

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINIA

CUSTOMS

Greetings:

The usual greeting is *Dobro jutro* (Good morning), *Dobar dan* (Good day), or *Dobro vecer* (Good evening). *Zdravo* (Hi) is an informal greeting usually followed by *Sta ima?* (What's up?). Friends add a kiss—once on each cheek for Bosnian Croats and Bosnian Muslims, and three times total for Bosnian Serbs.

Gestures:

Friends may wave to one another on the street. It is impolite to beckon with the index finger or shout in public.

Diet:

Devout Muslims do not eat pork.

Recreation:

On May Day (1 May), families customarily enjoy games and eat roast lamb at a picnic.

Holidays:

Public holidays include New Year's (1–2 Jan.), Day of the Republic (9 January in the RS and 1 March in the Federation), Labor Day (1–2 May), St. Vitus Day (28 June in the RS), and Statehood Day (25 Nov.)

Catholics and Protestants celebrate Christmas on 25 December, while the Orthodox celebrate on 7 January.

Muslims celebrate *Ramasan Bairam* (feast at the end of the holy month of *Ramadan*) and *Kurban Bairam* (Feast of the Sacrifice).

Christians celebrate Easter, Ascension (15 Aug.), and All Saints' Day (1 Nov.)

Jews can take a holiday on *Yom Kippur* and *Rosh Hashanah*.