

Instant Zagreb

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Introducing Zagreb

Zagreb is a wonderful city that beckons the traveller from all over the world. It's neat, tidy streets, colourful parks and Hapsburg sense of grandeur make it one of the most popular Central European destinations of the moment.

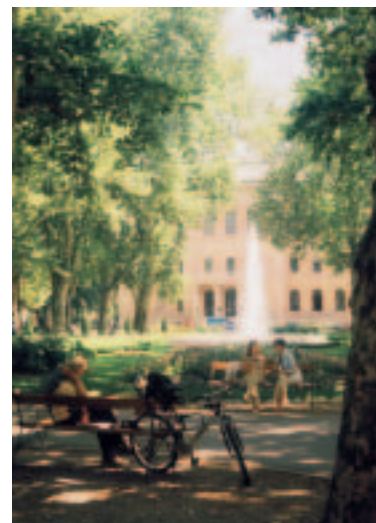
Home of some fabulous shops, some of the continent's best coffee, Zagreb is the perfect destination for the jaded traveller.

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Instant Zagreb

This small .pdf guide has been written to aid the traveller to Zagreb who doesn't need or want to carry an encyclopedia-sized guidebook around in their pocket. A bold experiment in travel writing, the best (and the worst) bits of Zagreb have been boiled down and generally condensed into one fun-sized read for the lightweight traveller.



Electricity

Electricity prices became a hot topic this year when the government decided to raise them. After enraged Croats protested across the country, the tariff was grudgingly lowered to HRK 0.55 from HRK 0.60 for 1 kWh. A two-tier price system means electricity is 28 Lipa cheaper per kilowatt after 11 pm, which explains why you've been kept awake by the spin cycle of that washer in the flat above you.

Religion

Religion continues to be a dicey subject in this neck of the woods. Despite endless pressure from the international community (the EU in particular), Croatia has still not updated its archaic Minority Rights Act, the current version of which everyone finds reprehensible. The country is almost entirely populated by Roman Catholics – 87.83% according to the 2001 Census. A high degree of intolerance seems to persist towards Serbs and the Roma population, though not as visibly in urban areas.

Local time

Zagreb is in the Central European time zone at GMT+1hrs. Daylight saving time falls between the last Sunday of March and the last Sunday of October.

Visas

Citizens from Europe, North America and South America are allowed into Croatia without a visa. Everybody else needs a visa which must be obtained before entering the republic - you can't do this at any Croatian land border. For the complete list visit www.inyourpocket.com or contact the **Consular Department of the Croatian Foreign Ministry** at C-2/3, Trg N.Š. Zrinjskog 7-8, tel. 456 99 64, fax 458 17 95, www.mvp.hr.

You are required by law to register with the police, a matter taken care of by hotels, hostels and campsites. If you're staying with friends you have a 24 hour period to complete some paperwork at the police station (tel. 92) - be sure to bring your passport! And no, the police won't hunt you down should you fail to register with them, it merely saves you a lot of headache if you should find yourself in trouble while you're in Croatia.

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Arriving

Arriving in Zagreb is actually rather easy. The airport is a little way out of town, but the other arrival points are slap bang in the centre of the city.

By plane

Zagreb's Airport (*Zračna luka Zagreb*) is 17km out of town and is quite miniature. **Changing currency:** The Zagrebačka banka office has a currency exchange (Open 07:00 - 21:00) and an ATM outside international arrivals. There's also an exchange in the post office (Open 07:00 - 21:00) in the centre of the airport and a Privredna banka Zagreb kiosk (Open 07:30 - 19:30. Closed Sun.) in the domestic arrivals hall. **Calling home:** Purchase a phone card at the newsstand, *Prodavaonica novina*, (Open 05:00 - 23:00) located in domestic departures - there are phones all over. In the domestic departures hall there is an **information centre** which is open 24 hours. The **toilets** are in the centre of the airport across from the post office and come with a baby changing stations; those on the top floor are less crowded. **Getting to Town:** Croatia Airlines runs a bus service from Zagreb Airport to the bus station (*autobusni kolodvor*). It costs 25kn and takes about 30min. You can catch a taxi in front of the international arrivals for 150-250kn.

By bus

Unlike other bus stations in Central Europe, the (*E-4*), Zagreb bus station (*autobusni kolodvor*) is a pleasant, even welcoming place. The ground floor is home to a number of shops where you can buy anything from bed linen to a cup of coffee, while the top floor is home to a post office (open 07:00 - 21:00) and a chapel. There are two 24-hour cafés in the station: Buffet Stop is located in the waiting



Tourist information



C-2, Trg bana Josipa Jelačića 11, tel. 481 40 51, 481 40 52, fax 481 40 56, info@zagreb-touristinfo.hr, www.zagrebtouristinfo.hr. Great helpers! **Open 08:30 - 20:00, Sat 09:00 - 17:00, Sun 10:00 - 14:00.** Also at **C-2, Trg Nikole Šubića Zrinjskog 14, tel. 492 16 45, fax 492 16 47. Open Mon, Wed, Fri 09:00 - 17:00, Tue, Thu 09:00 - 18:00.**

area and Inch is to the right of the ticketing hall. For more than a greasy *burek* and a beer try Café Bar Bus (Open 05:00 - 23:00, Sun 06:00 - 23:00) right next to Inch. Pivnica Zagreb (open 05:00 - 23:00) is also an option, where meals are about 30kn. **Changing currency:** ATMs are in the main hall next to the ticket office and outside the building along Avenija Marina Držića. There is also a 24-hour currency exchange (*Mjenjačnica*) in the ticketing hall. **Calling home:** The Tisak kiosk (Open 24hrs) sells phone cards and is up the small staircase and to the right of the main hall. Public phones are in the main hall or you can climb the large staircase to the top floor. **Left luggage:** Abandon your bags in the *Garderoba* (Open 24hrs) up the staircase to the right of the main hall for 1.20kn/hr. **Getting to Town:** Tram N°6 (Črnomerec) gets you to Trg Jelačića. Taxis are plentiful and cost 40-70kn. The walk is 2km northwest.

By train

The train station, *Glavni kolodvor*, sees more traffic than other points of entry into the city. **Changing currency:** When exiting the tracks walk through the main hall to find an ATM in the left corner. A currency exchange and ATM (Open 24hrs) are in the international ticketing area. **Calling home:** In the main hall there are numerous kiosks that sell phone cards. The Tisak kiosk (Open 05:00 - 23:00, Sun 06:00 - 12:00, 17:00 - 23:00.) has the best working hours of the bunch. Public phones are located in the halls to the left and right of the main hall. The **information office** (tel. 060 33 34 44. Open 06:00 - 10:00, 10:30 - 18:00, 18:30 - 22:00) is located between the main hall and domestic ticketing area (to your right as you exit the tracks). The **left luggage facilities**, *Garderoba*, are available 24 hours and are to the left of the main hall as you exit the tracks. Each piece of luggage costs 10kn/day. **Getting to Town:** Directly in front of you is Trg kralja Tomislava. It's only a five-minute walk past three tree-lined parks in a row to the main square, Trg Jelačića. Tram N°6 (Črnomerec) or 13 (•tnjak) also take you there.

Restaurants

Fish may reign in Zagreb, but the last years have brought immense variety to the dining scene. Between genuine sushi bars and real ethnic establishments there are also weaker attempts at exoticism, and prices aren't as low as one would expect. Tipping has become more expected, and 10% seems like a fair cut. Figures indicate the average cost of a main dish only. Here's a list of our favourites.



Atlanta C-1, Tkalciceva 65, tel. 481 38 48. Its place towards the end of Tkalciceva is quiet and less populated, well suited to the romantic dinner you've been planning with that special someone for months but haven't gotten around to. The ambience is quiet and romantic with service that serves with a delicate hand. Professional and classy. **Open 12:00 - 01:00. 30-80Kn** ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞

Baltazar I-2, Nova ves 4, tel. 466 68 24/466 68 08, fax 466 68 25, www.morsko-prase.hr/baltazar/baltazar.htm. This is a great stop for those of you who want to see what high-end yet traditional Zagreb dining is about. The setting, service and your meal all come together brilliantly and make you very happy to be here. **Open 12:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun. 55-125Kn** ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞

Gallo B/C-3, Hebrangova 34, tel. 481 40 14, fax 481 40 13, gallo@zg.hinet.hr, www.gallo.castellum.hr. Totally fresh and new to the scene, it's a pleasant addition for its delectable feeding options and a seating scenario (terrace!) that kicks tush. Near to the Croatian National Theatre, it's well suited to a quality meal of business or pleasure. **Open 11:30 - 24:00.**

Gustek D-3, Augusta Šenoa 1, tel. 481 15 06. A perfect post-business cool down, you're sure to be pleased by the service staff that is a well-oiled machine. Your Croatian connection here is mildly thrilling, the continental dishes showing you why the public-at-large is so quick with their smile. Classy and spendy. **Open 12:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun. 85-120** ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞

Hrvatski kulturni klub B-3, Trg maršala Tita 10, tel. 482 80 84, tel./fax 482 69 16, hkk@asker.hr, www.asker.com/hkk. Your meal is in the moderate range both in taste and price but the service and atmosphere - easy like Sunday morning - are excellent. Outdoor seating is pretty cool unless it's blazing outside (which it always seems to be these days). **Open 10:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun. 45-95Kn** ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞

Kaptolska klet C-1, Kaptol 5, tel. 481 48 38/4814330. The outside seating -woody and dark wood - is absolutely flawless, the spires of the Cathedral almost near enough for you to impale yourself upon. Your meal is a mixed of grilled meat, starch and vegetable and is quite pleasing. **Open 10:00 - 24:00. 55-95Kn** ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞

Klub književnika (Writer's Club) C-2, Trg bana Josipa Jelačića 2, tel./fax 481 22 90. Famous writers have been making this their meeting point for years and it's easy to see know: the view of Trg Jelačića is conducive to great brainstorm sessions, the meal a well prepared essay and the bill a surprising poem of love and understanding. **Open 12:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun. 65-115Kn** ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞

Paviljon

C-3, Trg kralja Tomislava 22, tel. 481 30 66, fax 4841073. When you're attempting to put out a vibe of classy and well cultured this becomes an essential component. A great mix of continental and seafood offerings, its location on Trg kralja Tomislava seems to sing out "looks like we made it". **Open 12:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun. 65-125Kn** ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞

Vinodol

C-2, Nikola Tesle 10, tel. 481 13 41/481 14 27, fax 481 13 43. Their grilled dishes are hard to beat, and they're especially well known for their lamb meal. A great place to try some of the traditional goodies, its outdoor dining opportunity is perhaps the best in the centre of town, with candle-lights flickering as you move from anxious and disagreeable to smooth and charming (finally). We highly recommend this one. **Open 10:00 - 24:00. 50-95Kn** ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞

Seafood

Antica

C-1, Kaptol 27, tel. 481 21 87. A new member of the Zagreb seafood community, you'll be delighted with its cozy and small dining room and a staff of friendly faces. Your meal is certainly Adriatic in nature, is expertly prepared and will have your tummy giggling in no time. It's a good one for a friendly or romantic meeting. **Open 11:00 - 23:00. Closed Sun.**

Vegetarian

Magea D-2, Martićeva 31, tel. 455 06 90, fax 461 36 48, mageao@zg.tel.hr, www.magea.hr. A club that claims to be a centre for the biotic survival of man, you'll undoubtedly last a few more days than you would have after a meal here. Part of a worldwide organization and philosophical crew, membership is meant to be required - your simple meal may in fact be a life changer. Get healthy! **Open 12:00 - 17:00. Closed Sat, Sun.**

Sirion D-2, Derencinova 1, tel. 455 30 88. Who could know that this would be such a delightful stop? Though it is on the spendy side (all the ingredients are imported) you'll be impressed with the amount of flavour included in a meal despite the fact that meat is not involved in any way. The service is very friendly and relaxed. **Open 12:00 - 17:00. Closed Sat, Sun.**

Zdravljak Nova B-2, Ilica 72/1, tel. 484 71 19, fax 484 71 17, makronova.centar@zg.tel.hr. Their lunch menu is exquisite, offering up succulent, healthy and very satisfying combinations of goodies. Service is the warm teddy bear you've been looking for since early childhood. The health food store attached makes home cookin' delicious and healthy. Head up the stairs to the first floor. **Open 12:00 - 22:00. Closed Sun. 30-55Kn** ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞ ☞

Fast food

McDonald's, Jurišićeva D-2, Jurišićeva 3, tel. 481 37 08, www.mcdonalds.com. Open 08:00 - 24:00, Fri, Sat 08:00 - 01:00, Sun 09:00 - 24:00. 10-35kn ☐☎☒

Subway C-2, Ljudevita Gaja 1, tel. 483 53 98. second place: Subway-Tratinska 1, tel: 611 28 95 Open 09:00 - 23:00. 15-45kn ☐

MC Picek C-2, A. Cesarca 2, tel. 481 30 03. Open 00:00 - 24:00. 10-25Kn

Nepoznata životinja (unknown animal) M-3/4, Miramarska 26, tel. 611 91 87. We think the name says it all. Open 07:00 - 23:00. Closed Sun.

Pinguin Sandwich Bar C-2, Nikole Tesle 7, tel. 481 14 46. Open 09:00 - 02:00, Sat, Sun 09:00 - 03:00. 12-25kn ☐

Zeleni balon (Green baloon) A-2, Vinogradska 5. Open 07:00 - 22:00. Closed Sun.

Azzurro

B-2, Dežmanov prolaz 1, tel. 481 23 91/ 481 23 92. This restaurant features well-prepared dishes from the coast and an enormous fish tank that allows you to imagine your meal's lifestyle before it found its way to your plate. A little expensive and professional, it's well-suited to a business meeting.

Barka I-2, Nova ves 84, tel. 466 78 08. At the end of Nova ves, it has that unmistakable air of mystery that will intrigue you like a dog in full-sniff mode. This is a great spot for the new lovers out there, for it's dark and somehow makes those pheromones of yours more pleasing. Open 11:30 - 24:00. 80-130kn ☐☎☒

Dubravkin put B-1, Dubravkin put 2, tel. 483 49 70, fax 481 98 82, mail@dubravkinput.com, www.dubravkinput.com. The freshest seafood this side of the Bermuda Triangle, the service staff walks you through an evening of pure pampering and high class. A great place to get the romance back into bloom, it's the winner of numerous awards and the setting couldn't be any more picturesque. Open 11:00 - 24:00. 85-150Kn ☐☎☒☒

Jadran K-2/3, Kralja Zvonimira 124, tel. 231 67 45, fax 233 55 66, mladen.prka@zg.tel.hr, www.asker.com/jadran. As colourful as a rainbow poking through the clouds, Jadran brings joy to you for its superb service and exquisitely prepared dishes. Worth the short jaunt. Open 10:00 - 23:00. Closed Sun. 55-115Kn ☐☎☒☒☒☒

Karaka C-3, A. Hebranga 12, tel. 481 71 50, karaka@crotours.com, www.crotours.com/karaka. A great wine list and expertly flavoured seafood pairs with a questionable interior to make this a moderate to solid experience. Open 12:00 - 23:00. 50-115kn ☐☎☒☒

Konoba Čihoco D-3, Pavla Hatza 15, tel. 481 70 60, fax 461 71 24. Close to the Sheraton, the service is very friendly and the seafood obviously came from the sea. Open 08:00 - 24:00, Sun 12:00 - 24:00. 65-90kn ☐☎☒☒

Korčula C-2, Nikola Tesle 17, tel. 487 21 59. Locals claim it's supremely authentic and its centre town location couldn't get any more convenient. The ambience is a bit worn and uninspired. Open 08:00 - 23:00. ☐☎☒☒

International

Boban C-2, Ljudevita Gaja 9, tel. 481 15 49, damir.jurkovic1@tel.hr, www.asker.com/boban. Locals flock to it in hordes as do international dudes. The reason? Its location in the centre of the centre and an ambience of unadulterated fun. Your meal is mediocre and yet satisfying. A sense of the communal can be... sensed. Open 10:00 - 24:00. 40-85Kn ☐☎☒☒

Cantinetta C-2, Nikole Tesle 14, tel. 481 19 21/ 481 13 15. A can't miss for its expertly prepared dishes and professional, warm interior, Cantinetta has a powerful international feel of professionalism. No unkind words are ever heard to be said about this place, though it is a little spendy. Handy location. Open 10:00 - 23:00. 55-120kn ☐☎☒☒

Fontana Mediterranean Buffet D-3, Kneza Borne 2 (Hotel Sheraton), tel. 459 91 58, fax 455 30 35. A better than solid buffet in the heart of that five-star wonderland known as Sheraton. Oh yes, business dudes are on the prowl and certainly believe they're chancing the world. Open 06:30 - 23:00. 130-185Kn ☐☎☐☒☒☒

Kralj Tomislav D/E-3, Kneza Borne 2 (Hotel Sheraton), tel. 459 91 60, fax 455 30 35. The traditional den of manly classiness in Sheraton hotel, its a better than just good meal served to you in hushed undertones and with very serious eyes. Well suited to business people. Open 19:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun. 85-135Kn ☐☎☒☒☒☒☒

Marcellino B-2, Frankopanska 22, tel. 481 17 14. A Mediterranean offering, your meal is undeniably fresh and tasty... it's also miniature and very expensive. The staff seems to be in the awkward "learning to be professional" phase. Business people worship this place, especially as a lunch time

Spice of life

Cuban B-3, Perkovičeva 2, tel. 482 61 03. Had your fill of the Croatian and Italian that dominates you into submission in these parts? Then give the **Havana Club** a try, you'll be singing in a happy (and perhaps drunken) stupor in no time. The wait staff is as friendly and helpful as they come and your view of the Latin culture is perhaps one of the most provocative in all of town. Great grilled meats; the cigar themed decoration takes it to the next level. Open 12:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun. 55-100kn ☐☎☒☒

Indian C-1, Opatovina 19, tel. 481 43 05. **Maharadža** is a place that brings us tears of joy every time we re-discover it, for it's so darn good it feels like the first time every time! With an impressive array of Indian options including a number of superb curries, the cooks know how to satisfy your tummy bored with the same old crap. It's well-spiced and will have you sweating in no time. The interior gets you into relax mode immediately. Open 12:00 - 23:00.

Japanese C-1, Nova Ves 17 (Centar Kaptol), tel. 486 05 30, fax 486 05 31, www.takenoko.hr. The Takenoko sushi bar is a brilliant and very new addition to the dining scene in town. It boasts an extensive sushi and wok specialty menu and bonus, if you're a little unsure about these things the menu defines things for you! The open interior is in the art-design category that will trick her into believing you're high-class. With a great wine list, *sake* and a restroom so cool it can easily double as your free dessert, we think you'll be quite thrilled if this is the one you chose. Open 12:00 - 01:00, Sun 12:00 - 18:00.

Bars

Cocktail bars

Hemingway B-1, Tuškanac 1. Nope, your fancy trainers won't cut it here, dahlings. In fact, your plimssoles won't even make it past the door. This is Zagreb's most opulent drinking hole (we are told to believe) where bartenders with slick moves (remember Tom Cruise in cocktail?) make a mean Mai-Tai.

Indy's B-1, Vranicanijevo 4. Trendy and very fun, it's in Gornji grad and will make you happy your lungs and heart are so thoughtless and consistent in their motion. The drink menu is perhaps the broadest in the entire city - bring your wallet and ATM card. Open 09:00 - 23:00. ☐

Papaya D-1, Schlosserovo 2, tel. 455 06 60. With all the charm of the Tiki room at Disneyland, you'll be thrilled by this little guy just north of the centre. The essence of stylish summer fun, its Thursday after-work party is especially joyous. Party Exotica on Friday: we're talking hot and exciting here people, including an exotic mix of food and drinks. Open 08:00 - 02:00, Sat and Sun 8:00 - 04:00.



Pubs

Godot A-4, Savska 23, tel. 484 34 77. Near to the student centre, the crowd tends to be on the young and hip side. The numerous Guinness posters lining every crevice pummel you into the realisation that there's a British theme involved, though generally the crowd is exceptionally local. Open 07:00 - 23:00, Sun 08:00 - 23:00. ☐

Hole In One C-2, Vlaška 42. Right in the centre, it's only a year old and boasts a pretty cool interior. An international crew makes this one of their favourites, perhaps a result of their solid pub menu of fried goodies. You'll wonder if there's a hole in one (or more) of your bottles of beer - guzzling is easily accomplished in this place.

Kaptol C-1, Kaptol 4, tel. 481 30 20. If the homemade sculptures of Hendrix, Monroe, Elton John don't move you to joyous tears, the mix of disco, 70s rock and roll, funk and top 40 music certainly will. The booths are amazingly uncomfortable and were apparently designed for dwarves. Open 08:00 - 24:00.

Londoner C-1, Kaptol 11, tel. 486 02 31. Suckling from the bosom of the city's most modern mall, live music and a trendy crowd of diverting age ranges makes this a curious hangout. It's open tremendously late (alcoholics take note) and often features a live band. Open 08:00 - 04:00, Sun 09:00 - 04:00. ☐☒☒

Beer gardens

Pivnica Medvedgrad A-4, Savska 56, tel. 617 71 10, www.pivnica-medvedgrad.hr. The producers of five of their own beers, the massive beer mugs at Pivnica Medvedgrad guarantee you leave the establishment in an altered state of some sort. Very near the student centre, impressive displays of youths on the bungee abound. The wooden feel of the place is especially conducive to bringing out the guzzling side of your personality. Open 09:00 - 23:00.

Stara Tkalcia C-1, Tkalčićeva 70, tel. 481 32 35. Well located at the end of Tkalčićeva, you'll put a few more into your belly here for certain. Slavonian eating options too, though waiters practically refuse to bring you a menu and will push you into the *mixte grille*, a plate of meat the size of a small piglet, which is exquisite. A fun stop for food, drink and the crowd. Open 10:00 - 24:00.

Oliver Twist C-1, Tkalčićeva 60, tel. 481 22 06. The centre of all things cool on the beloved Tkalčićeva street, if you're not wearing your hottest gear don't even think about it. Locals and expats think this place is delightfully wicked and fun - the jukebox helps to emphasize these attributes. Great outdoor seating. Open 09:00 - 04:00. ☐

Ex-pat haunts

Bulldog - Belgian Beer Café C-2, Bogovičeva 6, tel. 481 73 93. An infamous ex-pat hangout, this pub cum café cum bar is a constant traffic jam of *kava* drinkers. It's also a great place to continue plumbing the depths of your beer mug when all other pubs and bars have padlocked their doors for the night. The premises are a labyrinth of rooms and levels, designed to make you socialize as much as possible. Open 08:00 - 23:00. ☐☒☎☒☒

Hard Rock Café C-3, Ljudevita Gaja 10, tel. 487 25 48. Not just hard rock, and not only a café, the one has picked up on the American and British rock and roll theme art for certain. Music is usually tremendously loud and could easily rupture weak ear drums. Open 09:00 - 01:00.

Melin Monroe C-1, Tkalčićeva 47. The mis-spelling of the name will suck you in like a super-powered vacuum cleaner. From there it's the counter-cultural and alternative crowd that may have been into drama in high school that brings you back again and again. Open 08:00 - 23:00. ☐

Gay & Lesbian Zagreb

She's a traditional city and has a way to go, of that there can be no doubt. The following are **informal meeting places** you can go if your sexual boundaries go outside the mainstream: **David D-3, Mrazovičeva 9.** Massage, Finland sauna, meeting place - very friendly and open. **Glob@l Club D-3, Open 11:00 - 04:00, Sun 16:00 - 01:00.** Operates in a spirit of tolerance; a great club. **Kupalište Diana B-2, Illica 8.** Bath house, sauna. **Information/online magazines:** www.cro-lesbians.com www.gay.hr/magazin www.iskorak.org www.decki.com www.zamir.net

Clubs

From standard bars to more mature music clubs and raging discos, Zagreb has no problem providing nightlife. The town is small enough to cover on foot, and most locations are central.

Aquarius H-5, Aleja mira bb, tel. 364 02 31, www.aquarius.hr. If you're looking to shake that thang this is the surest bet. As the weather gets more and more delicious this place ferments into the fully potent range. Especially great is the outdoor dancing area and the delirious DJ artistry (nightly themes) will coerce you into looking your most silly; the pointing and laughing might be a hint. On June 20th they're opening a club on the island Pag called Summer Aquarius on beach Zrce in Novalja. 24 hours of sheer bliss, all music! **Open 22:00 - 04:00. Closed Mon.** [P] [P]

Best H-4, Horvačanski zavoj bb, tel. 369 16 01, fax 363 04 34, www.thebest.com.hr. Only if your pubes just came in last summer... The crowd is deliriously young and unless you are too, expect to feel like you've hit a rung of hell termed "Worst". In fact it is amazingly popular among the elderly teens and the pumping sound system is in the homicidal range. **Open 22:00 - 04:00. Closed Mon. Admission 30n.**

Gap Club A-4, Florijana Andrašeca 14, tel. 309 61 23, fax 309 62 18. With multiple rooms to pull off all the best from your arsenal of dance moves, this could very well help you to bridge the Gap (note utilisation of pun to aide in the hilarity of the review) of your social "issues". It's fun and only getting more so, featuring hot DJs and a crowd that is becoming very fond of this one. Mind the Gap... good things are happening here (Gap clothing not recommended). **Open 10:00 - 04:00.** [P] [P] [P]

Gjuro II J-2, Medveščak 2, tel. 468 33 67. Though the bar takes up 97% of the surface area inside, the darkness of the dance floor helps you to forget your tendency to become enraged in tight spaces. It boasts a crew that's a bit older, and the alternative mix of music makes for a great atmosphere especially on Friday and Saturday. **Open 21:00 - 02:00. Closed Mon, Tue.**

Glob@l D-3, Pavla Hatza 14, tel. 487 61 46, globalclub@globalnet.hr. A fairly new club in the city, it's impressively open-minded which encourages a pleasantly varied mix of critter. Smiling and happy banter seems to be the preferred mode of operation here, and we think it will inspire your joy loving preference. It's home to a solid internet cafe also, and features a quality mix of music. **Open 11:00 - 04:00, Sun 16:00 - 01:00.**

Casinos

City B/C-4, Mihanovičeva 1, (Hotel Esplanade), tel. 457 30 64. With a wealth of slot and table options, this is a big and classy gambling venue you can't go wrong with. **Open 07:00 - 04:00.**

Lido Topliška cesta 35 (Terme Čatež, SLO), tel. (+386-7) 499 48 00, marketing.lido@casino.si. Just across the border into Slovenia, it's only half an hour from downtown Zagreb and boasts a superb space for some really enjoyable gambling. The thermal bath is immediate, as are a number of hotel options, making it great for a day trip.



Jedinica (No. 1) I-2, Nova Ves 2, tel. 466 61 89. A respite from the sprawling dance floors of the typical Zagreb club, Jedinica is a cramped-up cubbyhole where no one stands still. So be prepared to cut some rug or at least sway to the soulful house alongside a fashion savvy post-puberty crowd. The place fills up fast, so arrive well before 23:00 unless you are one of those exclusive card-carrying members. Stop in early evening for a cup of mulled wine topped with cinnamon and spice. **Open 09:00 - 23:00.**

Masters E-2, 11 Ravnice, Maksimirsko 138, tel. 291 60 22. Not the same old, definitely not same old - which is probably why this east-end club's inspired young owners are wary of any media hype directed their way; the word "genre" is taboo here. Too much wood for splinter-free break-dancing, but you'll probably be tempted to do it anyway. An eponymous bar downstairs gives you reason to hang around weekdays and during off hours. **Open 08:00 - 02:00.**

Močvara (Swamp) J-4, Trnjanski nasip bb (Tvornica Jedinstvo), tel. 615 96 67/615 96 68, hourk@yahoo.com, www.urk.hr. Why yes, it is a little dark and dank but that doesn't mean that it isn't fun as hell. The crowd loves it here and loves that you've joined their ranks no matter how pathetic and un-cool you might be. Alcohol is an operational element from which the evening's direction finds fruition. Very popular, great vibe. **Open 20:00 - 04:00, Sat 10:00 - 04:00, Sun 10:00 - 04:00.**

OTV I-3, Vukovarska 68. The interior is quite spacious and of the multiple room variety, thus getting shot down in one of them doesn't have to mean everybody saw this and the night's ruined. House music and some internationally famous DJs make this a happening spot, especially for youths. Don't wear your sneakers unless you feel like trying to beg your way in the front door (English helps in such a case). **Open 22:00 - 01:00.**

Saloon B-1, Tuškanec 1a, tel. 483 49 03. If you're looking to be beaten over the head with a sound system that shatters the very bowels, this is your place. It's tremendously popular amongst a certain variety of local, and features a hotly dressed crew that will have you wondering where you went wrong. It's usually packed and is a great meat market if you're in season and in the mood. Watch for the periodically overly exuberant bouncer. **Open 22:00 - 04:00. Closed Mon, Sun.**

Sokol B-3, Trg maršala Tita 6, tel./fax 482 85 10, www.sokolklub.hr. Saturday nights is kicking here, including a fashion show and famous people who do their best to appear especially important. The drink deals are superb and the setting in that sleazy range that somehow appeals to every denomination of person (when wasted). It's a solid dance floor and the track lighting takes your giggles of hysteria into overdrive. **Open 22:00 - 04:00. Closed Mon, Tue.**

Essential sights

You haven't been to Zagreb unless you have seen these. It sounds harsh, but that's just so you'll actually go, as these are worth visiting above everything else.

Trg bana Josipa Jelačića (Jelačića Square) C-2, Trg bana Josipa Jelačića. This Austro-Hungarian styled square is the true centre for the city and presents the visual of the town that will stay with you. There's a phenomenal variety of cafes, shopping, feeding and people watching everywhere. It was named for the impressive sculpture it is home to, that of Count Jelačić, his deadly steed, and a sword so pointy and sharp that it could poke your eye out. Our count's image has inspired a number of political outbursts: in 1947 it was dismantled and chucked into a corner somewhere because leaders found it overly representative of nationalism in the country. The year 1990 brought it back into its current place, this time leaders believing it perfectly nationalistic.

Katedrala Marijina Uznesenja (Cathedral of the Assumption) C-1, Kaptol 31, tel. 481 47 27. A wonder of neo-gothic artistry, the impressive and sharp looking towers stand out to you from nearly anywhere you are in the entire city. Though it's in an evidently permanent state of reconstruction, it is undeniably overwhelming and will push you to ponder those larger things we can see you've been avoiding. Go ahead and wander inside but don't forget to turn the cell-phone off. Its history is one wrought with turbulence, as can be seen with the following: 1093 - Founded. 1242 - The initial Romanesque construction is finished. In the next 21 years it's heavily damaged in various sieges by the Tartars. 1624 - A series of sweeping fires practically destroys it. 1645 - Another wave of fires picks up where the last left off. It's reconstructed. 1880 - Sustains serious damage during an earthquake. A 12-year restoration takes place, at which time the neo-Gothic bell towers are raised to the sky. 1990 - Exterior renovations set in motion to battle against the wearing affects of time. It continues to this distant day, and even the most serious official will tell you they don't know when it will be completed. Mass: 07:00, 08:00, 09:00, Sunday 07:00, 08:00, 09:00, 10:00, 11:30.

Crkva sv. Marka (St. Mark's Church) C-1, Trg svetog Marka 5, tel. 485 16 11. The spectrum of colours displayed on the roof beautifully depicts the Croatian, Dalmatian and Slavonian coats-of-arm and also the Zagreb city emblem and provides for quite the lasting visual. Due to various natural disasters it has received a ton of reconstruction and not a whole lot remains of the original 14th Century construction.

Tkalčićeva C-1, Tkalčićeva. The preferred hangout for the young and cool in the city, you will be startled by the sheer number of people outdoors drinking or chatting the evening away. This street emits a dose of the Zagreb life that we're guessing will strike you as very unique and special.

Trg Nikole Šubića Zrinjskog C-2/3, Trg Nikole Šubića Zrinjskog. The combination of the outdoor gazebo, expertly manicured lawn, flowers, enormous trees, fountains and statues make this sucker a brilliant place to take a load off. This is the park closest to Trg Jelačića and you'll be thrilled to see that it's a kind of Destination Point: local lovers show-off their most complex and passionate manoeuvres free of charge in this baby.

Maksimir and the city zoo K-1/2, Maksimirski perivoj bb. Park Maksimir is a perfect half-day outing for lovebirds, families, the four-legged and breathers, this place will revitalize a tired soul. Why? Leaves, lakes, grasses and dirt are all a part of the equation as well as clouds, a sky and periodically the very sun! Blaring car engines have been removed from this place and as such it's a great escape. The 18 hectares of lush greenery and forest was opened to the public in 1794 and was the first of its kind in this part of Europe. An added bonus, the **city zoo (Zoološki vrt grada Zagreba)** is housed within it and we'll bet you'll be amazed by the number of critters! Catch tram N°11 or 12 from Trg Jelačića east (Dubec) to the Bukovacka stop. The entrance to Park Maksimir is on the north side of the street.

Mirogoj Cemetery J-1, Mirogoj bb. Flickering candles, ornate and expensive stonework, flowers and all kinds of artwork make this cemetery as much a memorial as it is a sightseeing destination. Notice the way different religions, languages and cultures express themselves here. Lime-green *cupolas* top the wall that surrounds the beautiful tree-lined park. It is the resting place for many famous artists and public figures: Drazen Petrovic, Franjo Tudman, Petar Preradovic, Ljudevita Gaja and Stjepan Radic name only a few. Take bus N°106 from the cathedral to Mirogoj - it takes 15min and costs 7kn.




Kamenita vrata (Kamenita Archway) C-1, Kamenita bb. This archway was one of the four original entries into the walled Gornji Grad of the feudal period. In 1731 a terrible fire destroyed much of the town, and legend has it that a vision of the Virgin Mary could be seen in the burnt ash that remained in this entry. It was reconstructed in 1760 and hasn't been touched since. Today you'll find ladies praying in the church pews (be quiet as you walk through!), black-soot ceilings and candles glowing as a testament to a people and their faith.

Trg kralja Tomislava (Tomislav Square) C-3/4, Trg kralja Tomislava bb. During these summer months of travellers headed through Zagreb to the coast, this Trg becomes position A for human observation. Expertly manicured, puppies, pigeons and people mingle together as though differences between the species were no big deal. The multi-line tram stop and underground Importanne mall are superbly immediate. Sit at the fountain and take in the great sky views in the early evening.

Muzej Mimara (Mimara Museum) B-3, Trg Franklina Roosevelta 5, tel. 482 81 00, fax 482 60 78, info@mimara.hr, www.mimara.hr. The city's mega-museum, this baby is the mother load of artistic treasures with more than 3,750 works adorning it at all times! The works are from all over the world and include sculptures, paintings, crafts and much more. It spans an amazing three millennia, much of it Christian in theme. **Open 10:00 - 17:00, Sat 10:00 - 17:00, Sun 10:00 - 14:00. Closed Mon.**



Jadran

D-2, Vlaška 50, tel. 455 37 77, fax 461 21 51. Located in the heart of Zagreb, everything is immediately accessible. Vlačka street below is on the noisy side. A fair price for the excellent location. 48 rooms (16 singles 358kn, 28 doubles 496kn, 4 triples 644kn).    ★★★

Laguna A-4, Kranjčevićeva 29, tel. 382 02 22, fax 382 00 35, info@hotel-laguna.hr, www.hotel-laguna.hr. This place caters to travelling athletes because of its closeness to various gyms. Everything about it accentuates this point, for its got the unmistakable air of your humid high school locker room about it (figuratively of course). Laguna desperately needs a renovation and is surprisingly expensive for its offering and location. 340 rooms (127 singles 392kn, 196 doubles 550kn, 12 triples 600kn, 5 suites 720kn).     ★★★



Great deals





You'll find the following difficult to beat for their mid-range pricing and solid offering and service:

Central D-4, Branimirova 3, tel. 484 11 22, fax 484 13 04, info@hotel-central.hr, www.hotel-central.hr. Only 100m from the train station and a few minutes walk to the central parks and Trg Jelacica. The southern views aren't too thrilling but its recent renovation makes it a great option. 75 rooms (42 singles 400 - 500kn, 29 doubles 600 - 700kn, 4 apartments 1,080kn).    ★★★

Dubrovnik C-2, Ljudevita Gaja 1, tel. 487 35 55/ 481 84 46, fax 481 84 47, hotel-dubrovnik@hotel-dubrovnik.tel.hr, www.tel.hr/hotel-dubrovnik. Built in 1929, this is the curious wall of glass that sparkles to you from the eastern end of Bogoviceva ulica. This hotel is in Position A and looks out onto Trg Jelacica and the buzzing café scene. It received a beautiful renovation last summer. 268 rooms (168 singles 500 - 700kn, 88 doubles 900 - 980kn, 4 family 1,200kn, 8 suites 1,300 - 1,600kn).     ★★★

Jägerhorn C-2, Illica 14, tel. 483 38 77/483 01 61, fax 483 35 73. This cosy 13-room hotel replicates the comfortable apartment you used to live in and kind of miss. In the heart of Zagreb, it's just 100 metres west of the Trg Jelacica. The Jägerhorn feels very hidden and its wild-game restaurant is exquisite. 13 rooms (3 singles 550kn, 8 doubles 750kn, 2 apartments 900kn).    

Panorama H-3, Trg sportova 9, tel. 365 83 33, fax 309 26 57, panorama@hup-zagreb.hr, www.hup-zagreb.hr. A brilliant blue glass tower, you will be happy you've chosen this one if you have a car. The in-house restaurant and service staff is quite charming. Rooms were just refurbished and are the essence of vibrant and warm. All kinds of services. 280 rooms (48 singles 590kn, 181 doubles 720kn, 16 junior suite 850kn, 35 suite 1,060kn, 10 extra bed 200kn)     ★★★★★

Slisko K-3, Supilova 13, tel. /fax 618 47 77, hotel@slisko.hr, www.slisko.hr. It's only 200m from the main bus station, making it easy access to practically everything. Rooms are simple and well kept and the staff are very friendly one. A good option for sure if you don't mind the short commute into town (25min on foot, 15min by tram). 12 rooms (2 singles 380kn, 6 doubles 510kn, 2 triples 635kn, 2 quads 760kn).     ★★

Getting around

Public transport

Trams run from 04:00 - 23:45; the night trams are totally unreliable and ill-advised endeavors, yet run from 23:35 - 03:46. A 7kn ticket entitles you to 1.5hrs of pure pleasure and can be purchased at the front of the tram or at a kiosk. Children under six ride free. Stamp your ticket once you board: an unstamped ticket is as good as no ticket at all. Getting caught without a ticket costs an additional 150kn and is not a pleasant experience. Checks are inconsistent but not uncommon. Buses work the same way as the trams and are used as a means of getting people into the surrounding suburbs. A list of departure times can be found at all bus stops, marked by blue signs with a bus picture. The biggest bus stop for local transport is just south of C-4, Glavni kolodvor through Importanne mall passage. For information about public transport contact ZET, Ožaljska 105, tel. 365 15 55.

Car Rental

Avis A-3, Kršnjavoga 1 (Hotel Opera), tel. 483 60 06. Open 08:00 - 20:00, Sun 08:00 - 12:00.

Budget

C-2, Praška 5, tel. 480 56 87/480 56 88, fax 480 56 90, reservations@budget.hr. Open 07:00 - 21:00. Closed Sun.

Hertz Vukotinovičeva 4, tel. 484 67 77, www.hertz.hr. Also at Pleso bb, Airport, tel. 456 26 35. Open 08:00 - 20:00, Sun 08:00 - 12:00.

National A-3, Kršnjavoga 1 (Hotel Opera), tel. 481 17 64, www.nationalcar.hr. Also at Pleso bb, Airport, tel. 456 25 50. Open 07:30 - 20:00, Sun 08:00 - 12:00.

Sixt B-3, Rooseveltov trg 4, tel. 482 83 85, fax 482 83 86, www.e-sixt.com. A wide array of cars including Opels, Range Rovers and BMWs. Also at Pleso bb, Airport, tel. 621 99 00.

Buses

Autobusni kolodvor (Bus station) E-4, Avenija Marina Držića bb, tel. 060 31 33 33/060 34 03 40, www.akz.hr. The national/international buses leave from E-4, Autobusni kolodvor. When facing the station and standing on Avenija Marina Držića walk up the stairs to the left to get to the ticketing offices. Window N°14, the Information centre (24hrs). Next to the ATM machine is a touch screen that can connect you to the bus stations web page, www.akz.hr. The Zagreb bus station is the best run travel facility in town. Open 00:00 - 24:00.

Trains

Glavni kolodvor (Train station) C-4, Trg kralja Tomislava 12, tel. 060 33 34 44, www.hznet.hr. The train station is not what you would term friendly: your most hassle free information is provided on the large boards in the main hall. Information and ticketing takes place in the east wing and an ATM, restaurant and luggage storage is found in the west wing. Numerous kiosks abound for the essential pre-trip snacks though if you have time Importanne mall just in front of the station has everything you could need and more.

Calling a taxi

Taxi 970 tel. 668 25 05/668 25 58. Open 24hrs. The switchboard of the taxi association, they can usually get someone to you in 5 - 10mins. English assistance.

Useful information

Hospitals

Communicable Diseases and Infections (Zarazna bolnica, Klinika za infektivne bolesti) D-1, Mirogojska 8, tel. 460 32 22.

Face and jaw (Kirurgija lica, čeljusti i usta Dubrava) L-1/2, Avenija Gojka Suška 6, tel. 290 24 44.

Major Trauma (Klinika za traumatologiju) D-3, Draškovičeva 19, tel. 461 00 11.

Orthopedics (Ortopedija, KBC Šalata) D-1, Šalata 2-4, tel. 481 99 11. Bone and joint specialists.

Emergency Health Care

Catholic (Klinička bolnica Sestre milosrdnice) H-2/3, Vinogradska 29, tel. 378 71 11. Open 24hrs.

Dental Emergency (Stomatološka klinika) B-3, Perkovičeva 3, tel. 482 84 88. Dental emergencies. Open 22:00 - 06:00, Sun and holidays 24hrs.

General Health (Opća bolnica Sveti Duh) H-2, Ul.Sv.Duha 64, tel. 371 21 11. Open 24hrs.

Children's Emergency (Klinika za dječije bolesti) A-3, Klaičeva 16, tel. 460 01 11.

KB Dubrava L-1/2, Avenija Gojka Suška 6, tel. 290 24 44. Emergency service to most parts of town. Open 22:00 - 06:00, Sun and holidays 24hrs.

KBC Rebro D-3, Kišpatičeva 12, tel. 238 88 88. General emergencies. Open 24hrs.

Klinička bolnica Merkur D-2, Zajčeva 19, tel. 243 13 90. Open 24hrs.

Lung Specialists (Klinika za plućne bolesti) Jordanovac 104, tel. 234 82 22. Lung specialists.

Obstetrician (Klinika za ženske bolesti i porode) E-1, Petrova 13, tel. 460 46 46. Baby delivery.

Hairdressers

Anita D-3, Draškovičeva 23, tel. 461 13 29, fax 618 4 62, anitafrizer@zg.hinet.hr, www.frizer-anita-zg.hr. High end service and styling, this crew of sharp-shooters will give you a style that will make you the hit of the party. Also at Zvonimirova 32, tel. 464 92 18, fax 618 43 62. Open 07:00 - 20:00, Sat 08:00 - 15:00. Closed Sun.

Apropos C-1, Radičeva 5, tel. 483 09 69. A little salon in the centre of town, it features all kinds of hair extensions. Arty and fun. Open 08:00 - 20:00, Sat 08:00 - 15:00. Closed Sun.

BBK E-2, Vlačka 99, tel. 461 16 28. A huge salon, stylish young people think this is the place to update their look. Open 09:00 - 21:00, Sat 09:00 - 15:00. Closed Sun.

Glamour D-2, Medvedgradska 39, tel. 466 80 36. If you haven't seen the Croatian TV show Glamour Cafe (you're a nerd in other words) come here, and they'll replicate all the things you would have seen. Open 08:30 - 20:00, Sat 08:30 - 15:00. Closed Sun.

Charme G-4, Predraga Heruca 3, tel. 383 02 26. You can use all the social help you can get (we sense it): this is the place to bring out your inner-babbler. Open 08:00 - 20:00, Sat 08:00 - 15:00. Closed Sun.

La Coulissee I-2, Nova ves 17(Centar Kaptol), tel. 486 05 28. From the second you step inside you'll sense that your rep. is moving up notch by notch, for the interior feels more like a modern art gallery. Take a seat on their cosy sofa and get ready to be brought into "full attack mode"... oh yes, you'll be putting out a vibe that tells people you rule. Let the super-friendly Nataly and Marina take care of you. Open 09:00 - 21:00. Closed Sun.

O la la E-2, Bukovačka cesta 27, tel. 232 03 65. When you suddenly start hearing the Croat gents of the city shrieking this in your direction you'll know your decision to visit was a good one. Open 08:00 - 20:00, Sat 08:00 - 15:00. Closed Sun.

advertise here

For more information,
contact Martin Kitson
mki@inyourpocket.com