

Tracking the Serban Culture in 10 days

All year round

From the bustling city centers of Belgrade and Novi Sad, to the gently sloping valleys of the central Sumadija region, to the banks of the mighty Danube, Serbia offers some of the very best cultural travel experiences in Central and Eastern Europe. Discover cultural remnants of the Roman era, explore the hideways of long-ago Emperors, and wander through exquisite Romanesque-Byzantine monasteries.

DAY 1 (D)

Arrival at Belgrade's airport. Transfer to the hotel and check-in. Panoramic and walking city tour of Belgrade which includes: New Belgrade business district; **Belgrade Arena** venue; **Dedinje** residential district with its numerous villas and mansions which is considered as a wealthiest part of the city; **Topcider Park** one of the oldest parks in Belgrade with marvelous residence of Prince Milos Obrenovic; **House of Flowers**, former Yugoslavian leader Josip Broz Tito's memorial house; **Royal Palace**, white stoned palace in the Serbian-Byzantine style; **St. Sava Temple**, the biggest Orthodox temple on the Balkans; **Slavija Square**; **Parliament** building; **Rebublic Square**; **Knez Mihajlova pedestrian zone** with large number of shops, cafes, restaurants; **Princess Ljubica's Residence** which construction was ordered by prince Milos Obrenovic for his wife Ljubica and their children, the future rulers Milan and Mihailo; **St. Michael's Cathedral** with the gold-plated carved iconostasis; and magnificent **Kalemegdan Fortress** with large park area. Dinner in restaurant in famous bohemian quarter named Skadarlija. Return to hotel.

DAY 2 (B, L, D)

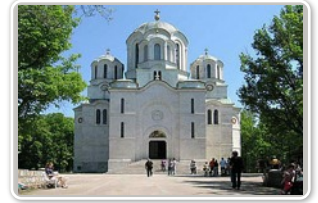
Departure to northern part of the country called **Vojvodina**. Visit **Krusedol** and **Grgetek Monasteries** settled on Fruska Gora Mountain. Proceed to the little charming town named **Sremski Karlovci** where we will see **Patriarchy Residence**, the most monumental building from the 19th century in Vojvodina region, which represents the seat of the Orthodox bishop of Srem; **The Seminary**, boarding school for the pupils of The Theological School built in 1903; **Orthodox Cathedral**, baroque church dedicated to St. Nicolas; **Catholic Church** dedicated to the Holy Trinity; **Karlovci Grammar School**, the oldest Serbian high school, founded in 1791; **Fountain "The Four Lions"** built in 1799 in honour of finishing the first public system of water supply in the town; **The Chapel of Peace**, the site where the famous Karlovci Peace Treaty was signed in year 1699.; **Town Hall**, two-storied building from the beginning of the 19th century. After great historical story we will proceed to the "Zivanovic" winery to taste some great domestic Serbian wines. In return, visit to the "Zekin Salas" - old Serbian farmhouse where we will have dinner and tasting of domestic brandy - "rakija". Return to hotel in Belgrade.

DAY 3 (B, L, D)

Departure to city of Topola, residential city of Serbian medieval ruler's dynasty – Karadjordjevic, and the place where modern Serbian state was found. During our visit, we will see **Church of St. George** situated on the peak of Oplenac hill, a white marbled five-domed mausoleum of the Karadjordjevic dynasty, decorated with impressive mosaics in 15 000 nuances, depicting biblical scenes copied from medieval frescoes from more than 70 Serbian Orthodox Monasteries. Furthermore, within the King Peter's endowment, we will see also **Peter's House** which is now a museum with numerous personal things, relics, crowns and portraits of royal dynasty Karadjordjevic; **The Queen's Villa** where Queen Maria were staying most the time; **The King's Villa**; **Orchard keeper's house** built in 1911. After great stories heard by professional tourist guide, take the way for lunch in the restaurant. Departure forward to city of Kragujevac, which once was the capital of Serbia. There we will visit **Amidza Residence** that was a part of a huge Prince Milos Obrenovic's Court; **Kragujevac October Memorial Park** - the most difficult day in the history of Kragujevac, was 21 of October 1941, when several thousands of Kragujevac people were executed, among them several hundreds of high school pupils taken directly from the school. Because of its tragic destiny, Kragujevac is one of the most active fighters for the piece. It was awarded "Currier of piece" recognition by UN and "Medal of piece" by the French City of Verdun. Proceed to Kraljevo city. Overnight.

DAY 4 (B, L, D)

Vicinity of Kraljevo is full of great medieval monasteries. First of all, we will visit **Zica Monastery** from 13th century. Great significance that this monastery has is that the first Serbian archbishop St.Sava established the seat of Serbian Church here in 1219. Next Monastery important for Serbian history is **Studenica Monastery**, the endowment of Grand Prince **Stefan Nemanja**, founder of the independent Serbian state and of a dynasty which would rule Serbia for a full two centuries. It is listed to the UNESCO world heritage list since 1986. Proceed further to **Monastery Gradac**, lovely small monastery where friendly sisters will welcome each passenger with a cup of coffee and a chat. After visit, we will departure forward and visit also **Petrova Church** and **Djurdjevi Stupovi Monastery**. Transfer to the hotel in Novi Pazar.



DAY 5 (B, L, D)

On the day 5 we will take the way to so called ``Devil's Town``, one of the most attractive natural phenomena in the world. It is a place of strange forms with a strange name, a complex of stone-capped, spindle-shaped pillars in science referred to as soil pyramids. It consists of 220 soil figures created by soil erosion. It got its name ``Devil's Town`` by a legend which you'll get to know during visit. Arrival in **Prolom Spa**, where you definitely will replenish your energy in hotel's wellness center for rest of the journey. Prolom Spa is considered a health resort not just for its mineral waters but its climate too. It has several **thermal mineral water** springs (ranging in temperature from 26 to 31.5°C), which are lightly mineralized and highly alkaline.

DAY 6 (B, L, D)

This day we are taking our way, crossing the South Morava River, to the born city of famous Roman Emperor Constantine the Great, city of **Nis**. First of all, we will visit **The Fortress**, lying on the bank of Nisava River. Its assumed its final shape in 1723, when the Turks built it, facing the end of their reign in this area. Its construction required that over 40 stonecutters from Constantinople and around 400 bricklayers from Nis and around to be hired; **Banovina Building**; **Nis Liberators Monument** at King Milan Square, which presents the period of wars for liberation waged against the Turks, Bulgarians, and Germans; The Monument of well-known Serbian writer Stevan Sremac; **Mediana Archeological Site**, which was built in the **early 4th century AD**, during the time of **Constantine the Great**, as a residence for use by Roman emperors when visiting Naissus (Nis); **Skull Tower**, the monument, unique in the world, which was built after the Battle of Cegar, Turks prepared the construction of the tower made of skulls; **Tinkers Alley** - the only part of the commercial district of old Nis that has been preserved. In the age of the Turks this part of Nis was a craftsman's quarter, but today is a home of numerous restaurants and cafes. Here we will have a lunch. Departure further to Mountain Rtanj. Accommodation in Ethno Center Rtanj, with beautiful natural surroundings.

DAY 7 (B, L, D)

Proceed in exploring Serbian culture taking a peek to each aspect that made it, as we know it today. Visit **Gamzigrad**, in the vicinity of Zajecar city, which was an imperial palace built on the orders of **Galerius Maximianus, another Roman Emperor**. **Taking a way to unique complex Rajacke Pimnice, near the town of Negotin, where we will have nice welcome, lunch and original Serbian wine degustation**. Rajacke Pimnice are unique architectural complex of wine cellars, 270 of them, came from half of the 18th century until the thirties years of last century. They are buried two feet into the ground because there the temperature varied little during the year. Pimnice were built of hewn stone and log cabins. Stores associated streets, alleys and squares. Departure to **Kladovo**. In our hotel you'll be able to relax yourself in wellness center.

DAY 8 (B, L, D)

Get ready for natural phenomenon! We are going to visit **Vratna Gates** which will definitely leave you breathless. The **River Vratna** is a tributary of the Danube. Due to the unique interplay of geological features in its basin, a composite valley has arisen, with gorges and canyons carved out of the carbonate rock. There are three large 'gates' (*prerast*) – natural stone bridges – over the Vratna, each of which has come about through a different process. They are a unique phenomenon, a specific phase in the evolution of tunnel caves and river meanders. After almost half day in nature, we are taking our bus again near Donji Milanovac. Transfer to the archeological site **Lepenski Vir**. It is an important Mesolithic archaeological site which consists of one large settlement with around ten satellite villages. Go further to **Golubac Fortress**, 9 towers 14th century fortress perched high on the cliffs, overlooking the magnificent **Djerdap George**. Overnight at **Silver Lake**.

DAY 9 (B, L, D)

At the last day of our journey we firstly visit **Viminacium**. Roman military camp and the town was created in the first and lasted until the beginning of VII century. He was one of the major legion camps on the Danube, and for some time and the capital of the Roman province of Upper Moesia, which included most of Serbia, northern Macedonia and part of north-western Bulgaria. You will feel Roman atmosphere for sure! Departure toward Serbian capital of Belgrade. Before we reach our hotel, we want to show you **Zemun**, which is considered as northern part of Belgrade, but in fact totally different in nature. We will visit **Gardos Tower**, built by Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1896 to celebrate a thousand years of Hungarian settlement in the Pannonian plain. Stroll down the Zemun Quay, the home of many of Belgrade boats that ply the Sava and Danube. When we reach the Old Town of Zemun, you will be surprised how it is different from the rest of Belgrade area, with its cobbled, hilly streets and the old quarter charm of Austro-Hungarian style houses. A complete change to the heart of Belgrade, old Zemun feels as though you have stepped back in time. Small cafes and a number of churches dot the area and it is well worth wandering around as a break from the city centre. In evening, explore Belgrade's restaurants and night clubs on your own.



DAY 10 (B)

Departure.

HOTELS

1st, 2nd and 9th night – Belgrade

3rd night – Kraljevo

4th night – Novi Pazar

5th night – Prolom Spa

6th night – Rtanj

7th night – Kladovo

8th night – Silver Lake

