

Croatia

Continent: Europe

Languages Spoken: Croatian

Population: 3,900,000

Currency: Croatian Kuna (HRK)

Area: 56,594

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Dubrovnik Old Town', 'writeup': 'A UNESCO World Heritage site known for its well-preserved medieval walls and historic architecture.'}
- {'name': 'Plitvice Lakes National Park', 'writeup': 'Famous for its cascading lakes and waterfalls, this park is a natural wonder and a UNESCO World Heritage site.'}
- {'name': 'Diocletian's Palace', 'writeup': 'An ancient Roman palace in Split, serving as a historical and architectural landmark.'}
- {'name': 'Pula Arena', 'writeup': 'One of the best-preserved Roman amphitheaters, still used for events and concerts.'}
- {'name': 'Zagreb Cathedral', 'writeup': 'The tallest building in Croatia, known for its Gothic architecture and historical significance.'}

Head of State / Government:

President Zoran Milanović

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Dubrovnik Summer Festival', 'writeup': 'An annual event featuring theater, music, and dance performances in historic settings.'}
- {'name': 'Ultra Europe Music Festival', 'writeup': 'A major electronic music festival held in Split attracting international artists and visitors.'}
- {'name': 'Sinjska Alka', 'writeup': 'A traditional knights' tournament held annually in Sinj, celebrating Croatian heritage.'}
- {'name': 'Zagreb Film Festival', 'writeup': 'An important cultural event showcasing regional and international films.'}
- {'name': 'Motovun Film Festival', 'writeup': 'An independent film festival held in the hilltop town of Motovun, focusing on auteur cinema.'}

Food & Cuisine:

Croatian cuisine varies by region, featuring Mediterranean influences along the coast with seafood, olive oil, and fresh vegetables, while inland areas emphasize meats, stews, and hearty dishes. Popular foods include **ševapi**, **peka**, and fresh Adriatic fish.

Brief History:

Croatia has a rich history influenced by Roman, Byzantine, Venetian, and Austro-Hungarian empires. It became part of Yugoslavia in the 20th century and declared independence in 1991, leading to the Croatian War of Independence. It joined the European Union in 2013.

Important People:

- Nikola Tesla - Inventor and electrical engineer
- Ivan Meštrović - Renowned sculptor
- Janica Kostelić - Olympic alpine ski champion
- Ivo Andrić - Nobel Prize-winning writer
- Slavoljub Penkala - Inventor

Current Conflicts:

Croatia is currently stable with no active internal or external conflicts.

Youtube Links:

- Discover Croatia: A Travel Guide
- Top 10 Places to Visit in Croatia
- Croatian Culture and Traditions Explained
- History of Croatia in 10 Minutes
- Croatian Food Tour: What to Eat in Croatia