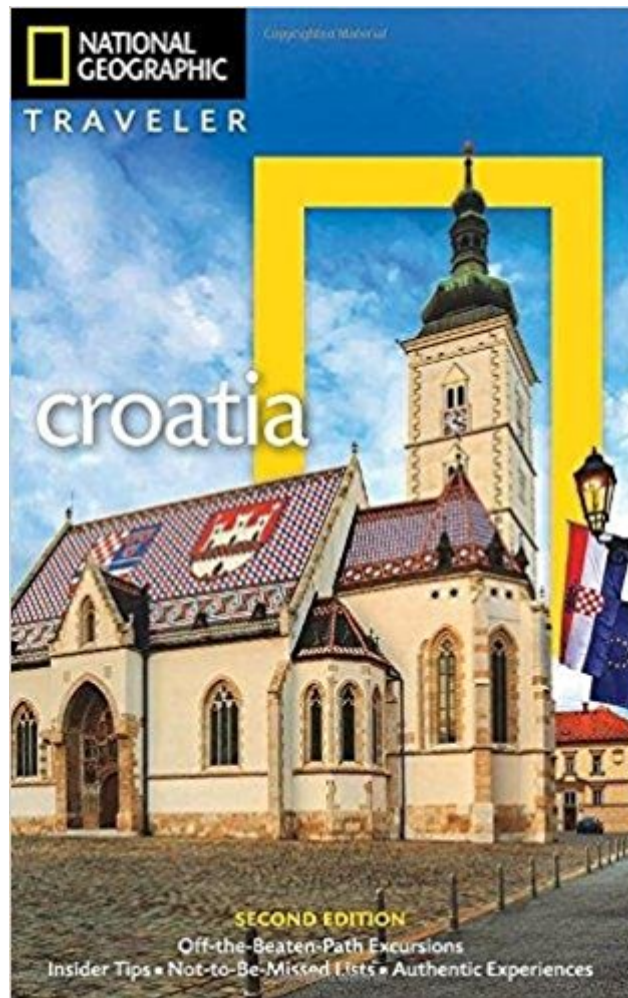


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National Geographic Traveler: Croatia, 2nd Edition



Synopsis

Experience Croatia's hot spots and lesser-known destinations—from central Croatia's castles to the Dalmatian Coast's beaches and islands to mouth-watering food markets and small boutiques along the way. Special sidebars tell you how to study the Croatian language, take in a soccer match, study falconry near Sibenek, and volunteer to help the endangered griffon falcons on the island of Cres, among other experiences. Insider tips provided by an array of National Geographic experts—photographers, writers, and grantees who have spent significant time in Croatia—direct you to favorite restaurants, festivals, and other information that only locals know. Guided walks and drives and an extensive Travelwise section with hotels, restaurants, and tour recommendations hand-picked by the author are also included. Aimed at active travelers who want authentic, enriching, cultural experiences and expert advice from a trustworthy source, National Geographic Travelers provide ways for people to experience a place rather than just visit, and give the true feel of each destination not easily found online.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

RUDOLF ABRAHAM is an award-winning travel writer and photographer whose love of travel and remote places has taken him from the Adriatic to eastern Turkey, Central Asia to Patagonia. He attended art school, majoring in photography, and completed a master's degree in art history. He first visited Croatia in 1998, lived in Zagreb from 1999-2001, and continues to make several trips a year to his favorite country in Europe. His other books include *Walking in Croatia*, *The Mountains of*

Montenegro, and Torres del Paine: A Trekker's Guide. Rudolf is a member of the Outdoor Writers and Photographers Guild and the British Guild of Travel Writers.

This publication is of nominal value for a visitor who wants to have the benefit of insights that allow them to prioritize their time. It is marvelous in terms of history but if you find yourself wondering into an interesting city and would like to know what the authors really think about the quality of a museum or a relic or, for that matter, the countryside, you can essentially kiss it off. All in all, if you buy this read it and leave it home after you take some notes because you will, in essence, be carrying dead weight.

The information is good but I do not care for the format of the book and to be honest I really expected more photos and visual aids from National Geographic. When comparing it to the DK guides, DK wins hands down for an easier to navigate travel guide

Love it!

Very good manual with some minor mistakes. I am still traveling throughout Croatia and will return home in a week. Please wait for a complete review.

Great experience

Last year, a close friend and I took a cruise north to south along the Croatian coastline, and then hired a local guide -- a history student working on his masters -- and drove up the coast, seven days on each leg. We took along the previous edition of this fine book, and today I spent an hour at a brick and mortar store glancing through National Geographic's version again. Pure joy -- both the memories and the details of many of the incredible sites we visited. We also carried with us and enjoyed the following: *Balkan Ghosts, A Journey through History*, by Robert D. Kaplan. History, art and culture based on Kaplan's journeys through Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Romania and Greece. 2005. *A Traveller's History of Croatia* by Benjamin Curtis. 2010. A simplified yet very useful survey of the complex history of this nation. (Our guide has spent eight years of study of the history and confessed that many of the details remain cloudy in his mind -- and in the minds of many others who study the area.) *Eyewitness Guide Croatia*, the previous edition; there is a 2015 edition now in print. We like this Guide a bit better than the National Geographic, but they are very complementary, and

with two people, it is more fun to each have a guide to refer to. "Gorgeously illustrated and filled with excellent maps, this compact book offers a thorough overview of Croatia's history, traditions, cultures and sights." We both agree. Croatia Coast Map by Freytag & Berndt; we both love maps, and we both preferred this map to the National Geographic map. The shading seemed more accurate to us; it covers the Dalmatian Coast from Porec to Dubrovnik at a scale of 1:200,000. Whatever you carry with you, Croatia is filled with treasures and is worth visiting on the ground or in the library. Robert C. Ross May 2015

The good news: for a country the size of the state of West Virginia, Croatia has a surprising amount to see and experience. The better news: for those who remember the horrific civil war that followed the breakup of the former Yugoslavia in the 1990's, it appears that Croatia's many tourist attractions have recovered and are open for business. This National Geographic Traveler Guide to Croatia is the latest edition, and a wonderful introduction to a country includes a long coast on the Adriatic Sea, several mountain ranges, the unique capital city of Zagreb, and the Slavonic plains on the way to the Danube River. The transportation network and the tourist support infrastructure will allow the visitor to see all of it in reasonable comfort, using planes, trains, buses and cars. Croatia has an enormous amount of surviving history, from Roman times through the Medieval era to modern Europe, along with modern cities and plenty of recreational opportunities. This guide opens with an introduction to Croatia's history and culture, then discusses the nine separate geographic areas of the country, each with its own attractions. Sections at the end of the book talk to travel practicalities, transportation and accommodation. The guide includes a variety of maps, mostly for planning purposes. The National Geographic photography that illustrates the book is of a high standard and likely to entice visitors to take a closer look. Recommended.

Like other National Geographic guides I have seen this one is very clean graphically, being easy to read and well illustrated. It opens with a typical history and culture section, which is at an overview level, but well done. The descriptions of the sites and the recommendations are the heart of a guidebook. This one provides evocative descriptions and details, and left me ready for a vacation in Croatia. One fault is that it is a little too upbeat throughout, which makes it hard to separate the outstanding from the merely pretty nice. When planning a visit I find a more opinionated and idiosyncratic guide can be more useful in deciding what I really want to see, because there is never time to see everything. Nonetheless, this is an attractive and well-executed guide worth the time to consult.

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