

Winter Croatia-Zagreb experience
5 nights / 6 days
2017/2018

- Accommodation in 4*/5* hotels in DBL standard rooms on BB basis and tourist taxes:
 - Zagreb area 5 nights on BB basis Hotel Dubrovnik 4* or similar / Hotel Esplanade 5* or similar
- Private one way transfers with a/c vehicle:
 - Zagreb airport – hotel in Zagreb area
 - Hotel in Zagreb area – Zagreb airport

Not included:

- Optional excursions
- Meals and drinks
- Porterage
- Tips

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

Explore number of possibilities available

1. Advent in Zagreb

DAY 1:

Arrival at Zagreb airport.

Private transfer from Zagreb airport to your hotel.

OPTIONAL: Evening Zagreb walking tour with local guide (duration approx. 2hrs)



Experience the Christmas magic in Zagreb! The open air stage at the main square Ban Josip Jelacic will be the center of various cultural, music and art events.

Enjoy picking the seasonal gifts and souvenirs made by Zagreb's manufacturers of traditional Croatian products. Taste some homemade food, offered at the Advent houses, and warm up with mulled wine or hot chocolate, accompanied by a daily music program.

Overnight at the hotel in Zagreb area.

2. National Parks

DAY 2;

Breakfast at the hotel

OPTIONAL: Excursion to Plitvice National Park (duration approx. 8hrs)

Relax in the winter atmosphere of one of the most beautiful and best preserved national parks in the country, Plitvice National Park. The entire lakes and surrounding area were declared a national park in 1949 and are listed on the UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites. It is a valley situated between high forested mountains in which lie, one below another, a string of sixteen beautiful lakes of crystal blue and green waters. Fed by small streams and brooks, they spill into each other in 92 foaming cascades and thundering waterfalls. The lakes themselves cover about 2 square kilometers and the entire National park covers 200 square kilometers.

Overnight at the hotel in Zagreb area.



3. Gastronomy

DAY 3

Breakfast at the hotel

OPTIONAL: Zagreb gastro tour with local guide (duration approx. 4hrs)

"Dolac", open-air market, is must see for all visitors. Zagreb has several open-air markets, but Dolac is the biggest and most popular. The market is opened every day, except of public holidays.

The morning gourmet experience will begin in a round walk through the heart of Zagreb - Dolac market, then in the old part of Zagreb Upper town, and in the end we will enjoy the foods and food stories in the cooking studio. A four-hour walking, talking, smelling and sightseeing will satisfy your personal desires in terms of exploring the history and tradition of Zagreb and Croatian cuisine.



Afternoon at leisure.

Choose one of the local restaurants and start a gastronomic trip you won't forget.

Traditional winter food is original, authentic and always with fresh ingredients. Taste some of the Croatian specialties, as well as the international high end gastronomy, accompanied with some of the famous Croatian wines.



There are also number of restaurants with international cuisine – visit Indian, Brasilian, Japanese, Korean, Lebanese or Italian restaurant.

OPTIONAL: Dinner at Gresna Gorica in Hrvatsko Zagorje

Gresna Gorica is placed on the hill opposite to Veliki Tabor, the 15th century castle, offering a visitor an atmosphere of genuine Zagorje scenery and making him fell a part of the romantic and dramatic past of Hrvatsko Zagorje. Whilst you will be enjoying the typical Zagorje meals, the host, will be more than pleased to entertain you with the legend of the tragic and forbidden love between the nobleman Friederich of Celje and the beautiful plebeian girl Veronika of Desinic. This is why the hill bears the name of Gresna Gorica - the Hill of Sin.



Overnight at the hotel in Zagreb area.

4. Culture

DAY 4

Breakfast at the hotel

There are plenty of attractive events during the winter season in Zagreb and around. Zagreb Dox, an international documentary film festival, the biggest festival of its kind in this part of Europe. The most popular sport events are definitely Zagreb Indoors tennis tournament, and the Snow Queen Trophy, famous Zagreb slalom race. Expect plenty of excitement also during the Zagreb Restaurant week, and Zagreb Coffee and Chocofest, or take a trip to Rijeka and be a part of one of the largest carnivals in Europe. Zagreb has the most impressive choice of museums in Croatia, and the unique possibility of experiencing the touch of history in perfectly preserved castles in Zagreb region.



OPTIONAL: Excursion to Hrvatsko Zagorje (duration approx. 8hrs)



Drive the Zagorje highway directly to the Trakoscan castle, most visited and best preserved castle in the country. Built in the 14th century as a small fortress, the castle has been rebuilt and renovated several times until the 19th century. After a guided tour of the castle, depart toward Veliki Tabor, one of the largest and the oldest medieval castle-fortresses in the country, built in the 15th century, renovated and reopened in November 2011. Take a break on the “Gresna gorica” hill facing the castle. The name (Hill of Sin in English) derives from the legend of the forbidden love between the Count Friedrich from the Veliki Tabor castle and Veronica, a peasant girl

from the neighboring village of Desinic. This is the ideal spot either for taking pictures of the castle. Proceed towards Kumrovec- the unique ethno-village of Kumrovec is a reminiscent of the ancient way of life in this whole region. Visitors can see old houses and barns displaying the old crafts and the way of life almost forgotten.

Overnight at the hotel in Zagreb area.

OPTIONAL: Zagreb culture sightseeing tour with local guide (duration approx. 2,5hrs)

Zagreb grew up on two neighboring hills: Kaptol - the centre of spiritual and religious life of north-western Croatia and Gradec - the commercial centre of skilful tradesmen and craftsmen. Visit the Upper Town with its Gothic Cathedral, the beautiful and ornate St. Catherine's church or the massive St. Mark's church with its famous colour-tiled roof.

Visit of Museum of Naive Art: The Croatian Museum of Naive Art holds more than 1,875 works of art – paintings, sculptures, drawings and prints – mainly by Croatian artists. The permanent display of the Museum was established according to the maxim: Naive Art as a Segment of Modern Art. The focus is on Croatian artists – of the celebrated Hlebine School, and a few of the more highly-valued independent artists.



Afternoon at leisure.

Suggestion: visit some of numerous of museums in Zagreb – to name just the few:

- Museum of Broken Relationships
- Museum of Contemporary art
- Mimara Museum
- Technical Museum
- Museum of Illusions
- Klovacevi Dvori Gallery

Overnight at the hotel in Zagreb area.

OPTIONAL: Licitar – Workshop (duration approx. 2hrs)

Licitar is a colourfully decorated cake made of honey dough. Small size licitars (heart, cherry, doll, small bird, mushroom, horse-shoe, small wreath, horse) are favourite decoration of Christmas trees in Croatian homes, whereas the large size licitars are created for giving as a gift to the loved ones at special occasions. A young man giving a heart shaped licitars to his girlfriend to express this love and devotion to her is a custom deeply rooted in the Croatian traditional heritage. A workshop will be arranged, where the groups will have a presentation of how licitars are made and they will get the chance to make their own.



5. Spa pleasure

DAY 5

Breakfast at the hotel

The perfect escape from the busy lifestyle! Spoil your senses and relax at one of the many spa resorts in Zagreb region.



OPTIONAL: Spa day in Spa & Sport Resort Sveti Martin

With the tradition of spa tourism since 1913, Spa & Sport Resort Sveti Martin offers a number of options related to health, beauty and relaxation.

With numerous types of massages and sauna treatments, aquapark and thermo-mineral pools, this resort will give you an authentic wellness experience. The healing thermo-mineral water contains many elements good for health, and according to the analysis, here is one of the most healing thermal-mineral waters in Europe.



The ultra-modern design of the pool complex is designed by architect Reno Vrbanec and Italian architect Maurizio Favetta. Temple of Life is a modern swimming pool complex with anthroposophical elements of dr.Rudolf Steiner philosophy.

Included pleasures in your spa day: Entry to World of Saunas and pools (up to 3hrs), Sv. Martin Grape Aroma Oil Bath (15min), Sv. Martin massage (80min).

****2 days / 3 days packages also available**

Overnight at the hotel in Zagreb area.

DAY 6

Breakfast at the hotel

Private transfer from your hotel to Zagreb airport.

CH 0-1,99 years of age: free of charge

CH 2-11,99 years of age: 30% discount

Evening Zagreb walking tour with local guide

Included: guide

Excursion to Plitvice National Park

Included: transportation, guide, entrance fees to National Park

Zagreb gastro tour with local guide

Included: transportation, guide, light lunch, cooking class, cooking ingredients

Excursion to Hrvatsko Zagorje

Included: transportation, guide, entrance fees to Trakoscan and Veliki Tabor castles and Staro Selo museum in Kumrovec

Zagreb culture sightseeing tour

Included: transportation, guide, entrance fees to Croatian Museum of Naive Art

Licitar - workshop

Included: transportation, guide, workshop fees

Spa day in Resort Sveti Martin

Included: transportation, Sv Martin Spa Day package: Entry to World of Saunas and pools (3hrs), Sv. Martin Grape Aroma Oil Bath (15min), Sv. Martin massage (80min)