



Croatia / Residency and Citizenship for Investors

Croatia is in Central/South-Eastern Europe, bordering Hungary, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Serbia, and Montenegro. Croatia has a 1,800km coastline on the Adriatic Sea, a huge draw for the tourists who flock there every year. Croatia's climate is predominantly a warm and rainy continental climate, with mean temperatures ranging from just under freezing to around 20°C. The coast tends to be sunnier and warmer, with in excess of 2,000 hours of sunshine a year.

Croatia has been inhabited by the Croat people for around 1,400 years. The vast majority of people in Croatia identify as Croats, with small minorities of Serbs and Bosniaks. Croatia was more-or-less part of Yugoslavia from 1918 until 1991, but Croats retained a strong sense of national identity. A civil war was fought from 1991 and 1995 between Croatian government loyalists and the Yugoslav People's Army. The conflict ended in victory for the new Croatian state.

Croatia began to liberalise its economy upon independence, but the Civil War damaged the country a great deal. The

Croatian economy stabilised rapidly and experience significant expansion, until the Financial Crisis of 2007-8 greatly impacted economic growth. Although unemployment remains relatively high, GDP growth is rising steadily in recent years. The Real GDP growth rate stood at 2.9% in Q3 2016. Croatia has been a member of the WTO since 2000 and the EU since 2013. Croatia has a predominantly service-based economy and relies heavily on tourism. Industrial goods account for about 25% of GDP, while agriculture, forestry and fishing account for about 5%.

Croatia not only boasts the stunning Adriatic coastline with its picturesque islands and beautiful beaches, but also several important heritage and tourism sites including basilicas and churches, palaces, Roman ruins, national parks, and walled towns, including the famous walled city of Dubrovnik. Croatia is one of the most popular holiday destinations in Europe, and it is not hard to see why. With its increasing economic success and high quality of life, Croatia is fast becoming a sought-after destination for international investors too.





Residency for Investors/Entrepreneurs

Non-EU/EEA Entrepreneurs can get temporary stay residence permits in Croatia through a work permit or a work permit outside the annual quota. If an investor/entrepreneur wants to set up their own business, they will also need a business permit. Temporary stay permits are issued for one year and are renewable. An application for permanent residency can be made after an uninterrupted stay of five years (provided there are no absences of more than six months duration, and provided there are less than ten months of cumulative absence in total).

For a work permit outside the annual quota, the following is needed:

- Proof of educational qualifications.
- Proof of ownership of at least a 51% stake in a company or proof that the applicant performs key activities in a company which is a recipient of incentive measures in line with a regulation on investment promotion, or carries out strategic investment projects in line with a regulation on strategic investment projects of the Republic of Croatia,

OR

Proof that the applicant performs activities or carries out projects in the Republic of Croatia pursuant to international agreements on expert and technical assistance concluded by the Republic of Croatia with the European Union, other countries or international organisations.

Eligibility for Application

Applicants should meet the following requirements:

- Applicants must be over 18 years of age.
- Applicants must have proof of good character and proof that they would not be a threat to safety, national security or public health.
- Applicants must have adequate health insurance.
- Applicants must have sufficient means to support themselves and their family in Croatia.
- Applicants must give proof of their familiarity with Croatian culture and society (based on a questionnaire).

Core Advantages

- Croatia has a low cost of living and low crime rates. There is also a universal health system with high-quality of care.
- Croatia is a member of the European Union (EU) and the Schengen area. Residents can travel freely around the Schengen area, as long as they do not stay in one country for more than 60 days. Citizens have the right to move freely and live, work and study in any EU state.
- Croatia is a beautiful country, boasting a stunning 6,000km long coastline on the Adriatic Sea with beautiful beaches, coves and unspoilt islands. There are several UNESCO-listed heritage sights including the beautiful walled city of Dubrovnik. Croatia has much more to offer including many charming towns and cities rich in history and heritage, Roman ruins, medieval towns and castles, spas, museums, galleries, and national parks.
- Croatia has an excellent highway network, nine international airports with links to cities all over Europe, and several ports on the Adriatic. Croatia is close to countries such as Slovenia, Italy and Hungary.
- After five years of continuous residence, the applicant can apply for permanent residency. After ten years, the applicant can apply for citizenship.
- Family members can also be included in the residence permit applications.



Naturalisation

Croatian citizenship can be acquired by naturalisation after five years of permanent residence in Croatia. There is no specific investor programme and so there is no minimum investment amount. Foreign citizens may also obtain citizenship through exceptional naturalisation, at the discretion of the Government of Croatia. Applicants must have a guaranteed, permanent source of income, a clean criminal record and must have settled all tax obligations.

Entrepreneurs and investors can obtain residence permits if they meet certain conditions. Please see the 'Residency' section.

The Freedom of a Croatian Passport

Croatia has visa-free, visa-on-arrival, or e-visa arrangements with 144 countries and regions.

Visa-free Countries: Albania, Andorra, Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic,

Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macau, Macedonia (FYROM), Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Palestinian Territories, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Korea, Spain, St. Vincent & The Grenadines, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Vatican City, Venezuela.

Visa-on-arrival Countries: Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea-Bissau, Iran, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Laos, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nepal, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Seychelles, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

E-Visa/ETA Countries: Australia, Canada, India, Sri Lanka.





Ousheng & Partners provides a range of services for high-net-worth investors seeking high-quality overseas residency solutions. Our professional and dedicated team has many years of successful experience in overseas residence and citizenship-by-investment programmes, and can advise and assist with all concerns inherent in relocation, including legal matters, property acquisition, and access to medical and education services.

Through our combination of industry-specific expertise and deep local knowledge, we provide our clients with a uniquely

professional, tailored, and reliable service. Let us help you take your first steps towards greater security and opportunity for you and your family.

As part of Kylin Prime Group, Ousheng & Partners can offer clients access to related services including portfolio management, and investment opportunities in alternative investment funds, enterprise investment projects, trusts, and other securities and assets. For more information, visit kylinprime.com.

The Leading Firm in Global Residency Solutions

Switzerland

+41 (0) 445802159

Bahnhofstrasse 21, 6300 Zug, Switzerland.

switzerland@kylinprime.com

Ireland

+353 (0) 153 14840

97 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland.

ireland@kylinprime.com

United Kingdom

+44 (0) 20 8099 0999

7 Stratford Place, London, W1C 1AY, United Kingdom.

uk@kylinprime.com

Malta

+356 27 075993

8 Old Bakery Street, Valletta, VLT 1455, Malta.

malta@kylinprime.com

Cyprus

3 Themistocles Dervis Street, Julia House, 1066 Nicosia,

Cyprus.

cyprus@kylinprime.com

Slovenia

10 Kladezna Ulica, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

slovenia@kylinprime.com

China

+86 (0) 400 800 5001

Beijing: Floor 12, New Media Building, 2 Jintai West Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing, China.

Shanghai: 701A, Citigroup Tower, 33 Huayuanshiqiao Rd, LuJiaZui, Pudong Xinqu, Shanghai, China 200120.

china@kylinprime.com



**KYLIN
PRIME
GROUP**