

A must-visit street in town

With the makeover of one of Zagreb's prettiest streets finally completed, the main route from the Lower to the Upper Town is back in full swing. Radićeva street is a symbol of both Zagreb's romantic past and its new buzzy vibe. Now together with Mesnička street, which runs parallel, it marks off the spectacular walking district of central Zagreb, including the Grič tunnel that connects both streets underground.



INSTAGRAM*

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Photos: Julijana Duval

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TALKABOUT

GOLD FROM RIO has come home. Unbeatable discus thrower Sandra Perković, the Sinković rower brothers and sports shooter Josip Glasnović came back to Zagreb for a victory dance. Croatia's olympic delegation was headed up by Janica Kostelić, winner of four olympic golds.

@olimpijci.hr

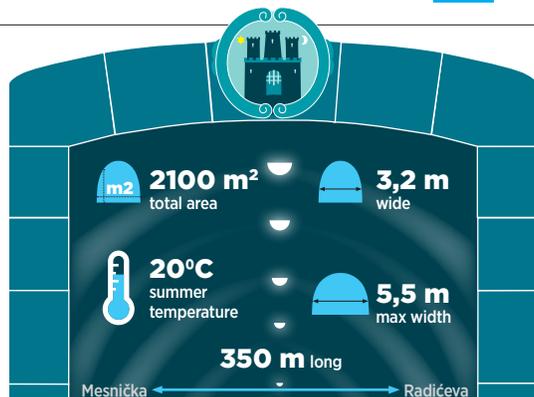
NEW FOUNTAINS by the National University Library begin sprinkling in September. Zagreb's mayor promises more to come, the first one currently being constructed on the British Square.

@zagreb.hr

FIRST

DOUBLE-DECKER bus hits the streets in September. A blue roofless tourist bus stops by 17 attractions on the 16km-long route, starting from the corner of Vlaška and Palmotičeva streets.

@infozagreb.hr



Zagreb's secret tunnel unveiled

Did you know Zagreb has an underground tunnel? Originally built during WW2 and only used again as an air shelter in the Homeland War, it remained a mystery until this summer. Once open to the public, the tunnel became a top tourist attraction, the city's best shortcut and the thickest shade from summer heat. 350 meters long, it connects Mesnička and Radićeva with an additional exit to Tomičeva, near the hip Art Park, and a future one in the Upper Town. Next year the tunnel turns into the Museum of the Senses.



ZAGREB PICKPOCKETS

are out - literally. Though the pickpocket gang was rumored to pester Zagreb this year, the fact is there have never been fewer theft incidents: only 41 recorded cases, 30 less than last year. @mup.hr

FIRST MINUTE

Get your teeth into street food

Reap the fruits of summer on every corner of the city. September is the time for corn on the cob – choose it grilled or boiled. Or stick around till October and then feast on scrumptious warm chestnuts that you'll see being roasted all over the city center. Don't worry if your hands get dirty, this is part of the ritual: peel, walk and chew.

WORD

Jesen
(Yes-sen)

Autumn, Herbst, Automne, Otoño, Outono, Autunno

秋, 가을, 秋

WHAT WHERE WHEN

CELEBRATE ALL THINGS RETRO

The best way to enjoy Zagreb's Indian summer is to go retro. Hit the Vintage Zagreb Festival (Sept 3-10) just off the Jelačić Square, where you can dance to the 40s, 50s and 60s beats and snag cool fashion items or accessories such as a retro make-up kit. Go all out by growing your hair and then having it cut retro style on the spot.

#VintageZagreb



FOOD AND FILM MIXING AND MATCHING

Gorgeous Zrinjevac park delivers another unique end-of-summer event: Food Film festival (Sept 11-20). Foodies and cinephiles, bring your passions together and discover some of Zagreb's best restaurateurs, patisseries and winemakers. Join the gourmet workshops and make sure to stick around for open-air film screenings (every night from 9pm) that promise to make your mouth water. @foodfilm-festivalzagreb.hr

UPPER TOWN FOR GOURMETS

Locals have fallen in love with the Little Market from the Attic, a weekly gathering of organic food producers set up in a small loft. This summer you can catch their gourmet delights on Wednesdays (Sept 7 & 14; 5-9pm) at the Vrnjczy Plateau. Bring a blanket and sip a fruit or veggie cocktail paired with a wow vista of the city. #malipiknik



Fierce in spirit and Lilliputian in size, Zagorka received a fine compliment from Fran Supilo: "Little Zagorka, you're a real man."



ZAGREB SUPERHEROES

Zagorka - small woman larger than life

Captured in mid-stride in front of the Sun Clock on Tkalčićeva street is Marija Jurić Zagorka, the first woman journalist in this part of Europe who fought for women rights and against the 19th-century Austro-Hungarian oppression. Though her male colleagues often sneered at her history and romance novels as pulp fiction, Zagorka was and remains the most widely read woman author of all times.



ANJA MUTIĆ

Author of *Lonely Planet Croatia*, writes for *New York Magazine* and *The Washington Post*. Follow her at @everthenomad

September shift

I gaze at the Adriatic as I type this. It's been nearly a month since I left Zagreb. In that time, I got my yearly fix of endless blue, sea salt, crickets, sunburnt skin, island time, backstroke at noon... In summertime, I tend to look out. Then September comes, I return to Zagreb and slowly, a subtle shift happens - my gaze turns from the outside in.

I love that shift. The slightly introspective mode that Zagreb awakens in me come September. Though you can still feel whiffs of summer, the city picks up an entirely different pace.

To most people, it's the "back to school" time, the rush hour traffic, jam-packed sidewalk cafes... If you ask, they'll complain about their summer break being over before they even blinked. To most people, it marks the end of something.

To me, September in Zagreb is an epilogue to summer. It marks the right time to shift the gaze, to begin reflection. The perfect prologue to winter. It will still take a couple of weeks before the sun crosses the celestial equator from north to south and fall kicks off officially. But for me, I already see the contours of a new beginning in the city streets.

MONOVIEW

September is the most Zagrebish month of all



Iva Silla, storyteller and founder of Secret Zagreb, just pronounced one of the 10 best alternative city tours in Europe by *The Guardian*

ZAGREB IS A CITY OF TALES AND MEMORIES, WITH A TANGIBLE SOUL



of roasted chestnuts are two things that haven't changed during my life in Zagreb.

WHERE DO YOU GO TO HIDE AWAY? I feel drawn to Sljeme, the whispers of nature and times long past. I even organize a walking tour called Into the Woods, that goes from the city center all the way to the forest trails. I love these enchanted woods. But don't underestimate Medvednica - although not high, it's a large mountain, where you can hide but also get lost.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT ZAGREB THAT INSPIRES YOUR TOURS AND QUESTS? Zagreb is a city of tales and memories, with a tangible soul. No matter how charming its center, it's only when you step into an empty alley or a forest trail that the city truly resonates. As Zagreb changes fast, I wish to preserve this intangible heritage and share it with curious travelers.

YOUR TOP THREE SECRETS ABOUT ZAGREB...

Mount Medvednica, with gorgeous fall foliage, the seemingly dull Novi Zagreb with socialist-style buildings full of curious spots, and if I crave the taste of real bread - Trajković bakery (Nova Ves) which still uses real fire for baking.

YOUR BESTSELLING TOUR FOR FALL?

Zagreb Ghosts and Dragons is a hit with individual visitors who like to explore the dark side. Zagrebarium and Witch Hunt are popular with groups.

SEPTEMBER IN ZAGREB... is the most "Zagrebish" month of all. It brings up a certain melancholy with cloudy skies and life getting back to normal after a long summer. The colors of Medvednica and the smell

HIDDEN ZAGREB

Silent & secret

Zagreb guards its secrets well but we've got intel on what's hot this month. One of the most interesting events will be kicking off on Sep 10, the first in the series of Silent parties lined up for Sept. Beck's Silent experience and Secret Garden exhibition will take place in the verdant garden of the Museum of Arts & Crafts. This gorgeous atrium will showcase a blend of audiovisual arts paired with tasty bites. The inaugural edition starts with DJ sets by Indy (hip hop and RnB), Rea (house and garage) and Sin (fun, disco and 80s/90s). Three visual artists will be featuring their work at every party. The first trio will include renowned graphic designers and illustrators: Vedran Klemens, Nebojša Cvetković and Ivo Matić. The exhibit (free) opens at 10pm, the party (40KN admission) starts at 11pm.

ZAGREB'S BEST AND MOST AFFORDABLE EATS

With the abundance of fresh fruit & veg, no wonder fall is the best season for feasting. Don't miss the traditional Restaurants Week's (October 7-16) serious wining and dining offer: a three-course meal + glass of wine for 100KN! Pick a restaurant of your choice @tjedanrestorana.com.

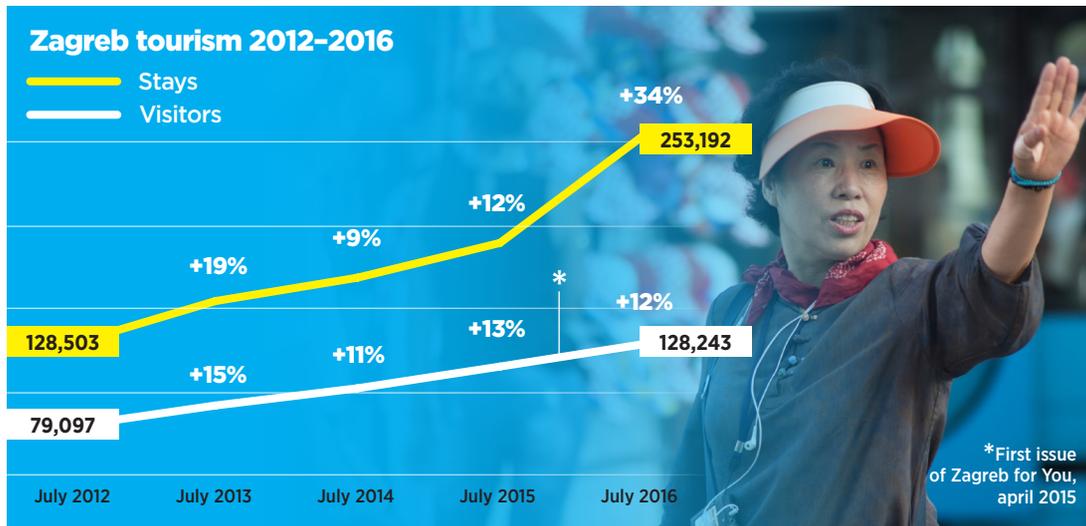
RECORD BREAKING SEASON

Zagreb joins the ranks of the best

In this so far record tourist season for Croatia, Zagreb joins the ranks of the best - Dubrovnik and Istria. The city breaks the record in the number of visitors and sticks to the two-digit growth. But what is it that's made Zagreb into a tourist capital? It's not the number of visitors that have shot up in the

last five years nor its award as the European best destination. It's the aliveness and a freshly brewed buzz in the streets, squares and parks that attracts people from all corners of the world. In the past few years, Korean tourists have lead in numbers, followed by Germans, Italians and Americans. And there's room

for everyone in Zagreb's 53 hotels, 50+ hostels and more than 1000 private apartments. There are new attractions, too: several museums, countless festivals, dance parties and events that hardly anyone can keep up with, except for us at Zagreb For You. So go out, have fun, Zagreb is yours.



QUIZG

- How loud is the Lotrščak canon that fires every day at noon?
a) 130 dB; b) 140 dB; c) 150 dB
- There are more than 165,000 trees in Zagreb. Which is the oldest one?
a) Plane tree in Zrinjevac park
b) Oak tree in Maksimir park
c) Redwood in Ksaver neighborhood
- Dinamo football team has played at the Maksimir stadium since 1948. When was the stadium built?
a) 1912; b) 1919; c) 1906

BONUS QUESTION

How many ceramic tiles are there on the 1903 Kallina House facade, on the corner of Masarykova and Gunduličeva streets?
a) 100; b) 200; c) 300

ANSWERS

1. a., the canon noise is 140 dB loud, which comes close to being painful, and on a clear day can be heard all the way to Novi Zagreb; **2. c.**, the redwood planted in 1862 is the oldest tree in Zagreb and only nine years younger than the oldest one in Europe; **3. a.** Maksimir stadium opened in May 1912, and until Dinamo moved in, it was home to the HASK football team; **BONUS b.** Kallina house, an Art Deco masterpiece designed by Vjekoslav Bastl, was refurbished in 2011 with 200 new and a number of restored ceramic tiles.

Day at the Zagreb Zoo

Zagreb Zoo is in the throws of a real baby boom and each new arrival creates a public cheer and a name-giving contest. Lion cubs are the latest addition. Watch them on a live stream at livecamcroatia.com or visit the Zoo every day till 8pm. @zoo.hr

The newest stars of the Zoo are three-month-old lion cubs, offspring of Leo and Nyota. Catch them sharpening their claws on a lion rock or exploring the outdoor space for most of the day.



A two-year old female gibbon is still a baby and waiting to be named. Daughter of Kent and Kulička, she is the first newborn gibbon in a long time.

Alpaca Inka, born on January 2, was this year's first baby. Her name was chosen in the contest run by a children's magazine and the Zoo. Inka lives with her mother Annika, father Jasper and sister Lotta.



Look out for a baby capuchin monkey who rarely leaves its mother's side. Underneath the capuchin-filled branches, you can spot six little baby coats.

Spring will deliver a new baby wave. Expected are capybaras, the world's biggest rodents, and Patagonian maras, plus more capuchin and coati babies.



ANDREA PISAC

Global anthropologist and Zagreb writer with a twist. Follow her at @travelhonestly.com

Honestly, walk into fall through a secret portal

Everyone talks about the famous Zagreb summer lull: streets emptied out of people and, alas, cars. They either love or hate this city state of mind. But to me, the passage from lull into whirl is way more interesting.

It's happening now as the crowds flock back from the coast: adults easing back into work, kids warming up for the new school year. People are out and about running errands or catching up with friends. It makes me smile to see the city attracting us like a flower does a swarm of bees. But I'm a quiet person so I always look for a passage to take me into the new fizz gradually.

I walk through the city avoiding its busy squares and arteries. It's easy because Zagreb is full of quiet secret passages. On my way from the Croatian National Theater to Dolac market, I meander through three amazing shortcuts: the Baković Sisters' passage, Oktogon and Harmica. There's history, great architecture and lovely shops inside, but never too many people - a perfect transition into new season.

Tip: Stop by Oktogon and learn about the Croatian tie at Croatia shop.

16.300

is how many visitors Zagreb Arena can take

3,6

million of exhibits are kept across all Zagreb museums

187700

Zagreb is the name of the asteroid that was discovered by the Cikota brothers in 2008

COOL TURE

WORLD THEATER FESTIVAL features plays by directors Thomas Ostermeier (Austria), Toshiki Okada (Japan) and Anne-Cecile Vandalem (Belgium). Catch them at the Croatia National Theater September 9–24. @hnk.hr



GANG OF FOUR play at Tvornica Kulture on September 10. Ever since they first played in Zagreb in 1981, the legendary Brits always throw up a great show. @tvornicakulture.com

ORGAN OF SIGHT, an international photography festival featuring young contemporary authors, is on at the French Pavilion September 13–24. Find out more about this year's theme – Revelations – and check the program on @organvida.com

PIF – the International Puppet Theater Festival – kicks off with street and theater shows on Sept 9. More than 100 performances are lined up till Sept 19. More about the festival's 49th edition on @pif.hr.

ZGBLOG

INSIDER SHOPPING GUIDE

Zagreb has always had a vibrant community of artisans and craftsmen. If you're looking for innovative design and locally handcrafted products, pick up a copy of the neatly produced *Insight Design Guide*, distributed at tourist info points and major hotels and hostels. The guide also features interviews with the artisans, sightseeing tips and city's trends. Read it online @insightdesignguide.com.



ALEX CREVAR

Travel writer from the United States. His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *National Geographic Traveler* and *Outside* magazine @AlexCrevar

Shed the weight

I love autumn ... just the idea of it. And, when I woke this morning, the air was noticeably lighter. The fall was already sweeping out the stifling haze of summer, which clung to everything—streets, café tables, city squares—for months. I even felt lighter.

Of course these air quality perceptions are my own deep-seated issues. I don't have proof of a change in atmospheric weight, or even if that's a term. I'm not a meteorologist, or whomever it is who makes barometric statements.

Regardless, I do always feel sluggish at summer's end—like I've been pulling against an imaginary chain. It's a combination of partying too hard, desperately trying to make the most of vacation season, and squeezing in a few more days on some beach to achieve both of the above. The problem: I've never liked the beach or lying in the sun. Truth be told, I don't really like summer. Autumn, however, I love. And, few places do autumn better than Zagreb. In every direction, harvest season has started. Wine, olives, and truffles make their way into the capital. As do the people, who have been harvested back from the coast. And like ripe fruit, they come, browned by the sun and salted by the sea. They make their way back to re-cultivate their city relationships, have house parties, and drink wine in sweaters on patios.

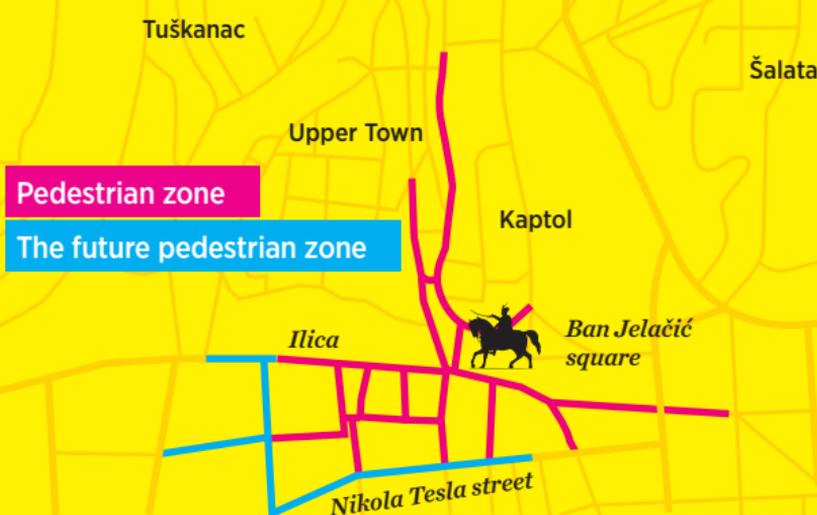
Pro tip: Shake off the summer completely. Register for the Zagreb Marathon, which takes place on October 9.

NEW IN TOWN

A craft beer hangout to check out

Unless you had an errand to run, you'd never venture out to Žitnjak in the drab industrial east of Zagreb. But now there's a very good reason – the Garden Brewery. This craft beer venture by the team behind the Garden Festival and The Garden Lounge in Zadar churns out top beers – like the light and laid-back Session Ale with floral overtones and Styrian Stout, a creamy beer seasoned with coffee, dark chocolate and bourbon back notes. But it's not just about beer here. Open 7 days a week, the former factory clad in red brick became an all-day hangout. Chow down on artisanal burgers by Submarine BBQ, do a tour of the brewing facilities and get down to DJ-spun music. If you've got little ones, come for the family-friendly Sunday sessions.

YELLOW PAGE



Tune into walking and Saturday *špica* as Zagreb's way of life

Zagreb is known as one of Europe's most walkable cities. Its streets, squares and parks are pleasantly made at human scale, so the very center can easily be explored on foot. Cars are few and far between in the meandering Upper Town alleyways or around the lovely Flower Square. To tune into Zagreb's pedestrian spirit, hit Tkalčićeva or Bogovićeveva on a Saturday between 10am and 2pm and experience the ritual of *špica*: prance around in your

best clothes and meet friends for coffee; once you're sitting down, watch others do the same. *Špica* stretches your legs and connects you with Zagreb and its people.

TIPS&TRICKS

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EXCHANGE RATES,
(BUY RATE, SEPTEMBER 1 2016)
€ 17,49; \$ 16,72; JPY 100 6,49

WI-FI SOLAR BENCHES

Look out for smart solar-powered benches where you can charge your phone and get free wi-fi access. Currently set up on two locations: in front of the Rector building at Marshal Tito Square and in front of the Faculty of Kinesiology in Horvačanski Zavoj.

BOTANICAL GARDEN FOR FREE

Zagreb Botanical Garden is free and open every day from morning to dusk – a policy in operation since its opening in 1891. The Garden was the city's gift to the University of Zagreb provided it kept free entrance.

THE MOST USEFUL CARD

With Zagreb Card tourists get free transport and ticket discounts for more than 150 locations. Daily card is 60KN, a three-day card is 90KN. A ride on the funicular is included.



Soak in the healing waters of Zagorje

The magical Medvednica mountain that towers over Zagreb is known for healing thermal waters. Only 35 km from the city, the fairytale-pretty Zagorje region showcases one of the oldest spa resorts - Stubičke Toplice. You can enjoy mineral-rich healing waters both out-and indoors, and spa treatments aplenty. When you're not soaking, go walking around the dense Medvednica forests.

Tip: Visit St. Catherine chapel on Kapelšćak hill, which commemorates the 1573 peasant uprising, and enjoy the panoramic vista of Zagorje's rolling hills.



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FOUR HORSEMEN OF ZAGREB

It takes only a short walk to notice an army of stunning sculptures that mark Zagreb's cityscape. Four of this eclectic company are horsemen: national heroes who made Croatian history. The grand works of art representing King Tomislav and Duke Josip Jelačić dominate two prominent city spots. They've become a recognizable city skyline that welcomes visitors into the heart of Zagreb.

St. George killing the dragon looms large next to the Croatian National Theater. Dating back to 1853, the statue symbolizes the old Christian legend of the good fighting the evil in the shape of a dragon.

St. George and the killed dragon is a rare depiction of the famous motif with the already dead dragon and St. George quietly praying for his enemy. Look for it at the Stone Gate entrance.

Duke Josip Jelačić honors this 19th-century statesman who fought for the Croatian independence from the Habsburgs. First erected in 1866, the statue was taken down by the Yugoslav communists and unveiled once again in 1990.

King Tomislav salutes everyone arriving to Zagreb by train. Erected in 1938, the statue of the first Croatian king (reigned 910-928) is the work of Rober Frangeš-Mihanović.

Zagreb Hippodrome

Zagreb horsemanship lives on at the Hippodrome, the grand equestrian center on the south bank of the Sava. It was modeled on the Longchamp in Paris and can accommodate all types of horse sports.

The airport's roof spans over 35,000 m² and is used for collecting rainwater needed for the day-to-day running of the terminal.



Zagreb's 21st-century airport

The new monumental terminal of Zagreb's Franjo Tuđman airport is finished. Just a few tests and check-ups and it'll be ready to welcome new planes and passengers in March. New features – 8 air bridges, 30 check-in desks, 3 km of conveyer belts, 1100 parking spots – will double its capacity to 5 million travelers. Buckle up, we're taking off.

Unlike in Dubrovnik and Split, bikini-clad tourists can stroll through Zagreb without being fined. The city has no official ban on minimalist outfits but it also has fewer swimmers than its coastal peers. This of course might change with the growing number of fountains in Zagreb. Beware though, full monty nudism is forbidden and punishable.

500 to 1000 KN is the fine for indecent exposure or nudity on the Croatian coast

TASTE OF ZAGREB



powered by Taste of Croatia

When roasted peppers fill the air

In late summer, markets are full of horn-shaped red bell peppers. To make use of these juicy beauties, our wise ancestors thought of roasting and preserving them in oil, garlic and spices. Add a bit of vinegar and you get a cold salad that works wonders as side dish for grilled meat. A more adventurous approach is

to fill them with cottage cheese and get an interesting cold starter. Or simply add them to gourmet sandwiches and burgers. Roasted red peppers are also the key ingredient in the making of one of the most sacred traditional condiments of Southeast Europe - *ajvar*. So if you thought a pepper is just a pepper, the smell of roasted peppers filling the late summer air will prove you wrong. Many restaurants, like the old local favorite Okrugljak, will include roasted peppers in their seasonal menu (35KN). Kcal: 130 per serving

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LAST MINUTE

Take back a cupful of wisdom

If Zagreb is your last stop before the new academic year begins, spend a quiet moment by the statue of Marko Marulić, the father of Croatian literature and psychology. Steeped in contemplation, this giant humanist guards the gorgeous State Archives building decorated with four owl gargoyles. Take a breath and let ageless wisdom rub off of you.

4am

OLD-SCHOOL CLUBBING IN KATRAN FACTORY

As the beaches empty out, clubs are filling up. The party season kicks off on the first Saturday in September in Depo club with the line-up of good old Zagreb DJs: Cet, Kiki, Mr. Dario... Hit the old factory with brand-new clubs in Radnička street. Depo is in warehouse 3. Fun is guaranteed. #katran



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