

Medjugorje Pilgrimage

April 2024



5 Stones

1. Prayer from the heart: Rosary
2. Eucharist
3. Holy Bible
4. Fasting
5. Monthly Confession

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Pre-trip Checklist

- Passport (must be valid 6 months after trip - until Oct 15, 2024)
- Enroll in STEP (step.state.gov/step) - Optional
- Verify flight details
- Spiritual Preparation (do what you are called to do)
 - _____ (Eg. Daily Mass, Rosary, Fast, Confession, Bible, Divine Mercy Novena)
- Notify credit card companies + bank (debit card)
 - Tell them each country you will visit (depending on your flights: Germany, France, UK, Croatia, **Bosnia & Herzegovina**)
 - Ask: Will I be charged foreign transaction fees?
 - Ask: What exchange rate will I get?
- Take pictures of documents; *Save online or with family*
 - Passport
 - Driver's license
 - Credit cards
 - Health cards
- Pack (see separate packing list)
- Install phone apps
 - Messaging App(s) — **WhatsApp**, twitter, facebook messenger, Google Voice, etc.
 - iBreviary** (for daily Mass readings, and other prayers)
 - Google Translate (install languages: Croatian, maybe Spanish, Italian, German)
 - Google Maps w/ ***Offline Maps*** for Medjugorje, Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - Airline App; Login to make sure you have access
 - Credit Card & Bank Apps; Login to check also
- Arrangements while you are gone (mail, pets, plants, etc.)
- Prepare house if nobody will be home (heat / locks / lights / etc)
- Get lots of sleep several nights before the trip!
- Remove stuff from wallet/purse that you won't need on the trip
- Check-in the 24hrs early (airline website or airline phone app)

Packing List

Packing less means less to carry/worry about. You won't need much. Check the weather for Medjugorje (sometimes Međugorje) or Čitluk (**April avg high: 65°F, avg low: 45°F**). Below is a recommended list, and a link to a bigger list (that you should not need 😊).

Check your airline carry-on / checked bag size limits. Most allow 1 Carry-on (overhead), 1 Personal Item (under seat), and sometimes free checked bags. An example of size limits (Turkish Airlines):

- **Carry-on Size:** 55cm x 40cm x 23cm (about 21.5" x 15.7" x 9") ← 17.5 lbs
- **Personal Item Size:** 40cm x 30cm x 15cm (about 15.7" x 11.8" x 6")
- **Checked Bag:** 158cm (L + W + H) (about 62") ← 50 lbs

Do not use luggage w/ batteries.

- Travel paperwork (this doc, tickets, **passport**, itinerary, insurance/medical documents, etc.)
- About 5-7 Shirts
- Socks & underwear
- 3-7 pairs of shorts / pants / dresses
- Hat (can buy there, good for shade), belt
- Shoes - comfortable for hiking on rocks
- Toiletries (travel-size liquids in **quart-sized** ziplock!)
 - Toothpaste & toothbrush
 - Shaver
 - Deodorant
 - _____
 - _____
- Reading Glasses, Sun Glasses
- Cell phone + charging cable (wifi is widely available)
- Power Adapter (optional) - **Type F** recommended, perhaps w/ USB plug for your phone
- Tech stuff, cords, chargers (headphones for plane, iPad, camera, memory cards, etc.)
- Portable FM radio w/ earphones or headphones (94.3 FM for English)**
- Vitamins (C, D3, Zinc Sulfate, etc.), Medications (bring prescriptions)
- Money (for gifts, extra food, taxis, etc) — ATMs will be available, you don't need to bring much.
- Credit Cards + ATM card (**know & test your PIN**)
- Other ideas: <https://goo.gl/zXkCHM>

Travel Tips

Below are some travel tips. It assumes you've done the pre-trip checklist and have packed already.

Before your trip

- Know your itinerary. Helps you be at the right place at the right time.
- Get lots of sleep for a few nights leading up to the trip.
- Be Early. Especially for planes, they won't wait for you.
 - **Check-in closes about 1 hr before departure — arrive at airport 3 hours early.**
- Check-in as soon as possible (**24 hr before flight**) for best seats.
- If you check a bag, assume it will be lost... pack everything you **NEED** in your carry-on.
- Pack for TSA inspection:
 - Put liquids in 1 quart-sized ziplock (max 3.4 oz including sunscreen, 1 ziplock / person). Pack w/ easy access.
 - Avoid prohibited items (no aerosols, batteries greater than 100WH, Galaxy Note 7, Walking Sticks, see TSA list)

Airport & plane flight

- Prep for security. Before the TSA checkpoint:
 - Put everything you are holding in your carry-on (belt, wallet, money, phone, hat, watch, jacket).
 - Hold your ID and ticket.
 - Unless told otherwise, place laptops, iPads separately through X-ray machine (in their own bin).
 - Read the signs and ask questions if you're not sure.
 - Don't joke about having something you shouldn't, etc. They don't have a sense of humor.
- If you are late, show ticket and ask to go to the front of the line.
- Buy food / drinks AFTER security, but BEFORE the plane (won't count as another carry-on).
 - Extra food on the airplane is limited and expensive; most flights include meals.
- Use airport restroom (nicer than the plane).
- Don't like your seats? Doesn't hurt to ask for a new one at the counter. Be nice and smile... they get yelled at a lot. 😞
- Board early. Overhead space fills up fast, if you plan to use this space board as early as possible.
- Remember to disable roaming (better yet, all cellular) on your phone, unless it's ok on your plan.
- Turn ON "airplane mode" while flying, otherwise your battery may drain *fast*.
- Noise canceling headphones. If you have them, they are amazing and make the trip much better.
- Turn off overhead air when you first sit down (exhaust blows in when the plane backs from gate).
- Many planes have USB and/or power outlets — charge your devices whenever you can.
- Sleep as much as you can. **Stand up and walk around** when you're awake on long flights.
- Drink water 💧, the altitude and the filtered air will dehydrate you. Helps jet leg.
- Know what's next. Especially if your plane is late, know what to do *before* you land.

Passport Control & Customs

When arriving in a country, typically your passport is verified and you must go through customs.

- Families should go through customs together. 1 person present all documents (passports ready).
- Don't joke about having something you shouldn't, etc. They don't have a sense of humor.
- Fill out paperwork (if any) before you get off plane, or as soon as you get it.

Arriving

- Don't forget your bags! International stops require you claim bags *before* customs.
- CONNECT TO AIRPORT WIFI (cellular should probably be off) — Messages are probably waiting for you... tell others about group messages because they probably forgot to connect.
- On connecting flights, Visit your gate before you assume you have extra time. Timezones are confusing!

Money

When should I exchange money?

There is no need to exchange money before you leave home. Doing so will likely result in a high exchange rate (expensive). Exchanging money at the airport is also expensive.

So what to do? Use USD, or get local currency during your trip from ATM's. Alternatively, you can go to a bank and exchange money — although if you have a bank card, an ATM is much more convenient. (See "How do I use foreign ATMs" below)

Can I use a Credit Card?

Sometimes. Some of the merchants in Medjugorje only accept cash. Some places will accept credit cards (rental cars, hotels, airports, some shops & restaurants, etc.)

Be sure to let your credit card company / bank know that you are on a trip, or they may decline your purchases. Also know which of your cards charge foreign transaction fees (very expensive in some cases). 3 cards that have no fees are: Citi Costco Visa, Amazon Rewards Visa, Apple Card. They also have varying travel benefits (like insurance). Check your cards to avoid unpleasant surprises. Some debit cards may also charge international fees, be sure to check with your bank.

How do I use foreign ATMs?

There will be ATMs throughout our trip (airports and even next to the St. James in Medjugorje). You can use them as normal, except you should **NOT** choose their "guaranteed" rate — this adds a large additional fee. Instead, choose to accept the exchange rate your bank will charge you. Sometimes this is phrased: "Would you like to withdraw in USD or Marks?" — **choose the local currency, NOT USD**. ATMs will usually charge an access fee \$2 - \$5, it's best to withdraw larger amounts in fewer transactions (your bank may have fees or benefits, check with your bank).

What will I need cash for?

- Gifts and Souvenirs
- Extra food or snacks (the house serves 2 meals per day, breakfast and an early dinner)
- Donations at Mass
- Taxis
- Optional Tips
- Any fees for additional activities

It's good to have some emergency money too, perhaps \$200 per person.

What else do I need to pay?

Login at VisitQueenOfPeace.com, click the circle in the top-right, then click "Balance".

Money

Bosnia-Herzegovina Convertible Mark (BAM or KM)

- 1 BAM = \$0.55
- 1 USD = 1.81 BAM



Euro (EUR) - €

- 1 EUR = \$1.08
- 1 USD = 0.92 €



Power

Croatia and Bosnia & Herzegovina (Optional, some adapters available at the house)

Type F (grounded) or Type C (ungrounded)
230V, 50Hz

www.amazon.com/dp/B079RW9WWC

Type F



Type C



Phones

Roaming charges can be expensive, especially in Croatia and Bosnia & Herzegovina. You should check with your phone provider before you leave to be sure you understand the fees. If you want to be safe, you can swap your sim card for a "prepaid sim" which turns your phone into a local phone (with a local phone number) for voice, text, and/or data. (Not recommended for most.)

WiFi is widely available (recommended). So, if you turn off cellular service and enable wifi, you will be able to use your phone for everything except SMS (text messages) and phone calls. Messaging apps work fine, *including voice and video calling apps*. See "Pre-trip Checklist" for suggested apps. **Most people will not need cell service.**

Croatia

expatincroatia.com/croatia-mobile-phone-providers

Bosnia & Herzegovina

BH Telecom — I found one in Mostar
bhtelecom.ba/en/tourist-2/tourist-offer/



A Few Things to see & do

Apparition Hill

- The **Blue Cross** is at the base (there is actually an old and a “new” blue cross). This is where Mirjana used to receive her monthly apparitions.
- The **Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious mysteries** have stations in a loop up on Apparition Hill.
- Near the top, there’s a **statue of Our Lady** marking the place where she first appeared in 1981.



Cross Mountain


- More challenging hike.
- There are stops along the hike to stop and pray each of the **stations of the cross**.
- There’s a **Cross** at the top, built to commemorate the 1900th anniversary of Jesus’s passion.

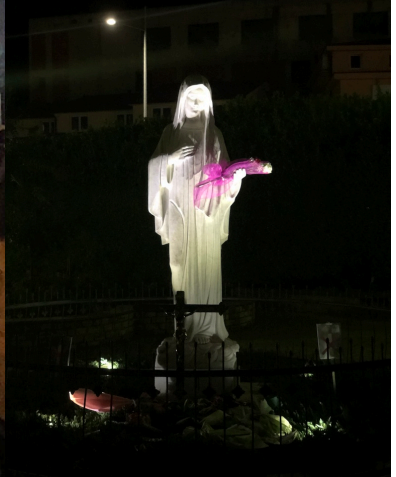


St. James

- Attend Mass
- Confession
- Adoration
- Veneration of the Cross
- Visit the statues of Mary
- Occasional special talks / events



PRAYER PROGRAM (In brackets: Summer Time)		
Morning		Holy Mass in various languages
Afternoon		Silent Adoration in the Adoration Chapel
Evening Prayer Program and Confession		5 (6) - 8 (9) pm
5 (6) pm		Rosary
6 (7) pm		Holy Mass
7 (8) - 8 (9) pm		Blessings of the religious articles, Prayer for healing of body and soul, Rosary
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament		
Tuesday and Saturday		9 (10) - 10 (11) pm
Thursday after Evening Mass		7 (8) - 8 (9) pm
Veneration of the Cross		
Friday after Evening Mass		7 (8) - 8 (9) pm
Way of the Cross on Cross Mountain		Friday 2 (4) pm
Rosary on Apparition Hill		Sunday 2 (4) pm



MONDAY

7:30am - Holy Mass in Croatian
 10am - **English Holy Mass**
 During the Day - Possible Talks from Local Priests and/or Visionaries
 Afternoon - Adoration in the Adoration Chapel

6 - 9pm - Evening Prayer Program and Confession
 6pm - Joyful and Sorrowful Mysteries
 7pm - **Holy Mass**
 8pm - Blessings of objects, Prayer for health of soul and body, Glorious Mysteries

TUESDAY

7:30am - Holy Mass in Croatian
 10am - **English Holy Mass**
 During the Day - Possible Talks from Local Priests and/or Visionaries
 Afternoon - Adoration in the Adoration Chapel

6 - 9pm - Evening Prayer Program and Confession
 6pm - Joyful and Sorrowful Mysteries
 7pm - Holy Mass & Blessings of objects, Prayer for health of soul and body, Glorious Mysteries
 8pm - **Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

WEDNESDAY

7:30am - Holy Mass in Croatian
 10am - **English Holy Mass**
 During the Day - Possible Talks from Local Priests and/or Visionaries
 Afternoon - Adoration in the Adoration Chapel

6 - 9pm - Evening Prayer Program and Confession
 6pm - Joyful and Sorrowful Mysteries
 7pm - **Holy Mass**
 8pm - Blessings of objects, Prayer for health of soul and body, Glorious Mysteries

THURSDAY

7:30am - Holy Mass in Croatian
 10am - **English Holy Mass**
 During the Day - Possible Talks from Local Priests and/or Visionaries
 Afternoon - Adoration in the Adoration Chapel

6 - 9pm - Evening Prayer Program and Confession
 6pm - Joyful and Luminous mysteries.
 7pm - Holy Mass, then Blessings of objects
 8pm - **Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

FRIDAY

7:30am - Holy Mass in Croatian
 10am - **English Holy Mass**
 During the Day - Possible Talks from Local Priests and/or Visionaries
 Afternoon - Adoration in the Adoration Chapel
 2pm - Way of the Cross ON Mount Križevac

6 - 9pm - Evening Prayer Program and Confession
 6pm - Joyful and Sorrowful Mysteries
 7pm - **Holy Mass**, then Blessings of objects
 8pm - Veneration of the Holy Cross

SATURDAY

7:30am - Holy Mass in Croatian
 10am - **English Holy Mass**
 During the Day - Possible Talks from Local Priests and/or Visionaries
 Afternoon - Adoration in the Adoration Chapel

6 - 9pm - Evening Prayer Program and Confession
 6pm - Joyful and Sorrowful Mysteries
 7pm - **Holy Mass** & Blessings of objects, Prayer for health of soul and body, Glorious Mysteries
 8pm - **Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

SUNDAYS AND FEAST DAYS

8, 11am, 6pm - Holy Mass in Croatian
 12pm - **English Holy Mass**
 Afternoon - Adoration in the Adoration Chapel
 2pm - Rosary on Apparition Hill

6 - 9pm - Evening Prayer Program and Confession
 6pm - Joyful and Sorrowful Mysteries
 7pm - **Holy Mass**
 8pm - Blessings of objects, Prayer for health of soul and body, Glorious Mysteries

Statue of the Risen Christ

- This statue sometimes produces drops from one or both knees.
- There's a path leading to the statue which has stations to pray the **Luminous Mysteries**.
- Encircling the Statue of the Risen Christ are the Stations of the Cross.

Cenacolo Community

- Community to help young people overcome addictions through faith, prayer, work, and the virtue of charity.
- medjugorjeca.org/pilgrimage-itinerary/cenacolo-community/

Shops

There are many shops to buy souvenirs throughout Medjugorje.



Food

Most of our meals will be served at the Pansion (breakfast & dinner). However, you may want to explore the various restaurants for lunch or a late-night snack / drink. The meals are inexpensive. Below are a couple restaurants (Viktor's and Sweets Crepe Cafe) that Kevin and I visited in 2018.

SALADS		€	WARM DISHES		€	DISHES TO ORDER		€	PIZZA	
SMALL mix	2,00	OMELETTE	(ham, cheese, mushrooms or vegetables, as desired)	5,00	VIKTOR'S PLATTER	10,00	MARGARITA	4,50	tomato, cheese	
LARGE mix	3,00	BACON&EGGS + french fries		5,00	MASLENICA - two persons	13,00	QUATRO FORMAGI	5,50	tomato, 4 types of cheese	
CHICKEN SALAD	6,50	HAM&EGGS + french fries		5,00	grilled steak in sour cream		VEGETALE	5,50	tomato, cheese, vegetables	
TUNA SALAD	6,50	SPAGHETTI AL'OLIO(olive oil)		3,50	pizza dough dressed in meat sauce		VESUVIO	5,50	tomato, cheese, ham	
GREEK SALAD	5,50	SPAGHETTI BOLOGNAISE(meat sauce)		5,00	LIVNO STEAK - two persons	16,00	CAPRICIOSA	5,50	tomato, cheese, ham, mushrooms	
GRILLED DISHES				4,00	rolled, grilled and roasted in vegetables and lasagne	15,00	BIANCA	5,50	butter, cheese, ham, mushrooms	
MIXED GRILL	10,00	SPAGHETTI CARBONARA(bacon,ham, cream,egg)		5,00	T-BONE STEAK	14,00	TABASCO	6,50	tomato, cheese, onion, minced meat sauce, salami	
PORK CHOPS	8,00	SPAGHETTI WITH SEA FOOD		8,00	MEXICAN STEAK in spicy sauce	11,00	AL TONNO	5,50	tomato, cheese, tuna	
BROCHETTES	8,00	MACHERONI WITH CHEESE		5,00	STUFFED STEAK	9,00	FRUTTI DI MARE	6,50	tomato, cheese, sea food	
LAMB CHOPS	10,00	RISOTTO W. SEA FOOD		8,00	SMOKED PORK STEAK	9,00	FUNGHI	5,50	tomato, cheese, mushrooms	
DOMESTIC SAUSAGES	7,00	IRISH BREAKFAST-COFFEE OR TEA (egg, fries, sausages,beans,pudding, tomato, bacon, mushrooms, toast)		6,50	BREADCRUMBED CHICKEN	8,00	HAWAII	5,50	tomato, cheese, pineapple, ham	
SEASONED DOMESTIC		VEGETABLE PLATTER (breadcrumbs cheese, boiled and grilled vegetable)		5,50	EDEN'S SPECIAL-cheese and cream in pizza dough dressed in mushrooms and cream	6,50	PAPILLON	6,50	tomato, cheese, ham, mushrooms, smoked ham, olives	
HAMBURGER	7,00	SANDWICHES				FISH				
MINCED MEAT	7,00	STEAK SANDWICH		5,50	CALAMARY	9,00	LASAGNE		6,50	(opt. Meat sauce or vegetable)
FINGERS/ČEVAPČIČI	8,00	HAM AND CHEESE, lettuce, mayonaise, tomato		2,50	FRIED COD FILET	7,50				
CHICKEN BREAST	13,00	CHICKEN SANDWICH		3,50	SALMON	10,00				
BEEFSTEAK	13,50	TUNA SANDWICH		3,50	SEA BAS	9,00				
PEPPERSTEAK	3,50	DAILY SOUP		2,50						
HAMBURGER		DAILY LOCAL MEAL		6,00						
SIDE DISHES					17% TAX INCLUDED, SIDE DISH INCLUDED					
FRENCH FRIES	2,00									
PASTA	2,00									
BOILED OR GRILLED VEGETABLES	2,00									



<p>Fitness Banana, bademi, med - Banana, almonds, honey 4.50 KM 2.30 EUR</p>	<p>Black&White Crna palačinka, bijeli krem, šlag Black pancake, white cream, whipped cream Crêpe nera, crema bianca, panna Schwarzer Pfannkuchen, weiße Kream, Sahne 4.50 KM 2.30 EUR</p>	<p>Bounty Crna palačinka, Nutella, kokos, Bounty, Čokolada, mrvica od bijele čokolade Black pancake, Nutella, coconut, Bounty, chocolate, white chocolate crumbs Crêpe nera, Nutella, coco, Bounty, cioccolato, scaglie di cioccolato bianco Schwarzer Pfannkuchen, Nutella, Kokos, Bounty, Schokolade, Schokoladestruzel 5.50 KM 2.80 EUR</p>	<p>Malina Nutella, maline, pudding vanilija Nutella, raspberries, vanilla pudding Nutella, Himbeeren, Budino alla vaniglia Nutella, Himbeer, Vanillepudding 5.50 KM 2.80 EUR</p>
<p>Jaffa Nutella, umak od naranče, Jaffa, keks Vanilla, orange sauce, Jaffa, crushed cookies Nutella, salsa all'arancia, Jaffa, biscotti tritati Nutella, Orangensauce, Jaffa Keks 5.00 KM 2.50 EUR</p>	<p>Oraško Nutella, orasi, keks, karamel Nutella, walnuts, crushed cookies, caramel Nutella, noci, biscotti tritati, caramello Nutella, Walnüsse, Keks, Karamel 5.50 KM 2.80 EUR</p>	<p>Kindr Crna palačinka, Nutella, Kinder Čokolada, Bijeli krem, Čokoladni mrvica Black pancake, Nutella, Kinder chocolate, white cream, chocolate crumbs Crêpe nera, Nutella, cioccolato Kinder, crema bianca, scaglie di cioccolato Schwarzer Pfannkuchen, Nutella, Kinder Schokolade, weiße Kreme, Schokoladestruzel 5.50 KM 2.80 EUR</p>	<p>Kindr Bueno Nutella, Kinder Bueno, bijeli krem, keks, čokoladni preljev Nutella, Kinder Bueno, white cream, crushed cookies, chocolate topping Nutella, Kinder Bueno, crema bianca, biscotti tritati, guarnizione al cioccolato Nutella, Kinder Bueno, weiße Kreme, Keks, Schokolade 5.50 KM 2.80 EUR</p>
<p>Twix Nutella, Twix, keks, karamel, čokolada Twix, crushed cookies, caramel, chocolate Twix, biscotti tritati, caramello, cioccolato Nella, Twix, Keks, Karamel, Schokolade 5.00 KM 2.50 EUR</p>	<p>Snickers Nutella, kikiriki, karamela, čokolada Nutella, peanuts, caramel, chocolate Nutella, arachidi, caramello, cioccolato Nutella, Erdnüsse, Karamel, Schokolade 5.50 KM 2.80 EUR</p>	<p>Ferrero Rocher Crna palačinka, Nutella, pečeni lješnjaci, keks, čokolada Black pancake, Nutella, baked hazelnuts, crushed cookies, chocolate Crêpe nera, Nutella, nocciole tostate, biscotti tritati, cioccolato Schwarzer Pfannkuchen, Nutella, gebackene Haselnüsse, Keks, Schokolade 5.50 KM 2.80 EUR</p>	<p>Premium sa stadoledom - with ice cream con gelato - mit Eis Nutella, banana, stadoled vanilija, karamela, kikiriki Nutella, banana, vanilla ice cream, caramel, peanuts Nutella, banana, gelato alla vaniglia, caramello, arachidi Nutella, Banane, Vanilleeis, Karamel, Erdnüsse 5.50 KM 2.80 EUR</p>
<p>Šumska vanilija, šumsko voće, šumski preljev pudding, forest berries, berry sauce ino alla vaniglia, frutti di bosco, oppo di frutti di bosco ding, Waldbeeren, Waldbeerenguss 5.00 KM 2.80 EUR</p>	<p>Raffaello Bijeli krem, bademi, keks, kokos White cream, almonds, crushed cookies, coconut Crema bianca, mandorle, biscotti tritati, cocco Weiße Kreme, Mandeln, Keks, Kokos 5.50 KM 2.80 EUR</p>	<p>DODAJTE STADOLEDOM PO VAŠEM IZBORU ADD AN ICE CREAM OF YOUR CHOICE AGGIUNGETE UN GELATO A VOSTRA SCELTA EIS IHRRER WAHL 1.50 KM 0.80 EUR</p>	
<p>Pizama keks u mlijeku, čokoladni preljev ekles in milk, chocolate topping inef latte, guarnizione al cioccolato ke in Milch, Schokolade 5.00 KM 2.50 EUR</p>			