



Serbia

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Best Places to Eat

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- Fish i Zeleniš (p972)

Best Places to Stay

- Hotel Moskva (p966)
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- Green Studio Hostel (p965)
- Hotel Veliki (p972)

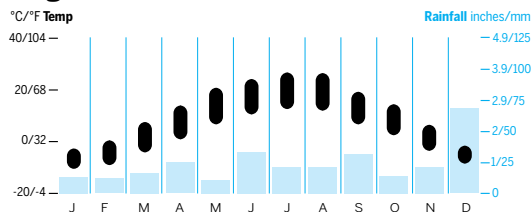
Why Go?

Warm, welcoming and a hell of a lot of fun – everything you never heard about Serbia (Србија) is true. Exuding a feisty mix of élan and *inat* (classic Serbian rebellious defiance), this country doesn't do 'mild': Belgrade is one of the world's wildest party destinations, the northern town of Novi Sad hosts the rocking EXIT festival, and even its hospitality is emphatic – expect to be greeted with *rakija* (fruit brandy) and a hearty three-kiss hello.

While political correctness is about as commonplace as a nonsmoking bar, Serbia is nevertheless a cultural crucible: the art nouveau town of Subotica revels in its proximity to Hungary, bohemian Niš echoes to the clip-clop of Roma horse carts, and minaret-studded Novi Pazar nudges some of the most sacred sites in Serbian Orthodoxy. And in the mountainous Kopaonik and Zlatibor regions, ancient traditions coexist with après-ski bling. Forget what you think you know: come and say *zdravo* (hello)...or better yet, *živeli* (cheers)!

When to Go

Belgrade



Apr Watch winter melt away with a scenic ride on the nostalgic Šargan 8 railway.

Jul & Aug Rock out at Novi Sad's EXIT, go wild at Guča and get jazzy at Nišville.

Dec–Mar Head to Zlatibor for alpine adventure.



Serbia Highlights

1 Marvel at Belgrade's mighty **Kalemegdan Citadel** (p963) and party the night away on a *splav* (river barge nightclub).

2 Witness the laid-back town of **Novi Sad** (p971) as it morphs into the state of EXIT every July.

3 Steel your eardrums (and

liver) at Guča's **Dragačevo Trumpet Assembly** (p969), one of the world's most frenetic music festivals.

4 Escape reality in the fantastic village of **Drvengrad** (p971), built by director Emir Kusturica for indie drama *Life is a Miracle*.

5 Goggle at splendid

surprises bursting from the Vojvodinian plains, including the art nouveau treasures of **Subotica** (p973).

6 Ponder the creepy, cryptic rock towers of **Djavalja Varoš** (p974).

7 Ski, hike or just take the mountain air in the magical villages of **Zlatibor** (p971).