

LEPOTE SRBIJE

8 dana – autobusom ili kolima

PROGRAM PUTOVANJA:

1. dan BEOGRAD. Sletanje na aerodrom Nikola Tesla. Transfer do hotela. Večera. Noćenje.

2. dan BEOGRAD. Doručak. Polazak u razgledanje grada autobusom i pešice. Beograd glavni grad Srbije, jedan od najstarijih gradova u Evropi koji je od davnina poznat kao značajno saobraćajno čvorište i kao raskrsnica puteva Istočne i Zapadne Evrope. Beograd leži na dve međunarodne reke, na ušću reke Save u Dunav i vode reka ga opasuju sa tri strane. Zbog takvog položaja, sa pravom je nazivan "kapijom Balkana" i "vratima Srednje Evrope". Najstariji arheološki nalazi sa njegovog područja sežu u peti milenijum pre nove ere. U strogom centru Beograda ispod današnje Palate Albanije pronađeni su tokom njene gradnje 1938 godine skeleti neandertalca koji je poginuo u borbi sa mamutom čiji je skelet nadjen u blizini, što govori o naseljenosti prostora današnjeg Beograda još u praistorijsko doba. Na obali Dunava nalazi se praistorijski lokalitet Vinča, sa ostacima materijalne kulture praistorijskog čoveka. Pripadnici keltskog plemena su osnovali Singidunum u 3. veku pre nove ere, a ovaj grad se pominje i u antičkim izvorima. Kasnije, ovu teritoriju osvajaju Rimljani, a podelom Rimskog carstva 395. godine on postaje deo Vizantije. Sloveni su u 6. veku sve češće prelazili Dunav i trajno ostajali na ovom području, i tako je na kamenitoj uzvisini iznad ušća Save i nastalo njihovo naselje – Beli Grad. Naziv Beograd se prvi put pominje 878. godine. Godine 1403. despot Stefan Lazarević veštima diplomatskim potezima dobija Beograd od Ugara i on tada po prvi put dobija status srpske prestonice. **Beogradska tvrđava** je najstariji kulturno-istorijski spomenik Beograda- utvrđenje koje datira još iz prvog milenijuma, sagrađena je prvobitno kao palisada sa zemljanim bedemima ali se tokom vekova razvijala. Beograd koji danas poznajemo razvijao se oko ovog monumentalnog istorijskog zdanja, Boemska četvrt **Skadarlija** u centru grada, **Konak kneginje Ljubice** - gradnja Konaka kneginje Ljubice započeta je 1829. godine, a završena 1830. godine i danas je jedan od retkih primera građanske arhitekture tog perioda, **Kapetan Mišino zdanje**-jedna od najpoznatijih građevina devetnaestog veka u Beogradu, u kojoj je smešten Rektorat Univerziteta u Beogradu i deo Filozofskog fakulteta, sagrađena je u periodu od 1857. do 1863. godine, prema planovima češkog arhitekta Jana Nevole. Nakon završetka izgradnje, kapetan Miša je poklonio ovo zdanje svojoj domovini u obrazovne svrhe, **Stari dvor** sa lokacijom u ulici kralja Milana je reprezentativno zdanje u Beogradu koje je podigao kralj Milan Obrenović između 1881. i 1884. godine. U Starom dvoru je između 1903 i 1921. godine živio Petar I Karadjordjević, a između 1921. i 1922. kralj Aleksandar I, dok je danas ovo velelepno zdanje sedište Skupštine grada Beograda. **Novi dvor** je velelepno zdanje u kojem se nalazi sedište Predsedništva Republike Srbije. Kao spomenik kulture nalazi se pod zaštitom države. Izgrađen je između 1911. i 1922. godine, a tada je njegova svrha bila isključivo rezidencijalna. **Zdanje Narodne skupštine**- prvi projekat skupštine izradio je Konstantin Jovanović 1891. godine. Međutim zbog političkih događaja i ekonomskih uslova gradnja objekta je odložena nekoliko godina, i tada je poverena arhitekti Jovanu Ilkiću, pobedniku na novoraspisanom konkursu za projektovanje zgrade Narodne skupštine Srbije. Zvaničan početak gradnje palate označen je polaganjem kamna temeljca 27. avgusta 1907. godine u prisustvu kralja Petra I Karadjordjevića i prestolonaslednika Djordja, narodnih poslanika i diplomatskog kora. **Hram Svetog Save** - je najveći srpski pravoslavni hram na Balkanu, a izgrađen je na mestu gde je Kodža Sinan - paša navodno spalio mošti Svetog Save, osnivača srpske pravoslavne crkve. Izgradnja hrama otpočeta je 15. Septembra 1935. godine, a tada je patrijarh Varnava izvršio osvećenje temelja. **Crkva Svetog Marka** izgrađena je između 1931. i 1940. godine ali je izbijanje Drugog Svetskog rata pomelo izgradnju, u tom periodu izvršeni su samo građevinski radovi Crkva Svetog Marka izgrađena je u srpsko-vizantijskom stilu, po modelu manastira Gračanica..... **Ručak.** Odlazak za Zemun. Nekada zaseban grad Zemun, a danas opština u sastavu Grada Beograda, je u 3. veku pre nove ere ovaj kraj je naselilo keltsko pleme Skordisci i nazvalo ga Taurunum. Najviša tačka Zemuna je brdo Gardoš, sa koga se pruža pogled na ceo Zemun, Dunav i centar Beograda. Tu je i 36 metara visoka Milenijumska kula, poznata i kao Kula Sibinjanin Janka, koju su 1896. podigle mađarske vlasti. Oblast oko Gardoša prepoznatljiva je po uskim ulicama sa kaldrmom i specifičnoj arhitekturi. U podnožju, na Zemunskom keju na obali Dunava nalaze se brojni restorani sa živom muzikom, kafici i klubovi. To je i popularno šetalište, stecište lokalnih alasa i umetnika, uz marine za čamce i galerije. Beograd ima toliko mnogo tajni jedna od njih krije ceo grad ispred površine grada, više od stotina pećina, kanala, tunela, pričaju priču o svojoj vezi sa carstvima i državama koje su vladale ovde tokom vekova. U petom veku Beogradsku tvrđavu su uništili Huni i u ranom srednjem veku došlo je do navale varvarskih plemena. Legenda kaže da je čak Atilin grob leži na ušću Dunava i Save tačnije u samom srcu tvrđave. Istoričari tvrde da je prva kafana u Evropi otvorena upravo na Dorćolu davne 1522. Tada se služila samo crna kafa te se pretpostavlja da otuda i potiče i naziv ove srpske institucije. Zbog svoje strateške lokacije na ušću dveju reka, između Zapada i Istoka, Beli grad je oduvek bio poprište istorijskih događaja. Oko Beograda su se vodile bitke u 115 ratova i on je bio spravljen sa zemljom čak 44 puta. Povtatak u hotel. **Večera.** Noćenje.

3. dan BEOGRAD - FRUŠKA GORA - SREMSKI KARLOVCI - PETROVARADIN - NOVI SAD - BEOGRAD (205 km). Doručak. Odlazak na **Frušku goru**. Na prostoru 50 km dužine i 10 km širine na sremskoj planini Fruška gora, smešteno je šesnaest srpskih pravoslavnih manastira, od kojih je većina raspoređena kao živeća. Ova jedinstvena kulturno-istorijska celina utvrđena je za kulturno dobro od izuzetnog značaja za Republiku Srbiju 1990. godine, a predložena je i za upis na listu svetske baštine

UNESKO-a. Šire područje Fruške gore od davnina je bilo bogato svetilištima, a tokom 16. i 17. veka na ovom prostoru je zabeleženo 35 manastira. Od vremena nastanka ovi manastiri nebrojeno puta su pljačkani, rušeni i napušteni, a najozbiljnije su stradali tokom Drugog svetskog rata. Nekoliko manastira je teško oštećeno i tokom NATO bombardovanja 1999. Obilazak manastira. KRUŠEDOL: manastir sagrađen 1515. godine od strane vladike Maksima Brankovića i njegove majke Angeline. HOPOVO: manastir u kome se zamonašio prosvetitelj Dositej Obradović. Ikonostas je radio Teodor Kračun. BEOČIN: prvi pouzdan pomen o manastiru zabeležen je u turskim popisima iz 1566. i 1578. godine početkom XVII veka crkva je u ruševinama. Novi hram, koji danas postoji podignut je na starom crkvištu ktitorstvom M. Milakovića koji je dao 9.000 forinti u tu svrhu. JAZAK: po narodnom predanju Jazak je osnovao Srpski despot Jovan Branković i postoji kao ženski manastir do 1774.g. Posvećen je Vavedenju Presvete Bogorodice. Nastavak putovanja. Rasuti između zelenih obronaka Fruške gore i plavog Dunava, **Sremski Karlovci** čuvaju bogatu riznicu srpske kulture i duhovnosti u svojim građevinama od neprocenjive istorijske vrednosti, a na njegovim ulicama se i danas slave vino i grožđe uz poeziju Branka Radičevića. Sremski Karlovci su vinogradarski gradić koji je tokom istorije potpadao pod vlast raznih naroda koji su svoj interes nalazili na ovim prostorima, ali to je ovu varoš činilo još bogatijom. Svi narodi koji su se doseljavali, ostavili su neki trag svoje kulture i utkali je u zajedničko kulturno bogatstvo Sremskih Karlovaca. Kažu da u Sremskim Karlovcima svaka zgrada, kuća i ulica priča neku slavnu priču jer je ovaj grad bio duhovni i kulturni centar Srbije. U veličanstvenoj zgradi Patrijaršije ostali su očuvani ikonostasi čuvenih srpskih umetnika Teodora Kračuna i Uroša Predića. Smeštena uz Patrijaršiju beli se Saborna crkva sa zelenim kupolama koje je konstruisao Zaharije Orfelin. Crkva je posvećena Svetom Nikoli, a u njoj se danas čuvaju vredne freske, slike Paje Jovanovića kao i mošti Svetog Arsenija Sremca, drugog srpskog arhiepiskopa. Odmah pored nje nalazi se Rimokatolička crkva posvećena Sv. Trojstvu, a potiče iz 1768. Godine. U Sremskim Karlovcima je osnovana prva srpska gimnazija koja se nalazi u samom centru grada. Gimnaziju je osnovao mitropolit Stefan Stratimirović 1791. godine uz dopuštenje cara Leopolda Drugog i uz pomoć bogatih Karlovčana koji su svoj novac uložili u prvu srpsku gimnaziju. Na ovom području od praistorije su živeli razni narodi. **Ručak. Odlazak za Petrovaradin.** Petrovaradinska tvrđava koja je simbol grada, datira iz srednjeg veka, ali su je u obliku koji danas postoji sagradili Austrougari koji su dugo vladali ovim prostorima. Petrovaradinska tvrđava izuzetno ostvarenje fortifikacijskog graditeljstva XVIII veka, predstavlja jedno od najsloženijih, najvećih i najbolje očuvanih artiljerijskih bastionih utvrđenja ovog dela Evrope. Obuhvata prostor severnih obronaka Fruške gore, na desnoj obali Dunava. Sa najvišom kotom od 125 metara nadmorske visine, zauzima dominantan položaj nad jugoistočnim delom Panonske nizije. Jedna od legendi kaže da su upravo zanatlije i trgovci koji su službovali u tvrđavi, a kojima je bilo zabranjeno da se u njoj nastanjuju, podigli naselje koje će u vekovima koji slede postati jedan od najlepših gradova u ovom delu Evrope – **Novi Sad** ili “srpska Atina” kako ga zbog njegove izuzetne kulture i istorije još zovu. Ispod Petrovaradinske stene, male panonske planine Fruške gore, nastao je grad na Dunavu, koji postoji tek nešto više od 300 godina. Prvi put je spomenut 1694 godine, dve godine pošto je počela gradnja Petrovaradinske tvrđave U tročju Dunava, Tise i Save gde su se sučelile tri civilizacije-Hrišćanskog Istoka, hrišćanskog Zapada i islama našle su utočište brojne etničke i verske grupe. Srbi su to tle nazvali Vojvodina. Na Petrovaradinskoj steni, Rimljani su podigli utvrđenje, koje su kasnije Madjari obnovili a Turci održali. Posle proterivanja Turaka, krajem XVII veka, Austrijanci su podigli mostobran, a oko njega je niklo naselje vojnika, zanatlija i trgovaca. Isprva je naselje nazvano Racko-Srpsko selo, a kasnije Petrovaradinski šanac. Kada se naselje uvećalo, posle prestanka ratova početkom XVIII veka, građani željni slobode uspeali su, uz finansijski otkup od 80.000 forinti, da od carice Marije Terezije izdejstvuju status slobodnog grada, pod imenom Novi Sad. Bilo je to 01.februara 1748. godine. Povratak za Beograd. **Večera.** Noćenje.

4. dan BEOGRAD - TOPOLA/OPLENAC - SRPSKA SVETA GORA - SIROGOJNO - ZLATIBOR (240 km). Doručak. Izvanredan geografski položaj gradića **Topola**, stvorio je preduslove da ovaj mali grad Šumadije postane političko administrativni centar oslobođenog dela Srbije za vreme Karadjordja. Neposredno po preuzimanju kraljevske dužnosti 1903 godine, Kralj Petar I Karadjodjević je krenuo da ispunji amanet svojih roditelja i o svom trošku izgradi dinastičku grobnicu Karadjordjevića po uzoru na mnogobrojne slične vladarske mauzoleje u Evropi, a uskladu sa pravoslavnom hrišćanskom tradicijom. Kralj je izabrao sam vrh brežuljka tzv. Malog Oplenca. Hram Svetog Djordja i mauzolej dinastije Karadjordjević podignut je na samom vrhu stenovitog brda Oplenac. Nastavak putovanja ka Ovčarskoj-Kablarskoj klisuri. Na putu između Čačka i Titovog Užica, u živopisnoj klisuri Zapadne Morave, po prevojima i u podnožju planina Ovčara i Kablara nalazi se **Srpska Sveta Gora** U ovoj klisuri unedrilo se 12 svetinja. Na levoj strani zapadne Morave, pod Kablarom su manastiri: Blagoveštenje, Ilinje, Jovanje, Nikolje i Uspenje, a pod Ovčarom su: Vavedenje, Vaznesenje, Preobraženje, Svete Trojica i Sretenje. Ilinje je jedini neobnovljen manastir, dok ostali žive istinsku renesansu pravoslavlja – ispunjeni monaškim molitvama, a mesta su hodočašća vernika i turista. Pored manastira, u istom prostoru nalaze se još dva svetilišta: crkva Svetog Save i pećina Kađenica, svojevrсни sakralno-memorijalni objekat. Većina ovih manastira podignuta je u tursko vreme, kada su se pravoslavne bogomolje povlačile u vrleti, u skrovite, zabačene predele zemlje. Obilazak manastira Blagoveštenje koji se nalazi odmah iznad Ovčar Banje, u podnožju Kablara. Pretpostavlja se da potiče iz doba slavni Nemanjića. Veći deo svoje istorije, ovaj manastir je bila „živa“ crkva sem u vreme kada je zbog svoje trošnosti morala biti napuštena. U XIX veku Joakim Vujić je zatiče spaljenu od Turaka. U njemu je svojevremeno zamonašen Patrijarh Pavle. Obilazak manastir Svete Trojice, u tišini, koja je potrebna za duboku i stalnu molitvu, na padinama Ovčara, nalazi se manastir Svete Trojice. Najstariji pisani pomen o manastiru potiče iz 1594/95. Godine. Crkva je jednobrodna građevina, primetan je uticaj raške graditeljske škole. Po arhitekturi je najbolji od svih manastira u Ovčarsko-Kablarskoj klisuri. **Ručak.** Nastavak putovanja za **Sirogojno** i obilazak muzeja “Staro selo”- muzeja na otvorenom u kojem se prikazuje arhitektura, unutrašnje uređenje zgrada, način privredjivanja i organizacija porodičnog života. Prostire se na površini od 5 hektara i ima oko 50 objekata koji su dislocirani i preneti iz okolnih zlatiborskih sela. Spomenički kompleks crkve Svetih apostola Petra i Pavla iz XVIII veka i muzeja na otvorenom “Staro selo” 1983 godine stavljen je pod zaštitu zakona kao kulturno dobro-spomenik kulture od izuzetnog značaja. Nastavak puta do **Zlatibora**, po svemu trenutno najatraktivnija planina u Srbiji, taj atribut je ponela zbog mnogo čega što je takvom promoviše u našoj zemlji, Evropi, pa i šire.

Blaga, sunčana leta, blage sunčane zime, prelepa proleća i topla jesen, razlog su turističkim posetama tokom cele godine. Zlatibor je lekovita banja, rekreativni centar, skijalište, centar kulturnih dešavanja i okupljanja ljudi sa svih strana. Brojna izletišta, povezanost sa svim okolnim turističkim destinacijama, Drvengrad, Šarganska osmica, Višegrad, Tara, Drinska regata, Tornik. Smeštaj u hotel. **Večera.** Noćenje.

5. dan ZLATIBOR - ŠARGANSKA OSMICA - TARA (80 km). **Doručak.** Nastavak putovanja. **Šarganska osmica** je najatraktivnija turističko-muzejska železnica u Evropi među prugama uskog koloseka. Ona je remek delo svetskog industrijskog nasleđa. Građeni je u periodu od 1921. do 1925. godine projektanti su visinsku razliku od Mokre Gore do Šargana (300 metara nadmorske visine, dužine 3,5 kilometra) premostili čuvenom "osmicom" – petljom dugom oko 13,5 kilometara, iznad podnožja Jatara, sa dvadesetak tunela, nekoliko mostova i vijadukta, koji čine većinu pruge. Voz "Ćira" je po prvi put zahuktao davne 1925.godine, a poslednju osmicu je napravio 28. februara 1974.godine, kada je pruga ukinuta. ŽTP Beograd je 1999. godine počeo obnovu Šarganske osmice u turističke svrhe i do danas je čitava pružna trasa revitalizovana, sa autentičnim staničnim objektima i sa originalnim starim vagonima. Kompozicija Nostalgija sastavljena od dve lokomotive i tri vagona i panoramski vagon danas je u funkciji turističke vožnje, a stanice Jatara i Mokra Gora adaptirane su u ugostiteljske objekte u kojima se turisti odmaraju i okrepljuju tokom vožnje. Vožnja šarganskom osmicom imala je svoju atraktivnost i u vreme dok je funkcionisala kao standardni železnički prevoz. Parnjača se probijala kroz stenovite tesnace i visoke useke između Šargana i Mokre Gore, trasom na kojoj pruga pravi neobičnu putanju u vidu broja 8, sa više mesta iz voza putnici su imali prilike da vide tri pruge u različitom nivou. Mnogi bi se uspaničili kada bi videli da im u susret dolazi drugi voz, ali nije bilo nikakve opasnosti jer je taj drugi voz bio u drugom prostornom odseku. Prolazeći trasom čuvene "osmice" dužine 13,5 km putniku je praktično nemoguće da odgonetne kojim je pravcem prošao voz i kuda tek treba da prođe. Daleko od užurbanosti modernog života, obogaćena prirodnim lepotama mokrogorskog kraja ova na tlu Evrope unikatna železnica, danas nam uz nostalgijan pisak parnjače oživljava romantičani duh prošlih dana. Divlji ambijent, slalom kroz krivine, tuneli. Avantura koja odražava gotovo zaboravljenu toplinu truckanja vozom. **Ručak.** Odlazak za Taru. Planina Tara ime je dobila po ilirskom gorštačkom plemenu Autorijata, koji su u bronzano doba živeli na njenim obroncima. Po bogatstvu i raznovrsnosti turističkih vrednosti, ekološki očuvana prirodna sredina, planinski reljef sa umerenom nadmorskom visinom od 800-1500 m, pogodni tereni za zimske sportove, bogat i raznovrstan biljni i životinjski svet, blagotvorna klima, Drina sa veštačkim jezerima Zaovine i Perućac, daju ovoj planini veliku turističku vrednost što je čini konkurentnom u odnosu na Zlatibor i druge planine. Tara je od 13.jula 1981.god. Nacionalni park proglašena od strane Narodne skupštine SR Srbije i obuhvata površinu od 24.991,82 hektara. Briga o najlepšoj planini Zapadne Srbije 1981 god. poverena je JP Nacionalni park Tara. Pretpostavlja se da su trijaski krečnjaci, na severnim stranama Tare u tercijeru bili obala Panonskog mora. Zbog povoljne klime i zabačenosti na Tari je opstao relikv i endemit balkanskog poluostrva Pančićeva omorika, kao i mnogi drugi spomenici prirode, blago rečeno živi fosili. Smeštaj u hotel. Slobodno vreme. **Večera.** Noćenje.

6. dan TARA - KRSTARENJE KANJONOM REKE DRINE - TARA. **Doručak.** Odlazak za Perućac - turističko naselje udaljeno od Bajine Bašte 13 km, na desnoj obali reke Drine. U neposrednoj blizini je velika brana hidrocentrale, odakle počinje jezero, dugačko 54 km, čiji se veličanstveni kanjon prostire sve do Višegrada. Na plovidbi dugačkoj 52 km uživaćete u lepoti prirode, u staništima biljnih i životinjskih vrsta Nacionalnog parka Tara, ušću reke Žepe u reku Drinu, proći će se kroz najuži deo kanjona, kroz kamp Stari Brod, pored manjih potoka i rečica, srednjovekovnih utvrđenja...Na desnoj, a delom i levoj obali Drine, s obe strane Rzava, koji se tu uliva u Drinu, na istoku Bosne i Hercegovine, prostire se grad Višegrad. Najveću atrakciju ovog grada predstavlja most preko Drine, koji je Mehmed-paša Sokolović podigao 1571. godine, a koji je u svom romanu Na Drini ćuprija opisao Ivo Andrić za koji je dobio Nobelovu nagradu za književnost. Od 2014. godine za posetioce je otvoren Andrićgrad, turistički kompleks, čiji je idejni tvorac režiser Emir Kusturica, a koji je inspirisan delima i likovima Ive Andrića. Grad je izgrađen od kamena i predstavlja mešavinu epoha i stilova koji su se smenjivali kroz istoriju ovog područja: vizantijski stil, otomanski period, renesansa, klasicizam. Plovidba kroz rečni tok koji krivuda i prolazi kroz useke, uživanje u zelenoj boji koja odmara oči i unosi iskonski mir u dušu posmatrača. Završetak puta kod hidrocentrale, koja je uzrok nastajanja akumulacionog jezera Perućac. Stvaranje veštačke akumulacije nije narušilo iskonsku lepotu ovog kraja, već je dopunila turističku razglednicu Bajine Bašte. **Ručak.** Povratak u hotel. **Večera.** Noćenje.

7.dan TARA - STUDENICA - ŽIČA - VRNJAČKA BANJA (240 km). **Doručak.** Nedaleko od živopisne klisure reke Ibar, na desnoj obali reke Studenice, opasana visokim zaštitnim zidom, uzdiže se manastir **Studenica**, zadužbina velikog župana Stefana Nemanje, utemeljivača nezavisne srpske države i rodonačelnika dinastije koja će vladati Srbijom puna dva veka. Manastir predstavlja najznačajniji manastirski kompleks srednjovekovne Srbije i veliki duhovni i umetnički centar srpskog naroda. Za nešto više od jedne decenije, od 1183. do 1196. uobličena je najlepša građevina srpske srednjovekovne arhitekture. Od 12. veka kada je osnovana monaška zajednica, Studenica ni u jednom trenutku nije prekidala svoj viševjekovni život. Kao zadužbina i grobnica rodonačelnika dinastije Nemanjić Studenica je služila kao uzor mnogim vladarima ove loze za podizanje mauzoleja koji bi nalikovali Bogorodičinoj crkvi. Bogorodičina crkva se ubraja u najznačajnije spomenike raške graditeljske škole. Originalni spoj vizantijskog prostora i strukture hrama i spoljnih oblika i njihove obrade u belom mermeru, koje potiču iz romanske arhitekture čine Studenicu remek delom srednjoevropske arhitekture. Freske, remek-dela vizantijskog živopisa sa početka 13. veka, obeležile su put srpskog srednjovekovnog slikarstva. U riznici se čuvaju neki od kapitalnih primeraka srpske primenjene umetnosti, kao što su prsten Stefana Nemanje, predmeti od metala, plaštanice, povelje i druge relikvije. Posebno mesto u kompleksu manastira Studenica zauzima Kraljeva crkva, zadužbina kralja Milutina iz 1314. godine, sa zidnim slikarstvom izuzetne prefinjenosti. Sa svojim hramovima, trepezarijama, kulama i konacima Studenica je zadržala svoju prvobitnu funkciju, a kao prvorazredni zakonom zaštićeni spomenik upisan je u Listu svetske kulturne baštine UNESCO-a od 1986. Odlazak za **Žiču** najpoznatiji i najposećeniji manastir u Srbiji, star gotovo osam vekova. Okupan suncem, zaštićen zidinama i okružen ljubavljub monahinja, Žiča je manastir koji mnogi rado

posećuju po nekoliko puta u životu. Istorija manastira Žiče počela je onog trenutka kada je sedamanestogodišnji Rastko Nemanjić odlučio da napusti dvor svog oca Stefana Nemanje i posveti se monaškom životu na Svetoj gori Atoskoj. Kada se početkom XIII veka vratio sa Svete gore u Srbiju sa moštima svetog mu roditelja Simeona Mirotočivog, srpska država je bila potrešena sukobom između Stefana i Vukana. Pomirivši zavađenu braću Sveti Sava je zajedno sa Stefanom odlučio da sagradi manastir Žiču kao srpsku carsku lavru. Mesto na kom se gradió manastir bilo je podjednako udaljeno i od Carigrada i od Rima, što je tumačeno tako da je Srbija na raskršću između pravoslavnog Istoka i rimokatoličkog Zapada. Crkva u manastiru Žiči koja je posvećena Hristovom Vaznesenju (Sveti Spas) građena je oko dvadeset godina. Crkva je kao celina predstavljala ne samo manastirski hram već i katedralu prvog srpskog arhiepiskopa. U građenju crkve uočavaju se novine u odnosu na hramove iz vremena Stefana Nemanje. Ovo je manastir bratske ljubavi, jer je kraj moštiju svog oca, svetogorski monah Sava izmirio braću Stefana Nemanjića i Vukana, i tada su se dogovorili o podizanju novog manastira. Ono što svakako ne smete propustiti, jesu očuvane freske. U severnoj i južnoj pevnici očuvani su Apostoli, Raspeće i delovi Skidanja sa krsta, a u najznačajnije spadaju one nastale u periodu od 1309. do 1316. godine. Neke od njih su Uspenje Bogorodice na zapadnom zidu naosa, povelja Stefana Prvovenčanog, portreti Stefana Prvovenčanog i njegovog sina, kao i likovi Apostola Petra i Pavla. Preko osamsto godina postojanja, učinile su da se za ovaj manastirski kompleks vežu mnogobrojna verovanja, predanja i mitovi. Najpoznatija legenda koja je ugrađena i u grb Kraljeva, kaže da će se nakon Stefana Prvovenčanog, u Žiči krunisati još šest kraljeva i za svakoga će biti otvorena a zatim i zazidana po jedna vrata. Zbog toga je i ostao naziv "sedmokrata Žiča". **Ručak.** Odlazak za **Vrnjačku Banju** najveće i najpoznatije banjsko lečilište u Srbiji a i šire i tradicionalno vrlo privlačan turististički centar za odmor i rekreaciju. Istorija korišćenja vrnjčkih mineralnih voda seže u duboku prošlost, u vreme kada su ove prostore naseljavali keltski Skordisci. Posle rimskog osvajanja Balkana u poslednjim vekovima stare ere i nekoliko vekova nove ere mineralne vode su korišćene za piće i kupanje, o čemu svedoci pronađeni rimski izvor vrnjčke tople mineralne vode 1924. godine i mnoštvo novčića sa likovima rimskih imperatora. Vrlo je verovatno da se u srednjem veku za lekovitost vrnjčkih voda znali i novonaseljeni Sloveni. Postoje pouzdani podaci da su meštani sela Vrnjaca i okoline sredinom 19. veka koristili toplu mineralnu vodu za lečenje; za kupanje i piće koristio ju je i žički vladika Janja. Ipak istorija moderne banje u Vrnjcima vezuje se za 1868. godinu, kada je kruševacki okružni načelnik Pavle Mutavdžić sa nekolicinom dobrotvora i videnijih ljudi iz Kruševca, Karavnovca (Kraljeva) i Trstenika formirali Osnovatelno fundatorsko društvo kiselo-vruće vode u Vrnjcima. Iste godine izvršena je kaptaža dva izvora tople mineralne vode i pocelo se sa izgradnjom banjskih objekata, pre svega kupatila. Narociti uspon Banja doživljava u godinama pred balkanske ratove. Vrnjaska Banja je tada dobila veliki broj modernih pansiona, izgrađeno je novo kupatilo, radio je jedan bioskop, a u pripremi je bila izgradnja drugog. Pred same ratove pored Vrnjčke Banje prošla je pruga Stalac-Požega, tako da je Banja dobila dobre saobraćajne veze, sa većinom većih gradova u Srbiji. Razvoj zdravstva u Vrnjačkoj Banji ima tradiciju dugu preko 140 godina. Prvi banjski lekar koji je svojim pacijentima preporučivao lečenje u Vrnjačkoj Banji bio je Josif Pančić, a prvi bolesnik koji se po njegovoj preporuci ovde lečio bio je Pavle Mutavdžić, načelnik Okruga kruševačkog. Bilo je to 1860. godine. Od tog vremena prirodni i balneoklimatološki faktor kojim Vrnjaska Banja obiluje bio je korišćen za lečenje šećerne bolesti, bolesti organa za varenje, bolesti jetre, bolesti mokraćnih organa, bolesti kože, očiju, nervnog sistema, kao i poboljšanje i prevenciju opšteg zdravstvenog stanja pacijenata. Od dvadesetih godina XX veka, kada je Vrnjaska Banja dobila prvi ozbiljni sanatorijum, "Sveti Đorđe", pa do današnjih dana pored upotrebe mineralne vode u zdravstvene svrhe, razvijaju se i ozbiljni centri za hospitalizaciju bolesnika, laboratorije i dijagnostički centri sa opremom koja je najmodernija u oblastima zdravstva u kojima se koristi. Smeštaj u hotel. **Večera.** Noćenje.

8. dan VRNJAČKA BANJA - FELIX ROMULIJANA - VIMINACIJUM - BEOGRAD (460 km). Doručak. Polazak za Zaječar. Razgledanje lokaliteta **Felix Romulijana** je carska palata podignuta po zamisli rimskog imperatora Galerija Maksimilijana, na prostranom platou Gamzigrada, u blizini Zaječara. Galerije, rođen u ovoj oblasti, ovu palatu podigao je u 3. i 4. veku sebi i svojoj majci Romuli, po kojoj ju je i nazvao. Pripada posebnoj kategoriji spomenika rimske dvorske arhitekture vezane isključivo za razdoblje tetrahije i predstavlja najočuvaniji primer te arhitekture. Palatu okružuju snažni bedemi koji su štitili sam grad – palatu od upada varvara. Otkriveni su ostaci starijeg i mlađeg utvrđenja, podignutim u vremenskom intervalu od desetak godina. Komunikacijom koja je spajala istočnu i zapadnu kapiju prostor unutar bedema je podeljen na dva dela različite namene. Severnu polovinu obuhvata kompleks carske palate sa malim hramom i monumentalnim žrtvenikom, dok se na južnoj polovini nalaze objekti za javnu upotrebu (veliki hram sa dve kripe pravougaone osnove i terme) i objekti za opsluživanje palate (horeum i jednobrodna građevina sa portikom). Objekti su bogato ukrašeni freskama, štukaturom, podnim mozaicima sa figuralnim i geometrijskim motivima. Od prve decenije 4. do sredine 6. veka u nekoliko mahova menjaju se naziv, izgled i osnovna funkcija. Već u drugoj polovini 4. veka Romulijana je zapuštena palata, a posle provale Gota i Huna postaje malo vizantijsko naselje koje se pod nazivom Romulijana pominje u spisku mesta obnovljenih u vreme Justinijanove vladavine. Gamzigradski dvorac je poslednji put oživeo kao utvrđeno slovensko naselje 11. Veka. Lokacija Gamzigrad - Romulijana je 2007. uvrštena u Listu svetske kulturne baštine UNESCO-a. **Ručak.** Nastavak putovanja. Vojni logor na **Viminacijumu** je nastao kada je Rimsko Carstvo došlo do dunavskog prostora. o se najverovatnije dogodilo prilikom dolaska Rimljana na Dunav, u prvim decenijama I veka. Civilno naselje uz logor u vreme Hadrijanove vladavine (117–138) stiče status municipijuma, grada sa visokim stepenom autonomije. U vreme vladavine Gordijana III (239) grad dobija status kolonije rimskih građana, kao i pravo kovanja lokalnog novca. Status kolonije je najviši status koji je jedan grad mogao steći u okvirima rimske imperije. Viminacijum je više puta biran za mesto koncentracije vojske i polaznu tačku u mnogobrojnim ratovima. Lokacija na Dunavu je Viminacijumu omogućila brz ekonomski razvitak. Izuzetni nalazi otkriveni na nekropolama oko grada (do sada je pronađeno preko 14.000 grobova) potvrđuju pretpostavke o velikom bogatstvu njegovih stanovnika, a freske u grobnicama predstavljaju vrhunac kasnoantičke umetnosti. Grad je više puta pustošen u najezdama Gota, Huna i konačno Avara. Unutar i oko grada otkriveni su amfiteatar, monumentalne zgrade, raskošne terme i tragovi razvijene infrastrukture, pre svega ulica, akvedukata i kanalizacije. Dosadašnja otkrića svakako su potvrdila poseban značaj Viminacijuma kao

vodeće rimske metropole na ovom delu dunavskog limesa. Naučno-istraživački centar Domus Scientiarum u Viminacijumu je objekat sa višestrukom namenom – pored toga što će naučnici iz Srbije i sveta koristiti njegove kabinete, biblioteke i atrijume za istraživanja, rad sa studentima, letnje škole, te organizacije kongresa i tematskih skupova - istovremeno će služiti i za smeštaj turista koji u sve većem broju pokazuju interesovanje za boravak na Viminacijumu. Domus Scientiarum predstavlja vrhunac ponude u arheološkom turizmu, sa jedinstvenom atmosferom antičkog Rima, u kome posetilac može biti šta kod poželi – arheolog, legionar ili imperator. Povratak u Beograd oko 20 sati.

PUTNIK TRAVEL

BEAUTY OF SERBIA

8 days – by bus or by car

TRAVEL PROGRAM:

1. day BELGRADE. Landing at the airport Nikola Tesla. Transfer to the hotel. Dinner. Overnight stay.

2. day BELGRADE. Breakfast. Departure of sightseeing city tour by bus and on foot. Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, is one of the oldest cities in Europe which has been a crucial junction since times before and a crossroad between East and West Europe. Belgrade lays on two international rivers, on the delta of Sava and Danube and the river waters surround it from three sides. Its location rightfully earned it a nickname “the gate to Balkans” and “the door of Central Europe”. The oldest archeological findings from this area date to the fifth millennia before Christ. In the historical center of Belgrade, in 1938, during the construction of Albanija Palace and where it still stands today, the remains of a Neanderthal, who died fighting a mammoth, were found. His remains were found in the vicinity, which testifies to an existence of a habitat on the territory of today’s Belgrade even in the prehistoric times. On the river bank of Danube a prehistoric settlement Vinca can be found, with the remains of artifacts of a prehistoric man. A Celtic tribe has founded Singidunum in 3rd century BC and the city is even mentioned in some ancient sources. Later on, this territory was occupied by Romans and with the division of the empire in year 395 it becomes a part of Byzantine Empire. In the 6th century the Slavs have started crossing the river more often and then permanently stayed in this area, and so, on the rocky highland over the delta of river Sava their settlement has been created – Beli Grad – White City. The name Belgrade is mentioned for the first time in year 878. In 1403 Despot Stefan Lazarevic gets Belgrade under his administration by the use of skillful diplomatic negotiations with Hungarians whence the city receives a status of the Serbian capital for the first time. **Belgrade fort** is the oldest cultural and historic monument of Belgrade – the fortification dates since the first millennium, built originally as a palisade with ramparts made of earth that developed over the centuries. Belgrade as we know it today has developed around this monumental historical structure: bohemian quartet **Skadarlija** in the city center, **Konak kneginje Ljubice** – the construction of the Konak kneginje Ljubice has started in 1829, and finished in 1830, and today it is one of the rare examples of the urban architecture of that period, **Kapetan Misino zdanje** – one of the most known structures of the nineteenth century Belgrade, where the University of Belgrade and a part of Faculty of Philosophy are situated today, built in the period from 1857 until 1863, according to construction plans of the Czech architect Jan Nevol. After the construction has finished, captain Misa has donated the building to his country for the educational purposes, **the Old court** located in the Kralja Milana Street this representative building in Belgrade that was erected by King Milan Obrenovic between 1881 and 1884. King Petar I Karadjordjevic has lived in the old court between year 1903 and 1921, and between 1921 and 1922 king Aleksandar I, while today this magnificent building serves as the Belgrade city council. **The New court** is a majestic building that has housed the headquarters of the Presidency of the Republic of Serbia. As a monument it is now part of cultural heritage and therefore under the protection of the state. It was built between 1911 and 1922, when its purpose was purely residential. **National parliament building** – the first construction plan was made by Konstantin Jovanovic in 1891. However, because of the political events and economic conditions the construction of the building was postponed for a few years, and then it was entrusted to architect Jovan Ilkic, the winner of the newly announced competition for the National Parliament building competition. The official starting date of the construction has been marked by a foundation laying ceremony on the 27th of August 1907 in the presence of the King Petar I Karadjordjevic and the heir to the throne Djordje, members of parliament and diplomatic core. **The church of Saint Sava** – is the biggest Serbian orthodox temple on the Balkans and it is built on the spot where Pasha Kodza Sinan had supposedly burnt the remains of Saint Sava, the founder of the Serbian Orthodox Church. The construction started on the 15th of September 1935, when the patriarch Varnava blessed the foundations. **Saint Marko’s Church** was built between 1931 and 1940 but the breaking out of the Second World War disrupted it. During that period only the core constructions have been finalized on the Saint Marko’s Church, and it was built in a Serbian – Byzantine style, by Gracanica model. **Lunch.** Departure for Zemun. Once a separate town, and today one of the districts within the City of Belgrade, this location was first inhabited by a Celtic tribe Skordians in the 3rd century BC and they named it Taurunum. The highest altitude point in Zemun is the hill Gardos, from which a beautiful panorama of

whole of Zemun, Danube and Belgrade center can be seen. Also, a Millennium tower tall 36 meters can be found there, also known as the Tower of Sibirjanin Janko, which was erected in 1896 by Hungarian authorities. The area around Gardos is famous by its narrow, cobblestone streets and specific architecture. At the bottom of the hill on the walk along the Danube quay numerous restaurants with live music, cafes and clubs are situated. This is a famous walk, meeting point of the local fishermen and artists, along the boat marinas and art galleries. Belgrade keeps so many secrets and one of them hides a whole city beneath the surface, more than hundreds of caves, channels, and tunnels tell the story about its connection to the empires and states that ruled these lands over the centuries. In the 5th century the fortress was destroyed by the Huns and in the early Middle Ages an invasion of barbaric tribes came to pass. Legend says that Attila the Hun's grave lays on the delta of Sava and Danube, more precisely in the hearth of the fortress. The historians claim that the first tavern in Europe was opened right here on Dorcol in 1522. At the time, only black coffee was served and hence it is suggested that this is where this Serbian word comes from (kafana). Because of its strategic location on the delta of two rivers, between the East and the West, the White City had always been a fertile ground for historical events. The area around Belgrade witnessed battles from 115 wars and the very city was leveled an amazing 44 times. Return to the hotel. **Dinner.** Overnight stay.

3. day BELGRADE - FRUSKA GORA - SREMSKI KARLOVCI - PETROVARADIN - NOVI SAD – BELGRADE (205 km).

Brakfast. Departure for **Fruska gora**. On the surface 50 km long and 10 km wide on Fruska gora, a mountain in Srem, sixteen Serbian monasteries are situated, out of which more than a half is still active. This unique cultural and historical entity has been proclaimed a Republic of Serbia national heritage site in 1990 and was suggested for the UNESCO's world heritage list. The area of Fruska gora and its surroundings have always been rich in spiritual shrines and during the 16th and 17th century 35 monasteries have been registered. Since the time of their creation, these monasteries have often been pillaged, destroyed and abandoned, but the most serious damage they suffered was during the Second World War. Several monasteries were severely damaged during the NATO bombing in 1999. Tour of the monasteries. **KRUSEDOL:** this monastery was built in 1515 by the Bishop Maksim Brankovic and his mother Angelina. **HOPOVO:** the monastery where Dositej Obradovic, famous Serbian educator, has taken the oath. The rood screen was made by Teodor Kracun. **BEOCIN:** the first reliable source where this monastery was mentioned was in Turkish census from 1566 and 1578. In the beginning of 17th century the church was in ruins. The new temple that exists today was built on the old church grounds by the patronage of M. Milakovic who invested 9.000 forints for that purpose. **JAZAK:** by the popular belief Jazak was founded by Serbian Despot Jovan Brankovic and it exists as a convent since 1774. It is dedicated the Presentation of Mary. Continuation of the Tour. Scattered between the green hills of Fruska gora and the blue Danube, **Sremski Karlovci** keep the abundant treasure of Serbian culture and spirituality in their priceless, historical structures and on its streets, the wine and the grape are still celebrated by reciting the poetry of Branko Radicevic. Sremski Karlovci is the wine-growing town which has been occupied throughout the history by various nations that found their interest in these lands, enriching this town further more. Each nation that settled here has left a bit of their own culture weaved the common cultural wealth of Sremski Karlovci. It is said that each building, house and street in Sremski Karlovci tells a tail of a famous event or person since it was a spiritual and cultural capital of Serbia. In the magnificent building of a Patriarchy, rood screens have been preserved, made by the well-known Serbian artists Teodor Kracun i Uros Predic. Situated next to the Patriarchy, Congregational church shines white with green domes constructed by Zaharije Orfelin. The church is consecrated to Saint Nicholas and today it holds valuable frescoes, paintings of Paja Jovanovic as well as the remains of Saint Arsenije Sremac, second Serbian Archbishop. Right next to it, a Roman Catholic Church is situated, dedicated to Holy Trinity, dating since 1768. The first Serbian high school was founded in Sremski Karlovci and today can be found in the city center. A Metropolitan bishop Stefan Stratimirovic has founded this high school in 1791, with the permission of emperor Leopold II and with help of the wealthy citizens who invested their own resources in its construction. Various people lived in these lands since the prehistoric period. **Lunch.** Departure for **Petrovaradin**. Petrovaradin fort, which is the symbol of the town, dates since middle ages, but the form that it has today was built and finalized by Austro – Hungarian empire that reigned over this region for a long time. Petrovaradin fort is an outstanding accomplishment in the fortification construction of 18th century, and it represents one of the most complex, biggest and most preserved artillery bastion forts in this part of the Europe. It encompasses the area of the northern slopes of Fruska gora on Danube's right riverbank. With the highest point of 125 meters of altitude, it holds the dominant position over the south-east part of Pannonian Basin. One of the legend says that craftsmen and merchants that did business in the fort, but were denied to settle inside, founded a town that will become one of the most beautiful cities in this part of the Europe in the centuries to come – **Novi Sad** or the "Serbian Athens" as it is called because of its abundant culture and history. Under the Petrovaradin cliff, small Pannonian mountain Fruska gora, a city developed on the Danube, that exists only for some 300 years. It is mentioned for the first time in 1694, two years after the construction of the Petrovaradin fort has started. At the meeting point of three rivers, Danube, Tisa and Sava and at the point where three civilizations confronted, Christian East, Christian West and Islam, numerous ethnic and religious groups found refuge. Serbs called these lands Vojvodina. On the Petrovaradin cliff the Romans erected a fortification that Hungarians later on reconstructed and the Turks maintained. After the banishment of Turks in the late 18th century the Austrians constructed a bridge-head and around it developed a settlement of soldiers, artisans and merchants. At first the town was called Racko-Srpsko selo, and later on Petrovaradinski šanac (Petrovaradin moat). When the town grew bigger, after the end of the wars in the 18th century, the townsfolk, lusting for freedom, managed to buy the town off empress Maria Teresa and gain the status of free city under a new name Novi Sad. That took place on the 1st of February 1748. Return to Belgrade. **Dinner.** Overnight stay.

4. day BELGRADE - TOPOLA/OPLENAC – SERBIAN MOUNT ATHOS - SIROGOJNO - ZLATIBOR (240 km).

Breakfast. Outstanding geographical position of a small town of **Topola**, has created conditions for this miniature settlement of Sumadija to become political and administrative center of the liberated part of Serbia in the times of Karadjordje. Soon after taking up the duties of a king in 1903, King Petar I Karadjodjevic started fulfilling a promise given by his parents to build a mausoleum for

the Karadjordjevic dynasty. Financing it out of his own funds guided by numerous, similar mausoleums of European rulers the mausoleum also reflects Orthodox Christian traditions. The king chose the very top of the hill, so called Little Oplenac. The Temple of Saint Djordje and the mausoleum of Karadjordjevic dynasty is constructed on the very top of this shady hill of Oplenac. Continuation of the tour towards Ovčarsko-Kablarska gorge. On the way between Cacak and Titovo Uzice, in the picturesque gorge of West Morava, on and under the mountains of Ovcar and Kablar, **Serbian Mount Athos** can be found. In this gorge 12 relics found their home. On the left bank of West Morava, under the Kablar mountain are following monasteries: Blagovestenje, Ilinje, Jovanje, Nikolje i Uspenje, and under the Ovcarom: Vavedenje, Vaznesenje, Preobrazenje, Sveta Trojica i Sretenje. Ilinje is the only unrestored monastery, while the others enjoy a true renaissance of orthodoxy – filled with the prayers of the monks, and are the locations of pilgrimage and tourist visits. By the monasteries, in the same area, two more shrines can be found: church of Saint Sava and Kadjenica cave, a unique holy memorial site. Most of these monasteries were constructed during the ottoman occupation, when the orthodox worshipers retreated into the mountains, in the recluse and remote parts of the land. Tour of the monastery Blagovestenje, located over Ovčar Banja, at the foot of Kablar Mountain. It is speculated that it dates since the times of Nemanjici. For the most part of its history, this monastery was a fully functional church apart from the time when it had to be abandoned because dilapidation. In the 19th century Joakim Vujic founds it burnt by the Turks. In this monastery Patriarch Pavle took oath. Tour of the monastery Sveta Trojica, in silence which is required for the deep state of constant prayer. Monastery Sveta Trojica is situated on the slopes of Ovcar. The oldest record of this monastery dates since 1594/95. Church is single nave structure, and the Raska architecture school influence can be seen. By its architecture it is the most beautiful of all monasteries in the Ovcarsko - Kablarska gorge. **Lunch.** Continuation of the tour towards **Sirogojno** and visiting the museum “Staro selo”- a museum in the open that shows the architecture and interior of the buildings, the manner of works and the organization of family life. It spreads on the area of 5 hectares and counts around 50 exhibits that are dislocated and moved from the surrounding Zlatibor villages. A monument complex of the Church Saint Apostles Petar and Pavle from 18th century and the museum in the open “Staro selo” from 1983 has been put under the protection of the law as the heritage of an exceptional cultural importance. Continuation of the tour towards **Zlatibor**, the most popular mountain in Serbia on all accounts, an attribute given by many things that promotes it as such, in our country but also in Europe and the world. Mild sunny summers, mild sunny winters, the most beautiful springs and warm autumns are the reason of tourist activity throughout the year. Zlatibor is a healing spa, a sports center, ski center, center for cultural events and gathering of people from all sides of the country. It has numerous picnic areas and it is well connected to neighbouring tourist destinations, Drvengrad, Sargan eight, Visegrad, Tara, Drina regatta, Tornik. Arrival at the hotel. **Dinner.** Overnight stay.

5. day ZLATIBOR - SARGAN EIGHT- TARA (80 km). **Breakfast.** Continuation of the tour. **Sargan eight** is the most attractive tourist – museum railway in Europe among the narrow-gauge railways. It is a masterpiece of the world industrial heritage. Built in the period from 1921 until 1925, the planners have solved the altitude difference between Mokra Gora and Sargan (300 meters of altitude, 3,5 kilometers long) by the famous “eight” loop, spreading over 13,5 kilometers, above the base of Jatara, with around twenty tunnels, several bridges and viaducts that consist most of this railway. The train “Cira” has released its first puffs of smoke back in 1925, and it made its last eight loop on the 28th of February 1974, when the railway was closed. ZTP Beograd has started the reconstruction of the Sargan eight in 1999 for touristic purposes and to this day the whole track was reconstructed, with the authentic station structures and with the original cars. The composition Nostalgija is composed of two locomotives and three cars and the panoramic car is in the service of touristic rides, and the stations Jatara and Mokra Gora are adapted for the touristic purposes into facilities in which tourists can relax and refresh themselves during the ride. The ride of the Sargan eight had its appeal in the times when it worked as a regular train line. The steam engine pushed through narrow shady passages and high carves between Sargan and Mokra Gora, on the route that traces an unusual line in the shape of number eight, from more than one spot the passengers had an opportunity to see three tail tracks in different level. Many would panic when they saw a train coming up in front of them, needlessly because there was no danger. The other train was in their own separate rail tracks. Traveling the route of the famous “eight”, spread over 13, 5 km, the passenger is practically unable to determine which way the train already passed and which portions are yet to come. Far from the stress of the modern life, rich in nature and natural beauty of this area, this railway, unique in Europe, revives the romantic spirits of the old days by the sound of its steam locomotive. Wildlife surroundings, zigzagging down the bends and turns, tunnels. An adventure that maintains almost forgotten warmth of a bumpy train ride. **Lunch.** Departure for Tara. Mountain Tara has got its name from the Illyrian highlander tribe Autariatae, which lived on its slopes in the Bronze Age. Judging by the diversity and the abundance of the tourist values, preserved ecosystems, mountain relief with a moderate altitude of 800-1500 m, good terrain for winter sports, rich and diverse flora and fauna, mild climate, Drina with its artificial lakes Zaovine and Perucac, give this mountain a great touristic value which rises it to the rank of other famous mountains in Serbia like Zlatibor. Tara is since the 13th of July 1981 a national park, status given by the Parliament of SR Serbia and it spreads on the surface of 24.991,82 hectares. The care of the most beautiful mountain of Western Serbia was entrusted to JP National Park Tara in 1981. It is suggested that the limestone found on the northern slopes of Tara are in fact the shores of the Panonian Sea in the ancient epochs. Because of the mild climate and the inaccessibility a Serbian spruce, a relic and endemic species native to the Balkan peninsula has survived, as well as many other natural monuments, mildly put – the living fossils. Arrival at the hotel. Free time. **Dinner.** Overnight stay.

6. day TARA – CRUISE ON DRINA RIVER- TARA. **Breakfast.** Departure for Perucac – tourist town 13 km away from Bajina Basta, situated on the right riverbank of Drina. In the vicinity you can see a dam of a hydroelectric power station, where the lake starts, 54 km long, whose magnificent canyon spreads all the way to Visegrad. On this 52 km long cruise you will enjoy in the beauty of the nature, in the habitats of plant and animal species of the Tara National Park, in delta of rivers Zepa and Drina, we will pass through the most narrow part of the canyon, through Stari Brod campsite, next to the minor streams and rivers, medieval fortifications... On the right and partly on the left bank of Drina, on the both sides of Rzava, that joins Drina in a delta, on the east

of Bosnia and Herzegovina lays Visegrad city. The biggest attraction of this city represents a bridge over Drina, that Mehmed-pasha Sokolovic built in 1571 and which was described by Ivo Andric in his Nobel prize winning novel The Bridge on the Drina. Since 2014 Andricgrad is opened for visitors, a tourist complex was created as an idea of a director Emir Kusturica inspired by the work and characters of Nobel Prize winner Ivo Andric. The city was built of stone and represents the mixture of different periods and styles that came and went during the history of these parts: Byzantine, Ottoman, Renaissance, Classicism. Cruise down the river that turns and cuts the ground, enjoying the green color that rests the eyes and introduces a true piece in the soul of the observer. The road ends at the hydroelectric power station which is the cause of creation of the artificial lake Perucac. The creation of this artificial lake did not disturb the primal beauty of this land, but it complemented the postcard of Bajina Basta. **Lunch. Dinner.** Overnight stay.

7.day TARA - STUDENICA - ZICA- VRNJACKA BANJA (240 km). Breakfast. Not far from the gorge of a lively Ibar river, on the right bank of the Studenica river, surrounded by high protection wall rises a monastery of **Studenica**, foundation building of the Great Zupan Stefan Nemanja, the founder of the independent Serbian state and first of the dynasty that will rule over Serbia for the next two centuries. The monastery represents one of the most important medieval monastery complexes in Serbia and a great spiritual and artistic center of Serbian people. For a little over a decade, from 1183 until 1196, the most beautiful structure of Serbian medieval architecture was shaped. Since the 12th century when the monastery community was established, Studenica had never interrupted its centennial activity. As a foundation building and a tomb of the founder of the dynasty Nemanjic Studenica has served as a role model for many rulers of this line for the construction of the mausoleums that would look like Bogorodicina church (Virigin Mary church). Bogorodicina church is among the most important monuments of the Raska architecture school. An original crossover between Byzantine spacing and structure of the temple and the outer shape and its encasing in marble, that originate from roman architecture and make Studenica a master piece of a Central Europe architecture. Frescoes, the master pieces of the Byzantine painting from the beginning of the 13th century have traced a way for the Serbian medieval painting. Some of the capital examples of Serbian artisanal works are kept in the treasury, like the ring of Stefan Nemanja, some metallic objects, shrouds, parchments and other relics. The special place in the monastery complex Studenica is taken by the King's church, foundation building of King Milutin dating since 1314, with wall paintings of an exceptional fineness. With its temples, dining rooms, towers and dormitories, Studenica has kept its original function, and as a first class monument it is protected by law and on the UNESCO world heritage sites list since 1986. Departure for **Zica** the most famous and the most visited monastery in Serbia, almost eight centuries old. Surrounded by sunlight, protected by the walls, and cherished by its nuns, Zica is the monastery that many visit multiple times in their life. The history of the Zica monastery starts when seventeen year old Rastko Nemanjic decides to abandon the court of his father Stefan Nemanja and to devote himself to the monastery life on the Mount Athos. When he returned from Mount Athos at the beginning of the 13th century with the remains of his saint father Simeona Mirotocivi, the Serbian state was shaken by the conflicts between Stefan and Vukan. Reconciling the fighting brothers Saint Sava has decided together with Stefan to build Zica as an imperial monastery settlement. The place that was chosen is on the exact same distance from Constantinople as it is from Rome, which is interpreted as Serbia being on the crossroads between Orthodox East and Catholic West. The church in the monastery that is consecrated to the Ascension of Jesus (Sveti Spas) was being built for about twenty years. The church as a whole represented not only the monastery temple but also a cathedral of the first Serbian Archbishop. Some new things can be spotted in the church building comparing to the temples of the Stefan Nemanja period. This is the monastery of the brotherly love, because Saint Sava, a monk from Mount Athos reconciled his brothers Stefan Nemanjic and Vukan over the remains of their father, and that is when they agreed upon building this monastery. The things you just cannot miss are the preserved frescoes. In the north and the south transept apostles and crucifixion are preserved completely and Descent from the cross partially preserved, and one of the most important are those made in the period between 1309 and 1316. Some of them are the Ascension of the Virgin Mary on the western wall of the nave, charter of Stefan Prvovenani, portraits of Stefan Prvovenani and his son, as well as the images of Apostles Petar and Pavle. Over eight hundred years of existence, the time has made that this monastery becomes linked to many beliefs, legends and myths. The most famous says that after the coronation of Stefan Prvovenani, another six kings would be crowned there and for each and every one of them a separate door would be opened and then walled up again. For that reason the popular name "seven door Zica" was made. **Lunch.** Departure for **Vrnjacka Banja**, the biggest and the most famous healing spa in Serbia and surroundings and traditionally very attractive tourist destination for relaxing and recreation. The history of use of mineral water springs of Vrnjacka Banja date back to the old times, when the Celtic tribe named Scordians lived here. After the Roman conquest of Balkans in the last centuries of the old era and a few centuries of the new era the mineral waters are used for drinking and bathing. The proof is the Roman spring of hot, mineral, Vrnjacka water discovered in 1924 as well as the numerous coins with images of roman emperors on them. It is very likely that in the medieval period new coming Slavs have heard of the healing properties of Vrnjacka water. There are reliable sources stating that in the middle of the 19th century hot mineral water was used by the residents of the Vrnjaca village and the surrounding areas for healing; Janja, the bishop of Zica used it for bathing and drinking. However, the history of the modern spa in Vrnjci is linked to 1868 when the Krusevac county official Pavle Mutavdzic together with a few notable benefactors and members of the Krusevac, Kraljevo and Trstenik high society, formed Osnovatelno fundatorsko društvo kiselovruce vode (a society of mineral water) in Vrnjci. The same year the caption of two hot springs was done and the construction of the spa facilities had started bathrooms before all. The spa experiences an exceptional rise of popularity in the years before Balkan wars. Vrnjacka Banja had received at that time a large number of modern apartments, the new bathroom was built, a movie theatre and preparations for the construction of another have been made. Just before the wars, by Vrnjacka Banja the railroad passed on the Stalac-ozega destination, in this manner the Spa got good logistical connection with other parts of Serbia. The development of the healthcare has a 140 year long tradition in Vrnjacka Banja. The first spa doctor to recommend Vrnjacka Banja spa treatment to his patients was Josif

Pancic, and the first patient who was treated there by his orders was Pavle Mutavdzic, Krusevac county official. This was in 1860. Since that time, the natural and balneoclimatic factor, which Vrnjačka Banja spa abounds in, has been used to treat diabetes, digestive tract diseases, liver disease, diseases of the urinary organs, diseases of skin, eyes, nervous system, as well as for the patients' health improvement and prevention. Since the 1920s when Vrnjačka Banja spa got its first real sanatorium, "Sveti Džorđe", up to the present days in addition to the use of mineral waters for medical purposes, there have been developed important centers for hospitalization of patients, laboratory and diagnostic centers with the state-of-the-art equipment in the fields of medical services they are used in. Arrival at the hotel. **Dinner.** Overnight stay.

8. day VRNJACKA BANJA - FELIX ROMULIANA - VIMINACIJUM - BELGRADE (460 km). **Breakfast.** Departure for Zajecar. Sightseeing of the **Felix Romuliana** site which is an imperial palace constructed after the idea of Roman emperor Galerius Maximilian, on the vast plateau of Gamzigrad, in the vicinity of Zajecar. Galerius, originating from this area built this palace in the 3rd and 4th century for him and his mother Romula, after whom it was named. It falls under a specific category of Roman palace architecture linked solely to the tetrarchy period and it represents the model of this type of architecture. The palace is surrounded by thick walls that protected the very city – palace from the intrusion of the barbarians. The remains of the older and more recent fortification were discovered, constructed within the timeframe of about ten years. The area between the East and West gate inside the walls was divided into two parts for two different purposes. The northern half was for the imperial palace, a small temple and a monumental altar, while on the southern half some facilities for the public use can be found. (a big temple with two square based crypts and bathrooms) and also the facilities for servicing the palace (horreum and a single nave structure with a portcullis). The structures were abundantly decorated with frescoes, straw ceilings, floor mosaics with figures and geometric patterns. Since the first decade of the 4th century until the middle of the 6th the name, the appearance and the purpose of the complex were being changed. Already in the second half of the 4th century, Romuliana palace is abandoned and falls in ruins, and after the outbreak of Gothic tribes and Huns it becomes a small Byzantine village called Romiliana and is found on the list of the towns reconstructed during the rule of Justinian. Gamzigrad castle has last been inhabited in the 11th century as a fortified Slavic town. Site Gamzigrad - Romulijana was in 2007. Accepted on the list of the world cultural heritage sites by UNESCO. **Lunch.** Continuation of the tour. The military camp at **Viminacijum** certainly came into existence when the Roman Empire spread to the Danube area. This probably happened during the early decades of the 1st century AD when the Romans first reached the Danube. The civilian settlement next to the military camp in times of Hadrian's rule (117–138) was granted municipal status, a town with a high level of autonomy. During the reign of Gordian III (239) the town was accorded the status of a Roman citizen colony and the right to mint local currency. Such a status was the highest that could be attained by a town in the Roman Empire. Viminacium was often chosen as a mustering point for troops and a starting point in many a military campaign. The economy of Viminacium developed quickly thanks to its location on the Danube. The exceptional finds made in the necropoles around the town (more than 14,000 graves have been found so far) confirm the belief that its citizens were very wealthy, and frescoes found in the crypts represent the peak of late classical period art. The town was devastated on several occasions, in invasions by the Goths, Huns and finally the Avars. In and around the town there have been discoveries of an amphitheater, monumental buildings, lavish thermae (baths) and the remains of a highly-developed infrastructure, first and foremost streets, aqueducts and a sewage system. The discoveries made so far have very much affirmed the special significance of Viminacium as the leading Roman Metropolis on this part of the Danube Limes. A science – research center Domus Scientiarum in Viminacium is a multitask facility – apart from the fact that scientist from Serbia and all over the world will use its cabinets, libraries, atriums for their research, work with students, summer schools, organization of congresses and thematic gatherings – at the same time it serves as an accommodation for tourists that increasingly show interest for staying at Viminacium. Domus Scientiarum represents the peak of the offer in the archeological tourism, with the unique atmosphere of the ancient Rome, where the visitor can be anything they want – an archeologist, a legionnaire or the emperor. Return to Belgrade at around 20h

PUTNIK

TRAVEL