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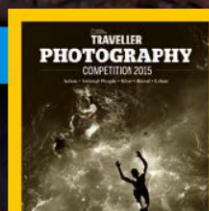
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IN PICTURES MONTENEGRO

A tale of two fortified seaside towns: the crumbling port of Kotor, rich with Montenegro's maritime past, and the boisterous Budva Riviera, which celebrates its future

WORDS & PHOTOGRAPHS: Lola Akinmade-Åkerström





CAPTIVATING KOTOR

Hidden away within a sparkling bay, Kotor's classic charm lies in its cobblestone alleyways, hidden corners and resident cats splayed out in the sun. Crumbling Venetian fortifications set against a mountainous backdrop bear testament to this UNESCO World Heritage Site's maritime history. ►





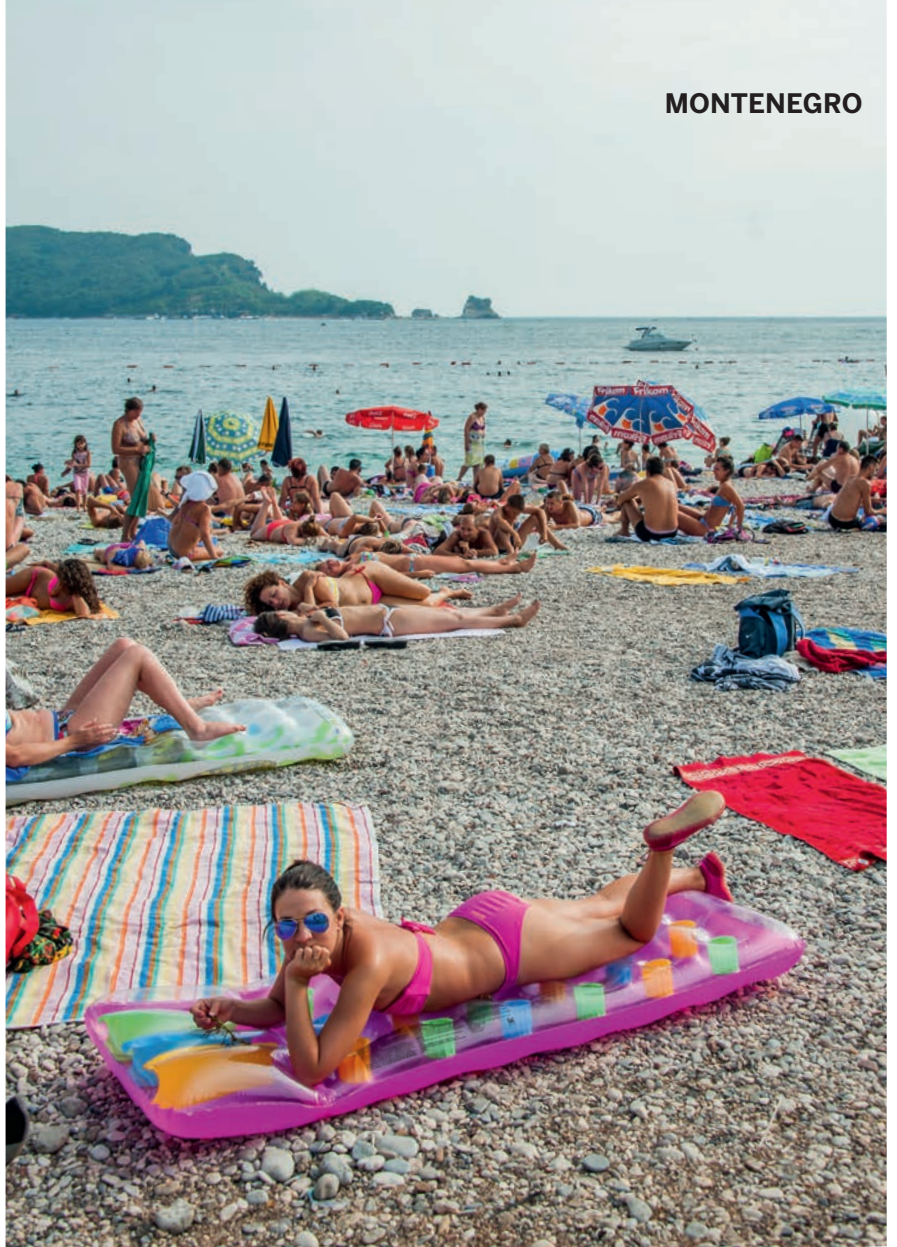
BY LAND OR SEA

When summer rolls around, Kotor's main Square of Arms springs to life under sprawling café umbrellas and bakeries selling fresh buns as well as Montenegrin favourites, such as flaky, meat-filled *burek* pastries and jam-filled *krofne* doughnuts. Meanwhile, vacationing yachts dock in the bay's emerald waters just outside the city walls. ➤



BUBBLY BUDVA

The quintessential Balkan beach party town, locals and visitors alike bask on Slovenska beach before buzzing off to enjoy seafood dining and carnivalesque nightlife in the 5th-century Old Town – one of Europe's oldest settlements. ►





MARITIME MUST-GO

The seaside promenade within the Budva Riviera is lined with restaurants selling fresh seafood caught daily from the waters of the Adriatic, ice-cream vendors churning out fresh gelato, and is home to Budva Marina, where tiny fishing vessels vie for attention with giant luxury yachts. ▣

