

CROATIAN NATIONAL FOLKLORE

Tonight you will enjoy a stunning program of the rich heritage of Croatian folklore. The dances, music and songs performed by the LADO ensemble from Zagreb, represent the various areas of Croatia-Istria, Slavonia, Bosnia, Dalmatia, the Croatian Litoral, Hercegovina. Each selection possesses its own charm and personality. But you will readily observe that they all have certain essential elements in common representing the cultural unity of Croatian folklore.

Folklore is, of course, an expression of a nation's total cultural and historical heritage. It is a spontaneous expression of a people's artistry. Croatian folklore obviously has nothing to do with this or that political regime that has at one time or another held power in Croatia.

Croatian folklore shows that the Croats are a distinct nation with their own rich and varied heritage. It is only natural that the Croat people demand the right to self-determination that was proclaimed half a hundred years ago by president Woodrow Wilson and reaffirmed by the Atlantic Charter of the United Nations. Today when the principle of national self-determination has been implemented in Africa and Asia, the Croat people are more determined than ever to achieve national sovereignty and statehood. The Croatian people possess all the essential prerequisites for independent statehood: a long history as a distinct people, a rich and varied culture, a population larger than that of most member nations of the United Nations, and an industrial base for economic prosperity and rapid development. The Croat people - irrespective of ideology - demand the establishment of Croat national state, within which democracy and social justice will prevail.

We welcome the Croatian ensemble LADO from Zagreb, and wish it all the succes in popularizing Croatian national culture in the United States.

For more information about Croatia write to:
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United American Croats



Location of Croatia on the European Continent.

CROATIA AT A GLANCE

LOCATION: Southeastern Europe, presently part of Yugoslavia.
AREA: 43,700 square miles [about the size of Pennsylvania].
POPULATION: 7,500,000; 40% urban, 60% rural.
RELIGION: Catholic 80%; Orthodox 25%; Moslems 13%; Others [Protestant, Jewish] 2%.
PRINCIPAL CITIES: Zagreb [pop. 500,000], Sarajevo, Osijek, Rijeka, Split, Dubrovnik, Mostar.