



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## Kosovo - Pristina

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Pristina
- ✓ **Language:** Albanian / Serbian
- ✓ **Population:** ± 205,000
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 572
- ✓ **Currency:** Euro (EUR - €)
- ✓ **Country code:** +383 (38)
- ✓ **Visa:** For 50% of nationalities, [info here](#)! Serbia doesn't recognize border, so overland travel Serbia-Kosovo-Serbia only.
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 192 (police), 193 (fire), 194 (ambulance)
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A, Hep-B



### History Recap Over 1 Drink

[As Serbia] 1<sup>st</sup> AD: Romans. 6<sup>th</sup>: Slavs. 12<sup>th</sup>: Serbian control. 1389: Battle of Kosovo against Turks. 15-18<sup>th</sup> century: Ottoman Empire. 1689-'90: Austrian invasion repelled. 1817: Serbia Autonomous principality. '78: Independence. 1912: Balkan Wars. 1918: Kingdom of Serbs-Croats-Slovenes after WWI → '29: Kingdom of Yugoslavia. '45: Added Macedonia-Bosnia-Montenegro: Social Federal Republic of Yugoslavia under Tito. '74: Kosovo self-government / autonomous status. '80s: Milosevic pres Serbia (*pro-Serbian nationalism with regards to Albanians in Kosovo*). '91: Slovenia-Macedonia-Croatia-Bosnia out Yugoslavia. Rise nationalism & independence aspirations: bloody conflict Croats & Bosnian Muslims. UN sanctions Yugoslavia. '95: Srebrenica massacre Muslims by Bosnian Serb forces. End Bosnian war. '97: Milosevic pres Yugoslavia. '98: Kosovo Liberation Army rebels → brutal crackdown. Serbs force Albanians 'back' to Albania. '99: NATO air strikes against Serbia. Kosovo UN protectorate. '01: Rugova pres Kosovo. '04: Violence Mitrovica (*Kosovo-Serbia*). '06: Sejdiu pres Kosovo. '06: Montenegro separates. New constitution Serbia: Kosovo integral part. War. [As Kosovo] '08: Kosovo declares independence → declared illegal by Serbia. EU takes over policing Kosovo from UN. EU-application. '11: Pacolli pres. Talks Serbia.

### Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget												

Altitude: 652m. Climate: Warm humid continental climate (Cfb).

### Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Sights:** Pristina National Library, Newborn Monument, Skanderbeg Monument, Bill Clinton Statue, Mother Theresa Statue, Heroinat Memorial, Clock Tower, Gračanica Monastery, Fatih Mosque, St. Theresa Cathedral & many more mosques.
- ☺ **Nature:** Germia Park, Marble Cave (*Gadimë Cave*).
- ☺ **Free museums:** [Kosovo Museum](#) (*donation*), National Gallery of Kosovo, Ethnographic Museum.

### Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are pretty affordable in Kosovo. Book hostels with \$15 discount via this [Booking.com link](#)! Wild camping is legal.
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or Housesitting ([20% discount for Trusted Housesitters via this link](#)!) Also check [WorkAway](#) or [HelpX](#) for work-exchanges.

The Earth Becomes My Throne

## Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Albi, Meridian, Viva Fresh.
- ⌘ **Markets:** Bazaar.
- ⌘ **Local food:** Burek (*Albanian börek*), Flija (*pie with pancake layers and yoghurt filling*), Raznjici (*grilled meat skewer*), Cevapi (*grilled minced meat*), Sarma (*cabbage rolls*), Pljeskavica (*hamburger*), Punjene Paprike (*stuffed paprikas*), Tavë (*lamb*), Tavë Krapu (*pot-cooked carp*), Rakija (*alcoholic drink*).
- ⌘ **Go vegan:** Being vegan is ridiculously easy in Europe, but slightly challenging in Kosovo. Local 'accidentally vegan' dishes: Prebranac (*baked beans*), Ajvar (*red peppers – garlic spread*) & Posni Burek (*vegan börek*). Check vegan-friendly restaurants here: [Happy Cow – Pristina](#).

## Mama Said

- ☠ Unlike what you've probably heard, Pristina is very safe. The war has been over for a loooong time.
- ☠ Tap water is drinkable, yet if you're not used to it bottled water is recommended.
- ☠ ATM fees are very high here. If you can bring in euros from outside of Kosovo. do so.

## Next?

- ➔ **In Kosovo:** Gracanica, Prizren, Mitrovice.
- ➔ **International destinations close by:** Serbia, Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro, Bulgaria.

## Festivals

- ☼ PriFest: Film, July.
- ☼ Kosovo Architecture Festival: Jul-Oct.
- ☼ Sunny Hill Festival: Music, Aug.

## Nights Best Spent

- ◆ **Nightlife areas:** City centre, Termokiss.
- ◆ **Theatres:** Teatri Oda, National Theatre.

## Free-Riding?

- Walking is an excellent option to see the more subtle details of downtown Pristina. To see the entire city alternative transport might be necessary.
- Pristina is connected by a bus system, you can pay the driver. The bus station is located close to the M2 south-west of the centre (*Google: Stacioni I Autobusve*), bus 7 brings you downtown from there. Buses to Serbia leave mainly from Gracanica, ask locals about times as they vary per day. More info on Pristina transport [here](#).
- The train station is located at Tirana street. More info [here](#).
- Airport: Pristina Airport (PRN).
- Hitchhiking is possible, but not so common here.