



SERBIA



highlights



NATIONAL TOURISM
ORGANISATION of SERBIA

www.serbia.travel

WELCOME TO SERBIA,

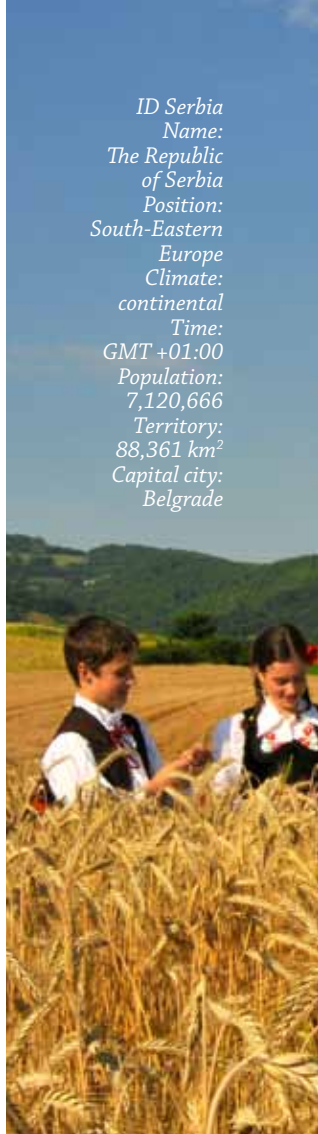
one of the most exciting new destinations in Europe!

There are a myriad of ways in which you can get to know Serbia: through active holiday in the wonderful nature, acquainting yourself with a variety of cultures and the wealth of its heritage, having fun at the night clubs and famous floating raft clubs, taking part in the joyful atmosphere of the EXIT festival, Guca and numerous other festivals, enjoying sincere hospitality of village households and healthy cuisine with Serbian specialties, or sailing down the beautiful blue Danube River, discovering exquisite harmony of nature and culture, and the largest gorge in Europe. And there are countless other reasons for the visit. We suggest starting the adventure by reading this short story about Serbia.

ID Serbia
Name:
The Republic
of Serbia
Position:
South-Eastern
Europe
Climate:
continental
Time:
GMT +01:00
Population:
7,120,666
Territory:
88,361 km²
Capital city:
Belgrade

WELCOME TO SERBIA

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BELGRADE

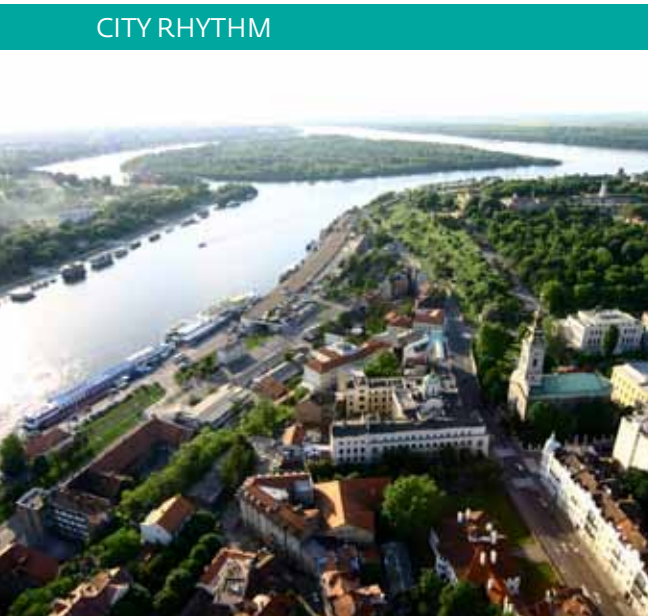
The capital of Serbia takes pride in its Kalemegdan fortress and park with a romantic view of the confluence of the Sava into the Danube. We invite you to feel its artistic spirit at Kosancicev Venac, its galleries and museums; to experience its bohemian atmosphere in Skadarlija cafes; the fun atmosphere in around 500 clubs, boat clubs and cafes; the sports spirit on Ada Ciganlija, one of the most beautiful city islands in the world; the business air in New Belgrade, where you will also find the largest Belgrade shopping malls. The prestigious guide Lonely Planet has positioned Belgrade on the first place in the top-list of ten cities providing the best nightlife in the world.

CITY RHYTHM

A must-see!

The Temple of St. Sava: one of the largest Orthodox temples in the world and one of the most prominent features of Belgrade skyline.

CITY RHYTHM



NOVI SAD

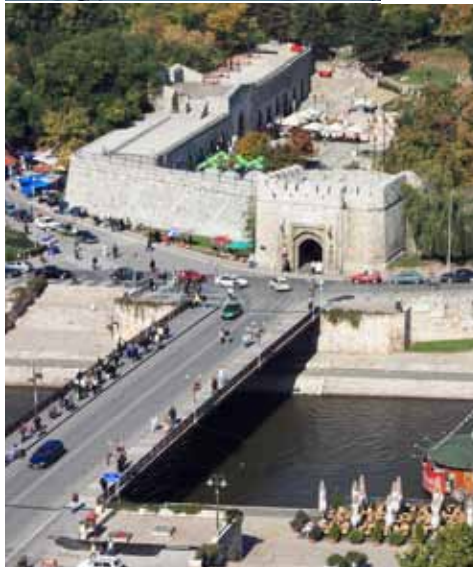
The second largest city in Serbia, 80 km north-west of Belgrade, Novi Sad is both a traditional and a modern city elegantly placed on the Danube. This is the city in which Albert Einstein lived with his spouse Mileva Maric. Novi Sad is famous for its multicultural spirit and a mixture of architectural styles – gothic, baroque, secession, neoclassicism, modernism. What features as the symbol of Novi Sad and Vojvodina is the Fortress of Petrovaradin – a picnic grounds, art centre, planetarium, place of nightlife and the EXIT music festival.



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NIS

The birth place of Emperor Constantine the Great, Nis is the third largest city in Serbia, situated 240 km south-east of Belgrade. Nis is the Balkans in a nutshell – it is the intersection of history, tradition, lifestyles and mentalities creating the magnificent spirit of this city. Monuments, museums and archaeological sites (Mediana, the Nis fortress, the Skull tower, etc.), as well as the promenade street, music and festivity account for an entirely authentic experience!





SERBIA – THE HEART OF THE DANUBE



SERBIA – THE HEART OF THE DANUBE

On its way through Serbia, the Danube River runs along the most astonishing geographical, geological, cultural and historical sites. The Danube is navigable on its whole course through Serbia (588 km) and constitutes part of the Pan-European Transport Corridor VII, providing ample opportunities for sailing and enjoyment. In Serbia the Danube flows from the Pannon Plateau in the North to Djerdap, the largest river gorge in Europe, inviting you to take an inspiring trip enjoying the stunning views of intact nature, centuries-old culture, towns with their distinctive features and dynamic everyday life of multicultural communities. What best characterizes the Danube flow in Serbia is a perfect harmony between natural and cultural heritage.

Serbia, which has always been at the world's crossroads, has inherited products of various cultural influences which can be recognized in its numerous museums, galleries, archaeological sites, churches, in its festive spirit, music, food and customs. Don't miss on getting acquainted with the culture dating to 7,000 and 5,500 years BC. At the archaeological site Lepenski Vir, located on the Danube, you will discover testimonies of people who created the first great myths of the man and the Earth, invented brilliant construction solutions and made extraordinary fish-like sculptures. Vinca archaeological site, in the immediate vicinity of Belgrade, will introduce you to the scopes of the oldest metallurgy culture (5,000-4,500 years BC) formed in the first true pre-historic metropolises.

ALONG THE CULTURAL ROUTES

ALONG THE CULTURAL ROUTES



The exquisite Serbian heritage from the Antic period will take you back to the time when Roman legions marched here fighting the barbaric tribes on the Danube riverbanks. In the period between the third and the fifth century, the area of today's Serbia, from a marginal border territory, became the heart of political and cultural life in the Roman Empire. You, too, can walk along The Roads of Roman Emperors, across Sirmium (Sremska Mitrovica), one of the four capitals of the Roman Empire, Singidunum (Belgrade) or Viminacium (Kostolac near Pozarevac), one of the most significant military camps and Antic towns. Visit the amazing works of Roman construction (Diana, Pontes, Traian's Road, etc.), Felix Romuliana (near Zajecar), which was recognized as part of the World Heritage by UNESCO, Naissus and Mediana (Nis) and Justiniana Prima (near Leskovac).

As many as 17 Roman emperors were born on the territory of today's Serbia! Among them was the first Christian Roman emperor, and one of the founders of Christianity, Constantine the Great. We invite you to attend the central celebration of 17 centuries of The Edict of Milan in Nis, Constantine's birthplace, in 2013.



Felix Romuliana



Serbian art brought unique solutions reflected in the synthesis of elements of Romanic, Gothic and Byzantine art. You can best explore this by visiting Orthodox monasteries and churches which are the masterpieces of Serbian medieval painting and architecture, making an essential chapter in the UNESCO's list of world's cultural heritage. The monasteries of Djurdjevi Stupovi, Studenica, Zica, Sopocani and Gradac are part of the Cultural Route of the Council of Europe *Transromanica*, connecting European monuments of the Romanic style (www.transromanica.com).

Make sure you experience the superb combination of Serbian natural and cultural riches on the slopes of Fruska Gora. This national park prides on its 16 monasteries, the true gems of Serbian baroque painting.

ALONG THE CULTURAL ROUTES



Studenica Monastery



Vrdnik - Ravaniča Monastery, Fruska Gora

The fortresses erected along the Danube riverbanks testify of the turbulent past and borders which were once set there. Make sure you visit the Belgrade Fortress from where you can enjoy the stunning view of the confluence of the Sava into the Danube, the Smederevo Fortress, the sometime capital of Serbia, the Petrovaradin Fortress, also known as the “Danube Gibraltar”, where you can wander through a system of tunnels and corridors. We also recommend visiting the fortresses of Bac, Ram, Golubac and Fetislam.



Petrovaradin Fortress

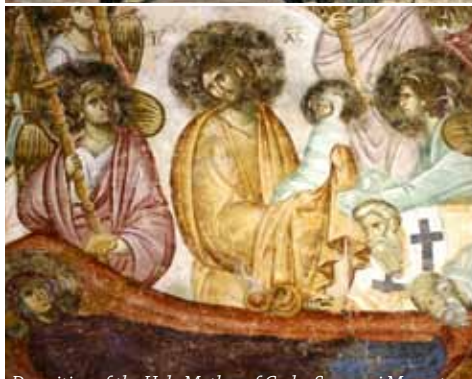


Belgrade Fortress

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*UNESCO World Cultural Heritage
in Serbia:*

- *The Monastery of Studenica*
- *Stari Ras and Sopocani*
- *Medieval monasteries in Kosovo
(The Patriarchy of Pec, Decani,
Holy Virgin of Lyevis, Gracanica)*
- *Gamzigrad (Felix Romuliana)*



Dormition of the Holy Mother of God – Sopocani Monastery



ACTIVE VACATION

Serbia is one of ecologically most preserved places in Europe! We invite you to explore the wealth of its five national parks and more than thirty parks of nature and special nature reserves. Diverse and attractive places in Serbia offer unforgettable adventures and experience – sailing on the widely flowing Danube, trekking in the Serbian mountains hiding an entire universe of flora and fauna, recreational fishing in the still lowland waters or quick foaming mountain waters of fairy-tale beauty, demanding cycling paths which will take you to the most exquisite sights...

The national park Fruska Gora, which used to be an island in the Pannonian Sea a long time ago, today emerges from the vast fertile Vojvodina lowlands. We invite you to come to Fruska Gora to sense the fragrance of linden forest, accounting for more than 30% of the woods in Fruska Gora, which is a unique case of such concentration in Europe. Equestrian sport lovers can visit the horse farm Karadjordjevo, belonging to the eponymous special nature reserve, famous for hunting tourism, among other.

ACTIVE VACATION

The national park Djerdap with the Djerdap Gorge, the longest and the largest gorge in Europe, whose “Iron Gate” connects two important cultural and economic parts of Europe, is a strategic place of vital importance which has witnessed an intense life since prehistoric times. On account of its mild climate, a complex net of gorges, canyons and deep ravines, this place is singled out as a unique European resort of tertiary flora, vegetation and fauna. Due to the specific crossing of winds and the width of the Danube, this place can rightly be called a sailing heaven.

Obedska Bara (pond) in Vojvodina is part of UNESCO's world list of important swamp habitats for around 220 bird species, 50 mammal species, 13 amphibian species, 11 reptile species, 16 fish species, some 180 fungi species, 50 moss species and up to 500 plant species.

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In the far west of Serbia there is the national park Tara, and as much as 80% of the national park is covered by mixed forests of spruce, fir tree and beech. There is Pancic Spruce (*Picea omorica*), world endemic species, growing on Tara. The very terrain configuration makes Tara suitable for various recreational activities: mild slopes are convenient for long walks, horse riding, different sports games, trim paths, etc. The project “Tarocikl” has defined 27 cycling paths with the length of about 420 km, placed along the landscapes of stunning beauty.

The national park Kopaonik is located in the central part of Serbia with over 1,500 plant species out of which 91 are endemic and 82 subendemic species. At the peaks of Kopaonik the sky is clear 200 days a year on average. In the mountain ridge there are sharp peaks, gentle pastures, valleys, mixed and evergreen forests. Kopaonik is the best known ski-centre in Serbia.

ACTIVE VACATION



The national park Shar Mountain is situated in the far south of Serbia. The clash of the Mediterranean and continental climate has resulted in the appearance of different microclimatic variations. While at the foot, in the valleys, one senses the warm Mediterranean climate, on the highest peaks it is cold and cruel, Alpine, so the snow can stay on the ground even 280 days a year.

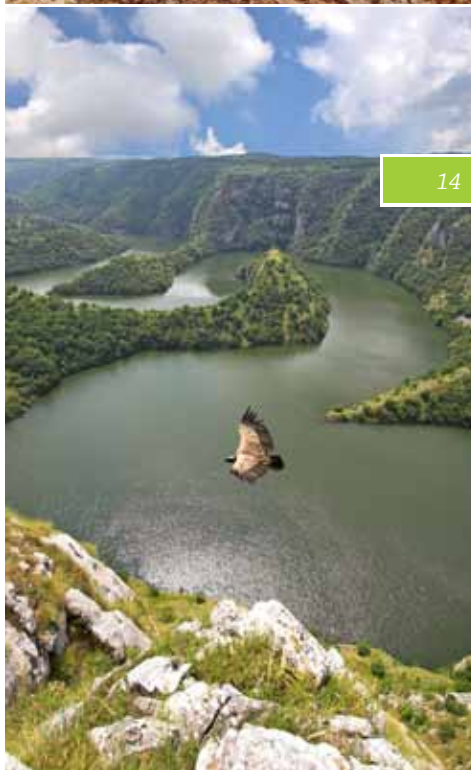
Note: The national park Shar Mountain is situated on the territory of Serbian Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija, which is currently administrated by UNMIK, according to the UN Security Council Resolution No. 1244.

Serbia can offer so much more for a true adventure of returning to the nature! From the Lake of Palic, to the Deliblato Sands, sometime desert and today's wooded oasis, the Cave of Resava ornamented with mineral jewellery, the Ovcarско-Kablarska Gorge, Zlatibor Mountain and Old Mountain to the Devil's Town, a wonder of nature with earthen pillars covered by caps at the top. These and many other beautiful monuments of nature are simply breathtaking.

Meanders of the Uvac Canyon, probably among the most beautiful panoramic images of Serbia, are the largest habitat of The Griffon Vulture in the Balkans.



The Devil's Town





AWAY FROM THE CITY CROWD

Do you long to get away from the city crowd and engage in invigorating activities? What Serbia has in store for you are its beautiful villages. The rhythm of life in a village is the rhythm of nature, change of seasons, the rhythm of heartbeat – the only true natural order. Lying on the riverbanks, lined up in the infinite lowlands, scattered in the mountain slopes and peaks, covered by woods, plum trees and vineyards, the villages of Serbia have an air of peace and quiet. Moreover, the hospitality offered by the villagers completes the enjoyment. The warm welcome is not a matter of training, it is cordial, simple and natural, as if directed to dear guests, cousins.

Tastes of Serbia

To eat: barbecue, beans, gibanica cheese pie, ajvar, sauerkraut rolls, goulash, fish broth, Banat sausages; To drink: natural juice, slivovitz, quince brandy, wine, beer.

Serbia is the second world producer of raspberries. Our raspberry has the best quality, taste and is most beneficial for your health, as the climatic conditions are particularly suited to its production.

AWAY FROM THE CITY CROWD

In Vojvodina you will encounter a number of village farm houses, salashes. There you will enjoy everything: the food, drink, the sound of the tambura. You can only relax and take a rest, or go hunting and fishing, you can cycle or learn how to ride a horse, sail on a boat or ride in a coach, swim, water ski or sleigh on a frozen pond, you can try to do some old crafts or folk art.

If you prefer village idyll, you can find it in the villages of Central Serbia. These villages, whether they are located near Arandjelovac, Topola, Gornji Milanovac, Cacak, Knic, Lucani, Krusevac, Kraljevo, Aleksandrovac or in the vicinity of Ko-paonik, nurture a tradition of well-being of their land. These villages are situated near rivers, springs and streams, at the foot of various mountains, offering a fulfilling vacation on which, depending on the season, you can go fishing, hunting, skiing, swimming, horse riding, collecting medical herbs and forest fruits, walking, cycling, preparing food and winter preserves together with hosts, grape picking, etc.



The landscape of West Serbia is something of a natural aquarelle, as one curve overflows into another towards the horizon. This scenery is made of mountains covered by evergreen forests interspersed with streams. There are numerous village households. Whether they be ethno villages like Kosjeric, Sirogojno and Mecavnik, or the usual village households on the slopes of Mokra Gora, at the foot of Zlatibor near the town of Uzice, on the banks of the emerald Drina River, the houses have been built of natural material. Most of them are made of wood, and all details in the interior are chosen with love and care, in line with the style of this part of the country.

A must-see!

Drvengrad is an ethno-village in Mokra Gora with wooden houses built by the famous film director Emir Kusturica.

Take a souvenir from Serbia!

Owing to its unique beauty, Pirot's rug has become a widely known and renowned product. Pirot's rug is smooth on both sides and its ornaments are always geometric shapes with pronounced colour contrasts and red as the dominant colour.

AWAY FROM THE CITY CROWD



The traditional cuisine offers a wide range of interesting dishes. If you are in a mood for a walk after a good meal, all roads lead to the nature. At the end of July the famous “Drina Regatta” invites you for a special event – a downhill river race with hedonistic treats for both the eye and the ear. Your thirst for unusual experiences will be further satisfied by the railway Shargan Eight in Mokra Gora, a masterpiece among the world’s rails of narrow gauge.

Wherever you go in the East Serbia, from the powerful Djerdap to the wonderful villages around the Lake of Bujanovac, you are in for a surprise. You will discover that it is here more than anywhere else in Serbia that the boundaries between reality and legend become blurred. Numerous village households near Donji Milanovac, Kladovo, Golubac, Majdanpek and Negotin practice village tourism. In East Serbia, the Timok Borderland is famous for its vineyard tradition. Visit “Rajacke pinnice”, a unique architectural complex of 270 wine cellars which emerged during the period between the mid-18th century and the nineteen thirties. Make sure you explore Rtanj Mountain, the Homolje Mountains split by the clean and clear Mlava River, with the spring of Mlava, Krupaj and the vanishing river of Homolje, the “Veliki Buk” waterfall and still intact nature, which are true gems of both East Serbia and Serbia in general.



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FESTIVE SPIRIT



EXIT NOVI SAD

Ten stages, some of the best music performers and bands in the world and magnificent surroundings. The EXIT backstage is the fantastic medieval fortress Petrovaradin built on the Danube riverbank. According to the Guardian, this is one of the most important festivals in Europe, visited by approximately 200,000 people during the four-day period of time. We invite you to be part of this unique and exciting event.

GUCA TRUMPET FESTIVAL

At this authentic celebration and competition of traditional Serbian music, the sound of the trumpet is heard non-stop during both day and night. Within the music event you can visit interesting exhibitions of local handicrafts, treat yourself with substantial portions of the typical national cuisine and sip exquisite domestic wine. This explosive mixture is exactly what makes Guca so attractive to an increasing number of visitors every year. In 2010 the 50th anniversary was celebrated by 800.000 guests from Serbia and abroad.



FESTIVE SPIRIT

NISVILLE JAZZ FESTIVAL

Nowhere else does jazz sound as unique as it does here. What makes this sound so special is the ambience of the Nis City Fortress, where the festival takes place annually. Over the years, it has become the “jazz centre of gravity” in the region. Besides providing entertainment to visitors, the festival offers an opportunity for performers to hold workshops and share a part of their artistry with other fellow musicians.

BELGRADE BEER FEST

At this festival, apart from the wide range of beers and ales, you can also enjoy live music and domestic food. With a record visit in 2010 (900,000 people during the five days of the festival) and a fantastic music program (40 bands and performers), Beer Fest confirmed its prestigious position. Its constant advancement in all segments promises that it will be the place guaranteeing the best fun in the coming years as well – an event no visitor will be able to forget.



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You can find useful information for your arrival and stay in Serbia on the website of the National Tourism Organisation of Serbia www.serbia.travel

Tourist Information and Souvenir Shop

Čika Ljubina 8, 11000 Belgrade

Tel: +381 11 6557 127

E-mail: info@serbia.travel

HOW TO GET THERE



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Belgrade Airport “Nikola Tesla”, which is at the crossroads of airways, hosts airplanes from 26 different airlines (21 international + 5 low-cost):

Airport “Nikola Tesla”

www.beg.aero

Every traveller eager to experience exciting adventures can also reach Serbia by train or bus:

The Serbian Railways

www.zelznicesrbije.com

Belgrade Bus Station

www.bas.co.rs

You can get familiar with the road conditions and obtain useful advice if you are traveling by car or motorbike through Serbian Automobile Association (AMSS):

www.amss.org.rs

To those who like cycling around the world, we recommend taking the Serbian part of the Danube cycling route EuroVelo 6, and obtain the information on other cycling routes via The Cycling Federation of Serbia:

www.bss.rs

Ciklonaut

www.ciklonaut.com

Freebiking

www.freebiking.org

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