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Learn Your World: Croatia

Career Development



To support your global practice, *ACC Docket* offers country-specific fun facts from your peers who've been there — literally.



Economy

GDP (PPP) US\$100.3 billion (2017 estimate)

Population
Corruption

4,292,095 (2017 Estimate)

According to Transparency International's 2017 Corruption Perception Index, Croatia ranked 57th "cleanest" (i.e., least corrupt) out of the 180 countries surveyed.

Additional resources

croatia.hr/en-GB

Croatia is in southeastern Europe and occupies the largest part of the eastern coast of the Adriatic Sea. It has a diverse landscape with large plains in the east, hills in the north, mountains in the middle, and the beautiful coast in the south - with over 1,000 islands.

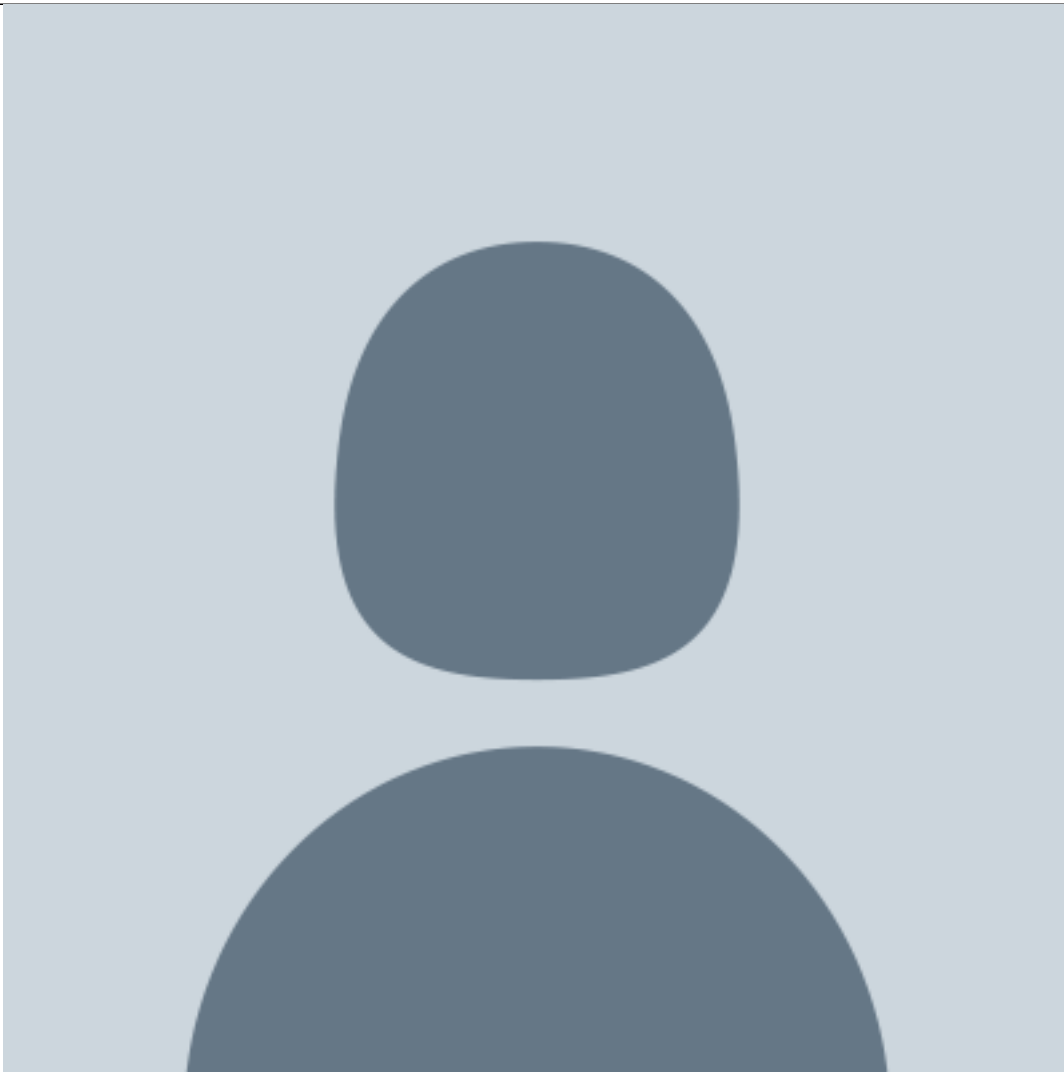
Due to its geographical position, Croatia has a pleasurable climate, with clear differences between the seasons. The capital of Croatia, and its largest city, is Zagreb. Zagreb is also the economic center of the country, so if you are having a meeting in Croatia, it will most likely be there.

Croats are, like most people of the Mediterranean nations, friendly and hospitable. Regardless, business is business. When coming to a meeting, try to be punctual - it's a sign of respect. But in case you are late, don't worry. Croats have a phrase for a 15-minute period during which you are allowed to be late: the so-called "academic quarter."

Attire depends on the type of meeting, but you can never go wrong with a suit or a classic dress. If you want to win over your hosts, it's not a bad idea to mention this fun fact: Ties originated from Croatia. Croats usually greet with a handshake, and it is not unusual to kiss someone on the cheek.

At the beginning of a meeting, business cards are exchanged without specific formalities. It is normal for a conversation to start informally with questions regarding your trip, impressions of Croatia, or the weather. When the serious topics start, it's preferable to be concise and precise. If you feel the meeting isn't going the way you planned, you can always ease the mood by mentioning the 2018 World Cup. Finally, as a useful piece of information, Croatia is one of the few countries in which tap water is drinkable everywhere.

[Marina Kralj Miliša](#)



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