CROATIA RISK ASSESSMENT



City & Country

Zagreb, Croatia

Prepared by Sussex Abroad Office

Before you go -

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office provides travel advice by country. It covers safety and security, local laws and customs, entry requirements, health and natural disasters along with a host of other useful information. We strongly recommend that students read the section related to their destination prior to departure and before undertaking any trip to another part of the county/region.

http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/travel-and-living-abroad/travel-advice-by-country/

VISA REGULATIONS

You don't need a visa for tourist and business trips of up to 90 days in any 6 month period. For further information about entry requirements, work permits and residence rules, contact the Croatian Embassy; 21 Conway Street, London, W1P 5HL (tel: 020 7387 1144). You may be asked to produce evidence of the financial means necessary to cover your stay and return or onward trip. If you want to extend your stay in Croatia for more than 90 days, seek advice at your host university.***Please note that due to Brexit, these regulations are subject to change. Keep up to date with the information provided on the FCO website***

REGISTRATION

Unless you're staying at a hotel or official tourist accommodation, you should register with the local police or the local town tourist centre within 15 days of arrival. In Zagreb you should register at the Police Station at Petrinjska 30. Failure to register may result in a fine or possible removal from Croatia.

HEALTH

If you're visiting Croatia you should get a free European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) before leaving the UK. The EHIC isn't a substitute for medical and travel insurance, but it entitles you to state provided medical treatment that may become necessary during your trip. Any treatment provided is on the same terms as Icelandic nationals. The EHIC won't cover medical repatriation, ongoing medical treatment or non-urgent treatment, so you should make sure you have adequate travel insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment and repatriation. ***Please note that due to Brexit, these regulations are subject to change. Keep up to date with the information provided on the FCO website***

TERRORISM

Terrorist attacks in Croatia can't be ruled out. Attacks could be indiscriminate, including in places visited by foreigners. There's a heightened threat of terrorist attack globally against UK interests and British nationals, from groups or individuals motivated by the conflict in Iraq and Syria. You should be vigilant at this time.

Find out more about the global threat from terrorism, how to minimise your risk and what to do in the event of a terrorist attack.

Туре	Nature of the Hazard	Procedures to Minimise Risk
CRIME	Crime levels are low and violent crime is rare. Some tourists have been the victims of overcharging in so-called 'Gentlemen's Clubs', sometimes amounting to thousands of Euros. Victims can be threatened with violence if they refuse to pay.	Take care in busy tourist areas, where pickpockets are known to operate. Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Don't leave valuables unattended, particularly on the beach. Use a hotel safe if possible. Report all incidents of crime to the local police station and get a police report.

CLIMATE	The weather in the Croatian mountains can change quickly, even in summer and temperatures can quickly get very low overnight. There have been reports of hikers getting lost in the mountains when they have gone out alone and left marked paths. If you get into trouble, call the emergency number 112 and the Croatian Mountain Rescue Service will help you as best they can.	If you are hiking in the mountains, seek expert advice from local guides, however tame the mountain might seem to you. Always travel in a group and leave behind information on the route you will be taking.
NATURAL DISASTERS	Small tremors are recorded several times a month throughout the year without consequences.	To learn more about what to do before, during and after an earthquake, visit the website of the <u>US Federal Emergency</u> <u>Management Agency</u> .
	Forest fires are very common during Croatia's hot and dry summers. Take care when visiting or driving through woodland and forest areas.	Make sure cigarette ends are properly extinguished, don't light barbecues and don't leave any rubbish, particularly empty bottles, behind.
	Flash floods can occur with very little warning and can lead to dangerous water flows and disruption to transport and other networks.	You should keep a close eye on weather forecasts and follow the advice of local authorities.

DRUGS	Drug related offences are punished with	Do not become involved with drugs of
	fines and jail sentences.	any kind.

Please also note and be sensitive to the following:

- Carry your passport with you at all times. You must be able to show some form of identification if required, including when checking into hotels.
- If you are planning to travel outside the normal tourist resorts beware of unexploded mines in war-affected areas like Eastern Slavonia, Brodsko-Posavska County, Karlovac County, areas around Zadar County and in more remote areas of the Plitvice Lakes National Park. If you are travelling in these areas avoid leaving cultivated land or marked paths. If in doubt seek local advice.
- Major credit and debit cards are accepted in most banks and hotels. Sterling, US Dollars and Euros are easily exchanged for local currency. There are plenty of ATMs. In 2011 there were reports of an increase in the number of forged Croatian Kuna banknotes, especially 200 and 500 notes. Only exchange money at reliable places like banks and ATMs.