



Croatia

Destination Guide

ARRIVING IN CROATIA

- 1) After deplaning, enter the Immigration line. Present your passport and answer questions.
- 2) Claim your checked bags and go to customs.
- 3) Check your travel documents for instructions for transportation to your hotel.

ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS

A passport is required and it is recommended that passports have 6 months of validity. Keep one blank passport page available.

DURING YOUR STAY

TIPPING

Tipping is appreciated but not obligatory. Tip 10–15% at restaurants if service is not already included (check the bill for “napojnica”). Round up café bills or leave small change. Tip drivers by rounding up or about 10% on longer transfers. Tip €1–€2 per bag for porters. Tip housekeeping €1–€2 per day or €5–€10 at the end of your stay. Cash tips reach staff most reliably.

TIME ZONE

Central European Time (CET), UTC +1, and in summer Central European Summer Time (CEST), UTC +2.

CURRENCY

Croatia uses the Euro. Obtain euros from your bank with notice, or withdraw from a bank ATM on arrival. Decline currency conversion and always choose to be charged in EUR. Carry some cash and coins for markets, restrooms, small island vendors, and tips.

ELECTRICITY

Electricity in Croatia is 230V AC (50Hz). Outlets are Type C and Type F (two round pins). Electronics from the U.S. require a plug adapter; most modern chargers are dual-voltage, but hair tools often need a converter.

DRIVING

Croatians drive on the right. A valid U.S. license plus an International Driving Permit (IDP) is strongly recommended and often expected by rental desks and police. Blood-alcohol limit is 0.05%. Headlights should be used as required by season and road type. Carry your passport, license, IDP, rental agreement, and insurance.

COMMUNICATION

Croatian is the official language. English is widely spoken in tourist areas, hotels, and restaurants.

PHONE CALLS

The country code for Croatia is +385. If calling from your mobile phone, enter +385 and drop the leading 0 from the local number.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

European Emergency Number: 112, Ambulance / Emergency Medical: 194, Fire: 193, Police: 192
Maritime Search and Rescue: 195, Roadside Assistance (HAK): 1987

TRAVEL TIPS

Keep coins handy to pay for restrooms.

Tourists can be targets for pickpocketing in crowded old towns, markets, and ferry terminals. Keep a close eye on wallets, phones, and bags.

Exercise extra caution in parts of Karlovac and Lika-Senj counties, where some remote forested areas may still contain unexploded landmines. Stay on marked paths and heed warning signs.

Croatian coffee culture is a highlight. Order a kava and linger—locals treat the café as a social ritual. A traditional “turska kava” is brewed with grounds in the cup; sip and stop before you reach the sludge at the bottom.

Summer on the Dalmatian coast is hot, dry, and crowded. Pack sun protection, stay hydrated, and if you are asthmatic, bring medication—dust and heat can aggravate symptoms.

Old-town streets are cobbled and uneven. Wear comfortable, grippy shoes and watch your step.

Many churches and monasteries expect covered shoulders, chests, and knees. Carry a light scarf or wrap if you are on a walking tour.

RETURNING TO THE U.S.

1) You may be given immigration forms to fill out during your flight. Keep a pen, your passports, travel documents, and receipts from anything you purchased during your trip easily accessible from your seat.

2) After deplaning, follow the signs for immigration and enter the appropriate line. Have your passport and completed forms in hand, and answer any questions from the officer.

NOTE: Some airports no longer collect paper forms. They offer automated kiosks to collect immigration and customs information.

3) Go to the luggage carousel and claim all your checked bags.

4) Take your belongings through customs. You may be asked questions about what you are bringing back into the country and your bags may be searched.

5) For connecting flights or to reach the final airport exit, you may need to pass your checked luggage back to the airline. This is usually done at a counter nearby, but some airports require you to go to the front of the airport and re-check bags.

6) LIQUID WARNING: If you have to pass another security checkpoint before proceeding to the next gate or to the airport exit, you will not be able to carry your liquid duty-free purchases or purchased drinks with you. These need to be placed in your checked bags before re-checking.