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Wild Beauty

MONTENEGRO

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Have fun and have a great trip!

will always remember.

Durmitor Ring the Durmitor Ring is an experience you

Whether as a day trip, such as from Žabljak, Šavnik or

Plužine, or as a starting point for numerous hikes, the

Plužine, is one of the most impressive routes of the re-

gion. Discover this unique, wild landscape in the north

of Montenegro. The fascinating nature of the Durmitor

National Park and the Piva Nature Park is at your feet on

this 76 km (83 km with a detour to Čurevac) round trip.

Montenegro's Panoramic Roads lead you through the

able country. There is a lot to discover on the four differ-

ent route suggestions spanning from the beautiful Adri-

atic coast to the wild romantic mountains in the north.

WELCOME

PANORAMIC ROADS

PANORAMIC ROADS

free map

DURMITOR RING

STARTING POINT COORDINATES

N 43° 9' 19.03"
E 019° 7' 16.22"

The route starts in the centre of Žabljak.

Alternatively, you can reach the Durmitor Ring via R-16 (from Plužine) or M-6 (from Šavnik).

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Montenegro Customer	
Care Centre:	0 8000 1300
Emergency:	112
Police:	122
Roadside assistance/ Automobile Association of Montenegro:	19807
Mountain Rescue Service Montenegro:	+382 (0) 40 256 084

LEGEND

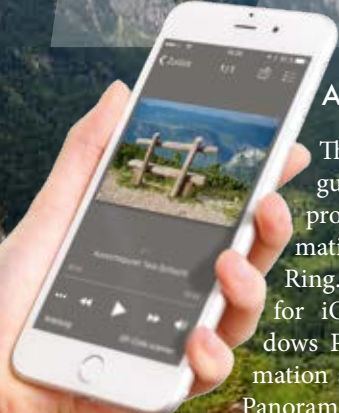
- Durmitor Ring
- Panoramic view left/right
- Panoramic Road detour
- Hiking trail Čurevac
- Hiking trail Jezero
- Hiking trail (other)
- National Park (border)
- Viewpoint
- Parking
- Restaurant/
Rest point
- Petrol station
- Summit
- Church
- Memorial
- (Ski) lift
- Visitor centre

Publisher:
Ministry of Sustainable
Development and Tourism of
Montenegro

Map data:
© OpenStreetMap contributors,
Ministry of Sustainable
Development and Tourism of
Montenegro

Circulation:
5.000 copies
1st edition 2018

Concept & design:
DEQOM Germany
www.deqom.com



AUDIO GUIDE

The GPS-controlled audio guide for smartphones provides entertaining information about the Durmitor Ring. The app is available for iOS, Android and Windows Phones. For more information and the GPS data of the Panoramic Road, please visit our website:

www.panoramic.roads.montenegro.travel

PRACTICAL ADVICE

The Panoramic Road “Durmitor Ring” is completely paved. A great deal of the route leads along narrow, winding roads. Therefore, drive carefully and be aware of the road. In case of oncoming traffic, it may happen that you have to give way in order to let oncoming vehicles pass. In winter, the route is usually closed due to weather conditions. The best time to travel is between May and October. However, you will have to confirm whether the route is passable all the way during this time. After the winter months or heavy rainfall, rockfall and road damage can occur. Pay particular attention to rockfall when driving through the Sušica Canyon. The route is not suitable for large camper vans (7 m or longer, 2.30 m or wider, 2.90 m or higher). Drivers of smaller campers should be experienced in driving on narrow mountain roads.



The Durmitor Ring is signposted in both directions. However, we recommend driving counterclockwise. Camper vans are better driven clockwise. Look for the brown signs with the Panoramic Roads logo and the number 2.

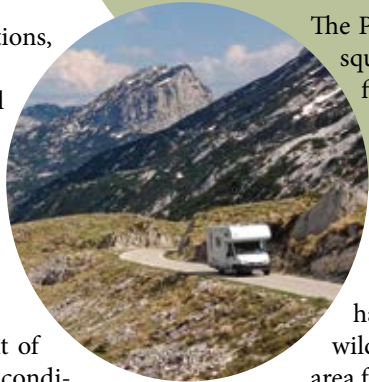
There are no petrol stations along the Panoramic Road; so make sure to refill your tank at one of the petrol stations in Žabljak, Šavnik or Plužine.

IMPORTANT TRAFFIC RULES IN MONTENEGRO

- Low beam or daytime driving lights must be activated even during the daytime.
- The following is to be carried along in the vehicle:
 - › A high visibility vest for every passenger
 - › A first aid kit
 - › Depending on weather conditions, snow tires or snow chains
- Do not drink and drive! The alcohol limit in Montenegro is 0.3 ‰.
- The speed limit is:
 - › 50 km/h within settlements
 - › 80 km/h outside settlements

WEATHER & CLOTHING

The Durmitor Ring leads up to a height of 1,950 m. Please note that the weather conditions in the mountains may differ from the weather in other parts of the country. Therefore, make sure to provide for appropriate clothing as well as sunscreen. When hiking, wear suitable clothing and equipment and check the weather forecast.



View to Sedlo



Lake Sušica



Todorov do and Prutaš (2,393 m)



High plateau at Pišće – in the background: Bioč and Maglić



Sušica Canyon near Mala Crna Gora



Hiking trail to Čurevac



Near Nedajno: View of the Sušica Canyon

DURMITOR NATIONAL PARK

The Durmitor National Park was established in 1952 and covers five municipalities: Žabljak, Pljevlja, Šavnik, Plužine and Mojkovac. It has been on the UNESCO World Heritage List since 1980. The Durmitor mountain range, which rises from a vast plateau 1,500 metres above sea level, is the eponym of the 32,500-hectare national park. 48 of its mountain peaks are higher than 2,000 meters, including the 2,523-meter high Bobotov Kuk. There are various explanations for the origin of the word “Durmitor”. It remains unclear, however, whether the name is derived from the Celtic “dru-mi-tore”, which means “water from the mountain”, or whether it goes back to the Latin word “Dormire” and can be translated as “mountains where the gods sleep”. More than 1,600 plant species are native to the Durmitor National Park. It is home to various ecosystems and is a habitat for about 50 mammal species and 173 bird species. Brown bears and rare birds such as golden eagles, peregrine falcons and capercaillie. The Durmitor has many geological features. These include 18 glacial lakes, also known as the “eyes of the mountains”. Clear water gushes from 748 springs, countless caves run through the massif and Debeli Namet - one of the southernmost glaciers in Europe - can be found here.

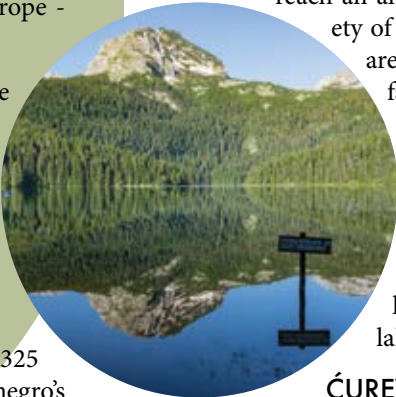
The current entrance fees for the National Park can be found at <http://nparkovi.me/en/pricelist-durmitor/>.

Tickets can be purchased directly from the rangers at the car parks (such as Sedlo, Čurevac, Prutaš) along the Durmitor Ring.

PIVA NATURE PARK

The Piva Nature Park was founded in 2015. The 325 square kilometre nature reserve is Montenegro's first nature park. The park is a popular recreation area because of its diverse landscape and natural resources. The area is dominated by the hills of the Piva mountain range, Bioč (2,397 m), Maglić (2,386 m) and Volujak (2,336 m). Over 1,500 plant species and 2,000 mushroom species can be found here. The forests of the nature park are the habitat of numerous animal species, including bears, wild boars, roe deer and capercaillie. Travellers use the area for hiking, mountain biking or rafting. Other activities such as ziplining, fishing, horse riding and canyoning are also popular.

The current entrance fees for the nature park can be found at <http://www.en.parkpiva.me/cjenovnik>.



ŽABLJAK

Žabljak is the centre of the Durmitor Mountains. It lies at an altitude of 1,456 metres and is, therefore, the highest urban settlement in South-Eastern Europe. The town has less than 2,000 inhabitants, the municipality about 3,500. The Illyrians and Celts are said to have settled in this area. Later came the Romans and Slavs. In the 15th century, the area was occupied by the Turks. It was not until 1878 that Žabljak and the Durmitor region became part of Montenegro.

The present name is said to have come from the word “Žaba”, which means frog. The name Žabljak has been used since about 1870. During this time, the Church of the Holy Transformation (Sveti Preobraženje) and a school were built in the area. The village itself was developed in the last 100 to 150 years. During the Second World War, there were heavy battles in Žabljak and its surroundings, and the town was nearly completely destroyed. Little by little, the town was rebuilt and developed into a holiday resort for summer holidays and winter sports. Žabljak is one of the country's winter sports centres. The ski lifts in the Savin Kuk ski resort reach an altitude of 2,213 metres. There is a variety of slopes of all levels of difficulty. The ski area Javoravača is ideal for beginners and families and is not far from the centre of the town.

From the centre of Žabljak, the Durmitor National Park is within walking distance. A visit to the Crno Jezero (Black Lake) is worthwhile. A 3.6 km-long educational trail leads around the lake (walking time is approx. one hour).

ČUREVAC

Even if you do not prefer to hike, you should plan the side-trip to Čurevac. The breathtaking view of the Tara Canyon can easily be enjoyed from the car park at the trailhead. Follow the paved road towards Tepca and Nadgora, which branches off to the right of the Panoramic Road and leads for 3.5 kilometres to the car park (National Park payment point). The hiking trail up to the top of Čurevac (1,625 m) is about 1.1 km long (one way) and you should allow about an hour for this little tour. The path is rocky and partly leads along narrow paths directly along the edge of the Tara Gorge. During (and after) rain, it can be slippery. The Čurevac awaits you with a 360-degree panorama and a beautiful view of the Tara and the village of Tepca. Return on the same path.



TARA CANYON

The Tara Canyon is an impressive wonder of nature. It is the deepest gorge in Europe and the second deepest on earth, after the Grand Canyon in USA. The difference in altitude between the edge and the bottom of the valley is up to 1,333 metres. The 78 kilometre-long canyon was formed by the river Tara. Because of its crystal-clear water, the Tara is also known as “Europe's Tear”. With a total length of 145 kilometres, it is Montenegro's longest river.

The unique nature is the precious treasure of the Tara Canyon. 1,300 plant species can be found on its slopes, including numerous endemic ones. Particularly impressive are the up to 50 metres high and 400-year-old black pines in the Crna Poda reserve. 130 species of birds live in the rocks and forests along the river. The gorge has already been protected by King Nikola since the beginning of the 20th century. The Tara Canyon is part of the UNESCO program “Man and Biosphere” since 1977.

In 1932, the Tara was first travelled by canoeists from its source to the mouth of the Piva. Today, a rafting tour on the Tara is one of the most popular activities for tourists from all over the world.

FROM BOSAČA TO ŠTUOC MOUNTAIN

The small hamlet of Bosača, with just 10 inhabitants, is situated at an altitude of around 1,600 metres on the slopes of the Štuoc and is considered the highest village in the Balkans. It was here that the first chairlift in the area was built, and the village was once the centre of winter sports. Ski competitions also took place here.

On the way up, you pass the traditional restaurant Momčilov Grad on the right side. On the left side, the panorama opens to the Durmitor mountains. The steep rock cliffs of Crvena Greda (2,164 m) are impressive. A green wooded mountain ridge blocks the view from the road to Jablan Lake (Jablan Jezero). It receives its name from the yellow globeflowers *Trollius europaeus* (Jablan) that bloom on the slopes around the lake in spring.

The road finally crosses the pass between the Great (Veliki, 2,104 m) and Small (Mali, 1,953 m) Štuoc, which is also called the gate to Mala Crna Gora. At 1,952 metres, it is the highest point along the Durmitor Ring.

ON TO MALA CRNA GORA

Below Veliki Štuoc, the Panoramic Road now runs directly along the edge of the Tara Canyon. The route then follows a winding road through dense forests. At a sharp bend, you finally reach the village of Mala Crna Gora. Literally translated, Mala Crna Gora means “Small Montenegro”. The name Crna Gora originates from the time of the Turkish occupation and had nothing to do with the name of the country originally. Officially, it had been given this name only in 1950. From this year, the village belongs to the municipality of Žabljak and only then was the addition “Mala” given to the name.

Mala Crna Gora is known because there is no connection with the village during the winter months and its inhabitants are cut off from the rest of the world for months. Two metres of fresh snow is not uncommon in this area. Strong winds can cause snow drifts of up to ten metres in height. Currently, only 14 people live in the village all year round. The inhabitants live almost exclusively from livestock farming. The small Church of the Holy Saviour (Sveti Spasa) next to the cemetery of the village dates from 1889.

SUŠICA CANYON



Just a short distance behind Mala Crna Gora, there is a stop to enjoy the view of the Sušica Canyon, 15 kilometres long and up to 700 metres deep. Beware of the danger of falling: the cliffs are not secure! The road now descends steeply into the gorge. At the bottom of the valley, you can make a short visit to Lake Sušica. In the summer months, however, the lake dries up completely.

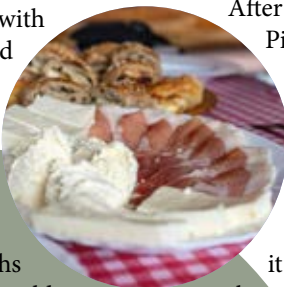
NEDAJNO

The village Nedajno is situated in the area of *Pivska Planina* – the Piva Mountains. At the moment, there are 10 inhabitants in Nedajno. There is a place to stop for a snack, and just up the hill lies the Church of St. John (Sveti Jovan), which was completed in 1927.

Behind Nedajno, the dense forest of Milogora begins, through which the Panoramic Road continues. Shortly before Trsa, the Church of St. George (Sveti Đorđe) stands out on the left side.

FROM TRSA TO PIŠĆE

The small village of Trsa is an ideal break on the Durmitor Ring. Half of the way has now been travelled and this is an ideal place to stop for lunch. Those who do not plan the route as a day trip will also find accommodation here and can enjoy hiking, mountain biking or horse riding.



After a short stretch of forest, you reach the village of Pišće and the view stretches over the wide landscape to the horizon. There are close to 20 people inhabiting Pišće. In this area, the plateau of the Pivska Planina consists of lush mountain meadows with herbs and flowers that turn into a sea of flowers in summer. Sheep farming was, and still is, of great importance for the village and it is particularly famous for its sheep's cheese and kajmak. The Church of St. John (Sveti Jovan), which was built during the reign of King Nikola, is located next to the road.

THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS TO THE SEDLO

The road now climbs steeply uphill and opens the view down to the valley Piri Do on the right side. Progressively, the landscape turns into a sea of rocks until you finally reach the Todorov Do valley at an altitude of 1,800 metres. At the far end of the valley, the peak of Prutaš (2,393 m) rises. The rock formations in this area are particularly impressive. The collision of two earth plates folded the bottom of the Jurassic Sea into huge mountains and created the Dinaric Mountains. The folding of the layers can be seen especially well here.

An impressive beauty is the “Saddle of the Gods”, as the striking ridge of Sedlena Greda (2,227 m) is also called. It rises from the lush green meadows that are full of flocks of sheep during the summer months. Sedlo is also the name of the 1,907-metre-high pass crossed by the Panoramic Road. It is a popular viewpoint over the surrounding lakes and Šljeme peaks. There are also marked mountain trails that begin here and trail towards Bobotov Kuk and Sedlena Greda.

BACK TO ŽABLJAK

From Sedlo, the road descends again. The circular 6.2 km “Jezero” trail begins a little below the prominent peak of the Stožina (approximately a three-hour walk). It passes the small picturesque lakes of the valley Pošćenska Dolina. The last part of the route leads along the main road from Šavnik to Žabljak and, once again, offers a magnificent view of the Durmitor Mountains, with the Savin Kuk (2,313 m) in the foreground, before the route returns to the centre of Žabljak.



View to Sedlo