# Croatia

Liz Ashley



#### Location



#### Introduction: Liz





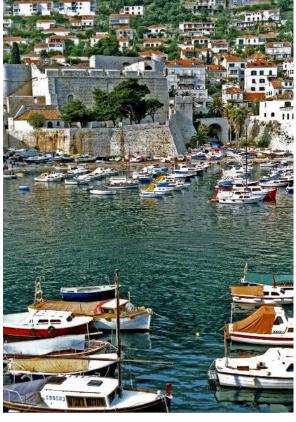
# Introduction: Ashley





### Dubrovnik





### Dubrovnik





#### Culture: History

•<u>pre-WWI</u>: part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire

•<u>1918</u>: the Croats, Serbs, and Slovenes formed a kingdom

•<u>1929</u>: it was called Yugoslavia

•<u>post-WWII</u>: communist Yugoslavia under Marshal Josip Broz Tito

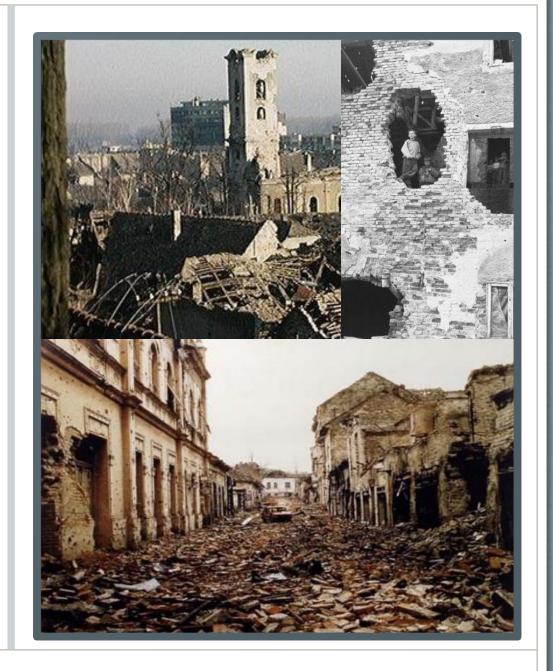
•<u>1991</u>: Croatia declared independence from Yugoslavia

•<u>1991-1995</u>: war for independence

•1998: last Serb-held land was returned to Croatia

•April 2009: joined NATO

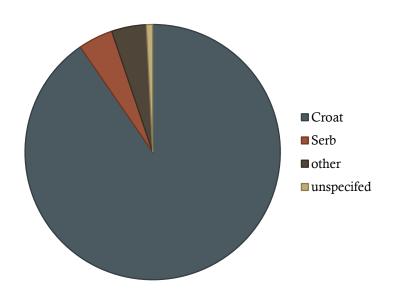
•July 2013: joined EU



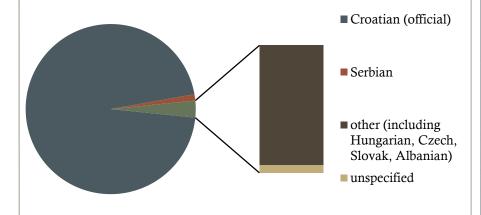
## Culture: People

Total Population as of 2012 = 4,307,000



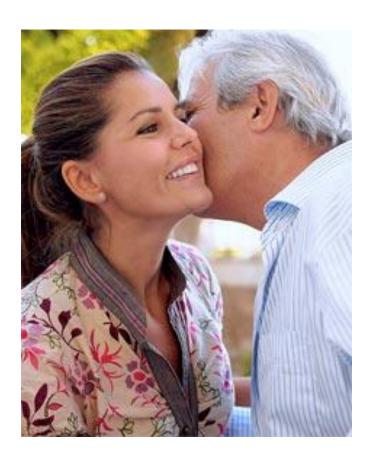


#### Languages



## Culture: Etiquette

- Close, loud talking
- Staring is not uncommon among strangers
- Formal/unfamiliar: nod heads in passing
- Friendly: greet each other more informally and usually kiss on both cheeks.
- Young people expected to offer first greeting to older people; women to men
- Failure to greet someone when expected
- Formal language & behavior when unfamiliar; use of formal "you"
- Women do not breast feed in public
- Dobartek (good appetite); hvala (thank you)
- Guests likely to be offered a second helping



#### Culture: Social Status





- Most high-status individuals speak English well; likely to speak another European language
- Urban dwellers have higher status than people from villages, many urban have village family connections
- High-status individuals usually Croats
- Many may be of mixed ethnicity but family predominantly Croatian
- Jewish families likely to be high status
- Ethnic Albanians usually at the bottom of the social system; Gypsies completely outside it

#### Culture: Education

- Kindergarten free (1- to 6-year-olds)
- Value higher education
- 51 schools and colleges associated with University of Zagreb
- Attend university or a secondary school



## Culture: Sports

Love sports, especially soccer and basketball

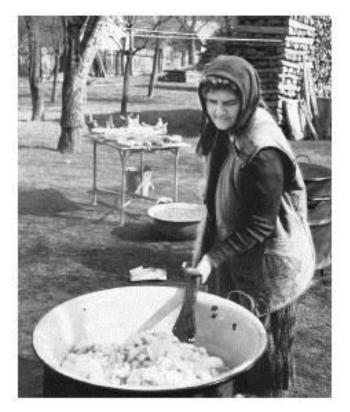


Swimming, skiing, fishing, water polo also popular



## Culture: Agriculture

- Climate: continental predominant (hot summers, cold winters) & Mediterranean (mild winters, dry summers)
- crops: wheat, corn, barley, sugar beet, sunflower, rapeseed, alfalfa, clover
- vegetables: potatoes, cabbage, onion, tomato, peppers
- fruits: apples, plum, mandarins, olives, grapes for wine
- livestock: cattle, cows, pigs
- dairy products



A Croatian woman makes sausages. Pork is a common food, especially in northern Croatia.

## Family

- Families moving away from multigenerational homes, but young married couples usually live with parents or a grandparent because of housing shortage
- In the past, three-generation households were the norm & married couples usually lived with the husband's parents
- Young ambivalent about living with parents or grandparents after marriage
- Extended families, young want privacy
- Care for elderly at home



#### Family: Children

- Prefer to keep small children in the care of resident grandparents
- Do not use nannies or unrelated babysitters
- Raised to obey parents and adults, show respect for elders & property, play quietly, eat what adults prepare, go to sleep at bedtime
- Have a caretaker well into the young childhood years
- Babies usually sleep with parents or in same room
- Less likely to act out physically than verbally
- Verbally corrected for misbehavior; spanking is not common
- Do not bring other children home to play
- Parents take responsibility for children 's behavior
- Most teens spend a few hours a week in music classes after school



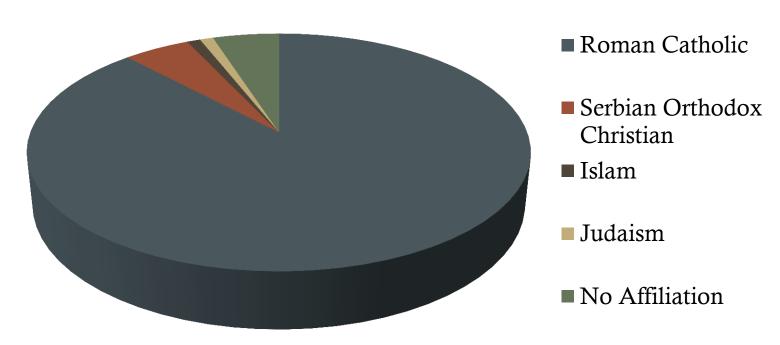
# Marriage

- Most men and women marry early 20s
- Monogamous marriage is the rule
- Divorce increasingly common, although considered undesirable
- Pregnancy before marriage not uncommon, but not the sole reason for getting married



# Religion & Beliefs





### Religion & Beliefs

- Traditionally religion played central role to Croatian life & cultural identity
- Political struggles between Croats & Serbs manifested in Serbian Orthodox vs. Croatian Roman Catholic terms
- Churches common military targets because symbols of cultural & national identity for both groups
- Serbian Orthodox population faces discrimination & dwindling numbers despite guarantee of freedom of religion. Tolerance seems to be increasing and vandalism is decreasing.



## Religion & Beliefs

- Even Croatians who do not observe religious holidays or attend Mass identify as Catholics
- Church and state technically separate, but political leaders expected to attend Mass & religious celebrations; sermons often include political content
- Many Croatians align with Vatican on social issues



Photos decorate a family grave within a cemetery on the island of Susak. It is common in Croatia to decorate graves with candles, flowers, and photos.

# Traditional Food Habits: Meals

Breakfast: simple, usually consisting of strong coffee and bread with jam



Komparic with marmalade

Dinner: typically leftovers from lunch, cold meats, and cheese with bread



Anchovies, cheese, and meats

# Traditional Food Habits: Meals



- Lunch: includes chicken or beef soup, cooked meat (often pork), potatoes, and bread
- Greens with vinegar and oil served in the spring and summer
- Pickled vegetables in the winter

## Traditional Food Habits: Regional

- North and inland: majority of foods have an Austrian or Hungarian flavor
- Coastal: usually includes fish and pasta, risotto, or polenta
- Zagreb and Slavonia: roast pork with the skin (*pecenka*) popular
- Dalmatian highland region: lamb
- Restaurants are normally formal and expensive, but having coffee at cafes is popular.





# Traditional Food Habits: Cooking



Peka: under the bell

# Traditional Food Habits: Celebrations

- larger quantities of food, especially meat
- special cakes prepared
- fried cheese, octopus salad, spicy grilled meats, and dishes made with phyllo
- Alcohol
  - Slavonia: plum brandy
  - Zagreb, coast: grape or herb brandies
- men offered an alcoholic drink first
- strong Turkish-style coffee & espresso

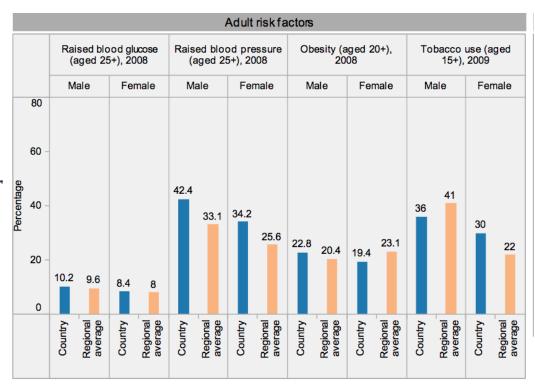






#### Health

- Life Expectancy: male 74, female 80
- Maternity leave: 45
  days before birth
  until child is one year
  old (NLIS) as of
  2009
- Universal Health Care
- Little research on Croatian immigrants

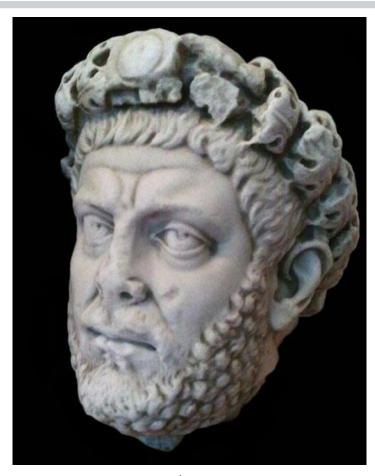


#### Sarma





#### Unique Ingredient: Cabbage



Diocletian

- Son of emancipated slave
- Had little or no formal education
- Became emperor from working his way through ranks as soldier
- Roman Emperor 284 305 AD
- Returned to Dalmatian coast to retire, grow cabbage.; introduced cabbage to Split.
- Had huge gardens, likely first cabbage grown was wild cabbage with curly leaves
- Unclear how Diocletian prepared his cabbage
- Modern versions of cabbage rolls include spiced meat wrapped in boiled cabbage leaves or spiced meat mixed with sauerkraut and wrapped in boiled cabbage

#### Nutrient Profile

#### **Traditional**

#### **Nutrition Facts**

Serving Size (294 g)

Amount Per Serving

Calories from Fat 277 Calories 470

% Daily Value \*

Total Fat 31g 44%

Saturated Fat 13g 57%

Trans Fat 0g

Cholesterol 145mg 48%

Sodium 1305mg 57%

Total Carbohydrates 4% 10% Dietary Fiber 3g

Sugars 4g

Protein 35g 65%

Vitamin A 4% Vitamin C 54%

Calcium 7% Iron 13%

\* Percent Daily Values are based on your custom

#### Modified

#### **Nutrition Facts**

Serving Size (297 g)

Amount Per Serving

Calories 387 Calories from Fat 197

% Daily Value \*

Total Fat 22g

Saturated Fat 7g 33%

Trans Fat 0g

Cholesterol 114mg

38%

31%

Sodium 842mg 37%

Total Carbohydrates 4% Dietary Fiber 3g 11%

Sugars 4g

Protein 36g 66%

Vitamin A 2% Vitamin C 57%

Calcium 7% Iron 16%

\* Percent Daily Values are based on your custom

## Counseling Tips

- Be respectful & formal until told otherwise by client
- Balance directness with sensitivity
- Build trust, relationship before making suggestions



#### References

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