

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT CROATIA

Since June 25, 1991, the Republic of Croatia has been an independent and sovereign state, with Croatian as the official language and the Latin script.

Croatia has an area of 56,594 km² and a population of 3.86 million. Croats make up more than 90% of the population, with the largest national minority being Serbs. The majority of the population is Catholic.

The Republic of Croatia is divided into 20 counties and the City of Zagreb, which has the status of both the capital and the county. Each county includes several municipalities and cities in its area.

1,058,966.84 hectares of agricultural land are included in the support system in Croatia.

Livestock production in Croatia (pieces): cattle = 409,963; goats = 56,484; sheeps = 496,306; horses = 30,787; donkeys = 7,170; bees = 366,619; poultry = 2,829,678 and rabbits = 30,605.

Advisory services to farmers in Croatia is provided by a public (state) advisory service through 225 expert advisors, which operates within the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and 59 private advisors.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT ISTRIA REGION

Istria County (*Italian: Regione Istriana; Roman: Terra magica*) is the westernmost Croatian county, bordering Italy and Slovenia. It consists of 10 cities and 31 municipalities. Over 6% of Italians live in Istria, so in addition to Croatian, Italian is also an official language in some cities and municipalities.

Istria was and still is the most important tourist destination in Croatia and as a tourist region has 27% of all visitors to Croatia.

Agricultural production in Istria:

There are 6,800 officially registered farms in Istria, of which 6,350 are family farms with about 25,300 hectares of agricultural land (about 12,100 hectares of arable land (2,630 hectares of cereals, 1,500 hectares of vegetables, 97 hectares of medicinal and aromatic herbs and 5,430 hectares of fodder crops), 2,980 hectares of meadows, 2,380 hectares of pastures, 2,950 hectares of vineyards, 3,790 hectares of olive groves, 530 hectares of orchards and 570 hectares of other crops).

Livestock: 8,200 cattle, 16,000 sheep, 7,800 pigs (all categories), 3,230 goats and 600 Istrian donkeys.

Processing: 35 oil mills, 130 winery, 14 prosciutto processing, 23 farmhouse and artisan cheesemaking dairies and 450 registered beekeepers.