

day 07

# CROATIA



## FAQS

### SIZE

Smaller than W Virginia

### POPULATION

13,995,904

### CAPITAL

Zagreb

### LANGUAGE

Croatian

### RELIGION

Roman Catholic

### UPG'S

4

### POP. IN CHICAGO

100,000

### LOCATION

Albany Park,  
Rogers Park

### VISIT

Operetta  
5653 W Fullerton Ave  
Chicago, IL  
773-622-2613

The Croats are a Slavic people that migrated from the Ukraine. They submitted themselves to Hungarian authority and avoided Turkish rule by the Ottoman Empire. Following World War I and the demise of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Croatia joined the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, which later became Yugoslavia in 1929. After Communism fell in 1990, Croatia declared its independence from Yugoslavia. Conflict between Serbs and Croats escalated, and one month after Croatia declared independence, a civil war erupted. Croats were fighting the Serbian dominated Yugoslavian army. In 1995, Croatia signed a peace agreement to permanently end the fighting. The people of Croatia voted to have the Serb occupied portion of Croatia be integrated with the Serbs in Bosnia.

A Croatian-language encyclopedia published in Yugoslavia in 1942 included a three-page entry on Chicago, illustrated by a photograph of the Lakefront and a map of a local Croatian settlement. Because Chicago was a magnet for both peasants and political activists immigrating from Croatia, a local historian called Chicago the "Second Croatian Capital." A small colony living south of the Loop in the early twentieth century has now grown into many distinct neighborhoods, each with its own Roman Catholic Church and priest from Croatia. **Pray for the large Roman Catholic community of Croats to experience a vibrant relationship with Jesus.**

**Pray for the unique opportunity that Chicago has, as the largest Croatian and Bosnian communities in North America, to see healing and reconciliation take place among Bosnians and Croats through the Gospel.**



JOHN 17:21

"That they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me."