

Directory

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ACCOMMODATION

In this book, budget accommodation includes camping grounds, hostels and some guest houses, and costs up to 500KN for a double. Midrange accommodation costs 500KN to 900KN a double, while top-end starts from 900KN and can go as high as 4000KN per double. Reviews are listed in budget order.

Along the coast, accommodation is priced according to four seasons, which vary from place to place. November to March are the cheapest months. There may only be one or two hotels open in a coastal resort but you'll get great rates – often no more than 350KN for a double in a good three-star hotel and 250KN in a lesser establishment. Generally, April, May and October are the next cheapest months and June and September are the

shoulder season. In July and August count on paying top price, especially in the peak period, which starts in mid-July and lasts until mid- or late August.

Prices quoted in this book range from the lowest to the highest season. Note that many establishments add a 30% charge for less than three-night stays and include 'residence tax', which is 7.50KN per person per day. Prices in this book do not include the residence tax. Accommodation is generally cheaper in Dalmatia than in Kvarner or Istria, but in July and August you should make arrangements in advance wherever you go.

This book provides the phone numbers of most accommodation facilities. Once you know your itinerary it pays to start calling around to check prices and availability. Most receptionists speak English.

It's becoming difficult to get a confirmed reservation without a deposit, particularly in the high season. Hotels are equipped to reserve accommodation using a credit-card number. Some guest houses might require a SWIFT wire transfer (where your bank wires directly to their bank). Unfortunately, banks charge fees for the transaction, usually in the range of US\$15 to US\$30. The only way around it is to book online through an agency.

Camping

Nearly 100 camping grounds are scattered along the Croatian coast. Most operate from mid-April to mid-September only, although a few are open March to October. In spring and autumn, it's best to call ahead to make sure that the camping ground is open before beginning the long trek out. Don't go by the opening and closing dates you read in travel brochures

BOOK YOUR STAY ONLINE

For more accommodation reviews and recommendations by Lonely Planet authors, check out the online booking service at www.lonelyplanet.com. You'll find the true, insider lowdown on the best places to stay. Reviews are thorough and independent. Best of all, you can book online.

PRACTICALITIES

- Widely read newspapers include *Večernji List*, *Jutarnji List*, *Slobodna Dalmacija* and the *Feral Tribune*. The most respected daily is the state-owned *Vjesnik*. The most popular weeklies are *Nacional* and *Globus*. The Croatian edition of *Metro* was launched in 2006.
- The most popular radio station is Narodni radio, which airs only Croatian music. Croatian Radio broadcasts news in English four times daily (8am, 10am, 2pm and 11pm) on FM frequencies 88.9, 91.3 and 99.3 between June and September.
- Bills include a service charge, but it's common to round up the bill.
- Electrical supply is 220V, 50Hz AC. Croatia uses the standard European round-pronged plugs.
- Croatia uses the metric system (see conversion chart on the inside front cover).
- The video system is PAL.

or even this book, as these can change. Even local tourist offices can be wrong.

Many camping grounds in Istria are gigantic 'autocamps' with restaurants, shops and row upon row of caravans, but in Dalmatia the camping grounds are smaller and often family owned. Expect to pay up to 100KN for the site at some of the larger establishments. Most camping grounds charge from 40KN to 60KN per person per night. The tent charge is sometimes included in the price, but occasionally it's an extra 10KN to 15KN. The vehicle charge is sometimes included; it may be an extra 10KN to 50KN. If you bring a caravan you'll pay about 30% more for a site; then there's an electricity charge that may be included or may cost an extra 15KN per night. The residence tax costs about an extra 7KN per person per night, depending on the season and the region. Prices in this book are per adult and site, which includes a tent and car.

Although small, family-owned camping grounds are starting to pop up, most grounds are still autocamps. If you want a more intimate environment, the town tourist office should be able to refer you to smaller camping grounds, but you may have to insist upon it. Naturist camping grounds (marked FKK) are among the best because their secluded locations ensure peace and quiet. However, bear in mind that freelance camping is officially prohibited. A good website for camping information and links is www.camping.hr.

The Camping Card International (CCI; formerly the Camping Carnet) is a camping ground ID that can be used instead of a passport when checking into a camping ground; it includes third-party insurance. As

a result, many camping grounds offer a small discount (5% to 10%) if you sign in with one. CCIs are issued by automobile associations and camping federations. In the USA, the AAA issues them for US\$20. In the UK, the AA no longer sells CCIs, but AA members can get one from the Caravan Club by calling ☎ 01342 327 410 and quoting their AA membership number.

Hostels

The **Croatian YHA** (Mapp74-5; ☎ 01-4847472; www.hffs.hr; Dežmanova 9, Zagreb) operates youth hostels in Rijeka, Dubrovnik, Punat, Zadar, Zagreb and Pula. Nonmembers pay an additional 10KN per person per day for a stamp on a welcome card; six stamps entitle you to membership. Prices given in this book are for the high season in July and August; prices fall the rest of the year. The Croatian YHA can also provide information about private youth hostels in Krk, Zadar, Dubrovnik and Zagreb. Most hostels are now open in winter but may not be staffed all day. It's wise to call in advance.

Hotels

Tourism really started to take off in Croatia (then part of Yugoslavia) in the 1970s and 1980s, which was when most of the hotels along the coast were built. At the time, the idea was to market the coast to package tourists and then send them to 'tourist settlements', usually far from town and along a stretch of beach. Since they were all state-owned and built at the same time with the same idea, it's unsurprising that they all look alike. There is nothing particularly Istrian or even Croatian in an Istrian hotel complex to distinguish it from a Dalmatian or Spanish hotel complex.

The advantage of this approach is that it left the historic old towns more or less alone, free of a lot of the tourist trappings that would have been present if tourists had commandeered the towns for the summer. The disadvantage is the lack of small family-owned hotels where the owner's taste and personality are reflected in the rooms. For a more personal experience, you have to stay in private accommodation. Many family-run establishments that used to rent rooms through the local travel agency are proclaiming themselves *pensions* (guest houses). Since the owners usually have decades of experience in catering to travellers, these private *pensions* offer excellent value. Some *pensions* are included in this book, but as more and more pop up each season it pays to ask the local tourist office about them. Don't go by the printed brochures as these often cover only the larger hotels.

Zagreb and other big cities have at least one grand old hotel built in the 19th century when the railway came through. Opatija was a popular resort in the Austro-Hungarian Empire and has a conglomeration of elegant, European-style hotels that retain a certain faded splendour.

Private entrepreneurs and European hotel chains are changing the top end of the hotel scene in Croatia. There are more and more completely overhauled hotels along the coast that offer a high standard of amenities and service. You'll find that even the older hotels are clean, serviceable and fairly efficient. Double rooms, if not singles, are a good size, and nearly all rooms in Croatian hotels have private bathrooms.

The majority of hotels in Croatia fall into the moderate range – around 800KN for a

double in the summer along the coast, dropping to around 450KN in late spring or early autumn. At that price you can get a clean, pleasant but unexceptional room equipped with a private bathroom, a telephone and sometimes a TV with a satellite hook-up. Since there's usually no surcharge for a short stay, hotels can be a better deal than private accommodation if you're only staying a night or two. Apartments are self-contained units that include equipped kitchens, a bed or beds, and a bathroom.

Most hotels offer the option of half board. In a 'tourist settlement' far from town, half board may be the only dining possibility within reach. Sometimes half board is only a marginal increase over the B&B rate, making it worth considering even if you only plan to take a few meals at the hotel. Except in luxury establishments, the meals centre on cheaper cuts of meat, although some hotels are starting to offer a vegetarian menu.

Croatian hotels are rated according to a star system that is not terribly helpful. One-star hotels are rare, two-star hotels have private bathrooms but do not have satellite TV, and five-star hotels offer clearly luxurious rooms and facilities (gym, sauna, swimming pool etc), but otherwise the stars are awarded too inconsistently to provide much indication as to the quality of the establishment. The distinction between three- and four-star hotels seems particularly whimsical.

Private Accommodation

The best value for money in Croatia is a private room or apartment, often within or attached to a local home – the equivalent of small private guest houses in other countries.

STREET NAMES

Particularly in Zagreb and Split, you may notice a discrepancy between the names used in this book and the names you'll actually see on the street. In Croatian, a street name can be rendered either in the nominative or possessive case. The difference is apparent in the name's ending. Thus, Ulica Ljudevita Gaja (street of Ljudevita Gaja) becomes Gajeva ulica (Gaja's street). The latter version is the one most commonly seen on the street sign and used in everyday conversation. The same principle applies to a *trg* (square), which can be rendered as Trg Petra Preradovića or Preradovićev trg. Some of the more common names are Trg Svetog Marka (Markov trg), Trg Josipa Jurja Strossmayera (Strossmayerov trg), Ulica Andrije Hebranga (Hebrangova), Ulica Pavla Radića (Radićeva), Ulica Augusta Šenoje (Šenojina), Ulica Nikole Tesle (Teslina) and Ulica Ivana Tkalčića (Tkalčićeva). Be aware also that Trg Nikole Šubića Zrinjskog is almost always called Zrinjevac.

In an address the letters 'bb' following a street name (such as Placa bb) stand for *bez broja* (without number), which indicates that the building has no street number.

Not only is private accommodation cheaper than a hotel, the service is also likely to be friendlier and more efficient, and the food better. Such accommodation can be arranged by travel agencies or by dealing with proprietors who meet you at the local bus or ferry station. You can also knock on the doors of houses with *sobe* or *zimmer* (rooms available) signs.

Dealing with an agency gives you the assurance that the accommodation has been professionally vetted. Also, you have someone to complain to if things go wrong and you can complain in English rather than bumble around in Croatian, German or Italian. If you stay for fewer than four nights, the agencies will add at least a 30% surcharge and some will insist on a seven-night minimum stay in the high season.

If you choose the knocking-on-doors approach, start early in the day since proprietors may be out on errands in the afternoon. You'll be more comfortable and in a better position to negotiate a price if you leave your luggage in a *garderoba* (left-luggage office) before trudging around town.

Whether you rent from an agency or rent from the owners privately, don't hesitate to bargain, especially if you're staying for a week. In the high season along the coast it may be impossible to find a proprietor willing to rent you a room for one night only. Single rooms are scarce. Showers are always included but often breakfast is not, so ask about the breakfast charge.

If possible, it may be worthwhile to take a half-board option and stay with a family. Most families on the coast have a garden, a vineyard and access to the sea. You could find yourself beginning your evenings with a homemade aperitif before progressing on to a garden-fresh salad, home-grown potatoes and grilled fresh fish, all washed down with your host's very own wine.

Travel agencies classify private accommodation according to a star system. The most expensive rooms are three-star and include a private bathroom. In a two-star room, the bathroom is shared with one other room and, in a one-star room, the bathroom is shared with two other rooms or with the owner. Studios with cooking facilities can be a good deal, costing little more than a double room, but remember that self-catered meals are not cheap in Croatia. If you're travelling in a small group, it may be worthwhile to get an apartment.

THINGS TO AVOID WITH PRIVATE RENTALS

If you decide to go with proprietors (usually women) at the bus or ferry station, try to pin them down on the location or you could get stuck way out of town. Clarify whether the price is per person or per room. Nail down the exact number of days you plan to stay and when in the day you plan to check out so you don't get stuck with a surcharge. If you land in a room or apartment without a blue *sobe* or *apartmani* sign outside, the proprietor is renting to you illegally (ie not paying residence tax). They will probably be reluctant to provide their full name or phone number and you'll have absolutely no recourse in case of a problem.

Under no circumstances will private accommodation include a telephone, but satellite TV is becoming increasingly common.

Accommodation rates are usually fixed by the local tourist association and don't vary from agency to agency, although some agencies may not handle rooms in the cheapest category. Some prefer to only handle apartments. In legally rented accommodation there is often a 'registration tax' to register you with the police.

The prices quoted in this book assume a four-night stay in the high season. Prices fall dramatically outside July and August.

ACTIVITIES Diving

The varied underwater topography of the Croatian coast has spurred a growing diving industry. From Istria to Dubrovnik, nearly every coastal resort has a dive centre, usually German-owned. Although there's a little bit of everything along the coast, the primary attractions are shipwrecks and caves. The porous karstic stone that forms the coastal mountains has created an astonishing variety of underwater caves all along the coast, but especially in the Kornati Islands (p214). Shipwrecks are also a common sight, most notoriously the *Baron Gautsch* wreck near Rovinj (p167). Remains of Roman wrecks with 1st-century amphorae can be found within reach of Dubrovnik (p268), but special permission is necessary since they are protected cultural monuments. Diving from

Lošinj Island (p133) offers a good mixture of sights – sea walls, caves and wrecks.

The marine life is not as rich as it is in the Red Sea or the Caribbean, for example, but you'll regularly see gropers, eels, sardines and snails. Sponges and sea fans are common sea flora, but coral reefs tend to lie in deep water – around 40m – since the shallower coral has already been plundered. The waters around Vis Island (p241) are richest in marine life because the island was an off-limits military base for many years and the sea was not overfished. Most of the coastal and island resorts mentioned in this book have dive shops. See the following websites for further information:

Croatian Diving Federation (www.diving-hrs.hr, in Croatian)

Pro Diving Croatia (www.diving.hr)

Hiking

The steep gorges and beech forests of Paklenica National Park (p198), 40km northeast of Zadar, offer excellent hiking. Starigrad, the main access town for the park, is well connected by hourly buses from Zadar. Hotels, private accommodation and a camping ground are available in Starigrad.

Risnjak National Park (p128) at Crni Lug, 12km northwest of Delnice between Zagreb and Rijeka, is a good hiking area. Due to the chance of heavy snowfalls, hiking is advisable only from late spring to early autumn. It's a 9km, 2½-hour climb from the park entrance at Bijela Vodica to Veliki Risnjak (1528m).

For a great view of the barren coastal mountains, climb Mt Ilija (961m) above Orebić, opposite Korčula, or Sv Jure (1762m) on Biokovo, above Makarska (p237).

Kayaking

There are countless possibilities for anyone carrying a folding sea kayak, especially among the Elafiti and Kornati Islands (take the ferry from Zadar to Sali). River kayaking is also popular and centres on the four rivers of Karlovac. Zagreb-based **Huck Finn** (☎ 01-61 83 333; www.huck-finn.hr; Vukovarska 271) is a good contact for sea and river kayaking packages.

Rafting

The network of Croatian rivers provides wonderful opportunities for rafting adventures. In the interior, Karlovac (p92) is Croatia's rafting centre as it lies on the confluence of four rivers. The Kupa River originating in Risnjak

RESPONSIBLE DIVING

Please consider the following tips when diving and help preserve the ecology and beauty of reefs:

- Never use anchors on the reef, and take care not to ground boats on coral.
- Avoid touching or standing on living marine organisms or dragging equipment across the reef. Polyps can be damaged by even the gentlest contact. If you must hold on to the reef, only touch exposed rock or dead coral.
- Be conscious of your fins. Even without contact, the surge from fin strokes near the reef can damage delicate organisms. Take care not to kick up clouds of sand, which can smother organisms.
- Practise and maintain proper buoyancy control. Major damage can be done by divers descending too fast and colliding with the reef.
- Take great care in underwater caves. Spend as little time within them as possible as your air bubbles may be caught within the roof and thereby leave organisms high and dry. Take turns to inspect the interior of a small cave.
- Resist the temptation to collect or buy corals or shells or to loot marine archaeological sites (mainly shipwrecks).
- Ensure that you take home all your rubbish and any litter you may find as well. Plastics in particular are a serious threat to marine life.
- Do not feed fish.
- Minimise your disturbance of marine animals. *Never* ride on the backs of turtles.

LINKS FOR THE ACTIVE TRAVELLER

Adriatic Croatia International Club (www.aci-club.hr) Manages 21 coastal marinas.

Cro Challenge (www.crochallenge.com) Extreme sports association.

Croatian Aeronautical Federation (www.caf.hr) Parachuting club.

Huck Finn (www.huck-finn.hr) Zagreb-based outfit handling canoeing, kayaking, rafting and hiking tours.

Outdoor (www.outdoor.hr) Adventure and incentive travel.

Riverfree (www.riverfree.hr, in Croatian) Rafting and canoeing club.

National Park and the Korana River flowing from the Plitvice lakes are best in early spring or after heavy rains. The Dobra River and the cascade-spotted Mreznica River are good year-round. The most scenic river along the coast is the Cetina River (p239), whose rocky banks are dense with vegetation. Rafting the Krka River is the best way to explore the magnificent Krka National Park (p12). The Una River, which forms the border between Croatia and Bosnia, can offer an exciting white-water ride when the water level is high. The Zrmanja has high water in the springtime but the summers are too dry for anything but canoes and kayaks. The grade for most rivers is 3, but rises to 4 on the Dobra and Una Rivers.

Rock Climbing

The karstic stone of Croatia's coast provides excellent climbing. Paklenica National Park (p198) has the widest range of routes – nearly 400 – for all levels of experience. Spring, summer and autumn are good seasons to climb, but in winter you'll be fighting the fierce *bura* (cold northeasterly wind). Another popular climbing spot is the rocks surrounding Baška (p147) on Krk Island, which can be climbed year-round (and if you come in summer, you can combine climbing with a beach holiday). Makarska (p237) also allows climbing and beach-bumming, but in winter there's a strong *bura*. For details, contact the **Croatian Mountaineering Association** (☎ 01-48 24 142; www.psavez.hr, in Croatian; Kozarićeva 22, 10000 Zagreb).

Windsurfing

Although most coastal resorts offer windsurfing courses and board rentals, serious

windsurfers gravitate to the town of Bol (p248) on Brač Island. The *maestral* (strong, steady westerly wind) blows from April to October, and the wide bay catches the wind perfectly. The best windsurfing is in late May, early June, late July and early August. The wind generally reaches its peak in the early afternoon and then dies down at the end of the day.

Another good spot to windsurf is Viganj (see boxed text, p289) on the Pelješac Peninsula, not far from Orebić, which has windsurfing schools and hosts various windsurfing championships.

Yachting

There's no better way to appreciate the Croatian Adriatic than by boat. The long, rugged islands off Croatia's mountainous coast all the way from Istria to Dubrovnik make this a yachting paradise. Fine, deep channels with abundant anchorage and steady winds attract yachties from around the world. Throughout the region there are quaint little ports where you can get provisions, and yachts can tie up right in the middle of everything.

There are 40 marinas along the coast, some with more facilities than others. Every coastal town mentioned in this book has a marina, from little Salj on Dugi Otok to the large marinas in Zadar, Split and Dubrovnik. Most marinas are open throughout the year, but it's best to check first. A good source of information is the **Association of Nautical Tourism** (Udruženje Nautičkog Turizma; ☎ 051-209 147; fax 051-216 033; Bulevar Oslobođenja 23, 51000 Rijeka), which represents all Croatian marinas. You could also try **Adriatic Croatia International** (ACI; ☎ 051-271 288; www.aci-club.hr; M Tita 51, Opatija), which represents about half the marinas.

Although you can row, motor or sail any vessel up to 3m long without authorisation, for larger boats you'll need to get authorisation from the harbour master at your port of entry, which will be at any harbour open to international traffic. Come equipped with a boat certificate, documents proving your sailing qualifications, insurance documents and money.

Yachting enthusiasts may wish to charter their own boat. Experienced sailors can charter a yacht on a 'bareboat' basis, or you can pay for the services of a local captain for a 'skippered' boat. **Sunsail** (☎ in UK 0870-777 0313, in USA 888-350 3568; www.sunsail.com) is an international

operator offering bareboat and skippered charters from Dubrovnik, the Kornati Islands and Kremik, south of Šibenik. In the UK, you could also try **Cosmos Yachting** (☎ 0800-376 9070; www.cosmosyachting.com), which offers charters out of Dubrovnik, Pula, Rovinj, Split, Trogir, Lošinj, Punat and other destinations, or **Nautilus Yachting** (☎ 01732-867 445; www.nautilus-yachting.com), which offers rentals from Pula, Split, Dubrovnik and the Kornati Islands. The price depends upon the size of the boat, the number of berths and the season.

BUSINESS HOURS

Official office hours are from 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday; this is when you'll find all banks open. Post office hours are generally 7.30am to 7pm on weekdays and 8am to noon on Saturday. Many shops are open 8am to 7pm on weekdays and until 2pm on Saturday. Supermarkets are open 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm Saturday and 8am to 1pm Sunday. Croats are early risers; by 7am there will be lots of people on the street and many places already open. Along the coast, life is more relaxed; shops and offices frequently close around noon for an afternoon break and reopen at about 4pm.

Restaurants are open long hours, often from noon to midnight, with Sunday closings out of peak season. Cafés are usually open daily from 8am to midnight, and bars are open from 9am to midnight. In Zagreb and Split discos and nightclubs are open year-round, but many places along the coast are only open in summer. Cybercafés are also open long hours – usually seven days a week.

Reviews throughout this book only list business hours where they differ from the standard hours outlined here.

CHILDREN

Successful travel with young children requires planning and effort. Don't try to overdo things by packing too much into the time available. Involve the kids in the planning, and balance that visit to the art museum with a trip to the zoo or time spent in a playground. Lonely Planet's *Travel with Children* offers a wealth of tips and tricks to make travelling with tots child's play.

In Croatia, children's discounts are widely available for everything from museum admissions to hotel accommodation. The cut-off age is often nine. Hotels may have children's

cots, but numbers are usually limited. For greater comfort, look into renting an apartment. There's much more space for the same price as a hotel room, and a kitchen can be handy for preparing kids' meals.

Disposable nappies are easy to find, particularly American Pampers and German Linostar. Look for supermarkets such as Konzum, and the pharmacy DM. Very few restaurants or public restrooms have nappy-changing facilities. Keep in mind that electric sterilisers are expensive and hard to find. Breast-feeding in public is uncommon, but generally accepted if done discreetly.

Kids love the beach, but choose your sites carefully, as many 'beaches' are rocky with steep drop-offs. Sandy beaches are more kid-friendly. Try Baška on Krk Island, Brela along the Makarska coast, Copacabana beach near Dubrovnik, the beaches surrounding Orebić and the narrow stretch of shingle beach on Crveni Otok near Rovinj.

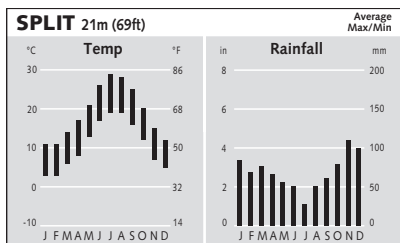
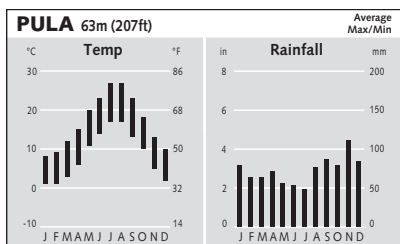
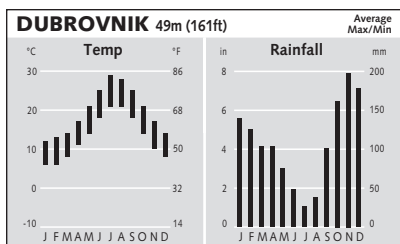
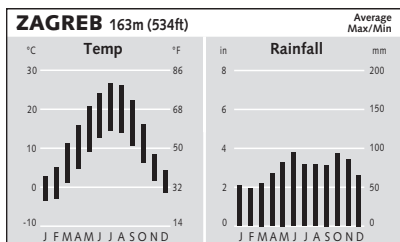
CLIMATE CHARTS

The climate varies from Mediterranean along the Adriatic coast to continental further inland (see climate charts, p298). The sunny coastal areas experience hot, dry summers and mild, rainy winters, while the interior regions are warm in summer and cold in winter.

In spring and early summer, the *maestral* keeps the temperature down along the coast. It generally starts blowing at around 9am, increases until early afternoon and dies down in the late afternoon. This strong, steady wind makes good sailing weather.

Winter weather is defined by two winds. The southeasterly *sirocco* from the Sahara Desert brings warm, moist air to the mainland and can produce a heavy cloud cover and the steady winds that sailors love. The northeasterly *bura* blows from the interior to the coast in powerful gusts, bringing dry air and blowing away clouds.

Sun-lovers note that the island of Hvar gets 2715 hours of sun a year, followed by Split (2697), Korčula Island (2671) and Dubrovnik (2584). The lack of rainfall along the coast, and especially on islands further removed from the mainland, has produced severe water shortages in Dalmatia throughout its history. Summer dry periods can last up to 100 days. For the best time of year to visit Croatia, see p17.



CUSTOMS REGULATIONS

Travellers can bring their personal effects into the country, along with 1L of liquor, 1L of wine, 500g of coffee, 200 cigarettes and 50mL of perfume. The import or export of kuna is limited to 15,000KN per person. Camping gear, boats and electronic equipment should be declared upon entering the country. For information about taxes and refunds, see p301.

There is no quarantine period for animals brought into the country, but you should have a recent vaccination certificate. Otherwise, the animal must be inspected by a local veterinarian, who may not be immediately available.

DANGERS & ANNOYANCES

Personal security, including theft, is generally not a problem in Croatia. However, the former confrontation line between Croat and federal forces was heavily mined in the early 1990s, and over a million mines were laid in eastern Slavonia around Osijek, and in the hinterlands north of Zadar. Although the government has invested heavily in demining operations, it's a slow job. In general, the mined areas are well signposted with skull-and-crossbones symbols and yellow tape, but don't go wandering off on your own in sensitive regions before checking with a local. Never go poking around an obviously abandoned and ruined house.

Croatia is not unduly burdened with biting or stinging creatures, but mosquitoes do abound in eastern Slavonia, and sea urchins are nearly everywhere along the coast.

DISCOUNT CARDS

Most museums, galleries, theatres and festivals in Croatia offer student discounts of up to 50%. An International Student Identity Card (ISIC) is the best international proof of your student status. People under the age of 26 who are not students qualify for the International Youth Travel Card (IYTC).

Both the ISIC and IYTC carry basic accident and sickness insurance, and cardholders have access to a worldwide hotline for help in medical, legal or financial emergencies.

Croatia is a member of the **European Youth Card Association** (www.euro26.hr), which offers reductions in shops, restaurants and libraries in participating countries. The card can be used at around 1400 places of interest in Croatia.

STA Travel (www.statravel.com), an international company specialising in youth travel, offers all of the cards discussed here. In Croatia, contact **Dali Travel** (Map pp74-5; ☎ 01-48 47 472; travelsection@hffs.hr; Dežmanova 9, 10000 Zagreb; ☎ 9am-5pm Mon-Fri).

EMBASSIES & CONSULATES

The following are all in Zagreb (Map pp74-5):

Albania (☎ 01-48 10 679; Jurišićeva 2a)

Australia (☎ 01-48 91 200; Kaptol Centar, Nova Ves 11)

Bosnia & Hercegovina (☎ 01-48 19 420; Pavla Hatza 3)

Bulgaria (☎ 01-46 46 609; Gornje Pekrižje 28)

- Canada** (☎ 01-48 81 200; Prilaz Đure Deželića 4)
Czech Republic (☎ 01-61 77 239; Savska 41)
France (☎ 01-48 93 680; Andrije Hebranga 2)
Germany (☎ 01-61 58 105; Avenija Grada Vukovara 64)
Hungary (☎ 01-48 90 900; Pantovčak 255-257)
Ireland (☎ 01-63 10 025; Miramarska 23)
The Netherlands (☎ 01-46 84 880; Medveščak 56)
New Zealand (☎ 01-65 20 888; Avenija Dubrovnik 15)
Poland (☎ 01-48 99 444; Krležin Gvozd 3)
Romania (☎ 01-45 77 550; Mlinarska ul 43)
Serbia (☎ 01-45 79 067; Pantovčak 245)
Slovakia (☎ 01-48 48 941; Prilaz Đure Deželića 10)
Slovenia (☎ 01-63 11 000; Savska 41)
UK (☎ 01-60 09 100; I Lučića 4)
USA (☎ 01-66 12 200; Ul Thomasa Jeffersona 2)

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

February

Carnival For the best costumes, dancing and revelry in this pre-Lent celebration, head to Rijeka, Samobor or Zadar.

March

Days of Croatian Film Short features and animated films are shown in Zagreb theatres, followed by awards.

Vukovar Puppet Spring Festival In the last week of March, Vukovar becomes a puppet town with workshops, demonstrations and performances.

April

Queer Zagreb FM Festival In the last week of April, this festival hosts gay-themed films and music.

Zagreb Biennial of Contemporary Music In odd-numbered years, Zagreb hosts this prestigious musical event. By 'contemporary', do not read 'pop'.

May

Dance Week Festival (www.danceincroatia.com) Zagreb hosts experimental dance companies from around the world in the last week of May.

June

Festival of Animated Films In even-numbered years, this Zagreb festival honours animated films.

International Children's Festival This Sibenik festival presents puppets, theatre and workshops to children.

International Festival of New Films Films, videos, installations and workshops for experimental filmmakers.

July

Dubrovnik Summer Festival (www.dubrovnik-festival.hr) From mid-July to mid-August, Dubrovnik hosts local and national classical musicians.

International Folklore Festival Zagreb becomes a whirlwind of colour and music as costumed fiddlers and dancers descend on the capital from all over the world.

Motovun Film Festival

 (www.motovunfilmfestival.com)

This is probably Croatia's most glamorous film festival.

Poreč Annale This month-long series of exhibits in Poreč showcases the finest young Croatian artists.

September

Varaždin Baroque Evenings Baroque music in the baroque city of Varaždin.

FOOD

Restaurant listings in this book are given in order of price: budget (under 80KN), midrange (80KN to 150KN) and top end (over 150KN). The majority of Croatian eateries are midrange and offer excellent value for money.

If you're self-catering, bear in mind that groceries are not cheap in Croatia. There are good deals on fresh produce, but anything in a bottle or a can is no cheaper than anywhere in Western Europe. Special and tasty local ham, sausage, cold cuts and cheese can be pricey. You can get good deals on fish out of season, but during summer the best fish goes to the restaurants. For more on Croatian cuisine, see p51.

GAY & LESBIAN TRAVELLERS

Homosexuality has been legal in Croatia since 1977 and is tolerated, but not welcomed with open arms. Public displays of affection between same-sex couples may be met with hostility, especially beyond the major cities. Exclusively gay clubs are a rarity outside Zagreb, but many of the large discos attract a mixed crowd. Raves are also a good way for gays to meet.

On the coast, gays gravitate to Rovinj, Hvar, Split and Dubrovnik, and tend to frequent naturist beaches. In Zagreb, the last week in April is the **Queer Zagreb FM Festival** (www.queerzagreb.org) and the last Saturday in June is Gay Pride Zagreb day. Gay-friendly venues are listed throughout this book.

Most Croatian websites devoted to the gay scene are in Croatian only, but a good starting point is <http://travel.gay.hr>. Otherwise, there's **LORI** (www.lori.hr, in Croatian), the lesbian organisation based in Rijeka.

HOLIDAYS

Croats take their holidays very seriously. Shops and museums are shut and boat services are reduced. On religious holidays, the churches are full; it can be a good time to check out the artwork in a church that is usually closed.

Holidays falling in the milder months are often marked by street spectacles that include dancing and bands. Easter and Holy Week are especially good times to catch local celebrations. In and around Dubrovnik, palm or olive twigs are decorated with flowers, blessed and placed in homes on Palm Sunday. Holy Week preceding Easter is celebrated with processions on Hvar, Brač and Korčula Islands. Central Croatia celebrates Holy Week with *krijes* (bonfires), and painted eggs are given as Easter gifts.

Croatian public holidays are as follows:

New Year's Day 1 January

Epiphany 6 January

Easter Monday March/April

Labour Day 1 May

Corpus Christi 10 June

Day of Antifascist Resistance 22 June; marks the outbreak of resistance in 1941

Statehood Day 25 June

Homeland Thanksgiving Day 5 August

Feast of the Assumption 15 August

Independence Day 8 October

All Saints' Day 1 November

Christmas 25 & 26 December

INSURANCE

A travel-insurance policy to cover theft, loss and medical problems is a good idea. You should check your existing insurance policies at home before purchasing travel insurance, as some may already provide worldwide coverage. Some credit cards also offer limited accident insurance.

A good travel agent should be able to guide you in choosing the right policy. There's a variety of policies available, so check the small print. Some policies specifically exclude 'dangerous activities', which can include diving, motorcycling and even trekking. A locally acquired motorcycle licence is not valid under some policies.

You may prefer a policy that pays doctors or hospitals directly rather than you having to pay on the spot and claim later. If you have to claim later, make sure you keep all documentation. Some policies ask you to call (reverse charges) a centre in your home country where an immediate assessment of your problem is made. Check that your policy covers ambulances and an emergency flight home.

Worldwide travel insurance is available at www.lonelyplanet.com/bookings. You can buy, extend and claim online any time – even if you're already on the road.

For additional insurance information, see Health (p315) and Transport (p313).

INTERNET ACCESS

Cybercafés are listed under Information in the regional chapters of this guide; internet access costs around 30KN per hour. The local tourist office should have the latest on the scene. In smaller towns, the tourist office may let you quickly check your email on their computer if you ask nicely. Public libraries usually have internet access, but their hours can be limited. Most travellers make constant use of internet cafés and free web-based email such as **Yahoo** (www.yahoo.com) or **Hotmail** (www.hotmail.com). If you need to access another nonweb-based account, you'll need to know your incoming (POP or IMAP) mail-server name, your account name and your password.

Upmarket hotels are almost always equipped with wi-fi, as are business-g geared hotels. Some private guest houses also have wi-fi, though you shouldn't count on it.

For a selection of useful websites about Croatia, see p21.

LEGAL MATTERS

Although it is highly unlikely that you'll be hassled by the police, you should keep identification with you at all times as the police have the right to stop you and demand ID. By international treaty, you have the right to notify your consular official if arrested. Consulates can normally refer you to English-speaking lawyers, although they will not pay for one.

MAPS

Freytag & Berndt publishes a series of country, regional and city maps. Its 1:600,000 map of Croatia, Slovenia and Bosnia and Hercegovina is particularly useful if you're travelling in the region. Others include *Croatia, Slovenia* (1:800,000) by GeoCenter and *Hrvatska, Slovenija, Bosna i Hercegovina* (1:600,000) by Naklada Naprijed in Zagreb. Regional tourist offices often publish good regional driving maps showing the latest roads. Apart from Zagreb, Split, Zadar, Rijeka and Dubrovnik, there are few top-quality city maps. Local tourist offices usually publish helpful maps.

MONEY

Croatia uses the kuna (KN). Commonly circulated banknotes come in denominations of 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and five kuna, bearing

images of Croat heroes such as Stjepan Radić and Ban Josip Jelačić. Each kuna is divided into 100 lipa. You'll find silver-coloured 50- and 20-lipa coins, and bronze-coloured 10-lipa coins.

The kuna has a fixed exchange rate tied to the euro. To amass hard currency, the government makes the kuna more expensive in summer when tourists visit. You'll get the best exchange rate from mid-September to mid-June. Otherwise, the rate varies little from year to year. International boat fares are priced in euros, not kuna, although you pay in kuna. In this book, we list prices for hotels, camping and private accommodation in kuna and in euros, depending on how an establishment quotes them. For more information about expenses, see p17; for exchange rates, see the table on the inside front cover.

ATMs

Automatic teller machines are prevalent nearly everywhere in Croatia and can be a convenient way of changing money. Most are tied in with Cirrus, Plus, Diners Club and Maestro. Privredna Banka usually has ATMs for cash withdrawals using American Express cards. Most other ATMs also allow you to withdraw money using a credit card, but you'll start paying interest on the amount immediately, in addition to paying the withdrawal fee. All post offices will allow you to make a cash withdrawal on MasterCard or Cirrus, and a growing number work with Diners Club as well.

Cash

There are numerous places to change money in Croatia, all offering similar rates; ask at any travel agency for the location of the nearest exchange. Post offices change money and keep long hours. Most places deduct a commission of 1% to 1.5% to change cash, but some banks do not. Travellers cheques may be exchanged only in banks. Kuna can be converted into hard currency only at a bank and only if you submit a receipt of a previous transaction. Hungarian currency (the forint) is difficult to change in Croatia. If you can't get to an exchange operation, you can pay for a meal or small services in euros, but the rate is not as good. You can pay for most private accommodation in euros as well.

Credit Cards

Credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, Diners Club, American Express) are widely accepted in

hotels but rarely accepted in any kind of private accommodation. Many smaller restaurants and shops do not accept credit cards.

Amex card holders can contact Atlas travel agencies in Dubrovnik, Opatija, Pula, Poreč, Split, Zadar and Zagreb for the full range of Amex services, including cashing personal cheques and holding clients' mail. Privredna Banka is a chain of banks that handles many services for Amex clients.

Following is the Zagreb contact information for the major credit-card companies:

American Express (☎ 01-61 24 422; www.american.express.hr; Lastovska 23)

Diners Club (☎ 01-48 02 222; www.diners.hr; Praška 5)

Eurocard/MasterCard (☎ 01-37 89 620; www.zaba.hr; Zagrebačka Banka, Samoborska 145)

Visa (☎ 01-46 47 133; www.splitskabanka.hr; Splitska Banka, Tuškanova 28)

Taxes & Refunds

Travellers who spend more than 500KN in one shop are entitled to a refund of the value-added tax (VAT), which is equivalent to 22% of the purchase price. In order to claim the refund, the merchant must fill out the *Poreski ček* (required form), which you must present to the customs office upon leaving the country. Mail a stamped copy to the shop, which will then credit your credit card with the appropriate sum. There is also a service called Global Refund System, which will give you your refund in cash at the airport or at participating post offices. Post offices in Zagreb, Osijek, Dubrovnik, Split, Korčula and a few dozen other towns participate in the system. For a complete list, see www.posta.hr.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Though most people use digital cameras nowadays, you can still find colour-print film produced by Kodak and Fuji in photo stores and tourist shops. It's fairly expensive in Croatia compared with a lot of other countries, so stock up ahead of time. If you choose to develop your photos in Croatia, remember that the standard size for prints is only 9cm x 13cm. Digital-imaging techniques are available in Zagreb and other large cities, but few places develop APS film. One-hour developing is not widely available. Slide film is widely available in major cities and tourist centres, but can be scarce in out-of-the-way places.

If you're shooting in one of Croatia's steamy summer months, remember that film

should be kept cool and dry after exposure. The intense summer light can wash out colour between mid-morning and late afternoon, and the overcast skies of winter may dictate the use of a fairly fast film.

As in any country, politeness goes a long way when taking photos; ask permission before photographing people. Military installations may not be photographed, and you may have a lot of angry naked people after you if you try to take pictures in a naturist resort.

POST

HPT Hrvatska, recognised by its red, white and blue sign, offers a wide variety of services, from selling stamps and phonocards to sending faxes. If you want to avoid a trip to the post office and just want to send a few postcards, you can buy *pismo* (stamps) at any *tisak* (newsstand) and drop your mail into any of the yellow postboxes on the street. It takes anywhere from five days (Europe) to two weeks (North America and Australia) for a card or letter to arrive at its destination.

Domestic mail costs 2.80KN for up to 20g, and 5KN for up to 100g. Postcards are 1.80KN. For international mail, the base rate is 3.50KN for a postcard, 5KN for a letter up to 20g, and 15KN for a letter up to 100g. Then, add on the airmail charge for every 20g: 2KN for Europe, 3KN for North America, 3.20KN for Africa and Asia, and 4KN for Australia.

If you have an Amex card or are travelling with Amex travellers cheques, you can have your mail addressed to branches of Atlas travel agencies in Dubrovnik, Opatija, Poreč, Pula, Split, Zadar and Zagreb; mail will be held at the office for up to two months.

SHOPPING

The finest artisans' product from Croatia is the intricate lace from Pag Island, part of a centuries-old tradition that is still going strong. Although you'll sometimes see it in handicraft shops in Zagreb and Dubrovnik, it's more fun to take a trip out to Pag where you can buy the patches of lace directly from the women who make them.

Embroidered fabrics are also featured in many souvenir shops. Croatian embroidery is distinguished by the cheerful red geometric patterns set against a white background, which you'll see on tablecloths, pillowcases and blouses.

Lavender and other fragrant herbs made into scented sachets or transmuted into oils make popular and inexpensive gifts. You can find them on most central Dalmatian islands, but especially on Hvar Island, which is known for its lavender fields.

Brač Island is known for its lustrous stone. Ashtrays, vases, candlestick holders and other small but heavy items carved from Brač stone are on sale throughout the island.

Samples of local food, wine and spirits also make great gifts or souvenirs. In Samobor, pick up some mustard or *bermet* (liqueur). In Pag you can buy savoury homemade cheese, but be aware that customs regulations in many countries forbid the importation of unwrapped cheese. *Cukarini* (sweet biscuits) from Korčula keep for a while if they are wrapped in cellophane. Local brandies, often with herbs inside the bottle, can conjure up the scents and flavours of each region, since it seems that almost every town produces its own special brandy.

A recent addition to the Croatian shopping scene are the jewellery shops that are cropping up in cities and towns. They are usually run by immigrants from Kosovo who have a centuries-old tradition in silver working. Although the shops also sell gold, the workmanship on silver filigree earrings, bracelets and *objets d'art* is often of astonishingly high quality.

SOLO TRAVELLERS

The joy of travelling solo is that it is a compromise-free trip. You do what you want when you want to do it, but you will pay for the privilege. Guest houses or private accommodation often don't have special rates for singles, although you may be able to knock a few kuna off the double-room price if you visit out of season.

If you want to meet other travellers and sample the local life, it's best to stay away from large resort-style hotels, as they tend to be frequented by families and couples. They are also isolated from community life. It's much better to stay in guest houses that have a few rooms where you can meet other travellers. To mix with the locals, try to find a place in the centre of town where you can go out to cafés and bars. Internet cafés are also good places to meet both travellers and locals. The staff at internet cafés often speak excellent English.

If you find that dining out alone is a forlorn experience, make lunch the main meal of your

day, when the dining room is more likely to contain solo business or pleasure diners.

TELEPHONE

Mobile Phones

If you have a 3-G phone (which most people now do) and if it's unlocked, you can buy a SIM card for about 50KN, which includes 20 minutes of connection time – the cheapest is Tomato card. You can also buy a packet (mobile and phonecard) at any telecom shop for about 500KN, which includes 30 minutes of connection time. Mobile-phone rental is not widely available in Croatia.

Phone Codes

To call Croatia from abroad, dial your international access code, then ☎ 385 (the country code for Croatia), then the area code (without the initial 0) and the local number. To call from region to region within Croatia, start with the area code (with the initial zero); drop it when dialling within the same code. Phone numbers with the prefix ☎ 060 are either free or charged at a premium rate, so watch out for the small print; phone numbers that begin with ☎ 09 are mobile phone numbers, which are billed at a much higher rate than regular numbers (figure on about 6KN per minute).

Phonecards

There are few coin-operated phones in Croatia, so you'll need a phonecard to use public telephones. Phonecards are sold according to *impulsa* (units), and you can buy cards of 25 (15KN), 50 (30KN), 100 (50KN) and 200 (100KN) units. These can be purchased at any post office and most tobacco shops and newspaper kiosks. Many phone boxes are equipped with a button on the upper left with a flag symbol. Press the button and you get instructions in English. If you don't have a phonecard, you can call from a post office.

Calls placed from hotel rooms are much more expensive. For local and national calls, the mark-up is negligible from cheaper hotels but significantly more from four-star establishments. Private accommodation never includes a private telephone, but you may be able to use the owner's for local calls.

A three-minute call from Croatia using a phonecard will cost around 12KN to the UK and Europe and 15KN to the USA or Australia. Local calls cost 0.80KN whatever

the time of day, although owners of a fixed line get cheaper rates from 7pm to 7am.

TIME

Croatia is on Central European Time (GMT/UTC plus one hour). Daylight saving comes into effect at the end of March, when clocks are turned forward an hour. At the end of September they're turned back an hour.

For a rundown of world times, see the World Time Zone map (pp342-3).

TOURIST INFORMATION

The **Croatian National Tourist Board** (Map pp74-5; ☎ 01-45 56 455; www.htz.hr; Iblervog Trg 10, Impartanec Galerija, 10000 Zagreb) is a good source of information. There are regional tourist offices that supervise tourist development, and municipal tourist offices that have free brochures and good information on local events. Some arrange private accommodation. Contact information for local tourist offices is listed in the regional chapters.

Following is contact information for regional tourist offices:

Dubrovnik-Neretva County (☎ 020-324 222; www.visitdubrovnik.hr; Cvijete Zuzorić 1/I, 20000 Dubrovnik)

Istria County (☎ 052-452 797; www.istra.com; Pionirska 1a, 52440 Poreč)

Krapina-Zagorje County (☎ 049-233 653; tlkzz@kr.htnet.hr; Zagrebačka 6, 49217 Krapinske Toplice)

Osijek-Baranja County (☎ 031-675 897; www.obz.hr; Sunčana 39, 31222 Bizovac)

Primorje-Gorski Kotar (Kvarner) County (☎ 051-272 988; www.kvarner.hr; N Tesle, 251410 Opatija)

Šibenik-Knin County (☎ 022-219 072; www.sibenik-kinj.com; Fra N Ružiča bb, 22000 Šibenik)

Split-Dalmatia County (☎ 021-490 032; www.dalmatia.hr; Prilaz Braće Kaliterna 10/I, 21000 Split)

Zadar County (☎ 023-315 107; www.zadar.hr; Š Leopolda B Mandića 1, 23000 Zadar)

Zagreb County (☎ 01-48 73 665; www.tzzz.hr; Preradovićeva 42, 10000 Zagreb)

Tourist information is also dispensed by commercial travel agencies such as **Atlas Travel Agency** (www.atlas-croatia.com) and **Generalturist** (www.generalisturist.com), which also arrange private accommodation, sightseeing tours etc. Ask for the schedule for local ferries and then ask how to read it.

Croatian tourist offices abroad include the following:

Austria (☎ 01-585 3884; office@kroatien.at; Kroatische Zentrale für Tourismus, Am Hof 13 1010 Vienna)

Czech Republic (☎ 02-2221 1812; infohtz@iol.cz; Hrvatska Turistička Zajednica OS, Krakovská 25, 11000 Prague)

France (☎ 01 45 00 99 55; croatie.ot@wanadoo.fr; 48 Ave Victor Hugo, 75016 Paris)

Germany Frankfurt (☎ 069-238 5350; kroatien-info@gmx.de; Kroatische Zentrale für Tourismus, Kaiserstrasse 23, D-60311); Munich (☎ 089-223 344; kroatien-tourismus@t-online.de; Kroatische Zentrale für Tourismus, Rumfordstrasse 7, D-80469)

Hungary (☎ 01-266 6505; www.horvatinfo@axelro.hu; Horvát Idegenforgalmi Közösség Magyar u 36, 1053 Budapest)

Italy Milan (☎ 02-86 45 44 97; info@enteturismocroato.it; Ente nazionale Croato per il turismo, Piazzete Pattari 1/3, 20123); Rome (☎ 06-32 11 03 96; officeroma@enteturismocroato.it; Via dell' Oca 48 00186)

The Netherlands (☎ 20-661 6422; kroatie-info@planet.nl; Nijenburg 25, Amsterdam 1081)

UK (☎ 020-8563 7979; info@cno.freereserve.co.uk; Croatian National Tourist Office, 2 Lanchesters, 162-4 Fulham Palace Rd, London W6 9ER)

USA (☎ 212-279 8672; cntony@earthlink.net; Croatian National Tourist Office, Suite 4003, 350 Fifth Ave, New York, NY 10118)

TRAVELLERS WITH DISABILITIES

Due to the number of wounded war veterans, more attention is being paid to the needs of disabled travellers in Croatia. Public toilets at bus stations, train stations, airports and large public venues are usually wheelchair accessible. Large hotels are wheelchair accessible, but very little private accommodation is. Bus and train stations in Zagreb, Zadar, Rijeka, Split and Dubrovnik are wheelchair accessible, but the local Jadrolinija ferries are not. For further information, get in touch with **Savez Organizacija Invalida Hrvatske** (☎/fax 01-48 29 394; Savska 3, 10000 Zagreb).

VISAS

Citizens of the EU, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Israel, Ireland, Singapore and the UK do not need a visa for stays of up to 90 days. South Africans must apply for a 90-day visa in Pretoria. Contact any Croatian embassy, consulate or travel agency abroad for information.

If you want to stay in Croatia longer than three months, the easiest thing to do is cross the border into Italy or Austria and return.

Croatian authorities require all foreigners to register with the local police when they arrive in a new area of the country, but this is a routine matter normally handled by the hotel, hostel, camping ground or agency securing your private accommodation. That's why they need to take your passport away for the night.

If you're staying elsewhere (eg with relatives or friends), your host should take care of it for you. See opposite for information about passports and entering the country.

WOMEN TRAVELLERS

Women face no special danger in Croatia. There have been cases, however, of some lone women being harassed and followed in large coastal cities, though you'd have to be pretty unlucky for this to happen.

It's important to be careful about being alone with an unfamiliar man, since claims of 'date rape' are not likely to be taken very seriously.

Croatian women place a high priority on good grooming and try to buy the most fashionable clothes they can afford. Topless sunbathing is tolerated, but you're better off on one of the numerous nudist beaches.

Transport

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GETTING THERE & AWAY

Getting to Croatia is becoming ever easier, especially if you're arriving in summer. Low-cost carriers are finally establishing routes to Croatia, and a plethora of bus and ferry routes shepherd holidaymakers to the coast. Flights, tours and rail tickets can be booked online at www.lonelyplanet.com/bookings.

ENTERING THE COUNTRY

With an economy that depends heavily on tourism, Croatia has wisely kept red tape to a minimum for foreign visitors. The most serious hassle is likely to be long lines at immigration checkpoints.

Passport

A valid passport is necessary to enter Croatia. To avoid problems, it's best to ensure that your passport will remain valid for the entire course of your stay. Always make a photocopy of your passport and keep the photocopy in a separate place.

In the case that your passport is lost or stolen, being able to produce a photocopy of the original at your embassy or consulate will greatly facilitate its replacement. If your passport disappears right before your departure, take your airline tickets to your embassy or consulate and you will normally get a temporary

passport enabling you to at least re-enter your home country. See opposite for information about visas.

AIR

Airports & Airlines

Major airports in Croatia:

Dubrovnik (airport code DBV; ☎ 020-773 377; www.airport-dubrovnik.hr)

Pula (airport code PUY; ☎ 052-530 105; www.airport-pula.com)

Rijeka (airport code RJK; ☎ 051-842 132; www.rijeka-airport.hr)

Split (airport code SPU; ☎ 021-203 506; www.split-airport.hr)

Zadar (airport code ZAD; ☎ 023-313 311; www.zadar-airport.hr)

Zagreb (airport code ZAG; ☎ 01-62 65 222; www.zagreb-airport.hr)

Dubrovnik has direct flights from Brussels, London (Gatwick), Manchester, Hannover, Frankfurt, Cologne, Stuttgart and Munich. Pula has nonstop flights from Manchester, London (Gatwick), Glasgow and Edinburgh. Rijeka has flights from Hanover, Cologne, Stuttgart, Munich and London (Luton).

Split has direct connections to London, Frankfurt, Munich, Cologne, Prague and Rome. Zagreb has direct flights to all European capitals, plus Hamburg, Stuttgart and Cologne.

Note that there are no direct flights from North America to Croatia.

Croatia Airlines (airline code OU; Map pp74-5; ☎ 01-48 19 633; www.croatiaairlines.hr; Zrinjevac 17, Zagreb; ✈ 8am-8pm)

THINGS CHANGE...

The information in this chapter is particularly vulnerable to change. Check directly with the airline or a travel agent to make sure you understand how a fare (and ticket you may buy) works and be aware of the security requirements for international travel. Shop carefully. The details given in this chapter should be regarded as pointers and are not a substitute for your own careful, up-to-date research.

CLIMATE CHANGE & TRAVEL

Climate change is a serious threat to the ecosystems that humans rely upon, and air travel is the fastest-growing contributor to the problem. Lonely Planet regards travel, overall, as a global benefit, but believes we all have a responsibility to limit our personal impact on global warming.

Flying & Climate Change

Pretty much every form of motorised travel generates CO₂ (the main cause of human-induced climate change), but planes are far and away the worst offenders, not just because of the sheer distances they allow us to travel, but also because they release greenhouse gases high into the atmosphere. The statistics are frightening: two people taking a return flight between Europe and the US will contribute as much to climate change as an average household's gas and electricity consumption over a whole year.

Carbon Offset Schemes

Climatecare.org and other websites use 'carbon calculators' that allow travellers to offset the level of greenhouse gases they are responsible for with financial contributions to sustainable travel schemes that reduce global warming – including projects in India, Honduras, Kazakhstan and Uganda.

Lonely Planet, together with Rough Guides and other concerned partners in the travel industry, supports the carbon offset scheme run by climatecare.org. Lonely Planet offsets all of its staff and author travel.

For more information check out our website: lonelyplanet.com.

Mon-Fri, 9am-noon Sat) is the sole domestic carrier, connecting Zagreb with Dubrovnik, Pula, Rijeka, Split and Zadar. All internal flights pass through Zagreb.

The following are the major airlines flying into the country (all contact phone numbers given are for Zagreb):

Adria Airways (airline code JP; ☎ 01-48 10 011; www.adria-airways.com)

Aeroflot (airline code SU; ☎ 01-48 72 055; www.aeroflot.ru)

Air Canada (airline code AC; ☎ 01-48 22 033; www.aircanada.ca)

Air France (airline code AF; ☎ 01-48 37 100; www.airfrance.com)

Alitalia (airline code AZ; ☎ 01-48 10 413; www.alitalia.it)

Austrian Airlines (airline code OS; ☎ 01-62 65 900; www.aua.com)

Croatia Airlines (airline code OU; ☎ 01-48 19 633; www.croatiaairlines.hr)

ČSA (airline code OK; ☎ 01-48 73 301; www.csa.cz)

Delta Airlines (airline code DL; ☎ 01-48 78 760; www.delta.com)

Easyjet (airline code EZY; www.easyjet.com)

Germanwings (airline code GWI; www.germanwings.com)

Hapag Lloyd Express (airline code HLX; www.hlx.com)

KLM-Northwest (airline code KL; ☎ 01-48 78 601; www.klm.com)

Lot (airline code LOT; ☎ 01-48 37 500; www.lot.com)

Lufthansa (airline code LH; ☎ 01-48 73 121; www.lufthansa.com)

Malev Hungarian Airlines (airline code MA; ☎ 01-48 36 935; www.malev.hu)

Ryanair (airline code RYR; www.ryanair.com)

SNBrussels (airline code SN; www.flysn.com)

Turkish Airlines (airline code TK; ☎ 01-49 21 854; www.turkishairlines.com)

Wizzair (airline code W6; www.wizzair.com)

Tickets

With a bit of research (ringing around travel agencies, checking out internet sites and perusing the travel ads in newspapers) you can often get yourself a good travel deal. Start early, as some of the cheapest tickets need to be bought well in advance and popular flights can sell out.

Full-time students and people under 26 years (under 30 in some countries) have access to better deals than other travellers. You have to show a document proving your date of birth or a valid International Student Identity Card (ISIC) when buying your ticket and boarding the plane.

The best ticket prices are generally found by booking over the internet. Many airlines, both full service and no frills, offer some excellent fares to Web surfers. They may sell seats by auction or simply

cut prices to reflect the reduced cost of electronic selling.

Many travel agencies around the world have websites, which can make the internet a quick and easy way to compare prices. There is also an increasing number of agents that operate only on the internet.

Online ticket sales work well if you are doing a simple one-way or return trip on specified dates. Online super-fast fare generators, however, are no substitute for a travel agent who knows all about special deals, has strategies for avoiding layovers, and can offer advice on everything from which airline has the best vegetarian food to the best travel insurance.

You may find that the cheapest flights are advertised by obscure agencies. Such firms are usually honest and solvent, but there are some rogue fly-by-night outfits around. Paying by credit card generally offers protection, as most card issuers provide refunds if you can prove you didn't get what you paid for. Similar protection can be obtained by buying a ticket from a bonded agent, such as one covered by the **Air Travel Organiser's Licence** (ATOL; www.atol.org.uk) scheme in the UK. Agents who accept only cash should hand over the tickets straight away and not tell you to 'come back tomorrow'. After you've made a booking or paid your deposit, call the airline and confirm that the booking was made. It's generally not advisable to send money (even cheques) through the post unless the agent is very well established – some travellers have reported being ripped off by fly-by-night mail-order ticket agencies.

If you purchase a ticket and later want to make changes to your route or get a refund, you need to contact the original travel agent. Airlines issue refunds only to the purchaser of a ticket – usually the travel agent who bought the ticket on your behalf. Many travellers change their routes halfway through their trips, so think carefully before you buy a ticket that is not easily refunded.

Travellers with Special Needs

If they're warned early enough, airlines can often make special arrangements for travellers with special needs, providing things such as wheelchair assistance at airports or vegetarian meals on the flight. Children under two years of age travel for 10% of the standard fare (or free on some airlines) as long as they don't occupy a seat. They don't get a baggage allow-

ance. 'Skycots', baby food and nappies should be provided by the airline if requested in advance. Children aged between two and 12 can usually occupy a seat for half to two-thirds of the full fare, and do get a baggage allowance.

The disability-friendly website www.allo.com has an airline directory that provides information on the facilities offered by various airlines.

Asia

Although most Asian countries are now offering fairly competitive airfare deals, Bangkok, Singapore and Hong Kong are still the best places to shop around for discount tickets. A one-way fare from Bangkok to Zagreb starts at US\$800. Hong Kong's travel market can be unpredictable, but some excellent bargains are available if you are lucky.

The reliable **STA Travel** (www.statravel.com) has branches in Hong Kong, Tokyo, Singapore, Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur; check the website for contact details.

Australia

Two well-known agencies for cheap fares are **STA Travel** (☎ 134 782; www.statravel.com.au) and **Flight Centre** (☎ 133 133; www.flightcentre.com.au). STA Travel has offices in all major cities and on many university campuses. Flight Centre also has dozens of offices throughout Australia. Flights from Sydney or Melbourne will be via another European city such as London, Rome or Frankfurt. Return fares start at A\$1800.

Canada

Canada's main student travel organisation is **Travel Cuts** (☎ 1866 246 9762; www.travelcuts.com), with offices in Toronto and Montreal. Online you can also check out www.expedia.ca or www.travelocity.ca. Return fares from Toronto to Zagreb cost from C\$1500.

Continental Europe

Though London is the travel discount capital of Europe, there are several other cities in which you will find a range of good deals to Zagreb.

In Amsterdam, try **NBBS Reizen** (☎ 900 10 20 300; www.nbbs.nl); special offers can be found for as low as €139.

In Paris, recommended travel agencies include **OTU Voyages** (☎ 01 55 82 32 32; www.otu.fr) and **Nouvelles Frontières** (☎ 08 25 00 07 47; www.nouvelles-frontieres.fr). On the internet, there's

Lastminute (☎ 08 92 70 50 00; www.fr.lastminute.com). Return fares to Zagreb start from around €325 with Croatia Airlines.

In Italy, a recommended travel agency in Rome is **CTS Viaggi** (☎ 06-462 0431; www.cts.it). A return fare from Rome to Zagreb costs around €250.

In Germany, a recommended agency is **STA Travel** (☎ 030-310 0040; www.statravel.de). Fares can be found for as low as €139.

New Zealand

A good place to start price shopping is the travel section of the *New Zealand Herald*, which carries adverts from travel agencies.

Flight Centre (☎ 0800 243 544; www.flightcentre.co.nz) has a large central office in Auckland and many branches throughout the country.

STA Travel (☎ 0508 782 872; www.statravel.co.nz) has offices throughout New Zealand.

The cheapest fares to Europe are generally routed through the USA. Otherwise, you can fly from Auckland to pick up a connecting flight in Melbourne or Sydney. A return flight from New Zealand would cost around NZ\$1800.

UK

London is one of the best centres in the world for discounted air tickets. For students or travellers under 26 years, popular travel agencies in the UK include **STA Travel** (☎ 0870 160 0599; www.statravel.co.uk) and **Trailfinders** (☎ 0845 058 58 58; www.trailfinders.com). Trailfinders produces a lavishly illustrated brochure that includes airfare details. The weekend editions of national newspapers sometimes have information on cheap fares. In London, also try the *Evening Standard*, *Time Out* and *TNT*, a free weekly magazine ostensibly for antipodeans. Fare checking on internet travel sites can turn up some good deals. Try the following:

Cheapest Flights (www.cheapestflights.co.uk)

Online Travel (www.travelocity.co.uk) Good deals on flights from more than a dozen British cities.

USA

Discount travel agencies in the USA are known as consolidators (although you won't see a sign on the door saying 'Consolidator'). San Francisco is the ticket consolidator capital of America, although some good deals can also be found in Los Angeles, New York and other big cities. When shopping around check out the following websites:

Cheap Tickets (☎ 888-922 8849; www.cheaptickets.com)

Expedia (☎ 800-397 3342; www.expedia.msn.com) Microsoft's travel site.

Flight Centre International (☎ 866-967 5351; www.flightcentre.us)

Orbitz (☎ 888-656 4546; www.orbitz.com)

STA Travel (☎ 800-777 0112; www.statravel.com)

Travelocity (☎ 888-872 8356; www.travelocity.com)

LAND

Car & Motorcycle

The main highway entry and exit points for crossing between Croatia and Hungary are Goričan (between Nagykanizsa and Varaždin), Gola (23km east of Koprivnica), Terezino Polje (opposite Barcs) and Donji Miholjac (7km south of Harkány). There are 29 border-crossing points to and from Slovenia – way too many to list here. And there are dozens of border crossings into Bosnia and Hercegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, including the main Zagreb–Belgrade highway. Major destinations in Bosnia and Hercegovina, such as Sarajevo, Mostar and Međugorje, are all accessible from Zagreb, Split, Osijek and Dubrovnik.

For information on car and motorcycle travel within Croatia, see p312.

Austria

BUS

Eurolines operates bus services from Vienna to Zagreb (€35, six hours, two daily), Rijeka (€53, 8¼ hours, twice weekly), Split (€56, 15 hours, weekly) and Zadar (€45, 13 hours, weekly).

TRAIN

There are two daily and two overnight trains between Vienna and Zagreb (€69, 6½ to 13 hours) and three go on to Rijeka (€79, 11½ to 16½ hours).

Belgium

BUS

Eurolines operates a twice-weekly service all year from Brussels to Zagreb (€115, 22 hours), and another weekly bus to Split (€120, 28 hours), stopping at Rijeka.

Bosnia & Hercegovina

BUS

There are daily connections from Sarajevo (€18, five hours, daily), Međugorje (€18, three hours, two daily) and Mostar (€15, three hours, two daily) to Dubrovnik; from Sarajevo to Split (€19,

seven hours, five daily), which stop at Mostar; and from Sarajevo to Zagreb (€18, eight hours, three daily) and Rijeka (€35, 10 hours, daily).

TRAIN

There's a daily train service to Zagreb from Sarajevo each morning (260KN, eight hours), a daily train to Osijek (113KN, 8½ hours) and a daily service to Ploče (310KN, 10 hours) via Mostar, Sarajevo and Banja Luka.

Germany

BUS

As Croatia is a prime destination for Germans on vacation and Germany is a prime destination for Croatian workers, the bus services between the two countries are good. All buses are handled by **Deutsche Touring GmbH** (☎ 069-79 03 50; www.deutsche-touring.de; Am Romerhof 17, Frankfurt) and fares are cheaper than the train. There are no Deutsche Touring offices in Croatia, but numerous travel agencies and bus stations sell its tickets. There are buses between Zagreb and Berlin, Cologne, Dortmund, Frankfurt, Main, Mannheim, Munich, Nuremberg and Stuttgart; buses depart four times a week from Berlin, and daily from the others. There's a weekly bus to Istria from Frankfurt and two buses a week from Munich.

The Dalmatian coast is also served by daily buses from German cities and there's a twice-weekly bus direct from Berlin to Rijeka and on to Split.

TRAIN

There are three trains daily from Munich to Zagreb (€88, nine hours) via Salzburg and Ljubljana. Reservations are required southbound but not northbound.

Hungary

BUS

There are two daily Eurolines buses to Osijek (125KN to 160KN, 2½ hours) via Mohačs (1½ hours) from Budapest.

TRAIN

There are four daily trains from Zagreb to Budapest (€60, 5½ to 7½ hours).

Italy

BUS

Trieste is well connected with the Istrian coast. There are around three buses a day

to Rijeka (96KN, two to three hours), plus buses to Rovinj (177KN to 195KN, 3½ hours, one daily), Poreč (170KN to 210KN, 2¼ hours, one daily) and Pula (170KN to 230KN, 3¼ hours, four daily). There are fewer buses on Sunday.

To Dalmatia there's a daily bus that leaves at 5.30pm and stops at Rijeka (60KN, 2½ hours), Zadar (120KN to 140KN, 7½ hours), Split (195KN, 10½ hours) and Dubrovnik (250KN, 15 hours).

There's also a bus from Padua that passes Venice and Trieste, Monday to Saturday, and then goes on to Poreč (€25, 2½ hours), Rovinj (€27, three hours) and Pula (€29, 3¼ hours). For schedules, see www.saf.ud.it.

TRAIN

Between Venice and Zagreb (€60, 6½ to 7½ hours), there are two daily direct connections and several more that run through Ljubljana.

Montenegro

BUS

The border between Montenegro and Croatia is open to visitors, allowing Americans, Australians, Canadians and Brits to enter visa-free. There's a daily bus from Kotor to Dubrovnik (120KN, 2½ hours) that starts at Bar and stops at Herceg Novi.

Serbia

BUS

There are six daily buses from Zagreb to Belgrade (€20, six hours). At Bajakovo on the border, a Serbian bus takes you on to Belgrade.

TRAIN

Five daily trains connect Zagreb with Belgrade (€25, seven hours).

Slovenia

BUS

Like Italy, Slovenia is well connected with the Istrian coast. There is one weekday bus that runs between Rovinj and Koper (87KN, three hours) stopping at Piran, Poreč and Portorož (41KN, 1½ hours), as well as a daily bus from Rovinj to Ljubljana (94KN, 5½ hours). There are also buses from Ljubljana to Zagreb (110KN, three hours, two daily), Rijeka (84KN, 2½ hours, one daily) and Split (310KN, 10½ hours, one daily).

TRAIN

There are up to 11 trains daily between Zagreb and Ljubljana (€16, 2¼ hours) and four between Rijeka and Ljubljana (93KN, three hours).

SEA

Regular boats from several companies connect Croatia with Italy and Slovenia. Passengers in cabin class have breakfast included, otherwise the price is about €3.50. There is no port tax if you are leaving Croatia by boat. All of the boat-company offices in Split are located inside the ferry terminal.

Jadrolinija (☎ in Ancona 071-20 71 465, in Bari 080-52 75 439, in Rijeka 051-211 444; www.jadrolinija.hr), Croatia's national boat line, runs car ferries from Ancona to Split (346KN to 477KN depending on the season, 10 hours, three to seven weekly) and Zadar (325KN to 448KN, seven hours, three to four weekly), a line from Bari to Dubrovnik (346KN to 477KN, nine hours, two to six weekly), a year-round ferry from Pescara to Split (346KN to 477KN, 10 hours, twice weekly) and a summer ferry from Pescara to Hvar (346KN to 477KN, nine hours, once weekly). Prices listed are for a deck seat; bringing a car costs an extra 50%. Couchettes and cabins are more expensive; check the website for details.

Split Tours (☎ in Ancona 071-20 40 90, in Split 021-352 553; www.splittours.hr) runs the Blue Line car ferries connecting Ancona with Zadar and Split, and continuing on to Stari Grad (Hvar) for the same prices as Jadrolinija. It also connects Ancona with Vis in the summer.

SNAV (☎ in Ancona 071-20 76 116, in Naples 081-76 12 348, in Split 021-322 252; www.snav.com) has a fast car ferry that links Split with Pescara (€36 to €90, 4¾ hours, daily) and Ancona (€36 to €90, 4½ hours, three to seven weekly), and Pescara with Hvar (€36 to €90, 3¼ hours, daily). **Sanmar** (www.sanmar.it) handles the same route for a similar price.

Venezia Lines (☎ 041-52 22 568; www.venezialines.com; Santa Croce 518/A, Venice 30135) runs passenger boats from Venice to the following destinations once, twice or three times weekly, depending on the destination and the month:

DEPARTURE TAX

There is an embarkation tax of €4 from Italian ports that is included in the price of the tickets.

FLIGHT-FREE TRAVEL

To learn how to get to Zagreb from London without having to fly, log on to www.seat61.com and search under 'Croatia'. You'll get instructions on how to get to Zagreb from the UK capital via bus and rail (it gives you departure times and all!).

Pula (low-high season €50 to €55, three hours), Rovinj, (€48 to €53, 3¼ hours) and Poreč (€48 to €53, 2½ hours). The company also covers other Istrian destinations and runs some routes from Rimini and Ravenna.

Emilia Romagna Lines (www.emiliaromagnalines.it) is another company that runs summer passenger boats (14 April to 30 September) from Italy to Croatia. Routes run from Cesenatico, stopping at Rimini and Pesaro, to Rovinj (low-high season €57 to €62, 3¼ hours), Lošinj (Lussino in Italian; €62 to €72, four hours), Zadar (€72 to €82, 4½ hours) and Hvar (€71 to €82, 5½ hours).

In Croatia, contact **Jadroagent** (☎ 052-210 431; jadroagent-pula@pu.t-com.hr; Riva 14) in Pula and **Istra-Line** (☎ 052-451 067; www.istraline.hr; Šetalište 2) in Poreč for information and tickets on boats between Italy and Croatia.

GETTING AROUND**AIR**

Croatia Airlines (airline code OU; Map pp74-5; ☎ 01-48 19 633; www.croatiaairlines.hr; Zrinjevac 17, Zagreb) is the one and only carrier for flights within Croatia. Fares depend on the season and you get better deals if you book ahead. Seniors, children under 12 and people aged under 26 get discounts. There are daily flights between Zagreb and Dubrovnik, Pula, Split and Zadar. In addition to the standard airport security measures, note that all batteries must be removed from checked luggage when leaving from any airport in Croatia.

BICYCLE

Cycling can be a great way to explore the islands, and bicycles are easy to rent along the coast and on the islands. Relatively flat islands such as Pag, Mljet and Mali Lošinj offer the most relaxed biking, but the winding, hilly roads on other islands offer spectacular views. Some tourist offices, especially in

the Kvarner and Istria regions, have maps of routes and can refer you to local bike-rental agencies. Cycling on the coast or the mainland requires caution, as most roads are busy two-lane highways with no bicycle lanes.

BOAT

Coastal Ferries

Year-round, Jadrolinija car ferries operate along the Bari–Rijeka–Dubrovnik coastal route, stopping at Split and the islands of Hvar, Korčula and Mljet several times a week. Services are less frequent in winter. The most scenic section is Split to Dubrovnik, which all Jadrolinija ferries cover during the day. Ferries are a lot more comfortable than buses, though somewhat more expensive. From Rijeka to Dubrovnik the deck fare is 190/228KN in the low/high season, with high season running from about the end of June to the end of August, and there's a 20% reduction on the return portion of a return ticket. Cabins should be booked a week ahead, but deck space is usually available on all sailings. You must buy tickets in advance at an agency or a Jadrolinija office, since they are not sold on board. Bringing a car means checking in two hours in advance.

Meals in the restaurants aboard Jadrolinija ships are about 100KN for a fixed-price menu of somewhat mediocre food. All the cafeteria offers is ham-and-cheese sandwiches for 30KN. Coffee is cheap in the cafeteria, but wine and spirits tend to be expensive. Breakfast in the restaurant costs about 30KN but is included in the price of a cabin ticket. Do as the Croats do: bring some food and drink with you.

Local Ferries

Local ferries connect the bigger offshore islands with each other and with the mainland, but you'll find many more ferries going from the mainland to the islands than from island to island. On most lines, service is less frequent between October and April. Passenger and car tickets must be bought in advance, as there are no ticket sales on board.

Taking a bicycle on these services incurs a small charge and taking a vehicle aboard obviously incurs a larger charge. The car charge is calculated according to the size of your vehicle and begins at about four times the price of a passenger ticket. In summer, ferries to the

islands fill up fast, so you should reserve as far in advance as possible if you're bringing your car. Some of the ferries operate only a couple of times a day and, once the vehicular capacity is reached, the remaining motorists must wait for the next available service. Even with the reservation, you will have to show up several hours before boarding.

On some of the shorter routes, such as Jablanac to Mišnjak or Drvenik to Sućuraj, the ferries run nonstop in the summer and an advance reservation is unnecessary. If there's no Jadrolinija office in town, you can buy the ticket at a stall near the ferry stop that usually opens 30 minutes before departure. In summer you'll be told to arrive one to two hours in advance for ferries to the more popular islands even if you've already bought your ticket. Foot passengers and cyclists should have no problem getting on.

There is no meal service on local ferries although you can buy drinks and snacks on board. Most locals bring their own food.

Extra passenger boats are added in the summer and are usually faster, more comfortable and more expensive than the car ferries. Boats connecting Split and Zadar with Italy usually make stops on the islands of Hvar, Brač or Vis. See opposite for more information.

BUS

Bus services are excellent and relatively inexpensive. There are often a number of different companies handling each route so prices can vary substantially, but the prices in this book should give you an idea of costs (unless otherwise noted, all bus prices are for one-way fares). Luggage stowed in the baggage compartment under the bus costs extra (7KN a piece, including insurance). Following are some prices for the most popular routes, but it's generally best to call or visit the bus station to get the complete schedule and compare prices.

Route	Fare (KN)	Duration (hr)	Daily services
Dubrovnik-Rijeka	400	12	2
Dubrovnik-Split	120	4½	14
Dubrovnik-Zadar	250	8	7
Zagreb-Dubrovnik	250	11	79
Zagreb-Korčula	224	12	1
Zagreb-Pula	130-230	7	9
Zagreb-Split	195	5-9	27

ROAD DISTANCES (KM)

Dubrovnik	---					
Osijek	495	---				
Rijeka	601	459	---			
Split	216	494	345	---		
Zadar	340	566	224	139	---	
Zagreb	572	280	182	365	288	---
	Dubrovnik	Osijek	Rijeka	Split	Zadar	Zagreb

Phone numbers and websites (if they exist) are listed in the regional chapters, but the companies listed here are among the largest:

Autotrans (☎ 051-660 360; www.autotrans.hr) Based in Rijeka. Connections to Istria, Zagreb, Varaždin and Kvarner.

Brioni Pula (☎ 052-502 997; www.brioni.hr) Based in Pula. Connections to Istria, Trieste, Padua, Split and Zagreb.

Contus (☎ 023-315 315; www.contus.hr) Based in Zadar. Connections to Split and Zagreb.

Croatiabus (☎ 01-23 31 566; www.croatiabus.hr) Connecting Zagreb with towns in Zagorje and Istria.

At large stations, bus tickets must be purchased at the office, not from drivers; try to book ahead to be sure of a seat, especially in the summer. Departure lists above the various windows at bus stations tell you which window sells tickets for your bus. On Croatian bus schedules, *vozi svaki dan* means 'every day' and *ne vozi nedjeljom i blagdanom* means 'no service Sunday and holidays'.

Some buses travel overnight, saving you a night's accommodation, but don't expect to get much sleep, as the inside lights will be on and music will be blasting the whole night. Don't complain – it keeps the driver awake. Take care not to be left behind at meal or rest stops, which usually occur about every two hours.

CAR & MOTORCYCLE

Croatia has recently made a major investment in infrastructure, the highlight of which is a new and badly needed motorway connecting

Zagreb with Split. The 'autoroute' is expected to reach Dubrovnik in a few years. Zagreb and Rijeka are now connected by motorway and an Istrian motorway has shortened the travel time to Italy considerably. Although the new roads are in excellent condition, there are stretches where service stations and facilities are few and far between.

Along the coast, the spectacular Adriatic highway from Italy to Albania hugs the steep slopes of the coastal range, with abrupt drops to the sea and a curve a minute. You can drive as far south as Vitaljina, 56km south-east of Dubrovnik, and then cross the border into Montenegro.

Any valid driving licence is sufficient to drive legally and rent a car; an international driving licence is not necessary. The **Hrvatski Autoklub** (HAK; Croatian Auto Club; Map pp74-5; ☎ 01-46 40 800; www.hak.hr; Draškovićeva 25, Zagreb) offers help and advice. You can also contact the nationwide **HAK road assistance** (Vučna Služba; ☎ 987).

Petrol stations are generally open from 7am to 7pm and often until 10pm in summer. Petrol is Eurosuper 95, Super 98, normal or diesel. See www.ina.hr for up-to-date fuel prices; petrol per litre currently costs around 9.65KN.

You have to pay tolls on all motorways, to use the Učka tunnel between Rijeka and Istria, to use the bridge to Krk Island, and on the road from Rijeka to Delnice. For general news on Croatia's motorways and tolls, see www.hac.hr.

The radio station HR2 broadcasts traffic reports in English every hour on the hour from July to mid-September.

Hire

In order to rent a car, you must be 21 and have a major credit card. Independent local companies are often much cheaper than the international chains, but the big companies have the advantage of offering one-way rentals that allow you to drop the car off at any one of their many stations in Croatia free of charge.

Major car-rental companies include the following:

Avis (Map pp74-5; ☎ 01-46 73 603; www.avis.com.hr; Hotel Sheraton, Kneza Borne 2, Zagreb)

Budget Rent-a-Car (Map pp74-5; ☎ 01-45 54 936; www.budget.hr; Hotel Sheraton, Kneza Borne 2, Zagreb)

Hertz (Map pp74-5; ☎ 01-48 46 777; www.hertz.hr; Vukotinićeva 1, Zagreb)

Sometimes you can get a lower car-rental rate by booking the car from abroad. Tour companies in Western Europe often have fly-drive packages that include a flight to Croatia and a car (two-person minimum). Bear in mind that if you rent a car in Italy, many insurance companies will not insure you for a trip into Croatia. Border officials know this and may refuse you entry unless permission to drive into Croatia is clearly marked on the insurance documents. Most car-rental companies in Trieste and Venice are familiar with this requirement and will furnish you with the correct stamp. Otherwise, you must make specific inquiries.

Insurance

Third-party public liability insurance is included by law with car rentals, but make sure your quoted price includes full collision insurance, known as a collision damage waiver (CDW). Otherwise, your responsibility for damage done to the vehicle is usually determined as a percentage of the car's value beginning at around 2000KN.

Road Rules

In Croatia you drive on the right, and use of seatbelts is mandatory. Unless otherwise posted, the speed limits for cars and motorcycles are 50km/h in the built-up areas, 80km/h on main highways and 130km/h on motorways. On any of Croatia's winding two-lane highways, it's illegal to pass long military convoys or a line of cars caught behind a slow-moving truck. In a desperate measure to get a handle on the country's high accident rate, the government passed a 'zero tolerance' law, making it illegal to drive with any alcohol whatsoever in the blood. You are required to drive with your headlights on even during the day.

HITCHING

Hitching is never entirely safe in any country in the world, and we don't recommend it. Travellers who decide to hitch should understand that they are taking a small but potentially serious risk. People who do choose to hitch will be safer if they travel in pairs and let someone know where they are planning to go.

Hitching in Croatia is a gamble. The coast is used to hitchhikers and you can get a lift on the islands, but in the interior you'll notice that cars are small and usually full.

LOCAL TRANSPORT

Zagreb and Osijek have a well-developed tram system as well as local buses, but in the rest of the country you'll only find buses. Buses in major cities such as Dubrovnik, Rijeka, Split and Zadar run about once every 20 minutes, less on Sunday. A ride is usually around 8KN, with a small discount if you buy tickets at a *tisak* (newsstand). Small medieval towns along the coast are generally closed to traffic and have infrequent links to outlying suburbs. Bus transport within the islands is also infrequent since most people have their own cars. Whatever transport exists is scheduled for the workday needs of the inhabitants, not the holiday needs of tourists. To get out and see the islands, you'll need to rent a bike, boat, motorcycle or car.

TOURS

Atlas Travel Agency (www.atlas-croatia.com) Dubrovnik Gruž Harbour (Map p262; ☎ 020-418 001; Obala Papa Ivana Pavla II 1); Dubrovnik Pile Gate (Map p262; ☎ 020-442 574; Sv Đurđa 1) offers a wide variety of bus tours, fly-drive packages and 'adventure' tours, which feature bird-watching, canoeing, caving, cycling, diving, fishing, hiking, riding, sailing, sea kayaking and white-water rafting.

A German company, **Inselhüpfen** (☎ 7531-942 3630; www.island-hopping.de), combines boating and biking and takes an international crowd through southern Dalmatia, Istria or the Kvarner islands, stopping every day for a bike ride.

Katarina Line (☎ 051-272 110; www.katarina-line.hr; Maršala Tita 75, 51410 Opatija) offers week-long cruises from Opatija to Split, Mljet, Dubrovnik, Hvar, Brač, Korčula, Zadar and the Kornati Islands on an attractive wooden ship.

TRAIN

Zagreb is the hub for Croatia's less-than-extensive train system. You'll notice that no trains run along the coast and only a few coastal cities are connected with Zagreb. For travellers, the main lines of interest are: Zagreb-Rijeka-Pula; Zagreb-Zadar-Šibenik-Split; Zagreb-Varaždin-Koprivnica; and Zagreb-Osijek. The system is being modernised as exemplified by the high-speed 'tilting train' connection between Zagreb and Split, which has cut travel time by a third.

Trains are less frequent than buses but more comfortable. Domestic trains are either 'express' or 'passenger' (local). Express trains

have smoking and nonsmoking as well as 1st- and 2nd-class cars. A reservation is advisable and they are more expensive than passenger trains, which offer only unreserved 2nd-class seating. Prices in this book are for unreserved 2nd-class seating.

There are no couchettes available on any domestic services, but there are sleeping cars on the overnight trains between Zagreb and Split. Baggage is free on trains and most train stations have left-luggage offices charging about 15KN apiece per day (passport required).

EU residents who hold an InterRail pass can use it in Croatia for free travel, but it is unlikely that you would take enough trains in the country to justify the cost.

For information about schedules, prices and services, contact **Croatian Railways** (Hrvatske Željeznice; ☎ 060-333 444; www.hzn.et.hr).

Some terms you might encounter posted on timetables at train stations include the following:

brzi – fast train

dolazak – arrivals

polazak – departures

ne vozi nedjeljom i blagdanom – no service Sunday and holidays

poslovni – business-class train

presjedanje – change of trains

putnički – economy-class/local train

rezerviranje mjesta obvezatno – compulsory seat reservation

svakodnevno – daily

Health

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Travel health depends on your predeparture preparations, your daily health care while travelling and how you handle any medical problem that does develop. The standard of medical care in Croatia is high, and all foreigners are entitled to emergency medical aid at the very least.

BEFORE YOU GO

Prevention is the key to staying healthy while abroad. A little planning before departure, particularly for pre-existing illnesses, will save trouble later: see your dentist before a long trip, carry a spare pair of contact lenses and glasses, and take your optical prescription with you. Bring medications in their original, labelled containers. A letter from your physician describing your medical conditions and medications, including generic names, is also a good idea. If you are carrying syringes, be sure to have a physician's letter with you documenting their necessity.

It's usually a good idea to consult your government's travel health website before departure, if one is available:

Australia www.smarttraveller.gov.au

Canada www.travelhealth.gc.ca

United Kingdom www.dh.gov.uk

United States www.cdc.gov

INSURANCE

If you're an EU citizen, you will be covered for most emergency medical care except for emergency repatriation home. Citizens from other countries should find out if there is a reciprocal arrangement for free medical care between their country and Croatia. If you do need health insurance, strongly consider a policy that covers you for the worst possible scenario, such as an accident requiring an emergency flight home. Find out in advance if your insurance plan will make payments directly to providers or if it will reimburse you later for any overseas health expenditures. The former option is generally preferable, as it doesn't require you to pay out of pocket in a foreign country.

RECOMMENDED VACCINATIONS

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that all travellers should be covered for diphtheria, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella and polio, regardless of their destination. Since most vaccines don't produce immunity until at least two weeks after they're given, visit a physician at least six weeks before departure.

INTERNET RESOURCES

The WHO's publication *International Travel and Health* is revised annually and is available online at www.who.int/ith. Other useful websites include the following:

www.ageconcern.org.uk Advice on travel for the elderly.

www.fitfortravel.scot.nhs.uk General travel advice for the layperson.

www.mariestopes.org.uk Information on contraception and women's health.

www.mdtravelhealth.com Travel-health recommendations for every country; updated daily.

IN TRANSIT

DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS (DVT)

Blood clots may form in the legs during plane flights, chiefly due to prolonged immobility.

The longer the flight, the greater the risk. The chief symptom of DVT is swelling of or pain in the foot, ankle or calf, which is usually, but not always, on just one side. When a blood clot travels to the lungs, it may cause chest pain and breathing difficulties. Travellers with any of these symptoms should immediately seek medical attention.

To prevent the development of DVT on long-distance flights you should walk about the aircraft cabin, contract the leg muscles while sitting, drink plenty of fluids and avoid alcohol.

JET LAG & MOTION SICKNESS

To avoid jet lag (which is common when crossing more than five time zones) try drinking plenty of nonalcoholic fluids and eating light meals. Upon arrival, get exposure to natural sunlight and readjust your schedule (for meals, sleep and so on) as soon as possible.

Antihistamines such as dimenhydrinate (Dramamine) and meclizine (Antivert, Bonine) are usually the first choice for treating motion sickness. A herbal alternative is ginger.

IN CROATIA

AVAILABILITY & COST OF HEALTH CARE

Good health care is readily available in Croatia, and for minor illnesses pharmacists can give valuable advice and sell over-the-counter medication. They can also advise when more specialised help is required and point you in the right direction. The standard of dental care is usually good, but it is sensible to have a dental check-up before a long trip.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Tick-borne encephalitis is spread by tick bites. It is a serious infection of the brain and vaccination is advised for those in risk areas who are unable to avoid tick bites (such as campers and hikers). Two doses of vaccine will give a year's protection; three doses up to three years'.

TRAVELLER'S DIARRHOEA

If you develop diarrhoea, be sure to drink plenty of fluids, preferably an oral rehydration solution (eg dioralyte).

A few loose stools don't require treatment, but if you start having more than four or five loose stools per day, you should start taking an antibiotic (usually a quinolone drug) and an antidiarrhoeal agent (such as loperamide).

If diarrhoea is bloody, persists for more than 72 hours, or is accompanied by fever, shaking, chills or severe abdominal pain, you should seek medical attention.

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS Heat Exhaustion & Heatstroke

Heat exhaustion occurs following excessive fluid loss with inadequate replacement of fluids and salt. Symptoms include headache, dizziness and tiredness. Dehydration is already happening by the time you feel thirsty – aim to drink sufficient water to produce pale, diluted urine. To treat heat exhaustion, replace lost fluids by drinking water and/or fruit juice, and cool the body with cold water and fans. Treat salt loss with salty fluids such as soup or Bovril, or add a little more table salt to foods than usual.

Heatstroke is much more serious, resulting in irrational and hyperactive behaviour and eventually loss of consciousness and death. Rapid cooling by spraying the body with water and fanning is ideal. Emergency fluid and electrolyte replacement by intravenous drip is recommended.

Sea Urchins

Watch out for sea urchins around rocky beaches; if you get some of their needles embedded in your skin, olive oil will help to loosen them. If they are not removed, they could become infected. As a precaution wear rubber shoes while walking on the rocks or bathing.

Snake Bites

To avoid getting bitten by snakes, do not walk barefoot or stick your hands into holes or cracks. Half of those bitten by venomous snakes are not actually injected with poison (envenomed). If bitten by a snake, do not panic. Immobilise the bitten limb with a splint (eg a stick) and apply a bandage over the site firmly, similar to a bandage over a sprain. Do not apply a tourniquet, or cut or suck the bite. Get medical help as soon as possible so that antivenene can be administered if necessary.

TRAVELLING WITH CHILDREN

All travellers with children should know how to treat minor ailments and when to seek medical treatment. Make sure the children are up to date with routine vaccinations, and discuss possible travel vaccines well before departure, as some vaccines are not suitable for children under a year.

In hot moist climates any wound or break in the skin is likely to let in infection. The area should be cleaned and kept dry.

Remember to avoid contaminated food and water. If your child is vomiting or has

a bout of diarrhoea, lost fluid and salts must be replaced. It may be helpful to take rehydration powders for reconstituting with boiled water.

Children should be encouraged to steer clear of dogs and other mammals because of the risk of rabies and other diseases. Any bite, scratch or lick from a warm-blooded, furry animal should be thoroughly cleaned straight away. If you think there is any possibility that the animal is infected with rabies, immediate medical assistance should be sought.

Language

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Croatian belongs to the western group of the South Slavic language family. Other languages in this group are Serbian, Bosnian and Montenegrin.

Croatia's break from former Yugoslavia in 1991 has had an impact on the language. Though it's now referred to as Croatian, in linguistic terms it's not actually a separate language from Serbian, Bosnian or Montenegrin (all formerly known as 'Serbo-Croatian'). The four languages are so similar that they are actually dialects of the one language, with only slight variations in pronunciation and vocabulary.

For information on food and dining, including lots of useful words and phrases to help you when eating out, check out p51.

PRONUNCIATION

The Croatian writing system is phonetically consistent, meaning that every letter is pronounced and its sound will not vary from word to word. With regard to the position of stress, only general rules can be given: the last syllable of a word is never stressed, and in most cases the accent falls on the first vowel in the word. You don't need to worry about this though, as the stressed syllable is indicated with italics in our pronunciation guides.

Croatian is written in the Roman alphabet and many letters are pronounced as in English. The following lists some specific Croatian letters and pronunciations, plus their closest English-letter equivalents (as used in our guides to pronunciation).

c	ts	as the 'ts' in 'cats'
ć	ch	as the 'tu' in 'future'
č	ch	as the 'ch' in 'church'
đ	j	as the 'j' in 'jury'
dž	j	as the 'dj' in 'adjust'
j	y	as the 'y' in 'young'
lj	ly/'l'	as the 'lli' in 'million'
nj	ny/'n'	as the 'ny' in 'canyon'
š	sh	as the 'sh' in 'hush'
ž	zh	as the 's' in 'pleasure'

ACCOMMODATION

I'm looking for a ...

<i>Tražim ...</i>	<i>tra-zheem ...</i>
camping ground	
<i>kamp</i>	<i>kamp</i>
guesthouse	
<i>privatni smještaj</i>	<i>pree-vat-nee smyesh-tai</i>
hotel	
<i>hotel</i>	<i>haw-tel</i>
youth hostel	
<i>prenočište za mladež</i>	<i>pree-naw-cheesh-te za mla-dezh</i>

Where's a (cheap) hotel?

<i>Gdje se nalazi (jeftin) hotel?</i>	<i>gdye se na-la-zee (yef-teen) haw-tel</i>
---------------------------------------	---

What's the address?

<i>Koja je adresa?</i>	<i>kaw-ya ye a-dre-sa</i>
------------------------	---------------------------

Could you write it down, please?

<i>Možete li to napisati?</i>	<i>maw-zhe-te lee taw na-pee-sa-tee</i>
-------------------------------	---

Do you have any rooms available?

<i>Imate li slobodnih soba?</i>	<i>ee-ma-te lee slaw-bawd-nee-h saw-ba</i>
---------------------------------	--

Do you have a ...?

<i>Imate li ...?</i>	<i>ee-ma-te lee ...</i>
bed	
<i>krevet</i>	<i>kre-vet</i>
single room	
<i>jednokrevetnu sobu</i>	<i>yed-naw-kre-vet-noo saw-boo</i>
double/twin bedroom	
<i>dvokrevetnu sobu</i>	<i>dvaw-kre-vet-noo saw-boo</i>
room with a bathroom	
<i>sobu sa kupaonicom</i>	<i>saw-boo sa koo-pa-aw-nee-tsawm</i>

MAKING A RESERVATION

(for written and phone inquiries)

From ...	<i>Od ...</i>	awd ...
To ...	<i>Do ...</i>	daw ...
Date	<i>Datum</i>	da-toom
credit card	<i>kreditna karta</i>	kre-deet-na kar-ta
number	<i>broj</i>	broy
expiry date	<i>rok važenja</i>	rawk va-zhe-nya

I'd like to book ...

Želim rezervirati ...
zhe-leem re-zer-vee-ra-tee ...

In the name of ...

Na ime ...
na ee-me ...

Please confirm availability and price.

Molim potvrdite ima li slobodnih soba i cijenu.
maw-leem pawt-vr-dee-te ee-ma lee
slaw-bawd-nee-h saw-ba ee tsye-noo

How much is it ...?

<i>Koliko košta ...?</i>	kaw-lee-kaw kawsh-ta ...
per night	
<i>za noć</i>	za nawch
per person	
<i>po osobi</i>	paw aw-saw-bee

May I see it?

Mogu li je vidjeti? maw-goo lee ye vee-dye-tee

Where is the bathroom?

Gdje je kupaonica? gdye ye koo-pa-aw-nee-tsa

Where is the toilet?

Gdje je toalet? gdye ye taw-a-let

I'm leaving today.

Ja odlazim danas. ya awd-la-zeem da-nas

We're leaving today.

Mi odlazimo danas. mee awd-la-zee-maw da-nas

CONVERSATION & ESSENTIALS

Hello.	<i>Bog.</i>	bawg
Goodbye.	<i>Zbogom.</i>	zbaw-gawm
See you later.	<i>Dovidenja.</i>	do-vee-jen-ya
Yes.	<i>Da.</i>	da
No.	<i>Ne.</i>	ne
Please.	<i>Molim.</i>	maw-leem
Thank you.	<i>Hvala.</i>	hva-la
You're welcome.	<i>Nema na čemu.</i>	ne-ma na che-moo
Excuse me.	<i>Oprostite.</i>	aw-praw-stee-te
Sorry.	<i>Žao mi je.</i>	zha-aw mee ye
Just a minute.	<i>Trenutak.</i>	tre-noo-tak

Where are you from?

Odakle ste/si? (pol/inf) aw-da-kle ste/see

I'm from ...

Ja sam iz ... ya sam eez ...

What's your name?

Kako se zovete/ zoves? (pol/inf) ka-kaw se zaw-ve-te/
zaw-vesh

My name is ...

Zovem se ... zaw-ve-m se ...

I (don't) like ...

Ja (ne) volim ... ya (ne) vaw-leem ...

DIRECTIONS**Where is ...?**

Gdje je ...? gdye ye ...

Go straight ahead.

Idite ravno naprijed. ee-dee-te rav-naw na-pree-yed

Turn left/right.

Skrenite lijevo/desno. skre-nee-te lee-ye-vaw/des-naw

at the corner

na uglu na oo-gloo

at the traffic lights

na semaforu na se-ma-faw-roo

SIGNS

Ulaz	Entrance
Izlaz	Exit
Otvoreno	Open
Zatvoreno	Closed
Zabranjeno	Prohibited
Zahodi	Toilets/WC
Muškarci	Men
Žene	Women

behind

iza ee-za

in front of

ispred ee-spred

far (from)

daleko (od) da-le-kaw (awd)

near

blizu blee-zoo

next to

pored paw-red

opposite

nasuprot na-soo-prawt

beach

plaža pla-zha

bridge

most mawst

castle

zamak za-mak

cathedral

katedrala ka-te-dra-la

church

crkva tsr-kva

island

otok aw-tawk

lake

jezero ye-ze-rav

main square

glavni trg glav-nee trg

old city (town)

stari grad sta-ree grad

palace

palača pa-la-cha

quay

kež key

riverbank

riječna obala ree-yech-na aw-ba-la

ruins

ruševine roo-she-vee-ne

sea

more maw-re

square

trg trg

tower

kula koo-la

EMERGENCIES**Help!**

Upomoć!
oo-paw-mawch

There's been an accident!

Desila se nezgoda!
de-see-la se nez-gaw-da

I'm lost.

Izgubio/Izgubila sam se. (m/f)
eez-goo-bee-aw/eez-goo-bee-la sam se

Leave me alone!

Ostavite me na miru!
aw-sta-vee-te me na mee-roo

Call a doctor!

Zovite liječnika!
zaw-vee-te lee-yech-nee-ka

Call the police!

Zovite policiju!
zaw-vee-te paw-lee-tsee-yoo

HEALTH**I'm ill.**

Ja sam bolestan/bolesna. (m/f)
ya sam baw-le-stan/
baw-le-sna

It hurts here.

Boli me ovdje. baw-lee me awv-dye

I'm ...

Ja imam ...
ya i-mam ...

asthmatic	<i>astmu</i>	<i>ast-moo</i>
diabetic	<i>dijabetes</i>	<i>dee-ya-be-tes</i>
epileptic	<i>epilepsiju</i>	<i>e-pee-lep-see-yoo</i>

I'm allergic to ...

Ja sam alergičan/alergična na ... (m/f)
ya sam a-ler-gee-chan/a-ler-geechna na ...

antibiotics	<i>antibiotike</i>	<i>an-tee-bee-aw-tee-ke</i>
penicillin	<i>penicilin</i>	<i>pe-nee-tsee-leen</i>
bees	<i>pčele</i>	<i>pche-le</i>
nuts	<i>razne orahe</i>	<i>raz-ne aw-ra-he</i>

antiseptic	<i>antiseptik</i>	<i>an-tee-sep-teeek</i>
aspirin	<i>aspirin</i>	<i>as-pee-reen</i>
condoms	<i>kondomi</i>	<i>kawn-daw-mee</i>
contraceptive	<i>sredstva za kontracepciju</i>	<i>sreds-tva za kaw-n-tra-tsep-tsee-yoo</i>

diarrhoea	<i>proljev</i>	<i>praw-lyev</i>
medicine	<i>lijek</i>	<i>lee-yek</i>
nausea	<i>mučnina</i>	<i>mooch-nee-na</i>
sunscreen	<i>krema za sunčanje</i>	<i>kre-ma za soon-cha-nye</i>
tampons	<i>tamponi</i>	<i>tam-paw-nee</i>

LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES**Do you speak (English)?**

Govorite/Govoriš li (engleski)? (pol/inf)
gaw-vaw-ree-te/gaw-vaw-reesh lee (en-gle-skee)

Does anyone here speak (English)?

Da li itko govori (engleski)?
da lee eet-kaw gaw-vaw-ree (en-gle-skee)

What's this called in Croatian?

Kako se ovo zove na hrvatskom?
ka-kaw se aw-vaw zaw-ve na hr-vat-skawm

What does ... mean?

Što znači ...?
shtaw zna-chee ...

I (don't) understand.

Ja (ne) razumijem.
ya (ne) ra-zoo-mee-yem

Could you write it down, please?

Možete li to napisati, molim vas?
maw-zhe-te lee taw na-pee-sa-tee maw-leem vas

Can you show me (on the map)?

Možete li mi to pokazati (na karti)?
maw-zhe-te lee mee taw paw-ka-za-tee (na kar-tee)

NUMBERS

0	<i>nula</i>	<i>noo-la</i>
1	<i>jedan</i>	<i>ye-dan</i>
2	<i>dva</i>	<i>dva</i>
3	<i>tri</i>	<i>tree</i>
4	<i>četiri</i>	<i>che-tee-ree</i>
5	<i>pet</i>	<i>pet</i>
6	<i>šest</i>	<i>shest</i>
7	<i>sedam</i>	<i>se-dam</i>
8	<i>osam</i>	<i>aw-sam</i>
9	<i>devet</i>	<i>de-veet</i>
10	<i>deset</i>	<i>de-set</i>
11	<i>jedanaest</i>	<i>ye-da-na-est</i>
12	<i>dvanaest</i>	<i>dva-na-est</i>
13	<i>trinaest</i>	<i>tree-na-est</i>
14	<i>četрнаest</i>	<i>che-tr-na-est</i>
15	<i>petnaest</i>	<i>pet-na-est</i>
16	<i>šesnaest</i>	<i>shes-na-est</i>
17	<i>sedamnaest</i>	<i>se-dam-na-est</i>
18	<i>osamnaest</i>	<i>aw-sam-na-est</i>
19	<i>devetnaest</i>	<i>de-veet-na-est</i>
20	<i>dvadeset</i>	<i>dva-de-set</i>
21	<i>dvadeset jedan</i>	<i>dva-de-set ye-dan</i>
22	<i>dvadeset dva</i>	<i>dva-de-set dva</i>
30	<i>trideset</i>	<i>tree-de-set</i>
40	<i>četdeset</i>	<i>che-tr-de-set</i>
50	<i>pedeset</i>	<i>pe-de-set</i>
60	<i>šezdeset</i>	<i>shez-de-set</i>
70	<i>sedamdeset</i>	<i>se-dam-de-set</i>
80	<i>osamdeset</i>	<i>aw-sam-de-set</i>
90	<i>devedeset</i>	<i>de-ve-de-set</i>
100	<i>sto</i>	<i>staw</i>
1000	<i>tisuću</i>	<i>tee-soo-choo</i>

PAPERWORK

name	<i>ime</i>	<i>ee-me</i>
nationality	<i>nacionalnost</i>	<i>na-tsee-awn-nal-nawst</i>
date of birth	<i>datum rođenja</i>	<i>da-toom raw-je-nya</i>
place of birth	<i>mjesto rođenja</i>	<i>mye-staw raw-je-nya</i>
sex/gender	<i>spol</i>	<i>spawl</i>
passport	<i>putovnica</i>	<i>poo-taww-nee-tsa</i>
visa	<i>viza</i>	<i>vee-za</i>

QUESTION WORDS

Who?	<i>Tko?</i>	<i>tkaw</i>
What?	<i>Što?</i>	<i>shtaw</i>
What is it?	<i>Što je?</i>	<i>shtaw ye</i>
When?	<i>Kada?</i>	<i>ka-da</i>
Where?	<i>Gdje?</i>	<i>gdye</i>
Which?	<i>Koji/Koja/ Koje? (m/f/n)</i>	<i>kaw-ye/kaw-ya/ kaw-ye</i>
Why?	<i>Zašto?</i>	<i>za-shtaw</i>
How?	<i>Kako?</i>	<i>ka-kaw</i>
How much?	<i>Koliko?</i>	<i>kaw-lee-kaw</i>

SHOPPING & SERVICES**I'm just looking.**

*Ja samo razgledam.
ya sa-maw raz-gle-dam*

I'd like to buy (an adaptor plug).

*Želim kupiti (utikač za konverter).
zhe-leem koo-pee-tee (oo-tee-kach za kaw-n-ver-ter)*

May I look at it?

*Mogu li to pogledati?
maw-goo lee taw paw-gle-da-tee*

How much is it? *Koliko košta?* *kaw-lee-kaw kawsh-ta*

It's cheap. *To je jeftino.* *taw ye yef-tee-naw*

That's too expensive. *To je preskupo.* *taw ye pre-skoo-paw*

I like it. *Sviđa mi se.* *svee-ja mee se*

I'll take it. *Uzeću ovo.* *oo-ze-choo aw-vaw*

Do you accept ...?

*Da li prihvaćate ...?
da lee pree-hva-cha-te ...*

credit cards	<i>kreditne kartice</i>	<i>kre-deet-ne kar-tee-tse</i>
travellers cheques	<i>putničke čekove</i>	<i>poot-neeck-ke che-kaw-ve</i>

more	<i>više</i>	<i>vee-she</i>
less	<i>manje</i>	<i>ma-nye</i>
enough	<i>dosta</i>	<i>daws-ta</i>
bigger	<i>veći/veća/ veće (m/f/n)</i>	<i>ve-chee/ve-cha/ ve-che</i>
smaller	<i>manji/manja/ manje (m/f/n)</i>	<i>ma-nyee/ma-nya/ ma-nye</i>

Where's ...?	<i>Gdje je ...?</i>	<i>gdye je ...</i>
a bank	<i>banka</i>	<i>ban-ka</i>
the church	<i>crkva</i>	<i>tsrk-va</i>
the city centre	<i>centar grada</i>	<i>tsen-tar gra-da</i>
the ... embassy	<i>... ambasada</i>	<i>... am-ba-sa-da</i>
the hospital	<i>bolnica</i>	<i>bawl-nee-tsa</i>
the market	<i>tržnica</i>	<i>trzh-nee-tsa</i>
the museum	<i>muzej</i>	<i>moo-zey</i>
the police	<i>policija</i>	<i>paw-lee-tsee-ya</i>
the post office	<i>pošta</i>	<i>pawsh-ta</i>
a public phone	<i>javni telefon</i>	<i>yav-nee te-le-fawn</i>
a public toilet	<i>javni zahod</i>	<i>yav-nee za-hawd</i>
the tourist office	<i>turistički biro</i>	<i>too-rees-teech-kee bee-raw</i>

TIME & DATES**What time is it?**

Koliko je sati? *kaw-lee-kaw ye sa-tee*

It's (one) o'clock.

(Jedan) je sat. *(ye-dan) ye sat*

It's (10) o'clock.

(Deset) je sati. *(de-set) ye sa-tee*

in the morning

ujutro *oo-yoo-traw*

in the afternoon

poslijepodne *paw-see-ye-pawd-ne*

in the evening

navečer *na-ve-cher*

today

danas *da-nas*

tomorrow

sutra *soo-tra*

yesterday

jučer *yoo-cher*

Monday

ponedjeljak *paw-ne-dye-lyak*

utorak *oo-taw-rak*

srijeda *sree-ye-da*

četvrtak *chet-vr-tak*

petak *pe-tak*

subota *soo-baw-ta*

nedjelja *ne-dye-lya*

January *siječanj* *see-ye-chan'*

February *veljača* *ve-lya-cha*

March *ožujak* *aw-zhoo-yak*

April *travanj* *tra-van'*

May *svibanj* *svee-ban'*

June *lipanj* *lee-pan'*

July *srpanj* *sr-pan'*

August *kolovoz* *kaw-law-vawz*

September *rujanj* *roo-yan'*

October *listopad* *lee-staw-pad*

November *studenj* *sloo-de-nee*

December *prosinac* *paw-see-nats*

TRANSPORT

Public Transport

What time does the ... leave/arrive?

U koliko sati kreće/stiže ...?

oo kaw-lee-kaw sa-tee kre-che/stee-zhe ...

boat	<i>brod</i>	brawd
bus	<i>autobus</i>	a-oo-taw-boos
plane	<i>avion</i>	a-vee-awn
train	<i>vlak</i>	vlak
tram	<i>tramvaj</i>	tram-vai

I'd like a ... ticket.

Želio/Željela bih jednu ... kartu. (m/f)

zhe-lee-aw/zhe-lye-la beeh yed-noo ... kar-too

one-way	<i>jednosmjernu</i>	yed-naw-smyer-noo
return	<i>povratnu</i>	paw-vrat-noo
1st class	<i>prvorazrednu</i>	pr-vaw-raz-red-noo
2nd class	<i>drugorazrednu</i>	doo-gaw-raz-red-noo

I want to go to ...

Želim da idem u ... zhe-leem da ee-dem oo ...

The train has been delayed.

Vlak kasni. vlak kas-nee

The train has been cancelled.

Vlak je otkazan. vlak ye awt-ka-zan

the first	<i>prvi</i>	pr-vee
the last	<i>posljednji</i>	paws-lyed-nyee
the next	<i>sljedeći</i>	slye-de-chee
platform	<i>broj perona</i>	broy pe-raw-na
number		
ticket office	<i>blagajna</i>	bla-gai-na
timetable	<i>red voznje</i>	red vawzh-nye
train station	<i>željeznička postaja</i>	zhe-lyez-neeck-ka paws-ta-ya

Private Transport

I'd like to hire a/an ...

Želio/Željela bih iznajmiti ... (m/f)

zhe-lee-aw/zhe-lye-la beeh eez-nai-mee-tee ...

bicycle	<i>bicikl</i>	bee-tsee-kl
car	<i>automobil</i>	a-oo-taw-maw-beel
4WD	<i>džip</i>	jeep
motorbike	<i>motocikl</i>	maw-taw-tsee-kl

How much for daily/weekly hire?

Koliko stoji dnevni/tjedni najam?

kaw-lee-kaw staw-yee dnev-nee/tyed-nee na-yam

Is this the road to ...?

Je li ovo cesta za ...?

ye lee aw-vaw tse-sta za ...

Where's a service station?

Gdje je benzinska stanica?

gdye ye ben-zeen-ska sta-nee-tsa

ROAD SIGNS

Opasno	Danger
Obilaznica	Detour
Ulaz	Entry
Izlaz	Exit
Ulaz Zabranjen	No Entry
Zabranjeno Preticanje	No Overtaking
Zabranjeno Parkiranje	No Parking
Jedan Pravac	One Way
Uspori	Slow Down
Putarina	Toll

Please fill it up.

Pun rezervoar molim.

poon re-zer-vaw-ar maw-leem

I'd like ... litres.

Trebam ... litara.

tre-bam ... lee-ta-ra

diesel

dizel gorivo dee-zel gaw-ree-vaw

petrol

benzin ben-zeen

(How long) Can I park here?

(Koliko dugo) Mogu odje parkirati?

(kaw-lee-kaw doo-gaw) maw-goo awv-dye par-kee-ra-tee

Where do I pay?

Gdje se plaća?

Gdye se pla-cha

I need a mechanic.

Trebam automehaničara.

tre-bam a-oo-taw-me-ha-nee-cha-ra

The car/motorbike has broken down (at ...).

Automobil/Motocikl se pokvario (u ...).

a-oo-taw-maw-beel/maw-taw-tsee-kl se pawk-va-ree-aw (oo ...)

The car/motorbike won't start.

Automobil/Motocikl neće upaliti.

a-oo-taw-maw-beel/maw-taw-tsee-kl ne-che oo-pa-lee-tee

I have a flat tyre.

Imam probušenu gumu.

ee-mam praw-boo-she-noo goo-moo

I've run out of petrol.

Nestalo mi je benzina.

ne-sta-law mee ye ben-zeen-na

I've had an accident.

Imao/Imala sam prometnu nezgodu. (m/f)

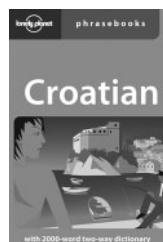
ee-ma-aw/ee-ma-la sam praw-met-noo nez-gaw-doo

TRAVEL WITH CHILDREN

Are children allowed?

Da li je dozvoljen pristup djeci?

da lee ye dawz-vaw-lyen pree-stoop dye-tsee

Do you mind if I breast-feed here?*Da li vam smeta ako ovdje dojim?**da lee vam sme-ta a-kaw awv-dye daw-yeem***Do you have (a/an) ...?***Imate li ...?**ee-ma-te lee ...***baby change room***sobu za previjanje beba**saw-boo za pre-vee-ya-nye be-ba***car baby seat***sjedalo za dijete**sy-e-da-law za dee-ye-te***child-minding service***usluge čuvanja djece**oo-sloo-ge choo-va-nya dye-tse***children's menu***dječji jelovnik**dyech-ye-e ye-lawv-neeek***(disposable) nappies/diapers***pelene (za jednokratnu upotrebu)**pe-le-ne (za yed-naw-krat-noo oo-paw-tre-boo)***(English-speaking) babysitter***dadiju (koja govori engleski)**da-dee-lyoo (kaw-ya gaw-vaw-ree en-gle-skee)***highchair***visoku stolicu za bebe**vee-saw-koo staw-lee-tsoo za be-be***infant milk formula***formulu za bebe**fawr-moo-loo za be-be***potty***tutu**too-too***pusher/stroller***dječju hodalicu**dyech-yoo haw-da-lee-tsoo*

Also available from Lonely Planet:
Croatian Phrasebook

Glossary

amphora (s), **amphorae** (pl) – large, two-handled vase in which wine or water was kept

apse – altar area of a church

autocamps – gigantic camping grounds with restaurants, shops and row upon row of caravans

Avars – Eastern European people who waged war against Byzantium from the 6th to 9th centuries

ban – viceroy or governor

bb – in an address the letters 'bb' following a street name (such as Placa bb) stand for *bez broja* (without number), which indicates that the building has no street number

brek – Istrian truffle-hunting dog

brzi – fast train

bura – cold northeasterly wind

cesta – road

citura – zither

crkva – church

dnevna karta – day ticket

dolazak – arrivals

dom – dormitory, mountain cottage or lodge

drmeš – fast polka danced by couples in small groups

dubrava – holm oak

fortica – fortress

fumaioli – exterior chimneys

galerija – gallery

garderoba – left-luggage office

Glagolitic – ancient Slavonic language put into writing by Greek missionaries Cyril and Methodius

gora – mountain

gostionica – simple family-run restaurant

grad – city

HAK – Hrvatski Autoklub; Croatian Auto Club

HDZ – Hrvatska Demokratska Zajednica; Croatian Democratic Union

Illyrians – ancient inhabitants of the Adriatic coast, defeated by the Romans in the 2nd century BC

impulsi – units (phonecards)

jezero – lake

juga – southern wind

karst – highly porous limestone and dolomitic rock

karta – ticket

kavana – café

kazalište – theatre

kino – cinema

klapa – an outgrowth of church-choir singing

kolo – lively Slavic round dance in which men and women alternate in the circle, accompanied by Roma-style violinists

konoba – the traditional term for a small, intimate dining spot, often located in a cellar; now applies to a wide variety of restaurants; usually a simple, family-run establishment

macchia – shrubs

maestral – strong, steady westerly wind

malo – little

maquis – dense growth of mostly evergreen shrubs and small trees

mišnice – local Korčulan instrument, a bit like bagpipes

morčići – historically, *moretto*; a traditional symbol of Rijeka; the image of a black person topped with a colourful turban made into ceramic brooches and earrings

moretto – historical term for *morčići*

muzej – museum

nave – central part of a church flanked by two aisles

NDH – Nezavisna Država Hrvatska; Independent State of Croatia

obala – waterfront

odlazak – departures; also *polazak*

otok (s), **otoci** (pl) – island

pečina – cave

pension – guest house

pismo – stamp

pivnica – pub

plaža – beach

pletter – plaited ornamentation often found in churches

polazak – departures; also *odlazak*

polje – collapsed limestone area often under cultivation

poskočica – dance featuring couples creating various patterns

poslovni – business-class train

potok – stream

put – path, trail

putnički – economy-class train

restauracija – restaurant

restoran – restaurant

rijeka – river
ris – lynx

sabor – parliament
samoposluživanje – self-service restaurant;
cafeteria

šetalište – walkway

slastičarna – pastry shop

sobe – rooms available

sveti – saint

svetog – saint (genitive case – ie of saint, as in the
Church of St Joseph)

tamburica – three- or five-string mandolin

tisak – newsstand

toplice – spa

trg – square

turbo folk – version of Serbian music

turistička zajednica – tourist
association

ulica – street

uvala – bay

velik – large

vlak – train

vrh – summit, peak

zimmer – rooms available (a German
word)

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