

Montenegro

& the Bay of Kotor

plus Dubrovnik



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UCLA Alumni

May 26 – June 3, 2025

Featuring Professor Viktorija Lejko-Lacan
Department of Slavic, East European,
and Eurasian Languages and Cultures



**Professor
Viktorija Lejko-Lacan**

*Department of Slavic,
East European, and
Eurasian Languages
and Cultures*

Viktorija Lejko-Lacan has been teaching Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian, Montenegrin (BCMS) in the Department of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Languages and Cultures since 2002. Montenegrin, internationally recognized in 2017, is the latest addition to the three very similar but distinct languages that developed in different historical contexts. She also teaches a course on Balkan cultures in film and literature which focuses on the historical, political, and religious legacies of the region as represented in major works of literature and cinema. As a native of Croatia she has visited the cities on the itinerary and spends her summers between Zagreb and the coast.

UCLA Alumni

Dear UCLA Alumni and Friends,

There's much to discover on this wonderful exploration of Montenegro, a relatively undiscovered Balkan nation perched along the sun-kissed Adriatic. Packed with rich cultural roots, distinctive old-world architecture and dramatic beauty, Montenegro and its soulful people await to welcome you. Plus, enjoy two nights in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

From our base in Tivat, venture out to unravel the history of Cetinje, cruise on the sparkling Bay of Kotor, and visit storied seaports and hamlets steeped in maritime legends. Witness relics and riches left behind at ancient monasteries, and follow a path that explores Montenegro's viticulture, vanquished kingdoms and fascinating ecosystems. Cap off your adventure in Dubrovnik, home to medieval treasures that harken to a bygone era.

This exceptional program has been thoughtfully designed with educational enrichment from expert guides and lecturers. It also offers you the security, ease and value of group travel with plentiful opportunities for independent exploration. You'll appreciate the camaraderie with other curious travelers and make your own discoveries during free time. Guarantee your spot by making your reservation today!

Regards from Westwood,

Christel Aragon
Director, Alumni Travel

UCLA Alumni Travel is an advantage reserved for UCLA Alumni Association sustaining donors. Sustaining donors include Gold, Life and Blue Members as well as anyone who has made a qualifying donation of \$100 or more to the UCLA Alumni Association Support Fund in the past year.

UNESCO World Heritage

1. **Natural and Culturo-Historical Region of Kotor, Montenegro**
2. **Old City of Dubrovnik, Croatia**



View of Island of Saint George from the Church of the Lady of the Rocks





A World of Discovery



Join us on a special adventure that reveals the wonders of Montenegro. By day, glide on the cobalt Bay of Kotor and visit historic waterside towns, including Perast, Kotor and Budva, living museums with ramparts and sun-splashed squares. Follow winding roads to historic Orthodox monasteries, untouched mountain scenery and beautiful Lake Skadar. Plus, indulge in a stay in Dubrovnik, boasting a rich cultural history and old-world façades!

*Top: Church of Our Lady of the Rocks, Bay of Kotor
Above: Plantaže wine cellar | Cover: Perast
Mail panel: Boat tour on Lake Skadar | Bay of Kotor*

Inspiring Moments



- Visit **Venetian-era towns along the Bay of Kotor**, a beautiful sapphire bay cradled between plunging emerald mountains.
- Delight in **Dubrovnik’s magnificent medieval architecture**.
- Sip Montenegrin wines and learn about Montenegro’s tradition of viticulture at **one of Eastern Europe’s finest vineyards**.
- Discover the serene ambience of **two enchanting Orthodox monasteries**.
- Revel in the remarkable ecosystem and unspoiled natural beauty of **Lake Skadar**.
- Uncover the proud history of **Cetinje**, Montenegro’s cultural center.
- Experience two **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**.

ALUMNI CAMPUS
ABROAD®



Kotor's Old Town

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart gateway city for Dubrovnik, Croatia. 🌐

Day 2 | Dubrovnik, Croatia | Tivat, Montenegro

Upon arrival in Dubrovnik, transfer 🔄 to Tivat, Montenegro, and check in to your hotel. Gather for a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Day 3 | Centinje

Enrichment: History of Montenegro.

Cetinje – The Old Capital. Known as the country's capital between 1878 and 1946, Cetinje is a living time capsule with impressive architecture, galleries, art academies and museums that reveal cultural and historical insights into Montenegro. Take a guided tour of the National Museum of Montenegro, housed throughout five historic buildings.

Sit down to a lunch of regional cuisine at a country-style restaurant.

Day 4 | Bay of Kotor | Perast | Kotor

Bay of Kotor. This awe-inspiring scene was not carved by glaciers. Instead, the strikingly beautiful bay is a *ria*, or a submerged river valley that was created by rising sea levels. Revel in jaw-dropping hills, plummeting cliffs and indigo waters during a private cruise to Our Lady of the Rocks, a man-made island. Along the way, learn about the island's legend and tour its baroque-style church.

Continue to medieval Perast, a charming lakefront town with a storied seafaring history. The jumble of alleys showcases 16 churches as well as defensive towers and monuments.

In nearby Kotor, admire the Old Town encircled by miles of fortifications. Take time to linger along cobbled lanes that give way to shaded squares, historic churches and restaurants.

Day 5 | Lake Skadar | Tuzi

Lake Skadar. Travel through a lush mountain landscape to the largest freshwater lake in the Balkans, perched on the Montenegrin and Albanian border. The lake and its surrounds are a pristine wonderland peppered with sleepy villages and the remains of ancient monasteries, monuments and churches. During a boat tour, admire the lake's flora and fauna, glide through lily pads and learn about the area's ecosystem and endemic species, including otters, dragonflies and over 270 species of birds.

Enjoy a group lunch during your outing.

🌐 **AHI Connects | Montenegrin Winery.**

Journey to the small town of Tuzi to visit a vineyard owned by Plantaže, one of Eastern Europe's biggest producers of wine and grape

Lake Skadar





Walled city of Dubrovnik

brandy. Tour the company's Šipčanik wine cellar, located in a former underground Yugoslav-era aircraft hangar. Learn about the region's unique microclimates and grape varieties and sample Montenegrin wines.

Enrichment: *Yugoslavia & Montenegro.*

Day 6 | Budva | Kotor

Enrichment: *Independent Montenegro.*

Insight into Montenegro's Monasteries & Budva. Over 50 monasteries are sprinkled throughout Montenegro, each with significant historical and cultural treasures. Visit two monasteries today — the medieval Serbian Orthodox Reževići Monastery and the thousand-year-old Praskvica Monastery. Located in an olive grove, the UNESCO-protected Monastery of Reževići overlooks the sea and is comprised of two churches.

Continue to Budva, a coastal town enclosed within medieval citadel walls. During a guided walk, witness the narrow streets lined with

Reževići Monastery



charming shops, bars, churches and eateries. Take note of the 14th-century Saint Sava Church and the pink-and-white stone Church of the Holy Trinity. These handsome churches tell stories of the different peoples that have passed through Budva.

Kotor by Night. After sunset, the streetlights cast a soft, romantic glow on Kotor's meandering lanes and honey-hued buildings. Enjoy the tranquil ambience at your own pace and find a special spot for dinner.

Day 7 | Tivat | Dubrovnik, Croatia

After breakfast, drive to Dubrovnik, Croatia, and check in to your hotel.

Darling Dubrovnik. Discover the highlights of Dubrovnik during a walking tour. Admire the 14th-century Franciscan Monastery's Romanesque cloister and visit its small

Stradun, Dubrovnik



Included Features



Accommodations (with baggage handling)

- **5 nights** in Tivat, Montenegro, at the deluxe Regent Porto Montenegro.
- **2 nights** in Dubrovnik, Croatia, at the deluxe Dubrovnik Palace.




Transfers (with baggage handling)

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program.

Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 28 guests.
- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
-  **Electives** and free time to pursue your individual interests.
-  **AHI Connects | Local immersion.**
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.
-  **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.



apothecary, the oldest working pharmacy in Europe. Pass by the medieval Sponza Palace and see the loggia and ornamentation of the Rector's Palace. Step into the baroque cathedral, largely destroyed during a 17th-century earthquake. The cathedral was rebuilt in 1713 by architect Ilija Katičić.

Day 8 | Dubrovnik

Free Time: Spend time pursuing your own interests or join our elective activity.

Elective | Idyllic Pelješac Peninsula.



Beloved for its stunning beauty, the rugged Pelješac Peninsula is abundant with fjords, quiet bays and vineyards. Today, visit some of the world's oldest salt harvesting sites and see the Great Wall of Ston, which links Ston to Mali Ston. Enjoy a winery visit and cruise to the fishing village of Mali Ston. At an oyster farm, taste delicious bivalves just plucked from the sea and sip a glass of wine.


Tonight, share in a festive Farewell Reception and Dinner to commemorate your journey.

Day 9 | In Transit

After breakfast, transfer  to the Dubrovnik airport for the return flight  to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

 Flights and  transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

 Elective experiences available at an additional cost.

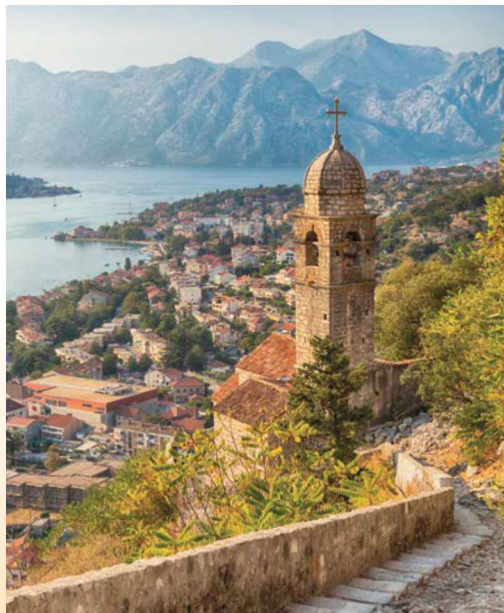
Note About Activity Levels

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

Excursions on this itinerary require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces
- getting on/off motor coaches and boats

Kotor



Accommodations



Regent Porto Montenegro | Tivat



Our travel experts have carefully selected these deluxe properties for their prime locations. They are ideally located for exploring the region's renowned landmarks, while providing opportunities to immerse yourself in local life.



Dubrovnik Palace | Dubrovnik



Reserve your trip today!

To book your journey, visit
**[ucla.ahitravel.com/destinations/
1879A?schoolId=170](https://ucla.ahitravel.com/destinations/1879A?schoolId=170)**
or contact UCLA Alumni Travel at
310-206-0613 | travel@alumni.ucla.edu

Program Dates

Travel dates †

May 26 – June 3, 2025

† Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

Tour dates*

May 27 – June 3, 2025

* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

Land Program

Full Price **\$4,540**

Special Savings **\$750**

Early Booking Special Price* **\$3,790**

*Early Booking Special Price valid if booked by date on address panel and paid in full at booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$250 per person.

VAT in the amount of \$295 per person is included in the above prices. All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.

Single accommodations are an additional \$1,295 (limited availability).

Please note: Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://ucla.ahitravel.com/destinations/1879A?schoolId=170>. You can also request a copy from our travel experts.

Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

AHI FlexAir

Let us arrange your flights

Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservation before departure on most flights (Fees may apply).
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays



Tivat



Budva



Plantaže vineyards



Balkan pottery

AHI Travel Expertise



From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

Before you go:

Travel Consultants stand ready to answer your questions as they guide you through the reservation process.

Travel & Air Coordinators each offer their personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

Travel Information provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

Once you arrive:

Your Travel Director, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

Handpicked Expert Guides offer fascinating insights and share their passion for their country with you.

Knowledgeable Lecturers deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.



National Museum of Montenegro, Cetinje



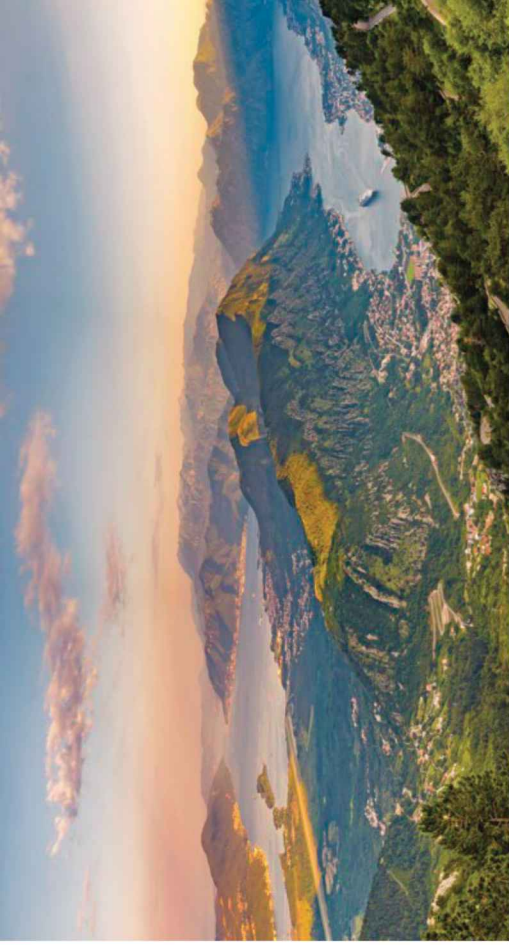
Fresh seafood

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Join a fascinating adventure to Montenegro!

AHI Travel's mission is to deliver inspirational, educational and cultural programs that delight travelers.

With AHI you can rely on:

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



Please call or refer to our website for the most current program information, discounts and pricing.

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