



PART I

You have earned an opportunity to be a part of the Erasmus student mobility programme and you surely deserve a pat on the back. But before you dive into your Erasmus experience, there are certain technicalities that still need to be dealt. with... To make sure that you are familiar with the remaining administrative requirements, we have summarised them in the following pages. Here you will also find useful pointers to help you in those first few days upon arrival, as well as some guidelines on getting settled for your semester in Zagreb.

PLEASE, PAY ATTENTION AND DON'T MISS A STEP!

BEFORE ARRIVAL

DOCUMENTATION

Once your request to participate in the Erasmus mobility programme has been approved by your university, you need to fill out the Application Form and the Learning Agreement. Make sure the courses you choose in your learning agreement are available in English. During your study in Croatia always keep in mind the academic requirements set by your respective university back home. You can find both documents on our website. When filled out and approved from your institution, these forms should be sent to our International Cooperation Office via e-mail (scan of all documents) and original documents via post. Before you arrive in Croatia, you are also required to purchase a travel insurance policy and/or hold a European Health Insurance Card, which entitles you to the necessary, state-provided healthcare during your temporary stay in most European countries, including Croatia

(link HIC: ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=559).

Keep in mind that the administrative proceedings concerning your stay and study in Croatia will not be completed until you arrive in Zagreb.

Therefore, make sure you bring with you:

- 2 photos (35x45mm & 30x35mm)
- ID and passport

Finally, if you are a non EU resident coming to Croatia, check with the appropriate institutions in your own country whether or not you require a visa.

ACCOMMODATION

Zagreb offers many accommodation options for tourists and visitors. The list of hotels and hostels is enclosed at the end of the brochure. However, as you will be staying in Zagreb for a longer period of time, you may consider renting out a flat or applying for a room in a student dorm. However, the number of available rooms is limited so you should hurry up when thinking about your accommodation in Zagreb. To give you an idea of your accommodation expenses, the estimated monthly housing costs may vary from around 350 to 650 EUR (+ utilities), while living in a student dorm will cost you around 100 EUR per month. Make sure you start looking for accommodation as soon as possible and, for your own comfort, have it sorted before your arrival in Zagreb. The International Cooperation team will be happy to help you in seeking out housing options, so don't hesitate to contact the office.



UPON ARRIVAL

FIRST THINGS FIRST

If you have decided to fly to Zagreb, you will land at Pleso — that being a slightly less known name of Zagreb Airport. The airport is located on the outskirts of Zagreb and, to reach the city centre, we recommend taking the Croatia Airlines shuttle, which you should find right as you exit the arrivals end of the airport building. The bus leaves to and from Zagreb every 30 minutes, and arrives at the city centre in about half an hour. The price of the ticket is 30 Kuna and it is purchased after boarding the bus. You can check out the Croatia Airlines shuttle timetable at https://plesoprijevoz.hr/en/zagreb-croatia/

The bus will take you to Zagreb's Central Bus Station where you can find a taxi to take you to your final destination. Make sure the taxi you're entering is properly marked with a company logo and an identification number. If you are unable to find a taxi at the spot, refer to the list of taxi companies and phone numbers which you will find at the end of the brochure or study the map of tramlines before your departure. You can also take the tram which will take you to the city centre in about 15 minutes and it is more affordable.

PAPERWORK COMPLETION

Once you've safely reached your home for the upcoming months, had a good night's sleep, perhaps even unpacked, it is time for you to finally head down to the International Cooperation Office of VERN'' University of Applied Sciences, which you have already heard so much about! After you make your arrival known to the programme coordinators, they will guide you through the completion of your Erasmus documentation.

If necessary, alterations will be made to your Learning Agreement. When the agreement is finalized, it will be given to you for signing, all within 30 days from your arrival.

Registration of residence

EU citizens can enter Croatia with a valid ID card or passport and do not require a visa. However, since you're planning on staying with us for more than 3 months, you need to register for a residence permit. Students living in a student dorm have 30 days to apply, while those in private accommodation need to regulate their permit within 72 hours upon their arrival. If you are renting out a flat or temporarily staying with a friend, that's you! Hurry!

At Zagreb Ministry of the Interior, 30 Petrinjska Street, 2nd floor, you need to submit:

- acceptance letter from VERN' University stating the study purpose of your stay in Croatian (you will get it at the orientation meeting upon your arrival)
- photo (35x45 mm, which you, hopefully, brought with you)
- photocopy of your passport / ID card
- proof of sufficient means of subsistence (printed statement of your bank account, scholarship confirmation etc.; minimum of 1500 HRK (approx. 200 EUR) a month)
- proof of secured accommodation statement from the student hall of residence (dorm) in Zagreb to be received upon moving in or in case of private accommodation, the rental contract and proof of ownership
- · health insurance.

PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (OIB)

Within a few days of your arrival in Zagreb, you will be assigned your personal identification number, or, as we Croatians call it, OIB. This number is important for any financial transaction in Croatia or in situations where formal identification is required. You will need it when applying for your monthly transport pass and student ID so, whatever you do, make sure you don't skip this step! To get your OIB, you will need to go to the Tax Administration office with your ID or passport. You can find the office location at the end of the brochure.



account, after your

yours. You will use it to prove

your student status and claim

your student rights in Croatia.

Probably the most important

one is the right to subsidized

meals which you can get at

located throughout the city. Depending on the type of food

designated student cafeterias

you want to eat, such a meal may cost between 15 and 40 HRK (2–5 EUR). As a holder of the student card you are entitled to various other discounts – when going to the cinema, museums, even shopping for books. Don't forget it when making purchases and managing your expenses – it may come in handy!

STUDENT JOBS

If you have some spare time or need a bit of a financial boost this semester you can explore your student employment options through the Student service system. To apply for a student job, you need to be a member of AIESEC (English: International Association of Students in Economic and Commercial Sciences). Student Centre is placed at Savska cesta 25, Zagreb.

BUDDY PROGRAMME Are you feeling overwhelmed by so much information? Don't worry. We thought you might. That is why VERN' has set up a Buddy programme, which will allow you to connect with your local fellow students willing to help you with all your guestions and dilemmas. You are feeling ill and need to see a doctor? You want to go to a museum but can't find it? Or maybe you just want to get your hair cut... your Buddies will help you out! If you have a Facebook Buddy or mentor has contacted you, they will add you to a Facebook group so you can more easily communicate with your Buddies and fellow Erasmus students. There you can join forces to make vour stav in Croatia a pleasant and fulfilling experience.





ZOOMING IN

So you've decided to spend your Erasmus semester in Croatia... and we are very pleased to have you! But how much do you really know about the country where you'll be living and studying in the following months? We know you are not very likely to remember every piece of information, year, name and place that matter in Croatia's history and present. However, it would be a pity if you knew nothing about the place. We'll keep some of a mystery until you come and experience it yourself, breathe in the atmosphere, meet the people, and enjoy the nature, culture and entertainment. But to get you interested and prepared, here is just a brief 101 of our country, Zagreb and, yours truly, VERN' University.



CROATIA...

...is 122nd largest country in the world. So it's arguably very small. That's OK, though, because only a little over 4 million people call it home. Demographics show that the majority of Croatians are Roman Catholic – they make up over 90% of the national chart.

To be fair, Croatia has its problems - don't we all? Our economy is still struggling to fully overcome the crisis the world landed in a few years ago, as well as dealing with a number of social and political issues which are common challenges of any aspiring society in the process of modernisation. In the last two decades, Croatia has gone through a democratic transition after a 4-year-long war for independence; unfortunately, the consequences of this war still be seen today. Nevertheless, great progress has been made and earlier this year Croatia has become a proud member of the European Union, holding all its values and ambitions.

DID YOU KNOW?



Ivan Vučetić (Juan Vucetich) a Croatian anthropologist and a
police official who immigrated to
Argentina in 1882- has pioneered
the use of fingerprinting and
helped establish modern forensics!



Nikola Tesla, one
of the greatest inventors and scientists of
our time, was born in
Croatia.







What makes Croatia special is its natural and cultural diversity, which is considerable in relation to its relatively small territory. From the vast plains of Slavonia in the East, over the lovely little hills of Zagorje in the North and the mountains of Lika and Gorski Kotar in the West, to the long Mediterranean coast with over 1000 islands, Croatia is beautiful wherever you go. And yes, it did say one thousand. Yes, that is A LOT of islands, indeed. Croatia abounds in natural riches and counts 8 national parks, the most famous being the stunningly beautiful National Park Plitvice Lakes, which you can find on the list of UNESCO World Heritage. Speaking of UNESCO, Croatia contributed to the list with another 7 historical sites, unsurprisingly since this area has a really long history, which goes way back to the Greek and Roman times. If this interests you, learn more by clicking on these links and find a perfect destination for a trip: whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/HR/ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protected areas of Croatia

Croatia's diversity doesn't stop at nature. Cultural influences throughout history have shaped the people and traditions of Croatia, leaving it wonderfully colourful and exciting. The eastern, continental region of Slavonia is immensely different in its architecture, cuisine and customs from our typically

Mediterranean coast, as well as from the central Croatia, which has more of an Austro-Hungarian look and atmosphere. Make no mistake, though, in its core, Croatia is stubbornly 'its own' and has always had a unique culture and traditions. For example, Croatia has its authentic folklore, music, dances, attires and products. It is famous for its lacemaking on the Island of Pag, lindo and silent circle dance in the Dalmatian region, bećarac singing and playing of eastern Croatia, carnival bell ringers, wooden toys from Zagorje, knights' tournament Alka in the city of Sinj, gingerbread craft in the northern region and many, many more unique customs...

Croatia's specific gastronomical and cultural blend has put it on the map as a popular holiday destination, so cities like Pula, Split, Dubrovnik, Hvar, Rovinj and many more have made a name for themselves in the world of tourism. However, many tourists experience the wonderful weather, great food and beautiful scenery without ever realising how much more Croatia has given to the world! That is why we would like to know some interesting facts about Croatia... Read them throughout the rest of the brochure and learn more about Croatia at croatia.hr/en-GB/Homepage





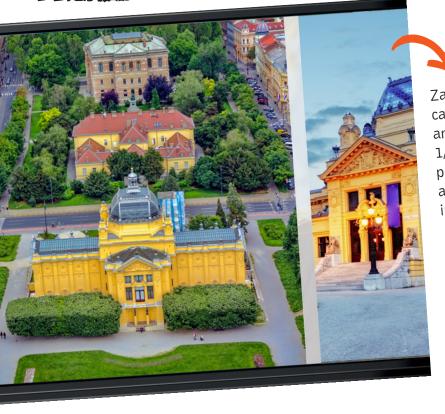


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DID YOU KNOW?

Croatian flag features the Croatian Coat of Arms. If you take a look, you will see a crown made of shields of its various regions. From left to right they are the ancient arms of Croatia, Dubrovnik, Dalmatia, Istria, and Slavonia.

ZAGREB



Zagreb is the capital of Croatia and a home to 1/5 of its people, numbering around 800,000 inhabitants.

However, today Zagreb is not nearly as sinister as then, and actually people consider it quite lovely. With its many museums, galleries, shops, charming restaurants and numerous cafés, Zagreb has a cosy European atmosphere. When you arrive, you may notice that Zagreb is very 'green' and prides itself of many parks and promenades. The most famous and yet elusive jewel to an untrained eye is Zagreb's 'Green Horseshoe', a carefully planned series of open green spaces and parks, which, when observed from the air, form the letter 'U'. The Horseshoe is the seat of many institutions of Zagreb's public institutions and on your way to see some of the important buildings and monuments you will surely walk through it.

DID YOU KNOW?

The White House was built using the famous stone from Croatia's island Brač.

The smallest town in the world according to the Guinness Book of World Records is Hum in the central part of Istria. It has only 23 inhabitants.

Zagreb has a long history. The city as we know it today, which is to say its historical centre, dates back to the Middle Ages and originates from two hilltop settlements, Gradec and Kaptol. Zagreb first got its independent royal city status in the 13th century but it officially became the capital

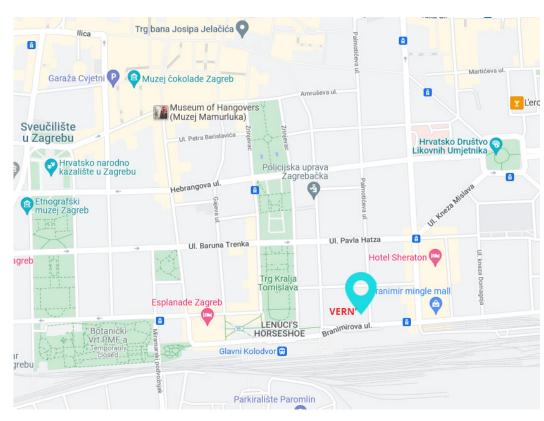
There are many legends surrounding the early days of Zagreb and some quite interesting historiof Croatia in 1945. cal facts concerning especially its old, uptown area. We strongly recommend taking one of the guided tours to learn more about them! To give you some incentive let us just tell you that Zagreb was the city where the last witch was burnt during the Dark Ages!

www.zagreb-touristinfo.hr

http://croatia.hr/en-GB



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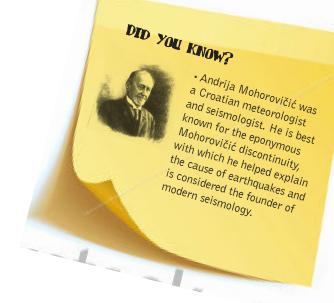
Zagreb is more and more becoming a student city and has a growing number of clubs and cafés, as well as shops, mostly in and around the main street Ilica. When spending time with your Croatian fellow students, you will probably notice that they have a habit of 'going for a coffee'. Sitting and talking, enjoying the sun are probably among the favourite pastimes here.

Life in Zagreb is relatively relaxed and the city is considered quite safe. However, a reasonable amount of caution is always advisable. During the spring, Zagreb looks its best, but it is winter when the real buzz kicks in – sausage and mulled wine stands pop up everywhere in the city centre and the decorations contribute to a real Christmassy feeling.

Zagreb has a very wide temperature range. Winters can be cold and temperatures below 0 degree Celsius are common. In the summer the city swelters at 30 + degrees Celsius. However, spring and autumn in Zagreb are very pleasant, although there may be quite a lot of rain.

Keep this in mind when packing for your Erasmus semester!

Later on we will give you more tips on what to see, do and how to get the best Zagreb has.





VERN

We are proud to say that VERN' University is the oldest and largest private university of applied sciences in Croatia. It was founded in 1990 as a small entrepreneurial project, but through inspired leadership and great efforts of its staff and students it has grown into a highly respected institution it is today.

At present VERN' has more than 1850 students, over 5500 alumni and employs 200 lecturers. Today we offer 10 undergraduate and 7 graduate level studies in various fields and are currently developing a new study programme as a part of EU funded projects.

To learn more, visit our website www.vern.hr

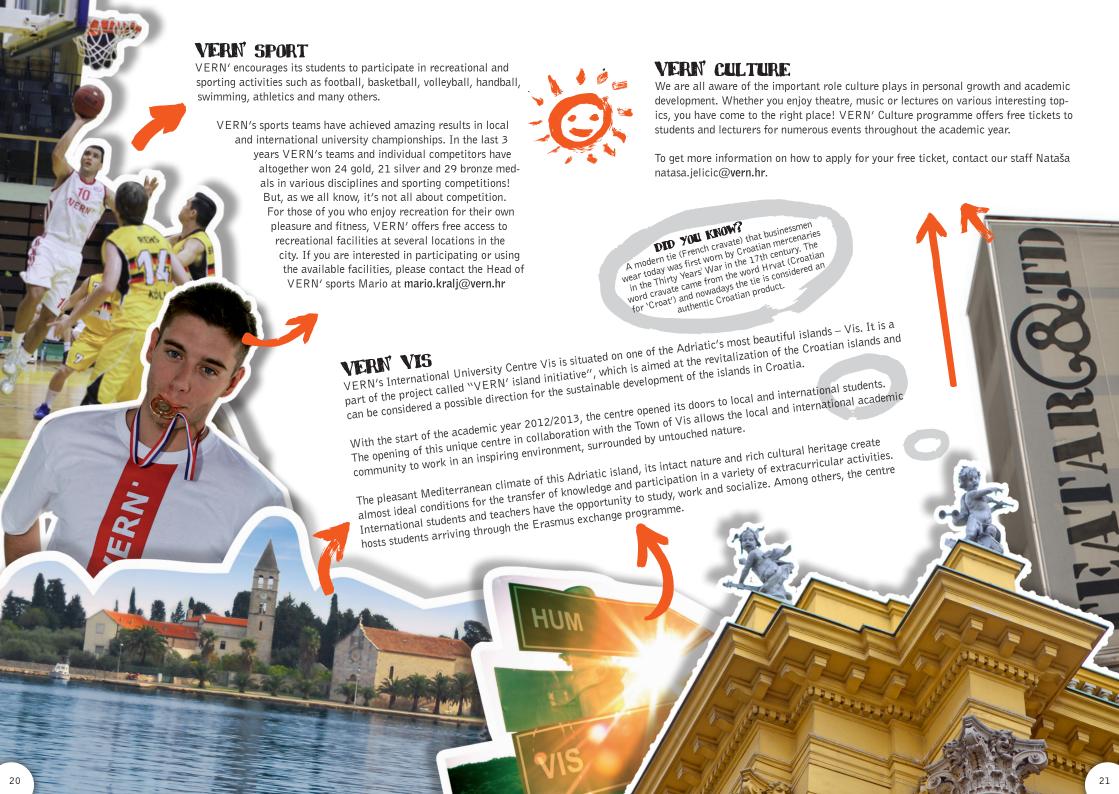
We at VERN' believe that educated, entrepreneurial and socially responsible people are the carriers of sustainable development and wellbeing of the community. We support openness, daring, diligence, responsibility and moral values as the traits that lead to individual success and prosperity of the society. We want to enable our students to successfully launch and achieve their own entrepreneurial endeavours, contribute to creating new values and continue their professional and academic development after graduating from the university.

To achieve this we based our teaching philosophy on interaction, small study groups and team-work. Our study programmes are multidisciplinary and oriented on problem solving and case-studies. We are set on giving our students practical, marketable skills and an insight into the real life issues in the business world of our time.

Our efforts were recognized when an independent quality survey QUDAL (QUality meD-AL) showed that the majority of Croatian citizens considered VERN' University the best private higher education institution in Croatia. We are proud of these accomplishments, but we are tireless in our efforts to strive for further excellence.

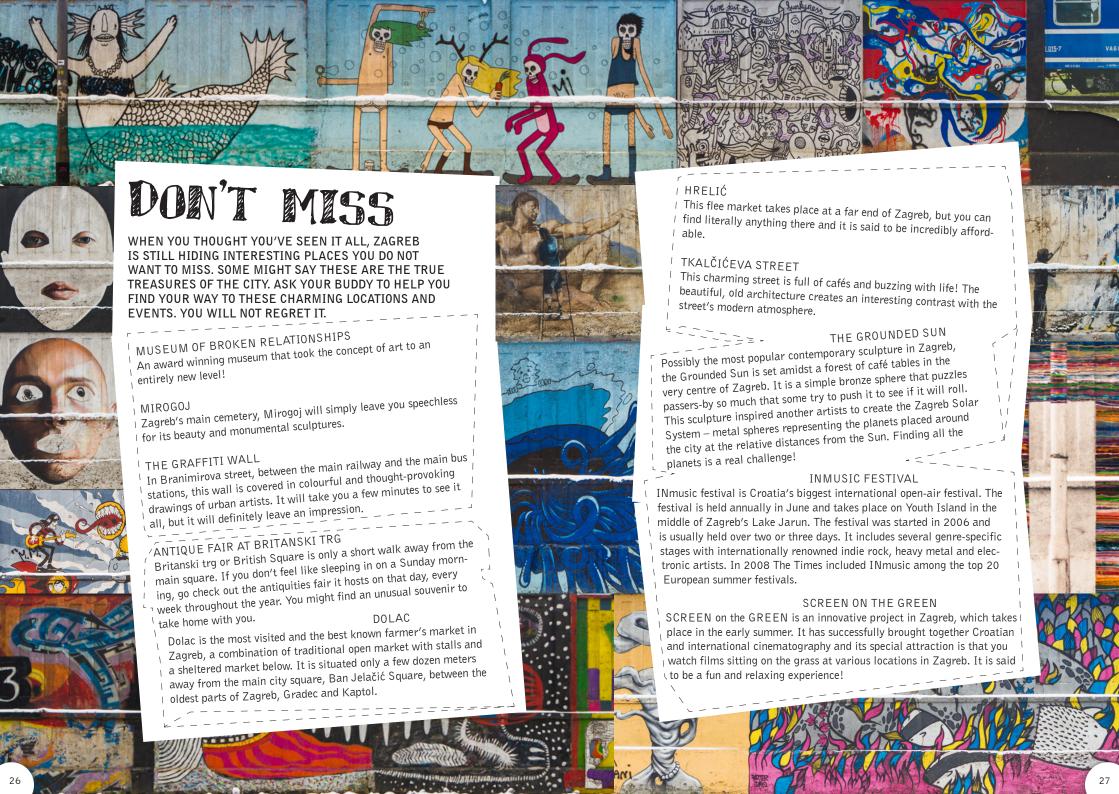


skiers in the history of winter Olympic games is the Croatian orympic yames is are oroanan skier Janica Kostelić. That is funny because Croatia is a country without a skiing tradition! She won out a skiniy tradition: one wor 4 Olympic golds and 2 silver 4 Olympic golds and 2 silver











taurant situated in the centre of Zagreb. You Here are some can try amazing foods and drinks from all-over the world! You can insider tips enjoy wraps, piadinas, barille, quiche, burritos but also try healthy bubble teas! Their Mochi is the best in town, from your be sure you check it out!" Filip V. local fellow "If you're looking for the best understudents on how to get all

oduzetništvo

TRECKS

you want and

need and still

stay within

budget!

ground place in Zagreb, Medika is probably a place for you! Amazing graffiti, good music, cheap beverages and friendly people will make you fall in love with this charming place! If you are a little more mainstream but not in the mood for fancy places, check out Katran, a club situated in an old factory. The interior is amazing and the music is great!" Martina T.

"To get the best value for money, eat at Nocturno, a restaurant offering a wide range of Italian variety dishes! For even more affordable drinks and snacks ask your friends about Žirafa bar!"Kate K.

"Find Pingvin sandwich bar — it's right in the city centre. Try 'Hot and cold'. Best sandwiches in town!"

DID YOU KNOW?

Dalmatians - the dog breed - originates from Croatia. They are named after Dalmatia, the southern coastal region of Croatia.



WHERE TO TRAVEL

You can reach some of these places by bus, plane or railway. To visit others, you might have to find private transportation or join an organised tour. For more information, refer to the Tourist Information Office or the official websites of the main bus and railway stations or the airport!





A beautiful town near Zagreb, famous for its architecture, carnival and cream cake.. It is situated on the slopes of the Samobor mountains, at the entrance to the romantic valley of Gradna stream.

www.tz-samobor.hr/index.php?I=en



A wonderful royal castle from the 13th century situated above a lake. Pure fairy-tale.

www.trakoscan.hr/index-en.html

PLITVIČKA JEZERA

Plitvice Lakes are a natural phenomenon and a jewel of inestimable value. 16 large and a lot of small lakes which are connected by small, medium and large waterfalls form Croatia's most famous national park, a UNESCO world heritage site.

www.np-plitvicka-jezera.hr/

HRVATSKO ZAGORJE

A lovely part of Croatia, famous for its hills and vineyards. It has a relaxing atmosphere and is also known for its lace, wooden toys and Licitar hearts... want to know what that is? Visit Zagorje and find out!

www.tzkzz.hr/en/

ISTRIA AND KVARNER BAY

Istria is a peninsula in the north-west of Croatia, a region of special culture, music and - as many other parts of the country - dialect. It connects to Kvarner Bay, which is relatively close to Zagreb, depending on which city or town you want to visit. If you don't have much time to travel, we recommend Opatija or Rijeka. If you do, visit one of the islands or go to Pula and see the famous arena!

www.istra.hr/en/regions-and-towns www.istria.info/en/kyarner/

TRAVEL FURTHER (over 3 hours car travel, might require an overnight stay):

When organising your trip plan it in accordance with your study schedule! Please ask your Buddy or the programme coordinator to help you figure out your academic calendar! If you're interested in seeing more than just Croatia, consider visiting some of the neighbouring countries! You could enjoy Ljubljana (Slovenia), Belgrade (Serbia), Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Budapest (Hungary) or even Trieste and Venice (Italy)!

OVER 3 HOURS CAR TRAVEL:

SPLIT

This exceptionally lively city is the second largest city in Croatia! It is over 1700 years old with Diocletian's palace at its heart, which is also the historical centre of the city and a UNESCO world heritage site. visitsplit.com



DUBROVNIK

This late-medieval planned city in the south part of the east Adriatic Croatian coast with its historical core and city walls is one of the most famous tourist destinations, well known even among the Hollywood celebrities. Did you know that one season of the famous series Game of Thrones was filmed

www.tzdubrovnik.hr/eng/#.Uoy--0q-nIU



HVAR

The centre of the sunniest Croatian island of the same name - Hvar is a unique blend of luxurious Mediterranean natural surroundings, rich cultural and historical heritage and sophisticated tourism. In the summer it is a favourite destination for young people from all over Europe. www.tzhvar.hr/en/



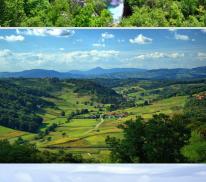
ROVINJ

Located in the Istria region, this exceptionally romantic city offers numerous possibilities – walking in the wonderful natural surroundings, recreational sports, discovering hidden beauties of the narrow streets, cultural heritage, archaeological sites, and tasting some of the local delicacies. It is 200 km from Zagreb, so if you have a car, you could visit and come back within a day.

www.tzgrovinj.hr/page/about-us/the-tourist-board-office

SLAVONIA, BARANJA AND SRIJEM

The East of Croatia has a magic of its own. It is very different in landscape, culture and tradition from the West but equally beautiful and worth seeing. Visit ∏akovo city with its famous cathedral, or beautiful Ilok, famous for the wine cellars. You may want to try the spicy local specialties, wine and more! www.turizamilok.hr/index.php?lang=en&cat id=1 www.tz-djakovo.hr/znamenitosti.php?j=1

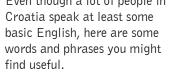






THE LITTLE CROATIAN DICTIONARY

Even though a lot of people in Croatia speak at least some basic English, here are some words and phrases you might

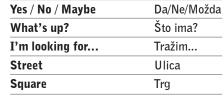




`Š' is pronounced as `sh' in `shoe'	
`Č' and `Ć' as `ch' in `change'	
`DŽ' and `Đ' as 'J' in 'Jane'	
'Ž' as 'j' in 'je', the French word for 'I, myself'	
У' as 'y' in 'you'	

SOME WORDS AND PHRASES

Hi!	Bok! (Informal)	Yes / No
Hello/Good day	Dobar dan (Formal)	What's
My name is	Zovem se	I'm look
Excuse me	Oprostite	Street
Good night	Laku noć	Square
Can you help me?	Možete li mi pomoći?	
I don't speak Croatian	Ne govorim hrvatski	
What time is it?	Koliko je sati?	
I'm lost	Izgubio (M) /	
	Izgubila (F) sam se.	
How much does it cost?	Koliko košta?	



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DEAR ERASMUS STUDENT,

We hope this brochure is helpful to you before and during your stay. Please continue scrolling to find the attachment listing useful contacts, addresses and information. We would like to thank you for choosing VERN' University and Zagreb as your destination for the Erasmus semester. Remember, we are glad to help you so feel free to contact the International Cooperation Office should you have any additional questions or concerns. We hope you will enjoy your stay and

VERN'

International Cooperation Office:

Address: Palmotićeva 82/1, 10000 Zagreb

Phone: +385.1.48.81.837, Fax: +385.1.48.81.830 Opening hours: Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

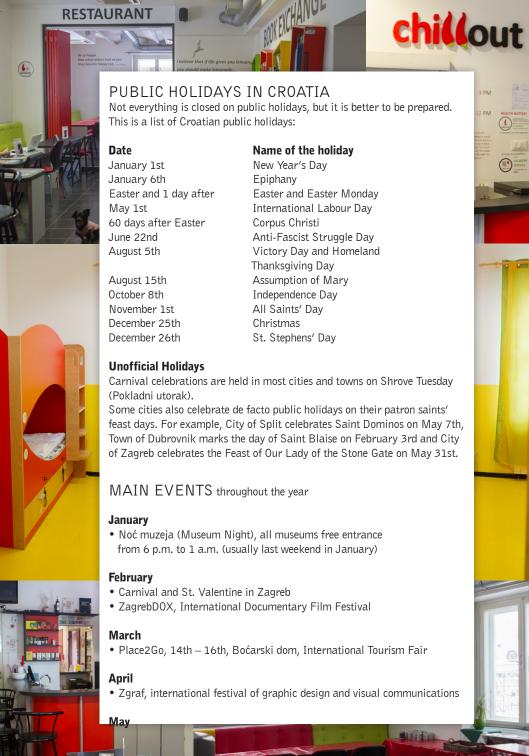
CONTACTS:

Dubravko Kraus

Head of International Cooperation e-mail: dubravko.kraus@vern.hr







BAR

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- SFeraKon, mid May, at FER (Faculty of Electronical Engineering and Computing), for all who love Science Fiction
- · Flora art, end of May, Park Bundek, international florist and plants growers fair
- International Dance week festival, Zagreb dance centre

June

- Cest is the Best, beginning of June, city streets, International street festival
- Anima fest, 3rd 8th, cinema Europa, MSU, Cineplexx Centar Kaptol, International animated film festival
- In Music Festival, end of June, Jarun (lake), international music festival...

September

- Rujan Fest, near West Gate shopping centre, beer and music festival
- Mystic, 19th 22nd, Zagreb Fair, 4th International alternative and healthy lifestyle fair

October

• Zagreb Film Festival, Kino (movie theatre) Europa, Kino Tuškanac, Art Kino Grič, Zagrebački plesni centar (Zagreb Dance Centre), Muzej suvremene umjetnosti (Museum of Modern Art)

November

- Martin je u Zagrebu (St. Martin in Zagreb), 6th 17th, city centre, food, wine and folklore festival
- Interliber, international book fair

December

Advent u Zagrebu (Advent in Zagreb)

Hostels in Zagreb

- ART HOTEL LIKE, Vlaška 44
- CHILLOUT HOSTEL ZAGREB, Tomićeva 5A
- · CITY DESIGN HOSTEL, Zagrebačka Avenija 104
- FAVELA, Borongajska 46
- FUNK LOUNGE, Rendićeva 28b
- HOBO BEAR, Medulićeva 4
- HOSTEL BUZZ, Babukićeva 1b
- HOSTEL CHERRY, Cernička 33
- HOSTEL CHIC, Pavla Hatza 10/1
- HOSTEL DAN I NOĆ, Kneza Mislava 1

- HOSTEL FANCY, Poljička 13/a
- HOSTEL LIKA, Pašmanska 17
- HOSTEL RAVNICE, Ravnice 38d
- HOSTEL SHAPPY, Varšavska 8
- HOSTEL SWANKY MINT, Ilica 50
- HOSTEL TABAN, Tkalčićeva 82
- HOSTEL TEMZA, Šenoina 24
- HOSTEL THE HOUSE, Pelješka 5
- PALMERS LODGE ZAGREB, Branimirova 25
- PARTY HOSTEL, Heinzelova 78a
- POZITIV HOSTEL, Kastavska 8



