



**Welcome to  
Rijeka**

## ***Contents***

1. General information
  - Rijeka today
  - History
  - Arrival
  - Local transportation
  - Accomodation
  - Sorroundings
  - Weather
  - Currency
  - Prices
  
2. Entertainment
  - Sightseeing
  - Night clubs and events
  
3. Summer reception team



*Rijeka today*

**Rijeka** is the principal seaport of [Croatia](#), located on Kvarner bay, an inlet of the Adriatic sea. Built on both sides of river Rječina, It has 144 thousand inhabitants and is Croatia's third largest city. Rijeka is the center of Primorsko – Goranska county in Croatia. The city's economy largely depends on sea transport, shipbuilding and tourism. Also known as "The Gate of the Adriatic" because of it's favorable geographical position enabling it a good connection with Central Europe.

Rijeka hosts the Croatian National Theater "Ivan pl. Zajc", first built in1765, as well as the University of Rijeka, founded in1632. The local football (soccer) club is called NK Rijeka.

Unlike many towns in the world, Rijeka carries within its name the connotation of water. Rijeka's water has been described by many writers and travelers. They point out the beauty and quality of it's crystal clear water and the benefits to health for its inhabitants. There is a saying: once you have tasted Rijeka's water, you will like to drink it again.

## Rijeka historically

The earliest settlements on the site were Celtic *Tarsatica* (modern Trsat, now part of Rijeka) on a hill and the tribe of mariners, the Liburni in the natural harbor below. Following that Rijeka was under the rulership of the Roman Republic, Frankish, Croatian and Magyar.

Created a free port in 1723, Fiume was passed during the 18th and 19th centuries among the Habsburgs' Austrian, Croatian, and Hungarian possessions. Major port development, the general expansion of international trade and the city's connection to the Hungarian and Austrian railway networks contributed to rapid population growth in 1910. A lot of major building of the city took place at that time, including the Governor's Palace. The future mayor of New York City, Fiorello La Guardia, lived in the city at the turn of the 20th century, and reportedly even played football for the local sports club. With the fall of Habsburg ruled Austria-Hungary at the end of World War I another era of changing rulership occurs for Rijeka. After a brief Italian occupation, an international force of French, British and US troops occupied the city (November 1918). Between the two world wars the Italian and Yugoslavian government were negotiating over Rijeka even making it an independent state for a short period of time. In the end it was divided in between those two governments with Rijecina being the broader. In the aftermath of the World War the entire Rijeka becomes a part of Croatia within Yugoslavia and remains that way until today.

## **ARRIVAL**

There are many ways to reach Rijeka because it is the crossroads of land and sea routes. You can come here by plane, bus, train, your own car/bike/motorbike or by ferry lines.

### **BY PLANE**

Rijeka airport is on the **island of Krk**, cca 30 km from the city centre. You can see all the available connections on their website <http://www.rijeka-airport.hr/>. There's a shuttle bus from the airport to the city and we can wait for you in the city.

### **BY TRAIN**

The railway station is in **Krešimirova street 5**. Information on rail services is available on the info counter, by info telephone ++385-51-060-333-4444 or on their website [www.hznet.hr/](http://www.hznet.hr/). Tickets can be obtained and reservations made at the station ticket-office tel. 213-333. The left-luggage department is open from 9:00 am till 9:00 pm. Luggage safekeeping is charged 10 kn. The railway station is small, so if you give us the correct time of arrival there will be no problem in meeting you at the station.

### **BY BUS**

The bus terminal is very small (situated at one of the central squares - **Trg Žabica**), so it won't be a problem to pick

you up there either. All information can be obtained at the Autotrans agency, tel. ++385-51-660-360 or [www.autotrans.hr/](http://www.autotrans.hr/). The left-luggage department is open from 5:30 am till 10:30 pm. Luggage safekeeping is charged 9 kn.

## **BY YOUR OWN MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION**

If you come by your own means of transportation, just follow the signs to the centre. When you come to the centre, try to find the nearest post office and then phone the reception officers. Remember: we will be waiting for you. If for some reason we do not find each other, go to the nearest telephone and call us. Please do not leave the station.

## **LOCAL TRANSPORTATION**

The local transportation in *Rijeka* is organized by buses (orange coloured) by the '**Autotrolej**' company. Tickets can be obtained in buses or at news-stands, you can also have a monthly student transportation ticket (we will provide you with your travel pass when you arrive, provided that you have sent us your 3 photos). The city bus company also operates to many tourist places in the *Kvarner Bay* (to *Opatija* and *Lovran* in the north, and to *Crikvenica* and *Selce* in the south), so these towns may easily be reached. However, the city bus company does not operate to the *island of Krk*, so you will have to take the regular bus-line, which is not so cheap, and these buses are always very crowded.

We have included a map of Rijeka's bus lines with the booklet in the zip file.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

Accommodation for all students is provided at

**- Studentski dom 'I. G. Kovačića'**

*Franje Čandeka 4*

51000 Rijeka

phone: ++385-51-672-422.

During the summer season it may not be possible to arrange an accommodation in the Student's dormitory mentioned above. In that case IAESTE summer reception will find another suitable accommodation for you. This is one of the reasons why it's important for you to contact our summer reception team several weeks, by e-mail, before your arrival.

## ***SURROUNDINGS***

### ***Opatija & Riviera***

One of the first tourist resorts of Europe was **Opatija** and its riviera. There you will find a large beach, many hotels, cafes and discotheques.

Many towns and villages with beautiful beaches make the **Opatija** (or Liburnian) **Riviera**: **Lovran**, **Ičići**, **Medveja**, **Mošćenička Draga** and **Brseč**.

When you come there, just look upward, and you will see the **Učka** mountain (peak **Vojak**, 1401 m high) one of Croatia's symbols.

### ***The Crikvenica Riviera***

**Crikvenica**, **Selce** and **Novi Vinodolski** - one of the most famous places with numerous hotels and beaches, south of Rijeka.

### ***The Island of Krk***

Krk is the largest island in the Adriatic sea. Its history also dates back from the Romans (settlement Curicum). Many tourist centres can be found there: **Njivice**, **Malinska**, the town of **Krk**, **Punat** and **Baška**.

### **Gorski kotar**



*Gorski kotar* is a mountain region (north of *Rijeka*). The highest peak is **Risnjak** (1528 m), forming The *Risnjak* National Park. Near the *Risnjak* National Park is the **Platak** valley and mount **Snježnik**, which

are very popular places for hikers, climbers and mountain bikers. Two beautiful river valleys (**Kupa** and **Čabranka**), two artificial lakes (**Bajer** and **Lokvarsko**) with tourist and sporting facilities and many other forest-covered peaks are also worth visiting.

## ***ISTRIA***

The main tourist region is the Croatian peninsula of Istria. There are many tourist centers on the coast: **Umag** (famous for the `Croatian Open' ATP Tour), **Novigrad**, **Poreč** (the most important Croatian tourist center, with the Euphrasius Basilica - the northernmost Byzantine Church in Europe), **Vrsar**



and **Rovinj** (with the alluring St. Euphemia church). You must not miss the Istrian hinterland with citadel cities like picturesque **Motovun**, and Pazin (the administrative center of Istria) with a famous abyss under the city (which was an inspiration to Jules Verne). **Pula** is the largest city of Istria, it is also an industrial, cultural and educational center. It is well known for the

Roman monuments: the Amphitheater (**Arena**), Augustus Temple and Sergian Triumphal Arch. There are also some natural monuments: Bay of Lim (Limski kanal), and the National Park of **Brijuni** Islands.

## ***THE WEATHER***

The weather, a mix between continental and Mediterranean climate, is very hot in the summer (above 30°C, sometimes reaches 38°C). It is a windy city and you may expect rain showers that come unexpected and don't last more than few hours.

## ***CURRENCY***

The Croatian currency is **Croatian Kuna** (kn). You will get about 7.33 Kunas for 1 Euro.

## ***SHOPPING IN RIJEKA***

Most shops are open every day from 8 am till 8 pm, on Saturdays till 1 pm. But there are few in the centre of Rijeka that work 24 hours/day. There are lot of shopping malls all around the city which are very cheap.

## ***PRICES***

Daily newspapers.....	6 kn
Single bus ticket.....	9 kn
Lunch at the University canteen 'Indeks'.....	18 kn
Milk (1 litre).....	6 kn
Coca-cola (1 litre).....	10 kn
Bread.....	6 kn
Beer (0.5 litre) .....	9 kn
Bubble gum.....	5 kn
Developing a 36 pictures film.....	75 kn
Petrol (1 litre) .....	8 kn
Cinema ticket.....	20 kn

Not all the places have the same prices, so in case of doubt, ask other trainees or the people from Rijeka.

## ***SIGHTSEEING***

Thanks to its two thousand year old history, Rijeka has a number of historical and cultural monuments.

If you come by bus, the first thing you will see in Rijeka, is the lovely **Cappucine's Church**. Walking through the centre you will see the **Old Gateway** from the Roman ages, the **City tower** from the 15<sup>th</sup> century and **St. Vitus Cathedral** from the 16<sup>th</sup> century.



You also have to walk up the **Petar Kružić** stairway to *Trsat* to see the **Trsat** castle, built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century on the site of Roman Tarsatica. There is also the Sanctuary of the Holy Mother of *Trsat*, a popular place of pilgrimage.

Other things worth seeing are The Croatian Littoral Museum and the **'Ivan Zajc'** National Theatre. Since Rijeka is the centre of a tourist region, it won't be a problem to obtain any further information concerning Rijeka and its surroundings in the nearest tourist information office.

## **ENTERTAINMENT**

Rijeka has many bars and several nightclubs in the centre of town, ***Dva Lava*** (a recently renovated popular coffee shop – not like the ones in Amsterdam), ***Buddha bar*** (a world famous brand of chill out music bar), ***Capitano*** (Trendy bar), ***Phanas*** (Pub), ***River pub*** (Irish pub), ***Booka*** (rock club), ***Stereo Dvorana*** (club where many popular rock bands and DJ's have their gigs), ***Alter Ego*** (disco club), ***Tesla*** (disco club), ***Big Rock Momma*** (rock club), ***Arca Fiumana*** (new club recently opened). According to the opinion of many people, Rijeka has the best underground & independent rock scene in Croatia (although you wouldn't find it in fancy discotheques), so if you like that kind of music, you will be able to check it out for yourself. One of the most popular places is a multimedia centre ***Palach***, ***Kružna bb.*** which contains rock club, and a gallery. You don't have to worry about how to find all these places, because members of the summer reception team will drink with you all the time.

If you prefer electronic dance music there are many open air festivals near around: ***Rabac summer festival*** (40 km from Rijeka), ***MTV Valkana beach***, ***Exotica*** at Grobnik field (suburban area of Rijeka) and many more.

Rijeka has only a few cinemas including an open air cinema, but if you are a movie fan, you will find a program in the daily newspaper or at various places in the city centre. During the summer many concerts and other performances will be held in the surrounding tourist centres.

## **SPORT & RECREATIONAL CENTRES**

If you are a sports fan, you can find a football stadium and swimming pools at ***'Kantrida'*** and a sport hall ***'Mladost'*** at ***Trsat*** (basketball, handball, volleyball).

Near Rijeka, at ***Grobnik*** field, there is a famous motordrome whose Grand Prix (***Velika nagrada Kvarnera***) is well known all over the world.

## THE RECEPTION TEAM

**Name:**

**Phone:**

**e-mail:**

Nikola Azic +385 95 824 9333  
Kresimir Roncevic + 385 95 818 8894

[nikolaa@gmail.com](mailto:nikolaa@gmail.com)  
[moonchild77@gmail.com](mailto:moonchild77@gmail.com)

Available only through e-mail after 25.06.

Toni Pintar +385 95 800 5386

[tpintar@gmail.com](mailto:tpintar@gmail.com)

**Important telephone numbers:**

Police	92
Fire station	93
Emergency room	94
All kind of emergency	112
Information centre	985
Search and rescue at sea	9155
Mountain rescue service	091-591-1111
Taxi	335-138, 335-147

**Office:**

IAESTE Rijeka  
*Tehnički fakultet*  
*Vukovarska 58*

51000 Rijeka

phone: ++385 (0)51 651 556

fax: ++385 (0)51 651 416

e-mail: [iaeste.ri@gmail.com](mailto:iaeste.ri@gmail.com)

URL: <http://www.iaeste.hr/rijeka>