



My Erasmus in Dubrovnik, Croatia

A Brief Presentation Based on My Experience. (Feb 22-June 22)

Upon Arrival

Pre-Arrival

There's a whole lot of bureaucratic paperwork you'll have to submit to both your University (Tor Vergata) and your Host University (in this case, University of Dubrovnik), but you probably already know about this.

Upon Arrival, How did I get to Dubrovnik

As of personal experience, the trip to get to Dubrovnik was a bit tricky: I had to get a flight from Fiumicino all the way up to Zagreb where I stayed for a few days until I caught another flight to Dubrovnik (There are not many connections between Dubrovnik and the rest of Europe, but still absolutely worth it).



The
Studentski
Dorm, Our
Safe Place



What You'll Find

The Students Dormitory, est. 2020 is one of the most modern dormitory all over Europe.

Almost every Erasmus students will eventually get a room there. It is a huge building composed of three kite-shaped buildings connected to one another on 4 floors; there are 3 shared kitchens per floor, a student canteen, a bar/resturant, a gym and many more services.

Personal experience: you can only rent a bed in a double bed room (you 98% have to share your sleeping space) and the price per month is approximately 200 euros a month, canteen is 1 euro a meal, gym is free of charge.

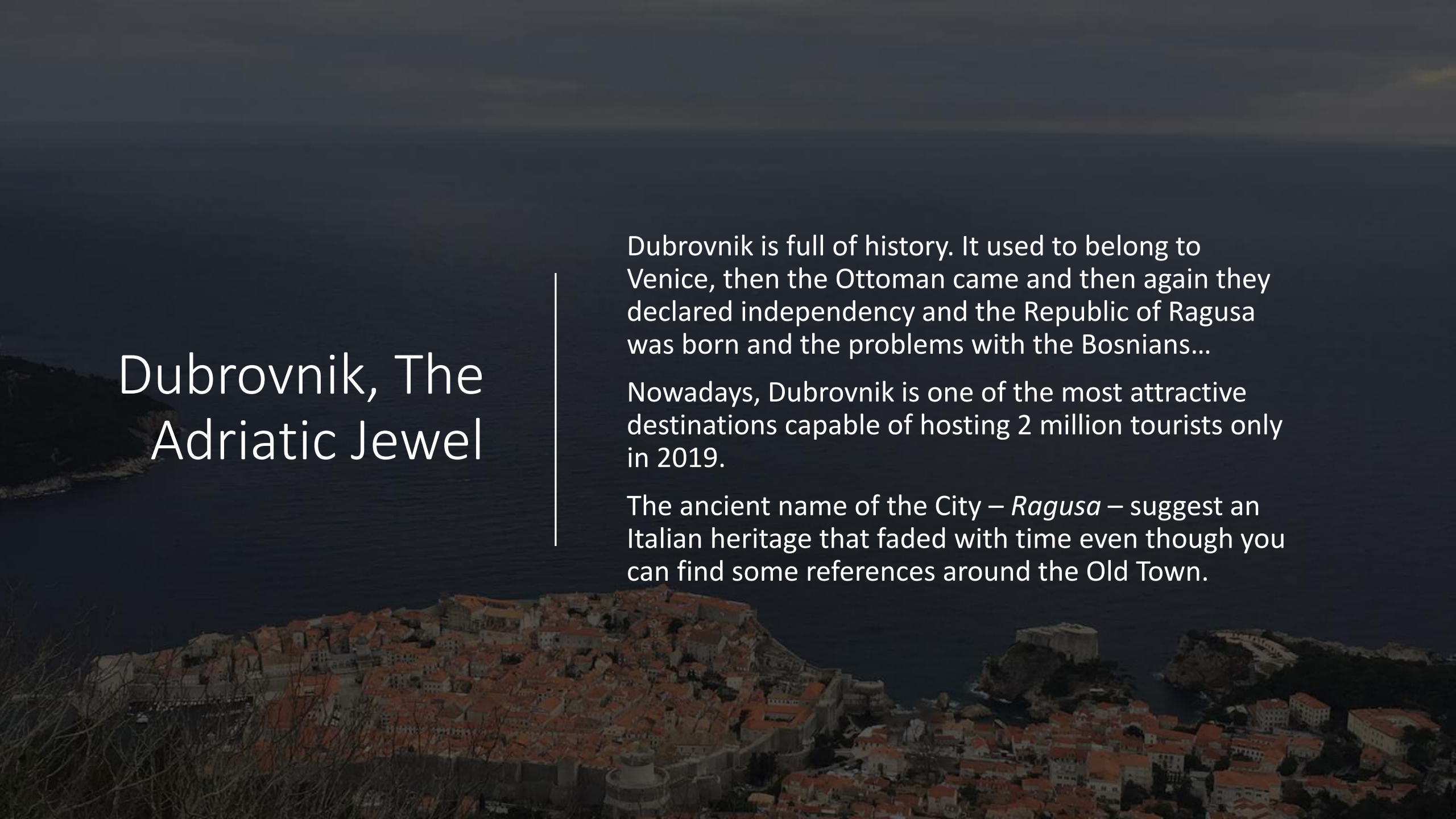


Dubrovnik, The Adriatic Jewel

Dubrovnik is full of history. It used to belong to Venice, then the Ottoman came and then again they declared independency and the Republic of Ragusa was born and the problems with the Bosnians...

Nowadays, Dubrovnik is one of the most attractive destinations capable of hosting 2 million tourists only in 2019.

The ancient name of the City – *Ragusa* – suggest an Italian heritage that faded with time even though you can find some references around the Old Town.





Dubrovnik Observed by a Student

The Capital of Dalmatia is a beautiful strange place. When I arrived there in February there were almost no tourists and it was easier to get around, it was calm even though there were not too many things going on. When high-season came through, it was flooded in tourists (many more as the city should/could host, as from my perspective); as a matter of facts, it was more enjoyable at night when crowded obviously but the visiting got a little more awkward. However, the great wall surrounding the old town is open during high-season only and it's really nice to walk along through (and with the ESN card you don't get to pay for it!).

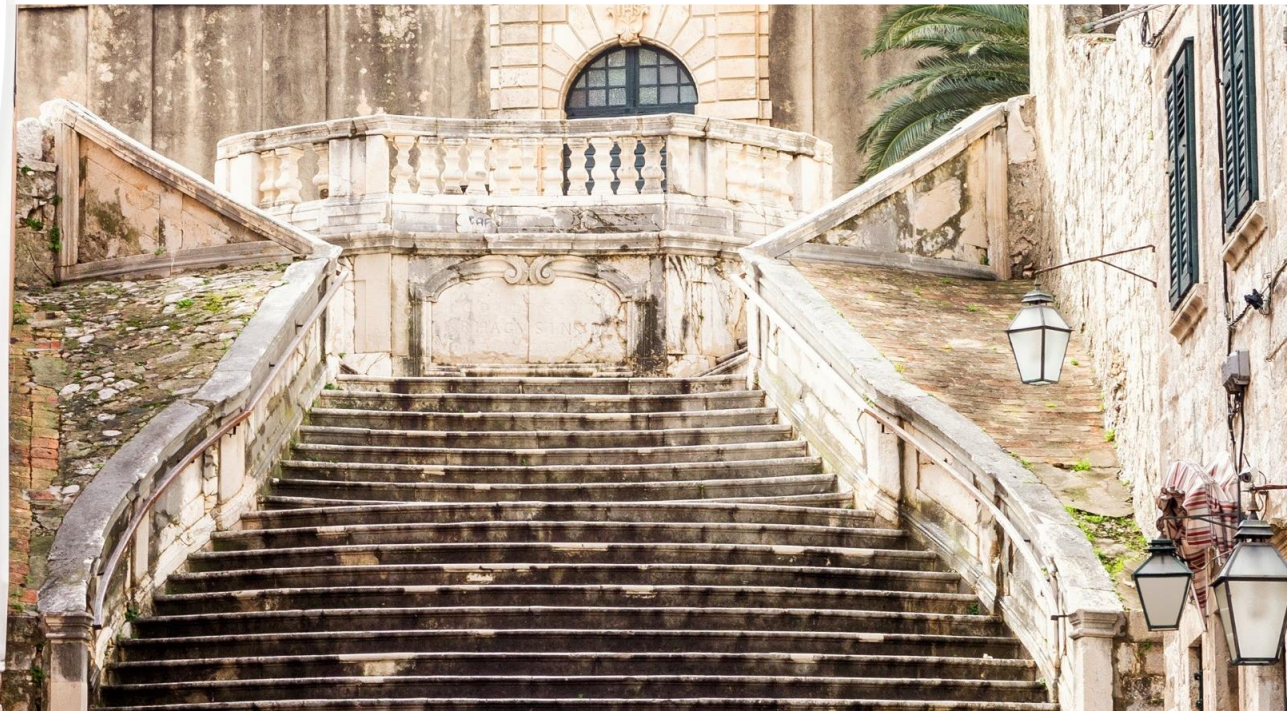
Bonus Perk for Game of Thrones Enjoymers

If you're a GOT fan you might know it. If you don't really care about GOT you definitely won't know that almost the whole TV show is settled all around the Old Town.

The upper picture shows the Stairs of Shame during the shootings; the lower one - yeah you guessed it right - it's still the same place and it's astonishing.

GOT is a big thing in Dubrovnik and locals are proud about the fact that the whole Old Town is featured in such a high recognition TV Show.

I haven't watched it though. I will probably.





Transportation, The Easiest Topic

Cars are not allowed into the Old Town (within the ancient walls) and it makes it perfectly walkable from a gate to another.

The Students Dorm lies at about 20 minutes walking from the Old Town.

In fact, you could get anywhere pretty easily by walking (Note that there's plenty of steep staircases all over the places).

However, if you don't feel like walking, Uber is probably the better choice since it is very very cheap and easy to book.

There are a few bus lines but time schedules aren't very clear and personally I only took the bus a couple of times.



Nights Out in Dubrovnik

As I said, Dubrovnik is not a big city, it does not offer a great variety of pub, night clubs etc.

However, the background image shows the entrance to Revelin Club, a nightclub ranked among the top 10 nightclubs in Europe and it lies right by one of the two Old Town gates.

There are some other pubs (Lazareti nightclub, Invalidi Pub etc.) into and outside the Old Town anyways.





The Erasmus Student Network

Organized Trips

ESN is an international students network that welcomes and assists every single Erasmus student, from the very first days to the end of the project.

Among the many activities, ESN coordinates trips to various locations around the host country.

In the picture, a snap that I took from the top of the ferry back from Korčula Island.





The University of Dubrovnik - UniDu

Last but not least, the University of Dubrovnik is the Institution that made all this possible.

UniDu specializes in Maritime Sciences but most of the students that I met were attending Business Economics and Political Sciences.

Lectures are slightly different from what you're probably used to: there is surely a more direct interaction between students and professors; exams are held in English (no one has to learn Croatian which happens to be not an easy language) and almost every exam includes a Mid-Term Test called Colloquium.



That's About it, Lads!

I'd have so much more to tell that I'm not sure if a thousand slides could do the job; the people I've met, the friends I made, the places I've seen and the situations I've been through that made me grow up, all that is amazing and I'd love anyone to live it the same way I did.

There are a hundred plus alternatives but I chose Dubrovnik (I'll be honest, I don't have a clue on why I chose it) and I've had probably the best time of my life.

Please, contact me for anything you want to know.

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