



PARADISE TRAVEL GROUP

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What does it cost to use our services?

Our agency doesn't charge a service fee to our clients.

Some agencies charge up to a \$500 service fee.

We get paid by our vendors. Our commission is built into the price you pay.

Don't let agencies charge you extra for services we already provide.

REAL ID is in effect as of May 7, 2025

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DESTINATION SPOTLIGHT Dubrovnik, Croatia



Dubrovnik is a stunning coastal city in southern Croatia, located on the Adriatic Sea. Often referred to as the “Pearl of the Adriatic,” it's famous for its medieval Old Town, surrounded by massive stone walls and filled with historic buildings, marble streets, and baroque charm.

Founded: 7th century as "Ragusa"

Golden Age: 15th–16th centuries, as a powerful maritime republic (like Venice)

Independence: Maintained independence through diplomacy and trade.

Suffered damage during the Croatian War of Independence (1991), but was beautifully restored.

Major Attractions

1. City Walls - Walk the 2 km long walls for jaw-dropping views of the sea and rooftops.

2. Old Town (Stari Grad) - A UNESCO World Heritage Site

Full of palaces, monasteries, fountains, and picturesque streets

3. Stradun (Placa)

The main street of the Old Town. Lined with shops, cafes, and beautiful architecture

4. Fort Lovrijenac - A dramatic fortress perched on a cliff

Nicknamed “Dubrovnik’s Gibraltar”

5. Dubrovnik Cathedral & Churches

Includes beautiful baroque and gothic-style churches. The cathedral supposedly has a relic of the True Cross.

6. Lokrum Island - Just 10 minutes by boat

Beaches

Banje Beach: The most famous city beach with views of the Old Town

Sveti Jakov Beach: A bit quieter and equally beautiful

Lapad Beach: Family-friendly and great for sunset

What to Eat:

Peka: Meat or seafood slow-cooked under a bell-like lid

Rozata: A custard dessert similar to flan or crème brûlée

What to Drink:

Dingac Wine: From the Pelješac Peninsula, near Dubrovnik

Rakija: A strong fruit brandy, often homemade

Culture and Events

Dubrovnik Summer Festival (July–August): Music, dance, theatre performances throughout the city

Feast of St. Blaise (February): Dubrovnik's patron saint, celebrated with parades and festivities

Best Time to Visit: May–June or September–October (avoids summer crowds but still warm)

Currency: Euro (€)

Language: Croatian (but English is widely spoken)

Getting Around: Old Town is pedestrian-only. Use ferries, buses, or walk.

Pop Culture

Game of Thrones: King's Landing scenes filmed here (Fort Lovrijenac = Red Keep)

Star Wars: Some Episode VIII scenes shot in Dubrovnik

Vibes & Aesthetic

Dubrovnik feels like a magical fusion of Mediterranean ease, Gothic mystery, and historical gravity. Orange rooftops, blue seas, stone walls, narrow alleys, and the scent of grilled seafood — it's pure wanderlust fuel.

PARADISE TRAVEL TEAM MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



ZDENKA BARISIC

As a newly discovered and a proud native Croatian living in the U.S., my passion for travel has inspired me to embark on an exciting journey as a travel agent.

Growing up surrounded by the stunning landscapes of Croatia, I've always enjoyed introducing my beautiful homeland to anyone curious about where I'm from. Now, I'm thrilled to help clients experience Croatia like locals do, uncovering its hidden gems, breathtaking coastlines, and rich culture.

Beyond Croatia, I've discovered a deep love for cruising . it's my annual escape that combines adventure with relaxation. Norwegian Cruise Line is a personal favorite, offering freedom and flexibility to explore the seas in style.

Whether it's the ocean, a tranquil lake, or a meandering river, I find joy wherever water and sand meet. From laid-back beach days to savoring local cuisines and wines, my travels are guided by authentic experiences and the motto: "Where the locals go. " As your travel adviser , I'll create personalized travel experiences that balance the must-see tourist spots with off-the-beaten-path discoveries.

Let me guide you to unforgettable wine and food tours, share my cruising tips for every budget, and help you explore the world one destination at a time.

You can reach Zdenka by email at zdenka@paradisetravelgroup12.com or phone at 509-528-2772.

Using a travel agent instead of booking through a third-party website offers several advantages:

Personalized Service: Travel agents provide tailored advice and recommendations based on your preferences, budget, and travel goals. They can offer insider knowledge and find unique experiences that may not be readily available online.

Expertise and Experience: Travel agents are experts in the travel industry and often have firsthand experience with destinations, hotels, airlines, and tours. They can help you make informed decisions and avoid potential pitfalls.

Time Savings: Travel agents do all the legwork for you, saving you time. They can handle complex itineraries, multi-destination trips, or bookings for large groups, which would be time-consuming to arrange yourself through websites.

Access to Exclusive Deals: Many travel agents have access to special promotions, discounts, or perks not available to the general public or through online platforms. This could include upgrades, special rates, or amenities at hotels and resorts.

Problem Resolution: If something goes wrong during your trip (e.g., flight cancellations, changes in hotel availability), a travel agent can step in to handle the issue on your behalf. They have established relationships with suppliers and can often get better results in resolving problems compared to dealing with a third-party website.

Packages and Customization: Travel agents can bundle flights, accommodations, transfers, and activities into a package, potentially offering better value and convenience. They can also tailor packages to your specific needs, such as dietary restrictions, accessibility requirements, or special celebrations.

Local Connections: Agents often have networks of local contacts in destinations around the world, giving them access to tours, guides, or experiences that may not be listed on third-party websites.

Support with Travel Insurance and Documentation: Travel agents can assist in arranging travel insurance and ensuring that you have the correct documentation (visas, vaccinations, etc.) for your trip.

Security and Peace of Mind: Booking through an established travel agency can offer greater peace of mind compared to booking through a third-party website, especially in the case of unforeseen events or emergencies. They are more likely to be responsive and helpful if issues arise.

While third-party websites offer convenience and often competitive prices, a travel agent's personal touch and expertise can be invaluable, especially for more complex or custom travel plans.



SUPPLIER SPOTLIGHT

Virgin Voyages

Virgin Voyages is a modern, adults-only cruise line founded by Richard Branson, designed to redefine the cruising experience with a focus on luxury, innovation, and a vibrant atmosphere.

Virgin Voyages operates three ships:

Scarlet Lady: The inaugural ship, launched in 2021

Valiant Lady: Debuted in 2022.

Resilient Lady: Introduced in 2023.

A fourth ship, Brilliant Lady, is scheduled to join the fleet in fall 2025.

Unique Features

Adults-Only Experience: Exclusively for guests aged 18 and over, ensuring a mature and relaxed environment.

Innovative Dining: Over 20 eateries with menus curated by Michelin-starred chefs, all included in the fare.

Entertainment: Includes the first tattoo studio at sea, immersive performances, and themed events.

Wellness and Fitness: Comprehensive wellness programs, including group fitness classes and spa treatments.

All-Inclusive Value

Virgin Voyages offers an "Always Included Luxury" package, encompassing:

All dining venues

Wi-Fi

Group fitness classes

Gratuities

Basic beverages

This approach eliminates the need for traditional drink or dining packages, providing a transparent pricing model.

Sustainability Initiatives

Virgin Voyages is committed to sustainability, implementing measures such as:

Eliminating single-use plastics

Utilizing energy-efficient technologies

Offering locally sourced and plant-based dining options

These efforts aim to minimize environmental impact while enhancing the guest experience.

Recognition

Virgin Voyages has received several awards, including:

#1 Best Large Cruise Ship by Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Awards (2024)

#1 Mega Cruise Ship by Travel + Leisure - World's Best Awards

These honors reflect the company's commitment to delivering exceptional cruise experiences..



Resilient Lady



Valiant Lady



Scarlet Lady



Brilliant Lady



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- Honeymoon and Romantic Getaways
- Corporate Travel Management



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MEXICO ENTRY IMMIGRATION FORM - TOURIST CARD

IMPORTANT - ALL International Visitors to Mexico must obtain a Digital Tourist Card - NO EXCEPTIONS - The Tourist Card is issued depending on your citizenship, passport information, visa requirements, and airport of entry. Does not currently apply to travel by cruise ship. Car or by air at this time.

NEW ADVISORY 2024: Some airports require a PRINTED copy of your Tourist Card. See the link below to get instructions on how to download your Tourist Card and have it ready when requested.

Foreign citizens traveling to Mexico are issued an Official Entry Immigration Form (FMM) also known as Tourist Card. The online registration process is FREE, very convenient, straightforward, and to complete the process all you need is your passport and travel information. THE TOURIST CARD IS PER PERSON INCLUDING CHILDREN AND DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL.

Some Mexican States, such as the State of Quintana Roo, have local requirements IN ADDITION to the Mexican Tourist Card. When you fill out the application online, you will get all the information regarding any local State requirements and how to make sure you have all the documents necessary. Please make sure you have all the Federal and State requirements prior to your arrival to Mexico.

Don't Wait Until The Last Minute - Make Sure You Have All Your Travel Documents Now!

WHO YOU ARE: You are a foreign citizen traveling to Mexico, have a valid passport, will not stay in Mexico more than 180 days, traveling to Mexico for pleasure, vacation, or recreational purposes, and are NOT going to Mexico to seek employment

WHAT YOU NEED TO APPLY FOR YOUR DIGITAL TOURIST CARD:

Contact information

Passport information

Arrival flight information

Email to receive your confirmation

FAQ - Tourist Card

1. What is a Tourist Card and why I need it?

If you are visiting Mexico you need a Tourist Card which is an Entry Immigration Form that details information about your visit to Mexico. The Tourist Card is per person regardless of age and how long you will stay in Mexico. The information you provide in the Tourist Card is kept by the Mexican Immigration Authority as an official record of your visit to Mexico.

2. How much does it cost?

The Tourist Card is TOTALLY FREE. You don't have to pay anything to get your Tourist Card online.

3. Do I need to send my passport for inspection?

NO, you DO NOT need to send us your passport. On the application form we will ask you for the information we need from your passport in order to process your Tourist Card. When you land in Mexico you will be required to present your passport to the immigration officer so it can be stamped with the Official Entry Stamp.

To fill out form, copy and paste this link - <https://www.mexicotouristcard.com/>

Travel Insurance: Myths & Misconceptions

Traveling domestically for vacation or to visit family. Flying overseas for a bucket-list trip. Cruising the Caribbean. Accidents, illnesses, trip interruptions, cancellations, and travel emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere. It's in these situations that travel insurance can make all the difference.

Here, we deconstruct the top four myths and misconceptions about travel insurance and explain how it can play a critical role if your trip takes an unexpected turn.

Misconception #1

I have major medical insurance. That will always cover any medical expenses if I'm injured or sick while traveling.

Reality

Medical insurance may not cover medical expenses incurred while traveling outside of your network. Plus, many international medical providers and some providers in the U.S. require payment or guarantee of payment upfront before providing service.

When necessary, Chubb and our travel assistance team can issue upfront guarantee of payment to medical providers to ensure that covered travelers receive required care, helping minimize financial stress and delays.

Misconception #2

Travel emergencies are rare. And if I have an unexpected issue, I can troubleshoot on my own.

Reality

Travel emergencies and mishaps happen often. In fact, our travel assistance team fields thousands of calls per year from travelers facing unexpected issues. The majority of those calls are from travelers facing a medical emergency.

Travelers should also think beyond their own potential emergencies. For example, what if a family emergency takes place at home, requiring them to cut their trip short and find their way home immediately? Having 24/7 access to a network of experts to help find quality care, replace lost or missing medication, coordinate medical/security evacuations, or even research and coordinate changes in travel arrangements can prove invaluable.

Misconception #3

Delays, cancellations, or interruptions might happen. But if they do, the supplier (e.g., airline, cruise line, tour operator) will always reimburse me or cover my expenses.

Reality

Travelers often think that a supplier has to take care of issues that arise with regard to delays, cancellations, and interruptions. That may be true in some cases. However, those suppliers are not responsible in any way when it's a weather-related situation. They have absolutely no obligation to the traveler. When there's a weather-related situation, a travel insurance policy can fill this gap. For example, Chubb's travel insurance policies cover for weather-related cancellations, trip interruptions, and delayed connections.

Most suppliers also can't reimburse for trip interruptions that occur if a traveler has an emergency at home—like being at a loved one's side after an accident—that requires them to change their plans.

Misconception #4

I'll just purchase travel insurance directly from my travel supplier—there's no difference from working with a third-party insurance provider.

Reality

Purchasing travel insurance directly from your supplier (e.g., airline, cruise line, tour operator) is certainly an option. However, third-party travel insurance providers, like Chubb, can offer more comprehensive coverage and valuable travel assistance services.

For example, each of our Chubb travel insurance plans includes embedded 24/7 travel assistance. Covered travelers can call our team of experts at any time while traveling away from home for specialized medical assistance, general travel assistance (e.g., emergency message relay or replacement/location of lost documents or items), personal assistance (e.g., visa or inoculation requirements), and security assistance.

PARADISE TRAVEL GROUP

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BUSINESS TRIP TODAY**

BUSINESS TRAVEL

- Comprehensive Travel Solutions
- Flight and Hotel Bookings
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WEEKENDER BAG FOR THE FIRST 5 TRIPS BOOKED

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Check out our blog... a great place to find different subjects we post about related to traveling in today's world. Things are constantly changing.
<https://www.paradisetravelgroup12.com/blog>



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