

we're so glad you're here

WELCOME



BELGRADE

ESSENTIAL CITY GUIDE

BELGRADE

On the pages below we've included our favorite places to eat, drink and see, things to do, as well as some essential practical info and other tidbits to make your time in Belgrade as enjoyable as possible.

- > Belgrade history
- > Belgrade Basics
- > Arriving & Getting Around
- > Accommodation
- > Things to see
- > Things to do
- > Restaurants & Cafés
- > Belgrade Nightlife

BELGRADE - BERLIN OF THE BALKANS

If you have not been to Belgrade, this city will surprise you.

European metropolis in the heart of the Balkans, Belgrade is proudly standing between two different worlds, East and West, never being one nor the other, with its unique mixture of the both.

It is said that Belgrade is Berlin of the Balkans, a city with the energy of New York, urban capital of cool. Also known as the most perspective city in Europe, Belgrade is a hip dynamic city which embraces visitors from all around the world.

Today, Belgrade stands as a symbol of resilience, reflecting its complex history and the indomitable spirit of its people.

Belgrade is one of the oldest cities in Europe and, beside Athens, the greatest urban whole of the Balkan Peninsula. The oldest archaeological artefacts from Belgrade area date back to the fifth millenium B.C. The members of a Celtic tribe founded Singidunum in the III century B.C., while the first record of the name Belgrade dates back to 878 A.D. During its long and tumultuous history, Belgrade has been conquered by 40 armies, and 38 times it has been raised up from the ashes.

BELGRADE HISTORY

[*Learn about Belgrade's history*](#)





BELGRADE

BASICS

Money

The local currency is the Serbian Dinar (RSD/din). Compared to Northern and Western Europe, prices in Serbia are extremely cheap.

EXCHANGE RATE

100RSD \approx 0.85EUR \approx 0.91USD

Crime & Safety

Despite what most people might think, Belgrade is very safe. Whenever there is a major event in town, such as a football match or concert, the police can be seen everywhere.

Some parts of town can be a bit sketchy (train and bus stations are problematic in every city) but major incidents are extremely rare. Walking on the streets at night is totally fine, and the only crime tourists should take care of is certain taxi drivers ripping you off and tourist traps.

Mobile Phones

Even if you're only in town for a couple of days and don't plan to make any local calls, it could be worth getting a local Serbian SIM card so you can always stay connected to the internet without incurring any eye-watering roaming charges on your next bill at home. It also makes booking a taxi much easier.

Mobile network operators:

mts (by Telekom Srbija)

Yettel

A1

*all of them offer similar prepaid plans that start from around 500din and include some free data.



BELGRADE

GETTING AROUND

By plane

The local airport, Nikola Tesla, is 18km away from the city center, making it very accessible. Although there are a few bus routes to/from the airport (line 72 and mini bus A1), the easiest option is taking a taxi. Just make sure you secure one through the official taxi stand in the arrivals gate where they will give you a fixed fare, ensuring you don't get ripped off (2300rsd (\approx 20€) for destinations in New Belgrade, and 3000rsd (\approx 26€) for Belgrade city center).

By taxis

Taxis are still quite cheap by Western standards. Like anywhere in the world there are a few bad apples who might try to run up the fare on you or engage in some other dubious activity. Tips aren't the norm, but with the low fares we recommend paying it forward as much as your budget allows. All reputable companies are part of the local Taxi Association. Biggest taxi companies:

[Pink Taxi](#) tel. +381 800 11 9803/19803

[Beo Taxi](#) tel. +381 11 241 5555/19999

It is okay to hail a taxi on the street but be careful of drivers that pick up passengers in front of the clubs, Republic and Terazije squares, and bus station - their license plates need to finish with letters TX (or they are not an official taxi) and always check for the price.

Taxi apps:

We don't have Lyft and Uber, but we have CarGo and YandexGo apps which function the same way.

[CarGo App Store](#): [CarGo PlayStore](#) / credit card only

[YandexGo App Store](#): [YandexGo PlayStore](#). / cash or credit card

By car

Belgrade lies at the intersection of E-70 and E-75 motorways. Foreign drivers in Serbia need an international driving license, vehicle registration certificate, and insurance policy.

The valid insurance policies are issued by signatory countries of the "Vehicle Insurance Convention", and citizens of other countries are required to buy an insurance policy on entering Serbia. You cannot miss Belgrade, because the motorway runs through the city. The speed limit in the city is set at 60 km/h unless otherwise indicated by speed signs.



BELGRADE

GETTING AROUND

Parking

Parking presents a problem. The Old Town is divided into three parking zones: red zone (one-hour parking limit), yellow (two-hour) and green (three-hour).

You can pay for parking by filling out a parking coupon for the relevant zone, available at kiosks with instructions in English overleaf. Another way to pay for parking is to send an SMS message with the number of license plates to 9111 for Zone 1, 9112 for Zone 2, and 9113 for Zone 3. You will receive a confirmation message in Serbian, so it might be safer to use the parking coupon, in case you were rejected. If you opt for parking in a parking garage, no parking limit applies.

Public Parking garages

PIONIRSKI PARK, Dragoslava Jovanovića 2, tel: +38111 3344-416

OBILIĆEV VENAC, Obilićev venac 14, tel: +38111 2630-824

ZELENI VENAC, Kraljice Natalije 13, tel: +38111 361-1515

MASARIKOVA, Masarikova 4-6, tel: +38111 2645-922

VUKOV SPOMENIK, Ruzveltova 1, tel: +38111 3370-915

AIRPORT, tel: +38111 209-4958 (there are also facilities for secure longer-stay vehicle parking)

Public transport

Belgrade does not have an underground railway system (although it has one of the deepest tube stations in Europe, at 42m below ground level). City transport comprises buses, trams and trolley buses.

Tickets are digital only. You can buy them via SMS (fare price + the price of the SMS) or via app (Android/Apple).

In the app, apart from buying the ticket, you can see nearby stations and check for vehicle arrival time.

Ticket prices are 50RSD (≈0,45€) for 90minutes (unlimited transfers), 120RSD(≈1,05€) for a day ticket and 800RSD (≈6,84€) for a 7 day ticket. Night buses (midnight to 4AM) have specific lines, run every hour and are free of charge.

BELGRADE

ACCOMMODATION

There are days, especially during big international events, when rooms in the city are somewhere between difficult and impossible to find.

If you seek **comfort and luxury**, there is an array of hotels well-worth their price tags.

On the **budget end**, you can get a nice and cheap cabin in a floating hostel moored in the Danube, offering a great view of an island providing refuge for 196 bird species.

In the **mid-range** categories, be aware of some of the old hotels time seems to have stopped in late eighties, for better or worse depending on your taste.

Hotels

Hilton Belgrade
www3.hilton.com

Hyatt Regency
<https://www.hyatt.com>

Holiday Inn
www.holidayinn.com

Metropol Palace
www.metropolpalace.com

Crowne Plaza Belgrade
www.crowneplaza.com

Falkensteiner Hotel Belgrade
<https://www.falkensteiner.com/hotel-belgrade/>

Royal Inn
www.royalinn.rs

Hotel Moskva
<https://hotelmoskva.rs/>

On the budget accommodation

STAN NA DAN (apartment for the day)
www.stannadan.com

Wake Up Apartments
www.hotelwakeup.rs

Sun Hostel
www.sun-hostel.com





BELGRADE

THINGS TO SEE

The legacy of wars has left behind deep scars on the city. Belgrade was razed to the ground 40 times and you will not find here a single building older than 250 years, although it is one of the oldest cities in Europe.

Kalemegdan fort

This fortress, constructed all throughout the 1st to the 18th century, with the aim of being a strategic place for defense on the hill above the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers, today represents an outdoor museum. The Pobednik Monument (The Victor) is the focal point of the entire area which is made up of the Belgrade fortress, divided into the Upper and Lower Town, and Kalemegdan Park. The Victor, a recognizable symbol of Belgrade, erected in 1928, is the work of the famous Yugoslav sculptor Ivan Meštrović. It was originally set up on Terazije Square, but the ladies of Belgrade protested against the statue of a nude male figure, holding a sword in one hand, and a pigeon in the other. After that it was placed on the 11-meter high pillar, facing the cliff above the Sava and Danube confluence.

Don't miss out on seeing the Roman Well, the Great Gunpowder Warehouse, the Military Bunker, and the Clock Tower on your walk. Take a look at the numerous exhibitions in the Military Museum, the Nebojša Tower, and the Museum of Natural History. The Great Kalemegdan Staircase will bring you to a place with a breathtaking view over the Sava and Danube confluence, of Novi Beograd and Zemun. Down the landscaped path you can see many sculptures from the turn of the 20th century, erected in honor of writers, composers, and other public figures.





BELGRADE

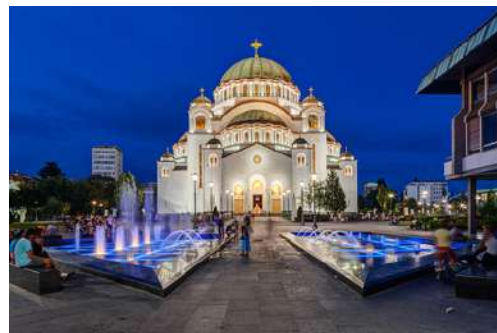
THINGS TO SEE

You will see the monumental structure of **St. Sava Church** from whatever side you approach the center of Belgrade. It was erected on Vračar hill and it is one of the largest orthodox churches in the world. It was built where, according to legend, the remains of St. Sava, the most significant Serbian saint, the first archbishop and founder of the Serbian Orthodox Church from the 13th century, were burned during the Turkish rule.

The monument to Karađorđe dominates in front of the Church, as does the building of the National Library of Serbia, with the most extensive book collection in the Balkans. The magnificent fountain in front of the Church provides the space with a special charm and it is the favorite meeting place of the citizens and visitors of Belgrade.

Republic Square, the main meeting place in Belgrade, is the starting point of the city tour. The square, as a cultural and social hub of Belgrade, where the past meets the present, is the place where the youth gathers and where concerts and events are held. It is surrounded by historical buildings - the National Theatre built emulating La Scala in Milan, Riunione Palace housing Boško Buha Theatre, and the monumental edifice of the National Museum, the largest and oldest Serbian museum.

The **monument to Prince Mihailo Obrenović**, the work of the famous Venetian sculptor Enrico Pazzi, occupies the central area of the Square. It was set up in 1882, in memory of the Prince who improved the economic and cultural life in Serbia, and who was assassinated in 1868.



BELGRADE

THINGS TO SEE

Even today, people say that Zemun represents a city within the city. The symbol of Zemun is the **Millennium Tower** on **Gardoš Hill**, located in the central part of the oldest preserved fortress from the 14th century. The Tower, widely known as the Tower of Janos Hunyadi, is open for visitors every day. The most interesting part of the Tower is the balcony with a viewpoint from which you can enjoy the panoramic view of the city during bright winter days.

Old Zemun attracts many visitors with its narrow streets and old buildings from the period of Austro-Hungarian rule, traditionally hospitable people, authentic cuisine and cozy atmosphere in its restaurants. We suggest you take a walk during the day on the always crowded Zemun promenade, along the Danube bank, where you can relax, as well as taste fish specialties and have a good time listening to urban traditional folk music.

Even though there's no gateway coming up to **Skadarlija**, when you enter this street from the hustle and bustle of busy Belgrade, it's as if the gates from a past time open and lead you into this corner where you can feel the historical atmosphere. Belgrade citizens and guests alike excitedly come to spend their nights in this cobblestoned street with the aim of experiencing the essence of a pastime.

Skadarlija became a bohemian part of the city at the turn of the 20th century when actors, writers, and painters moved there, and the taverns of Skadarlija became the gathering places of the most famous individuals who were part of Belgrade culture. This Belgrade quarter is compared to the Montmartre in Paris in terms of the appearance and the cheerful arty atmosphere.





BELGRADE

THINGS TO SEE

The once industrial district - **Savamala**, was turned into a popular city corner for those into the urban scene. Among the old facades with Baroque and Art Nouveau features, along the wide streets near the Sava banks, there are a lot of attractive cultural facilities, numerous clubs, restaurants and bars at this location today, where young people party deep into the night. One of the favorite places by the river is Beton Hala, where you can find several restaurants and clubs, overlooking the confluence of the Sava and the Danube.

Walking along the quay from Beton Hala, the 1.8 km long **Sava Promenada** continues - a favorite city esplanade that gathers all generations. It is located within the most modern Belgrade district of Belgrade Waterfront. Here, you can explore the diverse gastronomic offer of popular Belgrade restaurants, ride a bicycle or enjoy the magic of the river from one of the many terraces.

This promenade is also a perfect destination for recreation, because, in addition to bike paths, it includes the beach volleyball court and an outdoor gym. Sava Promenada is known for its cultural, sports and other attractive events that are held throughout the year, especially during weekends.

While you are in this part of town, we recommend visiting the permanent exhibition in Manak's house - a typical example of urban architecture in the Balkans in this period. Only a few steps from this building, you'll find the Bosiljčić Candy Shop, where you can buy Turkish delight, candies with a variety of flavors and candy sticks made using traditional recipes.





BELGRADE

THINGS TO SEE

If you decide to get to know the center of Belgrade better by walking, then **Knez Mihailova Street** and its surroundings are ideal for that. The street rests on the remains of the once mighty ancient Singidunum built by the Romans, and today connects Terazije Square with Belgrade Fortress and Kalemegdan Park.

When the wealthiest and most influential families erected houses on this street in the 1980s, it became the city's "housewife", the most vibrant shopping mall with elite Belgrade shops and the main promenade of Belgrade. Due to its great historical and cultural significance, the street is protected by the state. There are numerous historical buildings, monuments and cultural institutions: Gallery of the Cultural Center of Belgrade, imposing building of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts with a gallery where concerts and exhibitions are held, Zepter Museum with works of local contemporary painting, Belgrade City Library with basement premises Roman Hall with the remains of a gate and aqueduct from Roman times, cultural centers of France, Spain and Germany.

This street is never empty. Its centerpiece is full of Belgrade's favorite coffee restaurants. Walkers, fashionably dressed Belgrade women, street musicians and singers are part of her colorful everyday life.





BELGRADE

THINGS TO DO



The National Museum

This institution is the oldest museum in the country and was founded in 1844. <http://www.narodnimuzej.rs/>



The Contemporary Art Museum

was founded in 1958 and its unique design of the building resembles a crystal. www.msub.org.rs



Belgrade ZOO

THE GARDEN OF GOOD HOPE

www.beozoovrt.rs



The Nikola Tesla Museum

completely dedicated to the genius inventor, scientist and engineer Nikola Tesla. www.tesla-museum.org



UNDERGROUND BELGRADE

Visit to the underground sites portray the story about the unusual history of Belgrade, strange fates and legends. www.belgradewalkingtours.com



The Museum of Technology and science

Did you know that the first robotic hand has been made in Serbia? Well, you can see it in this museum as part of the permanent exhibition.

<https://www.muzejnt.rs/>



BELGRADE

RESTAURANTS

Serbian cuisine is a reflection of the historical circumstances this country has been exposed to throughout the centuries - a combination of various culinary influences prepared in an entirely unique and original way.

The meals are prepared with a considerable amount of meat, and served with a variety of vegetables. Home-cooked meals tend to be more spicy. The portions tend to be large.

> **BELA REKA (WHITE RIVER)**

www.restoranbelareka.rs
Open 08:00 - 23:45

> **DVA JELENA (TWO DEERS)**

www.dvajelena.rs
Open 10:00 - 01:00

> **LOVAC (HUNTER)**

www.restoranlovac.rs
Open 09:00 - 01:00, Sat 09:00 - 02:00.

> **Kovač (BLACKSMITH)**

www.restorankovac.com
Open 12:00 - 01:00, Mon 15:00 - 23:00, Sun 12:00 - 23:00.

> **NOVAK (NOVAK DJOKOVIC)**

www.novakl.rs
Open 09:00 - 24:00

> **ŠARAN (CARP)**

www.saran.co.rs
Open 12:00 - 00:30, Tue 15:00 - 00:30, Closed Mon.

> **Pomodoro**

www.pomodoro.rs
Open 09:00 - 24:00, Sun 12:00 - 24:00

> **Balkon**

www.balkon.rs
Open 08:00-01:00, Sat 08:00-02:00

> **Šešir Moj (MY HAT)**

www.sesirmoj.rs
Open 09:00 - 01:00

MANY MORE RESTAURANTS
ONLINE AT:

iyp.me/belgrade/restaurants

Michelin.city.guide



BELGRADE

CAFÉS/BARS

and famous nightlife

> **Jazz Bašta**

www.jazzbasta.com
Open 17:00 - 01:00, Closed Tue, Wed, Thu

> **Black Turtle**

www.theblackturtle.com
Open 09:00 - 24:00, Fri, Sat 09:00 - 01:00

> **Samo Pivo (JUST BEER)**

www.samopivo.rs
Open 12:00 - 24:00, Fri, Sat 12:00 - 01:00

> **Mr Stefan Braun**

www.mrstefanbraun.rs
Open 23:00 - 07:00

> **Kafeterija**

www.kafeterija.com
Open 07:00 - 23:00, Sun 08:00 - 23:00.



MANY MORE BARS AND
CLUBS ONLINE AT:

www.beogradnocu.com/en/

you will definitely fall in love with

BELGRADE



ENJOY!