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## FREE SPLIT WALKING TOUR

Self-guided walking tour of Split

#### #25 Most important sights to see in the city of Split

On this walking tour you will see the most important sights in the city. The main attraction is the Historical complex of Split with the Diocletian's Palace, UNESCO World Heritage site since 1979, both usually referred as the OLD TOWN of Split or the main town. Most of the sights you will see on this free Split walking tour are located in the old town: Diocletian's palace walls, gates & defensive tours— Antique Cardo and Decumanus street—Peristyle square—St. Domnius Cathedral & Bell Tower—Vestibule—Diocletian's cellars—Temple of Jupiter—Let me pass street—Fruit square—Pjaca (Main square)—Green market (Pazar)—Fish market—Marmon street—Statue of Grgur Ninski—Prokurative (Republic square)—Veli Varos medieval quarter—Matejuška (Fishermen's harbour)—Riva (Promenade). Only few sights and attractions are located outside the old town: a part of the fishermen's harbour, a large part of the Veli Varos quarter and the most popular beach in town, the sandy beach of Bacvice.



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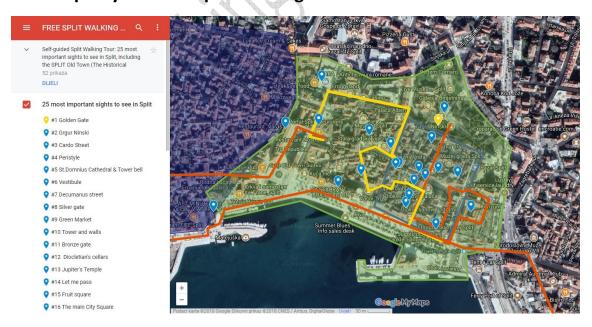
#### Before we start

Just a few words before we start. Please note that this is a self-guided walking tour of Split and there will be no guide to join you on this tour. It is a "do it yourself" tour with detailed indications, photos and a map with pins of sights and routes to follow. The tour is designed to be completely free, however, there are some attractions on payment you might want to visit. The ticket cost is indicated within each sight's short description. The entire tour is about 3,5 h up to 5 hours, depending on your pace and your personal interest of each attraction.

#### Intro

To understand the exact position of each sight, take a look at the map to see the boundary delimitations of each area: the blue rectangular is indicating the Diocletian's palace and the green form is indicating the area of the Old town of Split (which includes also the Palace). Most of the attractions you will see on this tour are within the green area at the map. The yellow pin is indicating the starting point of the tour (the 1st sight), the blue pins are indicating the sights/attractions meanwhile the yellow, orange and brown lines are indicating the routes to follow from one sight to the other.

# The Map of your Free Split Walking Tour



Link to the map: <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.43761991917529&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.4376199&z=16">https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1yQKLn|BK6t|H7pBS82t576EC3LLXHxyS&||=43.507503316407394%2C16.4376199&z=16"</a>

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#### Good to know

The Historical complex of Split with the Diocletian's Palace is UNESCO World Heritage site since 1979. This historical complex is usually referred as the old town of Split. To understand which parts of Split are covered at UNESCO's list, just take a look at the green form at our map. So, both, Diocletian's Palace and the nearby area surrounding the Palace, are UNESCO sites.



The old town of Split: Diocletian's palace in the center; a part of the historical complex on right and around the Palace.

### **Diocletian's Palace**

Diocletian's Palace is the central part of the old town. Overlooking the port of Split, the Diocletian's Palace is one of the most impressive architectural accomplishments of the Roman Empire. Enclosed by the walls (up to 28 meters high and up to 2 meters thick), it measures 215 meters in the direction East-West and about 180 meters in North-South. At the center of each side of the walls there is a gate, named after one of the metals: Golden gate (on North), Bronze gate (on South), Silver gate (on East) and Iron gate (on West). Two narrow rectilinear streets,

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typical of the antique Roman city, connect the gates. Cardo, connects the Northern gate to the Southern gate and Decumanus, connecting the Eastern and the Western gate. The original purpose of the streets was to divide the palace into two segments. The Southern part was destined to the emperor's residence (apartments) and lodgings of the officials and praetorians as well as to the auditoriums, baths and temples, while the Northern part was designed for soldiers and servants.

Though at the origins its intended use was the residence of the emperor (palace), the term can be misleading, as what you can see today are actually the remains (mainly well preserved) of the original structure: parts of the defensive walls and fortresses, 4 gates of the Palace (Golden, Silver, Iron and Bronze gates), Peristyle square, Vestibule, antique arcs, squares & streets, rests of the temples, ...



Roman Emperor Diocletian's Palace as it (most probably) was at its origins.

Though you won't be able to see the Palace as from the photo above, what you will see will certainly delight you. Since the beginning, throughout centuries, and still nowadays, the palace has been always inhabited, which makes it unique and the best-preserved monument of its kind in the World.

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Diocletian's Palace today.

Today, the Diocletian's palace is a unique mixture of structures dating back from Roman age, throughout centuries, to more recent Gothic and Renaissance palaces and squares, built over time inside its massive defensive walls.

## What do you need to know about visiting Diocletian's Palace?

Diocletian's Palace is located in the city center of Split, or, better, IT is the heart and the City Center of Split. Diocletian's Palace is an "open source" World heritage site: there are no entrance tickets or fees (local people still live there, and there are plenty of small hotels, apartments and rooms for rent). There are no opening hours - you can visit it whenever you want, 24/24 hours, free of charge. Some attractions inside the Palace are on payment and open for visits daily, within the working hours: St. Domnius cathedral, St. Domnius tower bell, temple of Jupiter and a part of Diocletian's cellars (substructure halls). The entire Palace is approx. 215 x 180 meters. In approx. 1 hour of walking you can see the most important attractions in the Palace, up to 2 hours if you make an extension of your tour to discover some hidden corners, and up to 3-4 hours if you decide to visit also the cathedral, the tower bell, the temples and the entire substructure halls. On our free Split walking tour we will make it as simply as possible, and you can decide on spot to which sight and attractions dedicate more or less time. Hope we are all set now, so we can start with the tour ...

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# **Free Split Walking Tour**

We will start our tour from the Northern side of the Diocletian's Palace, in front of the Golden gate, which will also be the first sight to see.

## #1 Golden Gate (Zlatna vrata)

The Golden Gate (Zlatna vrata), originally in Latin, Porta Aurea or Porta septemtrionalis, is the Northern and the main entrance of the Diocletian's Palace. Most probably, Diocletian used this door to enter for the first time in his new palace, on June the 1st, 305 A.D. Originally, together with the massive walls, a part of a simple military defensive system, today, the Gate is one of the most significant attractions in the city of Split. Over the centuries, along the Northern wall, the inhabitants built their condominiums, still populated by local people.



The Golden Gate of Diocletian's Palace (#1) and the statue of Grgur Ninski (#2)



Route 1: Short walk from the Golden gate to the statue of Grgur Ninski.

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## **#2 Statue of Grgur Ninski**

The impressive statue of Grgur Ninski is located on North of the Diocletian's Palace, in front of the Golden Gate. Grgur Ninski was the Croatian bishop from the small city of Nin, lived in the 10th century, famous as the great promoter of the use of Slavic language in the local liturgy and of the Glagolitic script (the ancient Croatian alphabet). His initiative constituted an important step for the evolution of the Croatian language and favoured the spread of Christianity in the Kingdom of Croatia. The statue is a masterpiece of Ivan Meštrović (famous Croatian sculptor), a work of great expressive force and one of the most known symbols of the city of Split. You will notice that the thumb (of the left foot) of Grgur's statue is glazed and shiny, almost gold. It is because everybody is touching it. According to the legend, who touches his thumb will be lucky and will return to Split. Likewise in many cities in the world which have their own legends, as in Rome at Trevi Fountain, where you throw the coins dreaming of luck and return to the eternal city, here in Split you polish the thumb hoping for the end with the same results.



The statue of Grgur Ninski (#2), masterpiece of Croatian sculptor Ivan Mestrovic.



**Route 2:** From the statue of Grgur Ninski turn back to the Golden gate, enter in the Palace and proceed straight forward passing through the narrow antique Cardo street (#3) down to the Peristyle square (#4) and St. Domnius Cathedral & Bell Tower (#5).

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## **#3 Antique Cardo street**

Cardo and Decumanus are two narrow rectilinear streets, typical of the antique Roman city, that connect the gates of the Diocletian's palace. The original purpose of these streets was to divide the palace into two segments. The Southern part was destined to the emperor's residence (apartments) and lodgings of the officials and praetorians as well as to the auditoriums, baths and temples, while the Northern part was designed for soldiers and servants. Cardo (today Dioklecijanova ulica), is the perpendicular path, connecting the Northern gate (Golden gate) to the Southern gate (Bronze gate). The intersection of the streets is at the beginning of the Peristyle square, at the center of the Diocletian's Palace.



Antique Cardo street, today Dioklecijanova ulica, the narrow street that connects the Golden gate to the Peristyle square.

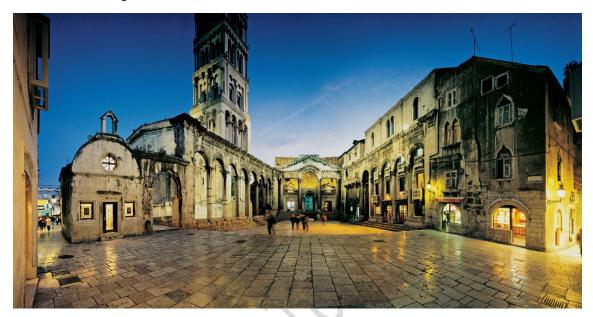
## **#4 Peristyle**

"The center of Split and the whole World" according to Splitians, the Peristyle is the main square of the Diocletian's Palace. The square is surrounded by authentic columns & arcs and charming Gothic and Baroque style palaces, belonging to the patrician families of Grisogono and Cipci (on the Western side). On the Eastern side is the Cathedral of St. Domnius with the bell tower, at the entrance of which there is a 3.500 years old Egyptian sphinx, able to preach the future. On the southern side is the Prothyrum, and Vestibule, the ancient entrances to the imperial apartments. If you arrive at the square exactly at noon (in high season only; during the winter and autumn the Emperor is still having a rest), you will be able to see Diocletian himself greeting the people from his entrance door (Prothyrum). On the western side of the

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Peristyle square, set inside the remains of a temple dedicated to Venus, there is a pleasant coffee bar called Lvxor. Sitting on the stairs in a truly unique antique scenery, you can enjoy a wonderful evening with a drink and live music.



Peristyle square by night; on left St. Domnius Cathedral & Bell Tower, in front Protiron; antique arcs around the square.

## **#5 St. Domnius Cathedral & Bell Tower**

The Cathedral of St. Domnius (Katedrala Svetog Duje), originally built as the mausoleum of Roman Emperor Diocletian, has been consecrated later on in the 7th century. Among all the European cathedrals, the St. Domnius cathedral in Split stands in the oldest building, built together with the rest of the original Palace, between 295 and 305 AD.

The St. Domnius Bell Tower (Zvonik katedrale Svetog Dujma), originally erected in the Romanesque style between the 13th and 16th centuries, was completely rebuilt after the collapse in 1908. From the peak of the tower, 57 meters high, you can enjoy one of the most impressive panoramas of Split and the entire Diocletian's Palace.

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St. Domnius Cathedral and St. Domnius bell tower, 57 meters high.

Entrance tickets: approx. prices: Cathedral of St. Domnius: 3,3 € / person; St. Domnius Bell Tower: 3 € / person



Panoramic view from the peak of St. Domnius Bell Tower.

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### #6 Vestibule

The Vestibule is the antique entrance hall to the Roman Emperor Diocletian's apartments, the circular dome, under which the traditional choirs (klape) perform live "a capella" singing every day.



Vestibule, the circular cupola, the ancient atrium of Roman Emperor Diocletian's apartments.



**Route 4:** From the Vestibule, proceed straight and turn left; you will arrive behind the St. Domnius Cathedral. Go forward to the end of the walls and turn left into the narrow street which will lead you to the antique Decumanus street (#7).

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## **#7 Antique Decumanus street**

Cardo and Decumanus are two narrow rectilinear streets, typical of the antique Roman city, that connect the gates of the Diocletian's palace. The original purpose of the streets was to divide the palace into two segments. The Southern part was destined to the emperor's residence (apartments) and lodgings of the officials and praetorians as well as to the auditoriums, baths and temples, while the Northern part was designed for soldiers and servants. The intersection of the streets is at the beginning of the Peristyle square, at the center of the Diocletian's Palace. Decumanus (today Krešimirova ulica and Poljana Kraljice Jelene), is the transversal street connecting the Eastern and the Western gate.



Poljana Kraljice Jelene (the Square of Queen Jelena of Croatia), antique Decumanus street of Diocletian's palace.



**Route 5**: Once you arrive at the Decumanus street you will already see the next attraction, the Silver Gate of Diocletian's Palace (#8). It is just few meters away ...

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## **#8 Silver Gate (Srebrna Vrata)**

The Silver Gate (Srebrna vrata), originally in Latin, Porta Argentea or Porta orientalis, is the Eastern entrance to the Diocletian's palace. The original gate was greatly damaged during the Allied air raids at the end of the World War II, and therefore completely restored in 1952. Curious, the gate was completely walled up in the mid-15th century, as a measure of the imminent Ottoman attack, and reopened only after the WWII. In 18th century, in the proximity of the Silver gate, another small gate was created, still open to the passage, the Venetian Gate (Mletacka vrata).



The Silver Gate of Diocletian's Palace. A view from the square dedicated to Queen Jelena of Croatia (Poljana Kraljice Jelene), antique Decumanus street.



Route 6: Pass through the Silver Gate, up the steps, turn left and then immediately turn right. You are at the Green market now (#9). Go forward and turn right, down the street through the market and at the end turn right again towards the Diocletian's Palace. At the bottom of the Eastern wall you will see the defensive tour (#10).

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## **#9 Green market (Pazar)**

Pazar (the Green Market) is the biggest open-air fruit and vegetable market in Croatia. The stands with fruits and vegetables, farm cheeses, dried meat and smoked hams hanging in kiosks, but also flowers, aromatic herbs, the homemade extra virgin olive oil ... a great variety of colors and natural scents make this traditional market survive in spite of the modern organized distribution chains. The quality and the freshness of the products are much appreciated by the locals, despite slightly higher prices (all to be proved), but still quite convenient. Once, as still today, Pazar is the place where different profiles of the locals interlink, farmers and mountain dwellers who sell and the islanders and Splitians who buy. A scenography that very often provokes likeable tensions and funny situations.



Pazar, the green market of Split, open every day of the year, more or less until 1 to 2 pm, though there are always some stands & kiosks open all day long, mainly in spring and summer.

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#### #10 Diocletian's Palace defensive tower and Southern walls

From the promenade you can see the South-Eastern defensive tower of Diocletian's palace, probably the best visible and best preserved part of the original defensive system of the Roman palace. Next to it, the Southern walls of the palace.



Southern walls of the Diocletian's palace and the South-Eastern defensive tower.



Route 7: From the South-Eastern tower of the Diocletian's palace, continue along the promenade observing the Southern walls of the palace, up to the entrance to the Southern gate, the Bronze Gate (#11). Enter inside the Diocletian's cellars (#12) and at the end of the tunnel, up the stairs to the Peristyle square (#4).

# **#11 Bronze gate (Brončana Vrata)**

"Porta Aenea" (The Bronze Gate – Mjedena or Broncana vrata) is the Southern entrance of the Diocletian's Palace. At the time of Diocletian, the gate was the entrance from the pier (from the sea), today it is the outlet door to Riva, the main promenade of Split as well as the main entrance to the substructure halls of Diocletian's Palace (cellars) from the South.

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Bronze gate, the Southern entrance of the Diocletian's Palace; entrance to the substructure halls of Diocletian's palace (cellars)

# #12 Diocletian's cellars (Dioklecijanovi podrumi)

Diocletian's cellars (Dioklecijanovi podrumi) are the substructure halls of the Diocletian's Palace, the oldest best-preserved complex of its kind in the World. The original purpose of the cellars was to raise the level of the apartments on the upper floor and to facilitate their construction. Today, the basement of the Palace, is employed by local crafts and souvenir stands, occasionally hosts various events such as exhibitions, flower fairs and theatrical performances. The central corridor of the basement takes from the Bronze gate up to the Peristyle square.

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The main corridor of the cellars is free of charge for visits, meanwhile the Western part of it (and the most interesting one) is on payment. Tickets price approx. 6 EUR / person.



Diocletian's cellars and the Bronze gate at the end of the corridor.



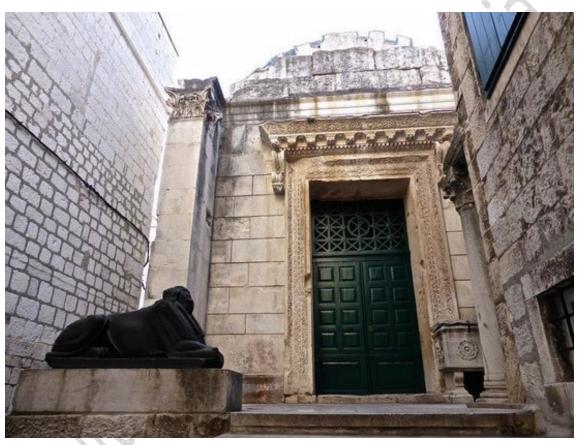
Route 8: From the basement of the Palace you have exit to the Peristyle square; on your right side you will see the St. Domnius cathedral and on your left side you will see the entrance to a narrow street. Enter the street and go forward for about 50 meters, you will arrive at the Temple of Jupiter (#13) and on left, next of it, the "Let me pass" street (#14).

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# **#13** The Temple of Jupiter (Jupiterov hram)

From the Peristyle, a narrow passage (Kraj Svetog Ivana) leads to the Baptistery of St. John (Krstionica Svetog Ivana), originally the pagan temple dedicated to the celebrations of Jupiter's cult, therefore, still today known as the Temple of Jupiter (Jupiterov Hram). The Scottish archaeologist, Robert Adam, an expert researcher of the Diocletian's Palace, considers this temple as one of the most beautiful monuments in Europe.



The Temple of Jupiter - The Baptistery of St. John. In front of the entrance, a headless sphinx (14th century BC), imported from Egypt in the 5th century, at the time of construction of the temple (a part of the temple has been built already at the time of the construction of the Palace, at the end of 3rd century). At the right side next to the entrance, one of the six early Christian columns that originally supported the portico, the only one still persisted. In the 6th or 7th century, the temple was consecrated to the Baptistery of St. John. Entrance ticket (if you want to enter and visit the temple): 10 HRK (approx. 1,3 EUR)

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# #14 Let me pass (Pusti me proc)

Next to the Temple of Jupiter, there is a short and narrow passage, the famous "Let me pass" street (Pusti me proć), the narrowest street on the World, and among the shortest as well. The narrowest, the shortest? Could be and could be not, however, it is certainly something you will always remember from your visit in Split.



Pusti me proć - Let me pass street, the narrowest street in the World.



**Route 9:** Pass the street (if you can), go forward, slightly left and then right, follow the street and then turn right, down the stairs, slightly left and then right down to the Fruit square (#15).

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## #15 Fruit square (Voćni trg)

The Fruit square (Voćni Trg) is one of the most beautiful and charming little squares in Split. At the center of the square, the statue of Marko Marulić, the father of Dalmatian and Croatian literature in general. His poem "Judita" is the first testimony of Croatian literature as the first literary work printed in the Croatian language. The monument, with the bronze figure of the humanist who lived between the 15th and 16th centuries, is the masterpiece of Ivan Meštrović, the famous Dalmatian sculptor.



On North side of the square, the baroque Milesi Palace (beginning of the 17th century); in front of it the statue of Marko Marulić, on left of the photo, the Venetian Tower (Mletacka kula) from 15th century.



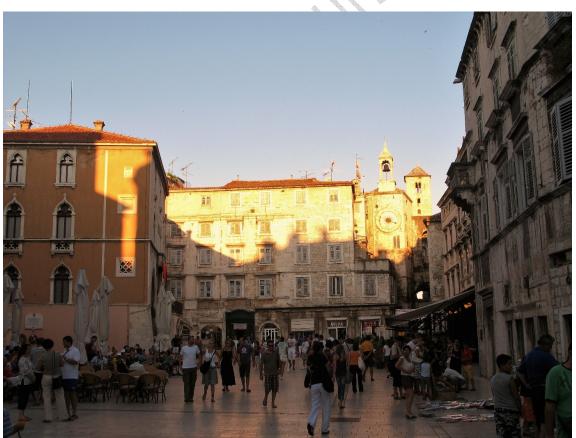
Route 10: When you arrive at the Fruit square, go towards the Tower you see at the photo and turn right in the narrow street. Up that street you will arrive at the bottom of the Main square, Pjaca (#16). Turn right, up the square to the Iron gate (#17).

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## #16 Pjaca

People's square (Narodni Trg) is the main city square, better known in Split as, simply, Pjaca (like in Italian, piazza). With the development of the city outside the Diocletian's palace, Pjaca has become the center of political, social and economic life in Split from the 15th century onwards. A typical Mediterranean ambient, with numerous outdoor cafés and restaurants (even too many recently), was a favourite meeting point for the older generations, those of our fathers and grandfathers (today, it is probably the promenade). Surrounded by charming medieval palaces (Renaissance, Venetian and Gothic), of which the most important one is the first Town Hall, today an exhibition hall. At the former town hall's loggia, in 1950 was founded Torcida, the organized fans of Hajduk Split football club, the oldest supporter's group in Europe. At the stone flag carrier in the middle of the square, the famous words of Tonći Petrasov Marović (Croatian writer, 20th century) have been engraved: "Ne treba nikamo ići, nigdje drugdje tražiti, što jest i tu je" ("There is no need to go elsewhere, no other place to look for, everything that exists, it is already here").



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# #17 Iron Gate (Željezna Vrata)

The Iron Gate (Željezna vrata), originally in Latin, Porta Ferrea or Porta Occidentalis, is the Western gateway to the Diocletian's palace. The Western façade of the Palace is the least visible one from the outside due to the expansion of the city in this direction and the construction of houses and condominiums alongside the walls. Up the gate, the Clock Tower, Roman tower with the Renaissance clock, and a small bell tower on top of it, both from the 15th century. Beyond, at the guard corridor above the gate, the Church of Our Lady of Belfry (Gospa or Zvonika), with impressive pre-Romanesque bell tower, the oldest in Split and one of the oldest examples of Dalmatian medieval architecture.



The Iron Gate, the Western entrance of the Diocletian's palace, from the main city square (Pjaca).



Route 11: When you arrive in front of the Iron gate, turn left, up the street (Bosanska ulica) to the first cross, turn left in Ulica Kralja Tomislava and go down that street to the fountain in Marmont street, Marmontova ulica (#18).

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## **#18 Marmont Street (Marmontova ulica)**

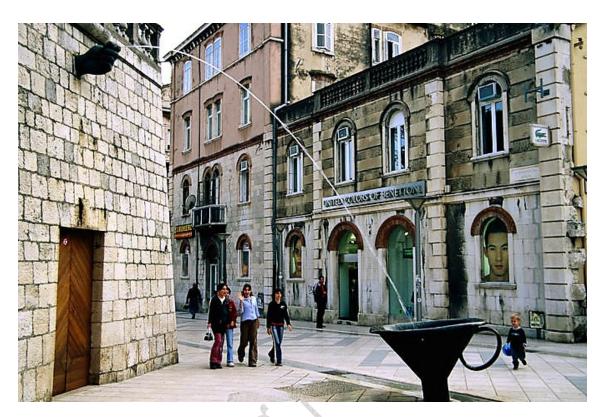
The Marmont's Street (Marmontova ulica) is the main city avenue. The street that many consider the most beautiful in the city, is dedicated to the Marshal of the French Napoleon, Auguste Frédéric Louis Viesse de Marmont (1774-1852). The army commander in Dalmatia and the governor of Split at the time of the French occupation, marshal Marmont made an important contribution to the urbanization of the city, the reason why the citizens of Split dedicated him one of the most beautiful city streets.



Marmontova Street is the vertical promenade stretching from the seaside promenade (Riva) up to the square in front of the Croatian National Theatre (Hrvatsko Narodno Kazalište, HNK) and the Monastery and Church of Our Lady of Health (Gospe od Zdravlja) - when you arrive at the fountain, you need to turn right up the small square where the theatre and church are located. Afterwards, turn back to the fountain.

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The small square in the middle of Marmont street, with a curious modern fountain called "Pirja" (the Funnel). It is witty and curious because no one knows exactly what it really represents. From the thumb of the hand (located at 4-5 meters up the wall), the water is spread into a funnel-shaped shaft, in the middle of the street. At the time of the exhibition, the fountain has aroused so much clamour and numerous interpretations of the meaning, never fully identified. Perhaps this was the author's final (and only) intention?!

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**Route 12:** When you arrive at the fountain, turn left and go down the Marmont street towards the sea, up to the small square where the Fish market is located (#19), on the left side of the street.

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## #19 Fish market (Peškarija)

Peškarija is the traditional fish market of Split set in a lovely white stone building and at the open space in front of it. Perhaps, it is the only fish market in the world with no flies, thanks to the strong smell of the sulphurous waters that rise nearby.



The fish market in Split: Anchovies, mackerels, basses, lobsters, scampi, monkfishes, ... you will find them all here, in a small lively "popular theatre" with stands set up both inside and outside the building.



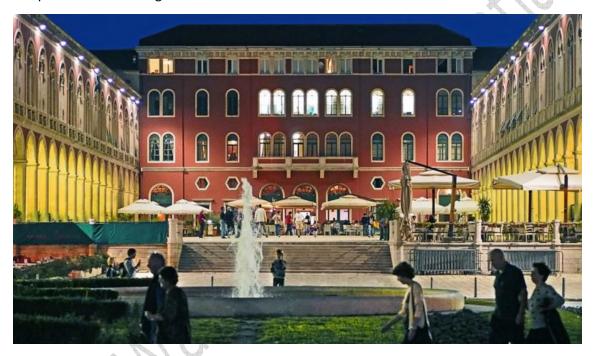
**Route 13:** When you arrive at the Fish market, turn back to the Marmont street and go up the steps under the arc; few meters ahead and you will arrive at the Republic square, Prokurative (#20).

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## **#20 Republic Square (Prokurative)**

The Republic Square (Trg Republike), is commonly known as Prokurative (the synonym of the portico, being built according to the model of porticos of the ancient Cardo and Decumanus, the two main streets of the Diocletian's Palace). In addition to outdoor cafes and restaurants, it is not unusual to see also children playing football here, even in the middle of summer, with temperatures exceeding 35 C.



Prokurative, the square of Republic.



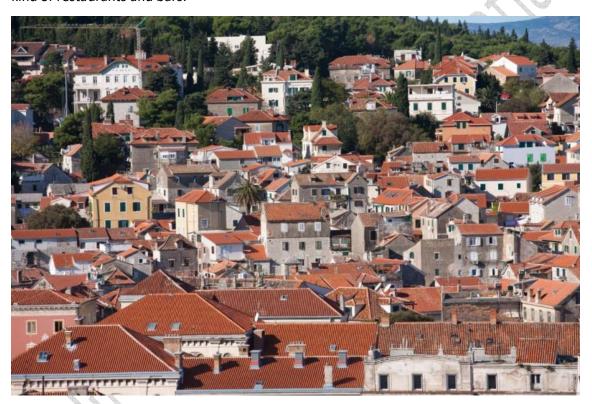
Route 14: When you arrive at the Republic square, go towards the sea and you will arrive shortly at the square with a fountain. On your right side you will see the Church of St. Francis. Take the street next to the church (on its right side) and go up to the small square - you are already in the medieval Veli Varos quarter (#21).

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### #21 Veli Varoš

Veli Varos is the oldest medieval quarter of Split, located at the foot of the Marjan hill. Among all the quarters in the city of Split, Veli Varoš is the most authentic one: an interweaving of narrow streets, alleys and picturesque courtyards, small chapels and ancient churches, white stone traditional Dalmatian houses with red roofs, ... and plenty of good traditional and other kind of restaurants and bars.



The red roofs of Veli Varoš medieval quarter.

Veli Varoš is also a place where the famous Dalmatian painter, and one of the greatest Croatian artists of all time, was born. The native house of Emanuel Vidović is located at the small square at the beginning of Veli Varoš quarter (address: Senjska ulica).

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The native house of Emanuel Vidovic in Veli Varoš.

Veli Varoš is the starting point to arrive at the belvedere panoramic spot (Vidilica, #22) and to explore the hill of Marjan. On this tour we will go up to the first peak.



**Route 15:** When you arrive in front of the native house of Emanuel Vidovic, take the street on its right side. Go up the street passing through the Veli Varos quarter to the first belvedere spot, Vidilica (#22).

## #22 Vidilica

The narrow uphill road from the church of St. Francis (West side of the promenade), passing by the native house of Emanuel Vidovic and through the Veli Varos quarter, will lead you up to the first belvedere of the Marjan hill, Vidilica, the best panoramic site in the town. From the beginning of the promenade up to the belvedere there is about 15 minutes walking, up the hill.

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From Vidilica, you can enjoy a great panorama of the town, the nearby islands and the surrounding mountains, perhaps, having a drink at the nearby café/restaurant with the best views of the city. On the photo: city port, the promenade, Diocletian's Palace and the bell tower of St. Domnius.



Route 16: From the belvedere, take the steps which will lead you back to the town. Note that you don't have to take the same route which bring you up to the belvedere but the massive white stairs you will see at the corner of the panoramic spot. Go down the steps to the promenade and then continue on left side to the Matejuška, small fishermen's harbour (#23).

# #23 Matejuška

Matejuška is a small fishermen's harbour, located in a bay of the port of Split, on the west side of the promenade and in front of the Monastery of Sr. Francis. Once, the most loved bathing establishment in the city, today Matejuška is the favourite meeting point of fishermen (in the morning) and of young people (at night) who gather on the dock that encloses the small port.

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Matejuška, the small fishermen's harbour in the heart of Split.



Route 17: From the fishermen's port go towards the town following the waterfront road with palms. After a short walk you will arrive at the main city promenade, Riva (#24). Pass all along the promenade, up the road to the first traffic lights. Keep on the right side of the street. Go forward and when you see the pharmacy at the corner of the building, turn right and proceed straight forward, turn right in a narrow street and proceed forward. You will arrive at the small park. Find the way out on your left side and you will arrive at the road. Turn right and go down the street to the beach of Bacvice (#25).

## **#24 Riva (Promenade)**

The Shore of the Rebirth of the Croatian Nation (Obala Hrvatskog Narodnog Preporoda), or simply the Promenade (Riva), is one of the most beautiful and fascinating places in the city of Split. The city's palm-lined promenade, with numerous open-air cafes, is a great place to sip a coffee for a long time, as the Splitians use to do. When the sun goes down, when the lights

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come on and lit up the promenade, the port and the Diocletian's Palace, you can enjoy one of the best backgrounds in the city of Split. In the evening, do not miss a long walk along the seafront, definitely recommended, because Split by night is a city full of charm, even more beautiful and romantic than during the day. On the Western side of the promenade, the Church and Monastery of St. Francis (Crkva Svetog Frane & Franjevački samostan) and next to them, the medieval Bajamonti / Dešković Palace, in front of which there is a small circular fountain with a view to Prokurative (The Republic square). On the Eastern side, the walls, the Bronze gate & the South-eastern tower of the Diocletian's Palace, and, at the beginning of the harbour, the Port authorities building.



A view of the promenade from Deskovic palace.

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#### #25 Bačvice

Bacvice is the famous sandy beach located in the center of Split. Only few cities in the World can claim of having a blue flag beach in the central part of the town (and so close to the city harbour). The most popular city's bathing establishment, and one of the oldest in the city, Bacvice is located in the bay next to the port, just hundreds of meters far away from the ferry terminal. Bacvice or, Baće (commonly called), is the most animated bathing establishment in the city. The atmosphere is lively all day long. During the day the beach is usually crowded, especially in the summer time. At the beach, you will certainly notice numerous bathers (of all ages) continuously throwing themselves into the sea to keep the small ball in play. They are playing picigin, the leisure sport invented in Split more than 100 years ago. The aim is to keep the ball in the air, passing it among the players who are required to make as spectacular throws as they can. There are no losers in this game, only the winners! You should definitely try to play it.



Bacvice beach in summer.





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