eastern coast of the Adriatic at this location was the reason for the foundation of this small town-fortress. The 13th century walls were reinforced with towers and bastions and a canal dug by the Venetians to isolate the town and deter many invaders.

The well known traveler, Marco Polo, was born in the mid 13th century and Korculans claim that he was born in 1254 in Korcula. There are other claims that Marco Polo came from a Dalmatian family, most likely from Sibenik. Wherever Marco Polo was born, it is the Korculans who are the most devoted to him.



Le Lyrial at Anchor off Korcula



Approaching Korcula Town



Approaching Korčula Town



Korcula Town from the Ship



Korcula Town City Wall Tower and Beach



St. Michael's Church, Korcula



Church Kapela Gospe od Snijega, Korcula



Altar, Church of Our Lady, Korcula



St. Peter's Church, Korcula



West Façade, St. Mark's Cathedral, Korcula



Clock Tower, St. Mark's Cathedral, Korcula



Entrance Statues, St. Mark's Cathedral, Korcula



Entrance Statues, St. Mark's Cathedral, Korcula



Altar, St. Mark's Cathedral, Korcula



Dome of St. Justine's Church, Korcula



Vrada (Land Gate) Entrance to Korcula Town



Croatian Flag Above Town Entrance Gate, Korcula



Adriatic Scene from Korcula



One of the islands most colorful traditions is the Moreska Sword Dance, performed in Korcula since the 15th century. Probably of Spanish origin, Korcula is now the only place in the world that the dance is performed. The dance tells a story of two kings: the White King (dressed in red) and the Black King (dressed in, you guessed it - black), who fight for a princess abducted by the Black King.

Moreska Sword Dance, Korcula



Moreska Sword Dance, Korcula



Moreska Sword Dance, Korcula

Sibenik & Split, Croatia

Sibenik was first settled by Croat tribes. First mentioned in the 11th century by the Croatian king Kresimir IV, the city was conquered by Venice in 1116 but was tossed back and forth among Venice, Hungary, Byzantium and the Kingdom of Bosnia until Venice seized control in 1412 after a three year fight. The fortresses that were built by the Venetians in defense of the town are still visible.

Split is the second largest city in Croatia, and within it is Diocletian's Palace, a UNESCO world heritage site. Diocletian's Palace is one of the most imposing Roman ruins in existence. The Roman emperor Diocletian (AD 245-313), noted for his persecution of early Christians, had his retirement palace built here from 295 to 305. When the nearby colony of Salona was abandoned in the 7th century, many of the Romanized inhabitants fled to Split and barricaded themselves behind the high palace walls, where their descendants live to this day. There are 220 buildings within the palace walls which today house about 3000 people.



The Krka National Park encompasses an area of 109 square km along the Krka River with 47 km of hiking trails. Krka NP is known for its many waterfalls that were created by travertine barriers, islands and lakes.

Waterfall and Pond, Krka NP, Sibenik



Krka River, Krka NP, Sibenik



Waterfalls, Krka NP, Sibenic



Waterfalls, Krka NP, Sibenik



Waterfall, Krka NP, Sibenik



Roski Slap Waterfall, Krka NP, Sibenik



Roski Slap Waterfall and Visovac Lake, Krka NP, Sibenic



Roski Slap Waterfall, Krka NP, Sibenik



Main Gate, Diocletian's Palace, Split



Temple of Jupiter, Diocletian's Palace, Split



Sphinx at the Peristyle of Diocletian's Palace, Split



The Eastern (Silver) Gate to Diocletian's Palace, Split



Column Details, Temple of Jupiter, Diocletian's Palace, Split



Baptismal Fount in Diocletian's Palace with Image of Croatian King Zvonimir



The Cellars of Diocletian's Palace

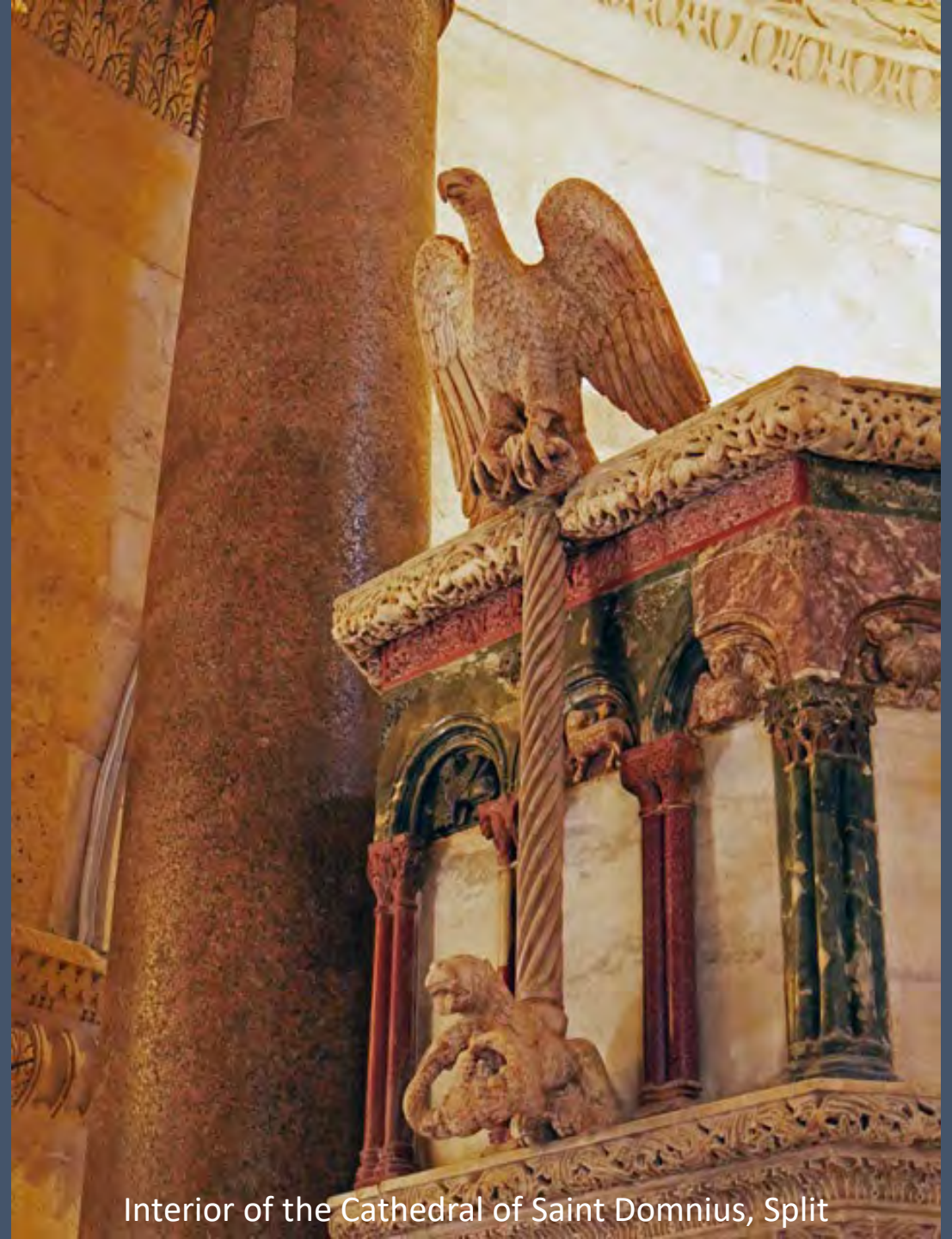


The Cathedral of Saint Dominus is in one of the best preserved ancient Roman buildings in Europe, built as a mausoleum for the Roman Emperor Diocletian who was buried here in 311 AD. The bell tower of the cathedral (57m) was started in the 13th century and reconstructed in 1908.

Bell Tower of the Cathedral of Saint Domnius, Split



Bell Tower of the Cathedral of Saint Domnius, Split



Interior of the Cathedral of Saint Domnius, Split



Interior of the Cathedral of Saint Domnius, Split



Interior of the Cathedral of Saint Domnius, Split



Interior of the Cathedral of Saint Domnius, Split

Dubrovnik, Croatia

Dubrovnik dates back to the seventh century, when it was founded as the town of Ragusa by refugees from Epidaurum. The city came under Venetian rule in 1205. The walls and ramparts of the city were built in the tenth century but fortified in the 13th. The walls that surround Dubrovnik are 6,363 ft long and 82 ft high in some parts.

In the bay of Dubrovnik is the wooded island of Lokrum, where according to legend, Richard the Lionheart was cast ashore after being shipwrecked in 1192.



Early Morning Approach to Dubrovnik, Croatia



Dubrovnik, Croatia, from le Lyrial



Dubrovnik, Croatia, from le Lyrial



Dubrovnik, Croatia, from le Lyrial



Fort Royal on Lokrum Island



Jesuit Church of St. Ignatius, Dubrovnik



Facade Detail, Jesuit Church of St. Ignatius, Dubrovnik



Church of St. Blaise, Dubrovnik



Church of St. Blaise, Dubrovnik



Dubrovnik City Bell Tower



Little Onofrio Fountain, Dubrovnik



Sponza Palace



Sponza Palace



Sponza Palace



Franciscan Monastery, Dubrovnik



Cloister of Franciscan Monastery, Dubrovnik



Franciscan Monastery, Dubrovnik



Cloister of Franciscan Monastery, Dubrovnik



Le Lyrial from Dubrovnik Harbor



Dubrovnik from Le Lyrial



Dubrovnik from Le Lyrial



Tower on Dubrovnik City Wall



Tower on Dubrovnik City Wall



Bell Tower of St. Dominic's Church, Dubrovnik



Dubrovnik from the City Wall



St. Catherine's Convent from Dubrovnik City Wall



Mr. Happy at Minceta Tower, Dubrovnik City Wall



Franciscan Monastery Bell Tower



Tower of St. Mary on Dubrovnik City Wall



Bell Tower of St. Dominic's Church and Dubrovnik Harbor, Dubrovnik



Fort Lovrijenac and Part of Old Town from the City Wall



Le Lyrial and the Adriatic Seen from Dubrovnik City Wall



Dubrovnik Sunset



Becky & Jim on Le Lyrial Leaving Dubrovnik at Sunset



Dubrovnik at Night

Kotor, Montenegro

The old core of the town was built during the rule of the Roman emperor Diocletian. In the 9th century, a storm forced the mariners carrying the relics of St. Tryphon to sail into the harbor. The Old City of Kotor was constructed between the 12th and 14th centuries and contains well-preserved Medieval architecture and monuments. Kotor is a UNESCO-listed "World Natural and Historical Heritage Site".

The Bay of Kotor (Boka Kotorska) consists of four smaller bays: Kotor, Risan, Tivat, and Topia. These bays have a combined shoreline of over 60 miles.



Sunrise, Bay of Kotor



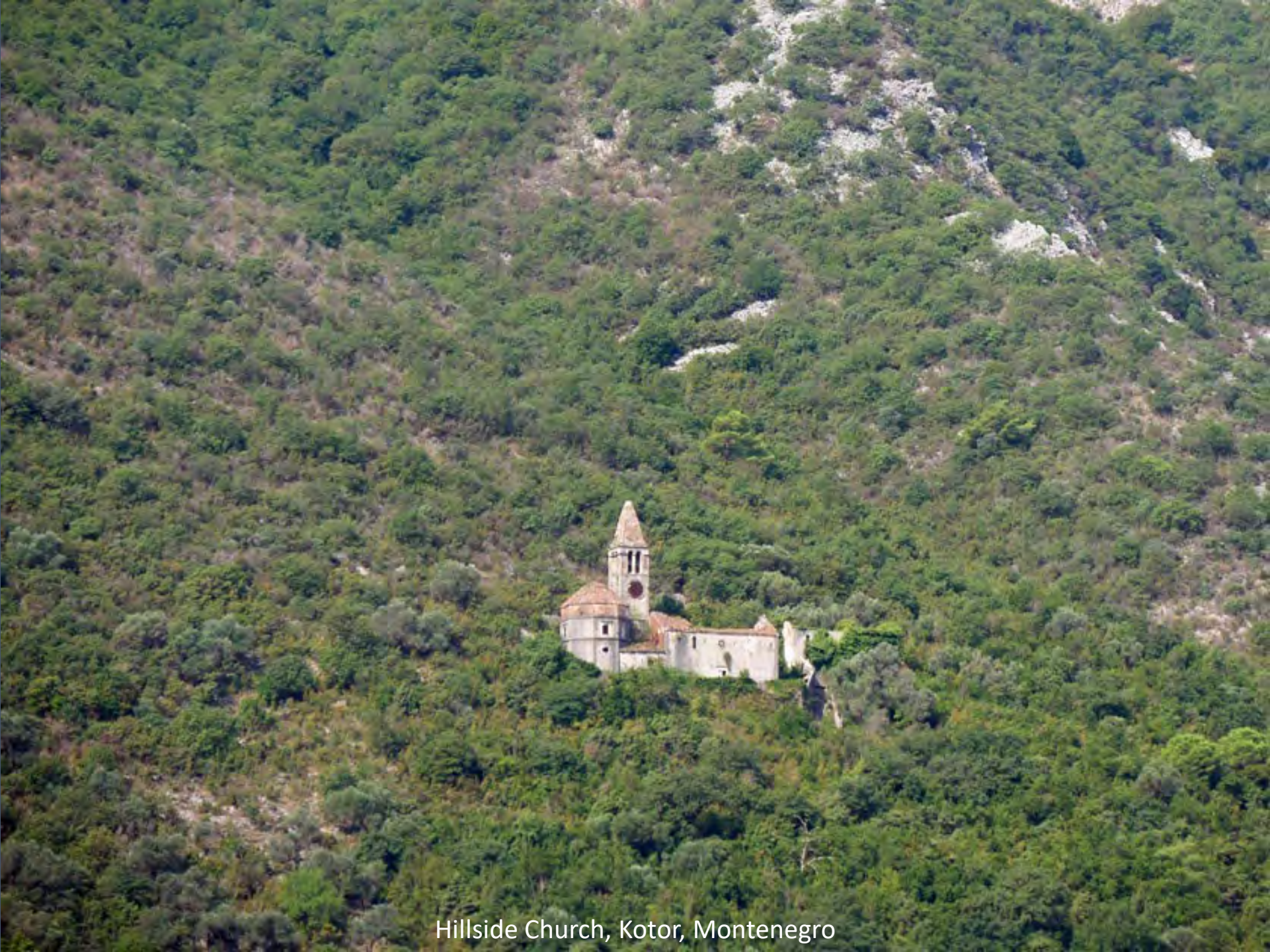
Sailing into the Bay of Kotor, Montenegro



Sailing into the Bay of Kotor, Montenegro



Sailing into the Bay of Kotor, Montenegro



Hillside Church, Kotor, Montenegro



Monastery on St. George's Island, Perast, Montenegro



Drobrota Town, Montenegro



Our Lady's Temple of Prcanj, Montenegro



Drobota Town, Montenegro



St. Matthew's Church, Drobota Town, Montenegro

Our Lady of the Rocks is an artificial island that, according to legend, was made by local Croat seamen who kept an ancient oath after finding the icon of Madonna and Child on the rock in the sea.



Our Lady of the Rocks, Perast, Montenegro



Our Lady of the Rocks, Perast, Montenegro



Our Lady of the Rocks, Perast, Montenegro



Our Lady of the Rocks, Perast, Montenegro



Our Lady of the Rocks, Perast, Montenegro



Altar, Our Lady of the Rocks Church, Perast, Montenegro



Altar, Our Lady of the Rocks Church, Perast, Montenegro



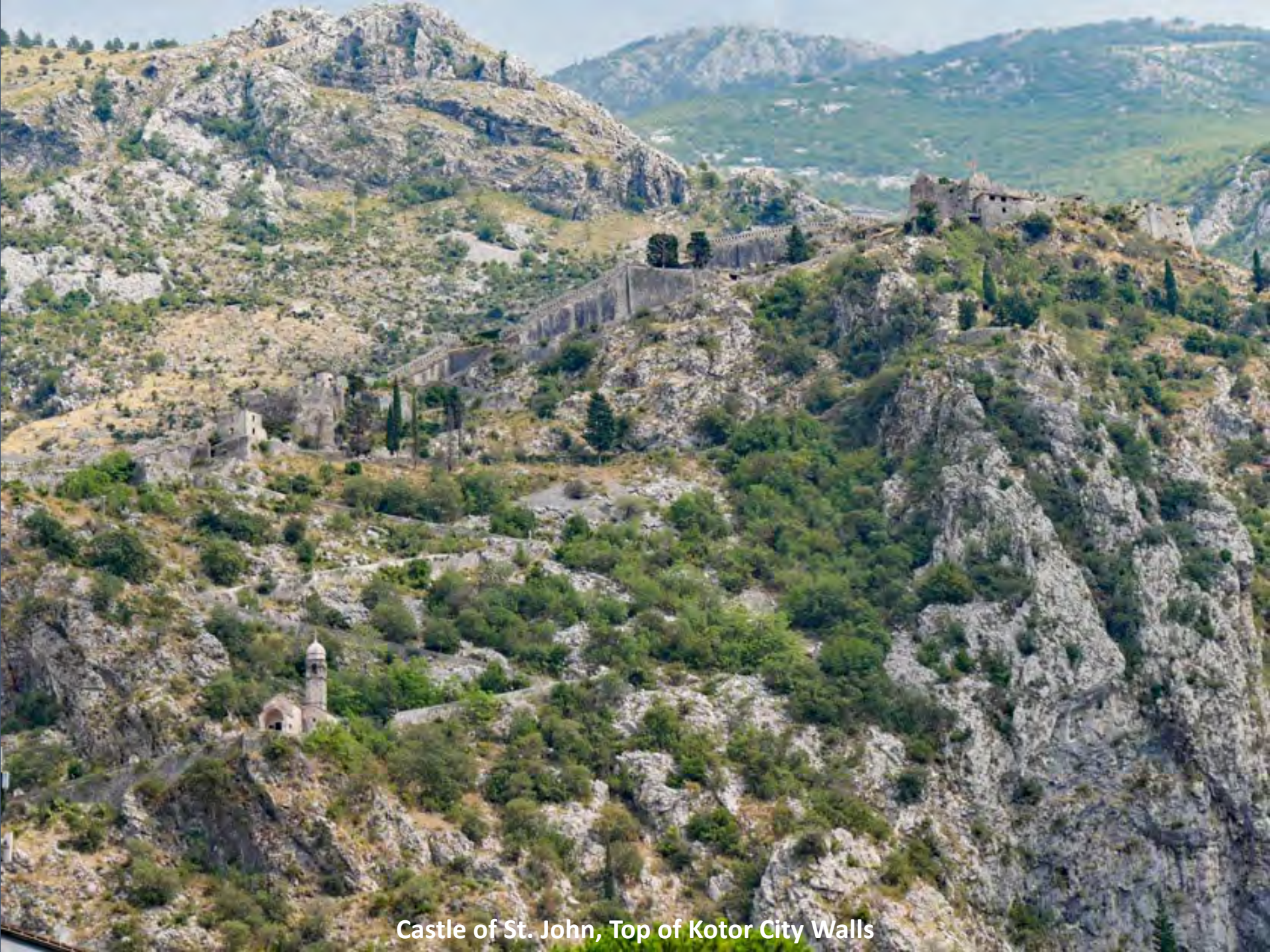
Ceiling, Our Lady of the Rocks Church, Perast, Montenegro



Castle of St. John, Top of Kotor City Walls



Kotor City Walls



Castle of St. John, Top of Kotor City Walls



Church of Our Lady of Remedy, Kotor



Kotor City Walls



Cathedral of St. Tryphon, Kotor



Cathedral of St. Tryphon, Kotor



St. Luke's Church, Kotor



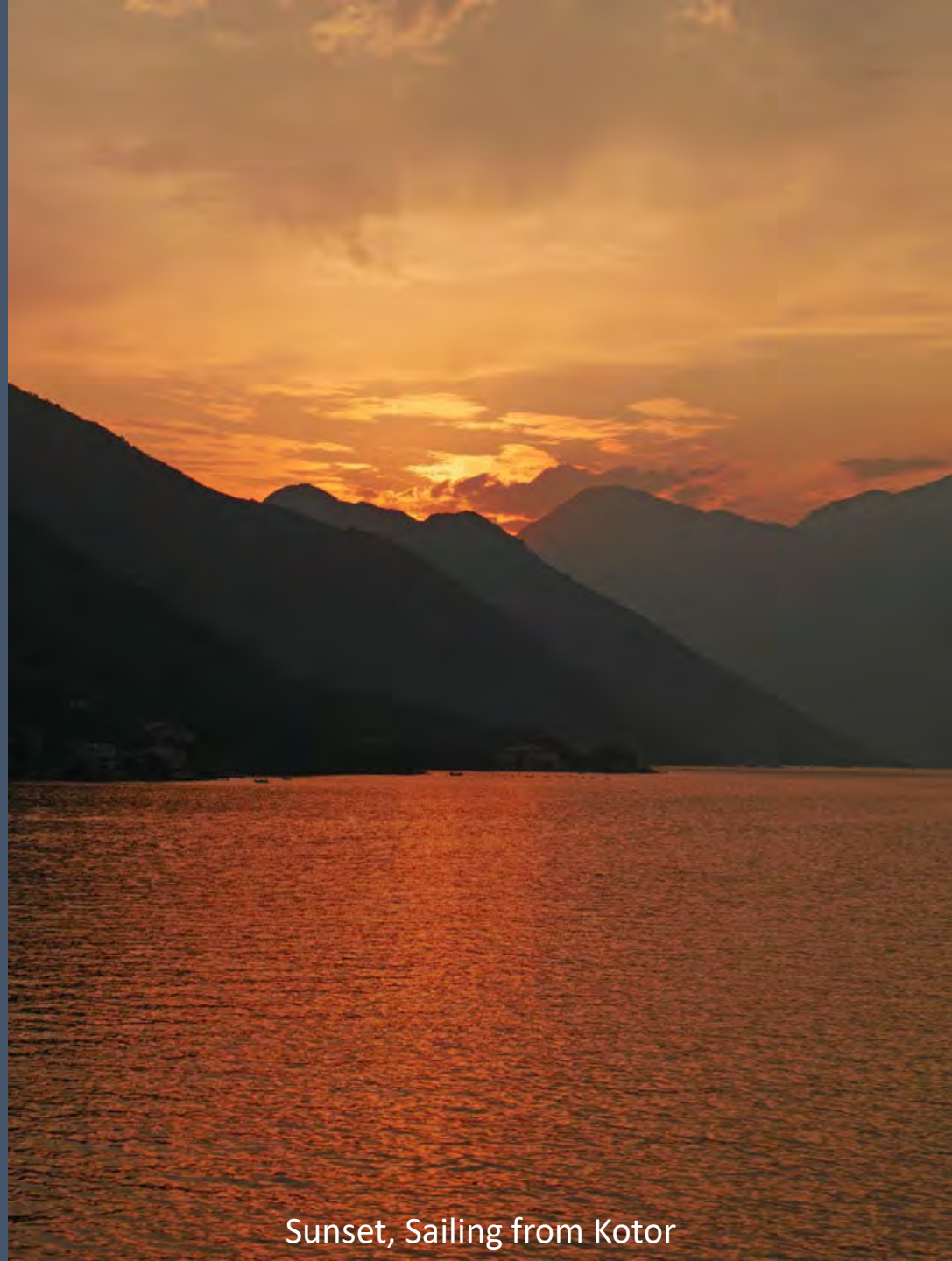
Main Square, Kotor



Pima Palace, Kotor



Sunset, Sailing from Kotor



Sunset, Sailing from Kotor

Hvar, Croatia

The island of Hvar is a slim, green slice of land punctured by jagged inlets and a steep central ridge streaked with the long grey lines of limestone. Hvar Town is one of the Adriatic's best preserved historic. Central Hvar Town itself is a web of medieval pedestrian alleys overlooked by ancient stone houses.

The country's oldest town, Stari Grad, is nestled into a cove on the north-west coast, surrounded by dry stone wall structures on the Stari Grad plains. These have been designated a UNESCO World Heritage site because they were built in the time of the ancient Greeks, who first established a colony on the island around 385 BC, naming it Pharos.





Hvar Harbor with Bell Tower of St. Mark's Church



Renaissance Loggia and Clock Tower with Fort Fortica in Background



Hvar Harbor with Bell Tower of St. Mark's Church



Satri Grad Harbor Waterfront, Hvar



St. Stephen's Cathedral, Hvar



Statue of St. Anthony at the Church of St. Anthony



Church of St. Rocco, Stari Grad, Hvar



Stari Grad Walkway



Footpath to Spanish Fortress, Hvar



Government Building in Stari Grad, Hvar



City Walls of Hvar



Bell Tower of St. Mark's Church from the Fort



Hvar from the Ramparts of the City Fortress



View of Makarska from The Fort



Hvar and Le Lyrial from the Fort



The Spanish Fort



Vrisnik Tavern (Dalmation Wine and Cheese Tasting)



Vrisnik Tavern (Dalmation Wine and Cheese Tasting)



Becky, Jim, and Mr. Happy at Vrisnik Tavern

Pula, Croatia

Pula, located on the Istrian peninsula of Croatia, has the sixth largest, and one of the best preserved, Roman amphitheater in the world. Originally built by Claudius, it was enlarged by Vespasian in 79 AD for gladiatorial fights and could hold 23,000 spectators.



Pula Amphitheatre



Pula Amphitheatre



Pula Amphitheatre



Pula Amphitheatre



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Pula Amphitheatre



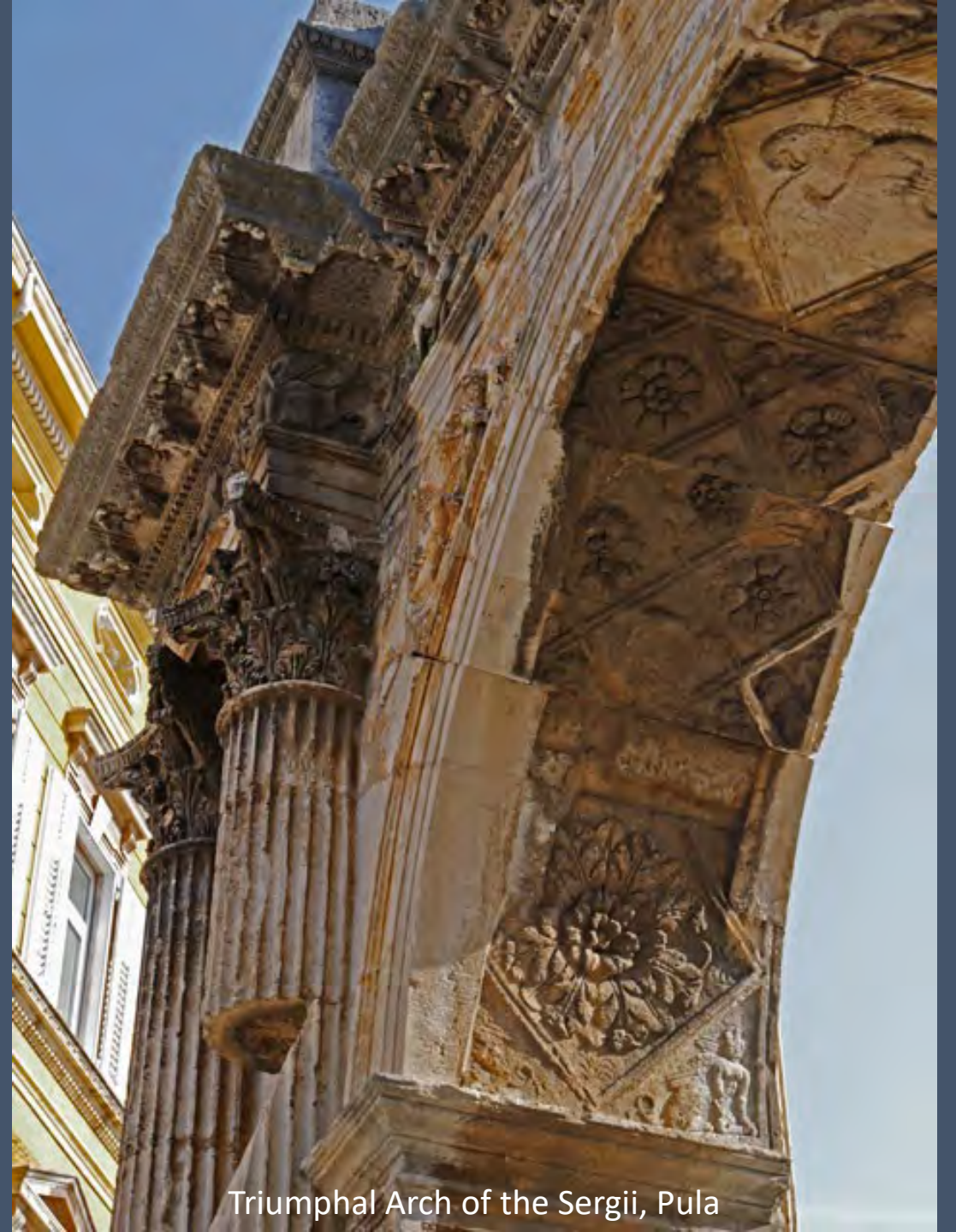
Porta Gemina (The Twin Gate), Pula



Gate of Hercules, Pula



Triumphal Arch of the Sergii, Pula



Triumphal Arch of the Sergii, Pula



Temple of Roma and Augustus, Pula



Church of St. Anthony, Pula

Rovinj, Croatia

Rovinj is one of the last, true Mediterranean fishing ports. The Romans conquered Istria in 177 BC. On the foundations of the old Illyrian settlement, they built Raginium. When the Roman empire divided, Rovinj came under the control of the Eastern Empire. In the 7th century AD the Slavs, who settled Istria from the north, gave the town its present name.



Rovinj Waterfront from Le Lyrial (St. Euphemia's Bell Tower in Background)



Rovinj Waterfront from Le Lyrial (St. Euphemia's Bell Tower in Background)



Rovinj Waterfront from St. Euphemia's Bell Tower



Old Town and Harbor from St. Euphemia's Bell Tower, Rovinj



Old Town and St. Katrina Island from St. Euphemia's Bell Tower, Rovinj



Old Town and Harbor from St. Euphemia's Bell Tower, Rovinj



St. Katarina Island as seen from St. Euphemia Bell Tower, Rovinj



Monument Commemorating Fighters Against Facism, Rovinj



Houses in Old Town, Rovinj



Walkway near St. Euphemia's Church, Rovinj



The Balbi Arch, Rovinj



Boy with Fish Fountain in Main Square, Rovinj



Close-up of the Balbi Arch, Rovinj

The Cathedral of St. Euphemia was built in 1736 and is the largest Baroque building in Istria. The cathedral includes the marble tomb of the St. Euphemia, who was tortured by Emperor Diocletian and thrown to the lions in 304 AD. After spending a few centuries in Constantinople, her sarcophagus miraculously appeared in Rovinj.



St. Euphemia's Church, Rovinj



Side Altar in St. Euphemia's Church



Bell Tower/Statue of St. Euphemia (St. Euphemia's Church)



Main Altar of St. Euphemia's Church, Rovinj



Ceiling Mural of St. Euphemia's Church, Rovinj



Sarcophagus of St. Euphemia Relics, St. Euphemia's Church, Rovinj



Becky Climbing the Bell Tower Stairs of
St. Euphemia's Church, Rovinj



Becky Climbing the Bell Tower Stairs of St. Euphemia's, Rovinj



St. Euphemia's Bell Tower Stairs, Rovinj



The Bells in the Bell Tower of the Cathedral of St. Euphemia, Rovinj



Becky at the Top of St. Euphemia's Bell Tower, Rovinj



Becky and Jim on Le Lyrial Leaving Rovinj