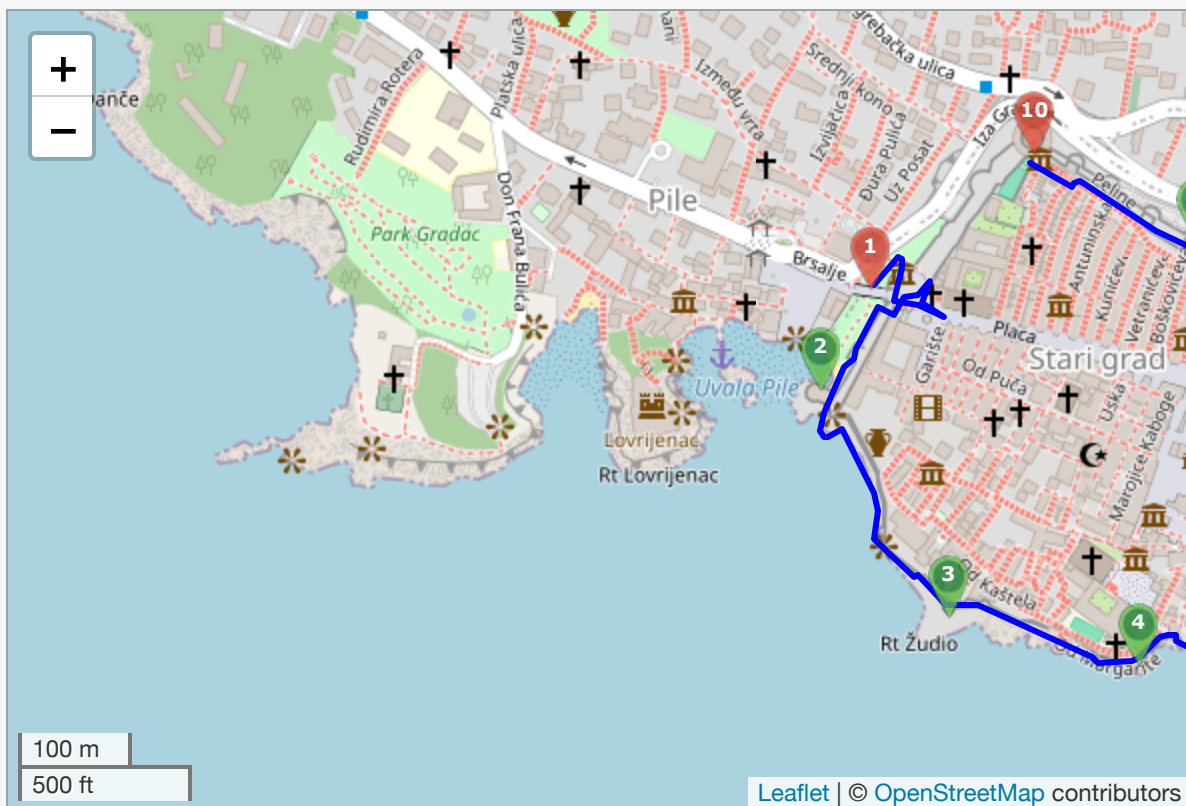




Custom Walk in Dubrovnik, Croatia by terri_sanne_bc996 created on 2025-02-27

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Guide Location: [Croatia » Dubrovnik](#)

Guide Type: Custom Walk

of Sights: 10

Tour Duration: 2 Hour(s)

Travel Distance: 2.2 Km or 1.4 Miles

Share Key: VHMAB

How It Works

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1) Pile Gate (must see)

"Kill them, kill them all!" King Joffrey is under attack by an angry mob when he returns to Red Keep. But wait. There is no King Joffrey and there is no Red Keep. This is actually season two, episode 6 of the TV series, "Game of Thrones." The "Red Keep" is Pile Gate, the main entrance to the old walled city of Dubrovnik, Croatia.

The name Pile is derived from the Greek word "pylaj", meaning "gate." Most walking tours of the Old City start at the 15th-century Pile Gate. It is a good starting point for a walk on the city walls as well. The gate is located on the western side of the walls. It leads directly to Stradun Street, the main promenade of Dubrovnik.

Pile Gate is actually made up of two gates. The inner gate was built in 1460. The outer gate dates from 1537. The Pile Gate complex is defended by the Cylindrical Fort Bokar and the formidable moat that ran around the outside of the inner wall. The moat today is dry. It is a ribbon of landscaped parkland between the two walls.



Romanesque statue of the patron Saint Blaise is above the gateway arch. He holds a model of the city in one hand.

The entire Old City is enclosed in a veritable curtain of stone. The walls are 6,373 feet long and as much as 82 feet high in some places. The landside wall is supported by 10 circular bastions and a casemate fortress. The two main entrances to the city are The Pile Gate in the west and the Polce Gate in the east.

*** Game of Thrones Tour ***

The Pile Gate has been featured in a number of episodes of Game of Thrones Seasons 2 and 3, most notably in Season 2, Episode 6 'The Old Gods and the New'. In a scene where King Joffrey returns to Red Keep after Marcella is sent away to Dorne, he gets attacked by the angry mob gathered at the entrance and screams 'Kill them, kill them all'. The Gate also shows in Season 3, Episode 10 'Mhysa' when Jamie Lannister returns to King's Landing.

[Image Courtesy of Flickr and Jorge Franganillo.](#)



2) Fort Bokar

Fort Bokar, also known as Zvjeddan, was conceived as a defensive asset for the Pile Gate of Dubrovnik. Along with Minceta Tower, it is one of the main defense points of the western land approaches to the city. It was designed by Italian architect Michelozzo di Bartolomeo. The fort was started in 1461 and upgraded in 1570.

It is a two-story casemate-type fort. Its shape is cylindrical and it projects its volume almost entirely from the medieval stone walls. Part of the fort stands on arched supports on the jagged, detached rock. The sea washes beneath the fort as it has for more than 500 years.



venues for programs of classical music, opera, drama, and ballet. Fort Bokar is one of these venues.

The fortress has been featured in seasons two and three of Game of Thrones. The Fortress is a half-hour walk from the Old City center. An auto ride from the same place lasts about five minutes.

*** Game of Thrones Tour ***

Fort Bokar frequently appears throughout all seasons of Game of Thrones when they show people walk past the city walls of King's Landing. One of the most memorable scenes is in Season 2, Episode 8, where Tyrion and Lord Varys are looking out at sea discussing the defense strategies for King's Landing with the Red Keep visible in the background.

[Image Courtesy of Wikimedia and Bernard Gagnon.](#)



3) Kula Sveti Peter (Fort Saint Peter)

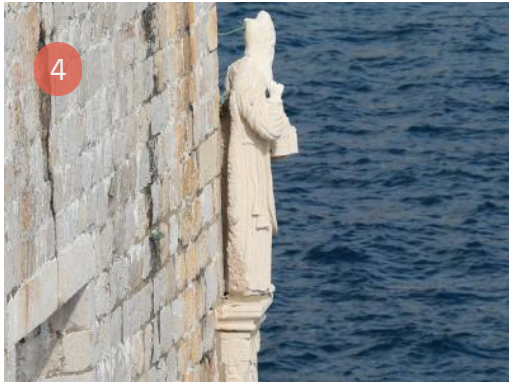
Fort Saint Peter is a remarkable section of the city's historic defensive walls. Positioned to face the sea, this part of the wall provides breathtaking panoramic views of the Adriatic coastline. It is a place of serene beauty, where you can take a moment to enjoy a refreshing beverage at a nearby café.

The café at Fort St. Peter offers a small selection of drinks and provides a perfect spot to take a break during your exploration of the ancient city walls. As you relax and savor your drink, you'll be treated to awe-inspiring vistas that showcase the natural and architectural splendor of Dubrovnik.

Fort St. Peter served as a crucial component of the city's defense system. Its strategic location made it instrumental in safeguarding the nearby Lovrijenac fortress from



[Image Courtesy of Wikimedia and Bernard Gagnon.](#)



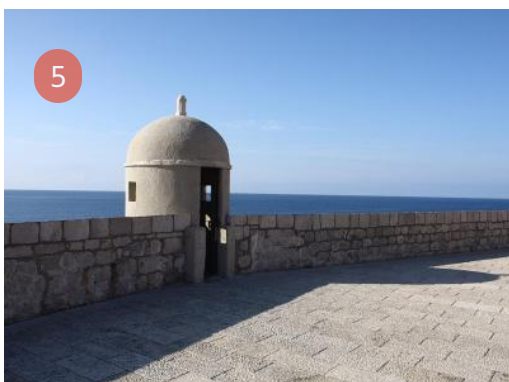
4) Fort Saint Margaret

Located at the southernmost point of the formidable Dubrovnik city walls, Fort Saint Margaret extends boldly into the sea, offering visitors an unparalleled vantage point to witness the ebb and flow of boats entering and leaving the bustling port of Dubrovnik. Perched above the guard tower on the fort, you can also spot the Statue of St. Blaise, a beloved symbol of the city's patron saint.

Constructed during the Renaissance in the 16th century, Fort Saint Margaret showcases exquisite architectural design, making it an excellent subject for photographers and a place to capture panoramic views of the historic Old Town. As you gaze from this fortress, you'll also be treated to captivating vistas of Lokrum Island, a destination with its own rich history.

Fort Saint Margaret provides a unique opportunity to pause and absorb the breathtaking scenery during your walk along the city walls. While the rest of the wall might encourage a brisk pace, this location beckons you to linger and appreciate the beauty of Dubrovnik from this remarkable vantage point.

[Image Courtesy of Wikimedia and Bernard Gagnon.](#)



5) Fort Saint Stephen

Fort Saint Stephen, though one of the most recent additions to the city's impressive fortifications, still stands as a testament to Dubrovnik's long history of building and maintaining protective walls. Construction of the city walls began all the way back in the 7th century, and this ambitious endeavor continued for almost five centuries.

This 17th-century fortification is a relatively young addition



Fort Saint Stephen's more recent construction serves as a reminder of Dubrovnik's enduring dedication to fortifying its walls and protecting its heritage. It is a compelling piece of the city's history and a significant part of its ongoing legacy.

[Image Courtesy of Flickr and Bruno.](#)



6) St. John Fortress

The St. John Fortress (Croatian: Sveti Ivan), often called Mulo Tower, is a complex monumental building on the southeastern side of the old city port, controlling and protecting its entrance. The first fort was built in the mid 14th century, but it was modified on several occasions in the course of the 15th and 16th centuries, which can be seen in the triptych made by the painter Nikola Božidarević in the Dominican monastery. The painting shows Saint Blaise, the patron saint of Dubrovnik.

Dominant in the port ambiance, the St. John Fortress prevented access of pirates and other enemy ships. Always cautious at the first sign of danger, the inhabitants of Dubrovnik used to close the entry into the port with heavy chains stretched between the St. John Fortress and the Kase jetty, and they also used to wall up all the port entries to the Great Arsenal.

Today, the fortress houses an aquarium on the ground floor, stocked with fish from various parts of the Adriatic Sea. On the upper floors there is an ethnographic and a maritime museum devoted to the Republic Maritime Period, the Age of Steam, the Second World War, and the section of techniques of sailing and navigation. There are also some great exhibits on shipbuilding there.



and informative.

[Image Courtesy of Wikimedia and Pudelek.](#)



7) Gate of Ploče

The Gate of Ploče, positioned on the eastern side of Dubrovnik's land walls, is one of the city's significant entrances. This Romanesque-style gate consists of an inner and outer section and is safeguarded by the freestanding Revelin Fortress. The two are connected by a wooden drawbridge and a twin-spanned stone bridge that stretches across a protective ditch.

The construction of the Outer Gate of Ploče was overseen by architect Mihajlo Hranjac in 1628. The two bridges leading to the Revelin Fortress were built in the 15th century by Paskoje Miličević, who also designed the bridges at the Pile Gate. The similarities in design between these bridges are a testament to Miličević's skill and craftsmanship.

Just as it is at the Gate of Pile, a statue of Saint Blaise, the patron saint of Dubrovnik, presides over the Gate of Ploče. This adds a touch of historical and cultural significance to the entrance.

*** Game of Thrones Tour ***

The Gate of Ploče has also gained fame among fans of the popular television series Game of Thrones. It made appearances in Season 2, Episode 5 ('The Ghost of Harrenhal') and Season 5, Episode 10 ('Mother's Mercy'). Notably, it is where Cersei Lannister enters the Red Keep through the Ploče Gate in Season 5 after her Walk of Shame, marking a dramatic moment in the series.

[Image Courtesy of Wikimedia and Sailko.](#)



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additional protection to the land approach to the eastern Ploče Gate was built to the east of the city in 1462. The name Revelin derives from ravelino (ravelin), a term in military architecture which refers to work built opposite the city gate in order to afford better protection from enemy attack. Danger of Venetian assault suddenly increased in the times of the First Holy League, and it was necessary to strengthen this vulnerable point of the city fortifications. The Senate hired Antonio Ferramolino, an experienced builder of fortresses in the service of the Spanish admiral Doria, a trusted friend of the Republic. In 1538 the Senate approved his drawings of the new, much stronger Revelin Fortress. It took 11 years to build it, and during that time all other construction work in the city had stopped in order to finish this fortress as soon as possible.

The new Revelin became the strongest of the city fortresses, safeguarding the eastern land approach to the city. Shaped in the form of an irregular quadrilateral with one of its sides descending towards the sea, it is protected by a deep ditch on the other. One bridge crosses the protective ditch and connects it to the Ploče Gate, while another bridge connects it to the eastern suburb. The construction work was executed so perfectly so that the devastating earthquake of 1667 did not damage Revelin. Divided into three large vaulted rooms in its interior, Revelin became the administrative center of the Republic.

[Image Courtesy of Wikimedia and Ramón.](#)

Sight description based on Wikipedia.



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Peine, and descending down steps to Prijeko. From there, it leads to Stradun, the primary promenade within the Old Town.

This entrance to the town proves convenient for those who have parked their vehicles in the Iza Grada area or are arriving at the town from Ilijina Glavica or Kono. However, it's worth noting that this route is among the more challenging paths to the heart of the Old Town, characterized by a significant number of steps.

Buža Gate's history is notable. It was established as a gateway to the town during the early 1900s, a period when Dubrovnik was under the rule of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It remains an important entry point, preserving elements of Dubrovnik's historical past and serving as a reminder of the city's enduring charm.

Image Courtesy of Wikimedia and Dennis Jarvis.



10) Minceta Tower (must see)

Constructed in 1463, the Minčeta Tower was built during a time when the threat of a Turkish invasion loomed large. Designed by local architect Nicifor Ranjina, with the assistance of Italian engineers sent by Pope Pius II, it initially served as a formidable four-sided fortress. This architectural gem earned its name from the Menčetić family, the original landowners on which the tower was erected.

The tower is not only historically significant but also an architectural marvel. It stands tall as the most prominent point in Dubrovnik's defense system from the land. In the mid-15th century, it underwent renovations by Italian architect and sculptor Michelozzo di Bartolomeo Michelozzi. He transformed it into a new round tower, incorporating cutting-edge warfare techniques and



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narrow round tower that we see today, complete with battlements.

Minčeta Tower stands as a symbol of the city's indomitable spirit and was completed in 1464. It continues to be a symbol of Dubrovnik's resilience and strength. In modern times, the tower serves as a museum, allowing visitors to explore its historical and architectural significance. Beneath it, in Gornji ugao (Upper Tower), a 16th-century cannon foundry was discovered after extensive excavation.

From its vantage point atop the city walls, Minčeta Tower provides visitors with breathtaking panoramic views of the city of Dubrovnik. It's a place where history comes alive and where one can stand in awe of both the city's past and its present.

*** Game of Thrones Tour ***

The Minčeta Tower found its way into popular culture through the television series Game of Thrones. In Season 2, Episode 10, the tower was featured as the House of the Undying in Qarth, where Daenerys Targaryen had her dragons stolen. The tower's unique architecture and seemingly doorless exterior made it an ideal location for the show's magical and enigmatic scenes.

[Image Courtesy of Flickr and Richard Mortel.](#)



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