



- **City of Zagreb**

(source: the Croatia Tourism website : <https://croatia.hr/en-GB>)

- **An Old City with a Young Soul**

The Croatian capital Zagreb is young and playful at heart, despite the almost thousand year-old history of its old town. By day, the city beats to the pulse of its thriving businesses, letting its hair down come sunset. And despite being a thoroughly modern metropolis, the locals welcome visitors with traditional Croatian hospitality.

Come and visit Croatia's political, commercial and cultural heart! Zagreb's old town is a true feast for your senses, where you can sample some of the country's most renowned restaurants and coffee shops in the midst of classic façades, lush gardens and striking Neo-Gothic buildings.

- **Where to go ?**

A city tailored to the needs of man.

Zagreb, the capital of Croatia, ranks among the oldest cities in Central Europe, as is evident from the documents dating back to 1094, when a diocese was established in this area. The city developed between the mountain of Medvednica and the river Sava. Its old center consists of the medieval Gradec – today the home of the Croatian Government and Parliament - and Kaptol, the seat of the Archbishop. Following the administrative unification of the two entities and the surrounding villages in the 19th century, the city experienced a surge in the construction of prestigious buildings, squares and fountains, as well as the establishment of beautiful park-woods and parks which today make it one of the greenest cities in Europe.

A delight to walk through, the capital of Croatia attracts visitors with the lively atmosphere of its streets, numerous coffee shops, restaurants and shopping. If you are looking for a break on your way to, or from, a seaside tourist resort, a break that would freshen up your journey, then Zagreb is the place to come to and it is waiting for you. Welcome!



- **Art**

Built on the foundations of two medieval burgs that blossomed on the nearby hills of Gradec and the Kaptol bishopric, with a documented history from 1094, Zagreb has always been Croatia's true cultural metropolis. With places of interest such as the Croatian National Theatre, the Art Pavilion, the Academy of Science and Arts, the university library, numerous museums and galleries, as well as wonderful parks and gardens, Zagreb has always been a truly central European cultural centre whose significance is best witnessed by the numerous theatres, museums, galleries and art exhibitions.

Special recommendation:

Museum of Broken Relationships

Museum of illusions

- **Church of St. Mark**

It was built in the 18th century on a Roman basis and completed as a hall church. The south portal is the most expressive gothic sculptural creation in this part of Europe. Among other things, the Church of St. Mark is known for its multicolored roof tiles, creating the crest of Croatia, Dalmatia and Slavonia on the left side, and the crest of the City of Zagreb on the right side, for the first time. The Church of St. Mark is located on Sv. Marko Square with the Croatian Parliament House on the east side, and Banski Dvori, where Croatian governors once had their seat, on the west side. It is now the seat of the Croatian Government.

- **Tunels in the City Center**

Grič Tunnel was built in 1943 for use as a WWII air-raid shelter. Today, this 350m-long tunnel is a place for art exhibitions and events.



- **Dolac**

Zagreb's central marketplace is situated in the very center of the city. The marketplace is a colorful spot and a convincing proof that Zagreb and Croatia eat natural, fresh and tasty food.

Quality tasty meat, fruits and vegetables from the Zagreb region and other parts of the country and the world, dairy products made by peasant women from the surrounding area and fresh Adriatic fish are available at colorful stands under distinctive red parasols. There is also a wide range of souvenirs, garments and special products made of wood, wicker, etc.

- **Gastronomy**

Charming restaurants and coffee houses (Tkalčićeva street).

- **Lotrščak Tower**

Every day, for over hundred and ten years, the cannon fires from the top of tower Lotrščak exactly at noon in memory of an event from Zagreb history. According to the legend, exactly at noon, the Grič canon fired a discharge from Lotrščak to the Turkish camp located across Sava and blew out a rooster (or a turkey) which the cook was taking to Pasha on a platter. After this event, the Turks scattered and did not attack Zagreb.

Once the main city fort, it is now one of Zagreb's trademarks. This is the best preserved building within the city's defensive system, its belvedere providing a wonderful view of Zagreb and its immediate surroundings. The fort was erected in mid-18th century and was named Lotrščak for the bell within it, the "campana latrunculorum" or "the bell of thieves", which rang every night before the town gates closed.



- Maksimir Park, an oasis of peace

A popular green oasis for Zagreb's inhabitants is the largest city park Maksimir, which has marked 220 years since its founding. The park was founded in the late 18th century in a dense centuries-old forest, thanks to Bishop Maximilian the noble Vrhovac, a great nature lover, in whose honor the park was named.

The bishop began works in 1787. on the hunting grounds of Zagreb's bishops, wanting to design it in a classic French style, with flower beds, plants, pavilions, rose bushes and greenhouses. The park was partially furnished and officially opened for the public in 1794. The Archbishop of Zagreb,

Cardinal Juraj Haulik, the ultimate creator of the park, left the French idea of the park and in the 19th century edited it in the style of an English romantic garden – a natural, luxurious park-forest. The 316 acres are governed by meadows and clearings, paths and trails, regulated streams and five artificial lakes that were formed. An imposing entrance gate was built, pavilions, the bishop's summer residence, viewpoints, decorative sculptures were placed and areas with plants were allocated.

One of the most recognizable symbols of the park is the 'Vidikovac', the central building was built on the clearing in 1843. when the park was completed and opened to the citizens of Zagreb to use. Vidikovac is designed as a two-storey tower surrounded by two terraces where you can still to this day have a drink or enjoy the view of the park.

In 1842, modeled after the then modern houses, the Swiss House was built, a rustic wooden structure with a stone ground floor. This used to be the woodsman's house, and today it is arranged as a small bistro.

In 1925. the zoo built and a memorial mound – barrow, in the memory of the one thousand year old Croatian kingdom. The monument was created by bringing earth from 155 sites of important cultural and political events around Croatia.

The northernmost part of the park is wild, where a thick, primeval forest extends.

Park Maksimir was protected in 1948. as a natural rarity, and in 1964. was declared a monument of landscape architecture and protected cultural property. The harmony of its sunny meadows, gorgeous trees, lakes with white swans and long, winding hiking and biking trails, attract fans of botany and bird watchers, but mostly ordinary people, hikers who seek peace and respite from everyday life.

Today Maksimir park is an ideal place, five minutes from downtown, where you can at least for a moment remove yourself from city noise and enjoy your break and recreation. There are many possibilities in this respect the park offers its visitors, such as the walk along the landscaped park paths, Nordic walking, running, cycling, rowing boats on the Third Lake, and for younger visitors there are two modern playgrounds.



Maksimir Park is to Zagreb as the Bois de Boulogne is to Paris, the Tiergarten is to Berlin or the Regents Park to London.

- **Botanical garden**

The Garden was established as a part of the Botanical department and Faculty of science, primarily to serve to botanical university studies and scientific research.

- **Malo Jezero, Jarun**

Malo Jezero, Jarun “Zagreb’s sea” is the famous nickname for Jarun Lake. The gazebos with barbecues and the numerous catering outlets have become its trademark. The parking spaces, nearby public transport, roller skating and cycling paths make Malo Jezero (Small Lake) extremely accessible. The lifeguard service and the adaptations for people with disabilities also make it safe, whilst all the playgrounds and amenities make Jarun the sports and recreational centre of Zagreb, with Malo Jezero as a starting point.

SIGHTSEEING

Gornji grad (uptown) and Donji grad (downtown), Zagreb Cathedral and St.Mark's church

- **The ancient Medvedgrad**

The ancient Medvedgrad, a medieval fort built in the 13th century and recently reconstructed, is a special attraction on Medvednica. It now features the Homeland Altar with an eternal flame, where Croatia pays homage to its heroes who have died for their Homeland through history.

- **Veliko Jezero, Bundek**

During the landscaping of Bundek Lake, the site of Veliko Jezero (Large Lake) was arranged as a bathing area with a large pebbly beach and all the necessary infrastructure (showers, sanitary facilities, drinking water), and nearby can be found places to eat and drink, benches for barbecues and a children’s playground for children of all ages. Alongside the beach there is a promenade, a cycling and roller-skating path and spacious green spaces.