

# OSTROG MONASTERY

**Welcome!**

Type:  
Pilgrimage,  
Nature,  
Scenic Drive,  
Charming Village

# ABOUT TOUR



Even if you are not terribly religious, you are certain to enjoy a tour of Ostrog Monastery. Amazing things have been known to happen here. On your tour to the Monastery, you will begin the 8 hour journey by passing through Risan. Risan is a small port town with only a couple of thousand inhabitants. Logs from the virgin forests in the Bijela Gora are exported to Italy today and this tourist destination offers beautiful beaches.

**Type:** Pilgrimage, Nature, Scenic Drive, Charming Village

**Length:** 8 Hours

**Walking:** Medium

**Mobility:** No wheelchairs

**Guide:** Licensed Guide

**Language:** English, Italian, French, German, Russian (other languages upon request)

From Risan, you will travel up to the majestic Dinara Mountains and pass Slano Lake with its many small islands as well as the more shallow Krupac Lake. Your tour will then lead you to Niksic which is the second largest city in Montenegro after Podgorica. In Niksic, one of the most popular beers in the region is brewed, Niksicko beer is a local favourite. There are a few sites to see from here but the most exciting is the Ostrog Monastery. For your 110 km tour, you can experience much of Montenegro's culture and its vast landscapes and natural beauty.



# ABOUT MONASTERY



The Monastery of Ostrog is a monastery of the Serb Orthodox Church located along the almost vertical cliff, high on the mountain call Ostroska greda (beams of Ostrog) with a view of the plains Bjelopavlici. It is in north part of Montenegro near Niksic, near village Bogetici.

Ostrog Monastery is dedicated to Sveti Vasilije Ostroski – Saint Basil of Ostrog who is his founder (17th century). He was buried there, and proclaimed a saint miracle worker. His body rests in a cave in the church. The monastery was rebuilt 1923-1926 after the fire, which had been spared cave churches. They represent a major heritage value... Ostrog Monastery is the most popular pilgrimage place in Montenegro. Ostrog Monastery complex comprises two parts, the first of which, the larger lower monastery is situated around the Church of the Holy Trinity, built in 1824, containing the majority of the monastic residences, including the Dormitory.

The white, rock-hewn upper Ostrog Monastery, a tough tiny 3 km walk uphill (accessible by car also), holds two diminutive cave-churches, one of which, the Holy Cross, features some splendid rock-painted frescoes by the great seventeenth-century Serbian artists-fresco painters Jovan and Radul, depicting revered saints (including St Sava and one of St Basil), scenes from the life of Christ, and religious holidays.



# Lower Monastery



Lower monastery was established at the site of the former village Kosjeradicha, at 800 meters above sea level. Originally, there existed a church dedicated to Saint George, but since the tectonic disturbances destabilized ground on which was located, restored several times and rebuilt. In 1824, not far from this church was built today.

The founder was Archimandrite Joseph Pavicevic (who is buried in the same church in 1836) 1820 th with blessing of the Metropolitan of St. Peter of Cetinje .

Lower monastery is also consists of the monastic residences and religious school from the 18th century. Still today regular liturgies are held here, baptism and weddings are performed.

Around the church are the thread and make the building together harmoniously united with the natural environment.

There is cca. 5 km long road from the Lower to the Upper monastery, but also a shorter foot path through the woods and can be crossed in about 25 minutes. In order to experience the magnitude of this place you should walk this path as the most humble of pilgrims.



# Upper Monastery



The Upper monastery, which is situated at 900 meters above the sea level to the vertical rock, consists of two churches. Upper church is dedicated to the Holy Cross, and the other which is lower and small is dedicated to the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Both of those are natural caves, adapted. Their interiors are painted, whereby the frescoes are skillfully adjusted to the narrow space and irregular shape of the walls.

The upper has raised in the 1665 th with the blessing of St. Basil of Ostrog (Vasilije Jovanovich). Monastery is dedicated to the St. Basil of Ostrog who is his founder (17th century). After the death of metropolitan St. Basil of Ostrog in 1671. a vine tree sprouted on the place where he died, although that sort doesn't grow in the mountainous area. Seven years later his grave was opened and his body was intact.

Therefore, people and church authorities were encouraged to pronounce metropolitan Vasilije for the saint. His cult, deeply founded in the being of the people, and stories (later books), about his magnificent cures (the blind could see, the dumb could speak, the immobile people could move), gave Ostrog the status of one of the most visited religious centers. He was buried there, and proclaimed a saint miracle worker. His body rests in a cave in the church. The monastery was rebuilt 1923-1926. years after the fire, this had been spared cave churches. They represent a major heritage value.

The biggest monastic sanctity – the relics of St. Basil, which are believed to have a healing power – is kept in the temple of Presentation of the Virgin Mary.



# Church of Saint Martyr Stanko

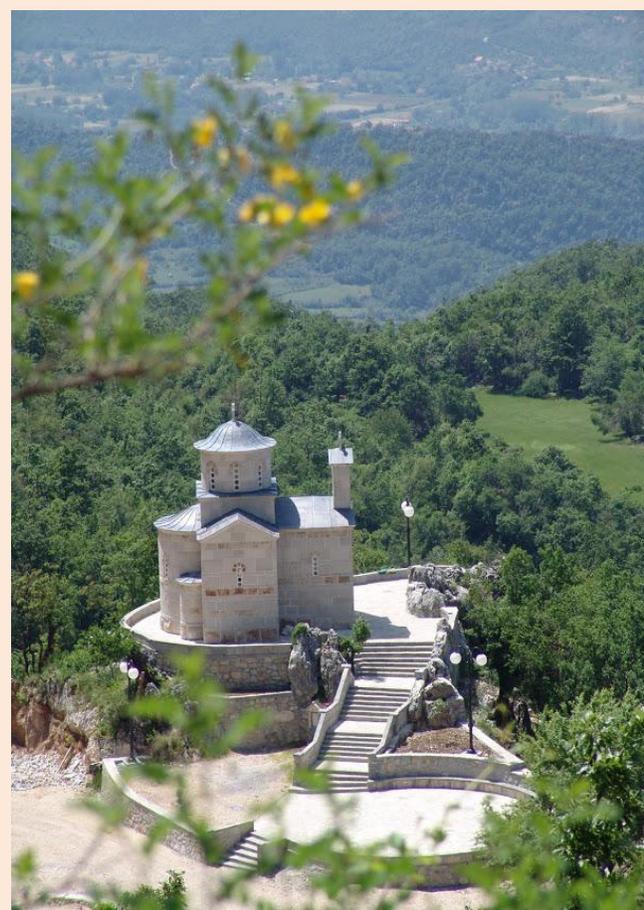
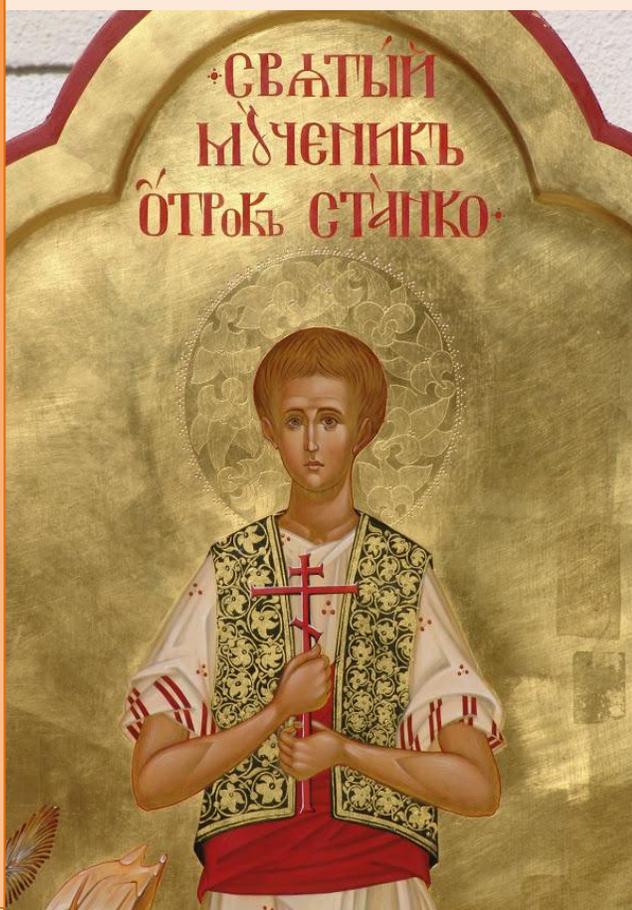


Between the upper and lower monasteries 2005th is built a church of Saint Martyr Stanko.

Martyr Stanko was a shepherd who was killed by the Turks because they did not want to reveal the place where monks are hidden. According to tradition, the Turks cut off his hands, because he publicly admitted that is a Christian. Holy Martyr Stanko was only fifteen years old when the Turks in the village of Ostrog - Podvrce him chopped down. Turks were first cut out his hand, according to tradition, which preserved his body was buried near the church in this village and how it is determined remain intact.

Above Stankov tombs have begun to emerge some miracles and unusual signs so villagers carried his remains to the Ostrog sanctuary where they found peace two and a half centuries. In the church are kept imperishable his hands, which were transferred from the Church of the Holy Cross in the upper monastery. They can be seen but are found beneath the glass.

Here is also a grenade, which in left from the bombing of the Monastery by German in February 1942th. But grenade did not explode. Professional investigation later determined that the grenade was the correct and as such is supposed to explode. It is believed that St. Basil of Ostrog monastery is protected. All this reminds believers of the miracles that occurred in Ostrog. Many people had been baptizing in front of chapel in groups according to Orthodox tradition.



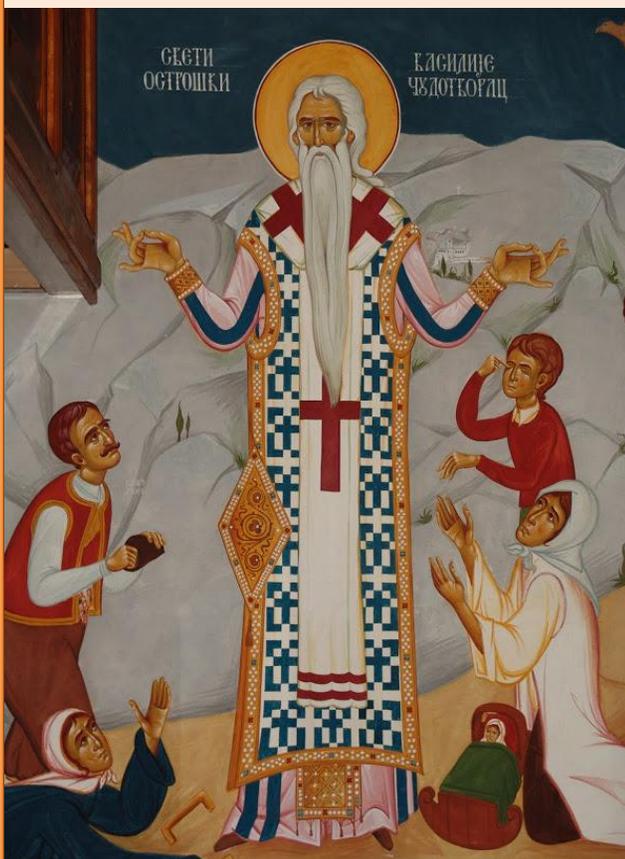
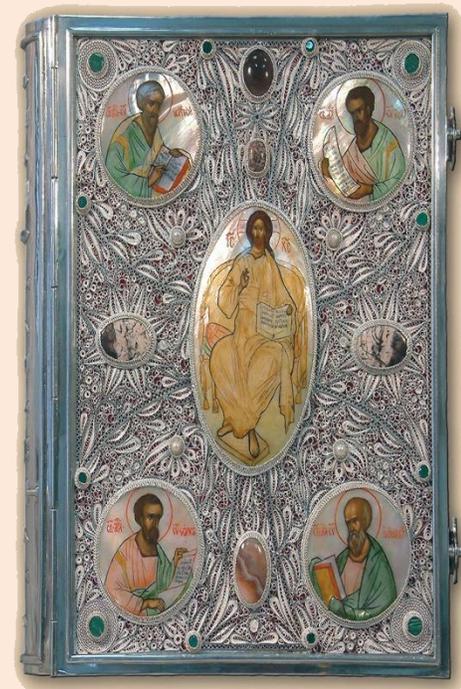
# Ostrog Monastery holy place



The Ostrog Orthodox monastery is truly popular holy place, in the fullest sense of the words is one of the most frequently visited in the Balkans, visited by believers from all parts of the world, either individually or in groups. Ostrog Monastery is the meeting place of all confessions: the Orthodox, the Catholics and the Muslim.

According to the stories of pilgrims, by praying close to the Holy Saint's relics, many have been cured and helped in lessening the difficulties in their lives. They all leave this place feeling different, enriched and refined, each in their own way.

The Ostrog monastery is not only religious, but also cultural and historical monument. It testifies about the past and present time, about belief, culture and tradition of the people how live here for centuries.





# PRICES

**Prices from 35,00 € per person**

**Price of the excursions includes:**

- 1) Transport
  - Up to 2 persons – Car Transport
  - From 3 to 7 persons - Minivan Transport
  - From 8 to 18 persons – Mini bus Transport
  - From 18-49 persons - Bus Transport

2) Monastery complex tax

3) Tourist Guide Services

PRICE EXCLUDES: Other Entrance fees and meals

***Supplement of your choice:***

***Lunch - usually around 15€ per person - traditional home-made meals!***





**VISIT US AGAIN!**



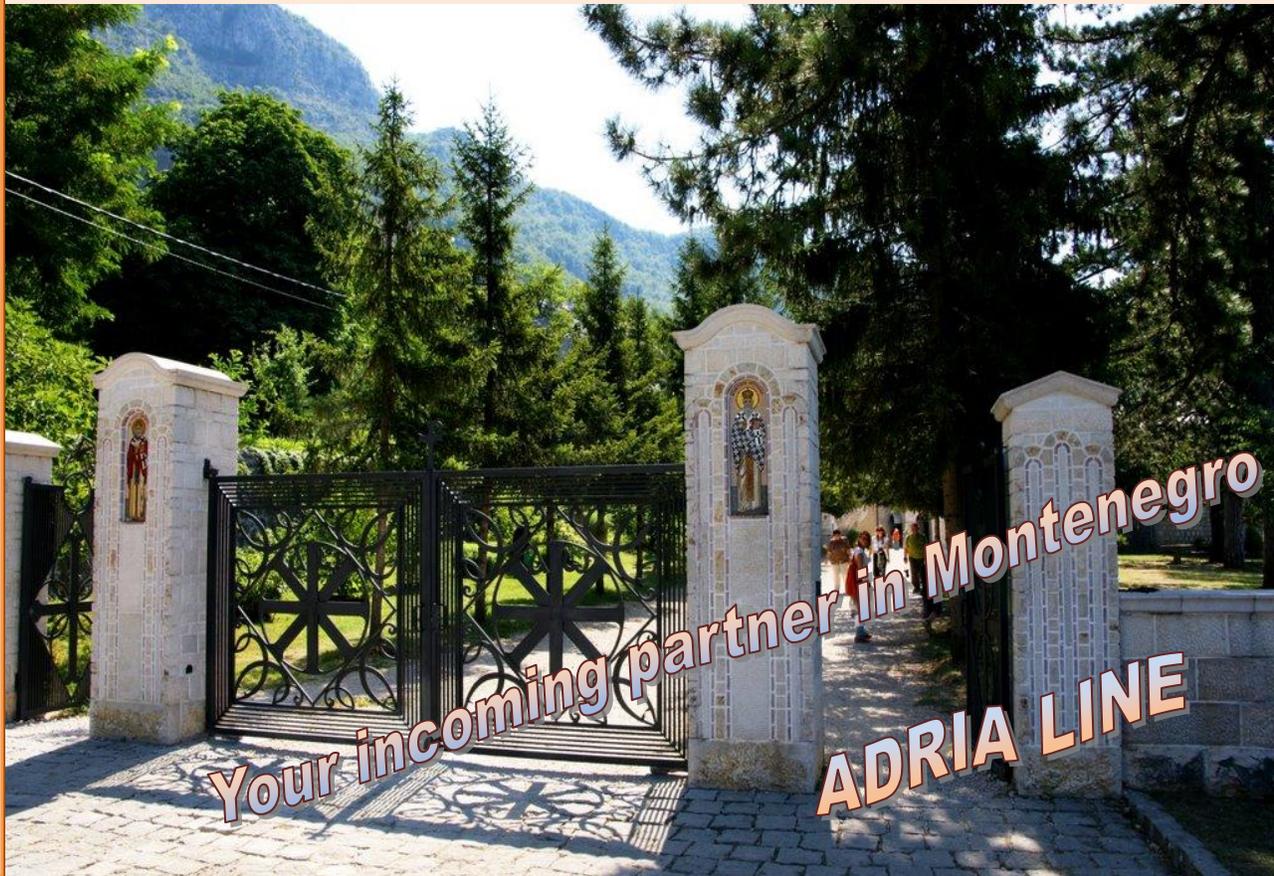
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