



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## Serbia - Pirot

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Belgrade
- ✓ **Language:** Serbian - Cyrillic/Latin script
- ✓ **Population:** ± 92,300
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 1.232
- ✓ **Currency:** Dinar (RSD - ДИН)
- ✓ **Country code:** +381 (10)
- ✓ **Visa:** For some nationalities, [info here!](#)
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 192 (police), 193 (fire), 194 (ambulance)
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A, Hep-B



### History Recap Over 1 Drink

15-18<sup>th</sup> century: Ottoman Empire. 1817: Autonomous principality. '78: Independence. 1918: Kingdom of Serbs-Croats-Slovenes after WWI → '29: Kingdom of Yugoslavia. '45: Added Macedonia-Bosnia-Montenegro: Social Federal Republic of Yugoslavia under Tito. '89: 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. 2000: Kostunica pres, Milosevic fraud → charged for war crimes and genocide (*dies in cell*). Yugoslavia joins UN. '01: Rugova pres Kosovo. '03: PM Djindjic assassinated. Union Serbia – Montenegro. '04: Violence Mitrovica (*Kosovo-Serbia*). '04: Tadic pres. '06: Sejdiu pres Kosovo. '06: Montenegro separates. New constitution: Kosovo integral part of Serbia. War. '08: Kosovo declares independence → declared illegal by Serbia. EU takes over policing Kosovo from UN. EU-application. '10 Tadic at Srebrenica & Vukovar & apology. '12: Nikolic pres. '17: Brnabic 1<sup>st</sup> female gay PM.

### Travel Seasons

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

Altitude: 367m. Climate: Oceanic (Cfb).

### Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Sights:** Medieval Fortress, Kej Promenade, Nisava River, Bathtub Dag, Pirotski Kej, churches.
- ☺ **Nature:** [Stara Planina Nature Park](#) incl. Zavojsko Lake. Tupavica Waterfall, Vladikine Ploce Gorge / Cave, Gradasnica River Gorge, Temacka Gorge, Canyon Visocica River, Vetrena Dupka Cave.
- ☺ **Villages in Stara Planina:** Dojkinci, Jelovica, Rsovci, Slavinja, Visocka Rzana, Topli Do, Temska, Gradasnica, Sukovo. Gostusa.

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Museums & sights:** [Muzej Ponisavlje Pirot.](#)
- 👍 **Skiing:** [Stara Planina / Babin Zub.](#)

The Earth Becomes My Throne

## Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Idea, Maxi, Lidl, Roda.
- ⌘ **Markets:** on Saturday.
- ⌘ **Local food:** Cevapi (*grilled minced meat*), Karadordeva Snicla (*schnitzel*), Sarma (*cabbage rolls*), Kackaval (*cheese*), Pirot Lamb, Peglana Kobasica (*sausage*), Pljeskavica (*hamburger*), Cvarci (*pork rinds*), Sopska Salata (*salad with cheese*), Riblja Corba (*fish soup*), Duvec (*stew*), Pecenje (*roast meat*), Punjene Paprike (*stuffed paprikas*), Gibanica (*cheese pie*), Burek (*Serbian börek*), Palacinke (*sort of pancake*), Skembice (*tripe stew*), Rakija (*alcoholic drink*).
- ⌘ **Go vegan:** Being vegan is ridiculously easy in Europe, but slightly challenging in Serbia. Local 'accidentally vegan' dishes: Prebranac (*baked beans*), Ajvar (*red peppers – garlic spread*), Becar Paprikas (*stew*), Dzuvec (*stew*), Posna Sarma (*filled cabbage rolls*), Srpska Salata (*salad*), Posni Burek (*vegan börek*), Corba od Pecuraka (*mushroom soup*). Check vegan-friendly restaurants here: [Happy Cow – Serbia](#). I found cheap nuts and seeds at Knjaza Milosa 86 and Prodavnica br.2 (*Carbona Oaza*).

## Mama Said

- ☠ Europe in general, and also Serbia, is very safe... but use your common sense like everywhere.
- ☠ Tap water is drinkable. It's one of the healthiest water worldwide.

## Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are very affordable in Serbia, tourist taxes may apply. (*Wild*) Camping is a good option in summer only. Book hostels with \$15 discount via this [Booking.com link!](#)
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or Housesitting ([20% discount for Trusted Housesitters via this link!](#)) Also check [WorkAway](#) or [HelpX](#) for work-exchanges.

## Festivals

- ☼ Pirot Flattened Sausage Fair: Jan.
- ☼ Festival of Food from Stara Planina: July (*Temska*).
- ☼ Osvezenje (Refresh) Festival: Aug.

## Free-Riding?

- Walking is an excellent option to see the more subtle details of downtown Pirot.
- Nis has some buses, but none of those will bring you to any of the touristic sights. You will need to walk, rent a car or hitchhike. The main bus terminal is located at Trg Republike.
- Trains are twice as slow but twice as scenic. Pirot's train station is located out of town and is called Bozurat.
- Airport: Constantine the Great Airport (Nis - INI).
- Hitchhiking is relatively safe and quite common. You can also use apps like [Blablacar](#) for a cheap ride.

## Next?

- ➔ **In Serbia:** Niš, Kopanik, Zaječar, Belgrade.
- ➔ **International destinations close by:** Bulgaria, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, Hungary, Croatia, Albania.