CULTURAL HERITAGE OF VOJVODINA

Tourism Organisation of Vojvodina Serbia
Culture and the rich cultural heritage of a destination has become a significant factor affecting the viability of the overall competitiveness of a country’s tourism product. In the developed countries, cultural and urban tourism, events and activities of cultural institutions, are major factors of pronounced competitiveness, underlying the recognition of the country as a tourist destination.

The cultural offering is an inevitable and essential part of modern tourism, without which it can no longer even be imagined. Cultural tourism is defined according to the World Tourism Organization (WTO) as “the movement of people for basic cultural motivations such as study tours, art and cultural tours, travel to festivals and other cultural events, visiting historical sites and monuments, travel to learn about nature, folklore or art, and pilgrimages. This tourism industry meets the needs for a different cultural experience and looking for opportunities to increase cultural knowledge, experiences and encounters” (WTO, 1995).

By their properties, cultural resources are an integral part of human life, affecting cultural and spiritual enrichment. As such, cultural resources are an essential part of tourism trends as part of the socio-cultural and spatial phenomena.

The saying goes: “Who you are is synonymous with the place where you grew up”. We all have our “personal geography”, which means that we more or less unconsciously adopted from our environment what we eat, what we drink, how we speak, how we dress, how we live. All of these things make up the cultural heritage of the individual. On the other end of the scale we have the goods, such as the Great Pyramids of Giza or the Great Wall of China, which was declared a world heritage, and no more a local legacy, but one of all mankind. Between these sides lies cultural heritage in various forms and shapes worthy of protection and care.

Cultural assets are an important tourist attraction and one of the main reasons for the choice of the destination of tourists ...

Today, the importance of cultural heritage in the world is on the rise. Heritage is the identity of the local population, and at the same time fascinates and attracts visitors. Thus, cultural tourism, which is based on the use of cultural heritage, is one of the fastest growing industries in the world. Increasing number of people who are tired of lying on a sunny beach, who want to experience something deeper, that can be find in nature, visit distant lands and their cultural heritage. People want to have a new experience in a different place, to be physically and spiritually involved in the past. Simply put, we all want to go on an adventure into the past!

Vojvodina is, demographically speaking, a conglomeration of different ethnic groups and as such is very rich in various cultures. Mosaic of local cultural heritage is something that only Vojvodina has to offer in the tourism market in Europe, because nowhere else on the continent is there such ethnic diversity. Our cultural heritage is not only the past and memory, it is still alive and active.

Tatjana Pivac, PhD
For centuries Vojvodina was conquered and inhabited by Sarmatians, Scythians, Lombards, Khazars, Illyrians, Celts, Romans, Huns, Avars, Byzantines, Slavs, Franks, Turks, Achaeans, Spaniards, Hungarians, the Goths, the Crusaders ... For 50 thousand years back even the most mobile populations used to find their peace, and then the grave in Vojvodina plains. Therefore, the Pannonian Plain represents a vast necropolis of extinct people and forgotten culture. So far, the records on Vojvodina show over two thousand prehistoric archaeological sites, over five hundred sites from the ancient period and more than two hundred sites that date back to the Middle Ages. The most significant archaeological sites are: first of all, Sirmium, then Starčevo near Pančevo, Gömölava near Hrtković, Židovar near Vršac, Duplaja near Bečka Crkva, Donja Branjevina near Odžaci and other. The most important objects from archaeological sites, after excavations and treatment, find their place in one of many museums in the cities of Vojvodina, where the interested tourists can admire them.

**Sirmium (1-4 century AD)**

The city of Sirmium, on the site of present-day Sremska Mitrovica, was one of the capitals of the Roman Empire and belonged to one of the largest metropolises of its time. The settlement on the site dates back to the Celts, and traces of settlements from 7,000 years ago. The most significant urban expansion began in the late third century and partially covered the fifth century. The famous Roman writer of the fourth century, Marcellinus, calls it a glorious and multitudinous mother of cities. All of the above led to Sremska Mitrovica becoming one of the largest archaeological centres in the region. In addition to the Imperial Palace with the Roman circus, other monumental public buildings were discovered, such as the so-called "Licinius Spa", a granary (horreum), trade and craft quarters. Luxury residential villas were discovered as well as multi-story residential buildings where poor people lived.
The city was protected by mighty walls, and supplied with water via aqueducts from springs of Mt. Fruška Gora streams. The streets, paved with stone, also had a sewer. In the city there were a number of craft shops specializing in the production of precious metals, glass, ceramics, brick, and a coin mint was also active. Sirmium was one of the seats of early Christianity, as evidenced by the remains of the Christian basilica in the city centre.

On the remains of the craft district in Roman times, at today’s square called Žitni Trg, each year during the month of June, festival of oration is held in memory of the ancient glory of the city. The complex of the palace-circus is one of the most important archaeological sites of Sremska Mitrovica. It was built, along the Sava river, at the end of the third or early fourth century. The site was discovered during site preparation for construction of residential buildings. Imperial palaces in Roman times had official part for the royal duties, and also the residential part for the housing of the Emperor and his family.

Circuses built adjacent to the palace served as the ceremonial display of the ruler to his people. That is where chariot racing went on as the most popular sport in the ancient world. A luxurious internal structure of the Palace is hinted at by the fragments of frescoes, mosaic floors, architectural decorations of various kinds of stone from different parts of the world. Hot air installations were discovered below the rooms. The palace was often times in use as evidenced by a number of modifications, mosaic floors at different levels and other archaeological finds.
Since the late 18th to the beginning of the 20th century, wealthy landowners, industrialists and aristocracy dotted Vojvodina with about thirty castles, summer houses and citadels in mainly neo-classical style. A few have been renovated and adapted to visitors (Fantast, Čelarevo ...). The palace located in Kulbin houses Agricultural Museum. The opening of the castle Ečka in 1820 was a chance to listen to the child prodigy at the time, the nine year old Franz Liszt.

**Bođani Monastery**

In the north of Bačka, ten kilometers from Bač, toward Vađska, as one goes straight on and reaches the village of Bodani, there is a monastery with a church dedicated to the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The temple was built in the year 1478 but was later destroyed and rebuilt many times. The church was painted by the famous Hristifor Žefarević, innovator in Serbian painting. In the aftermath of the Great Migration of the Serbs, Bodani became the seat of the bishopric. In the early 18th century, that was the location of a theological school. A large, landscaped park is an integral part of the monastery complex. In the dormitory, there is a small chapel with a well in which, according to tradition, the founder of the monastery, a wealthy merchant Bogdan, washed and healed the sick eyes. In gratitude and with the permission of the Hungarian king Corvinus, at the location of the chalet, he built this friary active to this day.

**Mesić Monastery**

Mesić is an Orthodox convent in Banat Diocese, and certainly one of the most important monasteries in south-eastern Banat. It was founded, probably, by the Branković, in the late fifteenth century, during the great migration of the Serbian people to this region. The monastery was the residence of the Bishops of Vršac at the time immediately after the great migration. It was destroyed several times by the Turks, but soon rebuilt.

The earthquake of 1892 most damaged the monastery church. Like most churches in Vojvodina, this one sustained intervention of added baroque bell tower. In its treasury, the monastery holds several valuable manuscripts and printed books, and works of famous painters like Jovan Popović from Opovo, Johan Tobias from Kaergling, Arsenije Petrović, Pavel Đurković and others.

**Kovilj Monastery**

Tradition tells us that Kovilj monastery was founded in the thirteenth century by St. Sava, personally. At this point allegedly the Hungarian and Serbian king settled their grievances. In place of reconciliation of two peoples, place of worship was built, which, after the arrival of Ziča monks, developed into a monastery. Thus Kovilj monastery could be viewed as a symbol of reconciliation and a plea for peace to all people. With its thirty monks, Kovilj is one of the largest male monasteries in the entire Serbian Orthodox Church. Not all monks are locals. One New Zealander, another one a Bulgarian, then a Slovak... Monastery grounds of about 50 acres was significantly larger in the reign of Maria Theresa. Kovilj monks pray, till the soil, paint icons, make candles and sing in an awarded monastic choir cherishing the traditional of the Byzantine chant. White basil honey, fruit brandy, nut cognac and liqueur are some of the most successful brands of Kovilj monastery. This is a place of refuge for young people, many of whom have, in the past, stumbled into alcohol, drugs and delinquency.
Franciscan Monastery of Bač

Near the city of Bač, near Bačka fortress, stands the monastery built in the late Romanesque and early Gothic style. It was founded by the mythical knight-monastic order of the Templars, in one of the breaks between the Crusades. Then Franciscan monks of Hungarian origin moved in. In the clashes of subsequent centuries, the monastery was repeatedly burned and destroyed. Turks even turned its tower turned into a mosque. The architectural diversity of monastic buildings comes from far too frequent renewal and additions.

1-3. Bodjani Monastery
4-5. Kovilj Monastery
6-8. Franciscan Monastery
9. Mesić Monastery
Dunderski Family Castle in Čelarevo

Located at the manor of royalty Bezeredija, a small castle emerged at the turn of the 18th to 19th century. A great mansion, according to the plans of an unknown Viennese architect was built between 1834 and 1837 as a classic example of representative residences. Classicist style characteristics, decorative details, layout, equipment design, complete the presence of the facility. Some documents say the building was painted with frescoes until sold to the landowner Laza Dunderski in 1882. The beauty of the park, organized according to the principle of English gardens, is widely rumoured about throughout the neighbouring Hungary. Until the First World War it was the venue for prominent political and cultural figures of the time. The castle has been visited by Nikola Tesla, Paja Jovanović, Stevan Todorović, Aleksandar Karadžorđević. Laza Kostić in honor Dunderskoj Lenka, whom he met at the castle, wrote the most beautiful love song of the Serbian language. After the Second World War, the building was occasionally visited by Josip Broz Tito.

Castle in Kulpin

Both castles in the park, big and small, have been built by one of the most important Serbian nobility in the Habsburg Monarchy – the Stratimirović. Later the castle was sold to Lazar Dunderski, who, along with his son, greatly contributed to the development and modernization of agriculture in Kulpin area. The castle remained in the possession of Dunderski until forced nationalization after the Second World War. Today it houses the Agricultural Museum, while the small one houses Kulpin civic associations.

Kaštel Castle in Ečka

Castle in Ečka, the territory of the municipality of Zrenjanin, in architectural terms is a unique facility in our area. The well-known Kaštel was built at the beginning of the nineteenth century in the so-called English style, by a landowner Agošton Lazar. The estate with the castle was purchased in 1870 by Count Felix Ormonkur and significantly altered it in the eve of the 19th century by building additions. There is a park around the castle, a church, a pond and a water tower, which give the whole complex a remarkable ambience and natural ecological significance. The castle has been renovated and is in good condition, operating as a hotel and restaurant.

Fantast Castle

Bogdan Dunderski was, without doubt, the most interesting members of his family. He had three great passions: women, horses and wine. He achieved his dream of building a castle of the imagination. Horse farm, with over a thousand thoroughbred horses took up more than half of the property. Deciding to build a chapel of St. George on the estate, he entrusted his friend Uroš Predić to paint the iconostasis. He was buried in the chapel in 1943. After the liberation in 1945, the sumptuous furnishings and art were lost, and sheep were let into the castle. Today the castle is a luxury hotel. The spacious park includes walking trails and tennis courts. The chapel organizes christenings and weddings. The farm has about 80 horses in six stalls, and there is a galloping track for training and riding lessons.
Suvača, Kikinda

Suvača was transported in parts in 1899 and assembled in Kikinda to where it is today. Only in Kikinda, during the 19th century, there were 17 such horse mills. Harness horses going in circles and turning mechanism grinded the grains. Now there is only this one, virtually unique in Europe. After the liberation, Suvača gets nationalized and stops working.

1-2. Castle in Kulpin
3. Dunderski Family Castle in Čelarevo
4-7. "Kaštel" castle, Ečka
8-10. "Fantast" castle, Bečej
11. Suvača, Kikinda
The old town centres are an inevitable part of the ritual of visiting a city. These are the favourite places of tourists, of commerce, culture, entertainment and meeting people. At the turn of the 18th century to the 19th century, they begin to slowly form a typical urban centre of a recognisable visual identity first in the Baroque and then and classical styles. Now times bring new interventions in the central city area, and a combination of old and new makes these environmental entities more controversial, although even more desirable from tourist point of view.

Monasteries of Fruska Gora

Unique religious heritage of Vojvodina is preserved in Mt. Fruska Gora with 17 Orthodox monasteries that were created in the period from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century. “Third” or “North Holy Mountain”, “Serbian medieval Atos”, so is this mountain called. If you want to visit all the monasteries of Fruska Gora, one weekend most likely will not be enough. But it’s worth a try. Start with the old and new monastery Hopovo. Hopovo, founded in the early sixteenth century, for a time, the seat of the bishop. Then Grgeteg from the 16th century, certainly one of the better-preserved medieval monasteries of the area. Then, through Velika Remeta (1534), a church dedicated to Saint Demetrius, the monastery Mala Remeta. It is a nunnery mention in Turkish documents in 1546. Jazak Monastery was built in the 18th century and is one of the most beautiful architectural monuments on Mt. Fruska Gora. It is obligatory to visit the monastery Kruseđol best preserved and most famous monastery on Mount Fruska Gora. This endowment of the last Serbian despot, is where King Milan and Patriarch Arsenije III Ćarnojević were buried. Rakovac famous manuscript, a collection of sermons to Serbian saints, written in Rakovac monastery, founded in the late fifteenth century. Beočin Monastery no younger than dating from 1697, and convent Diva, dedicated to Saint Nicholas. Privina Glava monastery dedicated to Holy Archangels Michael and Gabriel, near the village with the same name, about five kilometres from Sid. Kuveždin monastery church, dedicated to Saint Sava, located in the southwest of the mountain. Petkovica monastery, dedicated to St Petka, is considered one of the oldest mountain monasteries, but it is not known when it was built. Sišatovac Monastery, with its famous library, rose on the site of the old church dedicated to St. Nicholas, in the mid-16th century. A number of monasteries have residences that in agreement with the monks, stand available to you, the travellers.
1. Monastery Novo Hopovo
2. Monastery Petkovica
3. Monastery Velika Remeta
4-5. Monastery Jazak
6. Monastery Krušedol
7. Monastery Rakovac
8-9. Monastery Ravanica Vrdnik
10. Monastery Šišatovac
11. Monastery Grgeteg
12. Monastery Mala Remeta
13. Monastery Divša
14. Monastery Kuveždin
The Petrovaradin Fortress

Construction History

Petrovaradin Fortress - the Gibraltar of the Danube, on the right bank of the Danube at Novi Sad, built in the period from 1692 to 1780, during the Austrian emperors Leopold I, Joseph I, Charles VI, Maria Theresa and Joseph II. Its creator was the Marquis Sebastien Vauban. The first phase of construction is credited to the Italian count Aloysius Luigi Ferdinando Marsili (1659-1730), the Austrian army colonel of engineers. The first foundation was built with more pronounced parts (Upper Fortress, Lower Fortress, Hornwerk, Small Fortress on the island and Bridgehead). By the thirties of the eighteenth century bastions were completed: Leopold, Innocent, Joseph, Ludwig and Therese, and Bridgehead on the opposite bank of the Danube, and a little insular fortress. Mid eighteenth century saw the final phase of construction of the Fortress when the Upper Fortress was added its main buildings: Long Barracks, Simple Barracks, Gunboat (Arsenal, later called Manula), then water supply, and Ludwig bastion and the tower with the large clock. From 1768 to 1776 the fortress underground was built - underground passages, galleries and corridors on four levels. Also in this period the well of Joseph II and the great War Spare Well were built. Intermittently, the Fortress was built by large workforce for over 90 years.

Historical Events in and Around the Fort

The place of today’s fortress was military fortification since ancient times, and history of the site spans more than 200 000 years. The Celts lived there between the third and fourth centuries BC. In Roman times, in the first century AD, between Petrovaradin and modern-day Sremska Kamenica, there was a fort. In Byzantine times in the same place there was a fortress - Petricon. In the eighth century modern-day Petrovaradin was a part of the Frankish state, and from the ninth century in the possession of the medieval Hungarian state. The Turks occupied the fort in 1526. During the “Great Vienna War” in 1691, Petrovaradin again, after 161 years, went to the Austrian monarchy, which begins to raise new fortification next year. In 1716 the new conflict between Austria and Turkey takes place. To avoid encirclement of the Fortress, the Austrian army commander Eugene of Savoy attacks the Turks first. This battle, in which the Austrians won a victory, is known as “Varadin War.” During World War I Petrovaradin Fortress was in the hands of the Austrian army, and at the beginning of November in 1918, comes into the possession of the Kingdom of Serbia. At the beginning of World War II, Petrovaradin became a member of the Independent State of Croatia.
Petrovaradin Fortress was the scene of military operations during the war against the Fruska Gora partisans, mostly without success. Petrovaradin was liberated on 23 October 1944. Many historical figures stayed at the Fortress including Emperor Franz Joseph, King Aleksandar, Karadjordje Petrovic and Josip Broz Tito.

The Fortress Today

Having passed almost undisturbed network of Baroque narrow streets, one climbs to Petrovaradin fortress, “Gibraltar on the Danube”. This masterpiece of military architecture of the XVIII century, surrounded by walls with a kilometre-long underground corridors, is also the largest permanent arts centre in the country. These are dozens of art studios, including Studio 61, an art workshop of unique tapestry. Popular Đava also hosts the Novi Sad City Museum, Planetarium and one of the most popular European music festivals “Exit”. From the terrace next to the clock with reverse hands, nearby Novi Sad seems the most beautiful.
The Historic Centre of Sombor – “Venac”


Sremski Karloveci Historic Downtown

Tour of the Baroque centre of Sremski Karloveci is a cultural experience par excellence. The Orthodox Church from 1762, dedicated to St. Nicholas, the Patriarch's Palace, the most impressive building in Vojvodina from the nineteenth century, today the seat of the Bishop of Srem; the oldest Serbian gymnasium - Karlovačka, was founded in 1791, and the fountain “Four Lions” - built in 1799 in honour of the completion of water supply system; oldest Serbian Karlovac Seminaries, 1749, Stefaneum Palace built in 1903 as a students’ dormitory. A little further up the hill – Peace Chapel built in 1817, a place of signing of Karlovac Peace in 1699 between the Christian Alliance and Turkey. In high diplomatic schools a lessons on this event is inevitable, because then, for the first time in history, a round table was used with a clear message that all participants in the negotiations should be equal.
The Old Downtown of Zrenjanin

Zrenjanin. Petrograd, Bećkerek. Large one. Once was New Barcelona. And once the Buffalo Bill was there. The capital of Banat. Third in Vojvodina. A city of bridges. Right here, as the song goes, the four horses crossed the Begej. The main square. City Hall. National Museum. Theatre. Monument to King Peter. Green bell. The court building. Churches. City of New Optimism.

The Town Centre of Novi Sad

Capital. The largest city. The most populous city. The most multicultural city. Leaning on the Danube. The town centre. The pedestrian zone. Walking is the way to go. In the old town you cannot miss the main square Trg slobode and City Hall at it, the Name of Mary Catholic Church, Monument to Svetozar Miletić, Hotel Vojvodina, then Zmaj Jovina Street and Zmaj Jovina High School, Bishop’s Palace, the Danube and the Danube Street and Park, the Museum of Vojvodina ... Each site has an attractive look and an attractive story. Each building, a novel. Recommendation to your feet - Bela Banovina parliament building, Trg galerija square of galleries, the building of Matica Srpska, nightlife hot spot Laze Telečkog, Trifković square and St. Nicholas churchyard. And so on.

The Town Centre of Vrsac

The border of Vojvodina and Romania. A beautiful wine town at the foot of a hill. A walk in the center. The Roman Catholic Cathedral of St. Gerhard. The Orthodox Church. Concordia. Sterija house. The oldest pharmacy in the Balkans, on the stairs, with a permanent display of paintings of Paja Jovanović. Museum, the Egyptian collection. Two guns. Patriarch’s Palace. The grand hall “Millennium”. After that, up to Vrsac tower.
The Town Center of Kikinda


Arača, Novi Bečej

Fourteen kilometres from Novi Bečej is where, resisting the wind, remains one of the most important monuments of medieval architecture. What was once a settlement are now ruins of Roman church, which was in 1968 placed under state protection as a historic monument. It was built by an unknown Hungarian feudatory, Arača, and seen a turbulent history. At the end of the Middle Ages, a fortification was constructed here from which there is no trace. In 1551, the Turks, in the conquest of Banat, burned Arača. After that Arača gradually deteriorates, and only last year were the measures taken for its protection.

The Fortress and Lower Township of Bač

In Bač, near the Croatian border, is where the oldest medieval fortress in Vojvodina is located. And best preserved. During the Hungarian kings, Bač is an important military, political, cultural and ecclesiastical seat. City then defended by quadrangular tower with six floors. The fort was surrounded by trenches filled with water from the river Mostonga, which can be observed today. The fort was entered by a wooden bridge. Below the city is a civilian settlement, suburb. After the Battle of Mohács, Turks take over. The fortress is later burned, destroyed and abandoned. Today, the ruins silently observe from a low rise in which foot is the dry bed of the river Mostonga. She reminds residents of glorious times.
Hey, Farms!

If the blue waves of the Pannonian Sea replaced the yellow ears of wheat, then the farms in the plain are islands of sort. Pannonian Noah’s Arks with authentic people, animals and plants. Symbols of positive solitude, individuality, non-conflict life. Source of healthy mental energy of Vojvodina. The Golden Age of farms was the last century, somewhere between the two great wars. Today we are witnessing a renaissance of farm. Now they are farm-restaurants-motels with electricity and running water, but also rediscovering nature. Take a break from urban life, go to the farm. If not for a day or two, then at least an hour or two.

Ethnic Park Brvnara, Bački Jarak

The unique open-air museum. Testifies to the folk architecture of the Serbs from Krajina - the colonists. Ethnic-park consists of a main building, chalets, with a permanent exhibition on social and cultural life of the people of Bosanska Krajina.

Ethnic Park Kupinovo

Lower Srem. Twenty kilometres from Belgrade. Next to Obedska Bara lake. The village of Kupinovo. Came to exist as the lower township of the medieval town of Kupnik. The spirit of the old rural unit. Protected group of nine house gardens. Ethnic Park. The oldest house from the late eighteenth century. Other houses, mostly, the nineteenth century.
Famous people make the place where they live become famous. Once it comes to famous individuals, and sometimes remarkable group of people who find themselves in a place with no intention to be famous, but the sequence of events is such that they and the place where they found themselves become a part of history. We find ourselves at some point, accidentally or on purpose, not knowing that we are at a historic site, and we see the memorial to tell us about it.

**Place of the Karlovac Peace Treaty of 1699 (Chapel of Peace)**

It was built close to where one of the most significant events of recent history took place. In 1699 the famous Karlovac Peace Treaty was signed between the Christian Alliance (Austria, Poland, Venice, and Russia), on the one hand, and Turkey on the other, with the mediation of the Netherlands and England.

On this occasion, for the first time in the history of diplomacy a round table was used as a symbol of the fact that none of the negotiating parties was more privileged than others.

The chapel has identical doors, one on each of its sides for each negotiator in particular.

**Grave Site of Branko Radičević on Stražilovo**

Branko Radičević, lyricist, a romantic, first began writing poems in reformed Serbian language. He died young, in a foreign country in 1853. On the thirtieth anniversary of his death his remains were transferred to the home country and buried in Stražilovo, in the vicinity of Sremski Karlovci where he was educated. The stone blocks for the monument were brought from various parts where Serbs lived. During World War II, the tomb was destroyed and rebuilt again during the celebration of the centenary of his poetry.
**Iriški Venac**

Iriški Venac, the municipality Irig, near the town of Irig, a summit of Fruška Gora at 441 meters above sea level. Vicinity to the highway, petrol station, a parking and camping make this a popular picnic spot in the central part of the mountain. At Iriški Venac there is a monument, “Freedom”, built in 1951. in memory of the soldiers of the national liberation struggle.

**The Memorial Complex of Mihajlo Pupin, Idvor**

Scholar of world renown, Mihajlo Pupin was born in the small village of Idvor in Banat. There is now a memorial complex that includes the old school and Mihajlo's house. You can see the church where Pupin was baptized.

**The Conquest of the Srem Front, Adaševci, Šid**

Srem Front was conquered exactly at the 106th kilometre of the highway Belgrade-Zagreb. Right there, on the left bank of the river Bosut, near the village of Adaševci, a magnificent memorial “Srem Front” was built. Masterful composition by the sculptor Jovan Soldatović reminds all generations of one of the most decisive battles of World War II. The complex has a museum and gift shop.
Two million. And a little more. At least 30 different nationalities. Serbs, Hungarians, Slovaks, Croats, Romanians, Ruthenians. With them Muslims, Montenegrins, Ukrainians, Bunyevci Šokci, Germans, Macedonians, Albanians, Slovenes, Roma ... Many human varieties. A hundred worlds. A variety in one. In the words of a sage: Vojvodina is not a territory, Vojvodina is a mentality. The Vojvodina region for centuries absorbed new influences and new assimilation as a result of the great migration. Despite its turbulent history, changes of government, political systems, and states, Vojvodina managed to retain its distinctive characteristics: multinational, multicultural and multi-denominational.

Vojvodina is still one of the most ethnically and religiously heterogeneous European regions. Therefore, the only compact multi-ethnic community in the Balkans, with the right to the title of Europe in miniature, or miniature EU, if it may be said so. Official languages of the provincial administrative authorities are Serbian, Hungarian, Slovak, Romanian, Ruthenian and Croatian, which is another unique case for Europe. Ukrainian and Roma are taught by fostering language and national culture, and the Czech language is also one of official languages in the municipality of Bela Crkva.

The Ethnological Collection in Kupusina

Kupusina is a village in West Backa, halfway between Apatina and Sombor. The majority population is Hungarian, followed by Serbs, and Croats, Šokci. Museums and ethnological collection are housed in the old school in the village, show visitors the traditional values of everyday life of Kupusina population during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Exhibits, furniture, costumes and shoes, many of which, in the famous “Kupusina blue”, have been collected by the local population.
Agricultural Collection in Kulpin

The composition of the complex under the protection of the state, in addition to two castles has administration building, called blacksmith shop, stables, grain storage and a magnificent park of four hectares. A unique exhibition space was obtained by reconstruction of grain warehouses. Permanent collections show themed exhibitions: history of growing hops, hemp cultivation history, history of cultivation of broomcorn, history of cultivation of wheat, tobacco and pipes, history of cattle, dairy farming history, pig farming yesterday, today, tomorrow, traditional sheep farming in Vojvodina, tools and implements for ploughing.

1, 3, 4, 6, 8. Folk costumes
2. Ethno-gallery „Duga“, Selenča
5. Ethno-house in Selenča
7, 9, 10. The Agricultural Museum, Kulpin
11. Dida Hornjak’s grangefarm
EVENTS

Vojvodina peoples preserved their religious and popular festivities which eventually evolved into colourful festivals. From 1 January to 31 December each year the province sees over 1,000 events. These are a variety of art, literature, music, film, children's, folk music and similar events. In recent times, the highest number of visits is recorded by the so called pseudo-cultural festivals dedicated to sports and the economy (Bacon, Sausage, strudel fest, shepherd fest, pumpkin fest, grape fest, sports events ...).

Vojvodina – A Region of Cultural Summer

Summer reminds us of vacation and seaside and in Vojvodina the first association is culture. In almost all the cities of our province July and August are when the local governments organize cultural programs of collage variety. A little of everything, something for everyone. But culturally. Are we going to Nova Pazova, Šid, Ruma, Sremska Mitrovica, Vrbas, Sombor ...?

The Vojvodina Museum Nights

European and world trend of popularizing nightlife of museums caught on with us. Always on the same day, always in May, museums, galleries and various others, often refreshed for the night, exhibition spaces open to the audience during the afternoon, especially at night. Vojvodina towns, on this occasion, expose rich treasures to the night eye of the beholder. Whether because of a different culture or just a different nightlife, a river of people streams to cultural institutions. And museums are happy. A different night.

Exit Festival, Novi Sad

Summer music festival Exit has rapidly grown into an acclaimed musical event, both in the region and throughout Europe, thanks in part to a picturesque fortress from the 18th century on a hill overlooking the Danube, which is a haven of the festival. Exit was started by a group of students from the University of Novi Sad, in an attempt to provide to young Serbians an outlet against bad situation at the end of the last century in the country. Almost all of the significant names of the music industry today, as well as survivors of the good old days have performed at some of the stages of the festival in the Petrovaradin fortress.

1-2. EXIT Festival, Novi Sad
3. Zmaj Children's Games, Novi Sad
4. Novi Sad Music Festival (NOMUS)
5. Vojvodina Museum Nights
6. "Guitar Open" Festival, Subotica
Cinema city, Novi Sad

Every year, during the seven days of summer, Novi Sad becomes a huge international cinema with a rich film, music and academic programs at more than 20 locations. The festival awards 20 recognitions for domestic, international and “low budget” film. Film makers, theorists, critics and representatives of film institutions open very important topics for filmmaking and the film industry during the academic programs.

Novi Sad Music Festival (NOMUS), Novi Sad

Novi Sad Music Festival (NOMUS) was founded based on the idea of a prominent cultural worker Anton Eberst in 1975. The festival has grown rapidly into the central music event because it was a training ground for the presentation of the most successful Yugoslav performers and composers. In the eighties, poor reorganization of cultural life in Novi Sad first cancelled NOMUS for a few years, after which it was renamed “Novi Sad Music Autumn.” Thanks to the Music Youth of Novi Sad, the original name was restored in 1987. New attractions, distinctive visual identity and internationalization of the festival resulted in a more attentive audience and the expansion of young artists.

Sterija Theatre Festival, Novi Sad

Back in 1956, when rock and roll was born in the world, we established a national festival of drama and theatre, a competition called Sterijino Pozorje. The name was conceived in honour of the great Serbian comedy writer Jovan Sterija Popovic since those days were characterized by the 150th anniversary of his birth, and also the 100th anniversary of his death. The first Board of Sterijino Pozorje were, among others, and Ivo Andric, Veljko Petrovic, Mladen Leskovac, Vellbor Gilgoric, who precisely articulated the program objectives of this event: to improve the art of theatre and encourage the development of dramatic literature.

Zmaj Children’s Games, Novi Sad

Zmaj Children’s Games was one of the most important festivals for children in the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. It is still significant, only in somewhat smaller area. The festival is open each year in the house of Uncle Jova Zmaj in Sremска Kamenica, then a walk is organized to visit his grave site. After this little ritual, the games can begin. The first festival was held in 1958 then still under a different name. The organizer is Matrica Srpska from Novi Sad. The event brings together writers, illustrators, critics, publishers, editors and readers of literature for children in Serbia and beyond. Games have their own magazine, called logistic “Childhood”. Every June, for a few days, the entire main street of Novi Sad - Zmaj Jova street is a place for childhood joy.

“Guitar Open” Festival, Subotica

Subotica Guitar Open Festival, conceived in 2006, is a professional and expert event that gathers primarily classical and other guitarists and musicians of all kinds. At the time of the festival in the streets of Subotica one can see pupils of primary and secondary music schools, music academy students, their teachers and, finally, distinguished guests, the world’s leading musicians.

Dužijanca, Subotica

Dužijanca is a harvest festival of Bunjevci Croats. Its roots date back to ancient times. Today it is a cultural project organized by CCC “Bunjevačko kolo” of Subotica and identifiable event with a rich cultural and artistic program.
**Film Festival Palić**

Municipality of Subotica founded in 1992 the International Film Festival Palić. Conceived in the worst time, it has grown into an important European event. The former unpretentious Palić film evening has become European Film Festival with membership in the "European Coordination of Film Festivals."

**Amateur Theatre Festival, Kula**

Kula Republican Festival of Amateur Theatres presents the best amateur theatres Serbia, elected at previous festivals in Vojvodina, Belgrade and Serbia proper. The winner gets a gold, silver goes to the second place and third place is awarded a bronze medal. Prizes are awarded for acting achievements too.

**Višnjić Days, Višnjićevo**

More than three decades ago, during the few days of October in the village of Višnjićevo municipality Šid, Višnjić Days were held, in honor of the Serbian Homer - Filip Višnjić. The event, among other things, presents a literary competition and gives Višnjić Awards for Lifetime Achievement for outstanding contribution to culture and the promotion of exceptional talent in the literary, visual and musical creativity.

**Slovak Folk Festival, Bački Petrovac**

Matica Slovačka in Serbia every year in mid-August, calls to a broad audience to Slovak folklore festival and all the accompanying cultural and entertainment events. It always hosts thousands of people every day. Regularly since 1919.

**Sombor Theater Marathon**

Wise people from Sombor, from the National Theatre, decided two decades ago, to celebrate the end of the season in an original way. The event lasts for three days and three nights playing shows of Sombor and visiting theatres, theatre companies and students of the Faculty of Drama.

**International Folklore Festival Vršački Venac**

Open space of the main square in Vrsac, for more than a decade and a half, is the stage to the International Folklore Festival Vršački Venac. In the middle of summer, the Cultural Center of Vrsac, organizes this international festival of traditional dance.

**Srem Folk Fest, Sremska Mitrovica**

Every year in mid-August, on the outdoor stage on the excavation site of the old Roman city, this international folk dance show takes place. Before performing, the participants march the streets, the crowd welcomes them, and the team from the Centre for Culture Sirmiumart is satisfied that everything is well organized again.

**Pančevo - European Carnival City**

As the most important international carnival event in Serbia, Pančevo Carnival is a blend of different traditions and cultures from around the world. Pančevo, which has since the 19th century nourished carnivals, finds itself on the world map as a member of the Federation of European Carnival Cities (FECC).
CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

Museums

The word museum is derived from the Greek word muse. Muze of Hellenic world personified the individual branches of the ancient cultural creativity. The institution of a museum personifies the awareness of the importance of the past. The basic purpose of the witnesses of the past lies in resistance to decay. Many valuable things turned to dust during the tumultuous history of Vojvodina but some are still kept at respectable provincial museums.

The Museum of Vojvodina, Novi Sad

The merger of the Museum and the Historical Museum of Vojvodina in 1992 brought to life The Museum of Vojvodina. The areas covered by the institution of the highest cultural significance are: archaeology, history, art history, ethnology, conservation and restoration workshop, library, educational service. Worth a look.

The Novi Sad City Museum

The Novi Sad City Museum has, in over half a century of existence, collected more than 60 thousand objects that testify to the multinational cultural heritage of the city and its surroundings. In accordance with the practice of modern museological times, experts from the museum organize different programs, such as film festivals, literary events, creative workshops for the youngest and the like. Thus the Novi Sad City Museum is becoming a meeting point for great ideas, intercultural dialogue and a special cultural experience.

The City Museum, Sombor

Official opening of the museum came about in 1945. Writer Veljko Petrovic spoke at the opening event and appointed director was Milan Konjović. The first exhibition was a collection of Yugoslav painters owned by Pavle Bejlinski. Over time, the City Museum of Sombor has grown into an institution that covers the areas of Apatin, Očkari, Kula the city of Sombor.

The City Museum, Subotica

The Subotica City Museum attracts not only by the display but also because the facade which belongs to one of the most beautiful Art Nouveau buildings. It used to be a printing shop but it was recently refurbished and used for the museum. Exhibitions are displayed periodically, the art gallery is available to the public, a permanent exhibition in the pipeline.
The City Museum, Vršac

Discovery of large quantities of Roman coins at a site near Vršac, back in 1882 triggered the City branch of Vršac municipality to establish the museum. Today, the museum is in two buildings: Concordia, where permanent exhibition is planned, as well as the building called "Pharmacy on the Stairs", a cultural monument of great importance. In this latter there are permanent exhibitions “History of Medicine in Southeastern Banat”, “Remembrance of Paja Jovanović” and “Civic life of Vršac in the Second Half of the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century”. In the yard there is a permanent exhibition of natural history collection “Fauna of Vršac Mountains”. Interestingly, the City Museum in Vršac has a valuable Egyptology collection, unique to this region.

National Museum in Zrenjanin

National Museum in Zrenjanin is of national heritage character and covers an area of central Banat. The rich cultural heritage of the area in the field of nature, archaeology, ethnology, art and history is in safe hands.

National Museum Kikinda

National Museum Kikinda, founded just after the Second War, located at the former Magistrate of Great Kikinda District. Museum with its six departments (archaeological, ethnological, historical, natural, artistic and pedagogical) takes care of the territories of Kikinda, Čoka and Ada. Since 2006 it has kept the original remains one of the best preserved skeletons of a mammoth in Europe.

Museum of Srem

Museum of Srem, founded in 1885, is an institution engaged in research of tangible cultural heritage, in Sremška Mitrovica, and the whole region of Srem. It is located in two buildings from the 18th century, one of which, the Seat of Judiciary, used to be a building of military rule.

Ilijanum – Ilija’s Museum in Šid (Ilija Bašićević - Bosilj)

At the beginning of the seventies of the last century, a naive painter Ilija Bašićević Bosilj, a classmate of Sava Šumanović, in his words, rich in years, and of poor health, decides to donate most of his paintings to their home municipality. He explained his decision saying: "I believe that this my humble contribution to help the young ones, and perhaps the future ones, to have something more than what I personally miss a lot, and it’s culture". His intention soon resulted in the establishment of the Museum of Naive Art Ilijanum in Šid. The Museum has 317 Ilija's paintings, 21 paintings by 13 former Yugoslav authors, and 12 paintings by 8 artists from the US, France, the Netherlands, Germany and Poland. It seems that nowadays Bosilj is more sought for on a global scale than ever.

The museums that can boast their collections are also: National Museum of Pančevo, The City Museum of Senta, The City Museum of Bečej and The Heritage Museum of Ruma.
Galleries

Heritage galleries of art collected by institutions, associations, and very often, dedicated individuals. Art in galleries are left to the strict public scrutiny. Sometimes sales are organized. Not as complex as museums, but able to exceed them in size and significance.

Gallery Milan Konjović, Sombor

Collection Galleries, with over a thousand works, provides a cross-section of the entire creative life of the painter. Gallery organizes numerous exhibitions Milan Konjović at home and abroad. If you missed it in your place, or do not have the patience to wait to come to you, come in Sombor.

Gallery Collection of Pavle Beljanski, Novi Sad

A diplomat and collector of refined artistic sensibility, Pavle Beljanski, signed, in 1957, a Gift Contract with the leadership of Vojvodina. The agreement sought construction of exhibition space in Novi Sad, and his selection of the project and the construction site as well as monitoring its progress. All he asked was given. On the other hand, citizens of Novi Sad were given a functional building on the square Trg Galerija with 185 most important works of Serbian art of the twentieth century, with emphasis on the period between the First and Second World War, a total of 37 authors.

Gallery of Matica Srpska, Novi Sad

Gallery of Matica Srpska stemmed from the art collection of the Museum which was in 1847 established by Matica Srpska in Budapest. Since its inception, the gallery deals with the collection, preservation, study, presentation and interpretation of works of art of the Serbian cultural heritage. With its permanent exhibition and temporary exhibitions, it strives to educate the public about artists, their works and patrons in our community.

Art Gallery Sava Šumanović, Šid

Šumanović is the most important Serbian painter of the first half of the 20th century. His first and last days were spent in Šid. The painter’s mother donated 417 paintings and house from which he was taken away to be executed.
The Gallery of Naive Art in Kovačica

Since the establishment in 1955 until today, the Gallery of Naive Art in Kovačica retained the status of the centre of culture of this place. It collects and exhibits works of naive painters of Slovak nationality. The gallery organizes various cultural events, including Kovačica October, a traditional festival of the cultural life of Slovaks in Vojvodina.

Gallery of Modern Art - Art Encounter in Subotica

Gallery of Modern Art – Art Encounter has four collections including: painting, graphics, sculpture and ceramics. Its collection has more than 1,200 exhibits, including the authors who are some of the most interesting names of the artistic scene of the former Yugoslavia. The city in 1968 awarded the Raiche Palace to Art Encounter, the most mesmerizing building in Subotica. Art Encounter organizes various events, solo and group exhibitions of contemporary artists and international cooperation programs.

Centre for Fine and Applied Arts - “TERRA” in Kikinda

The main activity of the Centre for Fine and Applied Arts Terra is exhibiting, and it is implemented through solo and group exhibitions at the gallery Terra in Kikinda, but also in other locations in the country and abroad. In addition to exhibition activities, Terra Centre boasts an unbroken thirty-year tradition of organizing sculptural symposium of the same name, as well unique art event of its kind.
Theatres ask for the audience. Without the audience, the theatres are nothing. Are theatres in Vojvodina full or not? Or is it that at least someone is watching from the back row. An actor is alone without a viewer. Good performance is a good bait.

The Serbian National Theatre

The Serbian National Theatre was founded in 1861 in Novi Sad, in the former Austrian Empire, with the task - by dramatic literature and acting art – to raise the cultural level of the Serbs and thus resist the Vienna and Pest rule. The first manager was Jovan Đorđević. Until the World War I, the Serbian National Theatre was the favourite one among institutions. After World War I the situation of the theatre became less favourable because Vojvodina became part of the new state. After World War II it acquired the status of a national institution. As of December 1944 to December 1951 it worked under the name of Vojvodina National Theatre. Shortly after Opera and Ballet were founded. The SNP is a member of the European Theatre Convention, one of the most prominent European theatre associations. The Serbian National Theatre has always been one of the most important cultural institutions in the country, and we should not forget that it has initiated the establishment of other cultural institutions, such as Sterija Theatre Festival in 1956, The Academy of Arts in 1970, and the Theatre Museum of Vojvodina in 1982.

Vojvodina has a long and successful tradition of theatrical life. Charisma and results, in addition to the Serbian National Theater, characterize several theatre companies. Three Subotica: National Theatre, Children's Theatre, Koszolányi Dezső Színház. There are also the following: National Theatre “Tosa Jovanović” in Zrenjanin, Kikinda National Theatre, National Theatre Sombor, National Theatre “Sterija” in Vršac, Theatre “Dobrica Milutinović” in Sremska Mitrovica, Vojvodina Slovak Theatre in Bački Petrovac. Finally two in Novi Sad: Youth Theatre and Žujvidéki Színház popularly known as Ben Akiba.
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