



VILLA DUBROVNIK  
DUBROVNIK

# INFORMATION JOURNAL

Dear Guests,

we are delighted to be your hosts during your stay in the charming town of Dubrovnik.

Almost six decades of tradition and unprecedented hospitality have made Villa Dubrovnik one of the most unique hotels in Croatia. If you are seeking privacy, luxury, and a special touch of elegance, you are at the right place. We are here to make your stay in Dubrovnik a memorable one.

Our first suggestion is that you step onto your private balcony with a view of the Old Town and the island of Lokrum and take a refreshing breath of the sea-scented air and the foliage from our garden.

If you wish to delight your senses and soothe your soul with innovative body treatments or enjoy something more classic, such as our saunas or massages, our therapists at Villa Spa are at your service. Jogging paths, swimming pool, fitness club, and many other recreational activities complete the offer available to our guests.

For a pleasurable breakfast, lunch, dinner or a surprise snack, our restaurants offer Croatian cuisine with a touch of the Mediterranean.

We believe that our professional dedication, friendliness, and unique service at all times will certainly meet, and hopefully exceed your expectations.

You will find all the information about the hotel services and facilities on the following pages. For anything else you may need, please do not hesitate to contact us at Guest Services.

On behalf of the entire team, I wish you the most rewarding and memorable stay.

Sincerely yours,  
Mirna Lončar Stražičić  
General Manager

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## 1. VILLA DUBROVNIK

**AIRLINE INFORMATION** - Our Guest Service agents will be pleased to reconfirm your reservations and assist you with all travel inquiries and formalities.

**AIRPORT EXCLUSIVE TRANSFER** - Can be arranged through Guest Services.

**BABYSITTING** - Guest Services will be pleased to arrange a babysitting service.

**BAGGAGE SERVICE** - For baggage handling inquiries please contact Guest Services.

**BANQUETS AND CATERING** - The restaurant will be pleased to arrange a meeting break or a banquet for you.

**BARS** - Please refer to the Restaurants & Bars section of this Journal.

**BREAKFAST** - Served from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Pjerin restaurant on the first floor. Should you prefer to have breakfast in your room, please contact Room Service.

**BUSINESS CORNER** - Villa offers the use of laptop and wireless internet, copy and fax machine, all free of charge. Please contact Guest Services for more information.

**CASHIER** - Foreign currency exchange is available at the Guest Service desk on the fourth floor.

**CHECK OUT** - Check out time is at noon. If you don't check out by that time, a daily room charge will be added to your bill. If you wish to have a late check-out, please contact Guest Services.

**CHILD CARE** - For special items such as cribs, diapers, pacifiers, bottle warmers, please contact Housekeeping Service.

**CITY TOURS/EXCURSIONS** - Please contact Guest Services for more information and reservations.

**CONCERTS** - For all information and reservations, please contact Guest Services.

**CREDIT CARDS** - The following credit cards are accepted: American Express, Visa, MasterCard, and Diners.

**DEPARTURE** - Should you wish to extend your stay or depart earlier than planned, please contact Guest Services.

**DINNER** - Served at the Pjerin fine dining restaurant from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

**DOCTOR/DENTIST** - Should you require medical or dental care assistance, our Guest Service agents will be pleased to arrange an appointment for you.

**DRESS CODE** - In order to maintain an agreeable environment for our guests, we kindly ask that you refrain from wearing bathing costumes in public areas. We recommend the gentlemen to wear long trousers to the Pjerin restaurant.

**EMERGENCY ROUTES** - Emergency room evacuation plan is placed at the back of your room door. An evacuation plan for each floor is posted next to the elevators. Emergency exits and evacuation directions are marked with green signs throughout the hotel. Please contact Guest Services for more information.

**ENTERTAINMENT** - Please contact Guest Services, who will be delighted to make your stay enjoyable.

**EXPRESS CHECK OUT** - For express check out, please contact Guest Services to prepare your receipt in advance.

**FAX** - Our Guest Services will be pleased to handle all your incoming and outgoing faxes.

**FIRE ESCAPES** - Emergency room evacuation plan is placed at the back of your room door. An evacuation plan for each floor is posted next to the elevators. Emergency exits and evacuation directions are marked with green signs throughout the hotel. Please pay special attention to safety procedures in case of fire, described in the Safety part of this Journal.

**FITNESS CLUB** - Villa Dubrovnik Fitness Club is located on the 1st floor. For more information, please refer to the Villa SPA section in this Journal or call Villa SPA.

**FLIGHT RECONFIRMATION** - Guest Services will be delighted to assist you.

**FLOWERS** - Housekeeping Service will be pleased to assist you with all your floral requirements.

**FOREIGN CURRENCY** - Exchange is available at the Guest Services Desk.

**HAIRDRESSER** - For all hair styling services, please contact our reception.

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS** - Guest Services will be pleased to assist you with any hotel reservations for the continuation of your journey.

**INFORMATION** - For any additional information, city tours, concerts and event bookings, and information about hotel facilities, please contact Guest Services.

LUNCH - Served from 1 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Giardino al fresco bar.

LOST & FOUND - Please contact our Guest Services for any information you might require.

LOST LUGGAGE - Please contact Guest Services, who will assist you in tracing your lost luggage. In the meantime, our Housekeeping Service will be pleased to provide you with basic toiletries.

MAIL - Please contact Guest Services for mailing, packaging, and shipping services.

MASSAGE THERAPY - Please contact our Villa SPA reception or simply pay a visit to the 3rd floor for any information you may need or reservations you might wish to make.

MEETING - Should you need to use our conference room for a meeting, please contact Guest Services.

MUSEUMS/GALLERIES - Dubrovnik is under the protection of UNESCO and it offers a great selection of interesting museums and galleries. Our Guest Service agents will be delighted to advise you or make reservations for a private tour. For more information, please refer to Dubrovnik section of this Journal.

MONEY EXCHANGE - Available at the Guest Services Desk.

PARKING PLACE - Please contact Guest Services for more information.

PETS - Please contact the Management Board for approval.

PHOTOCOPYING SERVICE - Guest Services will be pleased to assist you.

POSTAGE STAMPS - Guest Services will be pleased to assist you in acquiring necessary postage stamps and posting letters.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES - Guest Services will provide all the information on locations and times of services.

RESTAURANT - Please refer to the Restaurant & Bars section of this Journal.

RESTAURANT RESERVATIONS - Please contact Guest Services, who will be pleased to assist you in making dining arrangements.

RENT A CAR - Guest Services will be pleased to make arrangements for a self-drive or a chauffeur-driven car.

SHOPPING - For cosmetics, please refer to the Villa SPA section of this Journal.

SIGHTSEEING - Our Guest Services will be delighted to recommend and arrange a private tour just for you.

SPORTS - All kinds of sports activities are available nearby. Guest Services will be pleased to assist you.

STATIONERY - You will find stationery in the Villa folder, where this Journal is located. Housekeeping Service will assist you with any additional requirements.

TAXI - Villa Dubrovnik provides a complimentary shuttle from the hotel to the old town and back, according to schedule. Should you need a local transfer or car service to another city, our selection of luxury vehicles is at your disposal 24/7. Please contact Guest Services for more information.

VALET SERVICE - Guest Service will be pleased to make arrangements for a self-drive or a chauffeur-driven car.

## 2. RESIDENCE INFO

AC ADAPTORS - Available upon request at the Guest Services Desk.

AIR CONDITIONING - Villa Dubrovnik is completely air conditioned. Each guest can independently control the room temperature to their preference, to a maximum of +3 and a minimum of -3 °C from the default temperature, which is 22 °C. To activate air conditioning, please insert your room card into the slot of the control console next to the door and adjust the temperature. To deactivate, just take out the room card from the console. Please note that air conditioning is automatically deactivated when the balcony door is open. Please contact Guest Services should you require any assistance.

BABY CRIBS - Available from our Housekeeping department. Just call Guest Services.

BATHROBES - Available for your use during your entire stay.

CABLE SERVICE - Please refer to the TV section of this Journal.

DEPOSIT BOX - Your personal safe is available in your wardrobe/closet. The instructions for use are posted next to it. For items of higher value, we recommend you use the safe available at the Guest Services Desk.

DRY CLEANING - Available upon request.

ELECTRICITY - Local voltage is 220 V. The adaptor is on your table within the Feligan device. It also includes all mobile device chargers, and it is forbidden to plug in devices rated above 2000W.

HAIRDRYER - A hairdryer is placed in your bathroom for your convenience.

INTERNATIONAL DIRECT DIALLING (IDD) - Available

in all guest rooms. Please call Guest Services for assistance or refer to the Telephone Guide in this Journal.

**IRONING** - Available 7 days a week from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Laundry will be returned the same day. Please contact Housekeeping Service for assistance.

**KEYS** - Upon your arrival to Villa Dubrovnik, you will get your Room Key. For any further assistance, please contact Guest Services.

**LAUNDRY/PRESSING/DRY CLEANING** - Laundry bags and forms for Laundry/Pressing/Dry Cleaning services are placed in your wardrobe. Laundry received by 10 a.m. will be returned the same day. For express service or assistance, please contact Housekeeping Service.

**LIGHT** - To activate the room light, please insert your room card into the slot next to the room door. Before exiting your room, pull out your room card and the light will automatically turn off.

**MAINTENANCE** - We hope that our services and facilities meet your expectations. Should you find that we have overlooked anything during the regular maintenance of your room, please contact our Guest Services.

**MESSAGES** - The red light on your TV set indicates a message waiting for you.

**MINI-BAR** - It is located in your wardrobe and contains a selection of beverages and snacks. Kindly note your consumption will be charged to your account. For any special requirements, please call Guest Services.

**MOVIES** - A wide selection of movies is available on your TV. Please refer to the TV Guide section of this Journal for more information or contact Guest Services.

**NEWSPAPERS** - A range of international newspapers

and magazines are available upon your request from Guest Services. Please contact Guest Services before 8 p.m. if you wish to have your printed copy delivered to your room the next morning.

**NEWSPAPER ON DEMAND** - If you wish to have your own copy, please contact Guest Services at the Front Desk.

**PILLOWS** - Should you require extra pillows, please contact Housekeeping Service.

**PRIVACY** - For your privacy, please display the Do Not Disturb sign and inform Guest Services accordingly.

**ROOM SERVICE** - Please refer to the Room Service section of this Journal or call Guest Services for assistance.

**SATELLITE TELEVISION** - Villa Dubrovnik offers a selection of international TV channels. Please refer to the TV Guide placed in this folder with the Journal or contact Guest Services for assistance.

**SEWING AND MENDING** - Please contact Housekeeping for assistance.

**SHOE SHINE** - Shoe shining amenities are placed in your wardrobe. If you wish, our Housekeeping department will assist you.

**TELEPHONE** - Please refer to the Telephone Guide in this Journal or contact Guest Services for assistance.

**TELEVISION** - Please refer to the TV Guide on your TV or contact Guest Services for assistance.

**UMBRELLAS** - Umbrellas are available from Guest Services.

**VALUABLES** - Please deposit valuables and money

in the deposit box located in the wardrobe of your room. The deposit box can be opened only by using your personal password. Kindly note that the hotel is not responsible for any valuables left in your room outside the deposit box in your wardrobe.

**WAKE-UP CALL** - Please contact Guest Services to arrange for a wake-up call.

**WEATHER** - Villa Dubrovnik will be pleased to inform you of the weather via your TV.

### **3. MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **3.1. INTELLIGENT ROOM**

Our rooms are equipped with an intelligent room system - an extensive number of functions can be coordinated using this system.

The panel next to the temperature control console can be used to set your room status by pushing the button for Do not disturb or Housekeeping service. Your input will be displayed outside your room. SOS can be activated by telephone from your bathroom.

The temperature in your room can be controlled on the panel located in your room next to the entrance doors. The current temperature is also shown on the panel.

The latest technology, video on demand, bill and hotel information, etc. are accessible by pressing the menu button on the remote control.

## 3.2 TELEPHONE

Quick dial buttons to reach Guest Services, Housekeeping, Room Service, Restaurant, and Villa SPA are located on the telephone.

To reach Guest Services, please dial	1300
To reach the Housekeeping Service, dial	1300
To reach the Restaurant, please dial	1395
To reach Room Service, please dial	1395
To reach Villa SPA, please dial	1305

To reach another guest room, please dial the Room number (e.g. to dial Room 401, dial 401)

### 3.2.1 TELEPHONE CHARGES

National telephone charges/within Croatia:

1.20 kn

International telephone charges - Europe:

8.50 - 18.20 kn

International telephone charges - other:

6.05 - 32.05 kn

Mobile phone charges (Croatian providers): 7.80 kn

Mobile phone charges (international):

13.76 - 18.36 kn

Satellite phone charges:

65.90 - 241.55 kn

Prices are quoted in Croatian kuna (kn) per minute. For more information, please contact Guest Services.

### 3.2.2 AREA CODES OF MAJOR CITIES IN CROATIA

Dubrovnik	020
Split	021
Osijek	031
Zadar	023
Rijeka	051
Zagreb	01

### 3.2.3 INTERNATIONAL COUNTRY CODES

Argentina	+54	Turkey	+90
Greece	+30	Canada	+1
Slovakia	+421	Japan	+81
Australia	+61	USA	+1
Hungary	+36	Chile	+56
Slovenia	+386	Macedonia	+389
Austria	+43	China	+86
Hong Kong	+852	The Netherlands	+31
South Africa	+27	Czech Republic	+420
Belgium	+32	New Zealand	+64
India	+91	Denmark	+45
Spain	+34	Norway	+47
Bosnia & Herzegovina	+387	Finland	+358
Ireland	+353	Poland	+48
Sweden	+46	France	+33
Brazil	+55	Portugal	+351
Israel	+972	Germany	+49
Switzerland	+41	Romania	+40
Bulgaria	+359	Great Britain	+44
Italy	+39	Russia	+7

### 3.3 WAKE-UP CALLS

You can order your wake-up call through Guest Services.

### 3.4 TELEVISION

#### 3.4.1 TV CHANNELS

The selections of programs are at your disposal on the TV.

#### 3.4.2 RADIO

Please choose your preferred radio station on the list of available channels on your TV.

#### 3.4.3 INTERNET

You can enjoy complementary wireless Internet throughout Villa Dubrovnik, in your room, at the restaurant, in the bar, and even on the beach.

#### 3.4.4 PAY TV

Dear Guests, to use the TV in your room, please follow the instructions on the following pages.

### INTERACTIVE MENU

To enter the Menu, press MENU. Use the TV remote control to browse through the menu.

## PAY TV MOVIES

Movies can be accessed in two ways. The first option is through the shortcut button (Movies). The other option is through the Menu. Choose Pay TV on the Menu screen and press OK. The Movie channel will appear. You can choose your movie from the selection of movies.

To watch the movie, select the desired title and press OK. A short description and duration information will be shown.

After preview, the payment details will be presented. In order to watch your selected movie, enter your room number and press OK.

You can access and watch the selected movie for the next 24 hours from the moment of payment.

## LOCK THE CHANNEL

Adult movies are protected by PIN number.

You can change the pin in the following way: choose MY PROFILE > CHANGE PIN and type your room number.

Press OK and type your new PIN, and then press OK again.

## 4. VILLA SPA

### 4.1 PERSONALIZED PROGRAMS

Villa SPA is located on the third floor and invites you to explore the beauty of life in this unique comfortable atmosphere. It allows you to delight your senses and soothe your soul with innovative body treatments or a selection of saunas and massages.

Villa SPA signature massages, luxury treatments, manicures and pedicures - all using 100% organic, natural Sodashi products.

If you wish to purchase certain products, Villa SPA offers a specially selected palette of cosmetics for sale.

For more information and reservations, please contact Villa SPA or visit us on the third floor.

### 4.2 GYM & FITNESS

If you wish to exercise with a group or through an individual program, visit us at the Villa Spa reception on the third floor for an appointment.

### 4.3 SAUNAS

Rest your body and soul and choose between Turkish and bio saunas. For more information and reservations, visit our specialists at the Villa SPA on the third floor.

### 4.4 POOL

A part of Villa SPA, the indoor swimming pool on the first floor offers a spectacular view of the island of Lokrum. Open daily from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. For use before or after working hours, please contact Guest Services.

## **5. RESTAURANTS & BARS**

### **5.1 PJERIN FINE DINING RESTAURANT**

With a breathtaking view of the Old Town and the island of Lokrum, enjoy breakfast on the first floor, served from 7 to 11 a.m.

Please reserve a time to indulge your senses in our fine dining establishment for dinner between 7 and 11 p.m. For more information and reservations, please contact the restaurant or Guest Service Desk.

### **5.2 AL FRESCO BAR GIARDINO**

Between 1 and 4 p.m. you can enjoy the light dishes prepared by our chef only for you.

### **5.3. PROSCIUTTO & WINE BAR**

Our sun-kissed Prosciutto & Wine Bar, located on the fifth floor, offers a selection of cocktails, martinis, and a variety of prosciuttos accompanied by a fine wine selection. Prosciutto & Wine Bar is open from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m.

### **5.4. ROOM SERVICE**

Available 24/7. You can find the Room Service menu on the table in your residence. To order, please contact Room Service at 1395.

### **5.5. LIBRARY BAR**

Library Bar is open from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. and offers various alcoholic, non-alcoholic, and hot beverages, as well as a selection of bar food.

## 6. SAFETY

### 6.1 EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Villa Dubrovnik is equipped with the latest fire detection system, and our team has been trained to respond to any emergency situation. The smoke detectors are placed in each guest room, as well as in all public areas.

IN CASE OF FIRE OR ANY OTHER EMERGENCY, WE ADVISE YOU TO:

- become familiar with the exit locations;
- keep your room key near your bed or on the desk;
- study the layout and locate the nearest fire exit and fire extinguishers. The floor plan is placed inside your wardrobe closet.

IN CASE OF FIRE, SMOKE, OR UNUSUAL HEAT:

- remain calm;
- call Guest Services and specify:
  - the nature, extent, and location of the problem;
  - your name and whereabouts.

If the fire is threatening your life, close (but do not lock) all doors and windows to contain the fire and immediately leave the area. Follow the exit signs. Do not use the elevators. Always take your room key.

TO EVACUATE YOUR ROOM:

- Feel the door. If it is hot, do not open. If it is cool, open it slightly and look into the hallway. Be ready to shut it immediately if you detect smoke or flames.
- When you leave, take your room key.
- Keep a wet cloth tied over your nose and mouth.
- Close the door behind you to keep fire from spreading.
- If there is no smoke, walk to the nearest smoke-free exit.
- If there is smoke or if it is dark, remain calm, drop

to your hands and knees, and crawl to the exit (air is fresher at floor level).

IF YOUR EXIT IS BLOCKED:

- Go back to your room. It is the safest place for you.
- Stay calm.

IF YOU CANNOT LEAVE YOUR ROOM, BE PREPARED TO FIGHT SMOKE OR FIRE:

- Keep low to the floor. Tie a wet cloth over your nose and mouth for easier breathing.
- Seal the room from smoke: stuff wet towels, sheets, etc. in the cracks around the door. Turn off the air-conditioning.
- Call Guest Services.

## 7. CROATIA

Some interesting facts about Croatia:

- ***Did you know that the tie, a universal symbol of sophistication and culture, was created by Croats?***

As a fashion accessory, the Croats spread the tie throughout Europe in the 17th century. At the beginning, Croatian soldiers wore a scarf around the neck.

The scarf was named after them - the cravat (the tie) - and it was their recognizable trait. In 1667, a separate regiment was formed. It was named the "Royal Cravates", after the Croats.

While the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648) was raging throughout Europe, Croatian soldiers also joined battle. Under the leadership of their viceroys, they moved as far as to Paris.

The Croatian traditional military outfit included picturesque scarves tied round the neck in a distinctive manner. This handsome "Croatian style" captivated

the fastidious French, who, during the reign of Louis XIV, adopted the new fashion item worn "à la Croate". This expression soon became the root of the new French word "cravate". Therefore, the tie entered the bourgeois fashion of the time as a sign of cultivation and elegance and went on to conquer the whole of Europe and, today, the entire civilized world.

- the Italian language - Cravatta
- Spanish - Corbata
- Filipino - Korbata
- Portuguese - Gravata
- Croatian - Kravata
- Irish - Carabhat
- English - Cravat
- Welsh - Crafat
- Swedish - Kravatt
- Finnish - Kravatti
- Flemish - Krawaat
- Danish - Kravat
- Polish - Krawat
- Ukrainian - Kravatka
- Czech - Kravata
- Slovakian - Kraváta
- Romanian - Cravata
- Turkish - Kravat

...and many other. So, when you wear a tie, remember its Croatian origin.

***• You probably use your ball point pen (PENKALA) almost every day. Well, maybe you didn't know that its inventor was Mr. Penkala from Croatia.***

Eduard (Slavoljub) Penkala (1871-1922), born in Slovakia to a Polish-Dutch family, became a naturalized Croat when his family moved to Zagreb after his marriage.

He invented the mechanical pen in 1906 and the fountain pen in 1907 bearing his name, and they have been in everyday use ever since.

Indeed, in Croatia, the term "penkala" is still in use today for the ball point pen. The patent was registered in thirty-five countries throughout the world.

**• *Did you know that Nikola Tesla, the inventor of electricity as we know it today, was from Croatia?***

Nikola Tesla was the father of modern electricity and the inventor of the radio. He was born in Croatia in 1856. He devised the notion of alternating current, for which many powerful men at the time, including Thomas Edison, thought would never be more useful than the direct current.

The modern power grid is based on alternating current. Tesla invented the AC motor, which helped jumpstart the Second Industrial Revolution in the 1900s and 1910s. He invented numerous systems for the wireless transmission of power and signals, the foundation of the modern radio.

He pioneered the Tesla coil, the arc lamp, bladeless turbines, x-ray tubes, the spark plug, and fluorescent lights. The fundamental unit of magnetic moment is named Tesla in his honor.

**• *Did you know that the Dalmatian dog, as in the popular book and movie "101 Dalmatians", was named after Dalmatia, Croatia's largest coastal region?***

Dalmatians were named in the 18th century after Dalmatia, a region of Croatia. They are white, with black or liver-colored spots, very clean, alert, and curious, and can be trained as watchdogs or hunting dogs.

They originated as working dogs and were used for many tasks, such as herding sheep, hunting rodents, and working as retrieving or bird fetching dogs. They gained a lot of popularity in 1956, when the book "A Hundred and One Dalmatians" came out, followed by the Disney film based on the book.

## 8. DUBROVNIK

### 8.1 HISTORY

Dubrovnik was founded in the first half of the 7th century by a group of refugees from Epidaurum (today's Cavtat). They established their settlement on the island and named it Laus. Opposite that location, at the foot of the Srđ Mountain, Slavs developed their own settlement under the name of Dubrovnik (named after "dub", a type of wood). The settlements were separated by a channel, banked in the 12th century, forming the present-day main street, Placa or Stradun. Since then, the two settlements have been united. Simultaneously, the construction of city walls began to protect the settlement from different enemies (Arabs, Venetians, Macedonians, Serbs, etc.), who wanted to conquer Dubrovnik.

Dubrovnik acknowledged the authority of Byzantium (until 1204), Venice (until 1358), Kingdom of Croatia (until 1526), and sovereignty of the Ottoman Empire (1526-1806), to which it paid a yearly tribute for independence and free trade. The main sources of the Republic's income were maritime affairs and trade between Western and Eastern countries. Dubrovnik reached the peak of economic prosperity in the 15th and the 16th centuries. Economic prosperity affected the culture, science, and art, so this period was called the Golden Age of Dubrovnik.

The destructive earthquake of 1667 caused great damage to the town, but with great efforts, the people of Dubrovnik managed to preserve their political independence and reconstruct the destroyed.

Politically, Dubrovnik was an aristocratic republic. The population was divided into three classes: nobility, citizens, and artisans or plebeians. All effective power was concentrated in the hands of the nobility. The citizens were permitted to hold only minor offices, while plebeians had no voice in the government. Marriage between members of different classes of the society was forbidden. The administrative bodies were the Grand Council (supreme governing body), the Small Council (holding executive power from 1238), and the Senate (from 1253). The head of the state was the Duke, elected for a term of office of one month.

The Grand Council consisted exclusively of the members of the aristocracy; each nobleman would take his seat at the age of 18. Initially, the Small Council consisted of 11 members, and after 1667, it comprised 7 members. The Small Council was elected by the Rector.

The Senate was introduced in 1235 as a consultative body. It consisted of 45 invited members (over 40 years of age).

While the Republic was under the rule of Venice, the Rector was Venetian, but after 1358, the Rector was always a Ragusan.

The duration of Rector's office was limited to one month, but the person would be eligible for a re-election after two years. The Rector lived and worked in the Rector's Palace, but his family continued to live in their home.

The government of the Republic was liberal in character and demonstrated its concern for justice and humanitarian principles early on (e.g. slave trading was abolished in 1418).

The French army entered Dubrovnik in 1806, and in 1808, Napoleon abolished the Republic. After Napoleon's failure, attempts to re-establish the Republic failed, and in 1815, Dubrovnik became part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. After the break-up of the monarchy in 1918, Dubrovnik entered the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, and in 1945, the Socialistic Federative Republic of Yugoslavia.

Since Croatia gained independence in 1991, Dubrovnik is part of the Republic of Croatia. During the Croatian War of Independence (1991-1995), Dubrovnik suffered Serbian-Montenigrin siege, human losses, and great material damage. After the war, it started its redevelopment as a tourist destination.

## **8.2 ART & CULTURE**

Wanting to preserve its independence, Dubrovnik paid great attention to the construction of town walls and fortresses. Today's walls originate from the 14th century, but they have been fortified and improved through time by the construction of numerous fortresses, towers, and bulwarks.

Dubrovnik reached the peak of cultural development in the 15th and 17th centuries, when, thanks to economic prosperity and connections with European centers, Renaissance culture flourished in Dubrovnik. At that time, Dubrovnik's aristocracy and wealthier common people studied in Italian cities, so painting, literature, philosophy, and science developed.

Palaces were constructed within the city walls, as well as many summer residences in the surrounding area. During the 1667 earthquake, many artworks were damaged, and the major part of town was destroyed. After the earthquake, Dubrovnik was reconstructed

in baroque style, and literature, art culture, music, and philosophy started developing again.

From the 19th century, the town expanded as a garden town, with houses and villas surrounded by gardens, and from early 20th century, many hotels have been constructed. During this period, many artists resided or lived in Dubrovnik. Since 1950 and the establishment of Dubrovnik Summer Festival, Dubrovnik has become an art and music center.

### **8.3 INTERESTING FACTS**

**DUBROVNIK AQUEDUCT** - In 1438, Dubrovnik had its first aqueduct built. It was constructed by Italian master Onofrio della Cava and it brought water to the town by a system of canals from springs 12 km away.

**PHARMACY** - One of the oldest pharmacies in Europe was established in the 14th century, and it still operates today as a part of the Franciscan monastery.

**ST. BLAZE** - The patron saint of Dubrovnik is sv. Vlaho or St. Blaze. His statues are found on nearly all of the most important buildings, town doors, fortresses, and bastions. The saint is shown in his bishop robes, holding the model of Dubrovnik in his hand. Today, around 20 of his statues can be seen in Dubrovnik.

**SUMMER RESIDENCES** - Over the centuries, people of Dubrovnik had erected over 300 summer residences with gardens in the vicinity of the town and its surrounding areas. Today, unfortunately, only a small number is in use and most are in need of repair.

**CONSULATES** - Before the Dubrovnik Republic was abolished in 1808, Dubrovnik had more than 80 consulates and representative offices in many world ports.

**CITY WALLS** - Dubrovnik town walls are 1940 meters long. The walls in Ston (a town near Dubrovnik) are 4.5 km long and are considered among the longest in the world.

**SHIPS** - In the past, the main source of revenue in Dubrovnik were trade and maritime activities. Dubrovnik ships were known all over the world and at the end of the 18th century, over 300 ships sailed under the flag of Dubrovnik.

**RUPE** - In the 16th century, to prevent grain shortage, the people of Dubrovnik constructed a granary called Rupe, building 15 grain containers into a cliff to hold 150 wagons of grain.

**SYNAGOGUE** - Established in the 14th century, the Dubrovnik synagogue is one of the oldest in Europe.



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