

UPDATES ON

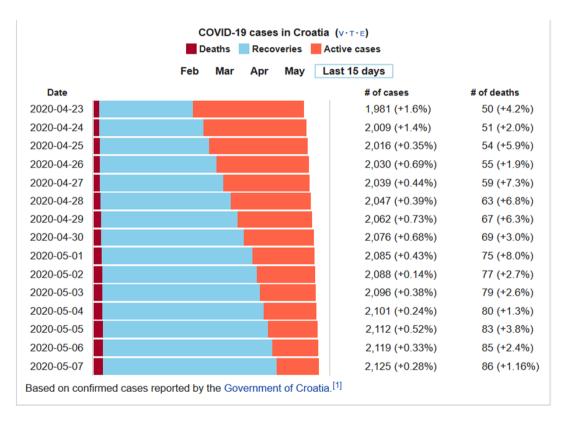
COVID-19

IN CROATIA



Coronavirus pandemic in Croatia

Latest news on outbreak, 22.04.2020



Coronavirus in Croatia

NEWS FROM LAST WEEK

On 4 May, the second phase of easing the Corona-restrictions started. The healthcare system that was remodelled for emergency response only due to the pandemic is reactivated for all medical purposes. Businesses such as barber shops, hair salons and pedicure salons started working again. The same day, five new cases were reported. The number of infected people decreased to fifteen, while the number of recovered increased to 1,522. One death in Split was confirmed.

Furthermore, Arena Zagreb, that was prepared for reception of lighter cases on 20 March, was unfurnished after being not of use any more.

On 5 May, eleven new cases were confirmed. The number of infected people decreased to fourteen, while 38 recovered. Three deaths were recorded.

On 6 May, seven new cases were reported. The number of patients on ventilators did not change, while the number of recovered increased to 1,601. Two new deaths were confirmed.

Bad News: On 9 May, there is a new wave of infections on island BRAC, which may go under quarantine!

Coronavirus Infographic

Status 07.05.2020.

COVID-19

Situation in Creatis

Croatia has 2125 confirmed cases of COVID-19 within its borders

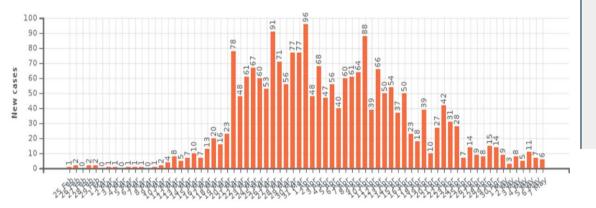
New cases recorded in the last 24 hours: 6

Number of deaths in the last 24 hours: 1

Total number of deaths: 86

Recovered: 1641

New cases per day:



The Croatian government has begun easing social distancing restrictions having been implemented to limit the spread of COVID-19

- Starting April 27: Stores (except shopping malls), libraries, museums, galleries, servicebased activities not requiring close client contact (ex. tailors, photoshops, locksmiths) may reopen. Public transportation in cities and suburbs and boat connections for islands that do not have ferries may resume.
- Starting May 2: Religious services may resume.
- Starting May 4: Service industries where close contact with people is unavoidable (ex: hairdressers, beauticians) may reopen. Public and private health systems will be fully operational except for special cases decided by epidemiologists. Playgrounds and sports fields may reopen.
- Starting May 11: Public gatherings of up to ten people will be allowed outdoors (currently capped at 5 people). Shopping malls, preschools and elementary schools grades 1-4, cafes and restaurants, sports and fitness centers and national parks may reopen. Inter-county public transportation and domestic air traffic will resume.
- The following places will remain closed until further notice: schools (grade 5 and above), universities, night clubs, cinemas, and theaters.



Information on borders & travel

Latest news from 07.05.2020.

Croatian and EU Borders

COVID - 19 update on 08.05.2020.



The European Union has closed its borders for all non-European-Union residents. Travel within the European-Union is restricted on a country by country basis. Croatia has barred admission to all travelers except Croatian citizens and foreign national residents returning home, foreign citizens departing to their home countries, diplomats, law enforcement, medical workers, controlled shipments of goods, and others on a case by case basis.

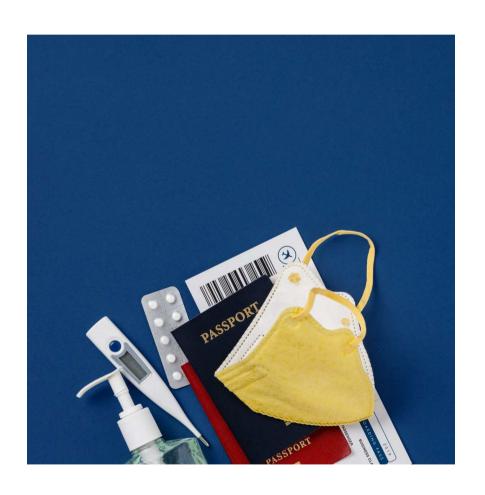
This entrance restriction is currently in effect through May 17.

Thierry Breton, a member of the European Commission who handles tourism policy, told French radio that it is likely that certain areas of the European Union would be open to tourists and others not. He said borders could turn on and off between E.U. countries depending on the outbreak.

German tourism commissioner Thomas Bareiss confirmed to "Der Tagesspiegel" newspaper that Germany is in discussion with its neighbours about permitting summer vacation travel.

Travel Restrictions

Latest news & updates



TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

Border crossing by Croatia inbound traffic is ONLY allowed for Croatian Residents (with consequence of 14-day isolation mandatory) as well as for some special groups of people, such as medical staff, scientists, eldercare personnel, cross-border workers, freight traffic, diplomats, police officers, civil protection teams, members of international organizations, military and transit passengers.

Due to traffic bans on freight-vehicles in Slovenia long delays should be expected in freight traffic at Bregana/Obrežje and Macelj/Gruškovje border crossings starting 1 June.



Easing restrictions in Croatia?

COVID-19 situation

Based on other countries' situation and sources as: The Guardian; Index.hr; koronavirus.hr; Government site

Getting back to normal?

Croatia gradually starts to release its stringent anti-epidemic in three phases, the "Stay Home slogan" is gradually losing its meaning, it has now been replaced with a more fitting slogan that we're sure to see more of in the coming weeks and as the battle with the pandemic continues to unfold.

As Poslovni Dnevnik writes on the 5th of May, 2020, at the end of yesterday's regular coronavirus press conference held by the National Civil Protection Headquarters, a change of the well known "Stay Home" slogan was announced by Davor Bozinovic.

The slogan "Stay Home" has resolved itself now, so that the situation in Croatia is looking increasingly better. The new motivating motto is:

"Let's stay responsible/Ostanimo odgovorni"

As of 7th of May, <u>2020</u>, the third phase of easing the anti-coronavirus measures, which begins on May the 11th, will enable the operation of catering and hospitality facilities and only in outdoor areas and on terraces, while respecting the special epidemiological measures which continue to be firmly in place.

On Monday, after almost two months, all shopping centers in Croatia will re-open, which have been closed from March 19 due to the coronavirus epidemic.

Under no circumstances should we be too hasty and reckless.

Today's (May 9) news from the island of Brac is alarming. A Brac-resident has been infected during hospital treatment in Split and was discharged without realising COVID 19 infection. The dismissal-test was forgotten. This patient has now infected many people on the island in a very short time. The politicians are on the alert and have announced that the island will be quarantined. This is particularly critical because the new wave of infection is in the reopening phase and the islanders have already prepared themselves for a summer season that may yet be successful.



Tourism in Croatia in 2020

Tourism after COVID-19 restrictions

Things will change, we will adapt.

IMPORTANT NEWS

May 8, 2020 — Tourism Minister Gari Cappelli claimed yesterday requests from countries wanting Croatia to reopen its border this summer flooded his office. Their wish may come true.

A source consulting with the Civil Protection Directorate on reopening hospitality businesses said Croatia may start loosening border restrictions starting next month, adding the announcement may come as early as this afternoon.

Croatia could first reopen its border to Slovenia on June 1, followed by Czechia, Slovakia, Hungary, and Austria on June 15, the source said.

The re-openings would be subject to continued success in controlling the coronavirus, both within Croatia and the other countries.

Opening the borders would signal an unofficial end to the intense antipandemic restrictions Croatia put in place after its first confirmed affection arrived in late February. The country has already pulled back stay-at-home orders, and hospitality businesses will reopen next Monday. Border re-openings remain the last stage in Croatia's transition to something resembling normalcy in the coronavirus era. The move signals the government's hopes to salvage what's left of the economically vital tourism season, which usually drives up to one-fifth of the nation's GDP. Cappelli said there were very few cancelations for July and August, suggesting the tourism season may bounce back better than expected "Italians are still hoping to come to Croatia," he said ahead of a government meeting in Zagreb yesterday. "Not to mention Slovenia, Austria, the Czech Republic."

Croatia's not alone in its desire to move past strict measures.

Neighboring Slovenia is reportedly also seeking a way out of the current restrictions, hoping to rescue what's been a complete loss on a summer tourist season.

The nation has also lobbied Croatia to cut back on travel restrictions for its residents, many of whom own weekend homes along in Dalmatian.

Opening the border for Slovenians would refill many empty houses on islands and along the coast, some of whom also offer accommodations during the summer-season.

STAY IN TOUCH

Contact us for further information and advise



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