

# Serbia

## The land of skiing and sports

### Belgrade - Islamic Tourism

Serbia has a passion for the arts and hospitality, all served up without pretense or the usual tourist traps.



BELGRADE for centuries, Serbia's capital city has shaped and reshaped itself on the banks of the Danube and Sava rivers, meandering around its jewel, the Kalemegdan Fortress, gradually built from the 1st to the 18th century. Belgrade's culture is a mixture of oriental passion combined with European finesse, which combine to produce a unique experience for the visitor.

Like its culture and architecture, it is a city of great contrasting weather. Cold in the winter and scorching hot in the summer; the city caters well for all extremes. In the summer months, when temperatures can easily rise to around 35 degrees, life evolves around the River Sava and Danube, which provide a retreat for those city dwellers needing to cool off. Ada Ciganlija is a man-made lake in the city where in the summer up to 300,000 people can descend to its shore for watersports and a good cooling down on the water's edge. Belgrade is a city that never sleeps. Restaurants offer great choice and value.

KOPAONIK: About four hours drive from Belgrade lies Kopaonik, which is not only the highest mastiff in the Balkans but also Serbia's top ski resort and offers probably the best skiing in the whole of the Balkans. Skiing and snowboarding in Kopaonik will suit everyone from beginners to experienced skiers with 21 ski runs catering for all levels of ease and difficulty.

The resort of Kopaonik is made up of a series of hotels and apartments and can cater for up to 3,000 people. Good dumps of snow enable the skiing season to start in earnest in early December and finish late April.

In fact Kopaonik in Roman times was known as the silver mountain. Most of the hotels have direct access to the slopes and chair lifts, which means you don't have to venture too far to get started.

With rich flora and fauna, river valleys and water-springs, it makes an ideal environment for hiking, mountain biking, rafting, paragliding, basketball, tennis and all kinds of open air activities.

### EVENTS

#### DRAGACEVO TRUMPET FESTIVAL August 1-7, Guca

Competition of brass bands and vocal and instrumental groups from all parts of Serbia and abroad. It is accompanied by all around folk sports, exhibitions of handicrafts, traditional dishes and self-taught artists - painters, sculptors and poets

#### EXIT NOISE SUMMER FESTIVAL- July 7-10, Novi Sad

The largest open-air music festival in Southeast Europe.

European Basketball Championship - September 16-25, Belgrade, Novi Sad, Vrsac, Podgorica

European Volleyball Championship - September 2-11, Belgrade, Rome

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