

General information on traveling to Croatia

Safety

Street crime is rare, assaults on foreigners nearly non-existent.

Climate

Northern Croatia has a temperate continental climate whereas the central and upland regions have a mountainous climate. The entire Adriatic coast has a pleasant Mediterranean climate. Spring and autumn are mild along the coast, while winter is cold and snowy in central and northern regions. The average temperature in the inlands in January ranges from -10° to 5°C and in August, from 19° to 39°C. The average temperature at the seaside is higher: in January, from 6°C to 11°C and in August from 21°C to 39°C.

Currency

Croatia's official currency is the Kuna. Although many tourist business owners may accept Euros, Euros are not legal tender in Croatia.

Any amount of Kuna You have left at the end of Your stay can be converted to Euros at a local bank or exchange office.

Prices are around 10% to 20% lower than most EU countries. Touristic destinations and articles are much more expensive.

The Croatian currency is the Kuna (not the Euro!), which is divided into 100 lipas. (The word 'Kuna' means marten, a weasel-like animal, whose fur Croats used as payment many centuries ago. The word 'lipa' means linden tree, but we don't know the connection here!) When listed as a price, Kuna is abbreviated to Kn.

The Kuna comes in dominations of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 and 1,000 as notes and 1, 2, 5 and 25 (25 Kn being largely commemorative) as coins.

The Lipa comes in coins of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50. In Croatian, the plural of Kuna is Kune (pronounced 'koo-neh'), although it is fine to pluralise it – as many outside of the country do – to Kunas.

Currency	Amount	Kuna Conversion
US Dollar	1	7, 03

ATMs

ATMs (in Croatian bankomat) are readily available throughout Croatia. They will accept various European bank cards, credit cards (Diners Club, Euro card / MasterCard, Visa, American Express etc.) and debit cards (Cirrus, Maestro, Visa electron etc.). Read the labels/notices on the machine before using.

As a foreign card is inserted into the machine, You will most likely be presented with a choice of languages – no need to navigate through Croatian-language menus.

The exchange rate You'll receive will be fairly good, and there may only be a small service charge, which depends on Your bank back home – You may want to check before travelling.

Local banks may also charge an operating fee on top of this.

Telephone and mail

Available throughout Croatia. Either local or international calls require the use a phone card which may be purchased at any newsstand, tobacco shop or post office.

To call USA or Canada from Croatia dial:

001 + area code + phone number. The international country calling code of Croatia is +385

Emergency Numbers

Simply dial these numbers from anywhere in the country. These calls are toll free.

112	Emergency call
192	Police emergency number
193	Fire Brigade
194	Ambulance
195	Search and Rescue at sea
1987	Roadside assistance
18981	General Information
11888	Telephone Directory Assistance
11802	International numbers info

Croatian Electricity, Plugs & Sockets

The voltage in Croatia is 220V; the frequency is 50HZ. Plugs are two round prongs. All is well for continental Europeans but Americans have flat prongs and 120volt/60HZ appliances.

Before leaving home, find out whether You'll need a transformer or an adaptor or both. They are not the same thing! A transformer converts the electrical current while an adaptor simply allows the prongs to fit in the wall. See a selection of plug adaptors and a selection of voltage converters.

Many, if not most digital cameras, laptops, cellphone chargers and other paraphernalia will automatically switch between currents. All You'll need is the plug adaptor to charge up Your device.

Most hairdryers (except travel hair dryers) will need a transformer and an adaptor or they will burn out.

Most Croatian hotels and private accommodation can supply You with an adaptor, but not a transformer. Otherwise You'll need to head to an electrical shop or buy one in the airport (a more expensive option). If You only need a transformer for Your hairdryer, it may be cheaper to simply buy a hairdryer in Croatia (or ask Your hotel or proprietor for a loan).

ABOUT THE RESTAURANTS

Paying

Most restaurants now accept credit cards, though some cheaper places may still accept only cash, particularly beyond the major tourist areas.

Reservations and Dress

In peak season (July and August), the more popular restaurants get very busy, and reservations are recommended. Casual dress is acceptable, but Dalmatians are quite style-conscious, so scruffy clothes should be avoided.

Tipping

A 10% tip (left on the table, in cash) is much appreciated if You are satisfied with the service

We wish You a wonderful travel

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