

The logo for Croatia, featuring the word "CROATIA" in a stylized font with a red square above the 'O' and a blue square above the 'A'. Below it, the phrase "Full of life" is written in a cursive script.

CROATIA  
Full of life



VARAŽDIN



Detail from the  
Croatian National  
Theatre building



Parish Church of St. Nicholas, legend of the bear,  
coat of arms of Varaždin



Sundial – detail from  
the Franciscan Church of  
St. John the Baptist

**1181**

first mention of the town of Varaždin under the name Garestin

**1209**

Varaždin was declared a royal free city, the first in continental Croatia

**1767- 1776**

Varaždin was the seat of the Croatian Royal Council and the capital of Croatia.  
It lost its status because of a huge fire which devastated the city.

# Varaždin

Varaždin holds a special place among the many historic cities of Central Europe. Even though it is not the oldest or largest city, Varaždin is unique for its charming and romantic historic centre which stood witness to the city's rich history spanning nine centuries. Varaždin used to be the capital of Croatia and its urban centre, with a medieval layout, is teeming with the playful façades of Baroque palaces and high church bell towers, with a magnificent centrally-located fairytale castle.

Apart from architectural beauty, the citizens' way of life also stands out – the love for their city and their unique, open, cosmopolitan mentality has been welcoming guests with open arms and hearts for centuries, urging them to return.



**Varaždin City Museum, Stari Grad fortress**  
/ Culture and History Department, located at the promenade  
Strossmayerovo šetalistište



**Varaždin Civil Guard, 1750**  
/ Changing of the guard, Saturdays 11am-12pm, May-October  
In 2017 the city was awarded the status of intangible  
cultural heritage of Croatia



**Varaždin's coat of arms from 1464**  
/ King Matthias Corvinus ratified the coat of  
arms of Varaždin which is still in use today



**Panoramic view of Korzo**  
/ the central square Trg kralja Tomislava



Cathedral

# A city of harmony and familiarity

It is difficult to describe the magical appeal of Varaždin, you have to experience it for yourself. Everything is nearby: beautiful historic scenery, hidden corners, squares, streets and parks that are full of galleries, studios and museums. In this city of music, you can hear music at every corner - coming from the balconies, churches or the concert stages for one of the many annual festivals and events.

You can experience history, fire your imagination, enjoy the unique culinary offer and spend unforgettable moments with hospitable hosts, all within arm's reach, while living like a local, if only for a short while.

## **TIC / Tourist Information Centre**

Ivana Padovca 3, birth place of Ivan Padovec – guitar player and composer of European fame who constructed the double-neck ten-string guitar.

## **City Hall, 1523**

/ one of the oldest in Europe



**Bakačeva street**



**Croatian National Theatre in Varaždin**

/ built in 1873 based on the design of Hermann Helmer, the famous Viennese architect



Patačić palace



Uska street

**Varaždin organ grinder**



**Sermage palace** / Gallery of old and new masters, located at the address Trg Miljenka Stančića 3



**Herzer palace** / Permanent exhibition of the entomological department World of Insects, located at the address Franjevački trg 10



Plika's courtyard / Ivana Padovca 4



Square of traditional crafts  
/ located at the street Uršulinska ulica

**The Horseshoe**

/ located at the square  
Trg Miljenka Stančića



**The Turtle**

/ located at the street  
Ulica Ivana Gundulića



**Iron Man**

/ located at the square  
Trg Kralja Tomislava



**County palace** / located at the square Franjevački trg



**Installation art exploring the motif of angels, Andelinjak**  
/ located at the square Franjevački trg





**Museum of Firefighting** / a collection of 1200 items related to the history of firefighting in Varaždin and Croatia / Trenkova 44



**Zlati Ajngel Gallery** / Gajeva 15



**K10 Gallery** / Kukuljevićeva 10



**Museum of Angels** / Kranjčevićeva 14

## Travel through time

The view of the old town is dominated by the eponymous spectacular Gothic-Renaissance fortress "Stari grad", the most famous landmark and iconic symbol of the city. Located in the historic centre and surrounded by a peaceful green park, the fortress "Stari grad" is a monument in and of itself, as well as the home of the historic museum with over 1100 representative exhibits showcasing past times and the old way of life of Varaždin citizens, along with their rich history.

But museum attractions are not limited to the old historic complex of "Stari grad". There is also the World of Insects in the Herzer palace, one of the most beautiful palaces in Varaždin, whose collection, important by European standards, is presented in an attractive and interactive way.

Varaždin also has the first and only Croatian Museum of Firefighting – a noble activity which has long-standing roots in Varaždin since the town was badly destroyed in the great fire of 1776, after which the administrative institutions were moved to Zagreb and the city was made the new capital.

Lovers of painting and fine arts will be delighted with the Gallery of Old and New Masters located in the rich and elegant Sermage palace, with over 6400 works of art with historic value. Next to it you will find the Museum of Angels, and angels appear everywhere, hidden across the city centre. The K10 Gallery is another must-see, a small but important gallery housing one of the most valuable European pottery collections.

# Varaždin courtyards

Old cities like Varaždin have many well-hidden secrets, and one of the best kept secrets of Varaždin is the plethora of old charming romantic courtyards. These intimate urban spaces, hidden behind thick gates, contain a whole new world filled with urban life in which the past is mixed with the rhythm of everyday life. Varaždin courtyards open their doors to visitors so that they could experience something new, be creatively inspired and return home with the most precious souvenir – unforgettable memories.



**Darwin's courtyard**  
Ivana Padovca 7



**Purger's courtyard**  
Ulica S.S. Kranjčevića 8



**Courtyard with a view**  
Trg Slobode 9



**Tiny cute courtyard**  
Uska ulica 6



VARAŽDIN CEMETERY

# Green architecture

The Varaždin Cemetery is not just a peaceful final resting place, it is a unique architectural attraction and a natural monument, one of the most precious and beautiful ones in Europe. The Cemetery is an important iconic landmark and one of the many green jewels of landscape architecture that surround the historic centre.

Varaždin parks were inspired by Vienna's landscape architecture, and since the end of the 19th century this historic tradition of designing and maintaining Varaždin's green lungs has been kept and nurtured. Because of them, Varaždin is also called the city of flowers, apart from being known as the city of music.



Park Ivana Pavla II



Promenade Šetalište Vatroslava Jagića



Promenade Šetalište Vatroslava Jagića / meteorological pillar and bird nest benches



# Full of events

A life full of joy is a life fulfilled, and joie de vivre means enjoying the full range of our senses – movement, music, light, feeling. The modern culture of Varaždin is built on its many festivals, performances and events, made to suit all ages and tastes. From spring until the end of the year, Varaždin's fast-paced cultural rhythm offers dozens of big and small events which attract thousands of visitors and artists from all over Europe and beyond: from the animation film festival and modern dance and performance festival, to one of the oldest festivals of Baroque music - Varaždin Baroque Evenings, whose Baroque sounds fill the churches and concert halls of Varaždin.

Špancirfest holds a special place among the many festivals organised in Varaždin. It is the biggest and most popular Croatian festival – a festival of music, comedy, modern theatre, creativity, smell and taste; simply put, a festival of the joie de vivre when Varaždin becomes the centre of the world for 10 days in the eyes of its citizens and guests.

- Days of the Taste of Varaždin region**, April, [www.turizam-vzz.hr](http://www.turizam-vzz.hr)
- Trades And Crafts Street Fair**, April/June/ September, [www.uhov.hr](http://www.uhov.hr)
- Mop Špancirfest Multimedia Festival**, May, [www.mop-varazdin.com](http://www.mop-varazdin.com)
- Dravantura**, May
- VAFI**, May/June, [www.vafi.hr](http://www.vafi.hr)
- Performance days**, June
- Applied Arts Week**, June
- Festival of Varaždin Courtyards**, July, [www.tourism-varazdin.hr](http://www.tourism-varazdin.hr)
- Drava jump**, July
- CIAV**, July, [www.airshow-varazdin.hr](http://www.airshow-varazdin.hr)
- Varaždin summer**, July /August, [www.tourism-varazdin.hr](http://www.tourism-varazdin.hr)
- Špancirfest**, August, [www.tourism-varazdin.hr](http://www.tourism-varazdin.hr)
- Trash Film Festival**, September, [www.trash.hr](http://www.trash.hr)
- International Flower Show**, September, facebook
- Varaždin Baroque Evenings**, September/October, [www.vbv.hr](http://www.vbv.hr)
- Kliker Festival**, October, [www.klikerplatform.com](http://www.klikerplatform.com)
- International "Nature, Hunting, Fishing, Tourism" fair**, October, [www.sajam-varazdin.com](http://www.sajam-varazdin.com)
- International "Drava Forester" Disc Golf Tournament**, November, [www.dravaforester.com](http://www.dravaforester.com)
- Advent in Varaždin**, December, [www.tourism-varazdin.hr](http://www.tourism-varazdin.hr)
- International New Year's Race 31.12.**



VARAŽDIN BAROQUE EVENINGS





**Distance from Varaždin to other cities:**

Zagreb – 87 km / Osijek – 338 km / Rijeka – 249 km  
Pula – 360 km / Zadar – 370 km / Split – 493 km / Dubrovnik – 692 km

Ljubljana – 178 km / Vienna – 328 km / Budapest – 274 km / Trieste – 282 km

Varaždin Airport (category: L2 airport) – 2 km  
Franjo Tuđman Airport, Zagreb (commercial airport) – 80 km

**Road routes to/from Varaždin:**

Budapest – Zagreb – Rijeka/Split (highway)  
Osijek – Maribor

**Border crossings:**

Goričan (Hungary) – 45 km  
Dubrava (Slovenia) – 19 km

**Rail routes to/from Varaždin:**

Budapest – Zagreb – Split/Rijeka  
Osijek – Varaždin

Varaždin is located in a well-connected, extremely beautiful and interesting part of Croatia. The vicinity of Slovenia, Austria and Hungary, and a fantastic local and intercity transport network make Varaždin the perfect starting point for exploring the wider region full of history, natural wonders, cultural beauty and unforgettable experiences.

The Varaždin region is a cultivated, serene, green area, filled with hundreds of castles, manors, museums, collections, old towns and villages, a rich culinary and wine tradition, and exceptional archaeological sites begging to be explored.



**Volim Varaždin**  
[www.tourism-varazdin.hr](http://www.tourism-varazdin.hr)

**VARAŽDIN TOURIST BOARD**

Ivana Padovca 3, Varaždin 42 000 / Hrvatska / Tel. +385 (0)42 210-987 Fax: +385 (0)42 210-985 / [info@tourism-varazdin.hr](mailto:info@tourism-varazdin.hr)

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