

= Zaprežić =

Zaprežić ( pronounced [ zâprežit̩ ] ) is a city in Zagreb County in Croatia . Its population is 19 644 inhabitants for the city proper , and over 51 000 for its seven municipality metropolitan area . Zaprežić is the third largest , and most densely populated division of the county . It is located northwest of the Croatian capital Zagreb , and near the Slovenian border . It is centered on plains north of the Sava River , and is bordered by Medvednica Mountain to the east , and the Marija Gorica Hills to the west .

The first human settlement in , and near Zaprežić dates from the Neolithic , and several Roman roads were constructed in the area . The first records of the modern town date from 1334 . Since that date , the town 's history includes being a part of a feudal estate to operating the first meat packaging plant in Croatia . However , it was not formally established as a city until 1995 . The city is governed by a mayor , a city government of seven members ( upper house ) , and a city council of twenty one ( lower house ) . The current ruling party is the Croatian Democratic Union ( HDZ ) , and the current mayor is Veljko Turk . Zaprežić has its own fire department , but police coverage is provided by the city of Zagreb . Komunalno poduzeće Zaprežić manages all utilities except electricity . Tap water in Zaprežić is of high quality .

Due to its many rail , and road transport corridors , Zaprežić has been dubbed the " northwestern gate to Zagreb County " . It lies directly next to the A2 highway connecting Zagreb to Central Europe . It also is adjacent to the main railway leading northwest out of Zagreb . Centered on the tertiary sector , the city 's economy is booming due to a large population influx .

Zaprežić 's educational facilities range from kindergartens to centers of higher education . The city is home to four elementary schools , one high school , and two universities . The Zaprežić metropolitan area contains six castles that together make up what is known as the " palace path . " The town also has a museum and an art gallery . The most popular sport in the region is football , and the local team is NK Inter Zaprežić , a member of the First Football League of Croatia . Other sports are also present in Zaprežić , and the city is home to a golf resort .

= = History = =

The first records of human inhabitants in the Zaprežić metropolitan area date back to the Neolithic , evident through stone axes found in Brdovec , and axes from the Copper Age found in Marija Gorica . Halstatt culture traces were uncovered in the area of Sveti Križ . The Romans left their imprints on Zaprežić in the form of the Siscia ? Neviodunum ? Emona road , which followed Sava River on its left bank through the Zaprežić area , passing near modern settlements .

After a lack of records from the first millennium , Zaprežić again became known in the late 11th century . In 1094 , following the formation of the Zagreb Diocese , Ača , an advisor of the Croato ? Hungarian King Ladislav I , was granted land west and east of the Medvednica Mountain to protect the newly formed diocese . Zaprežić became part of the Susedgrad ? Stubica manor , the second largest estate in the Croato ? Hungarian Zagreb County . In 1334 , the parish church of St. Peter was founded in Zaprežić , marking the first evidence of the modern settlement of Zaprežić . The settlement developed rapidly , which is attributed to its position on important trade and transit routes . This was corroborated by the route of the first railway in Croatia , which passes through Zaprežić .

During 15th and 16th centuries , refugees from Lika came to Zaprežić to escape the Ottomans . Some of these refugees were the so called Brdovec Franciscans , for whom Lord Zylagy of Susedgrad built an abbey in Marija Gorica . The refugees brought the Ikavian accent , which was preserved for a long time in some small Zaprežić communities , although the Zaprežić area has historically been Ekavian Kajkavian ( yat being [ e ] or [ ɤ ] rather than [ i ] ) . The area was hit hard by the 1573 peasant revolt , led by Matija Gubec , who , according to historian Ivan Kukuljević Sakcinski , managed the estate of Jablanovec , part of modern Zaprežić . One of the revolt leaders was Ilija Gregorić , a resident of Marija Gorica .

Two years later , the large manor of Susedgrad and Stubica started to disperse into many small

estates owned by low @-@ level members of the nobility . Dozens of simple diocesan curia houses serve as a reminder of this nobility . After the First World War , the oldest meat industry in Croatia , the Industrija mesnih proizvoda , was founded .

Zaprežić was formally established for the first time in 1952 , when the Municipality of Zaprežić ( Croatian : Općina Zaprežić was formed . The municipality operated as part of the Zagreb kotar and later City of Zagreb . The City of Zaprežić ( Grad Zaprežić ) was incorporated on 30 November 1995 . On that day , parts of the surrounding municipalities of Pužica , and Hruševac Kupljenski ( which was disbanded , leaving only a namesake settlement ) and the City of Zagreb were incorporated into a new City of Zaprežić . The settlement of Merenje came under the jurisdiction of Zaprežić on 17 January 1997 .

## = = Geography = =

Zaprežić is a part of the metropolitan area of Croatia 's capital and largest city , Zagreb . It is located 18 kilometres ( 11 mi ) northwest of Zagreb , lying near the confluence of the Krapina River , and the Sava River . The small Lužnica River marks the western city border of Zaprežić . The Zaprežić metropolitan area consists of Zaprežić and seven surrounding municipalities : Brdovec , Bistra , Dubravica , Jakovlje , Luka , Marija Gorica , and Pužica . It is formed by the northwestern part of Zagreb County , bordered on the south by the Sava River , on the east by Zagreb , and the Medvednica Mountain , and on the west by the Sutla River , and the Slovenian border . According to the official website , three distinct geographic areas make up the Zaprežić area : the western part of the Medvednica Mountain , the Marija Gorica Hills and the plains that lie between . The western part of the Medvednica Mountain is fairly lightly inhabited , with no settlements except at the base of the mountain . These include the Bistra municipality and the Zaprežić settlement of Jablanovec . The Marija Gorica Hills are located mainly in the Marija Gorica municipality between the rivers of Krapina , and Sutla . The third area , the plains , is the area where the Zaprežić itself is located . Zaprežić has a lake , Lake Zajarki , situated between the town and the Sava River in the south . It is colloquially known as Bager ( Croatian word for excavator ) . The lake is currently still used as a gravel pit , although it is a known destination for Zaprežić swimmers and beach goers .

## = = Demographics = =

According to the 2011 census , the town of Zaprežić has 25 @, @ 223 inhabitants , 19 @, @ 644 of whom live in the Zaprežić settlement ( naselje ) . This makes Zaprežić urban area at 1 @, @ 036 inhabitants per square kilometer ( 2 @, @ 683 per square mile ) the most densely populated in the whole of Zagreb County . The town is administratively divided into nine settlements , the largest of which is also called Zaprežić , covering a third of the town 's area . The metropolitan area of Zaprežić had 54 @, @ 640 inhabitants in 2011 , an increase from 51 @, @ 040 inhabitants in 2001 . About 96 % of inhabitants are Croats and 98 @. @ 3 % speak Croatian as their mother tongue . The sex ratio is 90 @. @ 63 men to 100 women , and the median age is 39 @. @ 9 years , which makes Zaprežić one of the younger towns in Zagreb County .

## = = Economy = =

Due to its accessible location with favorable conditions for expansion , and a very high net migration , and population growth rates ( estimated to be 29 persons per 1 @, @ 000 per year ) , Zaprežić is expecting an economic boom . Despite the ongoing financial crisis that hit many cities in Croatia , including the capital , the town operates without loans and expects a yearly budget increase in the range of 20 to 30 percent . The tertiary sector is dominant with mainly retailing , and hospitality , and a smaller presence of tourism , as well as souvenir manufacturing ) and financial services . The secondary sector is also present with ceramic industry ( Inker ) , metalworking ( Karbon Nova , Lanac , and Unija metali ) and chemical industry ( Messer Croatia plin , Montkemija ) . The primary sector mainly consists of agriculture , and is expected to continue shrinking . There are currently 3

@, @ 040 hectares ( 7 @, @ 512 acres ) of arable land for agricultural use , but the town 's general urban plan anticipates an economic shift will lower the amount of agricultural use to 930 hectares ( 2 @, @ 298 acres ) by 2015 , thus speeding the process of suburbanization started by the expansion of Zagreb . The future of Zaprežić 's economy is seen in the development of small , and mid @-@ sized businesses , tourism , and food @-@ related industries . The city income tax rate is 12 percent . The city budget in 2008 amounted to HRK 198 million .

The Shopping City Zagreb ( also called West Gate Shopping Center ) is a shopping mall planned to create a major job demand in the Zaprežić region . Located next to the Krapina River and A2 highway , the center will serve 2 @. @ 3 million residents in the Zagreb region . It will also be the largest in the Zagreb metropolitan area with 100 @, @ 000 square meters ( 1 @, @ 080 @, @ 000 sq ft ) of gross leasable area . Construction started in late 2007 . It was opened in October 2009 .

#### = = Culture and media = =

Zaprežić 's cultural heritage includes a series of six historic castles and palaces known as " the palace path " ( Croatian : staza dvoraca ) : Lučnica mansion , Januševec palace , Laduč mansion , Oršić family mansion , Jakovlje palace , and Novi Dvori . Of these , Oršić and Januševec are in the zeroth category of cultural heritage preservation of UNESCO , Lučnica is in the first category of the Croatian Ministry of Culture , and Laduč and Novi Dvori are in the second category of the Ministry of Culture . Jakovlje palace is not involved in any cultural preservation program . Novi Dvori ( also known as Novi Dvori Jelačićevi ? New Jelačić Palace ) is known for being the residence of Josip Jelačić , one of the most famous Croatian bans . However , before that it was inhabited by five families ( the last one being Erdödy ) after its construction in 1611 as a simple two @-@ story house . It remains a well @-@ preserved example of a manorial estate . The palace was left to the state in 1934 by Josip Jelačić 's nephew and nieces .

The town is home to the Museum of Matija Skurjeni ( opened in 1984 ) , a gallery of works by the renowned painter . It is located in the former granary of Novi Dvori . The art gallery Razvid , that opened in 1991 , has held exhibitions of works by many important Croatian artists , such as Franjo Ferencak , Ivan Lovrenčić , Drago Grgas , Davor Vuković ( a native of Zaprežić ) and Krešimir Trumbeta . The Zaprežić main library , " Ante Kovačić " , is a part of the association of Zagreb City Libraries ( Croatian : Knjižnice Grada Zagreba , KGZ ) , and has 5 @, @ 541 members with access to 78 @, @ 385 books . Albin Bonzelli , an employee of Baron Levin Rauch , founded the first library in Zaprežić area in 1921 in Brdovec . A more recent library was founded in 1958 , and moved to its present location in 1986 .

Zaprežić contains the ornithological reserve Zaprežić @-@ Sava , which is located south of the city , at Lake Zajarki . The reserve is covered mainly with woods and thick low vegetation , and criss @-@ crossed by fluvial marshes . Zaprežić operates a hunting office , which is made of eight clubs : Zaprežić , Kuna , Vidra , Fazan , Srnjak , ?ljuka ( offices in Luka , and Bistra ) and Vepar . A radio station operates in Zaprežić : Radio Zaprežić ( also known as Round Wave Station Zaprežić , Croatian : Krugovalna postaja Zaprežić ) . The station broadcasts a FM signal at 96 @. @ 0 and 99 @. @ 5 MHz , 24 hours each weekday . It was founded on 15 January 1987 . The local monthly newspaper Prigorski Kaj has its seat in the nearby settlement of ?enkovec in the Brdovec municipality .

#### = = Sports and recreation = =

Organized sports in Zaprežić started in 1926 , with the first football match between unregistered teams from Zaprežić and Savski Marof . The football club NK Sava ( now called NK Inter Zaprežić ) was soon formed in 1929 . There are 20 sport clubs and associations in Zaprežić , and the most popular ones are association football , basketball , handball , bowling , tennis , table tennis , chess , cycling , taekwondo , and bocce . Zaprežić is the home to several influential sports clubs , such as NK Inter Zaprežić ( football ) , KK Fortuna Zaprežić ( basketball ) , RK Zaprežić ( handball ) , KK Zaprežić ( bowling ) and others . NK Inter Zaprežić currently plays in Croatian Second Football

League . It is currently the best @-@ placed football club in the county . Most of the sports clubs in Zape?i? are members of the Town of Zape?i? Sports Society ( Croatian : Zajednica ?portskih udruga Grada Zape?i?a ) . The main sports venue is the ?RC Zape?i? ( Sports and Recreation Center Zape?i? ) , which encompasses a football stadium and a gym . There are other sports courts in Hru?evac Kupljenski , Ivanec , Jablanovec , Kupljenovo , and Pojatno . NK Inter Zape?i? 's home stadium is ?RC Zape?i? , located in the northwest part of the town and handling up to 5 @, @ 528 visitors .

The 140 @-@ hectare ( 346 @-@ acre ) golf resort " Novi dvori " was opened on 16 October 2004 , with Prime Minister Ivo Sanader being the first to tee off . However , as of 2009 , only a few parts are in use , with a 27 @-@ hole course currently under construction . Nine of these holes will be reserved for practice and eighteen for tournament play . The center operates a driving range with two practice courses of different sizes , and an area to practice putting green play . One practice course is sheltered from weather conditions and the whole golf course has night lighting . In terms of normal play , three par 3 holes are currently operational and friendly par 9 tournaments are often held at the course . The course also has other amenities , such as a restaurant and the proximity to the Novi Dvori palace . When the construction ends , the golfers will have access to a conference room , a business center , a fitness club , a sauna , and a massage parlor .

= = Government = =

Despite the settlement of Zape?i? 's long history , only with the founding of the Town of Zape?i? on 30 November 1995 did it have its own elected representatives . The towns administration includes two tiers of power : a mayor and a city council . The city council is elected each four years . The mayor ( Croatian : gradona?elnik ) has executive power . He is elected directly by the voters . Current Mayor is ?eljko Turk ( Croatian Democratic Union ? HDZ , elected in 2006 , re @-@ elected 2009 and 2013 ) , whose deputys are Damir Ben?evi? and Alan Labus . Zape?i? is part of the 1st Croatian electoral district , which consists of western Zagreb , and the Zape?i? metropolitan area .

The city council ( Croatian : gradsko vije?e ) has the legislative power over the town . It represents the residents of Zape?i? and manages city budget , and it is composed of twenty one members with one presiding and two vice @-@ presiding members .

= = Education = =

The Town of Zape?i? provides education ranging from pre @-@ school to higher education . These include four registered kindergartens ( stationed on seven locations ) , four elementary schools , one high school , and one college . Elementary schools located in Zape?i? include Antun Augustin?i? , Ljudevit Gaj , and Kupljenovo elementary schools , and a branch of the Bistra elementary school from the Bistra municipality . The Ban Josip Jela?i? High School is located on the Franjo Tu?man Square in the northwestern part of the town . Zape?i? has a college for business and management , named after the Croatian historian and theologian Baltazar Adam Kr?eli? , and located in the town center on Novak Street . The open university in Zape?i? ( Croatian : Pu?ko otvoreno u?ili?te Zape?i? ) offers various courses in languages , computer science , and musical instruments , as well as vocational training .

= = Infrastructure = =

Zape?i? is covered mostly by the postal code " 10290 Zape?i? " , and Croatian Mail operates four post offices in the city : in Ivanec Bistranski , Lu?nica , ?ibice and Zape?i? . The city proper overlaps with the areas of postal codes " 10294 Donja Pu??a " ( Pojatno ) , " 10295 Kupljenovo " ( Hru?evac Kupljenski , Kupljenovo , Merenje ) and " 10298 Donja Bistra " ( Jablanovec ) . Zape?i? has its own police station , PP Zape?i? , a Zagreb County branch of the City of Zagreb Police Department responsible for all of the Zape?i? metropolitan area . Fire coverage is provided by the City of Zape?i? Fire Department ( Croatian : Javna vatrogasna postrojba grada Zape?i?a ) , which

also serves the complete seven @-@ municipality metropolitan area . There are six volunteer fire brigades in Zapre?i? proper , all members of the Zapre?i? Firefighting Community ( Croatian : Vatrogasna zajednica Grada Zapre?i?a ) . Zapre?i? also has a municipal court .

All utilities except electricity are managed by Komunalno poduze?e Zapre?i? ( English : Utility company Zapre?i? ) . Zapre?i? 's electricity is , as in the rest of Croatia , provided by Hrvatska elektroprivreda , and distributed by Elektra Zagreb , a company managing access to electricity in Zagreb , and Zagreb County . Zapre?i? receives tap water from underground water reserves through a water pump in the settlement of ?ibice . The water from the water pump is of drinking quality . However , local factories Pliva , and Kvasac produce waste water , which is released into the Sava River through the Harmica @-@ Pliva @-@ Zapre?i? water treatment plant . Before the construction of the treatment plant , the polluted water was piped into the Gorjak Creek , endangering the tap water quality . Possible consequences of releasing waste water into the Sava will be dealt with by the construction of the Zajarki water purification system for screening the used water . The ecological problem is multiplied by the fact that the utility company received only 400 requests to clean septic tanks in 2007 , although most households in the relatively rural surroundings of Zapre?i? use septic systems . There are plans of constructing four hydroelectric power plants around Zagreb with one being in Zapre?i? ( HE Zapre?i? , also known as HE Podsused ) as a part of a system of exploiting natural resources of the Sava River .

= = Transport = =

The town is a major transport hub for the area of Zagreb County and Zagreb itself . It is thus known as the " northwestern gate to Zagreb County . " The Zagreb bypass , and the tolled A2 highway ( Zagreb ? Macelj , toward Austria ; part of European Route E59 , and pan @-@ European corridor Xa ) pass through the eastern part of Zapre?i? , providing Zapre?i? with highway access at a cloverleaf interchange . The State Route D225 is a major arterial road in Zapre?i? . It forms the Pavao Lon?ar and Marshal Tito Streets , leading west towards Brdovec , Marija Gorica and Slovenia , and east towards western Zagreb , Jablanovec , and Stubica . According to the current city urbanistic plan , the traffic on the D225 will be re @-@ routed through two city bypasses along the northern and western railway lines to clear the center of Zapre?i? of 25 @,@ 000 daily commuters driving on a two @-@ lane road .

Mass transit provides intra @-@ city and inter @-@ city connections in form of bus and rail . Zapre?i? is a major railway intersection , with railways leading west to Slovenia ( Corridor X ) , north to Zabok , and Kumrovec ( Corridor Xa ) and east to the main regional railway hub Zagreb . Croatian Railways services the Zapre?i? train station with major interstate trains going to the west , but also with the suburban line Savski Marof ? Zagreb Main Station ? Dugo Selo . The town is serviced by two bus companies : the regional Zagreba?ki elektri?ni tramvaj ( ZET ) and local Me?trovi? prijevoz . ZET operates line 172 to Zapre?i? , which starts at the ?nomerec bus terminal in Zagreb and runs every 8 to 15 minutes during day , and at irregular intervals during the night . Lines 176 and 177 run to the Zapre?i? suburban municipality of Bistra . Me?trovi? prijevoz , the main intra @-@ city bus company of Zapre?i? , operates bus lines connecting Zapre?i? and all municipalities in its metropolitan area .

Zapre?i? lies along the left bank of the Sava River , but it does not have any bridges that would connect the town to Samobor , on the other bank , as the nearest bridge is the Podsused bridge , located in the Podsused ? Vrap?e district of Zagreb . However , two ferries connect Zapre?i? with the roads in Medsave and Samoborski Otok , small villages near Samobor . The widest river in the area , the Sava River , used to be navigable up to Kr?ko , Slovenia in Roman times . However , it is , as of 2009 , navigable only up to Rugvica , leaving Zapre?i? with no more possibility of river transport . The city does not have a port on any of its rivers .

To establish better transport capabilities , and create a solid ground for the emerging air sports that are already available in the town ( e.g. hang gliding or paragliding ) , an airport is planned northeast of the city , between the Krapina River and the railroad . The land at this location is unused , uninhabited , and administratively selected for sports and recreation . The arrangement of the

runways , taxiways , air traffic control building , hangar , and other necessary buildings have already been determined . The airport is intended to serve primarily as a sports airport , for teaching flying , and for charter flights . As of January 2009 the date when the construction starts had not yet been announced .

= = Notable inhabitants = =

A known historical resident of Zadar was Count Josip Jelačić of Bužim ( 1801 ? 59 ) , the Ban of Croatia from 1848 until his death . Although born in Novi Sad , Serbia ( then Croatia ) , he received an estate in Zadar together with his title . He is responsible for abolishing serfdom in Croatia in 1848 , but also for an infamous suppression of Croatian intelligentsia , and the Illyrian movement during his reign under the orders of Baron Alexander von Bach , and Emperor Franz Joseph I. A statue of Jelačić riding a horse was constructed by Anton Dominik Fernkorn , and placed on the Zagreb 's central square , Ban Jelačić Square . The statue has been repeatedly removed , and reinstated during changes in political power and orientation in Croatia , from monarchist , through ultra @-@ nationalist , and communist , up to democratic . After the Croatian declaration of independence , marking the start of the democratic era , the statue was returned to the square , and Zadar credits Jelačić with a major arterial road named in his honor .

Baltazar Adam Kršinić ( 1715 ? 78 ) , a historian , theologian , legal expert , and a canon in Zagreb , lived in what became the Zadar metropolitan area . Actually born in Čenkovec , Brdovec , he was the rector of the Croatian language course in Vienna . He wrote 757 books in Latin , and the Kajkavian dialect of Croatian .

The Illyrian movement of Slavic independence in Croatia can also be traced to Zadar through two of its citizens : Ivan Perković ( 1826 ? 71 ) , publicist from Harmica , Brdovec , editor of Vijenac and Pozor , secretary of Matica hrvatska , and a member of Sabor , the Croatian parliament ; and Pavao Štoos ( 1806 ? 62 ) , a poet , a priest , and an important member of the Illyrian movement from Dubravica . Ante Kovačić ( 1854 ? 89 ) from Marija Gorica lived in the aftermath of the Illyrian movement , but nevertheless became a fruitful writer . His most important work is U registraturi ( English : In the Registry ) , a novel following the life of Ivica Kišmanović , a peasant who is raised in a village and goes to live in a large city .

Zadar 's recent history includes several known Croatian public figures , such as Matija Skurjeni ( 1898 ? 1990 ) , a Croatian naïve painter who lived in Zadar from 1953 until his death . He was a co @-@ founder of the Croatian Society of Naïve Painters . An art gallery with his works was opened in Zadar in 1987 . This art gallery changed to a museum in 2000 . Other well @-@ known inhabitants include Davor Gobac ( b . 1964 ) , the frontman of Psihomodo Pop . Although he was born in Karlovac , he is a resident of Zadar ; Davor Vuković ( b . 1951 ) , a painter and poet from Herceg Novi , residing in Zadar ; and Mira Vlahović , an opera singer . Vlahović sang at the Croatian National Theater . The music scene in Zadar includes Connect , a hip hop band formed in Zadar . Connect is the creator of the Croatian football hip hop hymn " Samo je jedno " .