

## ZAGREB 22. - 25. JUNE

On the round trip to Ljubljana and Zagreb we landed at Rijeka Airport on June 19, staying at Jadran Hotel in Rijeka, taking the train on June 20 to Ljubljana where we had two nights at City Hotel. On June 22, we took the train to Zagreb where we would have three nights.

### A bit about [Croatia](#)



Croatia's position in Europe



Flag



Coat of arms

Croatia has had a varied history:

The area was settled by Illyrians and the oldest known kingdom is from 800 BC.

In the 300's BC Greeks colonized coastal areas, Celts the northern areas.

In 168 BC Romans occupied the area and formed the province of Illyricum.

The country was populated by the Slavic Croats, who immigrated in the 5th century AD.

910 - 1091, Croatia was an independent kingdom.

1102-1866 under Hungary

1867-1918 part of the double-monarchy Austria-Hungary.

From 1918 part of the kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (from 1929 called the Kingdom of Yugoslavia).

From 1941 a Croatian fascist state was created, called the independent state of Croatia

Part of Yugoslavia (1945-1991)

After a referendum on May 19, 1991, Croatia declared itself an independent state on June 25, 1991.

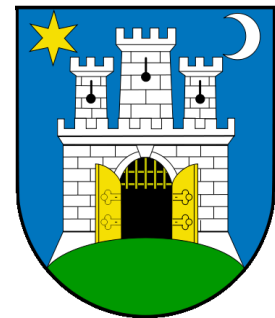
### A bit about [Zagreb](#)



Zagreb's position in Croatia



Flag



Coat of arms

The city lies between the southern slopes of the Medvednica Mountains and on both banks of the river [Sava](#) at an altitude of about 122 meters above sea level. It has just over 1 million inhabitants.

Zagreb was founded in 1094, was destroyed by the Mongols in 1242, rebuilt and made into royal Hungarian sanctuary. 1718-1918 capital of Croatia-Slavonia.

Zagreb's old town is called 'Gornji Grad' (Upper Town) and contains many old buildings.

In the mid-1950s, the construction of new residential areas began south of the river and also to the west.

The city is today a transport hub and cultural center with significant industry.



In Zagreb we were staying at a hotel called [I Hotel](#). It is located south of the river Sava on the outskirts of the city. We took the taxi from the train station away to the hotel.



Interior of the room.



View.



We could look out on football courts and tennis courts.



The restaurant.



Here we sit in the hotel waiting for the taxi the next day.



Just outside the hotel there is a large sports facility, [Zagreb Arena](#).



We asked the taxi driver to take us to the upper town [Gornji Grad](#). Here we are at the rear of [St. Mark's Church](#).



The lampstands outside the parliament building are richly decorated.



St. Mark's Church. It was built in the 1200's.



A sightseeing bus.



The parliament building. The oldest protocol from here is from 1273. The first free elections to Croatia's parliament after the war were held in the spring of 1990.



There are two guards outside this building, Banski Dvori, which is used by the Croatian government.



The Ceremony of the Changing of the Guards, performed by the members of the Honorary Battalion of the Croatian Armed Forces, lasting two hours, is under way. They use copies of uniforms used by the Croats in the Thirty Years' War. The ceremony is performed on Saturdays and Sundays in the summer. The tie was invented by the Croats. The French called the neckband a croate that became cravat.

Here are the guards.



This troop has been a round in the old town and is now waiting for the cannon salute from the Lotrščak tower at 12.00.



Then the ceremony ends.



An old Mercedes with Croatian pennants stood down the street.



Anne Berit and a street musician.

This is [Greek Catholic Co-cathedral of Saints Cyril and Methodius](#), which was built in 1880.



View to [Donji Grad](#), the lower town.



Looking along the [Strossmayer promenade](#), which runs along the edge of the upper city about where the old city wall once went.



This is a [cableway](#) that runs between Donji Grad and Gornji Grad. It is only 66 meters tall and is thus one of the world's shortest.



Here we look down at the bottom station. The course has two wagons that take 28 people each.



We walked along the promenade.





At the bottom of the promenade there is a tunnel, the [Grič tunnel](#), which runs throughout the entire upper city. It was dug out during the Second World War as a bomb shelter. It was also used during the 1991-95 war. It was renovated in 2016 and opened to the public. It has been used for various arrangements and shows.



This is inside the tunnel.



A kiosk at the upper station on the cable car.



A wedding couple came by when we were there.



This is the [Lotrščak tower](#). It was built in the 13th century as part of the city walls. Ever since January 1, 1877, a shot from Grič cannon has been fired at exactly 12 o'clock every day.



Nearby is the Catholic [St. Catherine's Church](#).



A fountain on the square outside St. Catherine's Church. It should imagine an unhappy fisherman with a snake.



Adjacent to St. Catherine's Church there is a large open space where there is good view eastwards towards [Zagreb Cathedral](#). It was built in 1217 and is supposed to be the tallest building in Croatia.



Right at the St. Catherine's church there is a kiosk. We found out that it was time for a break. Here I buy beer.



This place is sometimes used as an outdoor theater.





To descend from the upper town, we walked down the Strossmayer promenade. There we saw the sculpture 'Matos on the bench' of [Ivan Kožarić](#).



On the way down.



Almost down to the main streets.



Here is a restaurant with tables along the street.



Up in the same street is the eastern entrance to the [Grič tunnel](#).



This entrance is in a courtyard of a building with very worn wooden clapboards.



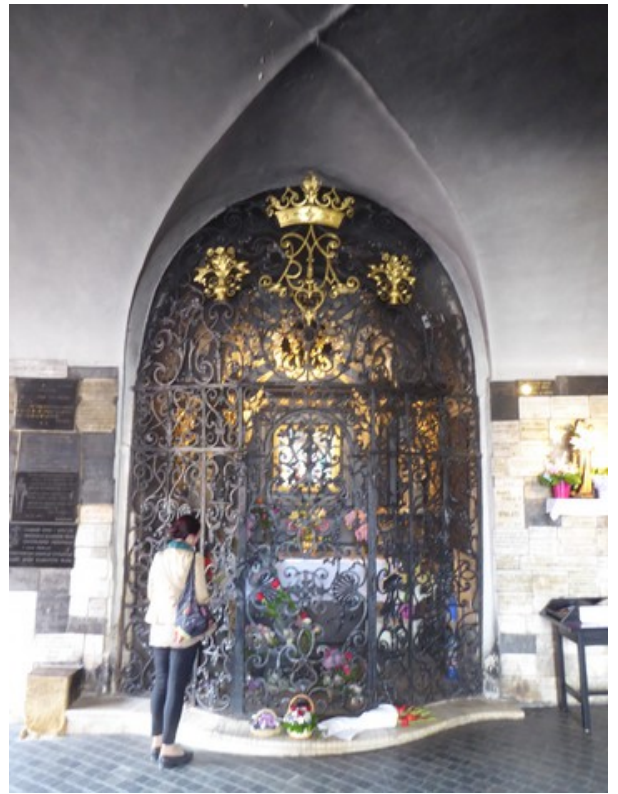
Here we have gone uphill towards the upper city again and have gone through the [Stone Gate](#).



This is how it looks further up the street. It rises upwards towards St. Mark's Church.



Pictures from inside the Stone Gate.



Behind this grid there is a painting of Virgin Mary called 'Our Lady of the Stone Gate'.



This is a tiny chapel.





The Stone Gate was part of the city wall built in the years 1242-1266. It has been damaged by fire four times.



At the bottom of the Stone Gate.



At the lower end of the street there is a statue of [St. George and the dragon](#).



On our way down the street again we see this lush shoe.



The street is so steep that they need to make platforms to put the table on.



He maneuvers a doll that plays the guitar. He has a radio or the like and the doll moves in line with the music.



Nice eg.



This restaurant has hung up many small flags, also the Norwegian.



A new break, We had a beer and something to eat.



The cathedral from another view.



A small sightseeing train.

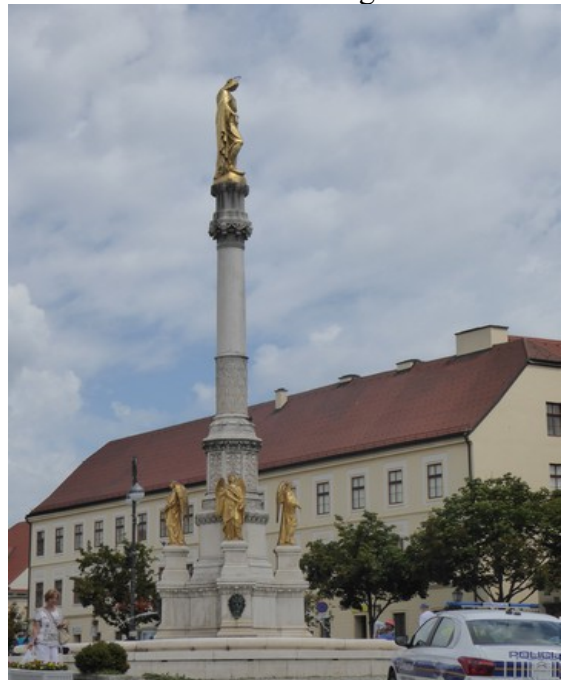


This is from [Ban Jelačić Square](#), which is named after [Josip Jelačić](#). It is the central square of Zagreb and trams and buses run through here.



View up towards the cathedral.  
From here we took a taxi back to the hotel.

The next day we took a taxi back to the same place to continue on the sightseeing round.



Outside the cathedral stands this statue with holy Mary on the top and angels down on the shelf.



On the south side of the cathedral.

The cathedral, especially the towers, was heavily damaged by earthquakes in 1880. Work is still underway to restore the cathedral.



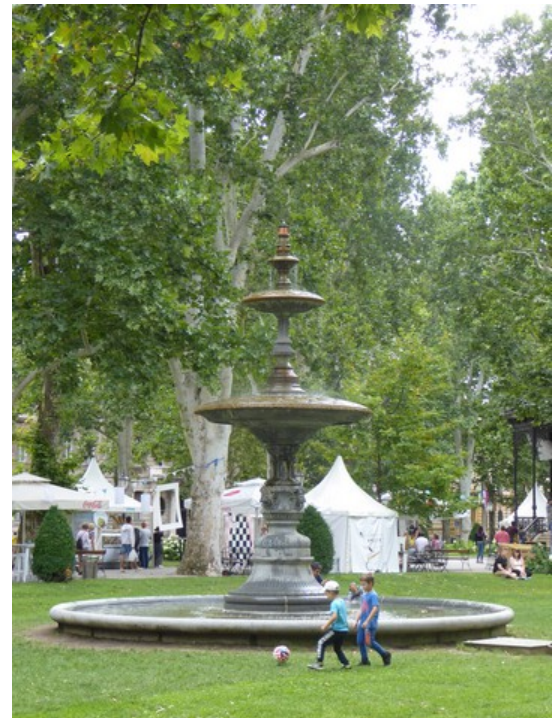
On the north side of the cathedral.



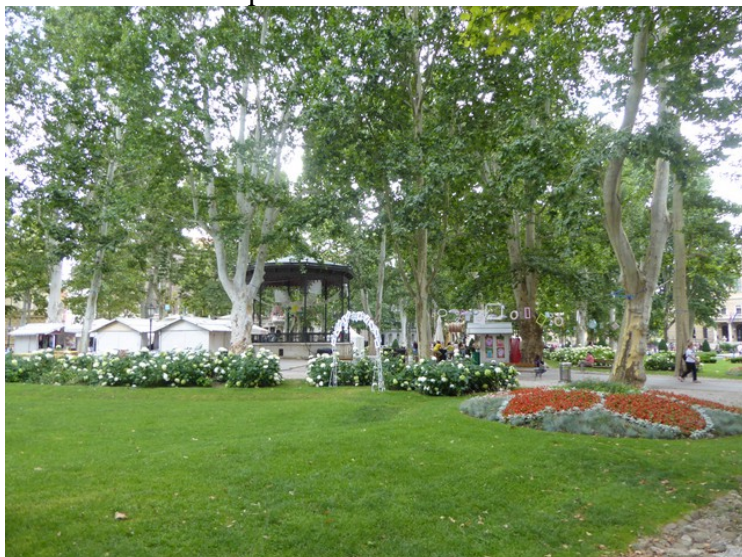
This is the [Dolac market](#). It was moved here in 1930 from Ban Jelačić Square.



On Ban Jelačić's square stands this statue of Ban Jelačićs.



This day we had planned to go through a number of parks. Here we are in [Park Zrinjevac](#) with Prva zagrebačka fountain.



More pictures from the park.



This is an art gallery, [Modern Gallery](#).



This is [Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts](#).



Flowers in [Park Josipa Jurja Strossmayera](#).



The [Art Pavilion](#).



[King Tomislav Square](#). Tomislav was the first king of Croatia.



At the end of this square is the train station.



Statue of [King Tomislav](#).



[Zagreb Glavni kolodvor](#), the main railway station was opened in 1892.



This is next to the railway station in the Park Fontana Importantne Centar.



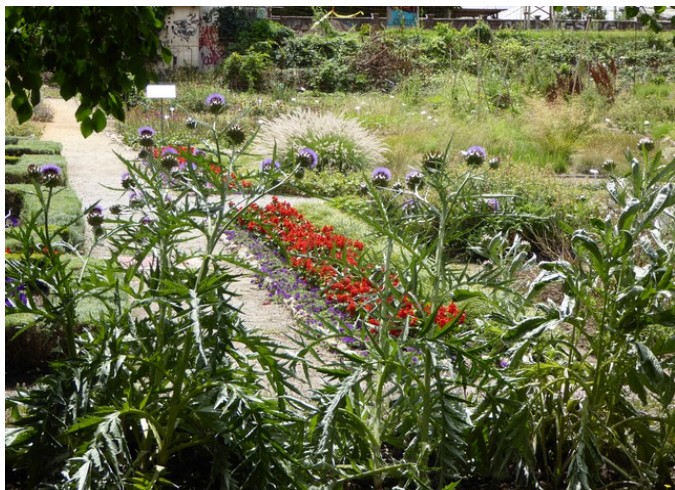
The crow wants water, but it is afraid of falling into the fountain.



[Esplanade hotel](#).



The pavilion in the [Zagreb Botanical Gardens](#).



From the botanical garden.







Here is the [Croatian State Archives](#).



[Croatian National Theatre](#).



The [Croatian School Museum](#) opened in 1901.



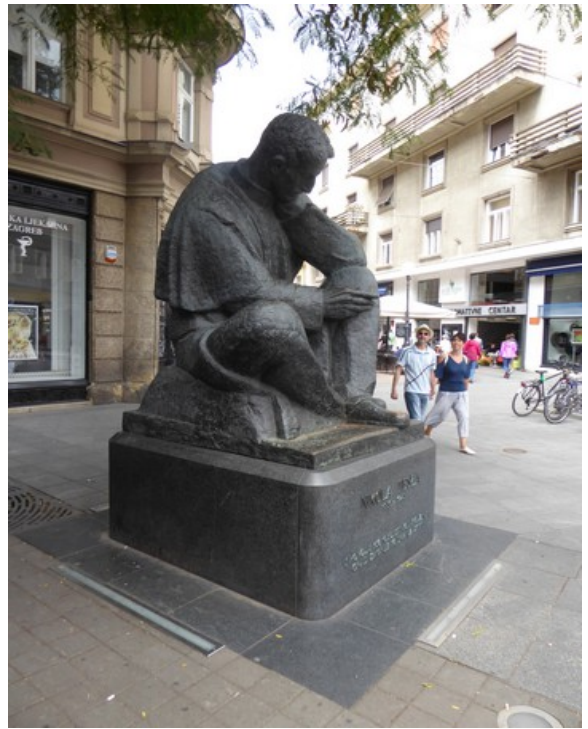
St. Georg kills the dragon on [Republic of Croatia Square](#).



[Academy of Music, University of Zagreb](#).



Museum of Arts and Crafts.



Nikola Tesla



After we had walked this round, we had to relax with a beer at this cafe.

After this we took a taxi back to the hotel. We did not have to look for a taxi because there was a whole lot next to Nikola Tesla waiting for missions.

The next day we went back to Rijeka to take the plane home. We had planned to take the train but we had to check out from the hotel at 12.00 and the train should not leave until 17.05 and we had not been arriving before 20.42.

We therefore found out that it was more convenient to book a taxi on-line with pickup at the hotel at 12.00. It was much more comfortable and we were at the hotel in Rijeka at 14.