96 hours in Belgrade
Every Belgrader will gladly talk to you about the spirit of Belgrade. And they Belgraders, rejoice in countless little things and rituals of their city, they rejoice in life and joy itself. And guests. That is why guests of Belgrade quickly realize that the most important thing one should get to know in Belgrade are probably Belgraders themselves.

When you are born in Belgrade, you don’t have much choice. You were born here, you will stay here forever, it was your destiny. When you are born in Belgrade you must come to terms with the fact that everybody will be envious and that you would be most envious of those who have remained in Belgrade while you had to go somewhere. If you already have no choice and you were born in Belgrade, you
realize that you should be proud of the chance that has brought you into this world exactly here and you remember and cherish your Belgrade from the earliest childhood, aware that within your lifetime it would certainly be changed and destroyed, so it is right that you keep your Belgrade inside you, to preserve it for your children and all those who come to it in peace. For those who have conquered it, Belgrade has remained in their minds, as a curse and a dream which never comes completely true.

All that is Belgrade, and much more. A cosmopolitan city, forever defined by its position, eclectic in its nature and wide in geographic and every other sense. A city that remembers a lot, even relatives and ancestors of those who are coming to visit us today and therefore always find themselves, in Kalemegdan or in another place.

Belgrade in the modern times, seen from “Google” or “Facebook” seems equally beautiful as when it is photographed and described by those who come here, but also those who live here.

Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, is the third largest city of Southeast Europe, after Istanbul and Athens. It has a population of a little more than 1,700,000. Belgrade is a city of young people. More than 40 percent of Belgraders are between 15 and 44 years old. The spirit of Belgrade is something that every Belgrader will gladly talk about. Straight-forward and in mood to have fun, many Belgraders will claim that they are true hedonists, that they know everything about good food, wine, music. Some of them really do.

Belgraders rejoice in everything, pleasant discussions and long walks, dinking of morning coffee, non-working days, they also rejoice when in their neighborhood bakery they find hot bread, fresh from the oven. They like to be on the move and that is why streets, promenades, cafes, restaurants and shops are always crowded. And even more importantly, Belgraders rejoice in everybody. That is why the guests of Belgrade usually learn that the most important thing they should get to know in Belgrade are Belgraders.

It is nice and important for Belgrade to be the world, but it is even more important for the world to come to Belgrade, because of what exists only here and inside us.

Belgrade has always been a place where people greet one another on the streets and have their morning Belgrade coffee with their neighbors, when one shares everything with their co-Belgraders, and especially what they like the most.

When you have already found yourself in Belgrade or if you temporarily live in it, if you didn’t have any other choice or if this was your choice, it represents a responsibility. To love Belgrade and everybody who lives in it.

Miodrag Popović,  
Director of the Tourist Organization of Belgrade
Content

Introduction: Choose to Love Belgrade 02
Centers: Ten Belgrade Attractions 06
Museums and Galleries: Traces, Paintings 12
Sacral Geography: The Temples of Belgrade 16
Buildings: Manuscript of Large Master Builder 20
Curiosity: Unusual Tours 24
Excitements: Heart in Belgrade 28
Bite and Sip: The Charm of Belgrade Taverns 32
Made in Belgrade: Formed by the Spirit of the City 34
Margin as the Center: BG Urban Art 36
Film City: Belgrade in the Leading Role 38
Entertainment: Pastime in Belgrade 40
Scene: In the Rhythm of Belgrade 42
In the Game: Sport Spectacles 44
People: Live Symbols of Belgrade 46
One of the oldest European cities, entirely made of unusual history and its reflections scattered everywhere as glittering dust, Belgrade is today above all a modern and humorous city, with a peculiar carelessness that comes from self-confidence, full of hearty people and vivaciousness. The most common thing in Belgrade is to share with a guest one’s city valuables, as a little gift. Below are ten Belgrade attractions they will recommend to you most often

**Fortress**

The complex Of Belgrade Fortress, on the most pronounced part of Terazije Reef, over the confluence of the Sava and Danube and Great War Island, is one of the most beautiful views of Europe, an important symbolical and cultural-historical point. With its Upper and Lower
Town, as well as Kalemegdan Park, it is the first-class outdoor museum, “history in the stone”. There is a series of monuments, museums, galleries and temples that you can see and visit there. Monument “The Victor”, on a high post made of white marble, is the symbol of Belgrade.

**Center of the Center**
For the first walking study of Belgrade, the best thing is to start from the city center or go toward it. Knez-Mihailova Street and its surroundings, with valuable buildings, monuments, cultural offer, as well as all modern elements that characterize a European metropolis, is the best choice. This elite pedestrian zone, filled with exclusive shops and excellent cafes, also represents the business-financial center of Belgrade.

**River Banks**
The Danube and Sava, two big and exciting rivers, frame the portrait of Belgrade and finish the painting of its character. They are also the mirror over which this city every day brings its diverse faces. The banks of Belgrade rivers are full of promenades and cycling treks, rafts with cafes and restaurants and clubs, sports centers, beaches and playgrounds. And people, of course. Day and night.

**Skadarlija, Bohemian District**
Steep, winding, covered with cobble-stone, formerly known for its clusters of gas lanterns and old poets’ taverns, has preserved up to present day its Belgrade bohemian charm. Remains of this heritage from the 19th century constitute a tourist attraction, and the Belgraders preserve it touchingly, with melancholy and respect, as a crumb of themselves without which they wouldn’t be what they are.

**St. Sava Temple**
One of the biggest Christian Orthodox temples in the world, and another symbol of Belgrade, is dedicated to the most important Serbian saint and educator, who founded the independent Serbian Orthodox Church in the 13th century. The temple is located on the Hill of Vračar, on the plateau near the National Library, and dominates the profile of the central part of Belgrade. The interior is still under construction, but it already looks impressive.

**Old Zemun**
It used to be a city with the view of Belgrade, and today it is a city within a city. People used to travel from Zemun to Belgrade by boat, and now they have grown together in their embrace. The beautiful quay on the Danube and authentic old streets of the Lower Town of Zemun still preserve their irresistible attraction. Above is the hill of Gardoš, with remains of the Fortress and Tower. “Half of Belgrade” can be seen from there.

**Palaces**
Through salons decorated in the style of Louis XV and Louis XVI, with artworks of world
known artists, a large palace library, Venetian light fixtures, gardens and temples, Royal and White Palace on the hill of Dedinje, are testimonies of the rise of Serbia that was tragically stopped by World War Two.

Topčider Park
One of the most beautiful parks in Belgrade, it stands out for many things. It is the end branch of former forests of Šumadija. There, formerly in the vicinity of Belgrade, in the 1830’s, Prince Miloš Obrenović built his royal complex and a center of life in Serbia that had been just liberated (resurrected) from the Ottoman rule. The Topčider River runs through the park. The trees and vegetation in it were planted in the 19th century by French gardeners, and one planetree, more than 160 years old, still bears witness to this.

Ada Ciganlija
Recently officially declared one of three most beautiful city islands in the world, this Ada Island on the Sava, which is connected by two rivers with the right bank, thus forming the Sava Lake, is the most visited Belgrade beach and playground. A true oasis. There are forests, parks, sports courts, and cycling treks everywhere, as well as countless cafes and restaurants. It is also beautiful to take a walk in the winter down the circular road around the lake or visit the outdoor ice-skating rink.

Avala
Only sixteen kilometers from the city center, a mountain. “Blue Avala”, on which the restored Tower rises, is the favorite excursion grounds of Belgraders all year long. You will experience memorable views from the Tower. You can also have a lunch there, on the highest level. We should not even discuss now the hiking treks, sledding, hunting and other mountain charms.
In Belgrade you will quickly realize that people are right when they call it a city of culture. Rich cultural offer of Belgrade museums, theaters, cinemas and concert halls speaks volumes about this. Numerous historical buildings, important by themselves, have become the home of Belgrade museums. Exhibitions in them present to us traces of several millenniums of life in this area of encounter and intertwining of cultures, civilizations and worlds.

We suggest that, first, in the Museum of Nikola Tesla, you take a look at the largest collection of documents in the world about life and work of the brilliant inventor of alternating current. The collection is under protection of the UNESCO. You may learn about life and work of writer Ivo Andrić, Serbian Nobel Prize winner, in the memorial museum that carries his name. The Enlightenment and the development of education were presented at the Museum of Vuk and Dositej, as well as in the Pedagogical Museum. Medieval Nebojša Tower, a dungeon during the Turkish occupation, is today turned into a modern museum space.

You should also walk through permanent interesting exhibitions of the Museum of Applied Arts, Historical Museum of Serbia and Ethnographic Museum. There are also rich theme collections of the Car Museum, Railway Museum and Aviation Museum. The Museum of Natural Science, in its Gallery, exhibits inter-
esting collections of plants and animals from the times when Belgrade was “an island beach in the Pannonian Sea”.

In addition to other valuable exhibits, the National Museum keeps Miroslav’s Gospel – the oldest and most valuable preserved document written in Cyrillic, from the ‘12th century. Officially recognized as the most beautiful Cyrillic manuscript in the world, this Gospel is included in the UNESCO’s list “Memory of the World”.

Testimony on creation, peaks and disappearance of the Neolithic Vinča culture, the proved “first Europe”, can be see in the vicinity of Belgrade, in the village of Vinča, on the right bank of the Danube, within the exhibition of the Museum of the City of Belgrade.

Belgrade also has about fifty art galleries, diverse in their concept, with challenging and inspiring exhibitions. Do not miss to take a peek in them, even if because of this you would have to extend your stay or decide to come again. For example, you can make this tour: “Singidunum”, “Kolarac”, Cultural Center of Belgrade, “Progress”, “Chaos”, “Soul Workshop”, “Hexalab”... Definitely visit the Museum of Paja Jovanović, the best known painter of Serbian academic realism, who left his luxurious studio to the Museum of the City of Belgrade. Permanent exhibition with 211 artworks, neo-renaissance portal and salon in the style of Louis XV, were transferred from the artist’s studio in Vienna.

In the palace of Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, in one of the most magnificent buildings of the elite Knez-Mihailova Street, there is a gallery that organizes exhibitions of exceptional artistic and historical significance. At the end of this street, in the foundations of the building of the Library of the City of Belgrade, remains of a Roman fortress gate were found. The space has been conserved and adapted into the “Roman Hall”, where exhibitions and literary evenings are organized.
Belgrade is, of course, a Christian Orthodox city. But its history and fate, all those cultural-historical crossings, have given to it a truly multi-confessional and multicultural character. Belgrade has wisely preserved this until today, as its treasure and one of its most beautiful traits – a unique combination of differences, which complement and strengthen one another.

Belgrade has religious buildings of Christian Orthodox, Catholics, Muslims, Evangelicals, Judaists, Uniates, Buddhists...

No matter from which side you approach the centre of Belgrade, the monumental St. Sava Temple will appear before you, on the Hill of Vračar, one of the biggest Christian Orthodox
temples in the world. A special place in the city map has the Congregational Church, on the Sava slope and, across the street, the Patriarchy of Serbian Orthodox Church. The Congregational Church has one of the most representative classicistic iconostases, from the 19th century. Every Sunday, during the liturgy in this church, you may hear the excellent choir of the First Belgrade Singing Society.

In addition to almost a hundred Orthodox temples, Belgrade also has several Roman-Catholic churches, one synagogue and one mosque.

Of Roman-Catholic churches, the Church of St. Antun Padovanski stands out, in the city district called the Red Cross, slightly resembling the Leaning Tower of Pisa. In the Cathedral of Holy Virgin Mary in Neimar, the old organ stands out as a special value vrednost. Every Sunday morning you may attend a mass in English language in the Church of Christ the King.

Bajrakli Mosque in Dorćol has remained in Belgrade from the times of Turkish occupation. If you go down the Danube slope from Knez-Mihailova Street, you will easily find the slender waits of its minaret.

The only Jewish temple that is still active in Belgrade is Ashkenazi synagogue in Maršala Birjuzova Street. It gives Sephardic service, since there are few Ashkenazi Jews left in Belgrade. In addition to the service, weddings and other ceremonies, they also organize all activities of Belgrade Jewish religious association.
96 HOURS IN BELGRADE
Architecturally, Belgrade is full of contrasts, multilayered and diverse, often charmingly contradictory. It is logical, since it is one of the oldest European cities, which has passed through numerous times and changes. Because of the exceptional strategic position and meta-historical importance, Belgrade was often under siege and attack. It was destroyed to the ground and rebuilt for more than forty times. All these layers are still here, you walk on them, while you are in this city, and you feel their power.

Belgrade is divided by rivers into the Old and New. In the Old Belgrade you may see numerous tendencies and architectural styles characteristic for Europe in the past centuries. New Belgrade is a huge step of Belgrade over the Sava River into the Srem plains, a modernist city, in terms of its architecture, urbanistic solutions, and the spirit.

In the stylistic arc of Belgrade architecture you will easily recognize the Balkan-Oriental elements, then classicistic, neo-renaissance, neo-baroque, secession, all the way to those reflecting the national style and those heralding modernism.

In order to learn more about centuries of Belgrade architecture, you should go to bookshops and libraries, or some of the specialized internet portal. Still, after all destructions of the city in the past centuries, you can also see many interesting things while walking down the streets of Belgrade. In Dorćol, Dušanova Street no. 10, you will see the “oldest preserved...
During such a walk through Belgrade, you will certainly get interested in historical building of Balkan-Oriental architecture: Residence of Princess Ljubica, Residence of Prince Miloš’ Tavern “?” , Museum of Dositej and Vuk. Also noteworthy are the Old Court (today the City Parliament), New Court (today the seat of the president of Serbia), the House of National Parliament, building of the former “Belgrade Cooperative” in Karadorđeva Street – all beautiful buildings design in the spirit of academism.

The magnificent old Kapetan-Mišino Zdanje and National Theatre are designed in the style of romanticism. The building of the National Museum, which houses one of the most important cultural institutions, is an example of neo-renaissance architecture in Serbian capital. In Knez-Mihailova Street, the elite pedestrian zone of Belgrade, certainly the most representative is the building of Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, made in the academic style, with elements of neo-baroque and secession. Terazije Square is dominated by elegant secession building of Moscow Hotel. Uniqueness of Serbian-Byzantine style can be seen on the building of Patriarchy in Varoš kapija, an old city neighborhood on the Sava slope.

Between two world wars, the architecture of Belgrade was enriched by many foreign designers. Russian architects, immigrants after the October Revolution in 1917, introduce to many public buildings elements of Russian academism and secession. Czech architects erected the building of “Prague Bank” in the corner of Terazije and Sremska Street, and building of “Yugoslav Bank” on the Republic Square. Viennese architects designed the building of “Excelsior” Hotel in Kneza Miloša Street no. 5. “Riunione” building, which dominates on the Republic Square, is the work of Italian architects. The building of French Embassy, across the street from Kalemegdan, was designed in Paris.

After World War Two, architecture in Belgrade was deeply marked by socialist realism. On the left bank of the Sava, the New Belgrade was built “from scratch”, and today it is one of the most successful European examples of the so-called open construction. Architectural representative of that time is, in addition to “Serbia” Palace in New Belgrade, the port authority building of the Union House, on what is today the Square of Nikola Pašić.
There are several possibilities to get to know Belgrade in unusual ways. In an organized way. We will mention some, and you may learn about others on website and in info centers of the Tourist Organization of Belgrade (www.tob.co.rs)

Tour Underground Belgrade is an exciting descent into “Belgrade underneath Belgrade”. Networks of tunnels and passages, “real little streets and squares, hubs and passages”, mysterious Borges’ maze, a trace of some distant and different times. If you choose this tour, you will see the Roman Palace, pipes of the Roman water supply, Roman well, a bunker on the Belgrade Fortress, great gunpowder warehouse, underground passages...
You may feel the atmosphere of the palaces of rulers from the early 20th century, an order of life different from the one today, when you visit the complex of royal palaces in Belgrade, in Dedinje. In White and Royal Palace, you will see beauty and luxury, refined taste, skill of the builders and artists, you will hear many interesting things from the history of these buildings and Karađorđević dynasty.

Every Saturday, you may participate in program entitled A Coffee with Princess Ljubica of the Museum of the City of Belgrade. It is an opportunity to learn secrets of the Residence of Princess Ljubica, an old building in Serbian-Balkan style across the street from the Patriarchy, and details about the life in Belgrade during the reign of Obrenović dynasty. The curator, dressed in a costume from the period of Princess Ljubica, greets the visitors as the hostess of her palace. With coffee and the best local Turkish delight, she leads them through the era from two centuries ago and personal lives of the members of the ruling family of that time.

Rakia, a traditional local drink, will be offered in any bar, café or restaurant in Belgrade. Plum rakia, apple, quince, pear, apricot rakia... With St. John’s Worth, gentian, medicinal herbs... You may taste the entire range of rakias from this region in specialized “Rakia Bar” on several locations in Belgrade. If you would like to learn more about this Serbian drink, and get deeper into its delicate secrets, a special Rakia Tour through Belgrade has been prepared for you.
You should also make use of the rare comfort of seeing Belgrade from its rivers, on the boat to the confluence of the Sava and Danube, enjoy the view of the Great War Island, Belgrade Fortress, Nebojša Tower, Gardoš and all other landmarks that string along dozens of kilometers of river banks of this metropolis. Right there on the Confluence – where the green Sava and blue Danube meet, where temperatures of waters from over seventy of their tributaries get together – boat travelers would close their eyes for a second and make a wish. If it is a noble one, they say, it would always come true.

Belgrade Kayak Adventures is another attractive Belgrade tour on the rivers. You would ride at unforgettable sunrise under seven city bridges, enjoy exploring the Great War Island, meet flocks of rare birds, see the light from the East showering the city that “is being born from its own contours”.

Every day in a year when there is no rain or snow and when wind speed does not exceed 5 m/s, it is possible to fly in a balloon over Belgrade for duration of 60 to 90 minutes and see the city from the air.

At the tour called Literary Guide through Belgrade, you will follow the traces left by some of the greatest Serbian writers around Belgrade, with their lives and work. (Ivo Andrić, a Noble Prize winner, for example.) By visiting places where they used to spend their days in Belgrade, you will hear another interesting story about the timeless spirit of Belgrade and the era in which each of them lived.
Belgrade is filled with exciting things, for everybody’s taste. From adrenaline sports, through nightlife and derby, to hunting and fishing. One cannot do everything, it is necessary to chose. We will single out a few of these things, but you must do as you like. You cannot make a mistake.

Adrenalin sports
On the Sava Lake you can, of course, swim, row, play water polo and other sports with a ball, golf and rugby, windsurf, go down the slides, ride in pedal boats, fish from specially designed platforms... But, if you like a higher level of adrenaline, think about water skiing by means of a special ropeway, try bungee jumping or extreme climbing on artificial rock.

Rafts and nights on the rivers
On the banks of the Sava and Danube, Belgrade has more than ten kilometers of developed quays. There, on ships and on the ground, you have numerous good restaurants and cafes, as well as raft-clubs. Their conceptual, stylistic and genre range is so large that you will certainly find just the right place for you. It is the zone of “crazy Belgrade nightlife”, “beautiful fever of Belgrade nights”. And on the junction of the Sava and Danube, in Ušće Park, in addition to frequent mega-concerts, like the concert of “Rolling Stones”, every August there is also “Beer Fest”, “the biggest party in South-east Europe”.
History without an intermediary
Several millennia long history of Belgrade is interwoven into its daily life harmoniously, without seams and separation lines. You look at it through many streets, buildings and monuments. Through any books, people and destinies. You enter the old town through the gate through which the rebels entered in 1804, you climb into Nebojša Tower where the great Greek poet and revolutionary Rigas Feraios died, you sit on the outlook of despot and knight Stefan Lazarević... You feel the pulse of centuries.

Derby
Belgraders are some of the most fervent sports fans in Europe. Belgrade city derby between “Zvezda” and “Partizan”, in any sport, and especially football and basketball, is a first-class spectacle. An event to be remembered, both in terms of images we carry with us, and choreography, energy, depth. Similar thing happens when foreign clubs come to Belgrade, or when Serbian national team is playing. If you like this, do not miss it.

Knightly games
On the Fortress, that battlefield and the heroic chest of Belgrade, an international knightly tournament takes place every year. Competition in old martial arts, shooting with medieval weapons, horse riding. You can participate, take pictures with the knights and ladies, be a part of the picturesque knightly parade.

Hunting and fishing
In the territory of the city of Belgrade there are several developed and rich hunting grounds: “Rit”, “Lipovička šuma”, “Trešnja”... Of big game, there you can hunt roe, deer, mouflon, and of small one rabbit, pheasant, partridge, wild goose, wild duck, quail, dove... Fishing is possible on the Sava and Danube, in the waters of Pančevo Marshland, many people often go to the Tamiš and Tisa. Special treasure of sports fishing is the Ada Safari Lake.
You have come to the city that has many taverns and restaurants, for everybody’s taste and pocket. Belgraders love their taverns and care about them, each one of them has its own regular guests. It is nice to discover for yourself what each of them can offer, what kind of bite and sip you can find there, music and atmosphere. But, if you don’t have enough time for this, our little instructions can be handy.

You may feel the charm of the 19th century Belgrade at “Znak pitanja”, the oldest Belgrade tavern preserved to date. There, guests still sit on little three-legged stools and low sofas, they serve old Serbian dishes, presented in the manner from that time.

You may experience essence of old Belgrade art bohemia and its spirit in the taverns of Skadarlija. Tastes of Serbian and international cuisine, Balkan eclectic gastronomy, everything spiced up with the old-town music, await you in taverns “Tri šešira”, “Ima dana”, “Velika Skadarlija”, “Kod dva bela goluba”, “Šešir moj”, “Dva jelena”, “Zlatni bokal”...

In the old part of Belgrade there are many taverns with beautiful gardens: “Proleće”, “Orašac”, “Lovac”, “Sokoj”, “Romantičari”... All of them are also famous among the Belgraders for great food. In taverns “Kalenić”, “Majdan”, “Malo korzo”... you may get, at very affordable prices, homemade ajvar, hot shortbread with kajmak, roast meat and barbeque.

Elite restaurants of international cuisine and specialized restaurants of famous national
cuisines are easily recognizable. Most of them are Italian restaurants, but there are also Greek, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Mexican, Indian, Lebanese, Dalmatian and other restaurants.

We especially recommend a visit to taverns and restaurants of Zemun: “Šaran”, “Sent Andreja”, “Novi salaš”, “Venecija”, “Žabar”, “Male Villa”... Most of them are located on the bank of the Danube. They are famous, among other things, for fish delicacies made according to recipes of old Danube fishermen.

What should you order? We will outline a possible way to begin.

As an appetizer, a good rakia: plum rakia, apricot rakia, klekovača, lincura... They are great for the appetite.

Traditional starter in Belgrade restaurants is proja (bread made of corn flour), which is served hot, with cheese and kajmak. In the winter, you should take a sauerkraut salad to go with it. Cold starters also include prosciutto, roast pork, Serbian sausage, smoked neck. Aspic is a traditional winter starter. (Parts of pork meat are cooked in water with spices, separated from bones and the liquid is poured into shallow dishes, after which it is left to cool down and get the right consistency. It is dusted with paprika and cut into cubes.)

Baked beans – a special variety of large beans prepared with onions and spices – is served cold as a part of the starter. If you prefer lighter food, we recommend cold vegetarian sarma (vine or cabbage leaves stuffed with mixture of fried onions and rice, with paprika, tomato and parsley). The favorite hot starters are cheese and spinach pies (baked pie crust stuffed with cheese, kajmak and eggs, or finely chopped spinach).

And when you begin like this, the rest will come easy to you. Both the food and wine. Feel free to take the recommendations of the host and descriptions in the menus.
There are diverse products labeled with “Made in Belgrade”. Many of them make the visitors of Belgrade exited, for example gastro-articles of local production, from rakia and wines to ajvar and plum preserve according to the recipes of grandmothers, wrapped in decorative packaging. You will probably want to buy some of these products that are typical for Serbian region. A homemade fruit rakia, for example. You will find them in supermarkets, little shops or specialized shops
In the stores of “Soko Štark” there is a large assortment of chocolate products with long tradition, with the bestselling chocolate called “Najlepše želje”, with a Made in Belgrade label on the back of the packaging. Several chocolate producers in Belgrade – “Adore”, “Premijer”, “San Marina” – offer superb chocolate products.

In Balkanska Street, in addition to the Eastern sweet called halvah, you will also find some family manufacture shops selling hats, caps, ties or gloves with a label of domestic production. If you are planning to buy a nice piece of gold jewelry, exclusive local gold jewelry shops “Andrejević”, “Đurđević”, “Stefanović” (...) are characterized by high quality and excellent design.

We are sure that you will also like the great selection of local textile fashion industry in shops “Mona”, “Afrodita Mode Collection”, “Nikolas”... “Ivković” Design makes products of wool, cotton and linen, inspired by traditional ornaments from Serbia. Fashion House “St. George” nurtures collections of austere shapes, in combination with materials with different textures.

A group of young Belgrade designers turned boutiques of the old shopping center “Čumićevo sokače” into Belgrade Design Neighborhood. In one place, you can find unique wardrobe and jewelry, various fashion accessories and home decoration.
New generations and their art find their expression and alternative forms, by influencing the appearance and sensibility of Belgrade. Former objects of industrial heritage become strongholds for new design, creativity and urban culture. It is neither margin nor “extended reality”, but one of the possible ways into the heart of things.

A wave of new artists leaves its picturesque trail in urban environments of Belgrade. Their skills and sensibility, their topics and obsessions, are reflected in numerous graffiti and murals around Belgrade. Their messages are engraved in the field of vision of Belgraders. While walking through the city center, stop in front of three huge drawings on old buildings, three striking works of Italian artist Valerio Berruti, Polish artist M-City and Blu, which is an alias of one of the most famous mural painters in the world.

In the past few years, former objects of industrial heritage in Belgrade are growing into spaces where exhibitions, concerts and theatrical performances are organized. Warehouses and storage areas in Savamala neighborhood are receiving new clothes, becoming strongholds for new design, cultural events and interesting nightlife. Among the old facades with symbols of baroque and secession, with spacious streets not far from the Sava bank, there are “Magacin”, Cultural center “City”, “Mixer House” (…), places of creativity and new ideas of urban culture of Belgrade. “Supermarket” in Dorćol also has a very interesting interior and diverse offer, from gastronomy, through clothes to various knick-knacks that can be used as gifts.
For decades, Belgrade has been an attractive destination for the shooting of films. It has been the topic in many films, in many it acted some other cities, bringing to life some past or future times. Numerous famous foreign movies have been made in the “Film City” in Košutnjak. Many great names from the art of film have been coming to Belgrade for this. And they are still coming.

Streets, parks and buildings of Belgrade, its Fortress, rivers and forests, its old and new town, have turned out to be excellent set designs for films. In some places, film scenery has become a part of the city, and sometimes the city was the scenery. Belgrade has gained the routine and power of “living” its role as a film star. Belgraders have gotten so used to film shootings in their streets that during premiers they first try to see if they can see themselves on the screen.

Belgrade also has film infrastructure, as well as good logistics support. In the “Film City” in Košutnjak, formerly “Avala Film”, many old and new bestselling films were made. In recent years, mostly Italian TV films have been made here. The newly built “PFI studio”, in the vicinity of Belgrade, also offers everything that is needed for realization of demanding contemporary film projects.

Ralph Fiennes, famous actor and director, has often praised the architecture of Belgrade, this “effective mixture of classical and modern”. He filmed his directorial debut, Coriolanus, in Belgrade, and since then he has been a regular guest here. His contemporary version of Shakespeare’s play also featured Jessica Chastain, Redgrave, Gerald Butler (people still remember his crazy nights in Belgrade night clubs)...
The following actors also stayed in Belgrade: Rachel Weisz (for the film *The Brothers Bloom*), Guy Pierce (*The Lockout*), John Cusack (*The Raven*), Jessica Lange (*In Secret*)... Great public attention was attracted by Kevin Costner and Pierce Brosnan. Costner stayed only one week in Belgrade, shooting *Three Days to Kill*, but he was a welcome guest of many Belgrade restaurants. Brosnan spent a few weeks in Belgrade shooting the thriller *November Man*, directed by Roger Donaldson, and he made friends with many Belgraders.

In addition with expensive projects featuring celebrities, an increasing number of more modest film projects have been made in Belgrade and the surroundings: comic thriller *Run Kitty, Run*, horror *Chernobyl Diaries*, medieval action movies *Templar: Battle for Blood* and *Sword of Revenge*... In addition to Italians, Americans and Brits, Belgrade has also attracted South Koreans. In the film *Tenor Liriko Spinto*, a story about the famous South Korean opera singer, Belgrade je appeared in the role of Berlin.
Pastime, during the day and especially during the night, is an unforgettable characteristic of Belgrade. Charm and joyfulness of Belgraders, openness and wide spirit of the city, musicality and playfulness, its river banks, various clubs and cafes on water and on the aground – carry in themselves some deep attraction. You think this is just a “touristy phrase from shallow tour guides”? You will check it out easily. Sink into Belgrade nightlife only once

Rafts on the banks of the Sava and Danube provide all night long entertainment, in all kinds of rhythms. From folk music, through local pop and rock-and-roll, to techno and electronic music. The main zones are the Danube bank near the former “Yugoslavia” Hotel, banks of the Sava from “Gazela” Bridge to Ušće, and Ada Ciganlija. You will make an easy choice even if you have no information. Go for a walk, listen to music, feel the atmosphere and see the guests on the raft. You will see everything you need. Still, here are some clues, as assistance: clubs on the banks of the Danube are more fancy, those on the banks of the Sava are in bohemian and urban style, and Ada Ciganlija is dominated by carefree eclectics.

Clubs in the old part of the town are different in terms of interior and atmosphere, prices and entry rules. Live performances of popular Belgrade bands are often organized there and
people stay until dawn. Among them, “Underground” Club has a reputation as one of the best.

Many places in Belgrade have been conceived for jazz lovers: “Branlo’s Bar”, “Ptica”, “Rif”... “Tramvaj” has been voted the best club in Belgrade twice. Check why.

After tousled fun on a raft or in a club, it is customary to go around three o’clock in the morning to one of the places to “wait for the day”. Belgraders themselves, experienced consumers of nightlife, will certainly invite you to join that nightlife until dawn.
In the Rhythm of Belgrade
Mass music spectacles, masters of classical music, great selection of good quality theaters, opera and ballet, prestigious cultural events (BITEF, BEMUS, FEST...), good and diverse club scene — all this opens up in front of you in Belgrade like a flower. Don’t be intimidated by abundance. You choose how you will smell it.

Every year, numerous music mega stars perform in Belgrade. Spectacles in Ušće Park or huge “Belgrade Arena” represent a great event in this part of Europe. In Belgrade, according to tradition, world philharmonic orchestras and masters perform regularly, such as Herbert von Karajan and Zubin Mehta, the most current foreign and local opera singers, many world famous jazz musicians and rock bands.

Theatre season in Belgrade lasts from October to June. All theaters, about twenty of them, are repertory theaters. Every evening a different show is performed in one of them, so there is a great choice. In many theatres, productions have English subtitles.

In Belgrade, you can go to an opera or ballet production at the National Theatre or in “Madlenjanum”. You may choose one of the popular world musicals at Theatre on Terazije or avant-garde production in “Bitef Theatre”, in the adapted space of a former Evangelist church. If you are in Belgrade in September, book in advance your ticket for BITEF (Belgrade International Theatre Festival), prestigious on global scale.

It has been eight decades that the most beautiful sounds of classical music have been spilling from the Great Concert Hall of Kolarac Endowment. Belgrade Philharmonics also regularly performs there. If you are in Belgrade in the fall, do not miss one of the concerts of BEMUS (Belgrade Music Festival).
In the city of world and European champions in basketball, valley ball, water polo, handball, tennis, martial arts, athletics (...), there is a major sports competition almost every week. In “Belgrade Arena”, “Pionir” Hall, in one of numerous sports centers, on stadiums “Marakana” and “Partizan”. Belgrade is also well known as an exceptional host to international sports competitions, both for athletes, fans, official delegations, journalists. A real sports metropolis.
Famous is the “Eternal Derby” in Belgrade between “Zvezda” and “Partizan”, in many sports, especially football. Belgrade also has a series of Serbian football super-league players, such as “Čukarički” from Banovo brdo, “Rad” from Banjica, OFK “Belgrade” from Karaburma, “Voždovac”...

Belgrade fans are known across Europe as the most passionate and most creative in their choreographies, songs and celebrations. Every European and world medal won by Serbian athletes is greeted at spectacular gatherings in front of the Belgrade City Parliament.

Many world sports stars are born in Belgrade or live there. Thus, in the streets of Serbian capital you may meet Novak Đoković or go to “Novak” Café run by his family, you may talk to Vlade Divac or Željko Obradović, Milorad Čavić or Svetlana Kitić, Jasna Šekarić or Filip Filipović...

If there should be a major sports competition during your stay in Belgrade, derby or celebration of an exceptional sports result, do not miss that. These are spectacles that go far beyond the framework of sports and are remembered forever.
Belgraders who have reached the world summits can also be encountered in the streets of Belgrade. Those who were born here, or who have chosen it as their city. If you really want to understand Belgrade, study Novak Đoković. He is one of the best offspring and a live symbol of this city.

Do you remember great basketball dramas miraculously solved by Saša Đorđević? Have you seen the films of Emir Kusturica, that liberating magical realism? Did you enjoy in the games of Vlade Divac, one of the first Europeans who ruled the NBA League? You went to a concert of Stefan Milenković, that violin virtuoso? (…)
While in Belgrade, it may easily happen that you encounter some of them. In café-restaurants, film and theatre premiers, concerts and night clubs. (And many others of that rank that we cannot even mention here.) They are here in their city, no matter whether they were born here or not – they know why – decided to live exactly here. No matter how much you respected them before that, after the encounter you will respect them even more. You will be conquered by their capturing ordinariness, so typical for Belgrade. This city once influenced them, now they influence the city. Belgraders are deeply proud of them.