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CHARMS OF SERBIA

7 days / 6 nights

Discovering Serbia's culture and natural beauty

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover the new "Capital of cool" as UK Sunday times named Belgrade
- Explore the secrets of Petrovaradin fortress
- Visit Zlatibor with its golden pine trees
- Enjoy the culinary delights and tastes of Serbian cuisine



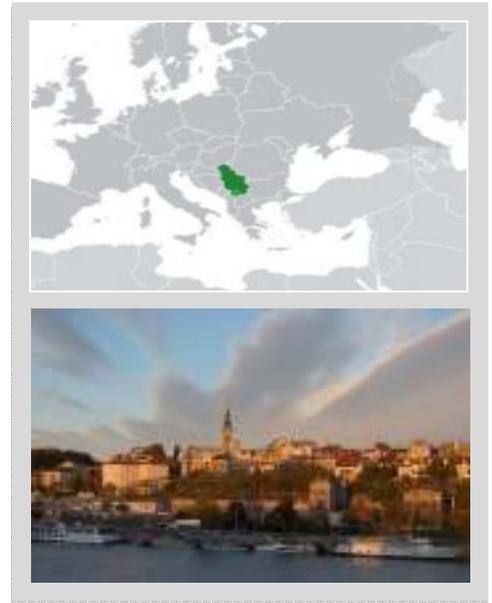
GENERAL INFORMATION

SERBIA

A great variety of beautiful scenery and cultural and historical monuments, curative spas, hunting grounds and fishing areas give the basis for Serbia's tourism. Serbia has connected West with East for centuries – a land in which civilizations, cultures, faiths, climates and landscapes meet and mingle.

It is located in the centre of the Balkan Peninsula, in south-eastern Europe. The northern portion belongs to central Europe, but in terms of geography and climate it is also partly a Mediterranean country. Serbia is landlocked but as a Danube country (its longest river) it is connected to distant seas and oceans. Serbia is a crossroad of Europe and a geopolitically important territory. The international roads and railway lines, which run through the country's river valleys, form the shortest link between Western Europe and the Middle East.

The cultural and historical heritage of Serbia begins with prehistoric archaeological sites and its legacy from classical antiquity. Perhaps its greatest riches, though, are in the many mediaeval Serbian churches and monasteries, some of which are included on the UNESCO World Heritage list.



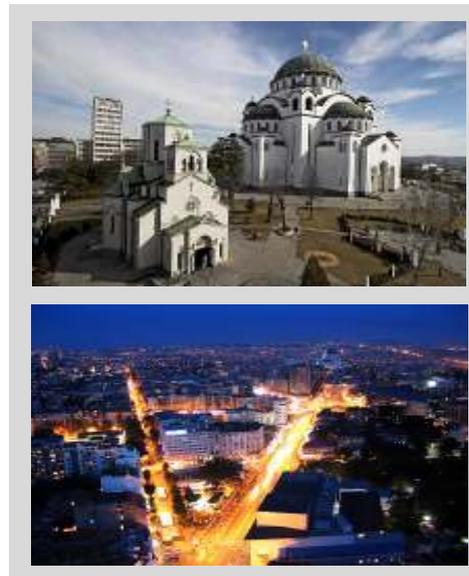
SUGGESTED ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrival to Belgrade airport
Meet and greet at the airport and transfer to a hotel
Check-in
Dinner at a local restaurant with live music
Overnight in Belgrade

BELGRADE – a 7,000 years old town

Belgrade is the capital and the "soul" of modern Serbia. Because of its strategic position by the confluence of the Sava and the Danube rivers, where the Panonian Plain meets the Balkans, the city has battled over in 115 wars and was all together destroyed 44 times. Consequently, during its lively history it was inhabited by Celts, Romans, Slavs and then has been a possession of Byzantine, Frankish, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Ottoman and Serbian rulers. It was a principal city of Ottoman Europe, the capital of Yugoslavia and then a metropolitan capital of Serbian Republic. Today, it is a modern city of about 2 million inhabitants. In Belgrade a visitor can find not only important museums, cultural and historic monuments, but also a rich program of cultural, artistic and sports events.



DAY 2

Breakfast in the hotel
Full day visit of Belgrade with lunch at a local restaurant
Dinner at a local restaurant
Overnight in Belgrade

DAY 3

Breakfast in the hotel
Drive to Fruska gora
Continue to Sremski Karlovci (32km) for a visit, wine tasting and lunch
Visit of Petrovaradin fortress
Drive to Novi Sad for a visit
Return to Belgrade
Dinner at a local restaurant
Overnight in Belgrade

FRUSKA GORA – the mirror of geological past

Fruska Gora is an isolated, narrow, island mountain in Pannonia plain. Its location, specific geological history and different microclimatic conditions make it very interesting and important to science. Thanks to unique and very rich deposits of fossil fauna and flora, Fruska Gora is called the 'mirror of geological past'. The main characteristic of this region is the existence of numerous protected, rare and endangered species. Fruska Gora's valleys are covered with pastures and fertile fields, numerous vineyards and orchards which decorate its lower slopes while higher ground, above 300 meters, is covered with dense deciduous forests. Fruska Gora also hides 16 orthodox monasteries famous for their specific architecture, treasures, libraries and frescoes and numerous archaeological sites from prehistoric and historic times as well. Due to its outstanding natural resources, wonderful landscapes, exceptional charm and



beauty, that will bring you closer to nature, Fruska Gora is ideal place for rest and recreation.

SREMSKI KARLOVCI – a peaceful and tranquil city

Sremski Karlovci is a picturesque village placed between Fruska Gora and the Danube. It is situated 70 km from the Serbian capital Belgrade, and almost 10 km from the capital of Vojvodina Novi Sad. Sremski Karlovci stretch on the banks of the Danube between three hills: Cerat, Doka and Magarcev Breg. The name of the town means in fact “Karlovci of Srem”. The city offers the opportunity to know two of its greatest treasures: the history and the genuine and vital taste of traditions. There is no industry and in the centre the traffic is minimal.

PETROVARADIN FORTRESS – the Gibraltar of the Danube

On a rocky cliff at the base of Fruska Gora, today sits a grand fortress, which has been the site of many military forts throughout the ages. The latest archaeological studies indicate that this site has a history spanning more than 2,000 years. A sample of the many cultures and societies that have used this site include the Celts, the Romans, the Byzantines, Hungarians, Turks, and Austrians.

NOVI SAD – Serbian Athens

Novi Sad is the capital of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, its economic, cultural, scientific, educational, health and administrative centre with nearly 200,000 inhabitants. The city is situated on the left bank of the Danube River in South Backa, in northern part of Serbia. Thanks to its exceptional geographic and transportation position, it is a significant intersection of land and water traffic. It is located on transcontinental Euro-Asian transversal starting from Western Europe, and leading across central Europe, to the Balkan Peninsula and Bosphorus straits and all the way to Near East. Novi Sad is positioned in the length of 50 km on the Danube River, which is actually essential in Trans-European mega hydro system of rivers and canals (the Rhine-Main-Danube Rivers) for transportation, commerce, energy, and tourism.



DAY 4

Breakfast in the hotel and check-out
Drive to Topola (77km) and Oplenac for a visit
Lunch at a local restaurant
Continue to Zlatibor (150km)
Dinner at a local restaurant
Overnight in Zlatibor

TOPOLA - a unique monument of the cultural-historical heritage

Topola is a well-known historical location associated with Karadjordje, the leader of The First Serbian Insurrection against the Turks in 1804. The sites that have been preserved in Topola are the endowment of King Petar I, which contains the church of Saint Djordje, Petar’s house, Gallery and Karadjordje’s fortified town. All this represents a unique monument of the cultural-historical heritage of the Serbian people.

OPLENAC – an amazing sight

Oplenac is a place that used to be the centre of the Serbian state at the beginning of the XIX century. It is also a place where Karadjordje Petrovic built his town and King Petar I Karadjordjevic chose to build his legacy. At the top of Oplenac stands the Church of St. George and the mausoleum of the Karadjordjevic dynasty. Amazing interior of the temple is decorated with 40 million glassy pieces and 15,000 different shades of colour. Inside the crypt were buried 22 members of the Royal family. Peter’s house was built in 1912 with an intention to serve as the house for a priest. Today, it is a theme gallery with exhibitions dedicated to the Royal family. Near the house of King Peter are King’s



villa and Queen Mary's villa, buildings in which today members of the Foundation Karadjordjevic occasionally spend time.

ZLATIBOR – the most beautiful mountain in Serbia

Zlatibor, one of the most visited mountains in Serbia, is Serbian top tourist destination after Belgrade. Zlatibor meaning "golden pine" is a mountain of outstanding beauty with a mild climate, woodland glades, and rich grasslands with mountain brook and pines. This location has been known as a climatic spa due to its favourable environmental conditions numerous sunny days. There is also a large scale of opportunities for active holiday pursuits like walking, bike riding, horseback riding, etc.



DAY 5

Breakfast in the hotel
Full day trip by Sargan eight train with lunch
Return to Zlatibor
Dinner at a local restaurant
Overnight in Zlatibor

TRAIN

The romantic sound of a steam-powered train going through a beautiful countryside is not the Orient Express Story but our reality. Not far away from the Zlatibor and Tara Mountain there is the Sarganska Osmica, in English called The Figure of Eight of Sargan, which is the narrow railroad shaped as a number eight (osmica). Sargan eight is known as one of the most attractive tourist railways in Europe. It was built in 1925 to connect Belgrade with Sarajevo and Dubrovnik and is today still considered as a technical wonder.

The large elevation change in so short a distance will leave you breathless. Not far away from here is the village of the most famous Serbian film producer Emir Kusturica. The popular film The Time of Miracles was shot here.



DAY 6

Breakfast in the hotel
A half-day excursion to ethno village Sirogojno (34km)
Lunch at a the local restaurant
Return to Zlatibor
Dinner at a local restaurant
Overnight in Zlatibor

SIROGOJNO – ethno village

In Sirogojno there is an open air museum, an "ethno-village" known as the Old Village Museum, covering nearly 15 hectares with authentic elements of ordinary life collected from all over the Zlatibor region from the 19th century. The ethno-village displays a set of traditional wooden buildings, including a bakery, a dairy, and an inn, all in authentic form.

The village of Sirogojno was declared a Monument of Culture of Exceptional Importance in 1983, and it is protected by the Republic of Serbia.



DAY 7

Breakfast in the hotel and check-out
Transfer to Belgrade airport for your departure flight

SERVICES

SERVICES INCLUDED:

TRANSFERS:

Air conditioned comfortable vehicle through the whole tour

ACCOMMODATION (in DBL or SGL room, breakfast included):

3 nights in 4*/5* hotel in Belgrade, 3 nights in 4*/5* hotel in Zlatibor

GUIDES:

English speaking guide through the whole tour including meals and accommodation

ENTRANCE FEES:

Military Museum, the Museum of Ethnology, Serbian Orthodox Cathedral, Monastery at Fruska Gora Mountain and the Mausoleum of Oplenac, wine tasting in Sremski Karlovci, Petrovaradin fortress, Sargan eight steam train, Drvengrad/Mecavnik village museum, Sirogojno etno village

MEALS:

As per program

OTHER:

Organization of the tour and VAT

SERVICES EXCLUDED:

- Services not mentioned in the program
- Porterage
- Drinks during the meals
- Tips