

# ATTRACTIONS, MUSEUMS, PALACES



## Knez Mihailova

Pedestrian zone and commercial center - Knez Mihailova Street is protected by law since it is one of the oldest and most important monumental urban environments. Knez Mihailova is composed of multiple buildings and representative houses constructed at the end of the 1870s. It is thought that the center of the population of Singidunum was established here during Roman times and that it was full of streets with gardens, fountains and mosques during the Ottoman Empire. After the elaboration of the Regulation of Urban Planning in 1867, the street was constructed rapidly to acquire its current physiognomy. It is in this street where influential personalities and rich families of the commercial and political fields of Belgrade got their houses built. In 1870, the Administrative Office of the City designated the current name – Prince Mihailo's Street.



## Belgrade Fortress

The Belgrade Fortress changed and developed throughout the centuries, it saw many armies, was the field of many battles, it witnessed the brutality of the conquerors and the courage of the tireless defenders of the city. It was the place where Belgrade started to develop. The Fortress was built in stages, during the lengthy period between the 1st and 18th century, from a Roman castrum, through a Byzantine castle and the remains of the medieval capital of the Serb Despotate, all the way to an Austrian-Ottoman artillery fortification. The complex consists of the fortress itself, divided into the Upper Town (Despot's Gate, Sahat kula - Clock Tower, Roman Well, Statue of the Victor), Lower Town (Nebojša Tower, Amam – Turkish bath, Gate of Charles VI) and the Kalemegdan Park, home to busts of important persons from Serbian history, science and culture. The Belgrade Fortress offers an exciting view of the confluence of Sava and Danube, of New Belgrade and Zemun. The Kalemegdan Park contains the "Cvijeta Zuzorić" Pavilion, the Grand Stairway, the zoo, children's park and a number of monuments and sculptures, several sports courts, a museum, a café and a restaurant.



## Skadarlija

This ambient nook of Belgrade, still standing to this day, is preserved in the area of Skadarska Street around the bohemian Tri šešira inn. The adaptation of Skadarlija began in 1966, based on projects by the architect Uglješa Bogunović. In an attempt to retain this part of old Belgrade, a reconstruction and revitalization of Skadarska Street was performed. The goal was to bring back the features this specific ambient once had, to revive tradition and add contemporary new sights. Traffic was eliminated from Skadarlija, a fountain was erected, the old cobbles, lanterns and candelabra were brought back, the Tri šešira, Dva jelena and Skadarlija inns were added to, while the interiors of the Ima dana, Zlatan bokal and Dva bela goluba were remodeled. The fortune-teller Ljubica reminded of the olden times, entertaining tourists with her predictions, along with the old drummer Šole and painters transferring motifs from Skadarlija onto canvas. During the seventies Skadarlija became a "sister" to the Parisian Montmartre quarter. A procession of French painters and musicians paraded down our famous street when the charter on cooperation was signed. The following year, our artists returned the visit

# ATTRACTIONS, MUSEUMS, PALACES



## White Palace

White Palace was built between 1934 and 1937 by the architect Aleksandar Djordjevic. The ground floor of this classicist building is a large ceremonial hall and a number of lounges furnished in the style of Louis XV and Louis XVI with Venetian chandeliers. There is also a court library, which had about 35,000 books and Formal dining room furnished in Chippendale style. As part of a court complex on the south side of the Palatine family church, which has a porch with columns associated with the building. The temple is dedicated to St. Andrew the First name (fame of family Karađorđević). The model for the construction of the church of the Monastery of St. Andrew on Treska in Macedonia, which was built in 1389 Andrew, son of King Vukasin. The church was designed and built at the same time as the main building.



## New Palace

The New Palace was built for the residential needs of the Karageorgevich dynasty during the period between 1911 and 1922. The building was designed by the renowned Belgrade architect Stojan Titelbah, upon the site of the demolished Palace of the Crown Prince Mihailo Obrenović. The building of the New Palace, with four stories and the typical corner dome, represents a valuable architectural work of Belgrade construction after World War I. The first floor housed the private and working rooms of the King and Queen: bedrooms with access rooms, cabinets, salons, library and dining hall. The second floor contained the English and Japanese salons, bedrooms and the library. The furniture and interior design bear details in the styles of Louis XIV, Louis XV and Louis XVI. The New Palace was the official residence of King Alexander Karageorgevich between 1922 and 1933, thereafter the palace was, in accordance with the king's wishes, turned over to the Museum of Prince Paul that was moved there in 1934. The museum collections were located at the New Palace until 1948, when the building was handed over to the Assembly of Serbia. The New Court is currently the office of the President of the Republic of Serbia.



## Old Palace

the Old Palace of the Serbian Obrenović dynasty was built between 1882 and 1884, designed by Aleksandar Bugarski in line with the architecture of academism of the 19th century. It was built for the needs of the newly formed Kingdom of Serbia headed by King Milan Obrenović with the intention of overshadowing all contemporary Serbian ruler residences. The appearance of the palace was significantly altered compared to the initial design after the reconstructions following heavy damage sustained during both world wars. The Old Palace was the residence of the Karageorgevich dynasty between 1903 and 1914. Sessions of the temporary National Assembly were held there between 1919 and 1920, as well as court parties and receptions for foreign dignitaries until 1941. Reconstruction following the end of World War II lasted until 1947, and the palace thereafter housed the Presidium of the National Assembly, then the Government of the FNRJ, the Federal Executive Committee and finally, after 1961, the Assembly of the City of Belgrade. Its outer architectural makeup places the building among the

# ATTRACTIONS, MUSEUMS, PALACES

most beautiful works of Serbian academic architecture of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The most elaborate façade is facing the gardens. A typical motif on the façade are the caryatids at the first floor level. Caryatids are repeated on the façade facing the Kralja Milana Street, along with a line of Doric columns in front. The central hall leads to the Red Salon where the "Portrait of the Girl", painted by Đura Jakšić in 1862 is sure to draw the most attention. The left side of the entrance to the Yellow Salon displays the facsimile of the letter of Pope John VII dated April 16, 878 – the oldest document every to mention the Slavic name of Belgrade. The Yellow Salon houses several exceptional paintings by Sava Šumanović, Jovan Bijelić, Petar Lubarda, Miodrag-Bata Mihajlović, Ljuba Lah, Jovan Zonjić, Peđa Milosavljević, Petar Omčikus and Vasa Pomorišac, as well as woodcuts by Rista Stijović. The Yellow Salon leads to the Ceremonial Hall, a ballroom leading to the terrace. The interior of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Salon was arranged by the Museum of the City of Belgrade in line with the spirit of the time when the Old Palace was built. The Old Palace currently houses the Assembly of the City of Belgrade and the cabinet of the mayor



## Royal Palace

The Royal Palace in Dedinje was built between 1924 and 1929, on orders by King Alexander I, as the official royal residence. The designers were the architect Živojin Nikolić and the academic Nikolaj Krasnov of the Royal Academy. It is currently home to Crown Prince Alexander II and his family.

It is a spacious and representative villa built of white stone in the Serbian-Byzantine style. The palace is surrounded by pergolas, park terraces, pools, a pavilion and a concert terrace. The palace, located on the ridge of a hill, provides a magnificent view of Dedinje, the Košutnjak forest, Topčider and Avala. The stone paved Ceremonial Hall is decorated with copies of frescoes from the monasteries Dečani and Sopoćane. The Blue Salon is decorated in a baroque style, while the Gold Salon and the grand Dining Hall are decorated in the style of renaissance. The marble columns in those rooms bear rich casseted wooden ceilings with bronze chandeliers. These rooms are decorated with precious paintings, cases and items from the royal collection. The rooms of the Grand and Small Library are decorated in the same style.



## Residence of Princess Ljubica

Located in the very heart of Belgrade, on Kosančićev Venac. The Residence of Princess Ljubica was erected on orders by Prince Miloš Obrenović in 1831, as the private residence of his wife, the Princess Ljubica. The architecture and placement of rooms represent an example of the Balkans style, with a number of western baroque elements. The Residence houses the permanent exhibit "Interiors of Belgrade City Houses of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century" starting with the Oriental (Turkish), through the influence of Central (Biedermeier) and Western European (Neo-baroque, Neo-rococo, Napoleon III, Altdeutsch) styles. The arched hall in the Residence basement is an exquisite ambiental locale where the Museum of the City of Belgrade organizes exhibits, lectures, music performances and promotions

# ATTRACTIONS, MUSEUMS, PALACES



## National Museum

The oldest of museum institutions in Belgrade was founded in 1844 at the initiative of the Serb writer Jovan Sterija Popović.

The founding of the National Museum coincides with the rise of the civic culture and the establishment of the state institutions of the Principality of Serbia.

The National Museum in Belgrade, a complex type museum, is the most significant, oldest and central museum of Serbia

containing 34 archaeological, numismatic and historical collections at this moment, after 160 years of growth and development. The museum collections contain over 400,000 archaeological and historical-artistic items, key mementos for archaeology and the history of art, representing the development and civilisation changes within the region of contemporary Serbia and its nearest surroundings, as well as key artistic directions and styles, pinnacles of artistic achievement in the national and European art world from the medieval period to modern times. Some example of the unique exhibits are the sculptures from Lepenski vir (7th millennium B.C.), Vincian statues (6-5th millennium B.C.), a shed from Jabučje (1st century A.D.), Belgrade Camea (4th century), coins of King Radoslav (13th century), medieval icons and frescoes, a bowl from Vračevšnica (17th century), paintings by Paja Jovanović (19th century) or Sava Šumanović (20th century). The National Museum also holds the Gospel of Miroslav ("Miroslavljevo Jevanđelje") from the 12th century, the most valuable artefact of Serb culture, officially declared the most beautiful Cyrillic manuscript in the world and a cultural treasure placed, along with the archive of the Museum of Nikola Tesla, under the protection of the UNESCO program "Memories of the World".



## Museum of the City of Belgrade

A total fund of over 130,000 cultural-historical items is sorted into 14 sections, with exhibits from prehistory, a significant collection of antique culture, as well as a collection of engravings and maps of Belgrade from the 16th through 19th century. This treasure is waiting to be adequately presented to the public as evidence of the long and rich history of

Belgrade. The Museum of the City of Belgrade also contains exhibits of cultural-historical (Residence of Princess Ljubica, Sekulić Icon Collection), ethnographic (Memorial Museum of Zemun and the Museum of Mladenovac) and memorial type (Museum of Toma Rosandić, Museum of Jovan Cvijić, Museum of Paja Jovanović, Memorial Museum of Ivo Andrić, Museum of the Camp at Banjica), as well as the Vinča archaeological locale.

## **BASIC INFORMATION**

- Time Zone Belgrade and Serbia are located in the Central European time zone region – GMT +1 and/or GMT +2 as of the last week in the third month until the Saturday prior to the last week of the tenth month.
- Electricity As in most cities of Continental Europe, the electricity voltage in Belgrade is 220V.
- Water Tap water in Belgrade is safe to drink.
- The official tender in Serbia is dinar, abbreviated RSD. Money may be exchanged in all banks and post offices, as well as in authorized exchange offices.
- **The area code for Belgrade in national traffic is 011.** The area code for Serbia in international traffic is 381.

### **Important Telephone Numbers**

# *ATTRACTIONS, MUSEUMS, PALACES*

Police – 192

Fire-fighters – 193

Ambulance – 194

## **CITY TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

Belgrade city public transport is provided through a network of bus, trolleybus and tram routes run by GSP "Beograd" and bus services operated by private bus companies, on around 130 routes.

**Single tickets** can be bought:

- in public transport vehicles, from driver or conductor

-at kiosk marked with a ticket sales sticker

- at GSP points-of-sale

BusPlus Info / public transportation in Belgrade

**"Paper cards (most suitable for tourists)**

If you are not frequent user you should buy a paper card which costs 89 rsd, and you can drive with that card 90 min. on all lines (for 1st or 2nd public transportation zone).

If you buy a ticket on the bus a card cost – 150 rsd

**Paper cards witch you can use:**

1 day for 1st or 2nd public transportation zone - 250 rsd,

3 days for 1st or 2nd public transportation zone – 700rsd

5 days for 1st or 2nd public transportation zone - 1000 rsd.

## **TAXI**

Cash may be taken from ATMs installed in all major malls, bank branch offices and in public places 365 days in a year, 24 hours a day. Cell phone e-cards and Internet cards may also be purchased in some of these places. The passenger is only required to pay for taxi services according to the current price list and to the amount indicated by the taxi meter at the end of the journey. Negotiating a price for taxi services, where the taxi meter is not switched on, is not recommended, especially at the airport.

**COMPLAINTS: 011/3227-000**

**Taxi companies:**

Alo taksi, 3564-555

Alfa taksi, 19807

Beotaksi, 1970, 19999

Beogradski, 19801

Lux taxi, 303-3123

Naksi taksi, 2157-668

Pink taksi, 19803