

The Case



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A group of friends with young children from America arrived in Istria to visit it for the first time in January for a week. Their visit included trips to towns Rijeka and Opatija, sightseeing, meeting local people and exploring local traditions, enjoying the local food and making new friends.

Previously they were informed by their Croatian friends about the popularity of the traditional local carnival Bell ringers' pageant which takes place in January, at the time of their visit. They decided to watch the event and find out more about the local culture and traditions. They expected to have a good time, especially children, since they loved carnivals. They were looking forward to music, dancing and sweets.

However, when the Bell ringers appeared, wearing sheepskins, holding axes, running around and ringing bells, young children got scared and wanted to leave. In the end, everything went wrong and all were upset and disappointed.