



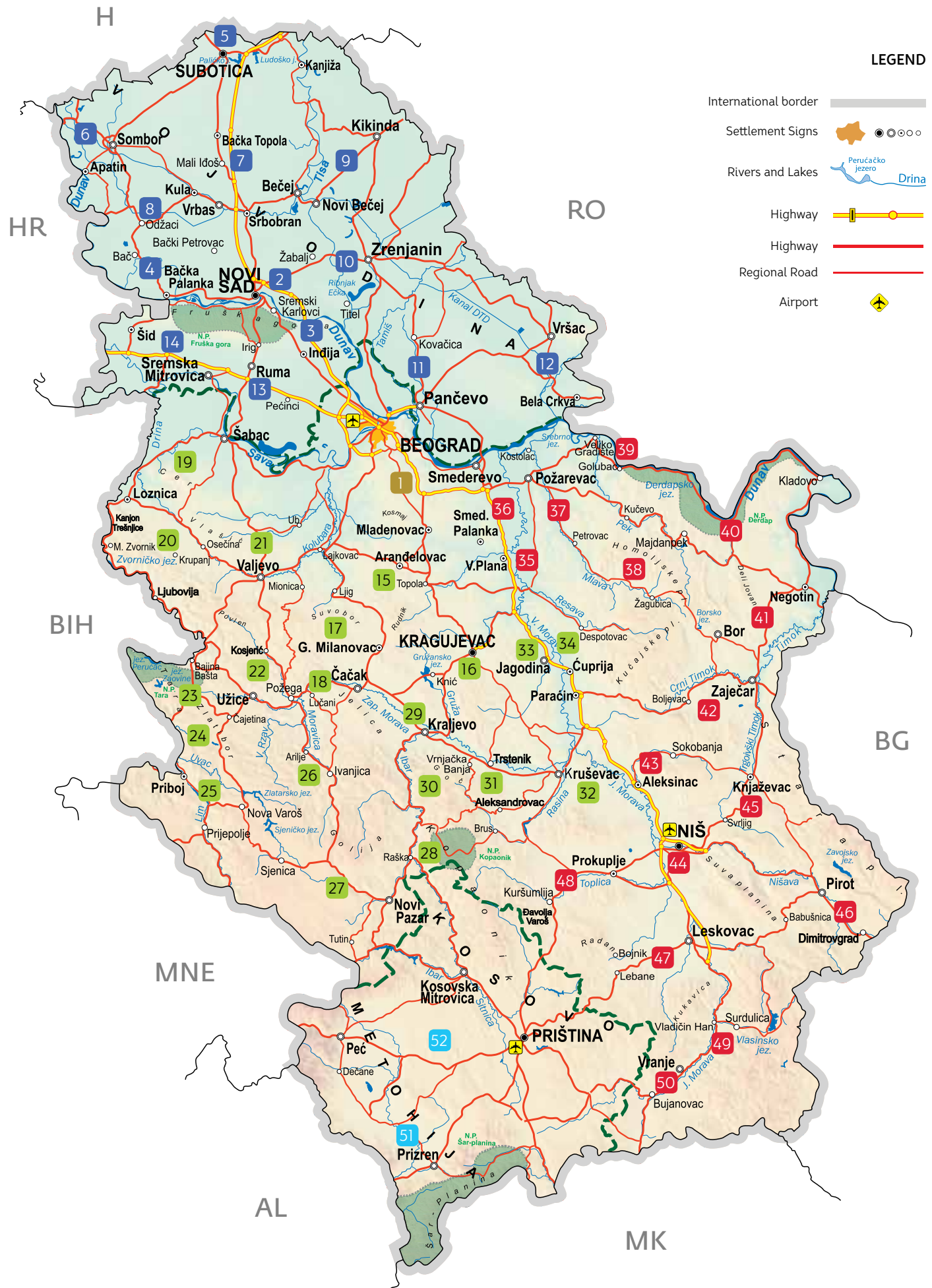
**52
WEEKENDS
IN SERBIA**



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SERBIA



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AN ENTICING METROPOLIS

IRRESISTIBLE URBAN MAGNET



Bridge on Ada

The capital city of Serbia is a gateway between the East and the West. It is a melting pot of diverse cultures that has produced a characteristic spirit of openness and cosmopolitanism. The two big rivers – the Sava and the Danube – leave a unique imprint on it, with a multitude of cultural events and venues to go out to. The city has a lot of interesting attractions and a big repository of beautiful items inside its museums, churches, streets, parks... Being exciting and dynamic, Belgrade is a strong and irresistible urban magnet.

TEN ATTRACTIONS

THE PRIMEVAL BEGINNINGS OF THE WHITE CITY

Belgrade Fortress and Kalemegdan Park are the museums of the history of the city, in the open air. Within the walls of the fort, there are a lot of monuments bearing testament to the development of the city from the ancient to the contemporary times. In the Upper City, there are: The Victor Statue – the symbol of the city, the Military Museum, the Roman Well, Ružica Church, Church of St. Paraskevi, the Clock Tower... In the Lower City, the exhibition at Nebojsa Tower as well as Belgrade Zoo are worth paying a visit to.

THE NOBLE PRINCE'S STREET

The pedestrian zone and the trading centre – Knez Mihailova Street and Republic Square – are amongst the architecturally worthiest and liveliest parts of the city. The monument dedicated to Prince Mihailo and the palace of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts are two of the most recognizable features of the core centre. There are also the edifices of the National Theatre and the National Museum. The Ethnographic Museum, Princess Ljubica's Residence, the Serbian Orthodox Church Museum, the Zepeter Museum, the Museum of Applied Arts, the Fresco Gallery as well as many other institutions of culture are located here.

THE BOHEMIAN QUARTER

There is a saying: "He who has never visited Skadarlija has never visited Belgrade, either." In that old, cobbled street, there are famous inns: Three Hats, Two Deers, Ima dana Inn, My Hat... They cherish the traditional joyful spending of time listening to the music of the old city and tasting the national cuisine. A gentleman's cane, a carnation and a boater hat are the symbols of the quarter.

LIFE ON THE RIVERS OF SAVA AND THE DANUBE

The river-bank zone of the city is its special treasure: floating river clubs, clubs, green spaces... all these offer one a unique impression



Terazije, Moscow Hotel, „Beogradanka“ Building, Slavija Square, St. Sava's Temple



Skadarlija



*Belgrade Fortress, 2-18th century,
Confluence of the Sava River into the Danube River*

of the metropolis on the water. The quay at the Confluence, Zemun Quay and the Sava River Harbour are only part of the space on the river banks, offering tourist sightseeing of the city from the rivers, going out to floating river clubs, riding bicycles, walking and watching the bridges...

ST. SAVA'S TEMPLE

One of the largest Orthodox temples in the world was built on the spacious plateau in Vracar, where – around the end of the 16th century – the Turks burnt the relics of St. Sava, the first Serbian archbishop and a great man of the national history. The temple has three galleries for choirs and can host about ten thousand people.

OLD ZEMUN

Once located on the border of the two empires, Zemun still exudes the atmosphere of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire of the past today. Gardoš Tower, offering a panoramic view of the Danube, is the symbolic landmark of this extraordinary city. Other things to do include walking along the banks of the Danube and visiting the sandy Lido Beach on the big War Island, which is Belgrade's protected natural area, is yet another pearl of the city of Zemun.

THE ROYAL COMPOUND

The Royal and White Palaces testify of the history and refined artistic feel of the Serbian Karadjordjević dynasty. Today, Heir to the Throne Alexander II lives at the Royal Palace, a showcase villa built in the Serbian-Byzantine style.

TOPČIDER PARK

The royal park, the royal church and the oriental residence of the great Serbian ruler Miloš Obrenović tell a story of the history of the liberation of Serbia from the Turks. A magnificent old plane tree is its prominent feature.



Ada Ciganlija Lake

ADA CIGANLIJA

Known locally as 'The Belgrade seaside' – a beautiful lake surrounded by woodlands, with a line of cafés, restaurants, bicycle trails and is home to the most beautiful recreational zone of the city including swimming, watersports and sailing. Ada also offers a spectacular view of the newly-erected bridge on the River Sava and a new focal point and landmark for the city.

AVALA MOUNTAIN

The Tower of Avala, located on the mountain of the same name, is yet another symbol of the city, as a testament to Belgrade rising from the ashes. Having been pulled down in the bombing by NATO in 1999, the tower was rebuilt. The belvedere on the top of the tower, enables one to have an impressive panoramic view. In the mountain of Avala, there is also the Monument of the Unknown Hero.

POINTS OF INTEREST

MEMORY OF THE WORLD

The Archive of Nikola Tesla, a scientific genius who "gave light to the planet", is inscribed on the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. The archival materials and other valuable exhibits of the scientist's inheritance are preserved at the Museum of Nikola Tesla. The uniquely illustrated and the oldest Cyrillic manuscript of Miroslav's Gospel (the 12th century), which is preserved at the National Museum in Belgrade, is yet another precious item from the list.

VINČA'S EIGHTH MILLENNIUM

One of the brightest chapters in the European prehistory was written no more than fifteen kilometers or so from Belgrade – in today's settlement of Vinča. The findings of this locality are so significant that the whole culture of the late neolith of South-east Europe was named after it – the Vinča Culture.

ENTERTAINMENT AND GASTRONOMY

Momo Kapor, a famous chronicler of the city spirit, called Belgrade a low-budget New York. Its gastronomical offer consists of cuisines from throughout the world, and the city is known as the "crowned" capital of entertainment.



INFO

Tourist Organisation of Belgrade

www.travel-belgrade.com

Museums and Sacral Heritage

Content instructions for paying a visit to the museums and sacral heritage are found at:

www.tob.rs/sr-lat/see

The must-see events

A rich offer of cultural, sporting, entertaining and tourist events and festivals can be found at: www.tob.rs/sr-lat/events_list



Knez Mihailova Street

THE MANICURED GARDEN OF CULTURES

WHERE DIFFERENCES MEET



Fortress of Petrovaradin, 17th century

In the Serbian language, the synonyms for the word sad (plantation) are: garden, yard and bed of flowers. One of the first impressions the city makes is that it is a city of well-tended beauty. Its architecture and spirit have been shaped by many a nation. Easy-going and surrounded by fertile lowland, Fruška Mountain and the Danube, the capital city of Vojvodina is a pearl amongst the Serbian cities. It is also called the 'Serbian Athens', the Danube River Gibraltar and is home to south-east Europe's largest music festival, EXIT which has earned a global reputation for its diversity and cutting-edge music.

TEN ATTRACTIONS

THE QUEEN OF BAROQUE

The Fortress of Petrovaradin, with its monumental architecture, its underground galleries and miraculous maze of tunnels, is one of the symbols of the city. From the Clock-Tower plateau, one can have a panoramic view of Novi Sad and the Danube. Within the compound, can be found the City Museum, the Planetarium, and a line of art ateliers.

PETROVARADIAN TOWN

The Lower Town of the Fortress, with its narrow streets and baroque edifices provides a very different ambience. Amongst the prominent constructions, there are: the Monastery of St. Juraj, the Belgrade Gate, the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, the City Hall, the Military Hospital, the house where Viceroy Jelačić was born.

THE SQUARE OF FREEDOM

The city centre is dominated by the edifice of the City Hall, the catholic Cathedral of Mary's Name and the monument of Svetozar Miletić. Next to the Cathedral, in the churchyard, there is a valuable edifice of "Plava banija" (Eng. Blue Banovina) and also the City Cultural Centre.

UNCLE JOVA ZMAJ'S ZONE

Zmaj Jovina and Dunavska streets, with the houses' and palaces' facades of different colours, a network of side streets and passages, represent the most picturesque part of the pedestrian zone of the city. There is also the Bishop's Palace, the Orthodox Cathedral Church of St. George and Zmaj Jova High School. The green island of the city - the Danube River Park - continues to Dunavska Street. On the very brim of the park, there is the Museum of Vojvodina; the Museum of Contemporary Art and Permanent Natural History Exhibition are in its vicinity.



Church of Mary's Name



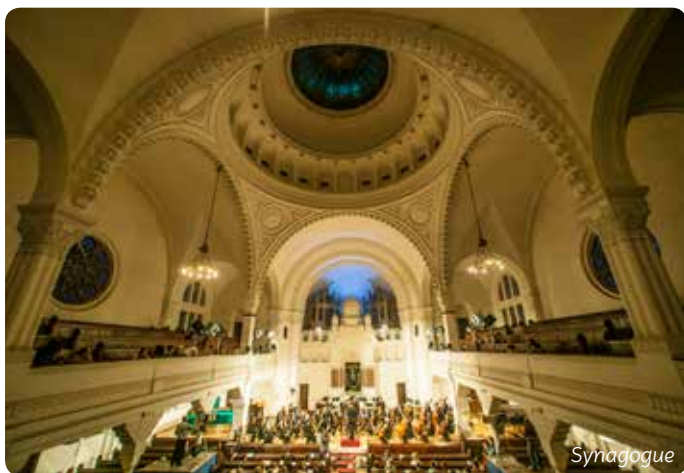
Square of Freedom

MARIJA TRANDAFIL SQUARE

At the square named after great benefactress Marija Popović Trandafil, there is her legacy building serving as the principal seat of Matica Srpska, which is the oldest Serbian cultural institution. Matica Srpska is home to three million books, manuscripts, chronicles, collections of works... and an extraordinary collection of portraits of famous citizens, amongst which is the portrait of Marija Trandafil. In the very vicinity, there are the famous Nikolajevska and Almaška churches.

GALLERY SQUARE

Located at this small square, there are three precious gems of the city one next to another: Matica Srpska Gallery, the Pavle Beljanski Memorial Collection and the Rajko Mamuzić Gift Collection. At the Matica Srpska Gallery, there is an exhibition of national art dating from the 16th to the 20th centuries. Pavle Beljanski, a diplomat and passionate art collector, gifted the nation one of the most significant collections of the Serbian paintings in the first half of the 20th century, and collector Rajko Mamuzić gave as a gift the works of the first post-war generation of artists.



JEWISH STREET

The Synagogue of extraordinary beauty serves to remind us of the large Jewish congregation, who tragically died in the Second World War. Today, the Synagogue is an elite city concert hall. There are special tourist programmes designed to make tourists familiar with the rich heritage of the Jews of Novi Sad. The new edifice of the Serbian National Theatre is also located in Jewish Street and today is a Theatre Square.

LAZA TELEČKI'S STREET

The street of cafes and clubs, which is named after a great Serbian actor - Laza Telečki, has become synonymous for good entertainment. The 'L.T. Zone' is a popular meeting and entertainment place to experience the city's nightlife.

THE DANUBE RIVER PEARLS

The city prides in its Strand, a well-arranged sandy beach with a view of the Bridge of Freedom. Facing the beach, there is a green oasis of the Fishermen's Island - the point where those who enjoy fishing and navigating come. The quay with a view of the Fortress is the urbanized part of the bank. At the quay there is also one of the symbols of the city - "Family" monument, memory to the World War Two civil victims.

FRUŠKA MOUNTAIN'S TREASURES

The Fruška Mountain National Park is a city resort where people like to go and relax and take in the scenic beauty. Although the majority of the monasteries in Fruška Mountain are situated on the territories of other municipalities, Novi Sad is the centre from which to sightsee at the "Northern Holy Mountain". On the northern slopes of the National Park, the nearby monasteries of Beočin and Rakovac, as well as a monastery on the territory of the city - Kovilj, are worth paying a visit too.



BAČKA LUNCH - GASTRONOMICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Apart from a selection of international menus, the gastronomical "story" of the region of Bačka is connected with the Danube csarda restaurants and its farms. At csarda restaurants, river fish and fish soups are prepared. On farms, a Bačka lunch is eaten slowly and easily. To begin with, the menu offers you quince brandy, followed by soup and cooked meat and vegetables topped with sauce, then the main dish, and finally, poppy strudel, dumplings, pumpkin pies... There are also dishes prepared with the famous cabbage of Futog. To accompany such dishes from the menu, there is a wide choice of wines produced on the wine-growing hills of Fruška Mountain.

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Music Festivals of Novi Sad - NOMUS, April
- Sterijino pozorje Festival, May-June, Serbian National Theatre
- EXIT Music Festival, July, Petrovaradin Fortress
- Cinema City - International Film Festival, August-September
- International Festival of Street Music Players - IFUS, September
- Futog Cabbage Festival, November, Futog

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Novi Sad

www.novisad.travel



3. SREMSKI KARLOVCI, INĐIJA

A GLORIOUS CULTURAL CENTRE

WINE-GROWING HILLS ON THE DANUBE RIVER BANKS

SIGHTSEEING

- The Bishop's Palace and the Orthodox Cathedral Church
- The High School of Karlovci, the oldest one in Serbia
- The "Four Lions" Fountain and the Chapel of Peace
- The "Živanović" Bee Growing Museum
- Indjija's Urban Core and the Pedestrian Zone

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- A glass of Bermet or Riesling
- A form cake with white coffee and honey
- Fish specialties at the Danube River csarda restaurants



Wine Route, Fruška Gora

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Sailing the waters of the Danube from Čortanovci to the Tisa Confluence
- Researching Fruška Mountain's roads of wine
- Paying visits to the Danube csarda restaurants and farms
- A bike ride along the EuroVelo 6 cycling route
- Hiking and trekking or driving on a jeep around Fruška Mountain

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Grape picking in Karlovci, September-October
- The Golden Small Kettle, August, Beška
- The Days of the Vojvodina-Bavarian Culture – Beška Fest, September

POINTS OF INTEREST

ELEGIAC ROMANTICIST

A great poet of the Serbian poetry, Branko Radičević, who died young, was buried in Stražilovo, a well-liked tourist resort today. Each autumn, Branko's tomb is paid a visit to by the participants in the "Branko's Round Dance" (Brankovo kolo) Poetry Encounters.

WINE FROM THE TITANIC

Bermet, dessert wine prepared with medicinal herbs, is the trademark of Karlovci. The Viennese Court released wine-growers of Karlovci from compulsory military service because of the quality of their wines. Bermet was also offered on the wine card of the ill-fated Titanic Ship.

SIP OF FATE

According to the legend, he who drinks the water of the "Four Lions" Fountain will return to Karlovci and get married there.

JOURNEY INTO THE PAST

The ethno house in Maradik is about 150 years old. Walking through the authentic ethno-collection, visitors will learn about the life people live in that part of Srem.



Monument to Branko Radičević, Stražilovo

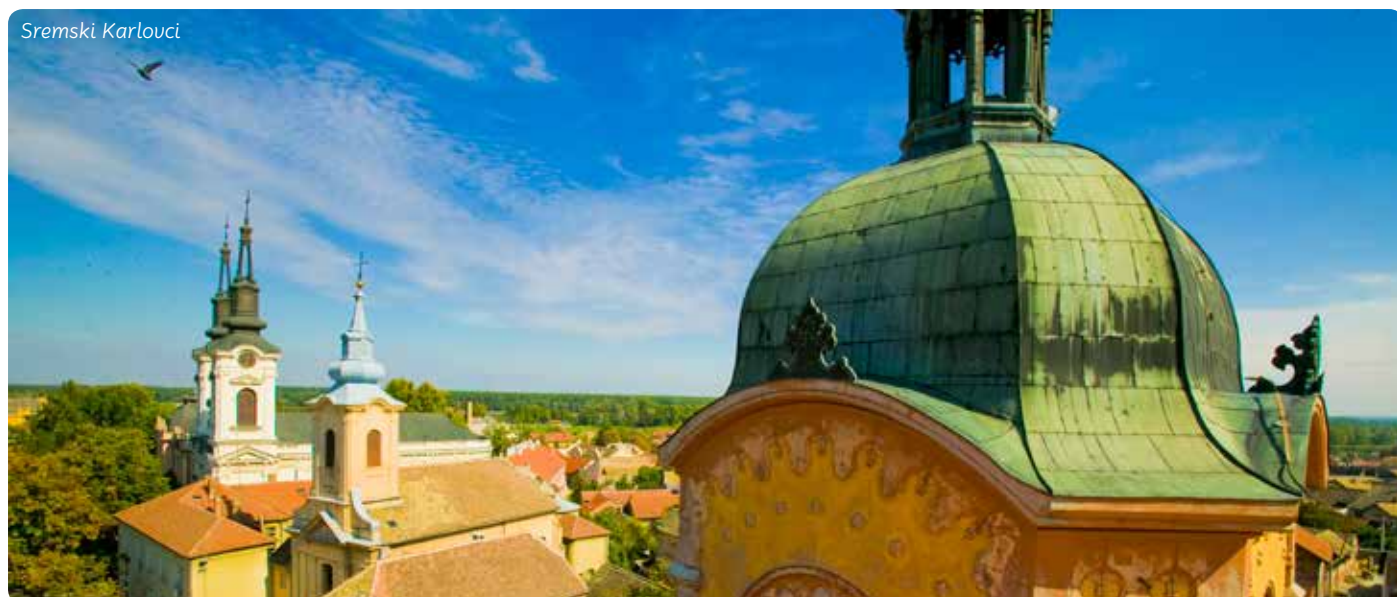
INFO

Sremski Karlovci

www.karlovci.org.rs

Tourist Organisation of Indjija

www.indjija-tourism.com



Sremski Karlovci

4. BAČ, BAČKI PETROVAC, BAČKA PALANKA

THE WORLD OF LACE SKIRTS AND HOUSES PALACES AND PARKS IN THE FIELDS OF HOP



SIGHTSEEING

- The fortress of Bač
- The Franciscan Monastery
- Bodjani Monastery
- The Palace and the Agricultural Museum, Kulpin
- Dundjerski Palace and Park, Čelarevo
- County Home, Bački Petrovac



LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Fish specialties prepared at the csarda restaurants of Bač
- Paprika-flavored sausage with cherry compote
- A glass of Kulpin wine

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- A bicycle ride along the EuroVelo 6 route and on local paths
- A weekend at the Petrolend Aqua Park
- Boat rides on the channels and rivers
- Horse-riding and hunting pheasants at Karadjordjevo
- Old craft workshops at Didina House and Ahoj Centre

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Paprika-flavored Sausage Festival, May, Bački Petrovac
- International Festival of Wedding Customs, July, Kulpin



POINTS OF INTEREST:

THE WATER TOWN

The largest region in Vojvodina is named after the fortress in Bač - a powerful fortification in the meander of the Mostonga river. Known as a "water town", it was built by the Hungarian King Carlo Robert (14th century). In that period, Bač was a strong military, cultural and ecclesiastical foothold.

THE STRATIMIROVIĆ AND DUNDJERSKI FAMILIES

The Palace at Kulpin belonged to a famous noble Stratimirović family. Later, their estate came in possession of the Dundjerski family. Today, the palace is an exhibition gallery, with the Museum of Agriculture in the barnyard. The Dundjerski family also had a palace in nearby Čelarevo. One of the most beautiful Serbian love poems Santa Marija della Salute was inspired by an encounter at the palace.

DRAGON'S FIRE AND BROOMS

The paprika-flavored sausage of Bač is also called a "dragon's sausage" given its hot and spicy taste. The secret recipe has been conveyed from one generation to another, and more recently, it has been protected by a seal of the geographical origin. People of Petrovac are well-known throughout Europe for their brooms. Ladies who visit an exhibition of brooms at the Museum of Agriculture can obtain a certificate that they are not witches.

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Bač

www.turizambac.com

Tourist Organisation of Bački Petrovac

www.turizambackipetrovac.com

Tourist Organisation of Bačka Palanka

www.toobap.rs

SECESSION AND FARMS

A PICTURESQUE MIXTURE OF NATIONS AND CULTURES



Synagogue, Subotica

SIGHTSEEING

- The symbol of Subotica – Town Hall in the secession style
- A synagogue of extraordinary beauty and the Rajhl Palace
- The symbol of Palić – the Park and the Water Tower
- Palić Lake and the Zoo
- The Town Hall and the Firefighter's Station in Senta
- The House of old crafts in Senta

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Specialties of ethno-farms and csarda restaurants
- Wines from sand and fruit brandies
- Veal, sheep and rooster-meat porkolt



Lake of Palić

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Aqua sport and cycling around Palić
- An ecological Tour on Ludaš Lake
- Riding Lippizaner horses at Kelebija Horse Stable
- The wellness programme in Kanjiža Spa
- Paying visits to wine cellars and farms

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- European Film Festival, July, Palić.
- Celebration of the End of Reap – "Dužijanča", end of August, Subotica

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE FLOURISHING RIVER

Every June, the Tisa is covered with clouds of whitish butterflies. The Flower of the Tisa is a rather old and rare sort of the river butterfly, which spends its short "wedding flight" fluttering just above the river surface. One can enjoy watching that unusual phenomenon from the Flower of the Tisa Promenade at the exit of Kanjiža.

MAGNIFICANT BATTLE OF SENTA

As part of the tower of the town hall of Senta, in remembrance of the crucial battle fought between the Ottoman Empire and the Habsburg Monarchy (1697), visitors can see a scale model demonstrating the battle of Senta with 2,000 figures.

THE MIRACULOUS WELL

Kanjiža Spa was built thanks to shepherds who, while digging a well, accidentally discovered hot medicinal water. Today, the spa is a modern centre for rehabilitation and recreation.



Floral Farm, Palić

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Subotica
www.visitsubotica.rs

Tourist Organisation of Kanjiža
www.visit.kanjiza.rs

Tourist Organisation of Senta
www.senta.info.org

6. SOMBOR, APATIN

PAINTERS AND FISHERMEN

RAVANGRAD AND NAUTICAL HARBOUR OF THE DANUBE

SIGHTSEEING

- The symbol of Sombor – Town Hall
- St. Trinity Square and the green-park paths of the town
- The "Battle of Senta" monumental oil painting
- Milan Konjović and Sava Stojkov galleries
- Sombor's Painters' Studio at Pasha's Tower
- The building of the oldest Serbian brewery in Apatin

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Sombor Cheese in small tubs
- Fishermen's fish pots
- A pint of Apatinsko beer



Županija Assembly Building, Sombor

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Driving on a hackney carriage around Sombor and listening to the music played by tambura players
- Visiting farms and csarda restaurants on the Danube
- Hunting and fishing in the Upper Danube River Basin reeds
- Eco-safaris and bird watching
- Nautical tourism
- Rest and recreation at Spa Junaković

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Fishermen's Nights of Apatin, July
- TID – Canoe Regatta, Apatin Marina, July
- Ravangrad Wine Fest, December



POINTS OF INTEREST

BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF SOMBOR

The drawing of the town from the bird's eye view is a master piece of architect Branislav Jovin. With his "more than one million rapidograph pen lines", Jovin authentically presented around 15,000 buildings and the dense tree-lines of the town. It is exhibited at the Županija Assembly Building.

DAMASK WEAVING MILL AND SHIP LOCK

The silk damask weaving mill in Bezdán is a cultural good under the protection of the state and is the only one in Serbia. The Ship Lock near Bezdán (1856), designed by Ferenc Mihalik, who was the first in Europe to have applied concrete to construct objects on the water, is also worth paying attention to. The New International Marina and the quayside for the white fleet in Apatin are also impressive.

WHITE-TAILED EAGLE AND BLACK STORK

The Upper Danube River Basin Special Reserve of Nature is an "island" of preserved nature. It is home to the white-tailed eagle, the largest to be found in Europe, and the rare species of the black stork. This area, with more than 280 species of birds, is an ideal place for nature lovers and bird watchers.

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Sombor
www.visitsombor.org.rs

Tourist Organisation of Apatin
www.apatin.org.rs



Grains, Milan Konjović, 1938, detail

NOBLEMEN AND BLACKSMITHS

THE LOWLAND IN THE NETWORK OF RIVERS AND LAKES



Great Channel, Srbobran

SIGHTSEEING

- Kraja Pala Castle – the Town Museum today, Bačka Topola
- The magnificent Cathedral of Virgin Mary, Bačka Topola
- The County Pannonian House, Bačka Topola
- The cart-wright's and blacksmith's workshop, and the Museum of Millers' Trade
- The Church of St. Epiphany, Srbobran
- The Church of the Elevation of the Holy Cross, Srbobran

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Turija sausages
- Cherry brandy and Feketić wines
- Game specialties

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Horse-riding at Zobnatica
- Visiting autochthonous farms in the region of Srbobran
- The educational contents of the Katai farm in Mali Idjoš
- Hunting rabbits, pheasants and game in rich hunting preserves
- Fishing

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Sausage Festival, February, Turija
- Domboš Fest, July, Mali Idjoš
- Zobnatica Equestrian Games, September



Katai Farm, Mali Idjoš

POINTS OF INTEREST

HORSE-BREEDING MUSEUM

The Zobnatica horse-breeding stable has a tradition longer than two centuries. Within the compound, there is a unique exhibition of the Horse-breeding and Equestrian Sport Museum, whose interior is shaped in that of a horseshoe. Zobnatica also has a modern hippodrome.

HEART OF A NOBLEMAN

In the baroque Castle of Baron Pal, there is the County Museum of Bačka Topola today. Inside his estate, a marvelous cathedral was built, being the second highest one in Europe. As an artillery general, the baron died in Pest, and his heart was brought from the battlefield in a silver box and buried in the Cathedral.

COUNT'S ESTATE

The "Pannonia" Palace near Bajša (1846) was built by Count Arpad Falcione. Today, it is a museum with authentic style furniture. The edifice is surrounded by a spacious well-tended park.



Zobnatica Horse-breeding Stables

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Bačka Topola
www.backatopola.org.rs

Tourist Organisation of Mali Idjoš
www.tourism-mi.org.rs

Centre for Sport and Tourism of Srbobran
www.cst.org.rs

8. VRBAS, KULA, ODŽACI

INDUSTRIAL RISE OF THE 19TH CENTURY

HEMP, HATS AND MAGNIFICENT CHANNELS

SIGHTSEEING

- The symbol of Vrbas – the Evangelical and Reformed Churches
- The Church of the Presentation of Virgin Mary and the "Water" Chapel
- Industrialists' old villas
- The "Bapa's Base" Ethno-house
- The Neolithic Red-haired Goddess, the Odžaci collection of archeological findings
- The Cord and Cordage Factory, Odžaci
- The Lock and the Mill in Mali Stapar

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Chicken and fish paprikash
- Fish pot in Sava's Village (Savino Selo)
- Russian specialties in Russian Krstur (Ruski Krstur)



Lalić, Odžaci

POINTS OF INTEREST:

NOBLE VISIONARY

In the centre of Vrbas, a monument was built to Kiss József, "a noble Hungarian" and who built the Great Channel of Bač (18th century). A feat of engineering and construction, the works transformed the swamps into fertile arable land. The channel was hand-dug and is 118 kilometers in length.

CAPITAL OF HEMP

The history of Odžaci is incomplete without mentioning hemp. The initiator of its growing was Baron Kotman (18th century). Once, he reported to Vienna that the hemp of this region was of an exceptional quality. Soon after that, Odžaci became the capital of hemp, and its fame was also dissipated by the British Navy.

THE BEAUTY OF BAČKA

The Jegrička River is a small river of 64 kilometers in length. The Park of Nature spreads alongside its banks, and covers Bačka Palanka, Vrbas, Temerin and Žabalj. Its banks are known for the "carpets" of white water lilies. One of the prominent features is also the Windmill in Ravno Selo, surrounded by a beautiful botanical garden.

A TOWN OF CRAFTS AND SUGAR

As early as at the beginning of the 19th century, there were guilds of tailors, shoemakers, weavers... The town was for a long time known for its hat factory, and the history of the sugar factory is steeped in tradition.



Red-haired Goddess, Starčevo culture 6300–5300 B.C.

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Nautical tourism on the Danube River and the river's channels
- Cycling along the EuroVelo 6 bicycle route
- Hunting rabbits and wild pigs
- Sport fishing on the Odžak channels

INFO

Municipality of Vrbas
www.turizamurbas.com

Municipality of Kula
www.kula.rs

Tourist Organisation of Odžaci
www.turizamodzaci.rs



Festival of Tambura Players, Deronje

IMPRINT OF THE THERESIAN EPOCH

CEREALS, CLAY AND THE RIVER TISA'S BANKS



Fantast Castle, Bečej

SIGHTSEEING

- The town centre and its Town Hall, Kikinda
- The collection of archeological findings and the Museum inside the Kurija edifice
- St. Nicholas' Church with its Solar Clock
- The Horse Mill – Stara Suvača
- The Bečej Square edifices: the Scone (Pogača) and the Windmill (Vetrenjača)
- Eiffel's Lock in New Bečej

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- White bread, rolls and strudels
- Banat's "slow breakfast"
- Goose specialties and chicken paprikash

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- A weekend at the "Fantast" Palace and horse-riding
- A boat ride on Bečej's quay on the Tisa River
- Bird watching on the Pasture grounds of the big bustard and Slano Kopovo
- A weekend at Arača next to the Benedictine Abbey
- Paying a visit to ethno-households and county collections

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Pumpkin Days, October, Kikinda
- The Assumption of the Virgin Mary Days, August, New Bečej
- Easter Egg Tapping, Mokrin
- The World Championship in Gander Fighting, February, Mokrin



Slano Kopovo

POINTS OF INTEREST

A DREAM PALACE

Bogdan Dundjerski, a large estate owner and horse lover, made his dreams come true by having built an edifice as if from a fairy tale. He was a friend of known painter Uroš Predić, who painted the valuable iconostasis of the palace chapel. Today, it is a luxurious hotel – the Fantast Hotel, with a horse stables.

MAMMOTH KIKA

In the clay pit of the roofing-tiles factory, a huge skeleton of a mammoth, dating back more than 500,000 years, was found. The mammoth of Kikinda was named Kika and is a unique tourist attraction. The original-size replica is exhibited in the museum yard.

BREAD FLOUR AND CLAY

The archives testify that the Viennese Court used exclusively flour from Kikinda. The Danfil's label from 1885 has five golden medals, won at fairs around the world. Clay of an exceptional quality "brought" the "Terra" International Terracotta Sculpture Symposium to Kikinda. Today, there is a collection of more than 1,500 terracotta sculptures.



Mammoth, National Museum, Kikinda

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Kikinda
www.kikinda-turiyam.rs

Tourist Organisation of Bečej
www.tobecej.com

Municipality of New Bečej
www.novibecej.rs

10. ZRENJANIN, TITEL, ŽABALJ

REFINEMENT AND POWER

THE BEAUTIES OF URBAN CONTINUITY

SIGHTSEEING

- The Town Hall and the Town Garden
- The Cathedral of St. Ivan of Nepomuk
- The edifice of and exhibition at the National Museum of Zrenjanin
- The pedestrian zone, the town palaces and bridges of the Begej River
- St. Nicholas' Church in Žabalj

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- A pint or a glass of beer
- A sweet morsel: dumplings and batter-dumplings
- Banat-specific "slow" lunch accompanied by tambura players



Town Hall, Zrenjanin

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- A weekend at the Ečka Hunting Castle
- Wellness programme and walk through the wood in Spa Rusanda
- An Eco-safari in the "Old Begej - Carska bara" reserve of nature
- Paying a visit to the "Tiganjica" ethno-compound
- High-class golf on the courts in Žabalj
- Angling and boating on the Old Tisa River

THE MUST-SEE EVENT

- Beer Days, August, Zrenjanin

POINTS OF INTEREST:

THE RIVER THAT GAVE SHAPE TO THE TOWN

Zrenjanin, once known as Beckserek, is a town built on urban thought: the winding meanders of the Begej River were the basis for shaping of the town's streets. The old core and the pedestrian zone consist of a set of attractive edifices, erected for the most part during the 19th century and at the beginning of the last century.

BEER RUNNING THROUGH THE VEINS

Sebastijan Krajcezen, a beer producer from Bavaria, opened the first beer production workshop in Beckserek in 1745. Since then, the life lived by the brewery has been imbuing with the life lived by the town.

FRANZ LISZT IN EČKA

With great pomp, Lazar Agošton opened his hunting castle in 1820. At the ball organised for aristocrats of Vienna and Pest, Franz Liszt - a child prodigy at that time - played. Hungarian and Serbian heirs-to-the-throne used to come to the Castle to go hunting there. Today, the hunting castle is an exclusive hotel.



Kaštel Castle, Ečka

INFO

Tourist Centre of Zrenjanin
www.visitzrenjanin.com

Tourist Organisation of Žabalj
www.zabalj-tourism.org

Public Enterprise "Titel Hill"
www.titelskibreg.com



Golf, Žabalj

INDUSTRIAL GIANT AND NAÏVE ART

THE LANDSCAPE OF TOWERS AND PAINTERS OF THE LOWLAND



Tamiš River, Pančevo

SIGHTSEEING

- The old town core
- The monastery and church of St. Carlo Borromeo
- The Church and Repository of St. Transfiguration
- Vojlovica Monastery
- Naive Painting Galleries and Ateliers, Kovačica
- Mihajlo Pupin's native home, Idvor

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Fish specialties on the Tamish River quay
- Specialties based upon Slovakian cuisine
- Bacon and ham from Banat

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Canoeing and boating on the Tamish river
- Cycling on the paths alongside the river
- Angling on the lakes of Debeljača
- Horse-riding at the "One Hundred Poplar-trees" Centre in Crepaža

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Pančevo Carnival, June
- October in Kovačica



Pančevo quay

POINTS OF INTEREST

GENEROUS GREAT MAN

The big industrialist and benefactor, Djordje Weifert held on to the following principle: "One should be giving in order to enable him- or herself to acquire something again." In his native town of Pančevo, he raised Ana's Church and an edifice at the Catholic cemetery. The Weifert Brewery, the Red Warehouse, and the two lighthouses at the Tamish and Danube river confluence are part of the valuable industrial heritage of the town.

STARČEVO CULTURE

The findings discovered at the "Starčevo Town" archeological site are so significant that the whole culture of the later Neolith in the Central Balkans was named as "Starčevo" culture. The ceramic pieces painted in white, black and red are a part of its special feature.

METROPOLIS OF NAÏVE ART

Kovačica is a small internationally famous Slovakian settlement. The originators of naive painting, namely Paluska and Sokol, only to be followed by Halupova, Jona and others, created a special kind of aesthetics, which amazed the world. The workshop where violins used to be produced and the naive art gallery in the nearby Romanian village of Uzdin are also worth paying a visit to.

FROM PASTURES TO THE MAN OF SCIENCE

World renowned physicist Mihajlo Pupin was born in Idvor. The museum compound dedicated to him consists of the three parts: the museum, the native house and the legacy.



Naive Art Gallery of Kovačica

INFO

Municipality of Pančevo

www.pancevo.info

Tourist Organisation of Kovačica

www.took.org.rs

BAROQUE AND WINE

BEAUTIFUL SMALL TOWNS IN SLOW RHYTHM



Triptych of Vršac, Paja Jovanović, 1896, detail

SIGHTSEEING

- The main square and the pedestrian zone
- The bishop's residence – "Bishop's Palace"
- St. Gerhard Cathedral
- The "Pharmacy on the Stairs" Museum and Paja Jovanović's paintings
- The symbol of the town – The Tower of Vršac
- Paying a visit to the town core of Bela Crkva
- Memorial Room of Russian Cadets, Bela Crkva

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Wine tasting at the wine cellars in Vršac
- Lunch "with a view" of Vršac Hill
- A juicy morsel – the apple of Bela Crkva

Cathedral of Vršac, 19th century



ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Mountaineering and mountain-biking in the mountains of Vršac
- Diving and sailing on the lakes of Bela Crkva
- Paying a visit to the "wine village" of Gudurica
- Cycling around the Sands of Deliblato along the EuroVelo6 route
- Eco-outings to the Drying Facility in Staž

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Grapes Picking Days – the Grapes Ball, September, Vršac.
- The Flower Carnival, June, Bela Crkva

POINTS OF INTEREST

A TOWN UNDER A TOWER

The Hill of Vršac rises above the town, and is dominated by the Tower of Vršac (15th century). From the hill and the belvedere of the tower, one can clearly see the wide open spaces of the wine-growing hills of Vršac.

COMEDY WRITER AND GREAT POET

Jovan Sterija Popović, born in Vršac, was a great comedy writer and he who created Serbian drama. Vršac is also the native town of one of the greatest Serbian and world poets – Vasko Popa. The "Following the Footsteps of the Culture of Vršac" programme includes visiting Sterija's house.

CURIOUS WINDOWS

The Baroque style architecture of the towns of Vršac and Bela Crkva is known for its so-called "kibic fensters" i.e. specially designed windows protruding on to the street, from which young ladies of that time discretely observed what was going on in the outside world.

LAKES AND THE EUROPEAN SAHARA

The six clean lakes of Bela Crkva attract the attention of those who desire to relax on urban and completely wild isolated beaches. Not too far away from the town, there is a special reserve of nature called "The Sands of Deliblato". The sand-dunes stretch up to 200 metres in height, so that this miraculous area is frequently referred to as the 'European Sahara'.



INFO

Tourist Organisation of Vršac
www.to.vrsac.com

Tourist Organisation of Bela Crkva
www.belacrkvato.org

VINEYARDS AND BAROQUE MONASTERIES

THE GIFTS AND TREASURES OF FRUŠKA MOUNTAIN



Monastery of Krušedol, 16th century, Fruška Mountain

SIGHTSEEING

- Visiting the monasteries of Fruška Mountain
- The exhibition of the history of Srem, the County Museum, Ruma
- The Serbian Museum of Bread, Pećinci
- The remains of the royal town of Kupinik

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Fruška Mountain wines and grape brandy
- The wine-keeper's meal – "pudar paprikash"
- Hams and sausages produced in Srem



ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Mountaineering and cycling on the paths of the National Park of Fruška Mountain
- Discovering the "Wine Routes of Fruška Mountain"
- A spa weekend at Spa Vrdnik
- Bird-watching and canoeing in the Obedska bara nature reserve

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Days of "Pudars"-Keepers of Vineyards, September, Irig
- The Ruma Fair, monthly throughout the year

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE 'ATHOS' OF FRUŠKA MOUNTAIN

There are seventeen orthodox monasteries in Fruška Mountain, raised between the 15th and the 18th centuries. For this reason, the area is known as the Northern Holy Mountain. In the surroundings of Irig, there are eight exceptional monastery compounds: Vrdnička Ravanica, Grgeteg, Krušedol, Velika and Mala Remeta, Staro and Novo Hopovo, Jazak. Each monastery represents a place as a testament to the revival of the Serbs in the late Middle Ages.

A GRAIN OF WHEAT

Painter Jeremija dedicated his whole life to the studying of ceremonial breads. His fruitful dedication resulted in a museum which demonstrates the transformation of a grain of wheat that through sacrificial bread reaches the firmament.

THE LAST MEDIEVAL METROPOLIS

In the village of Kupinovo near Pećinci, there are the remains of Kupinik, the royal town of Despot Lazarević, Djurdj Branković and his successors.

STATUES – A MONUMENT TO A SERIOUS DISEASE

On the road between Irig and Ruma, at the point where the plague was stopped, a unique monument was built! Irig, whose population was even bigger in number than Belgrade then, was decimated by an epidemic! As a token of gratitude, the citizens of Ruma who survived it built the monument.



Museum of Bread, Pećinci

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Irig

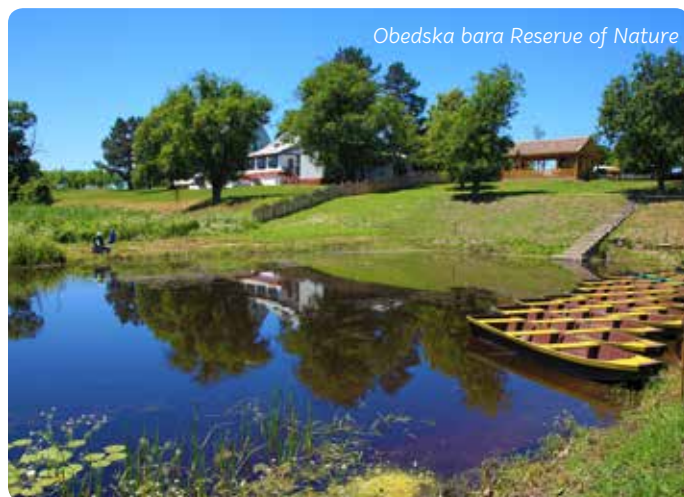
www.turorgirig.org.rs

Tourist Organisation of Ruma

www.rumatourism.com

Municipality of Pećinci

www.pecinci.org



Obedska bara Reserve of Nature

THE BRIGHTNESS OF SREM

BETWEEN THE BEAUTIFUL SAVA RIVER AND FRUŠKA MOUNTAIN



Sirmium, 1st century, Visitor Center, Sremska Mitrovica

SIGHTSEEING

- The Imperial Palace visitor centre
- The Square of Grains and the pedestrian zone of the town
- The collections of the Museum of Srem
- The monasteries of Kuveždin, Petkovića, Šišatovac and Bešenovo
- Sava Šumanović Gallery, Šid
- The bishop's residence, "The Russian Palace", Šid
- The monasteries of Berkasovo, Privina glava (Priva's Head Monastery) and Djipša (Divša)
- The Sarmian Front Memorial Complex, Adaševci

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Sarmian cheese and sausages
- Specialties prepared from low-fat pork of mangalitsa
- A glass of wine produced in Erdevik



Autumn Road, Sava Šumanović, 1941, detail

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Boating in Zasavica and bird watching
- Swimming in the Sava river in Sremska Mitrovica
- Resting in the village houses of Mačva and Srem
- Discovering the Sarmian wine routes
- Hunting in the forests around the village of Morovića

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Rhetoric Festival, August, Sremska Mitrovica
- The Sausage Festival of Srem, February, Šid

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE PALACE AND THE SOLAR CLOCK

What is a small town today, used to be one of the four capital cities of the late Roman Empire, with a population of over one hundred thousand people! The most significant edifice of ancient Sirmium is the Imperial Palace. Today, its luxuriousness is evidenced by fragments of frescoes, mosaics and stone plastics. At the lapidarium of the Museum of Srem, the unique sculpture of Atlas, Hercules and Iphicles with a solar clock is exhibited.

MURALS OF ANCIENT TIMES

Mitrovica is known as a town of murals. The "Esnaf" Association of Artists breathed life into the scenes of the famous Sirmium.

THE PAINTER OF THE BRIGHTNESS OF SREM

Sava Šumanović is a great Serbian painter of the first half of the 20th century. He spent his young days and the last years of his life in the town of Šid. He marveled at the landscapes and brightness of the lowlands and painted them in an impressive range of brilliant colours. Šumanović's second best liked theme was the female nude. His paintings belonging to the Ladies from Šid collection are famous in the region.

THE SWIMMING DOG

Zasavica appeared as the result of the interweaving of the river flows of the Sava and the Drina rivers. Today, it is a special nature reserve. Zasavica provides a habitat to diverse marsh birds and old species of domestic animals. The reserve's trademark is a rare umbra fish, known as "the swimming dog". The visitor centre has a tower with a view to see the most beautiful part of the river.



Zasavica Special Reserve of Nature

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Sremska Mitrovica
www.tosmomi.rs

Tourist Organisation of Šid
www.tourismsid.rs

THE ROOTS OF MODERN SERBIA

A COUNTRY OF WINE AND CURATIVE WATERS



Church of St. George, Oplenac, 20th century

SIGHTSEEING

- Bukovički Sculptures Park and the Old Edifice
- A collection of ceramic works at the Museum of Arandjelovac
- Risovača Cave
- The Marićević Trench Memorial Complex, Orašac
- Karadjordje's Town, Topola
- The Mausoleum of the Serbian Royal Family, Oplenac

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- A glass of "royal wine"
- Karadjordje's steak
- A sip of "Knjaz Miloš" medicinal water

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Discovering the wine routes of Oplenac
- A restful spa weekend in Arandjelovac
- Recreation at the Izvor Hotel's Aqua Park
- Trekking in Bukulja
- An outing to Garaško lake

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The "Marble and Sounds" Festival, during the summer, Arandjelovac
- Grapes picking in Oplenac, October, Topola

POINTS OF INTEREST

A SPA IN A TOWN

The establishment of the settlements and the mutual imbuing of Bukovička Spa and Arandjelovac are inseparably connected with Serbian ruler Miloš Obrenović and his son Prince Mihailo. The medicinal water together with the construction endeavors of the Obrenović dynasty laid the foundations for this fashionable spa.

THE PARK AS A MUSEUM

The sculptures made in marble from Venčac are exhibited in the park area of the spa. Thanks to the "Marble and Sounds" International Festival, today it is one of the most beautiful open air world museums.

THE WORLD OF THE AGE OF CHALK

During research here, numerous fossils of animals dating back to the age of chalk were discovered! The hunting tools from the later Stone Age were also found. The extraordinary archaeological findings are presented in a modern and engaging way.

FRESCOES IN THE MOSAIC

St. George's Church, the mausoleum of the Karadjordjević family, is covered with white marble on the outside, whereas the inside is covered with the mosaics of the most beautiful Serbian medieval frescoes. As many as forty million mosaic cubicles were used to create these stunning mosaics. The town of the founder of the Karadjordjević dynasty – Karadjordje Petrović, is in Topola, at the foot of the Hill of Oplenac.



Izvor Hotel, Arandjelovac

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Arandjelovac
www.bukovickabanja.rs

Tourist Organisation of "Oplenac" Topola
www.topolaoplenac.org.rs



Wine-growing Hills, Oplenac

16. KRAGUJEVAC, KNIĆ

THE CAPITAL OF ŠUMADIJA IN THE GENTLE AND ROLLING HILL LANDSCAPES OF SERBIA



SIGHTSEEING

- "By the Cross" Square and the pedestrian zone of the city
- The historical complex of "Milošev venac"
- The National Museum and the "Old Foundry"
- The "October in Kragujevac" Memorial Park
- The monasteries of Rudnik: Annunciation, St. Paraskevi, Voljavča
- The church and the remains of the medieval town of Borač



LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Hot brandy – "tea of Šumadija"
- Cheese pie and Greens pie
- Spit-roasted pork

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Recreation on the lakes of Kragujevac
- Mountaineering on the paths of the Mountains of the Gledić village and Rudnik
- Rest in the villages of Gruža and Rudnik
- Boating on Gruža Lake
- Climbing the rocks of the rocky tract of Borač

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Big School Class, 21st October, Kragujevac.
- The "Autumn in Gruža" Visual Arts Colony, September, Knić

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE FIRST IN ALL

Upon the order of great Prince Miloš Obrenović, the first court, the first high-school, the first newspapers and the first theatre were established in Kragujevac – the first new-century capital city of the Serbian state. In this city, Serbian industry began, too: the first gun was cast and the first bulb shed light among a list of many other firsts.

PRINCE'S ARSENAL

The Prince's arsenal is a unique military-industrial and architectural compound. It consists of the factory facilities and workshops dating back to the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries. Within the arsenal, there is the "Old Foundry" Museum, which exhibits the thrilling times and the reaches of the industrial revolution.

A BLOODY FAIRYTALE

The verses by Desanka Maksimović: "It happened in a land of farmers far away / in the hilly Balkans, / a troop of students / died martyred / on one single day" upsettingly testify to the brutality of the German occupiers who, in the year 1941, shot several thousands of civilians in just two days.

FIĆA FEST

The Zastava factory was the biggest factory for producing cars in the former Yugoslavia. In 1955, the factory produced the first "Fiat 750" – the national vehicle that became a cult. A total of 923,487 small-sized cars were produced in the factory! Recently, the Old-timer Festival – Fića Fest has begun to take place.



INFO

Tourist Organisation of Kragujevac
www.gtokg.org.rs

Tourist Organisation of Knić
www.knic.turizam.rs

17. GORNJI MILANOVAC, LJIG

THE CITIES FRAMED BY HILLS

TRACES OF HISTORY ON GREEN MEADOWS

SIGHTSEEING

- Prince Mihailo's Square and St. Trinity Church
- The Museum in Takovo and the "Takovski grm" (Takovo Shrub) compound
- The Home of the Serbian-Norwegian Friendship, Gornji Milanovac
- The monasteries of Vračevšnica and Bogovadja
- The ethno-village in Koštunići
- The "Ravna gora" (Flat Mountain) Memorial Compound
- The 1300 corporals monument on Rajac



LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- A four-ounce flask of twice distilled plum-brandy and cheese pie
- Cabbage in an earthenware pot
- Mowers' lunch in Rajac

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Climbing to the volcanic cone of Ostrvica
- Mountaineering on the paths of Rajac and Rudnik
- A spa weekend in Vrujci Spa
- Rest in the villages of the Takovo and Kolubara River region
- Mountain biking along the Rajac-Drina route
- Recreation and rest in the ethno houses of the "Momčilo Čeković" Centre

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Festival of Brandy, March, Pranjani
- Mowing on Rajac, July
- The "Mina Vukomanović Karadžić" Visual Arts Colony, July, Savinac
- Serbia World Music Festival, August, Takovo



POINTS OF INTEREST

TAKOVSKI GRM

The Second Serbian Uprising was incited by Miloš Obrenović in Takovo in 1815. The insurrectionists gathered around the old oak tree in front of the church, and according to folklore, there is a thunder-hurler in the oak-tree, so that the sacred tree is called GRM. That great event in the history of Serbia was rendered immortal by Paja Jovanović's painting called the "Uprising in Takovo".

SERBIAN-NORWEGIAN FRIENDSHIP

Prisoners from the former Yugoslavia, amongst whom there were also forty or so from the Takovo region, were being deported to concentration camps in Norway by the Nazis. Many of them escaped death only thanks to the help of the Norwegian people. In a token of gratitude, the Norwegian House was built, representing an edifice which architecturally blends the Viking ship together with the old Serbian log-built house.

HEY, CLOUD, GUARD THE MOWERS

These verses are said when the festival of mowing the mountain meadows begins - mowing on Rajac. Participants cherish the old custom of people coming together (the so-called "moba") to help with mowing, which ends with lunch on the mowed field.

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Gornji Milanovac
www.togm.org.rs

Tourist Organisation of Ljig
www.turisticka.org



18. ČAČAK, LUČANI

STRONG SPIRIT AND IMPRESSIVE NATURE

THE COUNTRY OF MONASTERIES, THE TRUMPET AND THE FLUTE



Ovčar-Kablar Gorge

SIGHTSEEING

- The urban core of the city and the Roman Thermal locality
- The museum exhibition in Jovan Obrenović's Lodging
- The "Nadežda Petrović" art gallery
- The monasteries of Ovčar-Kablar Gorge
- The monument to a trumpeter and the Museum of the Trumpet in Guča



Sretenje monastery, 17th century

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Cabbage served at weddings
- Kajmak-cream produced in Čačak and hot corn bread
- Spit-roasted meat with a small glass of "strong brandy"

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Mountaineering and paragliding on Ovčar and Kablar
- A boat ride on the lake of Ovčar banja
- Wellness weekends in Atomska and Ovčar Spas
- Rest in the villages and ethno-compounds
- Gorge-rafting

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- "Dis' Spring", March-May, Čačak.
- The Serbian Festival of Flute Players "Oj, Moravo", July, Prislonica
- The Festival of the Trumpet of Dragačevo, August, Guča

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Čačak
www.turizamcacak.org.rs

Centre for Culture, Sport and Tourism of Lučani
www.turizamdragacevo.org

POINTS OF INTEREST

SANCTUARY OF FAITH

Making efforts to escape Turkish conquerors, in the impassable gorge of the Western Morava on the steep slopes of Ovčar and Kablar, Serbian monks built a unique community of monasteries, known today as the "holies of Ovčar and Kablar": Annunciation, Jovanje, Ilinje, Nikolje, Transfiguration, Presentation of Jesus at the Temple, St. Trinity, Assumption of Mary, Presentation of Mary, Ježevica, Stjenik and Vujan.

A FEMALE PAINTER AND DOOMED POET

Nadežda Petrović, born in Čačak, is the originator of modern Serbian painting. She painted the world with strong colours, as if she had not been affected by the melancholic world of the wars she was voluntarily involved in – as a nurse. As well as her countryman, great poet Vladislav Petković Dis, who also died in the First World War.

UNITED IN ETERNITY

The mutual memorial tomb in Čačak, where both Serbian and the enemy's soldiers who had been killed in the First World War were buried is unique in the world: there is an orthodox cross and a catholic cross, the Islamic crescent and the Star of David, posted next to each other.

METROPOLIS OF THE TRUMPET

In the centre of the hilly, beautiful landscapes of Dragačevo region, there is a small town of Guča, which has determinedly cherished the tradition of national trumpet orchestras and thus acquired its international fame which celebrates its trumpet heritage annually with the world-renowned Guča Festival.



Nadežda Petrović, Self-portrait, 1907, detail

SERBIAN PARIS AND TOWN OF CYRILICS

IN THE WATER TRACK OF THE SAVA AND DRINA RIVERS



Kur-salon, Banja Koviljača

SIGHTSEEING

- The pedestrian zone and the urban core of Šabac
- The national museum and the "House of the Dunjić Family" legacy
- The memorial compounds of the battles of Mišar and Cer
- The Spa Hall Kur-salon and the villas of Koviljača Spa
- The monastery of Tronoša and the ethno-compound in Tršić
- The Mića Popović Gallery, Loznica
- The monastery of Čokešina

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Cheese and cream-stuffed peppers produced in Šabac
- A small glass of "chivijash" brandy
- Loznica Fish Pot

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Recreation in the ambience of the fortress of Šabac on the Sava river
- Horse riding and horse races at the hippodrome in Šabac
- A wellness weekend in Spa Koviljača
- Rest in the villages of Mačva and the Drina river basin
- Rest at the "Sunčana reka Drina" (The Sunny Drina River) ethno-compound
- Mountaineering on the paths of the mountains of the Drina river basin

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Rose Festival, June, Lipolist
- The Šabac Fair, 21st September
- "Vukov sabor" (The Vuk Karadžić Festival), September, Tršić



Tršić

POINTS OF INTEREST

HEROISM AND HARDSHIP

In the vicinity of Šabac and Loznica, the rather dramatic events of the First World War took place. In recognition to these events and the huge number of victims, numerous monuments have been built: on Cer, Gučevo, Mačkov kamen, Tekeriš. It is interesting that the strategy used in the battle of Cer is considered by many as the world "master piece in the art of war".

MEMORY OF THE ENLIGHTENER

In Tršić, the native village of Vuk Stefanović Karadžić, the great reformer of the Serbian language, is a unique ethno-park with a memorial house and amphitheatre which has been traditionally built.

SMALL PARIZ

Šabac has the largest number of inns "per capita" and for that reason, it is called the "small Serbian Paris". In these inns, one can feel the distinctive, frolicsome and quick-witted "chivijash" spirit.

THE SERBIAN ROMEO AND JULIET

In the village of Metlić, as testament to the tragic love between Pavle and Djula, a memorial compound of "Asik's Grave" has been built.

THE SMELL OF ROSES AND THE LINDEN-TREE

In the Mačva village of Lipolist lies one million of blooming rose seedlings! In the month of June, a festival is held in honour of the "Queen of Flowers", thousands of linden trees also begin to bloom in the village of Lipolist.



Great Still Life, Mića Popović, 1989, detail

INFO

Tourist Organisation of Šabac
www.sabaturizam.org

Tourist Organisation of Loznica
www.togl.rs

20. LJUBOVIIJA, MALI ZVORNIK, KRUPANJ

THE MAGNIFICENT DRINA

THE TOWNS OF THE GREEN RIVER AND CLEAR SPRINGS

SIGHTSEEING

- Soko grad (Soko Town) and the Monastery of St. Nikolai of Serbia
- The King's underground town of Mali Zvornik
- The Memorial Church of Holy Ascension and Mačkov kamen (Cat's Stone)
- The church and the ethno-compound in Dobri Potok, Krupanj

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Fish Soup on the banks of the river Drina
- Radjevski cheese and corn bread made under a shallow bell-shaped metal lid
- Meals made from wild forest mushrooms



ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Rafting, white water rafting and canoeing down the Drina river
- Angling on the Drina
- Researching the canyons of the Trešnjica, Tribuća i Ljuboviđa
- Mountaineering on the paths of Bobija
- Rest in the ethno-village of Vrhpolje and Radaljska Spa
- Mountain biking on the mountains of Azbukovica
- Rest in local village houses and fishermen's houses built on stilts

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Drina Regatta, July, Ljubovija
- The Festival of Catfish, July, Mali Zvornik

POINTS OF INTEREST

NEVER CONQUERED

Legend has it that the fortress of Soko grad was cast in the clouds and has never been conquered since it was built. Today, there is a big gold-plated cross – the symbol of the Soko monastery, dedicated to Bishop Nikolaj Velimirović – placed on the foundations of one of the towers.

KING'S UNDERGROUND TOWN

Deep inside the hollow rock which perpendicularly falls towards the Drina river, there is the secret underground town of the Karadjordjević dynasty. The maize, the numerous chambers and a chapel were all built as a shelter for the king and the High Command in 1932.

ZVORNIK LAKE

The big Zvornik Lake resulted from the construction of the hydro-power plant of "Zvornik" on the Drina River. The power plant was opened in 1955, and given its size, it was a real construction miracle of its time. Tourists are offered to visit the facility of the HP plant of "Zvornik".

CANDELABRUM FROM THE BATTLEFIELD

The Church of Holy Ascension in Krupanj and the memorial crypt on the Cat's Stone (Mačkov kamen) are part of the same memorial compound built in recognition of a great battle of the First World War. Interestingly, the church candelabrum is made from the bullets, bayonets, scythes and grenades collected on the battlefield.



INFO

Tourist Office of Ljubovija
www.tolj.rs

Tourist Office of Mali Zvornik
www.tomz.org.rs

Tourist Office of Krupanj
www.krupanj.org.rs



GIFTED GUARDIANS OF TIME

IN THE LANDSCAPES OF THE KOLUBARA RIVER AND THE MOUNTAINS OF VALJEVO



Tešnja, Valjevo

SIGHTSEEING

- Tešnja – the old bazaar of Valjevo
- Duke Mišić's Square and the pedestrian zone of the town
- The National Museum, Valjevo
- Exhibitions at Muselim's Lodge and Nenadovića Tower
- The Modern Gallery of Valjevo and Ljuba Popović's Collection
- The monasteries of Jovanje, Pustinja (Desert), Čelije (Cells) and Lelić
- The native house of Duke Živojin Mišić, Struganik

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Tobacco cracklings with a pint of Valjevo beer
- Beans with a knuckle accompanied with a glass of plum brandy
- Raspberries grown in Valjevo with a sip of "Vujić" water

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Visiting the Petnica cave and recreational activities at the Petnica Sport Centre
- Rest at the hotels and apartments of Divčibare
- Swimming and fishing with artificial flies on the Gradac River
- "Challenge in Valjevo" – adventurous tours organised by the "Wild Serba" Association
- A spa weekend in Spa Vrujci and rest in the villages of Mionica

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Desanka's Month-of-May Talks, Brankovina
- The Evenings in Tesnja, August, Valjevo
- Mišić's Days, July, Mionica
- The Plum Fair, August, Osečina



Plum Fair, Osečina

POINTS OF INTEREST

BRANKOVINA – THE PANTHEON OF THE GLORIOUS

In Brankovina village, several great persons from Serbian history were born: Prince Aleksa Nenadović and his ancestors Duke Jakov, head-priest Mateja, Dukes Sima and Jevrem. Desanka Maksimović, a poetess, was said to have made Brankovina famous – she was born and buried there. Today, it is an interesting ambient village with a church, a school, monuments and old village houses.

THIRD DIMENSION OF THE PAST

The National Museum of Valjevo has numerous features. There is an exceptional museum exhibition at which visitors are led through the revived "gates of time".

PAYING RESPECT TO WARRIORS

The Battle of the Kolubara (1914), which was commanded by Duke Živojin Mišić, is a prime example of the art of war. The memory of the great strategist is preserved in his native Struganik. Valjevo is one of few towns that preserves with pride the memory of the heroes of the Second World War. This is testified by the Sculptures Park on Jadar and the Monument of the Revolution on Vidrak.

GIFTS OF NATURE – GRADAC AND TAOR SPRINGS

Because of the beauty and diversity of flora and fauna, the canyon of the Gradac river has been declared a landscape of exceptional features. The Gradac is the cleanest water in Europe, and its rapids are attractive to fishermen. In the gorge, there is also an exceptionally valuable monastery – the Monastery of Cells (Čelije) (14th century). The most beautiful spring of all is in this region – the Springs of Taor – is worth seeing.



Springs of Taor

INFO

Tourist Office of Valjevo
www.tov.rs

Tourist Office "Ribnica" Mionica
www.mionica.webs.com

22. UŽICE, POŽEGA, KOSJERIC

IN THE LAND OF HIGHLANDERS

THE VARIETY OF THE LANDSCAPES WITH A UNIQUE SPIRIT



Šargan Eight

SIGHTSEEING

- The Centre of Užice – Partisan Square
- The National Museum and the exhibition at Jokanović's House
- The Museum of Technology, the hydropower plant on the Djetinja river
- The Kadinjača Memorial Compound
- The white church in the village of Karan and the monastery of Djurdjic in Godovik
- The Railway Museum of the Narrow Gauge, Požega
- The memorial compound dedicated to Prince Miloš Obrenović, Gornja Dobrinja

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Smoked ham of Užice with a small glass of Požegača plum brandy
- Komplet lepinja (a sandwich made with pork, roast lamb, scrambled eggs and kajmak)
- Sweets made of forest fruits and blueberry juice

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- A Šargan Eight railway journey
- Skiing in Drvengrad and on Tara
- Recreation on the beach of Djetinja
- A Visit to the Potpečka Cave
- A break in the ethno-park of Terzića avlija (Terzić's Garden), the village of Zlakusa
- Mountaineering on the paths of Jelova Mountain, Povlen and Maljen

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The International Film and Music Festival "Kustendorf", January, Mokra gora
- The Gingerbread Heart, August, Užice
- The International Colony of Ceramics and Pottery, Zlakusa
- Interaction, August, Požega
- The Shepherds' Days, July, Kosjerić



Mečavnik, Mokra Gora

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE OLD TOWN AND THE BEAUTIFUL BEACH

The Old Town is the symbol of Užice, located high on the ridge surrounded by the Djetinja River on three sides, and a beautiful beach on the banks of that mountain river. Every year, at the beginning of August, a competition is organized for people jumping into the river from an old bridge above the beach.

THE REPUBLIC OF UŽICE

During the Second World War, around the end of 1941, Užice was the centre of the liberated territories of Western Serbia and Šumadija for exactly 67 days. The National Liberation Partisan Movement led by Tito won the battle fought against the German occupying forces, and Užice was at the centre of the insurrection throughout Yugoslavia. The Republic of Užice was then the first larger liberated territory in occupied Europe.



Pottery, Zlakusa

ŠARGAN MIRACLE

The Eight narrow gauge railway tracks exist thanks to the idea of ingenious engineers. The incline of the Šargan Bend had been impassable before the railway tracks were built in the shape of the curving circles of number eight. Yet another miracle happened on Šargan: while shooting his film "Life is a Miracle", the famous film director Emir Kusturica discovered the sunny hill of Mečavnik and built his fairy-tale-like town made of wood there.

CLAY ARTISTS

Potters from the village of Zlakusa apply a very old technique to their pottery: they make objects on a slow-turning hand circle and bake them on an open fire. Pots, casseroles, shallow bell-shaped metal lids are all made of a special clay, which is mixed with ground calcite. Food made in these pots from Zlakusa has an extraordinary taste.



Memorial Center "Kadinjača"

INFO

Tourist Office of Užice

www.turizamuzica.org.rs

Tourist Office of Požega

www.topoz.org.rs

Tourist Office of Kosjerić

www.odmorukosjericu.rs

LANDSCAPE OF EXTRAORDINARY BEAUTY

THE NATIONAL PARK OF TARA



Tara National Park

SIGHTSEEING

- The town centre of Bajina Bašta
- The Monastery of Rača on the Drina
- The waterfall on the river Vrelo, Perućac
- The Mramorje necropolis of medieval tomb-stones, Perućac

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Broiled trout
- Domestic cheese and sour milk
- A small glass of kleka juniper brandy or sokolova brandy



Regatta on the Drina River

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- White water rafting and fishing on the Drina
- Rest and swimming in the lakes of Perućac and Zaovinsko
- Stay at the hotels - Kaludjerske bare and Mitrovac
- Visiting the belvederes of Burovo brdo (Burovo Hill), Banjska and Bilješka stena (Bilješka Rock)
- Mountain biking on the paths of Tara - "Tarocikl" (Tarocycle)
- Mountaineering, horse-riding and rally car drives

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Drina Regatta, July, Bajina Bašta
- Rača Days by the Drina, October

POINTS OF INTEREST

'THIS IS HOW I IMAGINE HEAVEN'

The endless forest tracts, a magnificent view of the belvederes, the canyon of the Drina River, the lakes and the beautiful landscape of the National Park led the director of the European Nature Protection Foundation, describe Tara as an earthly heaven. The flora and fauna of Tara was also the subject matter of research of a Serbian botanist Josif Pančić as early as in the 19th century, who discovered a tree dating back to the ice age! In his honour, the tree was named Pančićeva omorika (Serbian Spruce).

THE HEART OF TARA

Predov Krst (Predov Cross) in the canyon of the small river of Derventa is in the very heart of the National Park - an ideal place for rest away from civilization. Within the National park, there are two large tourism centres providing accommodation at the Mitrovac hotel and the Kaludjerske bare hotel.

A LOG HOUSE ON THE RIVER

One of the symbols of Bajina Bašta is an isolated house made of logs on a river rock. "The House on the Drina" has for almost half a century been resisting rapids and torrents - a refuge for sailors and swimmers alike.

MONUMENTAL MEDIEVAL TOMB-STONES - SYMBOL OF THE BALKANS

Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia nominated their medieval necropolises of standing tomb-stones for the list of the world cultural heritage. It is a unique cultural phenomenon of the Balkans. The standing tomb-stones in Perućac and Rasište near Bajina Bašta represent part of this valuable heritage.



House on the Drina River

INFO

Sports and Tourist Centre Bajina Bašta
www.tara-bajinabasta.com

24. ZLATIBOR

RESORT POPULAR IN ALL SEASONS

SURROUNDED BY PINES, SPRINGS AND GLADES



Lake on King's waters

SIGHTSEEING

- The centre of Zlatibor and the lake on Kraljeve vode (King's Waters)
- The museum compound of "Staro selo" (Old Village), Sirogojno
- The Museum of the Knitting-women from Zlatibor, Sirogojno
- The Stopića Cave and the waterfall on the Gostiljska river
- The Monastery of Uvac and log-built churches of Zlatibor

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Komplet lepinja - a sandwich made with pork, roast lamb, scrambled eggs and kajmak, with sour milk
- Zlatibor refreshments: smoked ham, cheese, kajmak (a creamy cheese spread delicacy)
- A small glass of domestic plum brandy
- Tea made from mountain herbs

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Rest at the hotels, villas and resorts
- Walks and mountain biking on the "Ozone Paths" ("Ozonske staze")
- Recreation on sports courts and swimming-pools
- Winter sports and skiing at the Tornik centre
- Horse-riding and paragliding
- Fishing on Ribničko Lake

THE 'MUST-SEE' EVENTS:

- The Smoked Ham Festival, January, Mačkat
- Zlatibor Summer



Zlatibor Dish

POINTS OF INTEREST

A FRUITFUL BLESSING

Tourism-oriented Zlatibor saw the light of the day when, as it is always the case in any story with a good end, a king appeared. The Serbian mountain pearl began to develop in the year 1893, when King Aleksandar Obrenović paid a visit to Zlatibor. At the spring of Kulaševac, Kraljeva česma (King's Fountain) today, the king approved of the idea to have an open air spa built. Since then, that sunny mountain of the therapeutic air has been dynamically developed.

THE EPIC WORLD OF SIROGOJNO

The Staro selo (Old Village) Museum in the open air is unique in Serbia. Located on a beautiful glade one can gain a detailed insight into the extinct world of highlanders: the museum exhibition consists of authentic log-built houses with domestic furniture and hand-made objects, the rooms where fruits were dried, casks for holding brandy and pottery.



Museum "Old Village", Sirogojno

GENERATIONS OF KNITTING-WOMEN

hand-knitted unique jumpers with the motives of the Zlatibor region have made Sirogojno famous. More than half a century ago, fashion designer Dobrila Smiljanić brought together skillful knitting-women and put them onto the world stage. These knitted jumpers from Sirogojno have been worn by the likes of Queen Elisabeth II, Nancy Reagan and Raisa Gorbachov.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF NATURE

Stopića Cave is characterised by unique ornaments. Its "tubs" - the recesses from which water falls down in unusually nice cascades are particularly interesting.



Stopića Cave

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Zlatibor
www.zlatibor.org.rs

A WHITE ANGEL AND A GOLDEN MOUNTAIN

THE LANDSCAPE OF RAPID RIVERS, CANYONS, LAKES



Meanders of the Uvac River

SIGHTSEEING

- The Monastery of Mileševa
- The Town Museum and the Museum of Vlade Divac, Prijepolje
- The Sahat-kula (Clock-Tower) of Prijepolje
- The Monastery of St. Nicholas and the repository, Priboj
- The County Museum, Priboj

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Buckwheat pie and cheese made on Zlatar
- Pribojske češke – chicken with barley
- Cinder and wild pear brandy



Monastery of Mileševa, White Angel, Fresco, detail, 13th century

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Rafting and white water rafting on the river Lim
- Trekking through the canyon of the Mileševka river
- Mountain biking and paragliding (Kamena Gora (Stone Mountain and Prijepolje)
- Canoeing and swimming on the lakes of Zlatar
- Skiing and mountaineering on the paths of Zlatar
- Rest in Pribojska Spa and stay in village households
- A spa weekend in the ethno-village of Vraneša

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Lim Regatta, May
- The Zlatar Cheese Festival, August, Nova Varoš
- The Lim Poetry Evenings, December, Priboj

POINTS OF INTEREST

WHITE ANGEL TRAVELING THROUGH OUTER SPACE

The White Angel of Mileševa is one of the most beautiful works of the European medieval art. Together with the photographs of conquering the Moon and the Chinese Wall, the White Angel was broadcast as the first satellite signal of the achievements of the Earthmen sent from Europe into outer space.

THE FALLS OF THE SOPOTNICA

On the Sopotnica, a tributary feeding into the Lim, there are cascading waterfalls of unusual beauty which are amongst the pearls of the tourism offer from this region.

THE CANYON RULERS AND MIRACULOUS CAVES

The view of the Uvac meandering river is considered to be one of the most beautiful panoramic images of Serbia. In the Special Reserve of Nature, special care is taken of the griffon vulture – a rare and threatened species. There, the caves which continue to each other, one after another, on a tract longer than six kilometers are worth seeing! The Ledena pećina (Ice Cave) is especially beautiful.

FOLLOWING THE TRACES OF THE FIRST MINERS

The prehistoric mine of Jarmovac near Priboj is one of the nine centres for studying the occurrence of copper metallurgy on European soil. The exhibition named "Following the Traces of the Miners of Jarmovac" at the County Museum demonstrates the exciting findings of this locality.



Birds' Field

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Prijepolje
www.turizamprijepolje.org.rs

Tourism Organisation of Priboj
www.priboj.rs

Tourist and Sports Centre "Zlatar"
www.zlatar.org.rs

26. IVANJICA | ARILJE

SMALL CHARMING TOWNS SURROUNDED BY RASPBERRY PLANTATIONS AND FORESTS

SIGHTSEEING

- The ambience of the old bazaar of Ivanjica
- The Church of Holy Emperor Constantine and Empress Jelena
- The hydropower plant on the Moravica and the stone bridge
- The Church of St. Achillius in Arilje
- The town core of Arilje and the Monument to Raspberry
- The Monastery of Klisura (Gorge)



A Village Household, Katići

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Potato cooked under a shallow bell-shaped metal lid in Ivanjica's way
- Refreshments of Golija: smoked ham, cheese and hot brandy
- Raspberry cake and juice

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- A weekend at the RH Centre and the Park Hotel in Ivanjica
- Visiting the Golija Reserve of Nature – Studenica
- Mountaineering and mountain biking on the paths of Golija and Javor
- Rest in the villages of Ivanjica and Arilje
- Swimming on the beaches of the Rzava and the Moravica rivers
- Skiing at the centre of Odvrćenica and Dajići

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Traditional Serbian Song Festival, August, Prilike
- The Days of Nušić, August-September, Ivanjica
- Arlem, July, Arilje



Tičar Lake, Reserve of Biosphere, Golija

POINTS OF INTEREST

RESERVE OF RARITIES

A nice small town of Ivanjica was built "in the lap of the seven mountains" – Golija, Javor, Mučanj, Čemerna, Čemernica, Radočela and Kukutnica. Golija is the most famous mountain of the Ivanjica region, and for its exceptional nature, UNESCO declared it Reserve of Biosphere. Ivanjica is the first Serbian open air spa.

THE DAY OF IVANJICA

At times when electricity was an unknown thing, even to numerous European cities and towns, as early as 1911, the Moravica hydropower plant began to work. "The eternal day begins in Ivanjica today" were the words said by the citizens of Ivanjica at the opening ceremony. The hydropower plant is operative today, too, and there is a particularly nice plateau with a view of the waterfall.

BLUE ANGEL

The Church of St. Achillius in Arilje (13th century) is the legacy of King Dragutin of the ruling Nemanjić dynasty. Architecturally it belongs to Raška school and has extraordinary frescoes. Apart from the ktitors' composition, there is the fresco of St. Archangel Gabriel, which was praised in the verses written by a great poet – Branko Miljković: "He who has not seen you has no knowledge of Himself..."

BRONZE RASPBERRY

Arilje is the centre of Serbian raspberry growing, and the "raspberry of Arilje" is a known national brand. The majority of the people living there grow the "red gold", so, paying tribute to the fruit they earn their living on, and as such, people built a Monument to the Raspberry.



Raspberries, Arilje

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Ivanjica

www.ivatourism.org

Tourism Organisation of Arilje

www.arilje.org.rs



TOUCH OF ORIENT ON THE CROSSROADS OF CULTURE



Ascension of the Mother of God, Monastery of Sopoćani, Fresco, detail, 13th century

SIGHTSEEING

- UNESCO Heritage – Stari Ras (Old Ras) with Sopoćani
- The Old Bazaar of Novi Pazar and the Fortress
- The Altun Alem Mosque and Isa-Bey's Hamam
- The County Museum of Ras
- The Valide Sultan Mosque, Sjenica
- The Monastery of Kumanica

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Sjenica cheese and sudžuk dry spicy sausage
- Lamb of Pešter
- Shish kebab in pita bread and mantija pies
- Baklava and Kadaif with coffee served in fildžan (demi-tasse)



Altun-alem Mosque, Novi Pazar, 16th century

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Mountaineering and skiing on the paths of Golija
- Rest in the villages at the foot of Golija
- Camping and fishing on the Lake of Sjenica
- Mountain biking and motorcycling adventures
- Alpine and Nordic skiing on Babinjača (Pešter)
- A trip to Borići close to Sjenica

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Old Town Music Festival, August-September, Novi Pazar
- The Days of Pie Made in Sjenica, August



POINTS OF INTEREST

CIVILISATION LINK

"In the surrounding area of the town of Ras, the first Serbian capital, there is an impressive group of medieval monuments" – these words are written in the UNESCO Charter. The monasteries of Sopoćani and Djurdjevi stupovi (St. George's Pillars), the Church of St. Peter, the remains of the Ras fortress and Gradina are the most significant. The world was for the most part amazed by the flickering frescoes of Sopoćani: the Ascension of the Holy Mother of God at the world exhibition in Paris in 1961 was declared the most beautiful fresco of the Middle Ages.

THE SUBTLE BEAUTY

The precious stone of the Islamic architecture is represented by the Altun Alem Mosque in Novi Pazar (16th century). The name Altun Alem means a precious stone. The town fortress with its Old Bazaar and the compound surrounding the mosque creates a special ambience. It is interesting that the old Hamam (15th century), built by the founder of the town – Isa-Bey, is also preserved in its original state.

THE LARGEST FIELD IN SERBIA

As the fairy tale of the seven mountains says, the highland of Pešter is located between the seven mountains which are magnificent to observe together. The largest highland in the Balkans is a space of untouched nature, grazing lands, rivers disappearing underground and hospitable highlanders of Pešter with the spirit and views of days gone by.

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Novi Pazar
www.tonp.rs

Tourism Organisation of Sjenica
www.turizamsjenica.com

TOWNS OF KOPAONIK

AT THE FOOT OF THE MOUNTAIN OF SNOW AND SUN



SIGHTSEEING

- The urban core of Raška and the "Kursulića House" Museum
- The monasteries of Gradac, Stara and Nova Pavlica (New and Old Pavlica)
- The urban core of Brus and the promenade in Rasina
- The monasteries of Lepenac and Končul
- The national sanctuary of Metodje

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Cornmeal mush and doughnuts with kajmak (creamy cheese spread)
- Sweet forest strawberries and blueberry juice
- Brus nettle steaks

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Winter sports at the Tourist Centre of Kopaonik
- Mountaineering on the paths of the National Park
- Mountain biking on the "Kop Bike Park" paths
- Horse-riding, paragliding, canyoning, archery
- A panoramic ride on the ski-lift
- A wellness weekend at exclusive hotels
- Refreshment at the springs of Jošanička Spa

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Spritual Celebrations in Raška, August, Raška
- Queen Helen's Days, May, Raška, the Monastery of Gradac
- Golden Hands of Brus, August, Brus



POINTS OF INTEREST

PANČIĆ'S CHOICE

Kopaonik is the biggest and the highest mountain in central Serbia and for that reason, it is known as the "roof of Serbia". Deep inside the volcanic mountain, therapeutic waters such as the hot springs of Jošanička Spa spring can be found. A great Serbian naturalist, Josif Pančić, chose one peak of Kopaonik with a marvelous view as place for him to eternally rest in peace. Today, there is his mausoleum there, and the peak is named after him.

HEAVENLY CHAIRS AND OTHER MAGICAL THINGS

The landscapes of Kopaonik hide extraordinary unexpected places to see including the archeological site of the poetic name of "Heavenly Chairs", the floating island on the lake of Semeteš, the beach of Samokovska river, waterfalls, the belvederes and the white rocks.

QUEEN MOTHER'S COUNTRY

French Princess Helen of Anjou married Uroš I Nemanjić and thus became Queen of Serbia. People loved this educated and noble lady who deserved to gain the status of a Serbian female saint for the good deeds she had done. Queen Helen built the Church of the Mother of God of the Monastery of Gradac, where she was buried. Today, it is a nunnery, whose sisterhood is showing respect for the holy female founder, and cherishing the highest-quality icon-painting art and modern art.



INFO

Tourism Organisation of Raška
www.raska-turizam.rs

Tourism Organisation of Brus
www.turizamopstinebrus.co.rs

CITY OF KINGS IN CENTURIES VALLEY ON THE RAPIDS OF THE GREEN IBAR RIVER



WORLD
HERITAGE

Monastery of Studenica, 12th century

SIGHTSEEING

- The monasteries of Studenica and Žiča
- The symbol of the city – The Serbian Warriors' Square
- St. Sava's Square and the spiritual center "Vladika Nikolaj Velimirović"
- The Holy Trinity Church and the exhibition of the National Museum
- The belvedere on Kraljevo's quay
- The medieval town of Maglič

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Kajmak (creamy cheese spread) and hot sweet bread of Kraljevo
- Beans with dry ribs with a small glass of "hot brandy"
- Trout from Studenica



Monastery of Žiča, 13th century

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Rafting and fishing on the Ibar River
- Extreme sports on Stolovi and Goč
- Rest and skiing on Dobre vode (Good Waters), Goč
- Mountaineering on the paths of Goč
- A weekend in Mataruška and Bogutovačka Spas

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Visiting daffodils, May, Stolovi
- The Lilac Days, May, Kraljevo
- The Joyful Race on the Ibar River, jun– jul

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE MARBLE BEAUTY

The Church of the Holy Mother of God of the Monastery of Studenica shines in its whiteness. It was built of white marble and decorated with stone decorations whose beauty was not surpassed in the Serbian medieval art. The famous fresco of Studenica is the monumental "Crucifix", and the whole of the compound is listed on the UNESCO list.

THE CROWNING CHURCH

The Monastery of Žiča is the first seat of the Serbian archbishopric built on a properly chosen place – equally away from the Byzantine Constantinople and Latin Rome. Žiča is known as the crowning church of Serbian rulers. On the city of Kraljevo's emblem, there are seven crowns symbolising the anointment of the seven Serbian rulers. According to the legend, a new door was opened for each king, and for that reason, people call the monastery "Žiča with the seven doors".

THE VALLEY OF LILACS

When Serbian King Uroš the First Nemanjić was about to marry French Princess Helen of Anjou, he ordered that the whole valley of the Ibar river should be seeded with lilacs so that the landscape would remind the queen-to-be of her native Provence.

THE CITY DESIGNED IN SAND

The interesting city with its central square and the streets diverging from it in the shape of a star was designed, according to legend, in a baking dish filled with sand. Prince Miloš Obrenović drew with his own hand the plan of today's city.



Square of Serbian Warriors, Kraljevo

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Kraljevo
www.jutok.org.rs

30. VRNJAČKA BANJA

THE QUEEN OF THE CONTINENT

HEALING AND ENTERTAINING



SIGHTSEEING

- The first view of the town: the Promenade of Vrnjačka Spa
- One-hundred-year Old Park and the Thermal Bathroom
- The County Museum "The Castle of Culture"
- The old edifices on Čajkino brdo (Čajka's Hill)
- The Temple of the Birth of the Most-Holy Mother of God
- The Bridge of Love on the Vrnjačka river

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Moravski fish pot
- Veal cooked under a shallow bell-shaped metal lid
- A glass of wine of Župa

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- A Wellness&Spa weekend programs
- Recreation in swimming-pools and various sports courts
- A bicycle tour "Through Spa's Parks"
- Riding on a hackney carriage and walking on the "Paths of Health"
- Mountaineering and skiing on Goč
- Fishing on Podunavačke (Ponds of the Village of Podunavci)

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Carnival of Vrnjačka Spa, July
- Film Scenario Festival, August

POINTS OF INTEREST

SEVEN SPRINGS

Old Romans treated their illnesses at Vrnjačka Spa, and the Fons Romanus locality is the testimony of that. The modern spa started to build in the summer of 1869, when the first season there was officially declared. Today, as many as seven therapeutic springs are used: Topla voda, Slatina, Snežnik, Jezero, Borjak, Beli izvor i Vrnjačko vrelo.

THE PALACE AND THE GARDENS

The edifice "The Castle of Culture" is what the town prides in; it used to be the summer house owned by General Belimarković, built about the end of the 19th century. The symbol of Vrnjačka Spa and the most frequently seen motif on postcards is that of its Thermal Bathroom and a big floral round arrangement in the centre of the park. There are also spacious parks reflecting European garden architecture and more recently, a new Japanese garden has been created.

TRADITION OF VIVIDNESS

Since the foundation of the spa, people have been coming to cure themselves and for refreshments, and also for socialising. The tradition of organizing balls and kermes (kind of carnival) has been maintained, with certain changes in the form, until today. The event testifying the best of the said is the Carnival of Vrnjačka Spa, which they have transformed into.

LOCKED HEARTS

An old town story tells about a love terminated by the First World War. The wind of the war brought Officer Relja to Greece, where he fell in love with another girl and married her. But, alas, Nada could not forget him. Until she died, she waited for him on the bridge where they used to date. Watching her pining away, girls started going to the bridge during the night to "lock" the hearts of their boyfriends.

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Vrnjačka Banja
www.vrnjackabanja.co.rs



31. TRSTENIK, ALEKSANDROVAC

THE WINE-GROWING HILLS OF ŽUPA IN THE GENEROUS COUNTRY OF THE MORAVA RIVER

SIGHTSEEING

- The old bazaar and the Church of Holy Trinity, Trstenik
- The monasteries of Ljubostinja, Veluče and Kalenić
- The Museum of Wine-producing and Wine-growing, Aleksandrovac
- The wine-growing settlements of "poljane" (the fields)
- The medieval town of Koznik
- The monasteries of Drenča and Rudenice

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Fish soup cooked in the Morava region
- A glass of Prokupac wine and Tamjanika wine
- Roast meat made at Stopanje and Veluče



Monastery of Ljubostinja, 14th century



Ethno-village of Latkovac

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Researching the wine roads of Župa
- Biking on the path of "Princess Milica" and the "Old Crafts" route
- A panoramic flight at the Sport Airport of Trstenik
- White water rafting on the Morava River and camping at Mitrovo polje (Mitar's Field)
- A visit to the ethno-villages of Latkovac and Rakezići
- Swimming on the beaches of the Western Morava

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- "Jefimija's Days", June, Trstenik,
- The "KozArt" International Festival of Classical Music, August, Aleksandrovac
- Grape Picking in Župa, September, Aleksandrovac

POINTS OF INTEREST

EULOGY TO LOVE

The construction of the monastery of Ljubostinja began on the eve of the Battle of Kosovo. According to the legend, Princess Milica had chosen that place for her endowment because it was there that she had met and fallen in love with her future husband, Prince Lazar. The name of the monastery means "the place of love" in the Old Church Slavonic language. The Church of the Ascension of the Most-Holy Mother of God is considered to be a precious asset of the Morava School of Construction. It is in Ljubostinja that the most beautiful verses of the Serbian medieval literature were written and silk-embroidered by Jefimija, a noblewoman and nun.

THE ANCIENT WINE-GROWING HILLS

In Župa, vines started being grown as early as in the times of Old Rome, and the first written sources of the wine-growing hills date back to the end of the 12th century. Famous Prince Lazar Hrebjanović had his cellars on the field of Kruševica. The most famous variety of the grape in Župa is the prokupac grape, and they date back to around 1,000 years ago, whereas another somewhat younger variety of grape - is tamjanika which has an intensive aroma.

A SMALL TOWN OF THE MORAVA RIVER REGION

The House of the Katić family, dating back to the mid-19th century, is considered to be one of the most beautiful houses in the Morava river region of Serbia, while the Old Bazaar of Trstenik picturesquely reminds us of the time of the rise of trade and skilled craftsmanship. The region of Trstenik has managed to preserve part of the tradition: the region is known worldwide by its grafters from the village of Velika Drenova, masters of rosette and watermill stone chiseling.

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Aleksandrovac
www.toa.rs

Tourism Organisation of Trstenik
www.turizamtrstenik.rs



Wine-growing Hills, Aleksandrovac

THE MEDIEVAL CAPITAL

THE STRONG CITY OF THE RASINA RIVER VALLEY



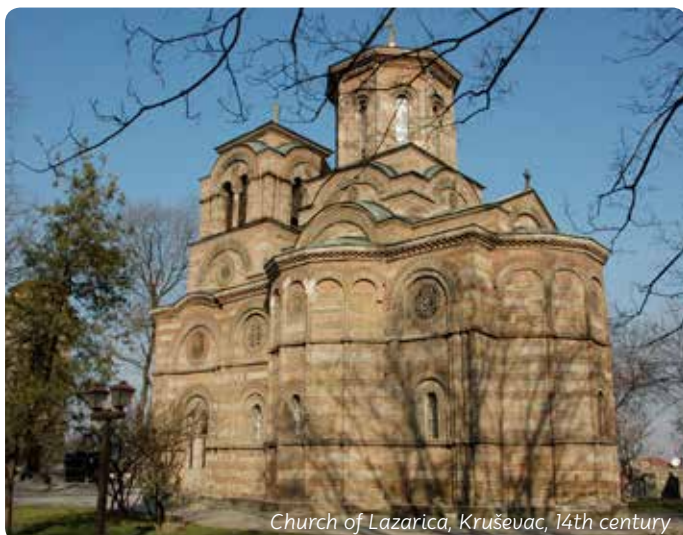
Town Square, Kruševac

SIGHTSEEING

- The urban core and the Square of Heroes of Kosovo
- The archeological park "Lazarev grad" (Lazar's Town)
- The edifice and the exhibition of the National Museum
- The Mosaic-hall in the Town Hall
- The House of the Simić Family and the Gallery of Milčić of Mačva
- The Memorial Park of Slobodište
- The Monastery of Naupare

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Prince's dinner: bungur-soup (thick soup made of pounded wheat) and game
- A barbecue and a glass of "Car Lazar" (Prince Lazar) red wine
- Rubin wine brandy served with walnut loaves and honey



Church of Lazarica, Kruševac, 14th century

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Mountaineering and outings to Jastrebac
- Mountain biking on the paths of "Jastrebačkog trougla" (The Triangle of Jastrebac)
- A spa weekend in Ribarska Spa
- Wine tours of Kruševac and Župa
- "From Djunis to Stalać", white water rafting on the Southern Morava
- Trekking on the Mountains of Mojsinje

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Celebrations of St. Vitus' Day, June, Kruševac
- The Summer Festival Dedicated to Culture, Ribarska Spa



Ribarska Banja Spa

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE LEGACY OF THE HOLY PRINCE

Kruševac is a town deeply marked by the rule of Prince Lazar Hrebeljanović, who built it as his new capital town in 1371. Apart from the remains of the fort and the famous court church Lazarica, one should also see the replica of the prince's garb, as well as the model of Meštrović's unrealized grandiose St. Vitus' Temple (Vidovdanski hram).

THE FLAG-BEARER AND THE FAIRY

The monument dedicated to the heroes of the Kosovo battle leaves an imprint on the town from which the Serbian army, led by the prince, went off to what was a tragic battle. The central composition shows the wounded bearer of the flag, Boško Jugović, fighting with his broken sword. At the mortal hour, a fairy comes, takes over the flag symbolizing the fight of the generations to come and, with her arm raised, shows the way towards Kosovo. The monument was built by sculptor Djordje Jovanović.

THE NURSERY OF TALENTS

The special "čarapani's" sense of humour and talent for acting are what makes the spirit of the town. The Theatre of Kruševac has produced a large number of extraordinary actors. Apart from the medieval heritage, the town also preserves the strong spirit of the old prosperous small town.

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Kruševac
www.turizamkruševac.com

THE TOWNS OF THE MORAVA RIVER REGION

AN ANCIENT FERTILE GRANARY



The Monastery of Ravanica, 14th century

SIGHTSEEING

- The town centre and the Church of of St. Apostles Peter and Paul
- The County Museum in Sokolski dom (Hawk Center)
- The Museum of Naive and Marginal Arts
- The town centre of Čuprija
- The Horreum Margi Ravno Museum, Čuprija
- The Memorial Park of "The Battle of Ivankovac", Čuprija
- The monasteries of Ravanica and Jošanica

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Roast turkey and a glass of jagodinska ružica wine
- The "Drunken" carp of Bardgani
- A pint of beer produced in Jagodina

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- A weekend at the Aqua Park
- A visit to the Zoo
- An outing to the town park of "Đurđevo brdo" (George's Hill)
- Visiting the cave of Ravanica
- Fishing on the Lake of Bagrdani
- Stay in the ethno-village of "Morava Garden"

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Comedy Days, March, Jagodina
- The Street Race, October, Čuprija

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Jagodina
www.togjagodina.autentik.net

Tourism Organisation of Čuprija
www.cuprija.rs

POINTS OF INTEREST

ALL THE MIRACLES OF GEORGE'S HILL

The sport-tourist compound of the "Spring George's Hill" consists of several interesting units: The Museum of Waxworks, the only one in Serbia, a big Aqua Park and an attractive zoo. George's Hill is a manicured park with a summer stage and has lime-trees that are one hundred years old.

THE WORLD OF SELF-MADE ART

Janko Brašić, a famer and artist from the village of Oparić, is largely responsible for the existence of the Museum of Naive and Marginal Arts in Jagodina. His paintings were the beginnings of a collection which today, has collected the works of self-taught artists from the territories of the former Yugoslavia and Europe. In that luxurious world of colours and motifs, one can see the works of the world classics such as Sava Sekulić, Ilija Bašičević Bosilj and Emerik Feješ.



*Germ of Life, Sava Sekulić, 1974
 Museum of Naive and Marginal Arts, Jagodina*

THE HOLY PRINCE'S JOURNEY

The Monastery of Ravanica (14th century) is the legacy and tomb-church of Prince Lazar Hrebeljanović. Dramatic events in the history of Serbia can be learned about in the story of the fate of the prince's earthly remains: in the great Serb migrations at the end of the 17th century, the relics of the holy prince were first taken to Saint Andrea, then to the Vrdnik monastery of Fruška Mountain. During the Second World War, the prince's coffin (ćivot) was brought to the Orthodox Cathedral Church of Belgrade. Six centuries after the Kosovo Battle, in the year 1989, the holy emperor came back to rest in peace in his Ravanica.

HORREUM MARGI

Today's Čuprija existed in the Roman time under the name of Horreum Margi, which means the Granary of the Morava. Numerous traditional songs have been dedicated to the Morava, celebrating its fertility as well as its temperament.



Aqua-park, Jagodina

THE PATCHWORK OF RESAVA

FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF DESPOT STEFAN



Monastery of Manasija, 15th century

SIGHTSEEING

- The urban core and the Church of Holy Trinity, Paraćin
- The County Museum, Paraćin
- The Monastery of Manasija
- The Monastery of the Cover of the Most-Holy Mother of God, Lešje
- The Monastery of St. Sisoje, Sisevac
- The Museum of Coal-Mining, Mine of Senj
- The Model Park, Despotovac

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Trout from the fish farms of Grza and Crnica
- Cheese produced in Beljanica and sweet bread
- A glass of wine from the wine-growing hills of Paraćin



Prskalo Waterfall

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- A weekend at the recreational spots of Grza and Sisevac
- Mountaineering on the paths of Beljanica and Southern Kučaj
- Visiting the Resava Cave
- Lisine – a trip to Veliko vrelo and the waterfalls of Veliki buk and Prskalo
- A trekking tour to the medieval town of Petrus
- Stay in the villages in the vicinity of Despotovac
- Fishing in the spring and the lakes of Grza

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Days of Wine, March, Paraćin
- The Days of the Serbian Spiritual Transformation, August, Despotovac

POINTS OF INTEREST

RESAVA RENAISSANCE

The Monastery of Manasija (15th century) is fortified with rather thick walls. It was built by Despot Stefan Lazarević, one of the greatest and the most ingenious rulers Serbia has had. Apart from the monumental portrait of the founder, the most famous fresco is the magnificent fresco of the Holy Warriors. Manasija was the cultural centre of the Despotate with its famous "Resava" transcribers school.

COLOR CAVE

The Resava Cave, with ornaments of the colours of red, green and yellow, is one of the most beautiful in the country, and, it is said to be eighty million years old! In the main hall – "The Hall of Statues", there is nature's sculpture of "The Mother with the Child", the trademark of the beauty amongst the caves.

THE MINE NEAR SENJ

Absolutely accidentally, one native found a stone in the forest which, when put in the fire, transformed into a glowing lump. Such discovery soon led to the opening of the biggest black coal mine in Serbia (1854). The mine of Senj has not been operating for a long time now, and the Museum of Coal Mining reminds us of the glorious times of its rise and existence from yesteryear.

MAGIC OF GLASS

Paraćin is the glass capital of the Balkans. "The Wind Orchestra" of the Serbian Glass Factory is known for their unique one-of-the-kind products and the secret of making two-layer crystal with semi-precious stones.



Resavska Cave, Despotovac

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Paraćin
www.toparacin.org

Tourism Organisation of Despotovac
www.resava-tourism.rs

35. VELIKA PLANA, SVILAJNAC

ON THE MAIN CORRIDOR

SMALL TOWNS IN THE GREAT MORAVA RIVER REGION

SIGHTSEEING

- The Monastery of Koporin
- The log-built church of Pokajnica (Repentance) and the Church of St. George
- The Memorial Compound of "Radovanjski lug"
- Mara Resavkinja (Mara of Resava) Square, Svilajnac
- Natural Sciences Centre, Svilajnac
- The Memorial House of Stevan Sindelić, Grabovac
- The Crkvenac Cellar and the museum of wine-growing

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Mučkalica – a stew of barbecued meat and vegetables cooked in the Morava region, with a small glass of "Bar-daklija" plum brandy
- Resava kettle and a glass of krnjevsko wine

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Rest in the ethno-village of "The Morava Lodgings"
- Visiting the monuments of Velike Plane on the tourist train
- A short break in the ethno-ambience of Vodenica, Velika Plana
- Recreation at the Sport-Tourist Centre of "Svilajnac"
- Fishing on the Great Morava and the artificial lakes

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Days of the Leader, July, Velika Plana
- Sindjelić's Days, May, Svilajnac



Natural Sciences Center, Svilajnac

INFO

Tourist and Sports Centre of Velika Plana
www.tscvelikaplana.org

Sports and Tourist Centre of Svilajnac
www.svilajnac.com



Natural Sciences Center, Svilajnac



Repentance Monastery, 19th century

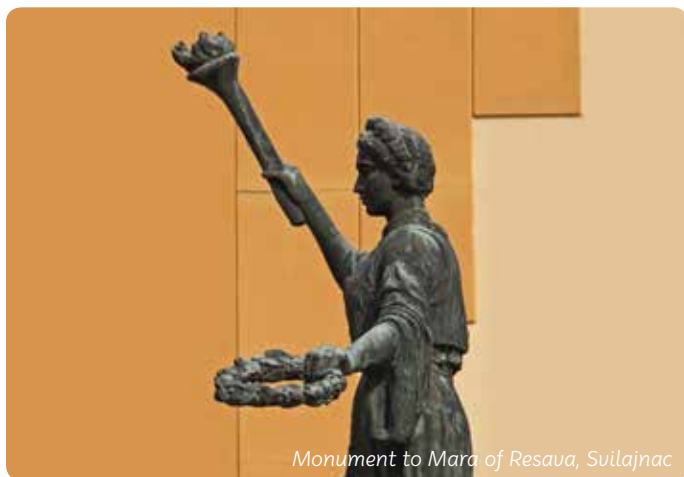
POINTS OF INTEREST

REPENTANCE AND GRATITUDE

In 1817, Duke Vujica Vuličević decapitated his godfather Kardjorđe, the great leader of the First Serbian Insurrection. Despised by people, in order to redeem for what he had done, he built a log church, which people called Pokajnica (Repentance Church). In Radovanjski lug, on the site where there used to be the cottage which the leader was decapitated in, his great-grandson King Alexander I Karadjordjević built the church Zahvalnica (Gratitude Church). That horrible murder left a deep-rooted memory in the later history of Serbia.

THE WARRIOR GIRL

The truth and the legend of the brave acts of girl Mara have, as centuries passed, become a cult of the Resava region. The monument dedicated to Mara of Resava was built in 1926 in honour of warriors from Svijalnac who gave their lives in the battles from 1912 to 1918.



Monument to Mara of Resava, Svilajnac

THE WORLD OF NATURE AND DINOSAURS

The Natural Sciences Centre of Svilajnac has an exhibition space split into different thematic halls, which show the geological ages, the diversity of the living world, extinct plants and animals, flying reptiles and the life of the mammals. The Dino Park is a big attraction in the open air and shows replicas of dinosaurs, the scale model of a volcano where lava is being melted and small lakes where the evolution of our planet is symbolically shown.

MISTIQUE OF CRKVENAC CELLAR

The Crkvenac Cellar was founded in 1897. There is written evidence that, in the golden times, a quantity of up to three million liters of wine were held there! Today, the cellar specialises in the production of plum brandy which is twice distilled. There, the twice distilled brandy produced from the požegača plum and the red ranka plum remain in an oak cask for as many as 30 years. It has been called the "Mistique of Crkvenac" and is exclusively sold at auction.

36. SMEDEREVO, SMEDEREVSKA PALANKA

VINEYARD HILLS AND JERINA'S TOWN

A JOURNEY FROM THE DANUBE TO THE LOWER JASENICA



Fortress of Smederevo, 15th century

SIGHTSEEING

- The fortress of Smederevo
- The Main Square and the Temple of St. George
- The Town Museum and the Monument to the Victims of the June-5th Tragic Event
- The Church of the Ascension of the Most-Holy Mother of God
- The old bazaar and the National Museum, Smederevska Palanka
- The log-built church and the Church of the Holy Transfiguration, Smederevska Palanka

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Pike-perch with a glass of Smederevka wine
- Small vine-leaf stuffed rolls
- Sweet bread made in Azanja and "Karadjordje" mineral water



Šalinački lug, Smederevo

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Visiting the Wine Town of Smederevo
- Researching the Wine routes of Smederevo
- Recreation on Jugovo
- Swimming in Šalinac Lake
- Rest and fishing on the lake of Kudreč
- Recreation at the Mikulja Forest Tourist Centre

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Autumn in Smederevo, September
- Fortress Theatre Festival, July, Smederevo
- Sweet bread made in Azanja, August, Azanja

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE LAST DEFENCE AND DOOM

The town of Smederevo (15th century) was built as his capital town by Serbian Despot Djuradj Branković. In its final form, it was a huge 25-tower fort on the Danube! The fortress was built fast as the Turkish conquerors were getting very close, and there was not enough stone, so even old tomb-stones were used in the construction. This embittered people and created a belief that foreign despotess Irena, who was remembered as 'Jerina the Cursed', was the one to blame. The fall of Smederevo into the hands of the Ottomans in 1459 was the moment the independent Serbian state ended.

KARADJORDJE'S MULBERRY-TREE

The mulberry-tree is over three hundred years old and is a feature of Smederevo. On 8th November 1805, under its tree top, a Turkish commander handed over the town keys to Grand Leader Karadjordje. So, for the second time in its history then, Smederevo became the symbolic capital town of Serbia.

FAMOUS SMEDEREVKA GRAPES

The loose ground and hillocks, the banks of the Danube and Great Morava rivers are ideal for growing grapes. The most famous variety of grapes of those wine-growing hills is Smederevka, and the most important festival of wine is in the autumn.

WATER FROM THE SPRING OF LONGEVITY

The mineral water of Palanački kiseljak was drunk as early as in the time of old Romans. The beginnings of the development of Kiseljak are connected with Prince Miloš Obrenović, who wrote in 1834 to his doctor to send his six jugs of this water by the postman (the so-called surudžija). The bottled water of this spring is called "Karadjordje" today.



Road of Wine, Smederevo

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Smederevo
www.toosd.com

Tourism Organisation of Smederevska Palanka
www.turizamsp.org

37. POŽAREVAC, PETROVAC NA MLAVI

IN THE GENTLENESS OF THE PLAIN OF STIG THE ROMAN HERITAGE ON THE GATES OF HOMOLJE



Reconstruction of a scene of life in Viminacium, 2nd century

SIGHTSEEING

- The district edifice and the urban centre of Požarevac
- The National Museum and the ethno-park on the Tulba river
- The Gallery of Milena Pavlović Barili
- Viminacium Archeological Park
- Ljubičevo Horse-breeding Stables
- The Monasteries of Rukumija and Vitovnica

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Sheep cheese and corn bread with greens
- Spit-roasted pork
- Mixed meat

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- A trip to the promenade at Čačalica Memorial Park
- Riding on a hackney carriage at Ljubičevo Horse-breeding Stables
- Stay in the ethno-village of Bistrica and the Lodgings of Homolje
- A weekend at the Aqua Park and the swimming pools of Spa Ždrelo
- Fishing and a break on the lake of Busur
- Camping on the Mlava river and mountaineering on the paths of Vukan and Ježevac

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Equestrian Games of Ljubičevo, September, Požarevac
- The International Biennale "In the Light of Milena", Požarevac
- The Festival of "bačija" (Alpine Dairy) – The Festival of bačija Shepherds, May, Petrovac na Mlavi



Equestrian Games of Ljubičevo, Požarevac

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE POMPEY OF THE BALKANS

Robbed and destroyed in the mid-5th century, Viminacium, the capital of the Roman Province of Upper Moesia, lived underneath the ploughed soil for almost two thousand years. What was discovered after the excavation of the "forgotten town" amazed the world, especially the frescoes and portraits of Mausoleum, which are considered to be the originators of the Byzantine art of portraiture. In one of the tombs, probably the most beautiful and oldest of Christ's monogram was painted.

NEW-YORK LETTER

Milena Pavlović Barili, a great Serbian female painter, summarised her poetics in one letter she sent to her mother: "In my imagination, our talks about the water fairy of the river, which you were telling me about, became one with Valerius' poems, and the broken Roman sculptures and sarcophaguses, which I used to watch with excitement and admiration at the archeological sites near Požarevac, were leading me to the visions of Botticelli and De Chirico". In Milena's native house in Požarevac, her precious legacy is exhibited.



Self-portrait with a Black Veil, Milena Pavlović Barili, 1935, detail

FAMOUS PEDIGREED HORSES AND KNIGHTS

Ljubičevo Horse-breeding Stables, which Miloš Obrenović built as his estate (in 1853), is an attraction of Požarevac. The estate was given its name by Prince Mihailo, in remembrance of his mother, Princess Ljubica. At the beginning of the 20th century, the horse-breeding stables were known throughout Europe, which is evidenced by the Trophy Hall and the names of the champion horses Ljubičevac, Kastor and Remoz. The all-round competition of Ljubičevo – the jockey competition which involves sabre cutting, archery, javelin and mace throwing.

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Požarevac
www.topozarevac.rs

Tourism Organisation of Petrovac na Mlavi
www.topetrovacnamlavi.com

38. KUČEVO, ŽAGUBICA

MOTIFS OF HOMOLJE

IN THE LANDSCAPE OF GOLD AND TRADITIONAL CUSTOMS



Spring of Krupaj

SIGHTSEEING

- The urban centre of Kučevo and the Church of Holy Ascension
- The spring and facility for bottling "Duboka" water, Neresnica
- The Monastery of Gornjak and Trška Church
- The centre of Žagubica and the Church of Saint Trinity

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Homolje cheese and lamb in milk
- Vlachian sweet bread and "plaćinta" pancakes
- Homolje honey

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- A cave tour: Ceremošnja and Ravništarka
- Washing out gold on the river Pek
- An outing to the belvedere of Jelena stena
- A weekend at the Rudnik Hotel, Kučevo
- Mountaineering on the paths of Homolje and Zvižd
- Rest and swimming in Krupajsko spring
- A break at the spring of the Mlava river
- Fishing and canyoning in Gornjačka Gorge

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Motifs of Homolje, August, Kučevo
- Homolje's Springs Festival, June, Žagubica



Monastery of Gornjak, 14th century

POINTS OF INTEREST

FABULOUS WEALTH

During the 1930's, an excavator for digging gold was brought to Neresnica. It was bought by the enterprise whose majority owner was King Alexander Karadjordjević. Until 1955, when it was discarded, the excavator had dug around seven tons of pure gold. Roman Emperor Hadrian had gold, silver and iron mines in Kučevo's region. The "Kraku Lu Jordan" archeometallurgic compound near the village of Brodica was an important metallurgy centre.

THE UNDERGROUND COLOSSEUM

When speaking about richness in ornamentation, Ceremošnja Cave is an excellent example. The beautiful hall is Colosseum shaped, and for that reason it was named "Arena". The symbol of Ceremošnja is a most beautiful pillar called "On Eternal Sentry".

HESYCHAST PRAYER

The Monastery of Gornjak (14th century) is the legacy of Prince Lazar. It was built in the Mlava river canyon on a narrow plateau in the foot of the steep precipice of Ježevica. The famous travel writer Felix Kanitz wrote this about his impressions of this place: "We stopped for a while as if charmed by the luxurious idyll of this landscape where Serbian hermits lived." According to the legend, St. Gregory of Sinai practiced asceticism in the chapel of Saint Sava, which is built in the vertical rock above the monastery.

GREEN WATER FROM THE DEPTHS

The Spring of the Mlava is the deepest spring in Europe. It has the form of a lake and is located in a natural amphitheatre surrounded by woods. This translucent, emerald spring is a cult place of the Vlachian traditional festivals.



Homolje honey

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Kučevo
www.tokucevo.org

Tourism Organisation of Žagubica
www.tozagubica.rs

39. VELIKO GRADIŠTE, GOLUBAC

THE DANUBE RIVIERA

THE LANDSCAPES AS BIG AS A SEA



Fortress of Golubac, 14th century

SIGHTSEEING

- The Old Bazaar, Veliko Gradište
- The fortresses of Ram and Golubac
- The Monastery of Nimnik
- The Monastery of Tumane and the Hermitage of Zosim of Sinai
- The ethno-exhibition in Dobra and Sladinac

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Gradištanac beans
- Golubac pike-perch and fish kettle
- Vlachian bread and a small glass of fruit brandy

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Stay at the hotels and villas of Srebnog jezera (Silver Lake)
- A weekend at the Aqua-park Silver Lake and cruising on the Danube
- Swimming and sport fishing on Srebrno jezero (Silver Lake) and the Danube
- Boating and panoramic sightseeing of Golubac by boat
- Walking on the paths of "Golubac" and the National Park of Djerdap
- Enjoying the beaches of Usinje and Vinci settlements
- Riding a bike on the EuroVelo 6 route

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Days of Carevac, July, Veliko Gradište
- The International Festival of Tourist and Ecological Films "Silafest", September, Veliko Gradište
- The Danube Fair, July, Golubac



Silver Lake

POINTS OF INTEREST

SULTAN'S SACRED DRESS

While traveling around these territories, Turkish travel writer Evliya Celebi wrote down a traditional story about the origin of the name of the fortress of Ram, which says that Sultan Beyazit came here and spread his sacred dress (ihram) and sat down on it and said: "Here, where this ihram is, build a fortress for me."

GLEAMING WATER

The most significant tourist attraction of Veliko Gradište is Silver Lake. In the afternoon, when the sun begins to set behind the Carpathian Mountains, millions of small scintillas make to the surface of the water flickering creating a silver reflection.

TRANSFORMATION OF THE GREAT WATER

The Danube resembles more of a sea at this point in Golubac. The entrance into the gorge (the largest in Europe) is guarded by the medieval fortress of Golubac (14th century). Its high-reaching white towers and the thick walls slope towards the bank of the Danube. The octagonal Šešir-kula (Hat-tower), once a harbour, is the trademark of the town today. One legend says that the town of Golubac was named after Princess Golubana, who rejected a Turkish pasha, who had fallen in love with her, after which the enraged pasha riveted her to the rock.

THE VLACHS AND RUSALKAS

In Brnjica near Golubac, and in Neresnica, on Thursdays and Sundays after Pentecost, the so-called Small Rusalkas come to dance. The Vlachs were the settlers in the Balkans before any other nation, and they brought with them their believing in Rusalkas - young girls dancing on lawns in the nights of the full moon.



Bicycle Path EuroVelo 6

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Veliko Gradište
www.tovg.org

Tourism Organisation of Golubac
www.golubac.rs

40. MAJDANPEK, KLADOVO

IMAGES TO ADMIRE

THE TREASURE OF THE GORGE OF DJERDAP AND THE GOLD-BEARING RIVER



SIGHTSEEING

- The Archeological Site of Lepenski Vir
- Donji Milanovac (Lower Milanovac)
- The town centre and the Archeological Museum of Djerdap, Kladovo
- The facilities of the Hydropower plant of Djerdap
- The fortresses: Roman Diana and Pontes, and the Turkish Fetislam

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Poreč Fish kettle and grilled catfish
- A glass of Kladovo white wine
- Kladovo honey and honey brandy drink

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Mountaineering on the paths of the National Park
- Boating and nautical sailing the Danube
- A bicycle ride on the EuroVelo 6 route
- Visiting Rajko's Cave (Rajkova pećina) and Belo izvorce (White Small Spring)
- A weekend at the hotel and ethno-compounds
- Hunting and fishing in the National Park

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Golden Competition in a Bučka based on a Traditional Method of Catching Catfish of Djerdap, August, Tekija
- Ethno-Festival, July, Kladovo

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Majdanpek
www.toom.rs

Tourism Organisation of Kladovo
www.tookladovo.rs

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE IRON GATE

The famous researcher of the underwater world – Jacques Cousteau measured the depths of Djerdap – on the spot of Gospodin vir (the Lady's Whirl), the river is 90 meters deep! Not only is Djerdap Gorge the deepest but it is the biggest breakthrough river of the Old Continent. The Romans named it the Iron Gate. The name Djerdap used in the Serbian language today originates from the Old Persian word girdap, which means a whirl.



THE IMMORTALS OF THE DANUBE TERRACE

Lepenski vir (Lepenski Whirl) is the oldest urban settlement in Europe! That ancient culture, whose people knew of geometry more than 9000 years ago, was discovered by a "lucky" archeologist, professor Dragoslav Srejović.

The monumental stone sculptures of fishlike deities from the Danube Terrace amazed the world: "The Originator" is considered to be the first portrait in the history of art.

TREASURES OF THE NATIONAL PARK

In many ways, Djerdap is characterised by "the most"-prefix: the most beautiful National Park of Europe, the biggest natural science and archeological museum in nature and the oldest geological heritage. From the belvederes of Veliki and Mali Štrbac, one can have the most unbelievable views of the gorge and this powerful river.

CONSTRUCTION ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

The bordering Roman road, built with great effort through the wilderness of the gorge, was flooded by the dam of the hydro-power plant. Today, this accomplishment is evidenced by the famous Tabula of Emperor Traian. One of the masterpieces of the famous architect Apollodor of Damascus – the stone bridge over the Danube, which historians say was "the longest bridge in the world for one thousand years".



41. BOR, NEGOTIN

COPPER, WINE AND CHERUBS'S SONG

THE PLACES OF MINERS AND WINE-GROWERS

SIGHTSEEING

- The Museum of Mining and Metallurgy, Bor
- "The Ditch Café" (Café Jama), 11TH Horizon of the Mine in Bor
- The Edifice and exhibition in the Lodging of Princie Miloš, Brestovačka Spa
- The old lake of Negotin and the Church of St. Trinity
- Stevan Mokranjac's House and the Museum of Hajduk Veljko
- The monasteries of Vratna and Bukovo

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Krajina fish soup
- The wines of Negotin: tamjanika, Beaujolais, gamet...
- Game specialties

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Visiting the zoo in Bor
- A weekend on the lake of Bor and in Brestovačka Spa
- Mountaineering on the paths of Deli Jovan and Stol
- Visiting natural stone bridges – natural bridges in Vratna
- Visiting Lazar's Cave and the Gates of Vratna
- Visiting the pinnicas (breweries) of Rajac and RogRajackih i Rogljevo

Pinnicas (Breweries) of Rajac



THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Days of Brestovačka Banja Spa, August
- The Days of Mokranjac, September, Negotin
- The Negotin Fair, 8th May, 12th July and 21st–23rd September

POINTS OF INTEREST

A MAGNIFICENT DISCOVERY

Serbian industrialist Djordje Weiffert, mining expert Felix Hoffmann, a German from Banat, and a Czech engineer Franja Šišteć discovered the treasure which they had not hoped to find. They were looking for gold, and instead they found an abundance of copper. Concessions for the exploitation of this treasure were given to the French, and that is why, today, it is possible to see the edifices such as the Directorate of the French Society of the Mines of Bor and the ambience unit "The French Colony".

THE MOON'S LANDSCAPE AND GULLIVER

Apart from an unbelievable view of the Surface Pit of Bor, the giant-size Damper, the biggest exhibit at the Museum of Mining and Metallurgy is also worth seeing. The miners' "Café Jama" (Ditch Café) is also a real attraction, chiseled in the rock 400 meters underneath the surface of the earth, on the 11th Horizon.

Krivelj Pit, Bor



THE TOWN WHERE WINE LIVES

The wines of Negotinska Krajina used to be popular throughout Europe and Russia, and Austria-Hungary and even had the special consulate for trading the wines of Negotin. As early as the 17th century, the wine-growers of this region began to build their pinnica breweries where they preserved wine in stone towns. The beautiful locations of the wine settlements of Rajac, Rogalji, Smedovac, Štubik and Bratujevac have been preserved for visitors to enjoy today.

SWEET MELODIES

The famous composer born in Negotin, Stevan Stojanović Mokranjac, dedicated the major part of his work to Orthodox spiritual music. His liturgy and liturgical Cherub's song are considered as the most beautiful works of the Serbian choral music. His Potpourris are also famous as collections of songs and music with folklore motifs.

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Bor
www.tobor.rs

Tourism Organisation of Negotin
www.toon.org.rs



Lake of Bor

42. ZAJEČAR, BOLJEVAC

THE CHARMS OF THE TIMOK REGION

THE ROMAN HERITAGE AND THE LEGENDARY MOUNTAIN



SIGHTSEEING

- UNESCO heritage – Felix Romuliana, Gamzigrad
- The urban centre and Square of Nikola Pašić, Zaječar
- The Felix Romuliana Collection, the National Museum
- The "Memorial of Nikole Pašić" Exhibition
- Radul-Bey's Lodging
- The "Old Prison" Museum of the Timok Rebellion, Boljevac

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Yellow cheese of Krivi Vir and sour milk
- A pint of beer produced in Zaječar
- A healthy meal: Timok salad and tea from Rtanj



ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Recreation in the park-forest of Kraljevica
- Swimming on Popova plaža (Priest's Beach) and Sovinac Lake
- Fishing on Grliško and Sovinac lakes
- Mountaineering and mountain biking on the paths of Rtanj
- A break in the park-forest of Julius Minha's family
- A weekend at the ethno-centre of "Rtanj Balašević" Gamzigradska Spa
- Visiting Bogovinska Cave

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Black-river Region in Song and Dance, June, Boljevac
- The Guitar Fest, August, Zaječar
- The Days of Zoran Radmilović, Theatre encounters, November, Zaječar

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE CROWN OF COURT ARCHITECTURE AND THE HOLY HILL

The compound of Gamzigrad-Romuliana was built by Roman Emperor Gaius Galerius Valerius Maximianus, the successor of Emperor Diocletian. The Hill of Magura within Romuliana has been a most highly respected place since prehistoric times. On this holy place, Galerius and his mother Romula were buried, which, according to the legend, transcended them to the constellations of the gods.

MYSTIQUE PYRAMID MOUNTAIN

"The Black River Basin, especially its mountainous frame, is one of the most beautiful landscapes in the Balkan Peninsula. Mountain Rtanj greatly contributes to such an impression by peacefully rising from a broad foundation, and ending with the almost regular cone-shaped Šiljak peak". There are numerous legends about Rtanj, as well as stories about aliens, a wizard's treasure, secret forces and miraculous therapeutic powers.

LEADERS AND REBELS

The edifice of the old prison, where rebels were being imprisoned during the Timok Rebellion (1883), has been adapted into a museum preserving the memories of that dramatic historical event. The rebellion was raised by the representatives of the People's Radical Party against the government of King Milan Obrenović, and upon the insistence of the later great Serbian politician Nikola Pašić. The government responded by declaring a state of emergency and introducing a court-martial. In the Timok region, a great hero of the First Serbian Insurrection, Hajduk Veljko, was born.



INFO

Tourism Organisation of Zaječar
www.tozajecar.co.rs

Tourism Organisation of Boljevac
www.boljevac.org.rs

43. SOKOBANJA, ALEKSINAC

BENEFICIAL REGION

THE SPRINGS OF THE MAGICAL MOUNTAINS



Soko-grad

SIGHTSEEING

- The first view of the town: Sokobanja's Promenade
- Miloš's Lodging and the Church of the Holy Transfiguration
- The County Museum and the fortress of Soko-grad
- The Church of the Ascension of the Most-Holy Mother of God, Jošanica
- The urban centre and the Church of St. Nichola, Aleksinac
- St. Trinity Temple, Gornji Adrovac (Upper Adrovac)

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Cheese and lamb of Sokobanja
- Kajmak creamy cheese spread and sour milk of the Morava region
- Kebabs of Aleksinac



Hamam (Turkish Bath), Sokobanja Spa

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Wellness programs at the Turkish Hamam and SB "Sokobanja"
- A weekend at the Aqua Park of Sokobanja
- Trekking along the "Paths of Health" and swimming on the beaches of the Moravica (Little Morava) river
- Trips to Lepteriya, Vrelo Borići (Borići Springs) and Očno
- Boat trips and fishing on the Lake of Bovan
- Mountaineering on the paths of Ozren, Rtanj, Bukovika (Beech Forest) and Devica (Virgin)
- Stay in the villages of Aleksinac

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The First Accordion International Festival – Sokobanja, July-August
- Cultural Summer in Sokobanja Spa, June-September
- The Ethno-Festival "There's an old Watermill on the Morava River", July, Aleksinac

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE REFRESHING WATER OF SOKO-TOWN

At the end of 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries, the spa was a place where Serbian noblemen and bohemians met. It was named after the medieval fortress of Soko-Town. The oldest spa edifice and the one the town prides in is the old Turkish hamam, built on the two thermo-mineral springs which had been used as early as in Roman times.

WORDS OF NOBEL-PRIZE WINNER AND COMEDIOGRAPHER

There is much evidence bearing testament to the beneficial influences of the spa. One such piece of evidence was recorded by famous Ivo Andrić: "I do not know which natural forces exist in the spa, but I do know that after 15-20 days of my stay in Sokobanja Spa, I work in Belgrade as if I were born again." An old comedy writer, Branislav Nušić, wrote his famous rhyming motto of this spa, in which he says Sokobanja Spa miraculously rejuvenates people.

AN ETERNAL VOW OF LOVE

An isolated rock in Očno is known as "The Stone of Love". The legend says that Hajduk Veljko and Čučuk-Stanja vowed to love there, and it is believed that those couples who climb the rock will be in love with each other till the end of their lives. The waterfalls of Ripaljka, the highest to be found in Serbia are also here.

ANNA KARENINA'S LOVER

The Temple of St. Trinity near Aleksinac was built on the place where, fighting for Serbia's freedom, Russian colonel Nikolai Raievski was killed. Raievski's personality served Lev Tolstoy to create the character of Count Vronsky in his novel titled "Anna Karenina".



Ripaljka Waterfalls

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Sokobanja
www.sokobanja.rs

Tourism Organisation of Aleksinac
www.otisaleksinac.rs

44. NIŠ

IMPERIAL CITY ON THE CROSSROAD

THE CHEERFUL CAPITAL CITY OF THE SOUTH-EAST

SIGHTSEEING

- Square of King Milan and the centre of the city
- The Fortress of Niš
- The old craftsmen bazaar – Kazandžijsko sokače (Coppersmith's Alleyway)
- The Archeology Hall of the National Museum
- The archeological site of Mediana
- Čele kula (The Skull Tower) and the monument of the Battle of Čegar
- The concentration camp in the Red Cross city quarter and the Memorial Park of Bubanj



Fortress of Niš, 1-17th centuries, detail

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Niš barbecue
- Game cooked according to the cuisine of Niš
- Burek cheese pie

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- A wellness relaxation in Niška banja Spa
- Mountaineering on the paths of Suva planina (Dry Mountain)
- A trip to Bojanine vode (Bojana's Waters)
- An trip to Kamenički vis
- Rafting along the gorges of the Jelešnica river and Sićevo gorges
- Paragliding

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Nišvil Jazz Festival, August
- Film Encounters, August
- The Days of Burek Cheese Pie, August –September



City Square, Niš



Emperor Konstantin, 4th century

POINTS OF INTEREST

CONSTANTINE'S CITY

In antique Naisus, Niš today, Emperor Constantine the Great was born. He is remembered in history as a ruler who fundamentally changed the world – he built Constantinople, and by the Edict of Milan, he formally allowed the religion of the Christians. The traces of Constantine's time are visible on the localities of Mediana (4th century), where, amongst other things, there was the imperial summer house, testifying of the wealth and glory of the imperial Naisus.

FORTRESS ON THE NIŠAVA RIVER

The fortress (18th century) is the symbol of the city, and is one of the most beautiful and best preserved edifices of the Turkish military architecture in the middle Balkans. The Antique Street, Lapidarium, the Old Hamam and the Arsenal represent a part of the monuments in the collection to be found in the old fortress.

TALL TALES

At the entrance to the liveliest part of the city, the Coppersmith's Alleyway, there is an unusual monument: an inn table where two men are cheerfully talking with each other and a hunting dog. They are Serbian writer Stevan Sremac and Hunter Kalča, the writer's literary character, who is entertaining the people by telling them about his imagined heroic deeds. Although a fruit of imagination, Kalča is a favourable character of the city of Niš. He is the one to welcome and say a farewell to those who come to visit this former Turkish craftsmen bazaar – a street lined with cafes, bars and restaurants today.

MONUMENTS OF IRE

The Serbian insurrection army conquered the Hill of Čegar in 1809. It was led by Commander Duke Stevan Sindjelić. Having realised that he was unable to defend from the more numerous Turkish army, he decided to act heroically: he lured them to a position, then blasted them all. When the commander of the city learned about the event, he ordered to have the killed Serbs decapitated and their heads built into the tower. The Skull-Tower, i.e. Čele-kula, is a unique monument of brutal revenge. Niš is also the only city in Serbia that has preserved the remains of the former fascist concentration camp in the Red Cross city quarter.

INFO:

Tourism Organisation of Niš
www.visitnis.com

TREASURES OF SOUTH-EAST

THE TIMOK RIVER AND THE MARVELOUS OLD MOUNTAIN



Stara planina (Old Mountain), Babin zub (Grandmother's Tooth)

SIGHTSEEING

- The old bazaar of Knjaževac and the stone bridge
- The County Museum of Knjaževac
- The Town Museum – Aca Stanojević's House
- The Memorial Park to the Soldiers Fighting in the Wars for Liberation
- Timacum Minus – The Archeological Ethno-Park of Ravna
- The Church of Saint Mother of God and the Monastery of St. Trinity

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Lamb and kačkavalj – yellow cheese of the Old Mountain
- A glass of the vranac Knjaževac wine or rose wine
- The belmuž specialty made of Svrlijig cheese



The Timok river of Svrlijig

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Researching the wine routes of Knjaževac
- A wellness weekend at the "Stara Planina" Hotel
- Skiing at the ski-centre of "Babin zub"
- Mountaineering on the paths of Stara planina (Old Mountain)
- Stay in the mountain villas and rural village households
- Stay in the villages surrounding Knjaževac and Svrlijig

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Festival of the Culture of the Young of Serbia, July, Knjaževac
- A Prayer Under Midžorom, St. George's Day, May, the villages of Vrtovac and Balta Berilovac
- The Festival of the Belmuž Specialty, August, Svrlijig

POINTS OF INTEREST

PEARL OF NATURE – OLD MOUNTAIN

The dense forests, spacious grazing lands and picturesque villages leave an imprint on the landscape of Stara planina (Old Mountain). The rock of Babin zub (Grandmother's Tooth), lies 1758 meters above the sea level, where one of the rocks has a different shape reminding one of an old tooth and for which, the mountain is famous for. Especially interesting are the valley of the spring of Bigar, the highest peak of Midžor and the meanders of the Temštica.

PICTURESQUE CITY

The old bazaar of Knjaževac, with its nice houses painted in different colours and its small bridges on the Timok, enable one to have a charming view of the surrounding landscape. At the beginning of the 20th century, a famous architect, Le Corbusier, visited Knjaževac. Inspired by the images he saw, he made a sketch of the town, and that sketch is today kept at the National Museum in Belgrade.

TOWER OF EVIL REPUTE

Knjaževac used to have the name of Gurgusovac. There was a tower in the town, of the same name, where Prince Alexander Karadjordjević imprisoned his opponents in very rough conditions. When Prince (Knez) Miloš came back to the throne, he ordered that the tower should be burnt. In token of gratitude, the natives of Gurgusovac named the town Knjaževac (Prince's Town).

NOVEL ON KNITTED SOCKS

Differing in their design and colours, traditional double-knit socks are exclusive products of traditional, national art. Ornaments on the knitted socks are unique in the region of Knjaževac. Together with a rich collection of socks, the County Museum also preserves a unique album with drawings showing the skill of the knitting-women of the Timok region. That precious collection exists thanks to spouses Svetozar and Vidosava Popović.



Wine cellar, Knjaževac

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Knjaževac
www.tokenjazevac.org.rs

Centar za turizam, kulturu i sport Svrlijig
www.kcsvrlijig.rs

46. PIROT, BABUŠNICA, DIMITROVGRAD

THE HEART OF THE BALKANS IN THE COLOURS AND ORNAMENTS OF KILIMS



Kale, Momčilo's Town, Fortress in Pirot, 14th century

SIGHTSEEING

- The town centre and the craftsmen quarter in Tijabara
- The Old Church and the Orthodox Cathedral Church in Tijabara
- The Museum of the Nišava River Basin in the House of the Hristić Family
- The fortress of Pirot "Momčilov grad" (Momčilo's Town)
- * The Church of the Nativity of the Most-Holy Mother of God, Dimitrovgrad
- The Monastery of St. John the Divine - Poganovo
- The Monastery of the Most-Holy Mother of God, the village of Sukovo
- St. George's Monastery, the village of Temska

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- The lamb and ironed sausage of Pirot
- The yellow cheese and vurda milk specialty of Pirot
- Banica pie and broad bean jelly of the Old Mountain

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Trips to Zavojsko Lake, Temac, Sukovo, Poganovo
- Trekking and mountain biking along the gorge of the Temštica, the Rosomačka and the Visočica rivers
- Rafting and canoeing on Vladikine ploče (The Bishop's Plates) (a canyon) on the Visočica and the Temštica rivers
- Conquering the Old Mountain's peaks: Babin zub (Grandmother's Tooth), Vražja glava (Devil's Head), Tri čuke (Three Rocky Peaks), Kopren (Veil)
- Stay in the villages around Pirot and Dimitrovgrad
- Fishing on the lakes of Smilovo and in the canyon of the Jerma river

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Fair of Ironed Sausage of Pirot, February, Pirot
- The International Festival of Folklore, August, Pirot
- The Fair of Agro-biodiversity and Rural Heritage, September, Smilovci, Dimitrovgrad



Yellow cheese produced in Pirot



Kilim made in Pirot

POINTS OF INTEREST

PERFECTION OF COLORFUL THREADS

The colours, ornaments and weaving patterns of the kilim of Pirot are considered to be the most beautiful accomplishments in the production of kilim in general. The colours of the kilim are clear and harmoniously combined, with the red colour as the most frequent background colour in its different nuances. Ornaments of the kilim of Pirot are always geometrical in shape: a stylised bird, a flower, a flame as examples of decoration. At the Museum of the Nišava River Basin, there is an extraordinary collection of kilims of Pirot, which is certainly a 'must-see', as well as the collections of the famous Pirot pottery and old jewelry.

LEGEND OF THE CONSTRUCTOR

The fortress is one of the symbols of Pirot. There is a legend amongst people that relate the construction of "Kale" to the name of Duke Momčilo. According to one story, Momčilo was Lazar's brave knight, and according to another, he was the commander of hajduks (outlaws). From one generation to another, another legend is conveyed that the famous hero of the Battle of Kosovo Miloš Obrenović lived in the fortress. The town was named after the Greek word Pírgos - meaning "towers", because that was the place with the sentry towers built on the main road since Roman times.

BALD JESUS

One of the most interesting holies of Pirot is the Church of St. Peter and Paul (13th century), which, as the legend says, was built by the ascetics of Sinai. The church is in the cave of the hill of Kamik, not far away from the village of Rsovci. There is a fresco in the church, which shows Jesus as very young and without hair. The fresco of St. Christopher in the Church of the Monastery of the Most-Holy Mother of God in Sukovo is also unique, on which the saint is painted with a donkey's head.

VENUS' SLOPE

Not far away from Zvonačka Spa, there is an unusual natural rarity - a nature reserve where Venus hair fern - a plant which found its part of the "Mediterranean sky" in the inner land - grows.

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Pirot

www.topirot.com

Tourism Organisation of Dimitrovgrad

www.todimitrovgrad.org.rs

Tourism Organisation of Babušnica

www.babushnica.rs

EMPEROR JUSTINIAN'S NATIVE LAND

THE FERTILE SOTHERN REGION



Justiniana Prima, Empress's City, 6th century

SIGHTSEEING

- The Archeological site of Justiniana Prima – Empress's Town
- The National Museum, Leskovac
- The Ethnological Exhibition in the Town Hall and Šop-Djokić's House
- The "Odžaklija" (Chimney) Church and the Cathedral Church of St. Trinity
- The Museum of the Textile Industry, the village of Strojkovac
- The monasteries in Jašunje: St. John the Baptist and St. Mother of God
- The Church of St. Paraskevi with lodging, the village of Rudare

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- The "train" (meat specialty) of Leskovac, ajvar salad
- Kebabs and hamburgers of Leskovac
- The mućkalica (diced pork with a pepper and tomato hot sauce) of Leskovac

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Stay at the hotel "Pašina česma" (The Pasha's Fountain)
- Trekking tour along the canyon of the Vučjanka river to Skobaljčić-grad (Skobaljčić-Town)
- Mountaineering on the paths of Radan, Kukavica (Cuc-koo) and Babička gora (Babička Mountain)
- Stay at the hotel "Gejzer" (Geysir), Sijarinska Spa



Paprika of Leskovac

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Festival of Barbecue of Leskovac, September
- The Summer in Leskovac and the Carnival, June-July
- The Summer in Bojnik, July, Bojnik
- The International Festival of Folklore, August, Lebane
- The Geysir Nights, August, Sijarinska Spa



Leskovac skara grill, barbecue

POINTS OF INTEREST

JUSTINIANA PRIMA – A LEGENDARY TOWN

Procopius, a historian and contemporary of Emperor Justinian I, recorded in his books the building of this palace in Emperor's native Illyricum. For a long time, it was unknown where the emperor's new town "had disappeared". The story about the discovery of the magnificent urban space began as early as in the year 1880, by publishing the text "The Lost Town in the Valley of the Deserted River". After research over a number of years, the archeologists' discoveries amazed the world: an archbishop's basilica, a court in Acropolis, churches, public edifices, wide streets and mosaics. Justiniana Prima, or Empress's Town, is a unique architectural precious stone of its time.

HISAR ARCHEOLOGICAL PARK

On the gentle slopes of the valley of Leskovac, on the Hill of Hisar, a large number of edifices and archeological objects testifying to the life over seven millennia were discovered. On Hisar Hill, there are also the Monument to the Unknown Hero (1922) and the monumental Memorial Park of the Revolution (1971).

THE "TIRELESS" POWER PLANT

The hydropower plant of Vučje has been inscribed on the list of precious industrial heritage. The power of the waterfall of the Vučjanka river was "transformed" by the Siemens generators dating back to 1903. From that year to now, the hydropower plant has incessantly been operating! Above the plant, there are the remains of the fortress known amongst the people as Skobaljčić-grad (Skobaljčić-Town). The legend says that the fortress is related to the name of Nikola Skobaljčić, the invincible Duke (15th century).

VILLAGES DRESSED IN RED

The region of Leskovac is known for peppers and paprika. Early in the autumn, all the villages are dressed in red with peppers and paprika, and the most picturesque is Donja Lokošnica (Lower Lokošnica), which is adorned with the strings of red paprika.

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Leskovac

www.tol.org.rs

Tourism Organisation of Bojnik

www.bojnik.org.rs

Tourism Organisation of Lebane

www.lebaneculture.com

Tourism Organisation of Medvedja

www.tomedvedja.org.rs

48. KURŠUMLIJA, PROKUPLJE

MAGICAL WARMTH OF TOPLICA RIVER IN THE WORLD OF THERAPEUTIC WATERS AND MIRACULOUS PHENOMENA



Džavolja varoš (Devil's Town), Kuršumlija

SIGHTSEEING

- The town centre with its Kuršumlija Park
- The Monastery of St. Nicholas, Kuršumlija
- The town centre of "Korzo" ("Promenade") and the edifice of the County Prefecture, Prokuplje
- Hisar – The Town of Prokupac and the Church of St. Procopius
- The Toplica National Museum and the locality of Pločnik
- The Monastery of Ajdanovac, Church Lazarica and the Church of St. Mina

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Lamb and veal
- Samokovo sausage with wild pear brandy
- Pie cooked under the shallow bell-shaped metal lid with a pint of "Prolom" beer

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Visiting Džavolja varoš (The Devil's Town)
- A wellness weekend at the hotel "Radan", Prolom Spa
- Stay at the hotels of "Kopaonik" and "Jelak", Lukovska Spa
- Mountaineering on the paths of health in Prolom and Lukovska Spas
- Swimming in Bublčko Lake

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The International Devil's Town Photo-Colony, October, Kuršumlija
- The Day of the Saint Patron of the Town – St. Procopius, July, Prokuplje



Lukovska Spa

INFO

Tourism Organisation of Kuršumlija
www.tokursumlija.rs

Tourism Organisation of Prokuplje
www.topk.rs

POINTS OF INTEREST

MIRACULOUS STATUES MADE FROM EARTH

Between the wooded slopes of Radan, there is a magnificent "petrified" colonnade of statues made from earth. Two hundred and two mysterious figures with black stone "caps" were given the name of Džavolja varoš (Devil's Town), according to the traditional legend of the wedding guests who had been petrified by Devil himself. Džavolja varoš is our candidate for the Seven World Wonders of Nature.



SPRINGS OF THE TOPLICA

There are an incredibly large number of therapeutic waters springing from the depths of Radan and Kopaonik. On those springs, Prolom, Lukovska and Kuršumlijska Spas were built. The Toplica river, after which the whole region is named, is itself a legend. The river was named after the abundance of warm springs along the course of 136 kilometers! At the entrance to Prokuplje, the river hits the rock of Hisar and withdraws by circumventing the hill, which is yet another miracle of nature in this region.

THE WHITE CHURCHES

OF THE NEMANJIĆ DYNASTY

The monasteries of St. Nicholas and the Most-Holy Mother of God in Kuršumlija are amongst the first legacies of Stefan Nemanja, the founder of the Nemanjić Dynasty (12th century).

MINING TRADITION OF ONE MILLENNIUM

The locality of Pločnik (The Plate) is a synonym for later Vinča culture. Research shows that it is probably the oldest metallurgy centre in the world, which covered the territory of an incredible 110 hectares.

DEDICATION TO PEOPLE

Doctor Aleksa Savić, a tireless doctor who was curing ordinary people, went through the hells of the First World War and became the minister of national health. He bequeathed his property to Prokuplje. There is an edifice of his endowment – "Savićevac" – on the hill of Hisar today.

49. VLADIČIN HAN, SURDULICA, BOSILEGRAD

MOSAIC OF THE SOUTHERN SKY

A JOURNEY ACCOMPANIED WITH THE SOUND OF THE TRUMPET



Besna kobila (Mad Mare) Mountain

SIGHTSEEING

- The Park of Liberation and St. Prince Lazar's Temple, Vladičin Han
- The Monastery of the Ascension of the Most-Holy Mother of God, the village of Mrtvica
- The centre of Surdulica and the Church of St. George
- The Centre of Bosilegrad and the Temple of the Nativity of the Most-Holy Mother of God

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- Vlasina trout and fish kettle
- Green's pie with sheep sour milk
- Bosilegrad zelnik pie

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Stay at the hotels and apartments of Vlasinsko Lake
- Fishing on Vlasinsko Lake
- Watersports including sailing on the lake and canoeing
- Camping on the bank of Vlasinsko Lake
- Mountaineering and mountain biking on the paths of Čemernik and Vardenik

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Summer in Vlasina, July, Surdulica, Vlasinsko Lake
- The 'Reload Music Festival', July, Vladičin Han
- The International Children's Easter Day Festival, Bosilegrad



A young trumpeter, Surdulica

POINTS OF INTEREST

FLOATING "GALLEYS"

Vlasinsko Lake accumulated when the dam on the Vlasina river formed a lake and peat moss lifted from the river bed and formed big islands, which carried by the wind, freely float. The peat-moss "galleys" are a unique phenomenon and the trademark of the Vlasina. The colours of the water of the lake are also miraculous, with endless nuances of blue and green tones.



Lake of Vlasina

THE GREAT TRUMPETERS

The most famous trumpet orchestra of the Balkans comes from Vladičin Han. Today, Boban Marković and his son Marko are considered to be the worldwide authority of ethno-sound musicians. Every year, excellent trumpeters from Vladičin Han, Surdulica and Bojnik, Vranje take part in the Vlasina event held each summer.

KIND WORDS

Bora Stanković wrote the following kind words of the small town surrounded by the mountains: "Surdulica, intended to accommodate anyone who wants to rest, refreshing them with its nature and is a central point between the wilderness of the Vlasina, the gentleness of Topli Do (Warm Valley) and the spacious meadows of Masurica..." There, King Alexander Karadjordjević opened the Sanatorium for Pulmonary Diseases in 1921, where the main medical benefit was the refreshing air.

MEMORIAL SCHOOL

The First World War brought many evils to Surdulica. The region was occupied by the Bulgarians, and Surdulica was the place where thousands of Serbian prisoners were being deported. A large number of them, together with the native population, were killed in Surdulica's torture chambers. Six years after the liberation, in 1924, King Alexander Karadjordjević unveiled the Memorial Mausoleum and the Memorial High School in remembrance of the victims of those crimes.

INFO

Tourist Office of Surdulica

www.tosurdulica.org

Tourist Office of Vladičin Han

www.vladicinhhan.org.rs

Bosilegrad

www.bosilegrad.org

50. VRANJE, BUJANOVAC

THE SPIRIT OF GUSTO

THE WARM SOUNDS OF THE SOUTH



SIGHTSEEING

- The urban core and the Cathedral Church of St. Trinity
- The Museum House of Bore Stanković
- The National Museum in the edifice of Pašin konak (Pasha's Lodging)
- The Building of the Prefecture of the District of Vranje
- The Church of St. Paraskevi and the old hamam
- The White Bridge and Djerenska Fountain
- The Fortress of "Markovo kale" (Marco's Stone)
- The Monastery of St. Prohor of the Pčinja



LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- The "talimat" kebab specialty of Vranje
- Samsa-pie poured over with sour milk
- Trljanica – paprika salad

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Mountaineering and mountain biking on the paths of Besne kobile (Mad Mare)
- Recuperate in the Vranjska Spa
- Stay at the hotel "Pržar"
- Skiing at the ski-centre of Besna kobila (Mad Mare)
- Stay at SB "Bujanovačka banja" Spa

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- The Days of Vranje, September, Vranje
- The Week of Bora, March, Vranje
- Bora's Theatre Days, October, Vranje
- The International Kolo Bujanovac Folklore Festival, July, Bujanovac

POINTS OF INTEREST

GRANDMOTHER ZLATA

A famous writer, Bora Stanković, the author of "Koštana" and "Nečista krv" ("Impure Blood"), revealed before Serbia's eyes the untold world of Vranje. After his parents had died, he stayed and lived with his father's mother – Grandma Zlata. She was the one to have told him a large number of stories and poems, and she was also the one whom he inherited his gift of storytelling from. Grandma Zlata also sang beautifully and Bora would attend many social gatherings with her, so he could passionately learn about the spirit of the town. The house of the famous writer can be found in the street which is named after Grandma Zlata today.



SONGS AND DANCES

The melodic expression of Vranje became famous for the songs from Koštana. Apart from the songs of Vranje and the choček dance, the extraordinary national trumpet orchestras provide the region with a special sound and spirit.

HAREMLUK

In the old lodgings of Raif-Bey Džinić (1765), in the edifice of his luxurious haremluk, there is a business, with a club today famous restaurant. The "Simpò" Company renovated the edifice, and preserved the authentic looks of the Harem.

BRIDGE OF LOVE

According to legend, a Muslim woman Aisha, who had fallen in love with a shepherd called Stojan, was mistakenly killed by her enraged father. When he realized what he had done, he ordered that a new bridge be constructed where Aisha and Stojan tragically died, and that the following words be chiseled in there: "Cursed be he who separates those who are bound by love".

INFO

Tourist office of Vranje

www.tovranje.org

SB "Bujanovačka Banja"

www.bujanovackabanja.org

COLORFUL BALKAN

AN OLD IMPERIAL TOWN AND SHARR-MOUNTAIN THE BEAUTY



Skiing on Šar-planina (The Sharr Mountains)



Stone bridge, Prizren

SIGHTSEEING

- UNESCO Heritage – Our Lady of Ljeviš **
- The old bazaar and the stone bridge on the Bristrica
- Šadrvan Square and Sinan-Pasha's Mosque
- The Cathedral Church of St. George
- The Church of Holy Salvation and the fortress of Dušan's Town – Kaljaja
- Gazi Mehmet-Pasha's Mosque and Hamam
- The Monastery of Saint Archangels and the Hermitage of St. Peter Koriški

LOCAL SPECIALTIES

- "toplje" pastry
- Sharr cheese in pickle
- Soup and sweet bread of Prizren
- A glass of Hoča wine

ACTIVE REST AND RELAXATION

- Stay in the tourist settlement of "Brezovica"
- Skiing at the ski-centre of Molika
- Mountaineering and mountain biking on the paths of Sharr-Mountain

THE 'MUST-SEE' EVENTS:

- The Children's Festival celebrating the Folklore of Kosovo and Metohija, July, Štrpce



Lake of Livadica, The Sharr Mountain

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE MUSEUM TOWN

Prizren is classified as one of the most beautiful towns representing traditional Balkan architecture. Its picturesque Mahalas ("neighborhoods") are worth seeing: Potkaljaja, Pantelija, Maras, Terzi and Potok mahala (Spring Mahala). Prizren is also the town of the terzi craftsmen - national costume tailors, tinsmiths, home to the masters of weaving Prizren linen and the masters of Prizren embroidery - all of which were all well known throughout the Balkans.

THE BEAUTY OF THE BYZANTINE RENAISSANCE

The Church of Our Lady of Ljeviš (14th century) was built as one of the 40 legacies of King Milutin. The works of masters Nikola and Astrapa are considered to be the masterpieces of the Byzantine construction and fresco-paintings. They were also admired by conquerors as well: "The pupil of my eye is the nest of your beauty", are the words written in the Arabic language on the surface of the frescoes in Our Lady of Ljeviš by an unknown Muslim visitor.

THE MOUNTAIN'S EYES AND THE FLUTTER OF BUTTERFLIES

The Sharr-Mountain National Park, with around one hundred peaks higher than 2000 metres, is a mountain of an outstanding and almost savage beauty. Sharr is characterised by numerous glacier lakes, and one that is especially beautiful, the Jažinačko Lake which is surrounded by the coniferous forest of Macedonian pines. Sharr-Mountain is also a real museum of the living world in the open air. It is home to 147 species of butterflies! It is also well known for a dog race too, namely the šarplaninac - the dog of the Sharr-Mountain, shepherd dogs which are known for being brave and strong.

AN EMPEROR'S LEGACY

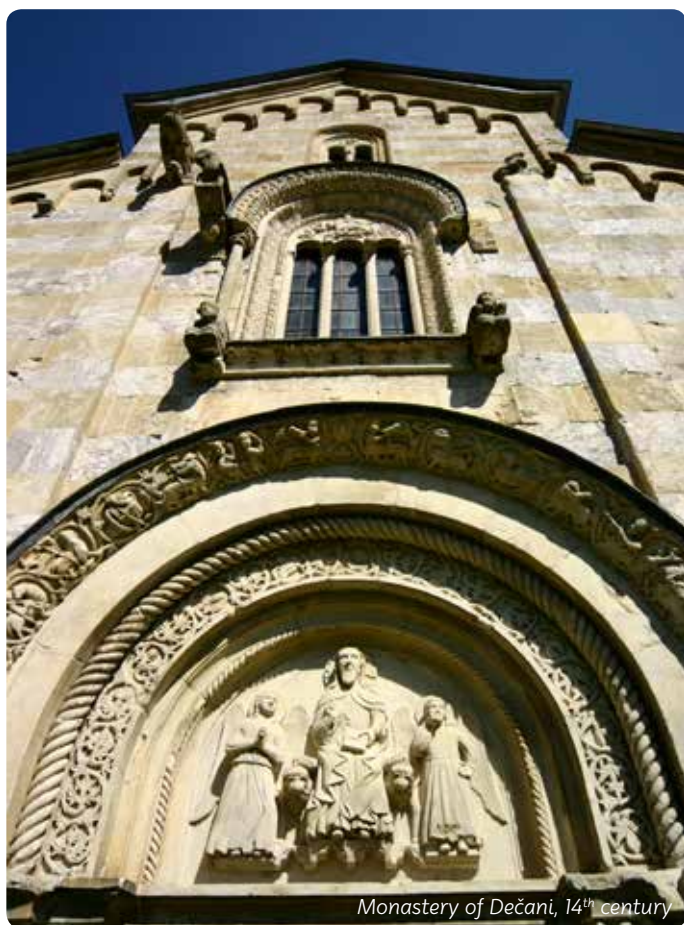
Sharr-Mountain is frequently called the imperial mountain as it is surrounded by over 30 churches and monasteries. Amongst them, the most significant one is the legacy of Emperor Dušan the Mighty - the Monastery of Saint Archangels (14th century) located in the canyon of the Prizren's Bistrica river.

INFO

Holiday Plus Kosovska Mitrovica
www.holidaypluskm.com

THE PILGRIMAGE OF KOSOVO AND METOHIJA

HERITAGE OF PRECIOUS WORTH



Monastery of Dečani, 14th century

SIGHTSEEING

- UNESCO Heritage – The Patriarchate of Peć**
- UNESCO Heritage – The Monastery of Visoki Dečani**
- UNESCO Heritage – Our Lady of Ljeviš **
- The Monastery of Saint Archangels
- The Churches of Velika Hoča and Dečanske vinice
- UNESCO Heritage – The Monastery of Gračanica**
- The monasteries of Banjska, Sokolica and Devič

THE MUST-SEE EVENTS

- Poets' Evening Service on the Day of St. Vitus, June, Gračanica
- The North City Jazz & Blues Festival, May-June, Kosovska Mitrovica
- Festival of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, August, Leposavić



Patriarchate of Peć, 13th century

POINTS OF INTEREST

THE LONG SEAT OF THE PATRIARCH OF THE CHURCH

The impressive monastery compound of the Patriarchate of Peć consists of four churches built between the mid-13th century and the end of the 14th century: the Church of Saint Apostles, The Church of St. Demetrius, the Church of the Most-Holy Mother of God of Odigitria and the Church of St. Nicholas. By the Church of Saint Apostles, there is a marble throne where Saint Sava and many other heads of the Serbian Church once sat. Today, there is a sisterhood, who, together with the brotherhood of Visoki Dečani, is significantly supporting survival of Serbs in Metohija.

THE HOLY KING'S HOME

Visoki Dečani (14th century) was built by King Stefan Uroš the Third of Dečani, and his son Dušan. The temple is dedicated to the Ascension of Jesus Christ. Regarding the sizes of the monastery, Dečani is the biggest sacred edifice of medieval Serbia. The church is decorated with luxurious stone ornamentation and frescoes with more than one thousand figures and scenes. UNESCO describes Dečani as "such an edifice that integrates the Byzantine tradition of the East with the medieval tradition of the West."



The Personification of the Sea, The Scene of the Judgement Day, A Fresco detail, Monastery of Gračanica, 14th century

CROWNS UPON GOD'S WILL

Gračanica (14th century) is the last legacy of King Milutin. The Church is dedicated to the Ascension of the Most-Holy Mother of God. The walls are built out of chiseled stone with the brick rows and decorative ornamentation and as such, Gračanica is an authentic and exceptional edifice. Along with the architecture, the fresco painting of Gračanica is also known for the frescoes of King Milutin and his wife Simonida, who are painted as "Rulers upon God's will".

MONASTERY'S INTOXICATING WINE

Velika Hoča is at the centre of the famous wine-growing hills. As early as in the 12th century, Stefan Nemanja gave Hoča as a gift to Hilandar. According to tradition, there was once a wine-duct running from Hoča to Prizren. Apart from numerous churches and pelitories of the wall, Dečanske vinice and Lazar Kujundžić's Tower are well worth visiting. Close by is also the Monastery of Zočište.

MIRACULOUS OUR LADY OF SOKOLICA

The statue of Our Lady of Sokolica was made in the Monastery of Banjska (14th century). The tradition says that Our Lady of Banjska "flew" to Sokolica "500 years ago and stood on a tree and told the people to build a church". Local people show a high respect for her, call her "mother" and both the Serbs and the Albanians pray before her for their ancestors and recovery from illness.

INFO

Holiday Plus Kosovska Mitrovica
www.holidaypluskm.com

Sport-tourism Organization of Leposavić
www.stoleposavić.rs

* Currently, Kosovo and Metohija are under the administration of UNMIK, on the basis of the Resolution of the Security Council of the United Nations 1244
 **The Serbian monasteries have been on the UNESCO Endangered World Heritage List since the year 2006.

USEFUL INFO

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Location – Between 41° 52' and 46° 11' N.G.Lat. i 18° 06' и 23° 01' E.G.Long.

Territory – 88,509 km²

Capital City – Belgrade

Population – 7,120,666 inhabitants

Language – Serbian

Script – Cyrillic and Latin

Climate – Moderate Continental, with warm summers up to 33°C and snowy winters, with temperatures ranging from -5°C to 10°C.

Time Zone – Central European Time Zone GMT+1 hour

(March–October GMT+2 hours)

Currency – Dinar (RSD) (100 paras)

Electricity – 220 V, 50 Hz

Water – from city/town water networks and public fountains is safe to drink

PHONE NO.'s IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Police – 192

Firefighter Service – 193

AMSS–Automobile Club of Serbia for roadside assistance – 1987

HOLIDAYS

1st and 2nd January – New Year

7th January – the first day of Orthodox Christmas Day

15th and 16th February – Republic of Serbia's Statehood Day – Presentation of Jesus at the Temple

22nd April – Day of Remembrance of Victims of Fascism in the Second World War (working holiday)

Orthodox Easter Day – from Orthodox Good Friday to the second day of Easter

1st and 2nd May – May Day/International Workers' Day

9th May – Day of Victory (working holiday)

21st October – Day of Remembrance of Serbian Victims in the Second World War (working holiday)

11th November – Day of Armistice in the First World War

BANKS AND POST OFFICES

Open from 08:00 a.m. to 07:00 p.m. on weekdays, and from 08:00 a.m. to 03:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Only banks and post offices on duty work on Sundays.

Info services: Phone No. 011 3027-100, www.nbs.rs

Phone No. 0700-100-300, www.posta.rs

CREDIT CARDS

Dina Card, VISA, VISA Electron, Master Card, Maestro, Diners, American Express

SHOPS

Shops selling foods are open from 06:00 a.m. to 09:00 p.m. on weekdays and Saturdays; on Sundays, they are open from 06:00 a.m. to 02:00 p.m. Shops in Shopping Malls work from 09:00 a.m. to 08:00 p.m. Green markets are open every day between 06:00 a.m. and 05:00 p.m.

TAX

In Serbia, goods and services are subject to the payment of the value added tax (VAT), which is either 10% or 20%, depending on the type of goods and services bought.

HEALTH CARE INSTITUTIONS

Organised on-duty services at hospitals and clinics work from 00:00 to 24:00. Pharmacies are open from 08:00 a.m. to 08:00 p.m. on weekdays, and from 08:00 a.m. to 03:00 p.m. on Saturdays. On Sundays, only on-duty pharmacies are open.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE (00-24),

Tel. 194, www.beograd94.org.rs

EMERGENCY CENTRE (00-24), Tel. 011 3618-444

LANDLINE OPERATORS

For Serbia, dial: +00 381; for Belgrade, dial: (0)11; for Novi Sad, dial: (0)21; for Niš, dial: (0)18.

For international calls from Serbia: 00 + number of desired country + city/town number

Telekom Srbija, www.telekom.rs

Info Centre – 19813

Numbers of telephone number subscribers – 11811 (00-24h);

www.webstrane.com

Miscellaneous Information – 19812 (00-24h)

MOBILE OPERATORS

064 and 065 MTS–Mobile Telephony of Serbia, www.mts.telekom.rs

063 and 062 TELENOR, www.telenor.rs

060 and 061 VIP, www.vipmobile.rs

ROAD TRAFFIC

Bus lines travel to/from each and every part of the country. International bus lines travel to/from neighbour countries and the majority of European countries.

Information: Tel. 011 2644 455, 2636 299, www.bas.rs

AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF SERBIA – AMSS provides roadsides 24 hours a day, Tel. 1987, www.amss.org.rs

TOLL

Tolls are collected on the following road routes: E-75 Belgrade–Novi Sad, E-70 Novi Sad–Feketić–Subotica, E75 Belgrade–Niš, E75 Niš–Leskovac and E70 Belgrade–Šid.

PETROL

Certain petrol stations on the main roads and in major towns and cities are open 24 hours. Motor vehicle drivers in Serbia can buy petrol of 95-98 octanes (super), unleaded motor vehicle petrol, diesel fuel and oils of domestic and foreign producers. Drivers can also buy liquid auto-gas at petrol stations in bigger cities/towns and tourist centres. To drive a motor vehicle, a national driver's license.

GREEN CARD

If you travel to a foreign country by a vehicle with domestic registration, you need a green card for insurance which, in a foreign country, is the same as an insurance policy in Serbia.

RAILWAY NETWORK

There is an extensive railway network connecting the Republic of Serbia with all parts of Europe. Seats can be booked via the Call Centre by dialing telephone number 011 360-28-99 for all national and international train journeys.

Information: Tel. 011 2645-822, www.zeleznicesrbije.com

AIR

Air Serbia Airways and numerous European, i.e. foreign airlines regularly fly from Belgrade to countries worldwide.

By dialing Call Centre 0800/111 528, passengers can book and buy airline tickets at more favourable rates and obtain up to date flight information of flying with Air Serbia airlines, at www.airserbia.com

Information: Tel. 011 209-4444, www.beg.rs

RIVER TRAFFIC

Ports: Bezdán, Apatin, Novi Sad, Smederevo, Veliko Gradište, Kladovo, Prahovo

Plovput, Tel. 011 3029 800, www.plovput.rs

BORDER-CROSSING FORMALITIES PASSENGER TRANSPORT

The Customs Law prescribes travellers to declare and upon request by the customs officer show personal luggage when crossing customs borders. Customs Administration, Tel. 011 2693 317, www.upravacarina.rs.

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE & SOUVENIR SHOP

NATIONAL TOURISM ORGANISATION OF SERBIA
Čika Ljubina 8, 11000 Beograd
Phone: +381 11 6557 127
Email: info@serbia.travel
www.serbia.travel

IMPRESSUM

Publisher:
National Tourism Organization of Serbia
Čika Ljubina 8, 11 000 Belgrade
Tel.: +381 11 6557 100
Fax: +381 11 2626 767
e-mail: office@serbia.travel
www.serbia.travel



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For Publisher: Gordana Plamenac, CEO

Editor: PhD Olgica Miljković

Text: Milena Mihaljčić

Design: PhD Marijana Markoska

Prepress: Milica Zeljković

Translator: Slobodan Rakić

Language Editor: Russell Stenhouse, MPR Network

Photographs: D. Bosnić, D. Zamurović, B. Jovanović, D. Vildović, S. Dingarac, S. Babić, M. Zarić, S. Veljović, N. Babić, M. Mitja Bogdanović, N. Kostandinović, Đ. Bošković, J. Đukić, P. Lages, National Museum Belgrade, Museum of Naive and Marginal Arts, Jagodina, Mića Popović Gallery, Loznica, Milena Pavlović Barilli Gallery, Požarevac (V. Marković), TO of Novi Pazar, TO of Odžaci, Exit photo team, Hiishii, Izvor Hotel, Valjevac Agency

Mapping board: "Merkur - SV", Beograd

Printed by: Službeni glasnik, Belgrade, 2013

2nd edition in English, 2013

Copies: 10.000

ISBN 978-86-6005-328-4

COBISS.SR-ID 199943180



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TOURISM
ORGANISATION
of SERBIA

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