



WELCOME GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Faculty of Organization and Informatics
University of Zagreb

foi UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB
FACULTY OF ORGANIZATION AND INFORMATICS
VARAŽDIN



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Introduction

Welcome to the Faculty of Organization and Informatics (FOI) of the University of Zagreb! We are delighted that you have chosen our Faculty as your temporary destination for studying abroad.

This guide is intended for international students who decided to study at FOI by joining an exchange programme or as free movers. It is designed to make your international academic experience even more enjoyable and fruitful.

We wish you a pleasant stay at the Faculty of Organization and Informatics!



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Dean's Welcome

*Dear international students,
I warmly welcome you to the Faculty of
Organization and Informatics of the
University of Zagreb.*

With almost 60 years long tradition, the Faculty of Organization and Informatics plays a significant role in the Croatian higher education arena. Over the decades, the Faculty has been providing education to future experts in the field of information sciences and technologies, organization and economics. At our Faculty students can enrol in 3 undergraduate and 5 graduate study programmes as well as pursue their studies in a postgraduate doctoral or specialist study programme. As we strive to equip students with the knowledge and skills that are needed for today's fast changing and globalized labour market, the three I's vital to our institutional efforts are Innovativeness, Interdisciplinarity and Internationalization.

Bridging the gap between theory and practice, the Faculty of Organization and Informatics is closely connected with the business sector in our commitment to educating IT professionals. With over 500 cooperation agreements with companies in Croatia and abroad, the Faculty is also a co-owner of Varaždin Technology Park – a business incubation centre for innovative start-up companies. In addition to that, for

over 20 years FOI has been actively engaged in applying for national and international (mostly EU funded) projects either as a project coordinator or a partner.

With a growing international community, the Faculty of Organization and Informatics is dedicated to fostering internationalization processes and is open to academic partnerships with higher education institutions across the world, students and staff exchange, research and project cooperation. We are working hard to provide our international students the best possible experience – quality education in the first place, but also a fulfilling social life during their stay at our Faculty. We cherish a friendly atmosphere, open communication and personal contact, which is why the FOI International Office and ECTS Coordinator as well as the teaching staff are always willing to ensure non-stop support to international students. To help you settle into life at our Faculty and town, you can also get in touch with your FOI Buddy – a FOI student who will be happy to be a friendly face and a helping hand to our newly arrived students.

Looking forward to meeting you at FOI, I wish you a lot of unique and memorable experiences during your stay at our Faculty and University, and in the delightful Varaždin and Croatia.

Prof. Nina Begičević Redep, Ph.D.

Dean



ABOUT FOI



University of Zagreb

Faculty of Organization and Informatics

The Faculty of Organization and Informatics (FOI) is an internationally recognized higher education institution in the interdisciplinary field of informatics, organization and business, located in the city of Varaždin, Croatia. FOI is a part of the University of Zagreb (UNIZG), Croatia's flagship university and one of the oldest and largest universities in South Eastern Europe. On its official

webpages, the University of Zagreb is described as a comprehensive public Central European university dedicated to education and research in all scientific fields and a wide range of courses at different study levels, from undergraduate to postgraduate.

By choosing FOI as their exchange destination, international students also become a part of a large community of almost 75,000 students enrolled at the University of Zagreb. On the other hand, owing to the decentralized position of FOI premises with regards to the main campus in the Croatia's capital, FOI exchange students can also enjoy a more relaxed and friendly atmosphere that characterizes Varaždin student experience.

FACTS ABOUT UNIZG

Established in 1669	33 constituent units (faculties and academies)
73,000 students	7,900 teaching staff members

FACTS ABOUT FOI

Established in 1962	12 study programmes
2,500 students	140 employees



“

I like it very much, especially the Student residence. There are a lot of organized activities together with Croatian students.

Arthur
ESIEA, France

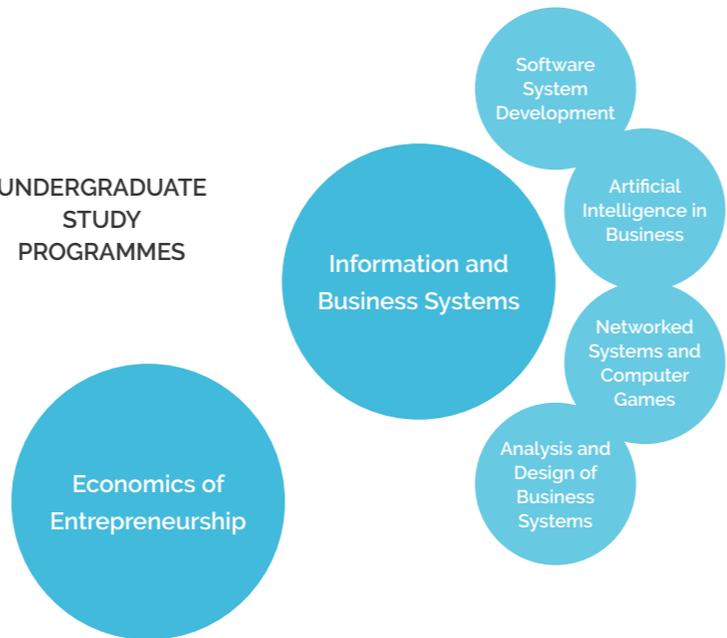
FOI building, Varaždin

Why study @ FOI

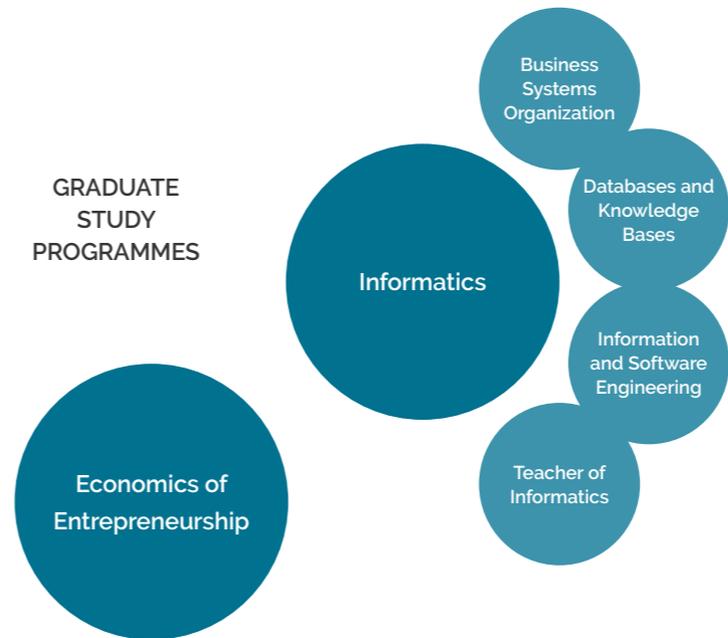
- 1 Croatia is a rising star among international students worldwide, with more and more students choosing Croatia as their full-time study or exchange destination.
- 2 As a higher-education institution, FOI has a strong focus on the integration of practical skills and knowledge demands of today's labor market.
- 3 Great location – FOI is situated in the very heart of the city's historic centre, and Varaždin is perfectly located as the starting point for exploring not only Croatia, but also nearby countries and cities of Central Europe.
- 4 Varaždin has the best student infrastructure in Croatia. The newly built Student residence and restaurant, situated only 10 minutes from the main FOI building, offers all the amenities for comfortable student life.
- 5 A cross-disciplinary approach is one of the key advantages that students can benefit from during their study period at FOI.
- 6 FOI has a growing community of international students – you can become a part of it.
- 7 FOI is closely connected with the local community and the industry sector.
- 8 Croatian people are welcoming, with generally good foreign language skills.
- 9 Taking great care of international students in a friendly environment.

Study programs at a glance

UNDERGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES



GRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES



POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES



UNDERGRADUATE VOCATIONAL STUDY PROGRAMME



Study programs in Informatics

The newly revised undergraduate study programme Information and Business Systems introduced in the 2020/2021 academic year offers 4 modules that students can choose among according to their interests and preferences. Upon completing a bachelor's programme, students can continue their studies at FOI by enrolling one of the 4 graduate study programmes. The thematic areas covered at different levels of study programmes in informatics at FOI are fairly broad and include:

- Software modeling and development
- Software architecture
- Database architecture design
- Statistical analysis
- Data mining
- Business process modeling, management and improvement
- Performance measurement
- Information systems security
- Cloud computing
- Multi-agent systems
- Game development
- Artificial intelligence
- Digital transformation
- Strategic planning and decision making
- Digital technologies – e-learning, learning analytics.



Study programs in Economics

The undergraduate and graduate study programmes in Economics of Entrepreneurship are designed to introduce and familiarize students with new economic concepts and entrepreneurship models. Owing to a combination of business, organizational and IT knowledge, students graduating from this programme are prepared for today's labour market, either by finding job opportunities in various industries and positions, or by starting their own business.



USEFUL TIPS FOR STUDYING @ FOI

Where can I study in the Faculty building?

There are several options. You can always go to the FOI Library that is equipped with desktop computers, or bring your own laptop and work on projects and homework. If you prefer a more casual environment, you can go to the FOI Chill Zone (in the basement). Inside the Chill Zone you will also find a coffee bar where you can enjoy your drink.

Courses in English

Exchange students can choose courses from the **COURSE CATALOG** which contains the list of courses that can be delivered in English. In the academic year 2020/21 almost **40 courses** are available to choose from, and the offer is continuously growing.

Exchange students who can provide proof of sufficient knowledge of the Croatian language can be allowed to take courses that are taught and examined in Croatian.

Explore our courses offered in English as the language of instruction at <https://www.foi.unizg.hr/en/students/courses>

Students also have the possibility to enroll in one or more **short intensive programmes (workshops)** where they gain a more in-depth knowledge about a specific subject area topic and participate in a team project under the lecturer's supervision.

Workshops @ FOI you can enroll in:

- **Computer Game Development by Example**
- **Competitive Web Design**
- **Predictive Analytics**
- **Advanced Python Workshop**
- **Application of Biometric Methods in Forensics**
- **Internet of Things: Embedded Software Development**
- **Technology Driven Innovation in Digital Transformation**

At FOI, interdisciplinarity is of key importance, so exchange students can:

- Combine courses from different study levels (bachelor and master)
- Combine courses from different study programmes (informatics and economics).



“

In some courses we have more assignments than in others but that's fine. We manage to both party and study!

William
ESIEA, France

FOI International

With a growing international community, FOI is dedicated to fostering internationalization processes and is open to academic partnerships with higher education institutions across the world, students and staff exchange, research and project cooperation.

Established in 2002, the FOI International Relations Office (IRO) is a facilitator and a promoter of the Faculty's international activity. Working closely with the Faculty's Vice-Dean for Science, Projects and International

Cooperation, as well as the ECTS Coordinator, FOI IRO gives support to incoming international students and staff and coordinates the Faculty's outgoing mobility.

Moreover, FOI IRO organizes various international events during the year in which international students often actively participate, like FOI International Days and Erasmus+ Info Day.



Get to know the FOI International community by following us on social media!

  @foivzinternational



At FOI, international students can be enrolled as:

- **FULL TIME STUDENTS** on all levels (degree-awarded; in Croatian language)
- **EXCHANGE STUDENTS** (non-degree student) within the **Erasmus+ programme**, a **bilateral exchange** or as **free movers**.

International students can also complete the **ERASMUS+ INTERNSHIP** in one of FOI laboratories, centres or offices.

Application process

Depending on the mobility type, different type of nomination, application and deadlines apply.

Documents accompanying the application:

- Curriculum Vitae
- Grade Transcript
- Certificate of Enrolment
- Copy of ID card or Passport
- Proof of knowledge of English (minimum B2 level according to CEFR)
- Learning Agreement for Studies

FOI IRO – International Relations Office at the Faculty of Organization and Informatics

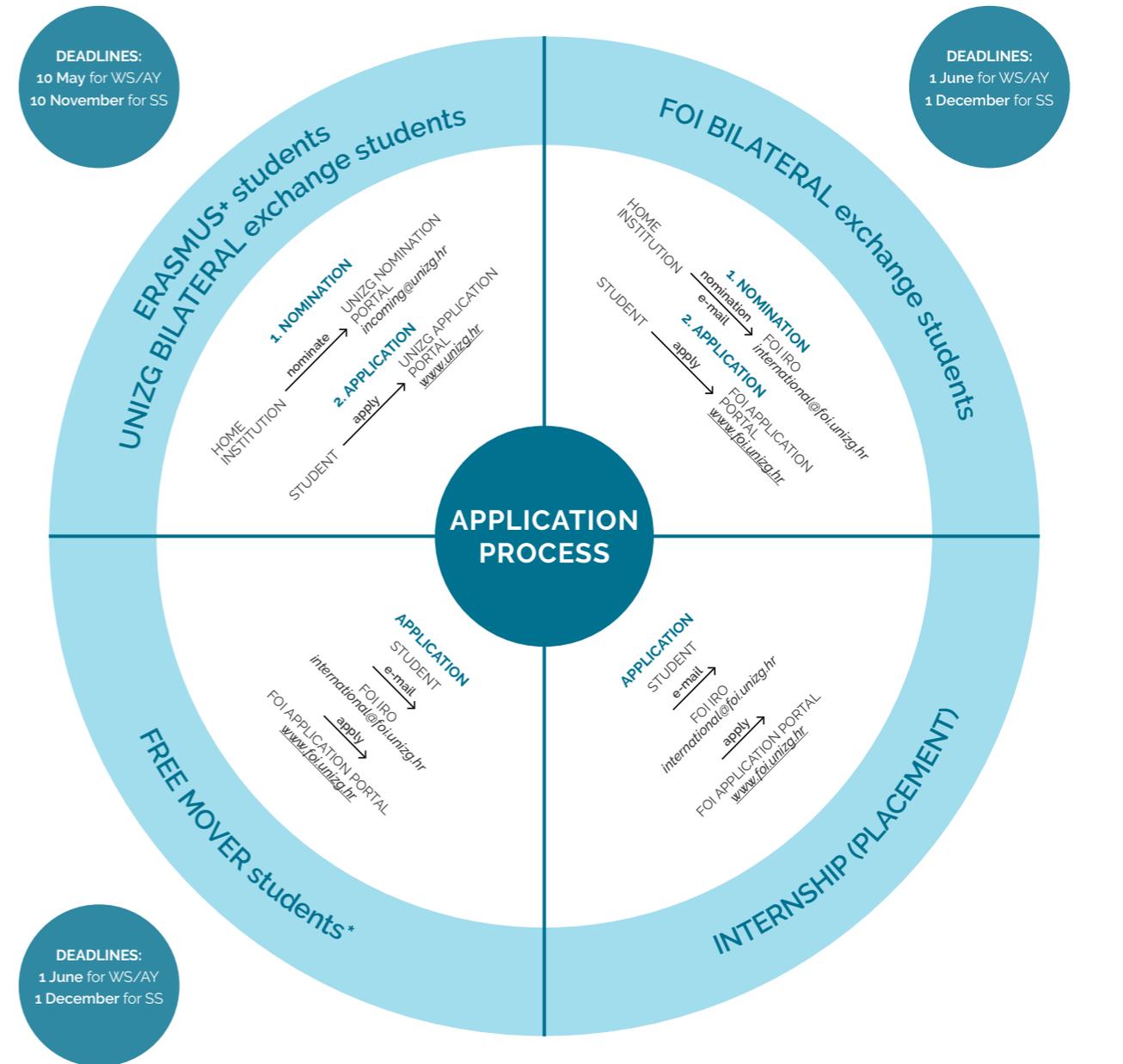
UNIZG IRO – International Relations Office at the University of Zagreb

WS – winter semester (starting in October)

SS – summer semester (starting in March)

AY – academic year

* Free movers are international students who organize their studies independently, without being a part of any exchange programme. Free movers are permitted to participate in courses and examinations but need to pay for each course they want to attend.



Before arrival

Visa

Not required for EU/EEA and non-visa regime countries.

Required for visa-regime countries. Application via the Croatian embassy in the home country before departing for Croatia.

Health insurance

We strongly advise international students to be medically insured while in Croatia. Moreover, proof of medical insurance is required when applying for the temporary residence permit in Croatia.

EU/EEA countries: European Health Insurance Card required

Non EU/EEA: medical travel insurance

Bilateral Social Insurance Agreement Countries (BiH, Serbia, Montenegro, ...): "Bolesnički list" (more information: Croatian Health Insurance Fund – HZZO)





Housing

Upon arrival to FOI UNIZG international students usually choose to be accommodated at the Student residence in Varaždin. The Student residence and restaurant together make up a complex which is one of the most modern student facilities not only in Croatia, but also in this part of Europe. The complex is in the vicinity of the city centre and the FOI building. Rooms are mostly designed for two person use and are fully furnished and equipped for quality student life.

For more information please visit the Student residence web site: www.scvz.unizg.hr

Important!
Reservations for international students are made via the on-line application form available at the FOI website.



The other option during your stay in Varaždin is to rent a private apartment. Rental prices can vary significantly according to location, room size, facilities included and so on. The most popular online platform for renting accommodation in Croatia is "Njuškalo" (www.njuskalo.hr).

You may also consider staying in one of the hostels in Varaždin, like Bed & bike hostel Varaždin (www.bedbike.hr).

Arrival

How to reach Varaždin

You can easily reach Varaždin by all standard modes of transportation: bus, train, car and airplane. Guests arriving from more distant parts of Europe and the rest of the world usually choose to fly to Zagreb first. To get from the Zagreb airport (Franjo Tuđman Airport) to the city of Varaždin you have the following possibilities:

Bus. There is a direct bus shuttle to the Zagreb Central bus station. There you can take a bus to Varaždin (see travel schedule at www.akz.hr).

Taxi or van. Renting a car or taking a taxi are fairly more expensive alternatives to a bus ride to Varaždin, but a good option if you have fellow travelers. Inside the Zagreb airport building you will find several rent-a-car service providers. You can also book your taxi ride in advance using online taxi booking.

Train. We recommend only the fast train which however runs infrequently (daily departure from Zagreb to Varaždin at 15:38; daily departure from Varaždin to Zagreb at 05:31).

USEFUL TIPS FOR STUDYING @ FOI



What is "x-ica" card?

It is the Student identity card issued to all full-time students in Croatia, (pronounced as "iksica".)

You can use the student card as proof for realizing student rights and benefits such as subsidized meals, public transportation, discounts in certain public institutions and so on. International students coming to Croatia via the Erasmus+ programme, CEEPUS network or bilateral exchange programmes of the Ministry of Science and Education will also receive their "x-ica".



“

I am thrilled with *menza*, student restaurant. For very little money I can have a great meal. And Croatian local students are so kind and welcoming, they help us with everything.

Merwan
Epitech

First few weeks

Meeting with FOI International Relations Office (IRO)

FOI IRO may become your home away from home during your studies at FOI. At the beginning of your stay in Varaždin, everything will be new to you: the city, the Faculty and its facilities, the studying system, the country, its traditions and people. If you have any question – go straight to the International Relations Office; the helpful and expedient IRO staff will quickly sort it out for you. It is here that you are always welcome with comforting words and, if anything, a friendly smile and ear.

Location: FOI 1 building, 1st floor, room 41

Working hours: Monday - Friday: 8:00 - 16:00

Contact: international@foi.unizg.hr; +385 42 390 826

TO DO LIST UPON ARRIVAL:

1. Getting your OIB - Personal Identification Number

In Croatian, "OIB" stands for "osobni identifikacijski broj". It is a personal identification number given to residents and citizens in Croatia. The OIB number is required for a student's registration into the Higher Education Institutions Information System ("ISVU" in Croatian). A member of the IRO staff will accompany you to the Varaždin Tax Administration Office to receive your OIB number – a short and simple procedure. Make sure you have your ID card or passport with you.



2. Getting AAI

You will need to request your electronic identity ("AAI" in Croatian) and your AAI Electronic User Account that is necessary for accessing the Internet (at the faculty and in the dorm) and logging into the on-line learning system (Moodle).

3. Getting your student identity card - X-ica

In Croatia the identification card for full-time students is called "iksica" (or "x-ica"). It is used as proof for realizing student rights and benefits such as subsidized meals, public transportation, discounts in certain public institutions and so on. International students in Croatia can obtain a student card if they fall into one of these categories:

- Erasmus+ students
- Students in bilateral exchange programmes of the Ministry of Science and Education and the Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes
- Students arriving through the CEEPUS network.

4. Getting temporary residence permit

If the exchange exceeds 90 days, students have to apply for the approval of temporary residence at the Foreigners' Office at the Varaždin Central Police Station.

5. Getting access to FOI library

As an exchange student, with showing x-ica card, you can use the Library and all the facilities it offers – computers, books, learning and reading space.



USEFUL TIPS FOR STUDYING @ FOI

When should I come to classes?

Typically, lectures will start 15 minutes later than the official starting time posted in the schedule (for example, if the schedule says 12:00, this means that the lecturer will arrive around 12:15). Seminars or laboratory exercises usually start at the scheduled time (for example, if the schedule says 12:00, that is the exact starting time).

Welcome week at FOI

The Welcome Week for exchange students is organized by the FOI International Relations Office at the beginning of each semester. Participation in this event, which lasts from 3 to 5 days, is mandatory for all exchange students.

WW activities:

- Orientation sessions
- Guided city tour
- Croatian dinner (welcome evening)
- Team building / sports event
- Trip to a nearby attraction

FOI Student Buddy

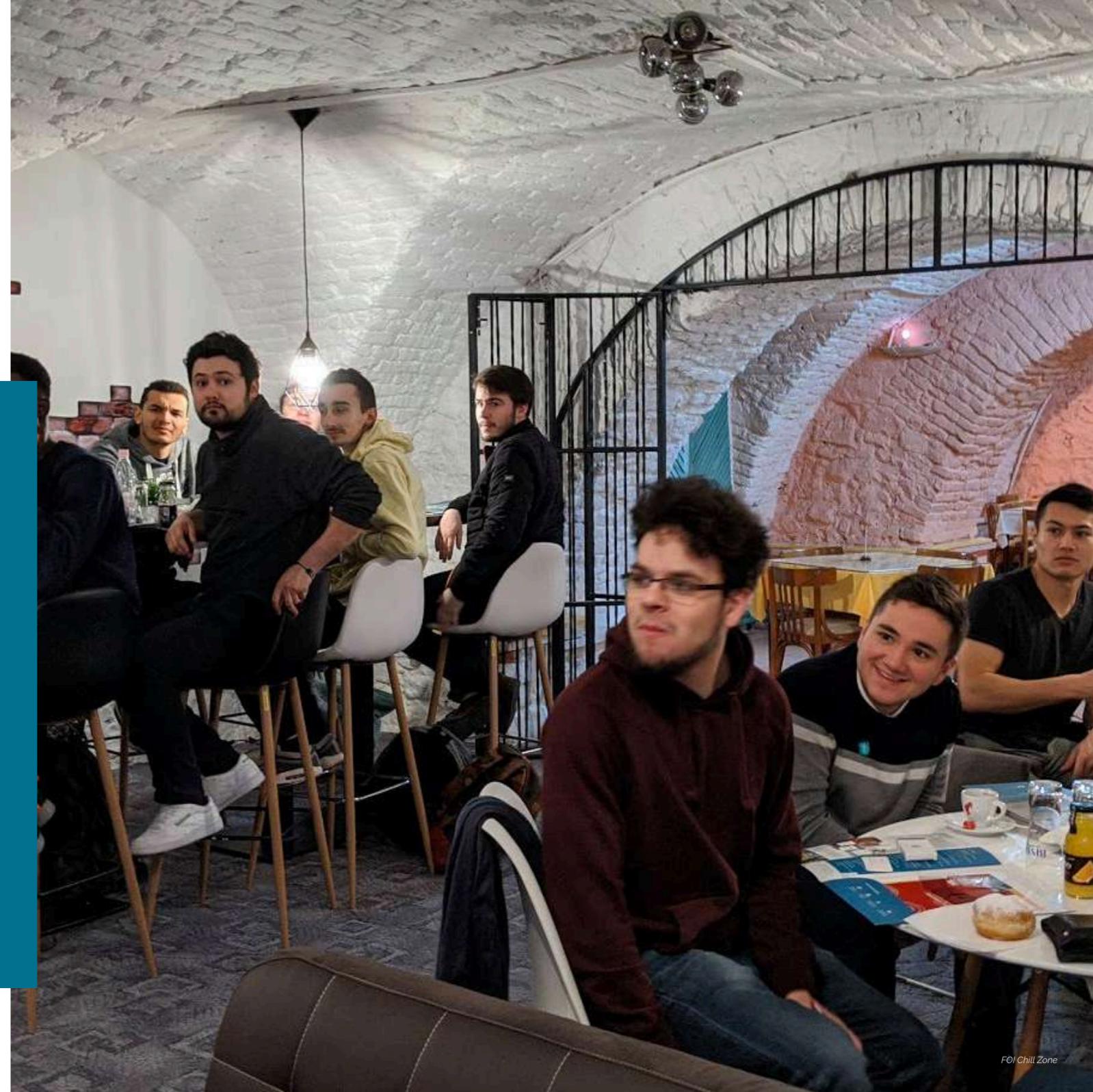
The Buddy programme connects international students with current FOI students. At the beginning of your stay here, they will be happy to provide a friendly face, helping hand, and first Varaždin friendship to our newly arrived students. Buddies will also offer linguistic support, cultural guidance and information about life in Croatia and studying at FOI.

“

Besides the beautiful nature, landscape, buildings and cities, I noticed a more beautiful thing in this country, *the people*. Croatians are not very open at first sight but when you make the first step, you will discover very soon that you're talking with very honest, kind and loyal people.

Van

Odisee College Brussels, Belgium



When you return home

After you complete your stay at FOI, the International Relations Office will send you a Grade Transcript and Certificate of Attendance by e-mail (and regular post if needed).

FOI exchange alumni are always welcome at FOI, for a cup of coffee or a chit chat. FOI International Relations Office is happy to keep track of their life path, even years after they study with us.

“

Thank you so much for making our Erasmus experience so much easier and great! We really appreciate all the effort. We will miss you!

*Note from Erasmus students to
FOI International Relations Office*



STUDYING AT FOI

Faculty premises

The Faculty of Organization and Informatics has two buildings located in the Varaždin city centre, usually referred to as "FOI 1" and "FOI 2". The main building, FOI 1, is a beautiful historical building dating from the 17th century, which makes it the oldest of all faculty buildings of the University of Zagreb. Its location is superb – just overlooking Varaždin's Main Square. Although occupying historical walls, the classrooms and laboratories inside the FOI 1 building are equipped with modern technology needed to perform quality instruction. The FOI International Office, ECTS Coordinator's office, Office for Student Affairs and most of the lecturers' offices are situated in the FOI 1 building. This building also serves as a venue for most events we organize during the year. Classes are also held in the FOI 2 building, which is just a 5-minute walk away from the main building. Another historical building, recently acquired by the Faculty, located halfway between the two existing buildings, is currently being renovated.

GRADING SYSTEM IN CROATIA

FOI uses the ECTS grading system:

Grade	Explanation
5	excellent – "izvrstan" (highest grade) = A
4	very good – "vrlo dobar" = B
3	good – "dobar" = C
2	satisfactory – "dovoljan" = D, E
1	unsatisfactory – "nedovoljan" = F

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Winter semester

Classes: October-January

Exam period: February

Winter break: ~ 24/12-07/01

Summer semester

Classes: March-June

Exam period: June-mid-July

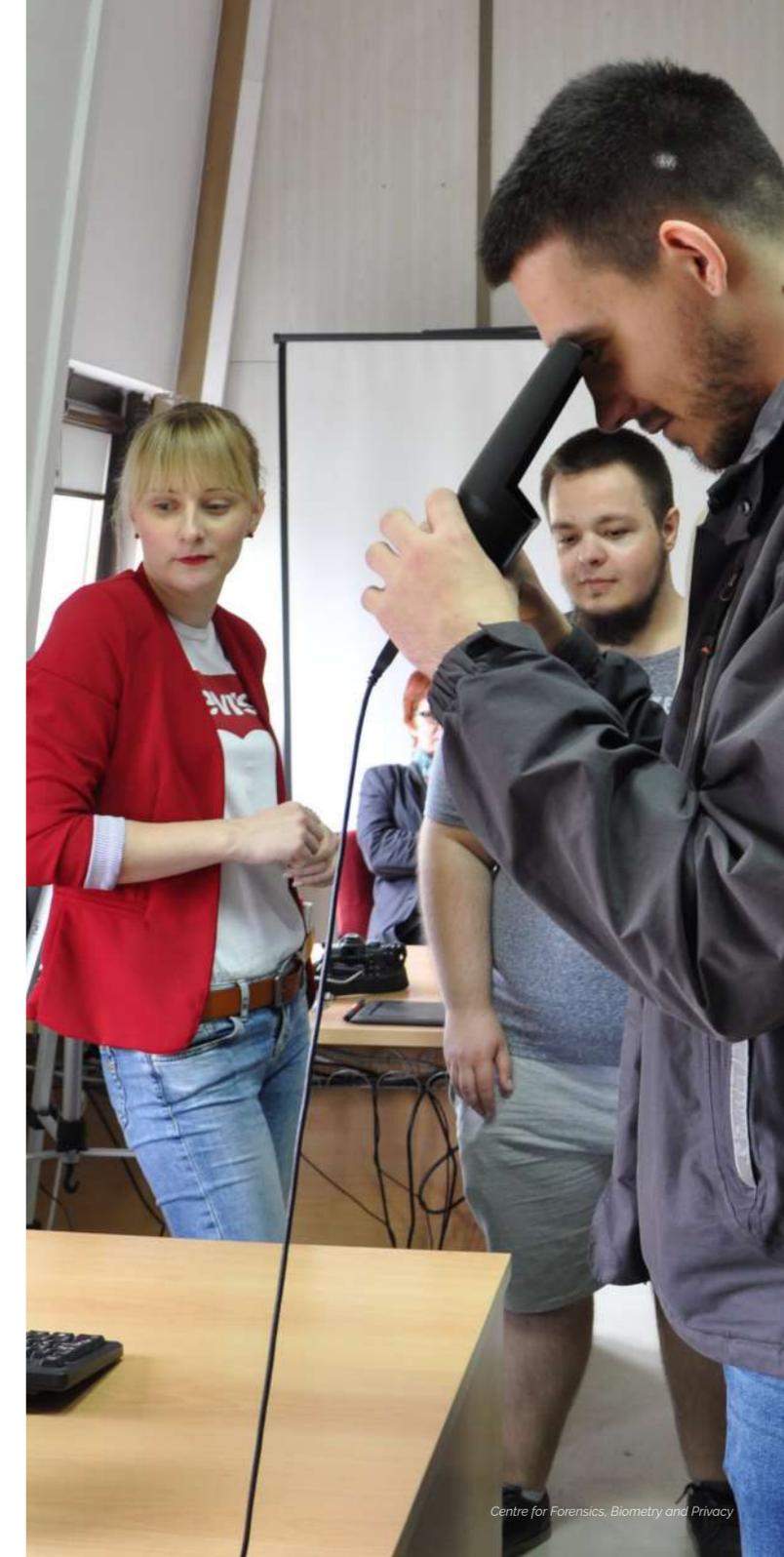
Summer break: ~ 17/07-01/09

Courses in English

As part of their application for their stay at FOI UNIZG, students need to choose courses from the Course catalog – the list of courses available in the English language at the host institution – and fill out and sign the Learning Agreement for Studies (LA). During our Welcome Week you have an opportunity to discuss your course selection with the FOI ECTS coordinator and the lecturers. If you want to make changes in your Learning Agreement, that is possible in the first two weeks of the semester.

Online services

Upon enrollment you will receive the FOI login account. This account is used for accessing various student services like e-mail, internet access and the FOI Learning Management System (Moodle). Moodle is the platform used for accessing and downloading study materials, communication with lecturers, uploading course assignments and receiving important notifications for each course.

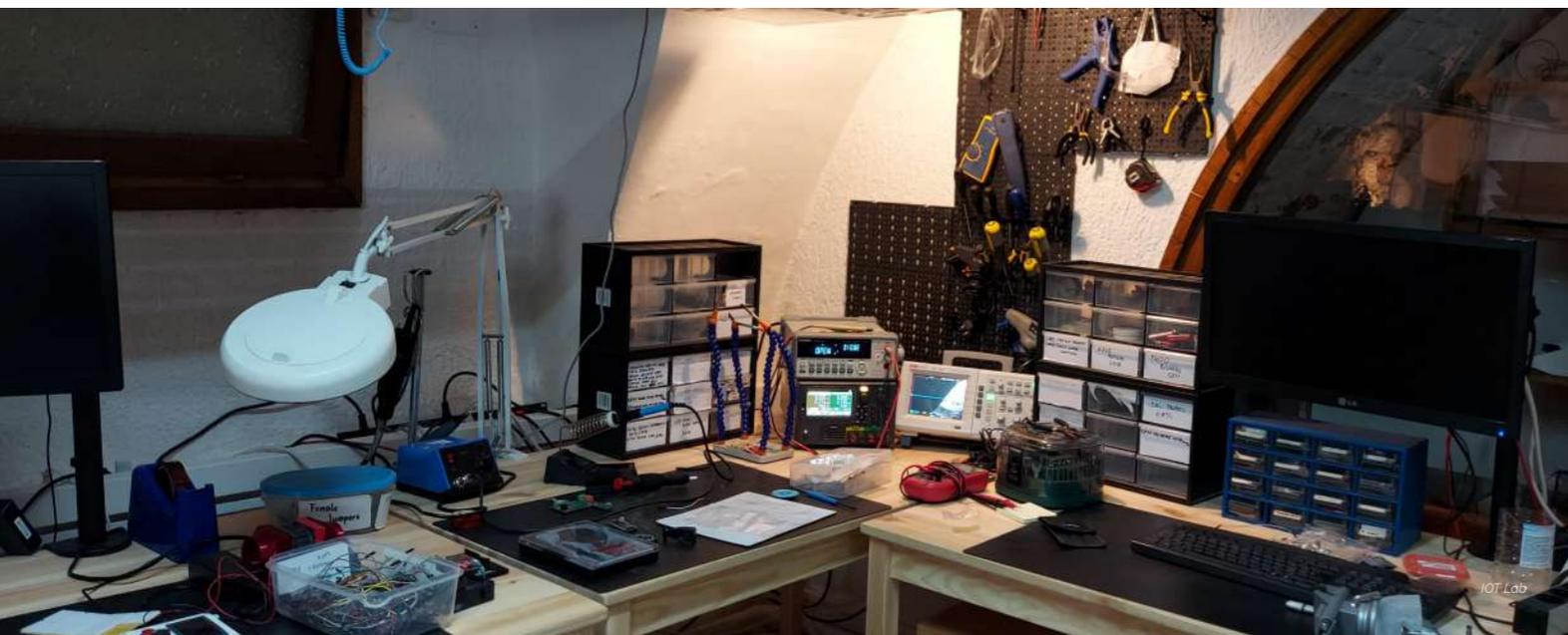


FOI laboratories and centres

While at FOI, you can join one of our research laboratories or centres. FOI students frequently do their internship in FOI labs, which is also possible for international students. Contact FOI IRO if you are interested in completing your Erasmus+ internship at FOI. Depending on your interest and knowledge, we will be glad to connect you with the lecturers and head of laboratories.

There are several laboratories and centres, the most popular choices among students being:

- **Internet of Things Laboratory** (IOT Lab)
- **Artificial Intelligence Laboratory** (AI Lab)
- **Centre for Forensics, Biometry and Privacy**
- **Mobile Technology Laboratory** (MT Lab)



USEFUL TIPS FOR STUDYING @ FOI



What is the best way I can communicate with the academic staff?

Sometimes one course has several lecturers, usually the main lecturer (called Professor) and one or more younger lecturers (teaching assistants).

In person

The most common way of starting a conversation with a member of the academic staff in Croatia is by addressing them with "Professor_Surname / Assistant_Surname".

In emails

The usual way to start an official email is by writing "Professor_Surname / Assistant_Surname".

Classes and exams

There may be some differences between studying at FOI and at your home university so you will need some time to adjust to our way of organization. This should not discourage you – feel free to ask help from the lecturers, ECTS coordinator, your FOI Buddy or IRO.

After your arrival, we will give you the schedule for the courses you chose to enroll. Classes are held in both FOI buildings, FOI 1 and FOI 2, and participation is usually mandatory (depending on the course, you are allowed to be absent a few times during semester).

In general, in the Croatian higher education system the following 3 types of classes are delivered:

1. **Lectures** – oral presentation of theoretical course content by the lecturer
2. **Seminars** – aimed at actively engaging students to enable them to get more familiar with the course matter
3. **Laboratory exercises** – introducing students to methods of practical work; acquiring practical knowledge and skills by completing tasks on a computer

At UNIZG, full-time students can pass the exams through mid-term exams ("kolokvij" in Croatian) during the semester and / or final exams (in Croatian: ispit). Some courses include project work (and defense) as well. All important details on a specific course are defined in the Student assessment model ("model praćenja" in Croatian) presented to students by course lecturer/s at the beginning of semester.



Extracurricular activities

For a more fulfilling student experience, you can also consider joining one or more student organisations while studying at FOI. Become a member of one of our sports teams, FOI student newsletter staff or sing along with other students in the FOI choir – the choice is yours! Engaging in these activities is also a great way to have fun and make friends.

FOI Student Council – A representative body of students that are elected by FOI students with the main goal to represent the students' interests and rights. The Student Council is also involved in humanitarian work and organization of various events such as "Brucošijada" (a big welcome party for first-year students) and STEM Games (competition in knowledge and sports which brings together more than 1000 students from across the region).

ST@K – FOI student newsletter. With the motto "From students to students", ST@K staff are driven by the desire to motivate students to get involved in the creation of fun content format.

FOI Academic Choir – In just a couple of years, the Choir established itself as one of the Faculty's trademarks. The main purpose of the Choir is to support creative expression, networking and enable an opportunity for informal gathering to current and former FOI students and staff.

FOI Sports Association – They bring together students who want to participate in recreational sports activities (football, basketball, volleyball, chess, table tennis, swimming, cycling, hiking, fencing and so on). Among other sports achievements, FOI students are also university esports champions.

Croatian language and culture course

While in Croatia, you might want to learn the basics of the Croatian language, or get acquainted with Croatian history, geography, natural and cultural heritage. If interested, you can enroll in our 10-hour interactive workshop (split into 5-7 weeks in the first half of each semester). Think about using the opportunity to learn about your host country in an informal and relaxed atmosphere!



USEFUL TIPS FOR STUDYING @ FOI

Do I need my laptop during classes?

No, you don't. Regarding lectures, it is not usual for FOI students to use their own personal laptops. Most of lecturers expect from you to follow their lecture with the maximum attention.

You do not have to bring your own computer to laboratory exercises as well, because the labs are equipped with the computers and the working environment is configured for most of the courses.

Business Club @ FOI – Student association founded in 2016 with the aim of expanding and improving students' financial culture and business knowledge. The activities of the club include organizing seminars, lectures, case study competitions and similar contests.

AIESEC – The largest international student organization present in 126 countries. Their activity is accomplished through programs of international volunteer and professional internships and work various projects. There are 5 local committees in Croatia, one of which is in Varaždin.



LIVING IN VARAŽDIN

The city of Varaždin

The city of Varaždin, known as "Little Vienna" or "the City where Angels Sleep" is a must see destination located in the North of Croatia on the southern bank of the river Drava. With 50,000 inhabitants, comfortable climate and great location, Varaždin is an attractive destination to live in. It is the touristic, cultural, economic, educational, and sporting centre of North Western Croatia. Varaždin is usually portrayed as "the city of baroque, youth, music, flowers and bicycles." Also, the residents' character and way of life – the love for their city and their unique, open, cosmopolitan mentality have been welcoming guests with open arms and hearts for centuries, making them return to this charming destination.

What makes Varaždin a perfect Erasmus destination

- Very safe city to stay
- Perfect sized city for living, almost everything is within walking distance (this will save you some money)
- Comfortable climate – cold in winter (possibly snowy), warm in spring and hot in summer
- Perfect location to explore Croatia and Central Europe
- Acceptable prices and costs of living
- Zagreb, Croatian capital, is just 80 km away
- Situated by the river Drava – great area for relaxing and recreation
- The Adriatic coast is just a two-and-a-half-hour drive by car

“

I like Varaždin so much! Also, the cities I visited so far are beautiful too. The life is not so busy like in France. But what I like the most are people and the language. Everyone is kind and helpful.

Guillame
ESIEA, France





Where to?

Make nearby trips

- Explore some of numerous magnificent castles in Zagorje region
- Do some wine tasting in nearby Međimurje region
- Visit unique complex of Krapina Neanderthal Museum
- Get to know the surrounding area by following Varaždin and Međimurje bike routes

Go to do some sports

- Running, recreation, cycling – on the banks of the River Drava
- Mountain climbing on nearby mountains Ivančica and Ravna Gora
- Various gyms and sports halls around the city (TTS, 5 Star Fitness Centar, Gibi Gib, Varteks swimming pools (indoor and outdoor), Drava outdoor swimming pools)

Shop

- City centre streets (Gajeva and Gundulićeva Street – Varaždin's High Street)
- "Lumini" Shopping Mall
- "Supernova" Shopping Mall

Go to have fun

- "Medina škrinja" Pub
- "Medonja" Pub
- "Office" Caffè Bar
- "Mea culpa" Club
- "Strauss" Club
- "Barfly" Caffè&Club

Average prices around Varaždin



Accommodation

120-150 EUR per person/month (at the Student residence Varaždin)

~ 200 EUR or more per person/month (private apartment near the city centre).



Transportation

Low or no transportation costs in Varaždin, mostly everything is within walking distance, ~ 3 EUR taxi around the city centre, buses to shopping malls are free of charge; bus ticket to Zagreb – 85 kn with a regular bus company, 50 kn with FlixBus.



Food and drinks

Less than 1.5 EUR for a 3-course meal in the student restaurant ("menza") with "x-ica" card; 7 EUR for the whole pizza; 1.5 EUR for a coffee in a coffee bar; 2 EUR for a large beer in a bar; 0.50 EUR for a small bagel in pastry shop.



Leisure

3-5 EUR for a cinema ticket; 30 EUR for a monthly gym membership fee; 3 EUR for a student 2-hour ticket for the city swimming pools; 2-3 EUR for a ticket to a bowling alley.



DISCOVER CROATIA

Croatia is both a Central European and a Mediterranean country. It is known for its unusual shape – often compared to a horse shoe, while some would depict it as a flying wide-winged bird. However, this special shape is a result of the five-centuries' long (albeit eventually unsuccessful) expansion by the Ottoman Empire toward Central Europe. Croatia is a diverse country full of charming historical towns, mountains, breath-taking landscapes, amazing waterfalls, national parks and a rich (though also turbulent) history.

Facts about Croatia

- Croatia has a population of 4.3 million.
- 2nd most indented coast in Europe – 1,244 islands, islets, rocks and reefs (67 of them inhabited).
- The capital city of Croatia is Zagreb, with a population of 900,000.
- Around 90% of population is Croat (the majority of whom are Roman Catholic).
- Croatia shares a land border with 5 countries (Slovenia, Hungary, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro) and a sea border with Italy, which can be reached by ship from the Croatian coast.
- Croatia encompasses 3 climate zones on a rather small territory: continental, Mediterranean and mountain.
- Croatia has 8 national parks and 11 nature parks (8,61% of Croatian territory is protected)

We recommend that you use your free time to explore Croatia – wherever you turn, there is something worthwhile visiting.

“

I really wanted to visit Dalmatia. I have rented a car with Hugo (fellow Erasmus student) and three more Portuguese friends, studying at that time in Italy through Erasmus. We all agree it was one of the best trips ever. We did catch great weather with amazing sightseeing views and beaches.

Diogo
FEUP, Portugal



Useful phrases in Croatian

Good morning – *Dobro jutro.*

Good afternoon – *Dobar dan.*

Good evening – *Dobra večer.*

Goodbye. – *Dovidenja.*

Hi / Bye – *Bok.*

Thank you. – *Hvala.*

You are welcome – *Nema na čemu. / Molim.*

I would like to order a meal. – *Želim naručiti jelo.*

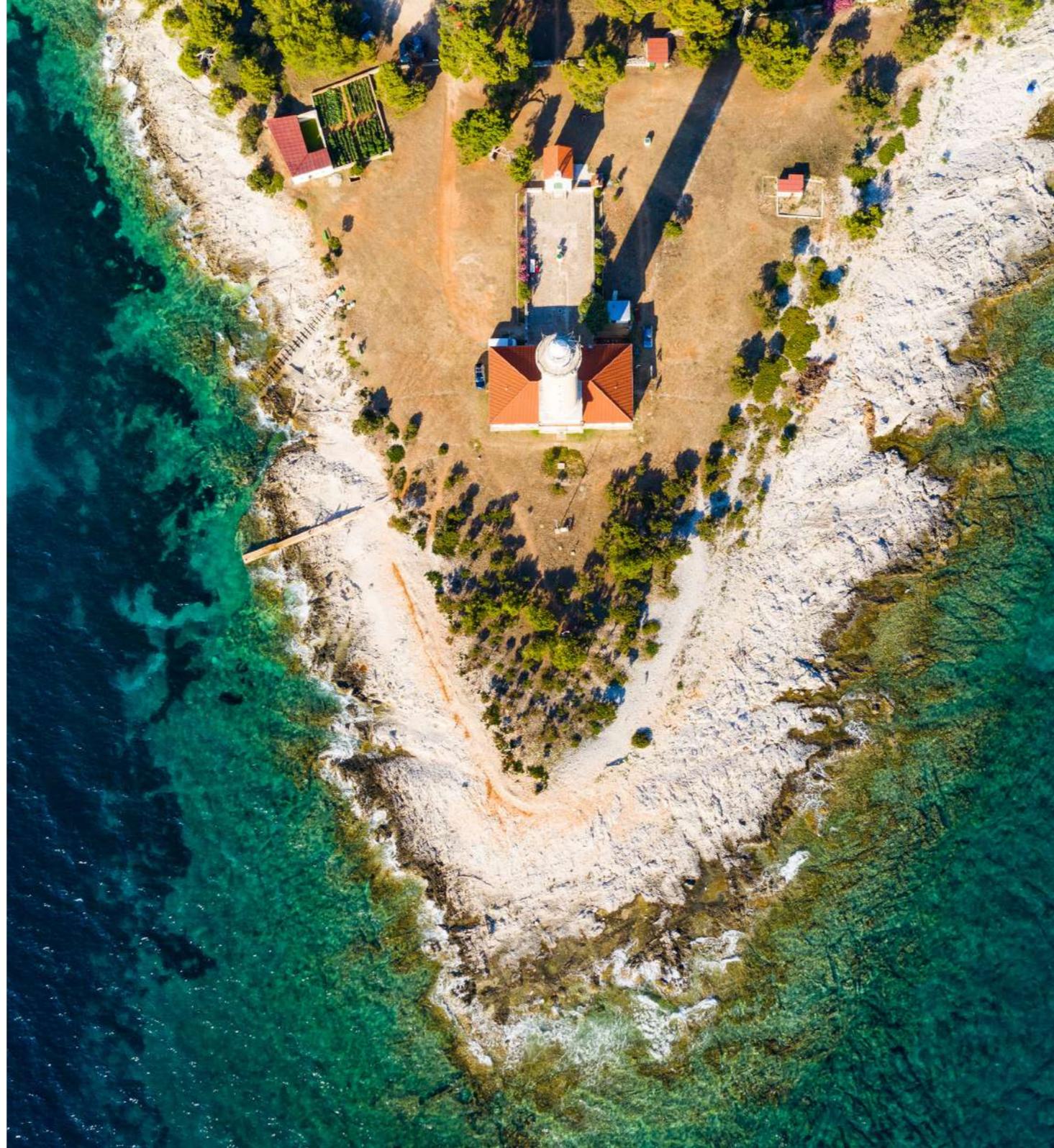
Can you pass me the salt? – *Možete li mi dodati sol?*

One bus ticket to Zagreb please. – *Jednu kartu do Zagreba molim.*

Where can I find a grocery store? – *Gdje se nalazi trgovina?*

I like you. – *Sviđaš mi se.*

I love you. – *Volim te.*



Public national holidays in Croatia

January 1 – New Year's Day (*Nova godina*)

January 6 – Three Kings' Day (*Sveta tri Kralja*)

Changeable dates (in March or April) – Easter Sunday and Easter Monday (*Uskrs i Uskrsni ponedjeljak*)

May 1 – Labour Day (*Praznik rada*)

Changeable date (June) – Corpus Christi (*Tijelovo*)

May 30 – Statehood Day (*Dan državnosti*)

June 22 – Anti-Fascist Struggle Day (*Dan antifašističke borbe*)

August 5 – Victory and Homeland Thanksgiving Day (*Dan pobjede i domovinske zahvalnosti*)

August 15 – Assumption of Mary (*Velika Gospa*)

November 1 – All Saints Day (*Dan svih svetih*)

November 18 – the Remembrance Day for Homeland War Victims and Remembrance Day for the Victims of Vukovar and Škabrnja (*Dan sjećanja na žrtve Domovinskog rata i Dan sjećanja na žrtvu Vukovara i Škabrnje*)

December 25 – Christmas (*Božić*)

December 26 – St Stephen's Day (*Sveti Stjepan*)

Useful websites

University of Zagreb: <http://www.unizg.hr/homepage/>

Study in Croatia: <http://www.studyincroatia.hr/>

Croatia National Tourist Board: <https://croatia.hr/en>

Varaždin Tourist Board: <https://www.tourism-varazdin.hr/>

Contacts

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