

Life in Zagreb

Croatian transcript:

Zagreb je glavni grad Hrvatske. Ima milijun stanovnika, i veoma je raznolik i zanimljiv, osobito zato što su se u poslijeratnom razdoblju doselili mnogi, mnogi ljudi iz južnog Balkana i pridonijeli različitosti ovog srednjoevropskog grada. Baza mu je srednjovjekovni Gradec i Kaptol, koji su se tijekom, osobito zadnjih sto godina proširili u razmjerama u kojima nisu ljudi vjerovali da hoće. Naprimjer, „Lisinski“ je prije bio izvan granica Zagreba, i ljudi su se zgražali zašto je jedna tako važna koncertna dvorana sagrađena izvan Zagreba, dok je na kraju sad već uži centar, zapravo. Uglavnom, zahvaljujući također brojnim studentima koji dolaze iz Slavonije, Dalmacije i ostalih hrvatskih regija, to isto pridonosi onako raznolikosti grada.

Naprimjer, ja studiram na Filozofskom fakultetu i većina mojih prijatelja zapravo su, recimo, iz Splita, Dubrovnika, Rijeke, i tako, ostalih gradova. Ono zbog čega ja volim Zagreb jest zato što ima jako puno aktivnosti i svaki dan možete radit doslovno milijun stvari. Kad biste pokušali izvest sve što želite, zapravo, u Zagrebu, bilo bi fizički neizvedivo. Znači, ima nekoliko kazališta, koncerti se stalno održavaju, pokušava se zapravo održat ta nekakva recimo rock scena; ima nekih sedam-osam muzeja sa relativno redovitim postavkama. Mi smo sad u Muzeju za umjetnost i obrt, koji su nam ljubazno ustupili prostor za snimanje ovog materijala... Šta još reći? Baš u ovom muzeju se nedavno... Još uvijek se zapravo održava izložba grafičara, što hrvatskih, što evropskih – jako uzbudljiva izložba.

English translation:

Zagreb is the capital of Croatia. It has a population of 1,000,000 people, and it's quite diverse and interesting, especially since many people came from the southern Balkans in the post-war period, adding to the diversity of this Central European city¹. It originally existed as a city [with two city cores]: the Medieval [towns of] Gradec and Kaptol, which

¹ The speaker is echoing a socio-political misconception according to which Zagreb and Croatia are in Central Europe. For all intents and purposes, Zagreb and Croatia are in South-Eastern Europe, as they are well under the northern geographic border of the Alps and Soča-Krka-Sava boundary which separates the two aforementioned parts of Europe. In addition, all international institutions such as the European Union consider Croatia to be a part of the Western Balkans. Also, please note that *South-Eastern Europe* is a fairly new term, which was coined to replace the term *Balkans* because of its negative connotations, but it's considered imprecise since it includes other countries (such as Bulgaria, Romania, Greece and Turkey) which are not a part of the Balkan peninsula. However, *Balkans* (or *Balkan*) is still in use in colloquial language.

spread unexpectedly, especially in the past hundred years. For example, *Lisinski*² used to be outside of the Zagreb city limits, and people were upset at the fact that such an important concert hall was built on the outskirts of Zagreb, and now it's actually in the very center of the city. In general, the city is very diverse, thanks to the large number of students coming from Slavonia, Dalmatia and other Croatian regions.

For example, I study at the Faculty of Philosophy, and most of my friends are actually from Split, Dubrovnik, Rijeka and other cities. The reason why I love Zagreb so much is because there are a large number of activities offered, and you can literally do a million different things each day. If you tried to do everything you wanted in Zagreb in one day, it would be physically impossible. There are several theaters, concerts are constantly held and people are trying to keep the rock scene alive; there are seven or eight different museums with new exhibitions every now and then. We are currently at the Museum of Arts and Crafts, which has generously provided us with the space for the filming of this material... What else should I mention? Recently, there was... There's still a graphic arts exhibition at this museum, both from Croatia and from Europe. It's an exciting exhibition.

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² Vatroslav Lisinski Concert Hall (Croatian: *Koncertna dvorana Vatroslava Lisinskog*) is a large concert hall and convention center in Zagreb, Croatia. It is named after Vatroslav Lisinski, a 19th-century Croatian composer.