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# **USEFUL INFORMATION**

See page 92 for a list of useful information, such as telephone numbers and addresses of tourist information centres.

## WWW.INFOZAGREB.HR

# **DISTANCES BY LAND**

Zagreb – Vienna / 375 km

Zagreb - Budapest / 345 km

Zagreb – Venice / 380 km

Zagreb - Belgrade / 395 km

Zagreb - Ljubljana / 140 km

Zagreb – Split / 410 km



# INTRODUCTION

# WHEN YOU KNOW YOU ARE IN THE RIGHT PLACE

FIND OUT MORE



Zagreb is a city with many faces. There is the word-of-mouth Zagreb we just heard about from a friend, the Zagreb in the photos we saw online, or the Zagreb we are uncovering in this brochure.

Everyone has their own experience of Zagreb. Some see it as a vibrant capital and others as a city built on a human scale. People love Zagreb for being green and close to nature, as well as for being a metropolitan city full of opportunities. Zagreb embraces all of these identities.

In one moment it acts like a rather formal institutional capital, only to loosen up in the next and charm you with its laid-back flair. Some of its streets never stop buzzing with metropolitan zest. But turn a corner and you will find yourself in a bucolic alleyway, where the only sound is that of birds chirping away.

Zagreb's street plan betrays the city's multiple identities. The historic centre nestles among hilly meandering streets that blend in with the surrounding greenery. The newer parts of the city are more spacious, with broad avenues ideally suited to the flatlands beside the river.

Zagreb is unfussy about where in the world it is. The map shows it rooted well inland, but the Mediterranean breeze

is never far away, especially in the way the city lives. Zagreb people are easygoing and love spending time with friends, especially outdoors and over food. The southern mindset is so strong in Zagreb that even in the winter months people flock to café and restaurant terraces. Nothing really puts a stop to having fun in the city's streets and squares.

This fusion of Central European and Mediterranean lifestyles makes Zagreb a metropolis where everything is just around the corner. It's in an urban patchwork such as this, where some areas fizzle with energy and others are tranquil and balmy, that everyone gets a piece for themselves. There is no one single Zagreb, and this is what makes Zagreb a singular city.

# **HOW ZAGREB GOT ITS NAME**

According to legend, the whole Zagreb area was suffering from drought. To give people and animals something to drink, an old Croatian duke plunged his sword into dry earth and saw fresh water bubble up. He called out to his soldiers: "Zagrabite!" ("Scoop up!") Then he repeated to the girl who stood close by: "Manda dear, scoop up some water!' The spring, which still stands on the main square, got the name Manduševac after the girl and Zagreb got its name after the scoop of water.

# THE FAMOUS ZAGREB BELVEDERE

Zagreb's longest street Ilica starts at Ban Jelačić Square with an impressive high-rise building built in 1959. It is known as the Ilica skyscraper or simply "the skyscraper on the square". Designed by architects Josip Hitil, Slobodan Jovičić and Ivan Žuljević, this was Croatia's first commercial high-rise and also the first building in this part of Europe to feature a glass facade. Today the skyscraper houses both commercial and residential spaces, including the spectacular belvedere on the 16th floor. The view from there almost covers the entire city.



The 19th-century Croatian hero Ban ("governor") Josip Jelačić is celebrated for abolishing serfdom and organizing the first parliamentary elections. His statue is the centrepiece of Zagreb's main square.

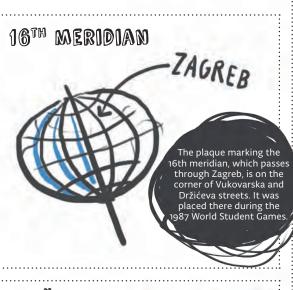
Countless layers of history and memory are woven into Zagreb's main square. In the 18th century, its oldest part Harmica was used as a toll collection point while today the widespread plaza, dominated by the statue of Ban Josip Jelačić (the work of Antun Dominik Fernkorn) is a popular gathering place. Between 1947 and 1990 its name was changed to "Republic Square" and the Ban's statue, which originally faced north to symbolize his defiance against Hungary, was removed. Today, the re-erected Ban is pointing his sword in the opposite direction – towards south, the direction of Zagreb's

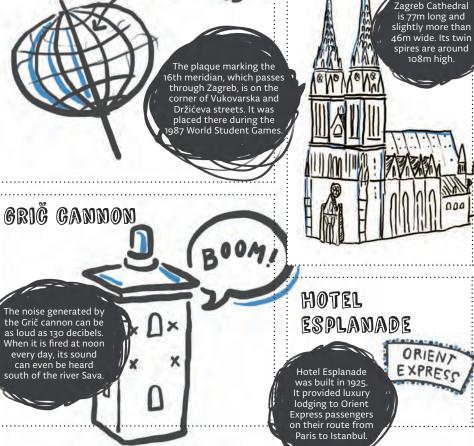
THE MAIN SQUARE THEN AND NOW

expansion. The square is fondly called Jelačić-plac.

# **ABOUT ZAGREB**

# FUN FACTS AND FIGURES





THE TALLEST

BUILDING

# ZAGREB MUSEUMS



museums contain more than 3,6 million exhibits.

# PERCENTAGE OF GROATIA'S POPULATION LIVING IN ZAGREB

According the 2011 census, there are 790,000 people living in Zagreb. This makes up 18.5% of Croatia's population

# GAS LAMPS

introduced in Zagreb in 1863. Today, more than 200 of them are still in use. A lamp lighter lights them in the evening and dims them in the morning. Zagreb is one of only three European cities to have kept this tradition alive.





There are around 4,500 cafés and restaurants in Zagreb. This makes a ratio of 1 café to every 175 inhabitants

# MEET ME UNDER THE CLOCK!

The most popular local meeting spot is "under the clock" on the main square. In a family tradition that goes back six generations, all of the city's clocks are maintained by the Lebarović watchmaking firm. Zagreb's first municipal clocks came from Austria. They were later made locally, but in a style that resembled those from Vienna.



7AGRER

The Zagreb funicular is the world's shortest cable railway used for public transport. The 64-second ride covers a distance of 66 meters.



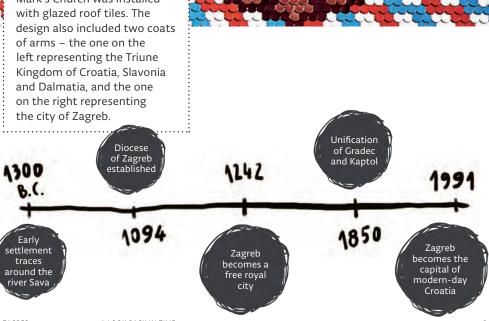
ABOUT ZAGREB

# During renovation work (1876-1882) initiated by architect Friedrich von Schmidt, St Mark's Church was installed with glazed roof tiles. The

FIND OUT MORE



Although the Zagreb area has been inhabited ever since prehistoric times, the first written mention of the city dates back to 1094. This was the year when the Diocese of Zagreb was founded, and the foundations of Zagreb Cathedral were laid. Zagreb began as two settlements perched on neighbouring hills – Gradec (today the Upper Town) and Kaptol. They were divided by a stream that ran along what is today Tkalčićeva street.



ZAGREB A LOOK BACK IN TIME

# **GRADEC AND KAPTOL**

In 1242 King Bela IV of Hungary and Croatia proclaimed Gradec a free royal city allowing its citizens a higher degree of autonomy, including the right to choose a mayor. In return, they delivered on the promise to fortify Gradec with walls and towers, creating an urban layout still recognizable today. The 13th-century design also included several city gates, although the Stone Gate is the only one to survive into the present day. From the very beginning the main square featured St Mark's Church, even though the original was smaller than the one built in its place later on. At the peak of Ottoman expansion in the late 15th and early 16th centuries Zagreb was an important line of defence. Fortified walls and towers were built around Kaptol, many of which still survive today. During the Baroque era many wooden houses were torn down and replaced with opulent palaces. Churches and monasteries sprouted up next to them. The city grew into an important mercantile and craft centre, attracting settlers from all over the Habsburg Empire. The population mushroomed and new schools and hospitals were opened, establishing Zagreb as the economic and cultural hub of Croatia. The unification of Gradec and Kaptol in 1850 served to confirm its growing status. Infrastructure developed fast: the first railway to Zagreb was opened in 1862, the city gasworks were established one year later, and by 1878 Zagreb had its own municipal water supply.



THE GOLDEN BULL OF BELA IV
The Golden Bull, an edict by
which King Bela IV proclaimed
Gradec a free royal city, is kept in
protective plastic in the basement
of the State Archives building.
The document requires strictly
controlled conditions: a constant
temperature of 18-21 degrees
Celsius, and 45-55% humidity.

MAKING HA B

In 1880 Zagreb was struck by a catastrophic earthquake which destroyed much of its historic core, including Zagreb Cathedral. As devastating as it was, the event pushed the city towards unprecedented modernization. New landmark public buildings emerged in a wave of prudent urban planning. The number of inhabitants grew (the population increased tenfold in the 19th century), and the city expanded with new neighbourhoods sprouting up in all directions. From 1917 to 1925 several universities and colleges were established. And in 1926 Zagreb became home to the first radio station in this part of Europe. After the Second World War, the city spread south, across the river Sava, and developed into an industrial centre that attracted even more new inhabitants. In 1991, when Croatia declared independence, Zagreb became the capital and also the largest city in the country.

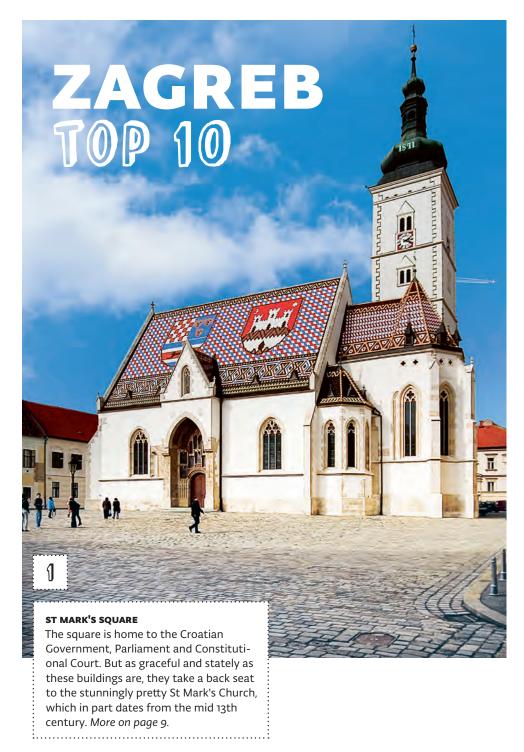


St Mark's Square is the heart of the Upper Town. The building known as Banski dvori, once the residence of the Croatian Ban or governor, is now home to the Croatian Government. On the opposite side of the square is the Croatian Parliament (Hrvatski sabor). Other public buildings located in nearby streets include Zagreb City Council, a Greek-Catholic Church, the Croatian Museum of Naive Art and the Museum of Broken Relationships. Close by is the beautiful complex of Jesuit buildings centred on St Catherine's Church.



# ZAGREB CITY DAY

On 30 May 1731 a great fire broke out consuming even the Stone Gate – one of the main entrances to the city. When the fire was put out a day later, a painting of Virgin Mary was found in the rubble – intact. Since then, 31 May has been celebrated as Zagreb City Day, and the Virgin Mary of the Stone Gate adopted as the patron saint of the city.

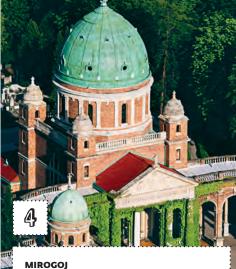






# DOLAC

Zagreb's biggest and most charming farmers' market, Dolac is a colourful display of local fruit, vegetables and quality produce from all around Croatia. More on page 57.



More than a burial ground, this stunning cemetery is also a serene oasis and an open-air sculpture park. More on page 21.



# **FUNICULAR**

The world's shortest cable railway used for public transport, Zagreb's funicular has been connecting the Upper and Lower Towns since 1890.



# MAKSIMIR

Opened in 1794, Maksimir is the oldest and, according to many locals, the most beautiful of Zagreb's parks. It is landscaped in the English style, with several lakes, pavilions, and the accompanying Zagreb Zoo.

More on page 20.







One of the best-preserved parts of Zagreb's erstwhile fortifications, Lotrščak Tower also houses the Grič cannon, which is fired every day at noon.



The northernmost parts of Zagreb lie at the foot of Mount Medvednica – a pristine nature park and a favourite local day-trip destination.

More on page 19.



FIND OUT MORE



Zagreb has favourable weather with plenty of clear sunny days – days which are best spent in one of the many city parks. If you are a nature lover, or simply looking for a place to relax or be active, Zagreb parks are the best places to visit. They are spread all over the city. Some even feature open-air artwork or are themselves a work of art – proof that the best things in life are always free.

and its numerous springs and streams, Medvednica's flora and fauna are exceptionally diverse. The best example of its rich geological past is Veternica cave – one of Croatia's most unique paleontological sites. At a height of 1033 metres, Sljeme summit is a popular local hiking destination, especially on weekends. Marked hiking trails criss-cross the mountain. with charming mountain huts serving as convenient stopovers. They serve excellent homemade food in a cheerful atmosphere.

MEDVEDGRAD
Beautifully preserved medieval

Medvedgrad Castle sits on Mount

Medvednica's southern slopes. It was built after the 1242 Tatar

invasion and this strategic location

today provides a spectacular view

over the city. Inside Medvedgrad's

fortifications there is the early Gothic

Chapel of St Philip and James as well

as the Altar of the Homeland – a

monument dedicated to the soldiers

who died in the Homeland War.



Surrounded by landscaped greenery, Zagreb's largest cemetery Mirogoj is also a wonderful openair sculpture park. The monumental, 500-metre-long Neo-Renaissance arcades, designed by Hermann Bollé, are one of the finest examples of historicist architecture in Croatia. As a burial ground for people of various faiths, Mirogoj is a powerful testament to religious tolerance where the segregation of graves is strictly forbidden. Its sculptures, galleries and pavilions are organically set against the backdrop of nature, offering a unique network of walking





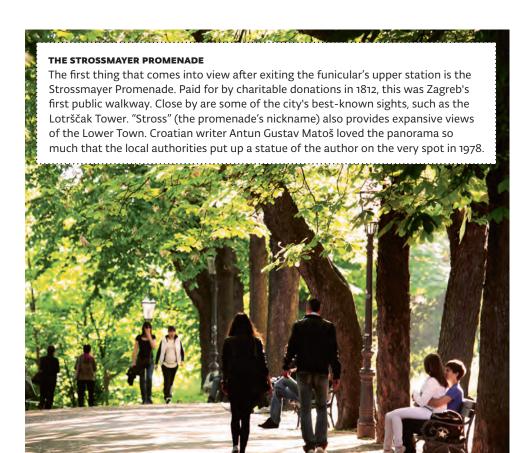


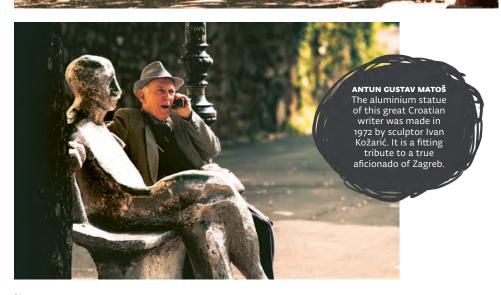
# LENUCI HORSESHOE

This remarkable patchwork of central squares and parks was named after the great 19th-century urban planner Milan Lenuci. The locals also call it the Green Horseshoe because it connects seven delightful parks, including the Botanical Garden. The area features many landmark buildings housing scientific and cultural institutions, ministries, courts, museums, galleries and hotels, as well as Zagreb's central railway station. Although the surrounding buildings have a formal aspect, the atmosphere in the squares and parks is much more laid-back, especially in nice weather. The sun-kissed lawns are then busy with people enjoying a moment of peace and quiet.

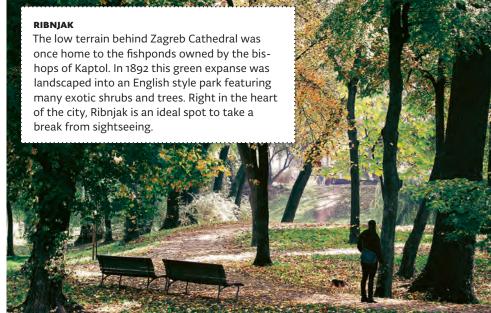
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# **JARUN**

The largest park in the western part of the city, Jarun is also a much-loved recreational zone. It began as a source of construction materials for the embankments built along the river Sava. But when Zagreb hosted the World Student Games in 1987, Jarun was re-purposed as a sports area complete with man-made lake, walking and cycling trails, and equipment for exercise and play. A string of lakeside cafés and restaurants provide the perfect retreat from the urban hubbub. Jarun Lake also hosts international rowing regattas. With long pebble beaches fringing the lake, Jarun is often called Zagreb's riviera.



Stretching between two bridges over the river Sava – Most slobode and Most mladosti – Bundek is a favourite recreational spot for the people living in Novi Zagreb ("New Zagreb"). The park's main assets are its lakes, beaches, cycling and walking trails, a modern children's playground and beach volleyball and handball courts. Also rich in flora and fauna, Bundek is a wonderful refuge from the fast-paced city.

# **GOLF COURSES**

The broader green area surrounding Jarun also boasts golf courses – a perfect activity for warm spring and summer days. Aside from engaging in this noble sport, there are other opportunities for getting together with friends and spending a leisurely day out.







FIND OUT MORE



Falling in love is all about coming across unexpected details – that certain something that makes a street more appealing, a square more unique or a park more ravishing. No Zagreb guidebook can list all the small things that make visitors smile. Everyone is their own curator. Still, some highlights deserve a special mention for easy discovery.



Though Zagreb has a long tradition of markets and fairs, old-style neighbourhood marketplaces aren't always easy to come by. However the one at Britanski trg ("British Square") has stood the test of time. This popular antiques market in the very centre of the city is a delight for collectors, whether amateur or professional, or indeed anyone looking to experience an authentic local vibe.



wholly new identity.



First there was The Grounded Sun, a spherical sculpture created by Ivan Kožarić in 1972. In 2004 artist Davor Preis took things to a new level by setting up an installation entitled The Grounded Sun and Nine Perspectives. This artwork includes all the planets of the solar system, placed at distances that correspond exactly to the scale of Kozarić's original sculpture. The result is smart indeed: the planets of the Zagreb Solar System are scattered all around the city.





The furthest-flung planet of the Zagreb Solar System is Pluto. Placed in Aleja Bologne in the western suburbs, it is precisely 7,658.6 metres away from The Grounded Sun.

# THE CHAINS OF HMS VICTORY

The corner of Opatička and Kamenita streets is marked by a unique relic – decorative chains from HMS Victory, Lord Nelson's flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar. The chains were allegedly acquired by Irish-born Austrian general Laval Nugent, who was not only a soldier but also a passionate archeologist and collector.



# First mentioned back in 1355, The Black Eagle is the oldest pharmacy in the Zagreb region. It is perched at the top of Kamenita street, opposite

**ZAGREB'S OLDEST PHARMACY** 

the Stone Gate. Countless pharmacists have worked there throughout its history, but the most famous of all was Niccolò Alighieri – great grandson of the creator of the Divine Comedy, Dante Alighieri.

# **JURJEVSKA STREET CEMETERY**

Unknown even to many locals, Jurjevska street cemetery started as the potter's field in the 14th century. Back then it was also known as "The Cemetery By The Chestnut Tree". As Zagreb grew in the seventeenth century, more and more Upper-Town citizens were buried here, including several eminent Croats. Finally, in 1876, the cemetery was officially closed down. The remaining graves give the place a decidedly mystical aura.



# A singular addition to the Upper

Town's romantic ambience is the original gas-powered street lighting, with lamps installed on cast-iron pillars. There are 214 of them and they've been illuminating the city for more than 150 years. Even more exceptional is the fact that they're still lit manually by municipal lamp lighters – a ritual that only amplifies the Upper Town's historic mood.



# **ZAGREB SECRET COURTYARDS**

Inner courtyards, especially those in the Upper Town, make up one of Zagreb's defining features. Each is unique with wonders of all kinds – from artwork to architecture and horticulture. Some people discover a particular sense of serenity there, while others enjoy unravelling their enigmatic history.

# **BOTANICAL GARDEN PAVILION**

Constructed a year before the Botanical Garden officially opened in 1891, the garden pavilion is its biggest and most attractive feature. It originally served as the royal Austro-Hungarian pavilion during the second Economic Exhibition, after which it was donated to the Botanical Garden. The backdrop of lush trees and eye-catching flowerbeds only adds to the pavilion's distinctive architecture – with a red-tinged wooden porch coupled with a peculiar green roof.

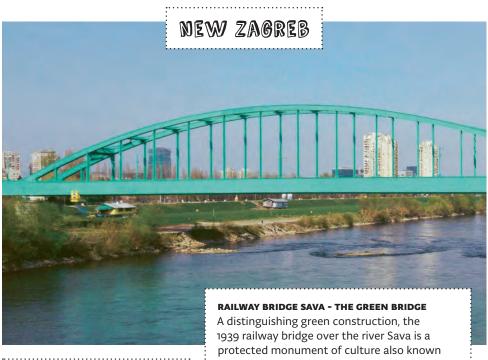




# ZAGREB TUNNELS

The large network of underground tunnels, some stretching as far as Mount Medvednica, remains classified information even to most locals. However, Grič Tunnel, which recently opened to visitors, confirms that there is more to the Zagreb tunnels story than meets the eye. Originally built in 1943 as a Second World War air-raid shelter, the tunnel connects Mesnička and Radićeva streets, with additional exits to Ilica and Tomićeva streets. Before becoming a tourist attraction, Grič Tunnel once more served its primary purpose as a shelter during the Homeland War of 1991-1995.

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# STREET ART

The Zagreb street art scene has exploded in both size and diversity in recent years. A number of talented local artists and collectives are making their mark, enriching the city with exceptional new murals almost on a month-by-month basis. The Dugave neighbourhood in Novi Zagreb was one of the first to get a thorough makeover. Thanks to a project entitled the Museum of Street Art, artists painted a number of walls in this residential area, transforming its visual appeal.

1939 railway bridge over the river Sava is a protected monument of culture also known for the "Hendrix" graffiti that first showed up a few decades ago. Since then, the name of the legendary guitarist reappeared several times, securing the bridge its iconic status with the locals. The decorative lights that were recently added give a brand new dimension to its lasting appeal.





# MAMUTICA

The largest residential building in Croatia, Mamutica or the "She Mammoth" was built in 1974 and still remains one of the biggest in Europe. It contains 1,169 apartments that are home to around 5,000 people. A plethora of parks and green spaces nearby make living in the Mammoth pretty comfortable – so the residents say.



Aside from outstanding art, Zagreb's Museum of Contemporary Art also features a unique attraction entitled The Double Slide. An installation by conceptual artists Carsten Höller it functions as a proper slide, allowing visitors to whoosh down to the ground floor from the upper storeys.

# HRELIĆ (JAKUŠEVAC FLEA MARKET)

This authentically large and chaotic flea market is located some way from the city centre but is easily accessible on public transport. Hrelić is a bargain hunter's delight no matter how little money you've got. Goods on offer range from shoes to books, tools, machinery and even cars. Haggling is a must.



# ZAGREB FAIR

Established before the Second World War when it was located at Savska 25, Zagreb's Trade Fair moved across the river Sava in 1956, soon becoming one of the largest trade fair sites in this part of Europe. Its pavilions are still in constant use, hosting exhibitions and trade fairs of all sorts and sizes. Events range from book fairs to interactive digital exhibitions, business expos and lifestyle fairs.





ages and styles: from ancient Roman and Greek to medieval, from traditional to contemporary, from the expert to the naive, from the brutal to the tender. On top of that, lovers of street art can enjoy a parallel world of the imagination that thrives out of doors and outside official institutions.

FIND OUT MORE



performance art, theatre, film

screenings and even concerts

on the roof.



# ARCHEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Quite apart from being housed in a splendid historic palace on one of Zagreb's prettiest squares, the Archeological Museum is a must-visit attraction on account of its rare and valuable collections. Visitors will be particularly impressed by the famous Linen Book of Zagreb – a strip of linen inscribed with the longest surviving text in the ancient Etruscan language. The recently restored Egyptian mummy is another of the museum's high points.

# CROATIAN MUSEUM OF NAÏVE ART

The permanent collection of this museum includes masterpieces by Croatia's greatest naïve painters and sculptors. Artwork from the renowned Hlebine School is included, alongside pieces by foreign naïve artists active in the period between the 1930s and the late 1980s.



Established in 1846, the museum archives, interprets and displays Croatian heritage from the Middle Ages to the present day.



**ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM** 



# **ZAGREB CITY MUSEUM**

Opened in 1907, the museum recounts the history of the Zagreb region in epic style – from prehistory right up to the present moment. The exhibition offers an eclectic look at Zagreb's past, taking in political events as well as popular culture and the arts. Objects are presented in a visually engaging manner, revealing the richness of Zagreb's history and shedding light on the everyday life of its inhabitants.

# **TECHNICAL MUSEUM NIKOLA TESLA**

A must for every science and technology buff, this museum is also the right address for eager learners. One of the highlights is the replica of Nikola Tesla's laboratory, where visitors can enjoy daily demonstrations of his inventions. The museum also features a 300-metre-long recreation of a mine, portraying the extraction of coal and ferrous and non-ferrous metals.



# **MUSEUM OF ARTS AND CRAFTS**

Since it opened in 1880, the museum has strived to protect artisans and craftspeople from the onslaught of mass-produced goods. This is the best place to explore Croatia's material culture.



to the 20th century. The Mimara

Museum was founded when the

the City of Zagreb.

couple donated their collection to

Museums, and is held

in Zagreb and other

cities across Croatia

# **ART PAVILION**

Originally built to serve as the Croatian Pavilion at the 1896 Budapest Millennial Exhibition, this imposing structure hosts headline exhibitions by prominent international artists. One of the first prefabricated buildings in Croatia, it is today one of the many unmissable attractions along the route of Lenuci Horseshoe.



Housed in the delicate 17thcentury building of a former Jesuit monastery, this gallery focuses primarily on fine arts. It is also a major go-to place for artistic and cultural events. such as high-profile exhibitions, workshops and lectures.

# MORE MUST-SEE MUSEUMS:

# MUSEUM OF TORTURE

- has an interesting and slightly disturbing collection of torture and execution instruments from different epochs

# MUSEUM OF ILLUSIONS

- offers an intriguing and fun experience that engages the senses and plays with perception

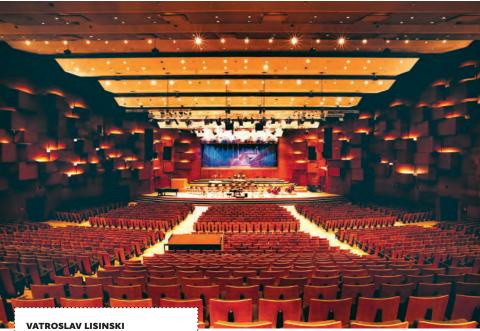
# MUSEUM OF MUSHROOMS

- displays a large number of fungi species coupled with interesting and educational stories

# **MUSEUM OF BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS**

This formerly roving exhibition of donated objects is one of Zagreb's most popular museums. It investigates failed relationships of all kinds by gathering intimate memorabilia from people around the world. The founders are Zagreb artists who were once a couple themselves: the idea for the museum was born when their own relationship ended and something had to be done with their joint possessions. After a successful world tour during which many more objects were donated, the exhibition found a permanent home in Zagreb's Upper Town. It received the Kenneth Hudson award for the most innovative museum in Europe in 2011.

ZAGREB CHITHRE AND ARTS



# VATROSLAV LISINSK CONCERT HALL

Named after the composer of the first Croatian opera, this concert hall is one of the Zagreb cultural scene's premier venues. An impressive number of world-renowned artists have performed here, from ensembles such as the Bolshoi Theatre, the Scala Philharmonic Orchestra from Milan, the Vienna Philharmonic and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra from London, to soloists including Luciano Pavarotti, Jose Carreras and Montserrat Caballé. Apart from the great classical names, Lisinski has also welcomed leading stars of pop, jazz and avant-garde music, such as Nick Cave, Tina Turner and Ella Fitzgerald.



The Croatian Music Institute is housed in an 1876 building, which is also home to Zagreb's oldest concert hall. This is where top-notch chamber music is performed, most notably because of the room's exceptional acoustics.





FIND OUT MORE



Finding fun things to do in Zagreb has never been easier. Every year sees the launch of new festivals and events, with more and more neighbourhoods generating creative energy from outdoor stages. One emerging trend is to hold festivals outside traditional venues such as concert halls and clubs, placing them instead in streets and squares where they can merge with the everyday flow of local life.

neighbourhood, this festival promotes the idea that to act locally one must think globally. For a few days each June, the micro location around Martićeva street turns into a design, art and entertainment zone. During that time, local artists and creatives present their work to the rest of Zagreb and the world. Events showcase creative strategies for improving community living. Coupled with this are promotions of gastronomic and tourist products, outdoor concerts, literary evenings, creative workshops and educational walks – all with the aim of positioning the neighbourhood as a creative hub.

IBLER HIGH-RISE
This oldest highrise in Zagreb was
constructed in 1958 and
is fondly called "the

wooden skyscraper".

# **SUMMER ON STROSS**

One of Zagreb's most popular summer festivals takes place on the Strossmayer Promenade, nicknamed "Strossmartre" in honour of the arty Parisian suburb of Montmartre. It is a great place to listen to live music over a glass of wine and enjoy a gorgeous view of the city. Summer on Stross delights visitors with two events in particular: the most beautiful mutt contest, and a fireworks display celebrating "Half Year's Day".



# **CEST IS D'BEST**

Spring in Zagreb just wouldn't be the same without this international multidisciplinary street festival. By now a defining feature of the city's spirit, Cest is d'Best only takes place outdoors, turning spectators and bystanders into part of the action. Interactive events include various races (such as races between babies, waiters and street sweepers), a sign language school, a slowest bike tournament, a roaming piano and many more. With concert stages and street performers on almost every corner, Cest is d'Best is impossible to miss.



# **DVORIŠTA**

Inner courtyards are a quintessential part of Zagreb's urban scene. However, it's only during the Dvorišta Festival that you get a sneak peek inside some of the most magnificent, especially those belonging to the Upper Town's Baroque palaces. Visitors can enjoy brilliant live music, a great variety of food and drink, and a curious and educational selection of tales from Zagreb's history. Each year a new courtyard is unveiled, creating an exclusive opportunity to experience these intimate city





# **ZAGREB CLASSIC**

This uplifting cultural festival is a summer delight for lovers of all classical music. Held outdoors in the elegant and idyllic King Tomislav Square, the events feature film screenings and live music concerts headed by classical and pop music stars as well as philharmonic and jazz ensembles. Watching an opera or a movie classic while cozied up on a neatly-trimmed lawn makes for a memorable experience.





# **INMUSIC FESTIVAL**

Croatia's biggest open-air event, INmusic has ended up on lists of the world's best music festivals on several occasions. It takes place every year in June on three islands in Jarun Lake, where visitors can also camp out for several days. The bill frequently features music stars, many of whom have performed at INmusic more than once. Every year the electric atmosphere is enhanced by a surprise ingredient, such as a stage set deep inside a forest or a spectacular replica of Tesla's tower.



# During the charming Zagreb Time Machine festival you can share an encounter with Croatia's first woman journalist Marija Jurić Zagorka, or exchange words with Croatian writer Antun Gustav Matoš. **ZAGREB TIME MACHINE** From April to October Zagreb Time Machine hosts a variety

# THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

This unusual project uses temporary light installations to bring life to various Zagreb locations, paying special attention to those that have been neglected or underused. The events are set up to facilitate deeper interaction between the city, its inhabitants, and visitors.

# THE OPEN SQUARE DAY

Intended as an event that offers an insight into the activities of various cultural and educational institutions located on the Republic of Croatia Square, the Open Square Day also marks the beginning of the Zagreb cultural Autumn. For that one day, this entire area is a stage for different attractive cultural programs, such as ballet, opera and theatre shows performed by the artists of the Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb.

of music, dance and theatre performances across the city with the aim to depict the city and its surroundings as they once were. Every weekend during that time, "kumica" women are dressed up in traditional costume. characters from Zagreb's history stroll around in period attire, promenade concerts are held in Zrinjevac park and the Cravat Regiment performs the changing of the guard - plenty to conjure up Zagreb's rich bygone days.





Established in 1972 and taking place in June, Animafest is in many ways a tribute to the Zagreb School of Animated Films, one of the most influential forces in global animation - especially back in the 1950s and 60s. Nowadays Animafest is a leading showcase for the best animated shorts and feature films from around the world. Every other year the program focuses on either short (even years) or feature animated films (odd years). Come June, Zagreb audience awaits in anticipation for both.



to savour some intriguing

film titles, the audience is

some extraordinary open-air

locations, such as the impo-

treated to screenings at

sing Medvedgrad Castle.

# SUBVERSIVE FILM FESTIVAL

An internationally-renowned forum for political, social, economic and cultural dialogues, the festival also offers a great selection of screenings, lectures and round table discussions. It takes place every May.

# ZAGREBDOX

One of the largest international documentary film festivals in this part of Europe, Zagrebdox is also where ideas and opinions are freely exchanged. The atmosphere of creativity and inclusion is ideal for bouncing ideas around and getting new projects started. Visitors can also attend documentary film workshops and round-table discussions. Zagrebdox takes place every year in the period between late February and early March.

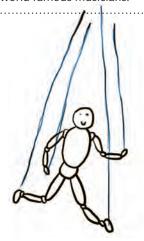






# JAZZ.HR

This umbrella festival has brought together various events already present on the Zagreb jazz scene. The autumn and spring editions feature a fantastic line-up of Croatian as well as world famous musicians.



# PIF - INTERNATIONAL **PUPPET THEATRE FESTIVAL**

and unusual insight into Zagreb's history.

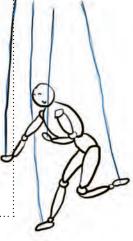
Stories revealed include the city's little

known secrets, romances and intrigues,

performed both in Croatian and English.

Launched by local Esperanto enthusiasts, this festival has established itself as an important platform for the best in the world of puppet theatre. Every September, puppet masters from around the world attend PIF. The main programme is also coupled with a symposium on puppetry, puppet exhibitions, workshops and charity events.

· ·



# THE GOLDEN PIROUETTE OF ZAGREB

The Golden Pirouette of Zagreb is an important fixture in the senior figure-skating calendar. It first took place in 1968, making it the oldest such meeting in the world. Leading international figure skaters compete here in the men's singles, ladies' singles, pair skating and ice dancing categories.

# HANŽEKOVIĆ MEMORIAL

Fondly dubbed "Hanžek", this athletics meeting first took place in 1958 and initially had a local character. In 1999 however the event was classified as an international Grand Prix meeting by the IAAF (International Association of Athletics Federations), and in 2009 became a regular part of the IAAF World Challenge series. At the end of each summer, it gathers leading athletes from around the world.

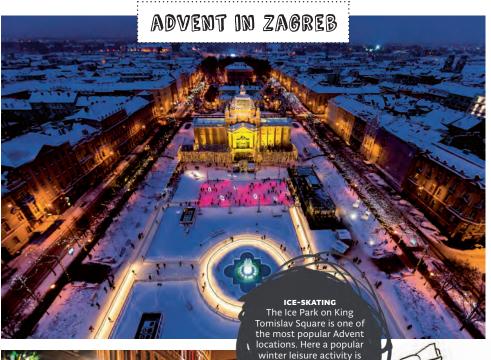


# **ZAGREB MARATHON**

The first Zagreb Marathon took place in 1992 with only 70 participants making it to the starting line. Today thousands of runners register, partly because this is one of the world's fastest marathon races. The route features very few curves and hardly any gradients, thereby allowing for a steady rhythm and the chance of recording a good time. The Zagreb Marathon has become increasingly popular with casual runners, especially after the introduction of a half-marathon. It is held every October.

# **SNOW QUEEN TROPHY**

First held in 2005, this Alpine Skiing World Cup event features slalom races at the top of Mount Medvednica. Every January it gathers skiers and spectators from both Croatia and abroad. One of the Snow Queen Trophy's distinguishing features is its close proximity to the capital city. It is also the only race whose winner is awarded a handmade crown.





Zagreb Advent begins when the first Advent candle is lit, after which the fun begins to flow out into the streets. Christmas Market stalls flood the city, attracting visitors with delicious food, which ranges in style from local classics to international fusion.





This is the best place to do Christmas shopping. As well as offering delicious holiday food, market stalls are stacked high with handmade souvenirs including gingerbread hearts (licitari), local honey cookies and many other goodies that can only be found in Zagreb.

A live nativity scene is set up in front of Zagreb Cathedral, and each of the city's squares has its own unique ambience. Zrinjevac Park is for enjoying a waltz or listening to choirs singing carols, while King Tomislav Square attracts throngs of skaters with its magnificent Ice Park. Every year Advent in Zagreb is a bit different – new locations and events are constantly popping up, ensuring additional elements of surprise and delight.





FIND OUT MORE



Eating and drinking isn't just part of our daily routine, it's something to be enjoyed, seriously and without compromise. Choosing among Zagreb's bountiful restaurants, bistros, bars and cafés is no easy task, but at least this dilemma is a rather sweet one – or savoury, if that's what you prefer. Regardless of the spice, the food is always fresh.

# **DOLAC MARKET**

Zagreb's largest farmer's market, Dolac, is the belly of the city and the social glue of its citizens. Back in 1930, when the market first emerged in what was then an age-battered residential area, few believed that Dolac would become the must-visit place both for fresh food and a bit of a chinwag. Initially the market concentrated on produce from local farmers and nearby villages. Since then, Dolac has grown into a gastronomic heaven flaunting food from all over Croatia. It's the place to buy Zagorje cottage cheese and cream, mandarins from the Neretva valley, lemons from the island of Vis, Istrian olive oil, cherries from Zadar and Slavonian-reared meat. The stalls on the upper, open-air level of the market are decked out with characteristic red parasols featuring a striped motif that is typical of the Zagreb region. Immediately to the north, Petrica Kerempuh Square hosts a colourful flower market.

# ZAGREB KUMICA

Women from nearby villages who have traditionally sold their produce at Dolac are called "kumica". They are the heart and soul of the market, replenishing it daily with their fresh fruit, vegetables, eggs, corn bread and dairy products. A statue of a "kumica" standing at the market's entrance pays tribute to their indispensable role.

As all capital cities, Zagreb is a meeting place of diverse cultural influences - some simply spilling over the border and others arriving from far away. Dishes with German-sounding names reflect Zagreb's Central European connections, but countless Mediterranean and Middle Eastern recipes have also taken root in the city. The cuisine of today's Zagreb is rich and varied with a little bit of something for everyone. Gracing the city's menus are various types of international and ethnic fare as well as east-west fusion, haute cuisine, and plenty of quality street food. Traditional home-cooked meals, however, are what make the everyday life of Zagreb folk all the more special. Those that follow are true, time-honoured classics.

# **FARMERS' MARKETS**

Zagreb locals love smallscale shopping at farmers' markets. The city boasts 25 markets in different neighbourhoods, all of which sell fresh produce from around Croatia.



Just as soup is the usual starting point of every Zagreb meal, the starting point of every good soup is its stock. Which is why "grincajg" – a bunch of vegetables containing carrot, parsley, celery and kale - is the most sought after article at every market. When it comes to soup, grincajg is the difference that makes the difference.



# **TURKEY WITH MLINCI**

The secret of this Zagreb feast-day dish is in the slow roasting and frequent basting of the turkey. A compulsory side dish is "mlinci", a type of flatbread traditionally eaten in Zagreb and its surroundings. The dough for mlinci is made of wheat flour, water and a pinch of salt. The mlinci are baked on a hot plate, then softened with boiling water and served with turkey juices and dripping.



This age-old classic dessert is a mainstay in many Zagreb homes. When grated apples, spiced with cinnamon and a drop of rum, are rolled inside sheets of filo pastry, the final results smell and taste heavenly. Each home has its own way of preparing this dish - just don't expect them to give away any secrets.

# **WINE ROUTS IN AND AROUND ZAGREB**

Wine lovers are unlikely to go thirsty in Zagreb. The city and its surroundings abound with attractive wine routes - there's even a vineyard in the city centre, hidden away between Tkalčićeva and Radićeva streets. Otherwise Zagreb-city wine country begins in the eastern outskirts, stretching from the Gornja Dubrava neighbourhood towards Sesvete. Although little known, this suburban wine area is well worth exploring for those eager to seek out some truly heavenly surprises. The wine routes of Zagreb County, embracing Samobor, Plešivica and Sveti Ivan Zelina, have already made a name for themselves and make excellent day trip destinations.

# ST MARTIN'S DAY

Vineyards and wine cellars all around Zagreb County bustle with activity on St Martin's Day in mid-November. This is when the young wine is blessed - although tasting and enjoying the mature version is not neglected either. Zagreb locals use this opportunity to leave the urban hubbub behind and relax with local winegrowers in celebrating the fruits of their labour.



A dish for every occasion, "štrukli" come sweet or savoury, boiled as well as baked. They can be served as a starter, main course, dessert, or even dunked in soup. In Zagreb, the most popular way to eat this cult dish - made of filo pastry, cottage cheese, cream and eggs – is with savoury cheese filling, baked.

# STREET FOOD FESTIVALS

There is no shortage of street food and street food festivals in Zagreb. Bistros and eateries around the city serve a great choice of bites all year round. However Zagreb street food is at its best during the numerous outdoor festivals that take place in the city's parks and squares. Many of these festivals pair up street food with another leisure activity or cultural theme. One such example is an event that mixes gastronomy with film, allowing visitors to munch great food and catch some big-screen entertainment





# **COTTAGE CHEESE AND CREAM**

For centuries this traditional product has travelled from nearby farms to the tables of Zagreb locals. Cottage cheese and cream can be paired with various vegetables, depending on the season and occasion. There is even a traditional Zagreb way to buy it at the market – from your own "kumica". Many families get to know the woman who makes and sells it and this ritual exchange may indeed be passed down from one generation to the next.

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FIND OUT MORE



Finding entertainment in Zagreb has never been easier. Day or night, there's an increasing number of going-out destinations, all of which makes Zagreb a richer and more open city. Some of these places are among the most interesting entertainment spots in this part of Europe. Shopping in Zagreb also comes high on the list of things to do. Given the sheer variety of attractive products, from fun gifts to cool designer artefacts, it's difficult to leave Zagreb without a souvenir.

PENKALA
When Eduard Slavoljub Penkala patented the mechanical pen in 1906 and the fountain pen in 1907, he became one of Croatia's most famous inventors. His breakthroughs brought him fame, and also

put Zagreb firmly on the global innovation map.

gners have taken a whole new approach to souvenirs. They are continually thinking up attractive ways of designing objects which are practically useful, rooted in local experience, and at the same time serve as mementos of Croatia. Several Zagreb shops are defying the trend towards mass-produced memorabilia by showcasing a discerning collection of locally-designed souvenirs that will help you cherish the memory of Zagreb for a long time.



# **GINGERBREAD HEART**

Originally given as a token of love and friendship, the gingerbread heart (or "licitarsko srce" as it is known locally) is one of Zagreb's best-known traditional souvenirs. Its distinctive appearance and artisan production have ensured its inclusion on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage List.





## ESTINE LIMBDELLA

This bright red umbrella adorned with a colourful motif is the symbol of Sestine – a village nestling at the foot of Mount Medvednica. Its characteristic appearance has become a popular part of Zagreb's visual identity. The Sestine umbrella is a mainstay in most shops around the city and makes for a wonderfully authentic souvenir. Stalls at Dolac Market are shaded with parasols carrying bright red Sestine motifs.

# **PAPRENJAK BISCUIT**

The traditional Zagreb
"paprenjak" biscuit is a
unique fusion of sweet
and peppery flavours.
August Šenoa's novel
about 16th century Zagreb,
The Goldsmith's Treasure,
mentions it as one of the
locals' favourite treats.
Today a popular souvenir,
it is stocked in shops all
around Zagreb.



# **CROATIAN TIE**

It may have been the French aristocracy who elevated the necktie into a popular fashion accessory, but it was Croatian soldiery in the Thirty Year's War who wore it first. Today this popular item of clothing is the quintessential Croatian souvenir. It comes superbly crafted and in various attractive designs.

# YOUNG FASHION DESIGNERS

New names are constantly popping up from Zagreb's flourishing fashion scene. A growing number of specialized concept stores are displaying locally designed collections. Whether it is for uniquely tailored clothes or unconventional household accessories, a trip to one of those outlets makes for an exciting adventure.





# **ZAGREB ARTISANS**

Zagreb abounds with traditional craftspeople who continue to successfully compete with global brands. Family-run boutiques produce everything from custom-made shoes to leather accessories, tailor-made suits and stylish hats of enduring quality. Alongside these shoemakers, tailors and milliners are a host of studios where artists and contemporary artisans produce unique and original handicrafts.



# **SHOPPING CENTRES**

Zagreb shopping centres are strategically located around the city to provide easy and convenient access to a wide range of goods. They offer a practical way of shopping in many stores, all in one place.



# **OUTDOOR FUN**

Warm weather in spring and summer coaxes locals and visitors out of doors. Park lawns and benches are busy with people, many of them meeting friends to spend a few hours on a picnic blanket. This is the peak time for Zagreb's open-air food and music events, when a chance to have a drink or hear an up-and-coming band awaits just around the corner.

# ALTERNATIVE MUSIC SCENE

The origins of the Zagreb alternative music scene go back to the 1970s, when several cult clubs began to make their name. The tradition is as alive as ever with topis full of surprises!





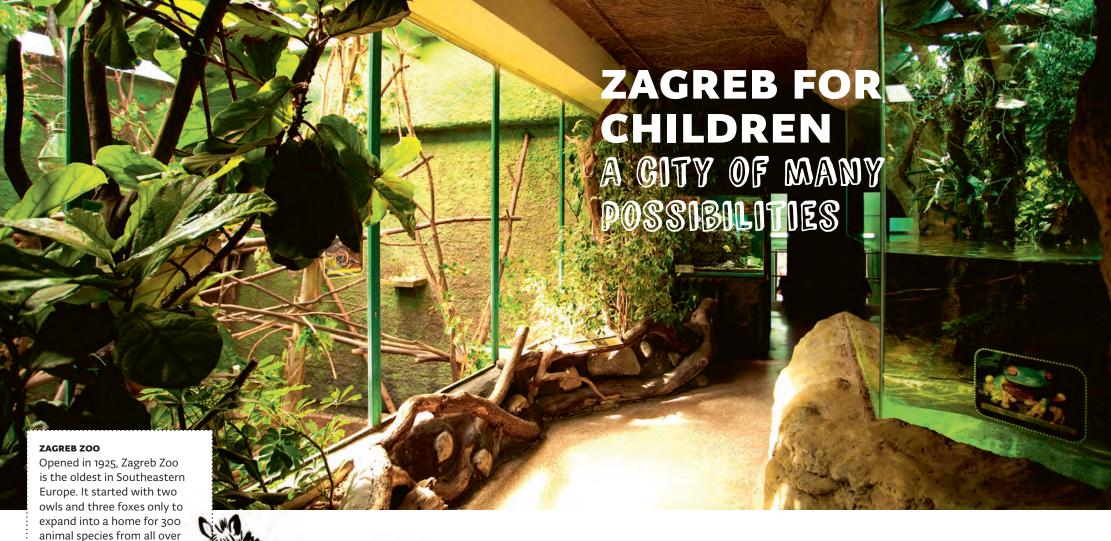
# **CAFÉS AND BARS**

Conventional city-centre coffee shops blossomed overnight into concept cafés and bars. Impeccably designed and with discerning drinks menus, few locals or visitors can resist their charms.

# MIXING ART AND FUN

Different forms of culture have always combined well in Zagreb, and a mix-and-match approach to the arts is something of a local trademark. There are fusions of all kinds, from live music in galleries and museums to educational programmes incorporating a strong degree of entertainment. Many of these events take place in conventional venues, but there is also no shortage of outdoor or pop-up spaces. It is not unusual to start the night at a gallery opening and





Many visitors dream of returning to Zagreb and children are no exception. This is no surprise as Zagreb brims with outdoor and indoor playgrounds. The city makes a special effort to cater for kids, with events specially tailored to their taste. Museums run special kids' programmes, and children's theatres have a rich repertoire of plays for everyone from toddlers upwards. All this makes Zagreb an ideal travel destination for families with children.

FIND OUT MORE



the world. Zagreb Zoo is known

programmes which teach chil-

dren positive attitudes towards

hands-on experience of biology

and environmental protection.

for developing educational

nature, and also give them

# CHILDREN'S THEATRES Children's theatres have a long history in

Zagreb. Most local people have fond memories of seeing a play or going on a school trip to a children's theatre. Spread around Zagreb, these theatres are easily accessible to children from all neighbourhoods. There is always something fun going on: an intriguing play or a compelling journey into the world of imagination and creativity.

### **PLANETARIUM**

The Technical Museum Nikola Tesla is the ideal stop for astronomy fans. Located on the first floor, the Zeiss Planetarium was built in 1965 and is a thrilling experience for all those looking to expand their horizons.



## **MUSEUM OF ILLUSIONS**

A great way to take a break from conventional museums or indeed from reality in general is to visit the Museum of Illusions. Here nothing is as expected: upright things become slanted; small things grow into big things, or simply multiply into infinity in the "mirror room". The museum playroom allows visitors of all ages to compete in solving puzzles and learning new tricks and games.

### **CROATIAN NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM**

With a vast permanent and interactive collection of (mostly stuffed, pickled or digital) animals, this museum never fails to impress children. Absorbing workshop events invite kids to dive into biology and genetics, setting them up to be true DNA detectives. Some of the museum's educational programmes are specifically designed for preschool children.



### **CROATIAN SCHOOL MUSEUM**

Ever since opening in 1901 this museum has collected, researched and displayed a rich array of materials on the history of education in Croatia. Visitors can explore historic teaching materials and school equipment. There are also collections of documents and photographs that conjure up what going to school was like in the past. Throughout the year, the museum hosts numerous educational workshops to show children that learning can be a fun exercise in doing things together.

# BACKO MINI EXPRESS

Thanks to a zealous team of model railway enthusiasts, Zagreb now boasts the largest model railway layout in Southeastern Europe. It includes well over 100 items of rolling stock, rattling their way along 1,050 metres of track, passing through tunnels, towns and stations on their way.



ZAGREB 7AGRER FOR CHILDREN



consists of trams, buses and the funicular. All are distinguished by their distinct blue livery. The tram network covers most of Zagreb, and is particularly useful in the city centre. Outer neighbourhoods are connected by bus.

There is no better way of getting around Zagreb than by hopping on a tram. Apart from being one of Zagreb's trademark features, trams are a quick and easy mode of travel. Zagreb takes pride in being a city made to human measure. It is compact and easily navigated, and nowhere takes too long to reach. Most attractions are close at hand and it is up to you to take your pick with the help of this guide. With these suggestions, you will make the most of your time even if you are here on a short visit. You can always leave the rest until the next time.

FIND OUT MORE



## 09.00 — 10.30

Start exploring the city from Ban Jelačić Square. Visit Dolac Market perched above the north side of the square and continue on to see Zagreb Cathedral. With its conspicuous, 105-metre-high twin spires, it is hard to miss. Just up the road are some handsome townhouses built for leading clergy in the 18th century.

### 10.30 — 12.00

Walk along the charming Opatovina street and take a moment to enjoy a cup of coffee or a glass of local craft beer. Make a turn into Skalinska street to reach one of the most popular streets in Zagreb - Tkalčićeva. From there, climb Felbinger stairs towards Radićeva street where you will see a small terraced vineyard. The Stone Gate, one of the city's landmarks, awaits at the top of the stairs.



Head towards the Croatian National Theatre, which is surrounded with several scientific and cultural institutions. From here you can make a start on the Lenuci Horseshoe by heading south through Mažuranić and Marulić Squares until you reach the Botanical Garden. Walk through or alongside the garden to the east and you will soon reach the central railway station and the beautiful King Tomislav Square. Follow this green trail through Strossmayer Square until you finish your journey at the popular Zrinjevac Park. With delightful fountains flanking the Music Pavilion, this square has a special place in the hearts



### 12.00 — 14.00

Zagreb's Upper Town is dazzling no matter which route you take to explore it. But it is worth being at Lotrščak Tower at high noon when the Grič Cannon is traditionally fired. Visit the central St Mark's Square, but also take time to tread the many lovely alleyways which epitomize the Upper Town's charm. Take note of several noblemen's palaces and have a sneak peek inside their beautiful courtyards.



# 14.00 — 16.30

Hop on the funicular and descend towards Zagreb's oldest street – Ilica. Apart from numerous boutiques and restaurants, Ilica also boasts some remarkably elegant architecture, mostly dating from the 19th century. Meander towards Petar Preradović Square (also known as Flower Square) where café terraces serve as the locals' outdoor living room. Nearby Teslina and Masarykova streets are teeming with shops, cafés and restaurants, and are perfect places for a short break.



### 19.00 — ...

By now it's time for a rest. By now you will have seen enough of Zagreb to pick the right place for a night out. Maybe have a drink and a bite to eat in Tkalčićeva, Opatovina, or Teslina?





Sticking around for three days allows you to enjoy a much fuller experience of the Zagreb way of life. This gives you enough time to explore the city's highlights, make a local café your own and learn to navigate the tram network. You could even venture out on a day trip to the surrounding countryside. However you choose to travel, Zagreb has plenty to offer.







# VARAŽDIN (87 KM / 65 MIN) The beautifully preserved Baroque town of Varaždin once served as the capital of Croatia. Numerous patrician mansions are a

reminder of that time, as well as Varaždin Castle. fortified to resist Ottoman expansion. Varaždin's charming Old Town has a large pedestrianized area with a number of attractions, including engrossing museums, alluring parks and an outstanding theatre. Every August Varaždin livens





## VELIKI TABOR (70 KM / 72 MIN)

This 15th century castle is now a compelling museum boasting unique Renaissance furnishings. A number of rare artworks were also uncovered during the last bout of restoration. Veliki Tabor hosts the acclaimed Tabor Film Festival, dedicated to short films.

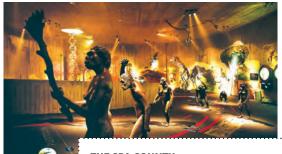


### TRAKOŠĆAN (80 KM / 70 MIN)

Of all the castles of the Zagorie, Trakošćan in the northwest is the most famous. It dates back to the 13th century when it was only a small fort on a hill. In the 19th century, the noble Drašković family transformed it into a romantic aristocratic residence surrounded by lush woodland and a boating lake. The castle interior is in excellent condition and offers a unique insight into 19th-century tastes in interior decoration.

### **KRAPINA (60 KM / 50 MIN)**

Krapina is famous for being home to Europe's largest Palaeolithic site. The fossil bones found in the area belonged to the Neanderthals who lived here 30,000 years ago. Their story is told by the multi-media displays of the Krapina Neanderthal Museum



## THE SPA COUNTY (50-115 KM/60-100MIN)

The area north of Zagreb is rich in thermal water and has a long tradition of wellness tourism. The newest and most stylish resort is Sveti Martin spa with the biggest aquapark in Croatia and a wellness centre covering an area of 1,700 square metres. In Zagorje, healing thermal waters are a capital feature of Varaždin, Krapina, Stubica and Tuhelj spas. Apart from swimming, these spa and wellness destinations offer other types of fun, such as various sporting activities and an excellent range of gastronomic and cultural experiences. This mix of fun and relaxation makes them a great choice for family travel.



# NORTH

## MARIJA BISTRICA (40 KM / 50 MIN)

Every year thousands of Christians visit this well-known Marian pilgrimage site. The beautiful church of Our Lady of the Snows features the 15th-century statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the Infant Jesus. It was saved from the Turks by a local priest who died before revealing its hiding place. Many years later, the statue was found because of its glowing light which is believed to have healing powers.





### KUMROVEC (60 KM / 60 MIN)

As well as being famous as the birthplace of Josip Broz Tito, the village of Kumrovec also incorporates the unique open-air ethnographic museum of Staro Selo. The collection features original 19th-century Zagorje houses with thatched roofs. On display inside the houses are everyday objects and tools used by the peasants from the region. Also on display are recreations of traditional shops and craft workshops. There is even an opportunity to have a go on a pottery wheel.



The countryside east of Zagreb is distinguished by sweeping plains and vast areas of unspoilt nature. Rising up in between are gentle hills where winemaking has flourished since the times of antiquity.

# ANDAUTONIJA (15 KM / 26 MIN)

The sleepy village of Šćitarjevo was once an important Ancient Roman town. Built in the 1st century AD. it was at the intersection of trade routes in the Sava valley. Today, the archeological site is an attractive park where visitors can stroll along historic cobbled streets and marvel at the underfloor heating of the former public bathhouse. Every year in April, the Days of Andautonija include Roman-themed events and experimental archeology workshops. Ancient food and drink recipes are revived and children can take part in Roman-themed games.

# LONJSKO POLJE (116 KM / 110 MIN)

Croatia's largest area of wetland, Lonjsko Polje is exceptionally rich in flora and fauna. This protected wildlife habitat is also a wonderful cycling destination where visitors can lodge in traditional wooden houses. Nature lovers flock here between April and August when more than a third of Croatia's white stork population returns from Africa. Each house in the village of Čigoč shares a roof with at least one storks' nest. When they return in the spring, most bird couples nest in the same spot as they did the previous year.



# nature turns more dramatic: mountains are bigger, forests are thicker and the landscape looks more rugged. Lakes and waterfalls are the high points of this breathtakingly SLUNJ (105 KM / 95 MIN) beautiful area. Slunj is the perfect stop-off the way from Zagreb to the Plitvice Lakes. It is dramatically set above the river Korana. where the Korana's tributary Slunjčica powers a group of traditional water mills in the suburb of Rastoke. Visitors can walk through the picturesque labyrinth of canals and wooden bridges or stop for a lunch of freshly caught trout in one of many rustic riverside restaurants. Rafting trips on the fast moving waters of the Korana are also available – a true highlight for adventure



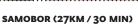
One of Croatia's landmark wonders of nature, Plitvice Lakes National Park is famous for its arresting waterfalls and turquoise-tinted lakes. It is also home of Čorkova Uvala, the prettiest virgin forest in the Dinaric Alps. The entry fee to the park also includes boat rides on the park's biggest lake and free use of the electric train that connects the principal beauty spots on the eastern side of the park.

# WEST

# PLEŠIVICA (45 KM / 50 MIN)

The name of both a village and the hills that surround it, Plešivica is a celebrated wine-growing region where connoisseurs can explore countless wine routes. Although Plešivica is very much an all-year-round destination it attracts most people in October, when it is time to taste the local Portugizac – a fruity red wine that is best taken while young.





One of the best-preserved historic towns in inland Croatia, Samobor is a favourite weekend outing for Zagreb folk. Traditional arts and crafts are among the town's main attractions, although it's the scrumptious "kremšnita" cream cake that garners most in the way of visitor attention. Samobor is particularly lively in early February during carnival time (locally called "fašnik"). The main square and all surrounding streets teem with people, some parading in masks and costumes and others enjoying the spectacle.





destination for the Austro-Hungarian elite.

from Zagreb to reach the broad Adriatic bay known as the Kvarner Gulf. The route itself is a scenic one, passing through the dramatic Gorski Kotar region. Verdant green mountains are sprinkled with bucolic villages where a strong sense of local tradition has been preserved, especially when it comes to gastronomy. Nothing surpasses the moment when the mountains end and the Adriatic Sea suddenly hoves into view. The islands of Krk, Cres and Lošinj are the gems of the Kvarner Gulf.

# **ACCOMMODATION**

more than just a bed for

THE NIGHT



FIND OUT MORE

OLDEST HOTEL
Opened in 1827,
jägerhorn is the
oldest stil-operating
hotel in Zagreb.

FROM HERITAGE HOTELS TO
YOUTH HOSTELS

Accommodation in Zagreb is wide-ranging and has something to suit everyone. The choice includes five star hotels. international hotel chains. characterful hostels and a variety of rental apartments. A number of heritage hotels offer unique tradition while boutique hotels and quirky hostels rely on a creative and individual approach. All of the above provide a high standard of service and represent ideal starting points in getting to know the city.



# GETTING AROUND

# USEFUL INFORMATION (

### **ARRIVING TO ZAGREB**

One of Zagreb's many advantages is its location. The city is anchored between Central and Southeastern Europe as well as the Adriatic Sea, thus making it an important transport hub. Travelling by plane or land, Zagreb provides easy access to all major Croatian cities as well as the capitals of neighbouring countries. The airport is located 15 km from the city centre and can be reached by bus or taxi. Zagreb's central railway station is only 10 minutes walk or two tram stops away from Ban Jelačić Square. The main bus station is also close to the centre, to which it is well connected by tram.

### **VISA REGIME IN CROATIA**

Information about the visa regime between Croatia and all other countries is available from the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. www.mvep.hr

### FRANJO TUĐMAN AIRPORT

Information: o6o 32o 32o www.zagreb-airport.hr
Timetable for buses operating between Airport and the main bus station: www.plesoprijevoz.hr

### **MAIN BUS STATION**

Avenija Marina Držića 4 Information: 060 313 333 www.akz.hr

### **CENTRAL RAILWAY STATION**

Trg kralja Tomislava 12 Information: 060 333 444 www.hzpp.hr

### ZAGREB CARD

There are two types of Zagreb Card: a 24-hour and a 72-hour one. Both include free public transport and entry to six top attractions as well as discounts for 70 other points of interest, such as museums, restaurants, shops and many more. Detailed information is available at www.zagrebcard.com

# MAIN POST OFFICE Branimirova 4

Mon - Sun: 07:00-24:00

### **MEETINGS & CONVENTIONS**

Zagreb is the main convention centre in Croatia. With the increasing number of conventions, conferences and other types of gatherings taking place in Zagreb, the city is earning a reputation as one of world's favourite destinations of this kind. Zagreb's main advantages are a large number of both contemporary and historic venues, an exceptional range of hotels, rich gastronomic and cultural experiences and high-profile professional people. On top of that, Zagreb is a pleasant compact city with all major attractions easily reached on foot. More information is available on www.meetinzagreb.hr

### MONEY

Croatian currency is called Kuna (HRK). Currency denominations include: Coins: 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 Lipa; 1, 2, 5 Kuna Notes: 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1,000 Kuna 1 Kuna = 100 Lipa

Money can be exchanged at exchange offices, banks, post offices and hotels. Most retailers and service providers in the hospitality industry accept credit cards.

WEATHER

Zagreb has a moderate
continental climate with four
separate seasons. Summers
are usually hot and dry with
average temperatures between
20-25 °C. Winters are fairly cold
with average temperatures
between 1-5 °C. The warmest
months of the year are July and
August while the coldest are
January and February.

### **ELECTRICITY SUPPLY**

**LOCAL TIME** 

GMT +1 hour

Croatian

**OFFICIAL LANGUAGE** 

220v, 50Hz. Standard European two-pin plug.

### WATER

Tap water in Zagreb is safe for drinking.

### **NATIONAL HOLIDAYS**

1 January - New Year's Day

**6 January** – Epiphany or Three Kings' Day

Easter

Easter Monday

**1 May** – Labour Day

30 May - Statehood Day

Corpus Christi

22 June - Anti-Fascist Resistance Day

**5 August** – Victory and National

Thanksgiving Day and Croatian Veterans' Day

**15 August** – The Assumption of Mary

1 November - All Saints' Day

**18 November** – War of Independence Remembrance Day and Vukovar and

Škabrnja Remembrance Day

**25 December** – Christmas

26 December - St Stephen's Day

### **IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

112 General Emergency

**192** Police

193 Fire Brigade

194 Ambulance

11802 International Information

**18981** General Information

**0800 53 53** Zagreb Tourist

Information (free when dialled from within Croatia)

### INTERNET

There are more than 20 Wi-Fi hotspots around Zagreb that offer free internet provided by the city wireless network. Their number is growing by the day.

### **TOURIST INFORMATION**

### **Visitor Centre**

Trg bana J. Jelačića 11 tel. +385 1 48 14 051, +385 1 48 14 052, +385 1 48 14 054 e-mail: info@infozagreb.hr www.infozagreb.hr

### **Visitor Centre**

# Franjo Tuđman Airport

Ulica Rudolfa Fizira 21, Velika Gorica tel. +385 1 6265 091 e-mail: airport@infozagreb.hr

### **Tourist Info Centre Lotrščak Tower**

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Strossmayerovo šetalište tel. +385 1 48 51 510 e-mail: lotrscak@infozagreb.hr

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