

# Split - Roman Emperor's Palace

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Split, Croatia  
Monday, May 30, 2016

*Pippin: Are we lost?*

*Merry: No.*

*Pippin: I think we are.*

*Merry: Shh. Gandalf's thinkin'.*

*Pippin: Merry?*

*Merry: What?*

*Pippin: I'm hungry.*

### Friday 27th of May 2016

Up early this morning to get a taxi to the bus station for the trip to Split. The bus trip was planned purely as a means of getting from point "A" to point "B". We didn't expect it to be an event in its own right. The road hugs the Adriatic coast all the way to Split and the view is spectacular. It puts our Great Ocean Road to shame. Anna and Craig who have both been to the the French Riviera are of the opinion that this coastline is even more impressive. Because of the winding nature of the road, the 230 km trip took over 4 1/2 hours. We had to pass through Bosnia-Herzegovina for about 20 minutes with checks of our passports at both border crossings.

The approaches to Split, the second biggest city in Croatia, did not inspire confidence. A lot of Moscow style apartment buildings that looked pretty run down lined the road. Closer to the harbour, the older architecture returned. The bus station is in the centre of the main ferry terminal and it was very busy. We had to find our accommodation up some narrow winding lanes, but thanks to GPS, we were soon in our comfortable apartment "Doris".

After settling in we found a little supermarket to buy some supplies and won over the surly checkout person by thanking her in her own language - "hvala" - which made her smile and start chatting to us. The rest of the afternoon was spent having a quick look at Diocletian's Palace - a Roman remnant that was built in the late 400s as a retirement home for the Roman Emperor Diocletian. It is more than a palace, but a small city in its own right.

For tea, we found a restaraunt down a narrow lane that served us some traditional Croation dishes.

Fine, sunny, 28 degrees. 230km bus ride, walked 6 km.

### Saturday 28th of May

We had a leisurley start to the day before conducting a proper investigation of Diocletian's Palace. As mentioned before, this is a living city - not just a Roman monument existing as a museum. People live here, shop here, and eat here. The original building dates from about 463 AD, but it has been modified and added to massively over the next 1600 years. Superlatives do not adequately describe the impact of this place on your senses. You need to experience it for yourself. After lunch we went our separate ways to explore the surrounding area, Brad and Anna headed to Bacvice Beach - which was very crowded - and had a swim in the Adriatic Sea. Craig headed off the other way towards the marina and Marjan Park.

Craig volunteered to cook dinner and it was a nice change eating in for a change, but we did venture out for some icecream for dessert.

Fine, sunny about 28 degrees. Walked 9 km.

### Sunday 29th of May

The weather started off fine as we had another relaxed start to the day. We decided to get some lunch to pack with us and walk to Marjan Park. This park is on a hill just behind the marina and has been reforested, commencing in 1921. There are a number of small chapels on the hillsides an paths leading to the top. This area has been described as the lungs of Split. The view from the top was worth the climb (173 metres).

After our well earned lunch, we meandered down the side of the mountain to an abandoned hotel resort with a swimming area off the rocks. We had a quick dip to cool off then headed back the Riva for afternoon tea. We made our individual ways back to the apartment looking at various points of interest. We finished the day with another restaraunt meal - topped off with more icecream in Old Town - before returning to our room to prepare for the next move.

A little overcast, 26 degrees. Walked 14 km.

## Pictures & Video

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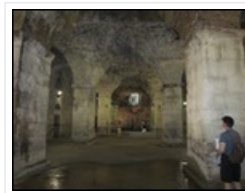
Inside Diocletian's Palace -  
Old Town



Ancient architecture



Textures



Palace Basement



Our apartment



View from Marjan Park



Split Harbour



Top of the hill at Marjan  
Park



Well deserved beach time



Beach on the Adriatic at  
Split



Picnic lunch  
Comments!



Inside Diocletian's Palace - Old Town

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Ancient architecture

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Textures

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Palace Basement

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Our apartment

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View from Marjan Park

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Split Harbour

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Top of the hill at Marjan Park

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Well deserved beach time

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Beach on the Adriatic at Split

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Picnic lunch

Comments:

*You can tell I am a bit hot after the climb up the Marjan Hill.*

— From Anna, on May 30, 2016 at 08:14PM

*Not your happiest face young girl. I'm sure you were up and smiling again pretty quickly though. xx*

— From Jennie, on May 31, 2016 at 12:52AM

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