

THE CROATIAN ISLANDS & THE ADRIATIC SEA

ITINERARY 6 EMBARKATION: SPLIT DISEMBARKATION: KOTOR (Montenegro) or CORFU (Greece)	Split – Veli Drvenik – Trogir (15 miles)	Day 1
	Trogir – Solta - Brac (30 miles)	Day 2
	Brac - Hvar – Vis (30 miles)	Day 3
	Vis - Korcula (45 miles)	Day 4
	Korcula – Mljet (30 miles)	Day 5
	Mljet – Dubrovnik (37,5)	Day 6
	Dubrovnik – Kotor (15 miles)	Day 7
	Kotor (Tivat)	Day 8
	or	or
	Kotor – Corfu (200 miles)	Day 8



SPLIT: a city and port in Central Dalmatia; population 189,388. Situated on a peninsula between the eastern part of the Gulf of Kastela and the Split Channel. A hill, Marjan (178 m), rises in the western part of the peninsula. The ridges Kozjak (780 m) and Mosor (1,330 m) protect the city from the north and northeast, and separate it from the hinterland. Split has the Mediterranean climate: hot dry summers (average air temperature in July reaches 26 °C) and mild, humid winters (average annual rainfall is 900 mm). Split is one of the sunniest places in Europe: the average daily insolation during the year is about 7 hours (in July about 12 hours). Vegetation is of the evergreen Mediterranean type, and subtropical flora (palm-trees, agaves, cacti) grows in the city and its surroundings. Marjan is covered with a cultivated forest.

Development of steam shipping, construction of railroad connections with the hinterland before and between the World Wars, and particularly industrialization underlie the economic prosperity and increase of the population in Split. Split is a business, administrative and cultural center of Dalmatia. Apart from shipbuilding industry, other manufacturers include processing of plastic masses, cement industry, food and other products. Vegetable, fruit and flowers are grown in the surroundings. Split is an important Croatian port in terms of passenger and goods traffic. It is the center of the maritime connections with the ports on the coast and the islands and terminal railway station of the rail connections with the hinterland. Ferries operate regularly between Split and the central Dalmatian islands, as well as to Ancona in Italy. Ship connections are established, except with the islands, with Pula, Venice, Dubrovnik and Greece. The airport of Split is situated in Resnik (Kastela). Split has many cultural and educational institutions and schools: the University of Split (established in 1974), the theatre, museums, galleries, institutes, and recently a specialized UN institution for protection of

environment in the Mediterranean (Regional Activity Center for the Priority Actions Program). The Spit Summer, a cultural event (open-air operas, plays and concerts), as well as music performances (Melodies of the Croatian Adriatic, Split Festival of Pop Music) take place every year. Split disposes of a variety of sports facilities, swimming pools and piers for sports boats and similar. Both stationary and transit tourism record a permanent increase. New port, hotel and tourist facilities have been constructed. The coves within the city offer several public beaches.

Split has four marinas: Split ACI Marina in the north-western part of the City Port; the sports boats pier Spinut on the northern coast of Marjan; the sports boats marina Poljud in the Poljud Port; the sports boat pier Zenta on the eastern coast of Split. The City Port of Split in the center of the city is used only for passenger and ferry traffic.

Split is not only an urban, cultural and traffic center of Dalmatia with road and sea connections to Dalmatia's numerous summer resorts, but it is itself often a tourist and excursionists destination. A city with a 1700-year old tradition, a variety of archaeological, historical and cultural monuments, among which the well-known Palace of Diocletian, inscribed into the UNESCO World Heritage List, certainly occupies a special position, and the warmth and offer of a modern Mediterranean city. The first detailed tourist guide through the town and its surroundings, published in 1894, bears witness to the long tourist tradition in Split. To be able to grasp the historical significance of the city, one should first visit the museums of Split: the Museum of Croatian Archaeological Monuments - a capital Croatian cultural project, established in 1893 in Knin; the Archaeological Museum from 1820, one of the oldest in Croatia; the Treasury of the Split Cathedral, including a valuable collection of religious art; the Ethnographic Museum, founded in 1910; the Museum of Marine History; the Museum of Natural Science. The Art Gallery, established in 1931, the Collection of the Franciscan Monastery in Poljud, the Mestrovic Gallery, and other are also worth visiting.

Split is a major sports center (the 1979 Mediterranean Games) with many famous and popular sports clubs and competitors. There are also many sports facilities for recreational purposes. The sports offer includes almost all types of water and other sports, from football, basketball and tennis to mountain climbing and rifle shooting, water skiing and rowing.

Worth visiting is Marjan Forest Park, the green oasis the citizens of Split have been proud of for generations, carefully maintained and cherished. The park includes promenades, vista points, solariums, nature paths, playgrounds and the Split zoo. A marvelous view is offered from the top of Marjan on the old and new parts of Split. It takes only 15 minutes of pleasant walking to reach Marjan from the historical core of Split through the old quarter Varos. The Marjan stairway, running along the crest of the hill, leads to another, higher top of Marjan, Telegrin, with a vista point offering prospect on the Split peninsula, Kozjak, Mosor, the Kastela Gulf, Salona and Klis, Trogir and Ciovo, and the islands of Solta, Brac, Hvar and Vis. The southern cliffs of Marjan represent in recent times a very good training ground for mountaineers and free climbers, who gather here every April on the occasion of the traditional Marjan Cup.

Split has a variety of restaurants and wine cellars, offering domestic specialties. There are many beaches and public beaches in the city and its surroundings, the most popular of them being Bacvice, a sand beach almost in the very heart of the town.

The cultural and entertainment offer of Split is extremely rich, particularly in the summer, when the city squares, yards and other areas turn into a large open-air stage.

The Split Summer, a traditional festival in the middle of the summer season, includes dramas, operas and concerts (from mid-July to mid-August). The Split Saturday Nights are de-voted to classical music. Split also hosts pop-music events, the Art-Summer, folklore shows, the folk feast Day of Radunica, and many others. Major cultural events during the year are the Days of Marulic (in April), the Book of the Mediterranean (in October), and the traditional events include the Day of the Holy Cross, the Flowers Show, the Ball of Split, wine show and other. The Day of St. Doimus (Duje), who is the patron saint of the city, is commemorated on the 7th of May.

Split has several theatres, among which the Croatian National Theatre, established in 1893, deserves a special mention as a house hosting theatrical festivals, the Split Summer and the Days of Marulic. There is also the Youth Theatre, and the Split Puppet Theatre.





VELI DRVENIK: This islet close to Trogir is an attractive location for vacation without too much noise and crowds of tourists and there is not much local population either. In winter, in Veli Drvenik there are hundred persons at the most. If you go to visit the place on foot, this can also be an adventure because there are many neglected paths so one needs to be very careful where to put a foot.

Veli Drvenik has an architecturally interesting church with two facades - the old one and the new one - that overshadow one another. However, there is no priest in the village. Gallery Tramontana is also an attraction because apart from the possibility of purchasing original souvenirs you can buy homemade products such as olive oil, lavender oil etc. That is all about Drvenik. For the lovers of quiet, past times and more psychologically than physically distanced civilization, Drvenik is nevertheless a good choice.



TROGIR: a town and harbor on the coastal strip of the Kastela Gulf, 27 km west of Split; population 10,266. The old core is situated on a small island between the island of Ciovo and the mainland; connected with the mainland by a small stone bridge, and with the island of Ciovo by a drawbridge. The town spreads to the northern coast of Ciovo,

opposite the small island. Chief occupations include shipbuilding, tobacco, pharmaceuticals and tourist trade. Trogir lies on the main road (M2, E65). Split Airport is in nearby Resnik. Trogir Marina is situated on the northern coast of the Ciovo island, between the bridge of Trogir and Cape Cubrijan.

Trogir is a town-museum in the very meaning of the word. Lovers of cultural and historical monuments, art, original architecture and nice alleys are given the opportunity in Trogir to learn about the manifold and complex heritage - from the Romanesque yard to the modern interiors. The unique historical core, Radovan's portal, the art collections which have been arousing excitement among visitors and travelers for centuries offer a tourist beauty, personified in the relief of Kairos as an appropriate souvenir. The wider surroundings of Trogir (Trogir - Seget - Ciovo Riviera) are characterized by lavish green vegetation, numerous islands and islets, rocky and pebble beaches. Apart from the high quality accommodation - hotels, boarding houses, apartments, campsites, delicious domestic food, fish dishes in particular, the sports and recreation offer includes many opportunities - tennis, boccia, bowling, jogging, surfing school, diving. Entertainment includes lively fishermen's nights and folklore show but also classical music concerts in special scenic sets of the town.





SOLTA: The Island of Solta lies opposite Split. The vegetation here is sparse, the coast steep and well indented. The largest town is Grohote in the inner part of the island. The largest port is Maslenica, with an anchorage for smaller boats and a beach with a modern hotel and campsite. The Croatian poet and humanist Marko Marulic lived in the beautiful bay of Necujam during the 15th and 16th centuries.





BRAC: Just out to sea from the city of Split, lies the island of Brac, the highest and third largest island in the Adriatic. Pine forests, olive groves, and vineyards are plentiful. The white stone of Brac has been used in many famous buildings, including the White House in Washington, DC. The Glagolitic stone "Pustinja Blaca" is the most peculiar architectural monument on the island and above Murvica there is the Drahonja Cave with valuable reliefs carved into stone.

Traditional seaside pleasures are to be found in the numerous bays, on sandy and gravel beaches that form the long and well-indented coast of Brac. The beaches have something special, particularly the Zlatni Rat beach -- their gravel promontory shifts from side to side as the wind and waves constantly change their shapes. There are many seaside resorts on the island, such as Postire, Milna, Supetar, and especially Bol, one of the biggest attractions and the largest tourist center on the south of the island.



HVAR: The island of Hvar is the longest Adriatic island and is situated to the south of Brač. Hvar has plenty of lavender fields, olive groves, and vineyards. Of historical interest is that the oldest (prehistoric) relief of a ship in Europe was found here. Also, the oldest community theater was founded here in 1612. Other architectural and historic attractions include the Renaissance cathedral with its original tower, treasury and paintings by old masters, the unfinished palace of the poet Petar Hektorović, and many other "must-see" buildings.

The town of Stari Grad on Hvar was founded in 385 BC under the name of Pharos as a Greek colony. Attractions definitely include the remains of the Greek fortifications and the fortified castle of Petar Hektorović with its ponds and arcades. The unique Fishing Museum and architectural harmony of Vrboška is also something that will attract visitors' attention. Hvar is, no doubt, an exceptional island, both in summer and winter. Due to its mild winter climate and rich subtropical vegetation, it has also been called the Croatian Madeira. An average of 2724 hours of sunshine per year.



VIS. The island of Vis, known for its fishermen and seafarers, beautiful nature and growing tourist potential, lies far from the mainland and its troubles. Palm trees from the Vis nursery adorn many Croatian coastal towns. The Greeks founded their first colony on Vis (named Issa) and planted the first grapevine there as early as the 4th century. A Franciscan monastery was built on the remains of the Greek and Roman Theater in the small town of Vis in the 16th century. Two churches from the 16th and 17th centuries have been preserved, as well as a number of Renaissance houses.

The Island of Bisevo with an area of 6 sq. km is to the southwest of the Island of Vis. Many caves have been carved into its steep coast. Among these, the Blue Cave (Modra spilja) with entrances both above and below sea level should be singled out. When the sea is calm the light diffracts and paints the interior of the cave blue, and anything below the water line, silver. The effect rivals that of the well-known cave on Capri. The Medvidina cave is considerably larger, and has a natural monumental entrance. It is on the southern side of Bisevo. The approach corridor is 760 m long and leads onto the beach, a former habitat of the now almost extinct marine mammal, the Mediterranean monk seal. The Vis archipelago also includes the islands of Svetac (Sveti Andrija), Jabuka, Brusnik and the islands of Palagruza



KORCULA: Korcula undoubtedly holds a privileged position among Croatian islands. Here there are perhaps even more legends, tales and monuments than anywhere else. The island has a number of famous towns including Korcula, Lumbarda and Vela Luka. The oldest written monument in Croatia, the "Lumbardska psefizma", in Greek, was found in Lumbarda. According to legend, Korcula was established by the Trojan hero Anthenor in the 12th century BC. The Italian town of Padua also claims him as its

founder.

Ancient Greek and Roman writers speak of the city of Korkyra Melania, established by Greek colonists from Cnidus, which had, according to the same sources, been minting its own money as early as the 4th century. The Latin version of the name is Corcyra Nigra, Black Corcyra, because of the thick woods on the island. Korcula is, after Lokrum and Mljet, the third most densely wooded island of Croatia. There is much evidence of a highly developed social life on Korcula even in the 13th century. The Statute of Korcula, signed in 1214, prohibited the slave trade for the first time in Europe. It also spoke about the order and management of the city. The Statute rules were in force until the arrival of French authorities in 1806. At the end of the 13th century, a battle was fought between the navies of Venice and Genoa in the channel near the city.

The famous travel writer, Marco Polo, who was, according to some sources, born in Korcula, was said to be involved. The people of Korcula were famous stonemasons, shipbuilders and seafarers. They left their mark in stone works, sculptures and buildings all over Dalmatia, but they saved their best works for their own city. There are late Gothic and Renaissance buildings from the 15th and 16th centuries, and Baroque examples from the 17th and 18th centuries. It took local builders 150 years to erect the cathedral of St. Marcus, the most valuable building in Korcula. In its long history, the town streets, laid out in a regular herringbone pattern, have seen many battles.

Nowadays, each summer they come to life with the old knight's dance of Moreska, dating from the 15th century. The dance evokes the battles with the Moors and was popular all over the Mediterranean. But today it has only been preserved on the island Korcula. Representing good and evil, the white and black kings fight with their armies for a maiden. Fortunately the white king prevails. In Blato, situated like Rome on seven hills, there is another, equally interesting knights' dance called "kumpanija" (company). It symbolizes the struggle for freedom







MLJET: The island of Mljet, the greenest and densely wooded of the Adriatic, has an area of 100 sq. km, and lies parallel to the Peljesac peninsula. According to a legend, Odysseus was cast by the sea onto the island of Mljet, ending up in the arms of Calypso. Due to its old thick forests of Aleppo pine, Karst caves, two picturesque salt water lakes (connected with each other and the sea) many sandy and gravel beaches, plentiful fishing grounds, the western part of the island (30 sq. km) has been proclaimed a national park.

There are some ten villages on the island with beautiful beaches and places suitable for harpoon fishing. There are remains of Illyrian castles and also many ruins from the Roman times, including a well-preserved part of an early Byzantine palace and an early Christian basilica in Polace. The most valuable monument from the Romanesque period is the monastery on the small island in Veliko Jezero. An island within an island! In the 12th century, the Benedictines built a Romanesque monastery, around which a Renaissance building with strong walls and a tower was constructed in the 16th century.





DUBROVNIK: a town, port and tourist centre of the southern Croatian coast; population 49,278. It lies at the foot of the limestone Srd Mount (412 m), in a valley enclosed to the southwest by the Lapad plateau and a smaller reef with the oldest part of Dubrovnik. The ancient town core was connected with the suburban zone on the other side of the valley by leveling and filling up of a marshy valley between the Gruz Bay in the north and Stari Porto (Old Port) in the south, as well as by the construction of the Placa (Stradun). Stradun thus became the center of the town and its main street, connecting two opposite town gates: the Ploce Gate in the east and the Pile Gate in the west. Upon the construction of the port in the Gruz Bay, Gruz was gradually annexed to Dubrovnik and became an integral part of the town. Later on, Dubrovnik extended also to the Lapad peninsula, to lower parts of the Srd slopes and outside the town ramparts toward Zupa.

The climate of Dubrovnik is characterized by warm and dry summers and mild winters. The average air temperature in the coldest month (February) is 4.6 °C and in the warmest month (August) 26.2 °C. The cold half of the year accounts for 68 % of the total annual rainfall; the spring accounts for 29, the summer for 14, the autumn for 26 and the winter for 37 rainy days out of the total number of 105 rainy days. Snow occurs extremely rarely; with 2,554 hours of sunshine a year, Dubrovnik ranks among the

sunniest towns of southern Europe. In July it has 12.4 hours of sunshine a day, like Alexandria in Egypt.

The vegetation is subtropical and extremely luxuriant (olives, almonds, citrus fruit, rosemary, laurel, holm oak, pine, stone pine, cypress). Southeast of the old part of the town is a tourist zone called Ploce (hotels and beaches), west of it is Lapad (sports facilities, hotels, beaches, walking trails), while northwest of it is the Gruz port and Gruz. Economy is based on tourism and seafaring. The town has a number of cultural and educational institutions: the Nautical College, the Tourist College, the University Center for Postgraduate Studies of the University of Zagreb, the Institute of History of the Croatian Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Dubrovnik Summer Festival and other.

Dubrovnik has a town port, the port of Gruz and a marina. The old town port is protected by the Porporela breakwater; yachts drawing up to 3 m may dock in it; smaller ships are docked in the cove of Gornja Bocina. The port of Gruz is a trading port, situated 2.5 km northwest of the ancient town core of Dubrovnik. Dubrovnik Marina is located in Komolac, in the interior part of Rijeka Dubrovacka, about 4 km from the entrance to the port of Gruz. Dubrovnik is located on the main road (M2, E65). The Dubrovnik airport is located in Cilipi.

Dubrovnik - the city of a unique political and cultural history (the Dubrovnik Republic, the Statute from 1272), of world-famous cultural heritage and beauty (inscribed on the List of World Heritage Sites by UNESCO) - is one of the most attractive and famous cities of the Mediterranean. Apart from its outstanding natural beauties and well-preserved cultural and historical heritage, Dubrovnik also offers high-quality visitor opportunities. It is also the city of hotels, of high ecological standards and tourist programs, and is equally attractive in all seasons. Its geographical isolation is compensated by high traffic and communication standards - especially through air traffic and fast hydrofoil boats.

The tourist development of Dubrovnik started before the First World War; quite soon, the exclusiveness of its attractions made Dubrovnik a powerful international tourist center.

The sightseeing of Dubrovnik and its monuments requires several days. However, already a walk through Stradun, through narrow streets and small squares, monumental ramparts and fortresses, provides enough opportunities to experience the millennial beauty of its shell-shaped urban core, centuries of building, stone-cutting, carving and engraving, the history of the Duke's Palace, libraries, the oldest pharmacy in the south of Europe, etc.

Dubrovnik offers individual choice among numerous museums and galleries, which contain the jewels of Croatian heritage.

The Dubrovnik Museum in the Duke's Palace keeps 15,500 exhibits in its cultural and historical department. A collection of furniture from the 17th-19th century uniforms of dukes and councilors, aristocratic garments and many other items are exhibited in the authentic halls of the palace. The Maritime Museum (situated in the fortress Sveti Ivan) has a number of exhibits on a permanent display, related to the maritime affairs of Dubrovnik and Croatia on the whole, with a particular emphasis on the history of the Dubrovnik Republic. The museum of the Franciscan monastery keeps all inventories of the old pharmacy, as well as the works of Dubrovnik jewelers, painters and embroiders. The museum of the Dominican monastery exhibits valuable examples of Dubrovnik painting from the 15th and the 16th centuries, as well as sculptures, jewelry,

manuscripts, incunabula and notes (music). The treasury of the Dubrovnik cathedral keeps the relics of St. Blaise, patron of Dubrovnik, and numerous paintings and works of art. The Rupe Ethnographical Museum presents traditional occupations and the rural architecture of the region of Dubrovnik, national costumes and hand-made textiles. Very attractive does also the Aquarium of the Institute of Biology, situated in the fortress Sveti Ivan, comprise interesting marine species.

Dubrovnik has a number of churches, monasteries and hotels scattered all over the town. Its coastal belt is adorned with several marinas, piers and promenades. Because of a magnificent view on the mediaeval Dubrovnik, a walk along the town ramparts is a must for each visitor.

A great number of Dubrovnik restaurants and taverns offer delicious specialties of local and international cuisine. Sports and recreational facilities include playgrounds, courts and requisites for all sports in the sea and on the ground, from tennis and table tennis to sailing and yachting. There are also several gyms and fitness centers with swimming pools, saunas, massage, aerobics, solarium, box gyms, etc.

Dubrovnik is famous for quality hotels. Most of them are situated on the Lapad peninsula and in the area of Ploce, southeast of the old town. The hotel complex Dubrava - Babin Kuk on Lapad has all features of a small town. It has a shopping center, a bank, an outpatient department, many restaurants and cafés, and a street called the "New Stradun", which connects all hotels.

Dubrovnik is the city of an outstanding cultural and artistic life. The most important event in the cultural life of the city is the Dubrovnik Summer Festival (10th of July - 25th of August), traditionally held since 1950. It is a theatre and classical and folk music festival, since 1956 included in the calendar of world festivals and as such one of the most famous cultural events in the world. Concerts and other performances take place on open stages in the town (Gunduliceva Poljana, Drziceva Poljana, Lovrijenac, Revelin) or in beautiful interiors of the most famous buildings (Duke's Palace, cloisters, churches). The repertoire includes works of Croatian and world classics, performed by the leading personalities from Croatia and abroad, including a number of world-famous actors, directors, conductors, etc. So far several hundreds of them have performed in Dubrovnik. An important part of the Festival is performances of local (Lindo, Lado) and foreign folk music ensembles.

The artistic life of Dubrovnik is characterized by numerous exhibitions taking place throughout the year. Apart from already renowned galleries - the Art Gallery (Put Frana Supila 23), its exhibition space Luza Art Centre (Stradun), Sebastian - occasional and permanent exhibitions are also held in other spaces as well.

Very famous are also Dubrovnik carnival festivities - so-called Dubrovnik "karnevo" (local variant of the word "carnival"), held ever since the early Middle Ages, when they were brought from the neighboring Italy. Another important event is the Feast Day of St. Blaise, also the Day of Dubrovnik (3rd of February). The feast takes place for the whole week, including religious ceremonies, a procession through the town, concerts, sports events, entertainment and carnival programs. Excursions to Dubrovnik during that week are regularly organized.



KOTOR (Montenegro): Kotor is a city on the coast of Adriatic Sea in Montenegro, Yugoslavia. During its rich history the city has been an important trade and maritime center. It has been ruled by Illyrians, Romans, Hungarians, Medieval Serbia, Venetians, French and Austrians.

Old town Kotor is placed on UNESCO world cultural heritage list. A guided tour of this

jewel in the Adriatic Sea and a small tour of the Montenegrin coast are absolutely recommended.





CORFU (Greece): the wooded isle of the Phaenicians, Odysseus' last stop on his long journey home to Ithaca, is the best known of the Ionian Islands. It owes its sophistication and charm to the meshing of the different civilizations that have occupied the island and to the natural beauty with which it is so abundantly endowed.

On this cosmopolitan island, you'll be able to combine relaxation with good times and a full nightlife, for Corfu is an international tourist center that can satisfy the demands of the most difficult visitor.

The capital of the island is also called Corfu (Kerkyra). It is built on a promontory that projects into the sea and is separated into a northern and a southern section. East of the northern part lies the Old Fortress, cut off from the town by a moat. For centuries all the popular of Corfu lived within this citadel, which was founded by the Byzantines but

greatly expanded and strengthened by the Venetians.

The town of Corfu is made up of completely dissimilar elements, left over from different civilizations. It presents an enchanting picture with its broad streets and spacious squares, the popular Spianada the town "green" - contrasting with its narrow back alleys paved with blocks of stone (known as "Kantounia"), houses with a strong Italian influence, the famous Liston, a French arcade, traditional Georgian mansions, a Byzantine church, Venetian monuments, balconies with wrought-iron railings and window grilles.

The Archaeological Museum, the Byzantine Museum housed in the Church of the Panayia Antivouniotissa (closed for the time being); the Museum of Oriental Art in the English Palace of St. Michael and St. George; the Town Hall, a superb example of Venetian architecture built in 1663; the Byzantine church of Sts. Jason and Sospater (12th century) with fine frescoes; the church of Corfu's patron Saint Spyridon with its valuable icons and collection of gold and silver ex voto offerings; the Old Fort; the New Fort, constructed between 1576 and 1588 (not open to the public); and the Platytera Monastery with its rare post-Byzantine icons.

Paleokastritsa, 26 kilometers west of Corfu town, a miniature earthly paradise with its crystal clear waters, enchanting coves and lush greenery growing right up to the sea.

Angelokastro, near Paleokastritsa, a Byzantine fortress dating from the 13th century. Pelekas, 13 kilometers west of the town, a lovely village set on a rocky hill, whose summit according to the Corfiots say - is the best place to watch the sun go down. Not far from Pelekas in the Rope Valley is situated Corfu's excellent golf course.

Kanoni, 4 kilometers south of town is the most popular spot on the island. Here a narrow causeway leads across the water to the Monastery of Vlacherna and from there one can take a caique to visit delightful Pondikonissi and its 13th century church.

Gastouri, a picturesque hill village, is the site of the Achillion, the summer palace of the Empress Elizabeth of Austria and the last Kaiser.

The Palace has many beautiful gardens ideal for a romantic walk. A part of it places an important museum as well.

Other sights not to be missed include, on the east side of the island Kassiopi, Ipsos, Dassia, Gouvia, Benitses, Moraitika and Messongi. On its west side Lake Korission (Limni Korission), the only lake on the island.

In the northern part of the island are the resorts of Sidari with its sandy beach, and Roda, whose beach is even longer. From Sidari you can take a boat to the three picturesque offshore islands of Erikoussa, Mathraki and Othoni. Their sheltered anchorages are ideal for swimming and sunbathing. But Corfu also has another side: a vital traditional facet to its personality still very much alive in the costumes of its village women and in its local festivals. Fine examples of folk art and crafts are displayed in shops all over the island: hand-woven textiles and embroideries with intricate designs, objects of all kinds carved out of olive wood, silver utensils and lovely jewelry.



