# Serbian Winter Fairy Tale

(7 days – multi adventure)

From Italy to Serbia, the Dinaric Alps spread across 600 km long coast of the Adriatic Sea. Here, at the eastern gate of Dinarides, beautiful rolinghill mountains were attractive for living from the ancient times. This part of the Balkan Peninsula has a moderate continental climate with snow from December to March, good composition of the soil, nice forests of beech, oak, pine and spruce trees full of wildlife, a lot of wild fruit products and rich mining areas. Exactly here the first Serbian independent



medieval royal state was founded in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century. People who live here in remote villages are still keeping the customs and tradition of their ancestors. Scenic winter time is especially interesting to be there.

Our snowshoeing hikes are within the protected areas, along the high nature value



grasslands or preserved forests. We will visit two National Parks, one Biosphere Reserve and we will step into the habitats of the wild goats, bears and significant highland biodiversity and endemism centers of Serbia. Those mountains have one of the longest traditions of hiking and nature research in the whole Balkans. This is an opportunity to take a deep breath of the fresh mountain air in the pristine nature, to walk on snowshoes along the open

meadows and listen to the silence at the holiest place in Serbia.

Our hikes and activities are matching cultural heritage with rural households and stunning viewpoints over the canyons, valleys and mountains. We are visiting Studenica monastery, the oldest and historically the most important in Serbia. As a mausoleum of Nemanjic royal family, with amazing and well preserved fresco paintings from 13<sup>th</sup> century, it is under UNESCO protection.

You will be able to visit two main mountain resorts and the best ski resort of the Balkans while it is in its finest. And finally, we invite you to get to know local customs, taste the magnificent, authentic Serbian cuisine and experience the hospitality of people who live in villages surrounded by wild nature that resemble the dreamlike images which you can carry back to your home as the best souvenirs. Welcome to Serbian Winter Fairy Tale!



### Overview

**Departures in 2020:** to be announced

Best season: 15<sup>th</sup> December – 31<sup>th</sup> March

**Duration:** 7 days

**Group size:** max. 16 persons

### Hiking per day:

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
0 km	12,2 km	6 km	12,6 km	3,5 km	8 km	0 km

**Total hiking:** 42,3 km **Daily average:** 8,46 km

Maximum high reached: 2.017 m

**Travel mode:** tourist class AC car/van/minibus **Accommodation:** 1x Hotel\*\*\*, 5x apartments

Guides: Certified English speaking Mountain Leader (UIAA) & Licensed

English speaking Tourist Guide

Tour made by: Pavle Pavlovic PR Kraljevo, Tourism Consultant

#### **Highlights:**

Belgrade, The house on the Rock, Tara National Park, Banjska stena viewpoint, Zlatibor Mountain Resort, the oldest monastery in Serbia under UNESCO protection - Studenica, Biosphere Reserve "Golija-Studenica", Izubra Waterfalls, Kopaonik National Park, Snowmobile Tour, Zlatibor Gold Gondola ride.

#### **Important info:**

- Day 1 and Day 7 are changeable according to the flight plan; hiking distances and itinerary could be changed upon group request;
- All participants must thoroughly read and sign our *Acknowledgement of Risk* form before group arrive. If you are bringing a minor child that is not your own, you must arrange for this form to be read and signed by a parent or legal guardian of the minor child. A separate Acknowledgement of Risk form is required for each participant.
- One qualified and experienced UIAA Mountain Leader provided with Serbian licence and local knowledge. If group does not have their own Tour Leader who is UIAA or UIMLA Mountain Leader, than second guide must be provided by DMO with an extra charge.



# **Itinerary**

#### Day 1 (transfer 200 km)

Welcome at the airport & three hours transfer to the Bajina Basta. Foto stop at The house on the Rock. Optional visit of the Zaovine lake or short hike to the Oslusa viewpoint. Welcome dinner. Overnight at Tara Mountain.

Optional: distillery visit







### Day 2 (transfer 0 km)

*Breakfast.* Trekking to the famous Banjska stena viewpoint. Circular trek is going through the deep beach and spruce forests. *Lunch* in the nature. *Dinner*. *Overnight* at the Tara mountain.

Optional: alternative trails on the mountain







Length: 12,2 km
Total ascent: 395 m
Max. elevation: 1.125 m
Approx. hiking time: 6 hours

#### Day 3 (transfer 73 km)

*Breakfast and packaging*. Transfer to Zlatibor Mountain. Gondola ride to the highest peak Tornik. Lunch at the top. Downhill snowshoe to the ski centre. Transfer back to the accommodation. *Dinner and overnight*.

Optional: Crnjeskovo viewpoint, Mokra Gora, Sirogojno ethno village, Old pine forest, Stopic Cave





Total ascent: 100 m
Max. elevation: 1.500 m
Approx. hiking time: 2,5 hours

#### Day 4 (transfer 140 km)

Breakfast and packaging. Transfer to Devici village for trekking tour to the waterfalls of Izubra river, one of the main tourist attractions of Biosphere Reserve ''Golija-Studenica''. Our circular trail starts from 770 m of elevation and goes towards Izubra waterfalls. Beautiful winter landscapes of Golija and Radocelo mountains on the way. Lunch in nature. Transfer to Milice village, dinner and overnight.

Optional: The hermitage of Saint Sava







Length: 12,6 km
Total ascent: 730 m
Max. elevation: 1.180 m
Approx. hiking time: 6 hours

#### Day 5 (transfer 80 km)

Breakfast. Short transfer to the complex of the Studenica monastery, visit of the main church, Kings church and a treasury (if open). Transfer to Kopaonik, the largest ski resort of Serbia and a National Park in the same time. One hour of the Snowmobile tour. Lunch. Lift chair to the top of the mountain. Snowshoeing tour. Overnight at Kopaonik.

Optional: alpine skiing or snowboarding, night snowshoeing









Length: 3,5 km
Total ascent: 30 m
Max. elevation: 2.010 m
Approximate hiking time: 1,5 hours

### Day 6 (transfer 10 km)

Breakfast. Snowshoeing Tour. Lunch in nature. Spa relaxation. Dinner. Overnight at Kopaonik.

Optional: Wine Tour, Novi Pazar tour, Tandem Paragliding







Length: 8 km
Total ascent: 300 m
Max. elevation: 1830 m
Approx. hiking time: 4,5 hours

#### Day 7 (transfer 300 km)

Breakfast and packing. Transfer to Belgrade. Sightseeing of Belgrade. Free time. Transfer to the Nikola Tesla airport. Greetings.







# Trip costs & Reservations

#### **Price per person:**



Price upon request.

**Price includes:** transfers in accordance with itinerary without optional activities and visits (luggage transfer and transportation insurance included), accommodation according to itinerary (6 overnights), all meals with one drink included (6 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 6 dinners), Certified Mountain Leader (6 days), Belgrade sightseeing with licensed English speaking Tourist Guide (1 day), entrance tickets for the Special Nature Reserve Uvac, entrance tickets for the National Park Kopaonik and National Park Tara, organizational costs.

**Price excludes:** snowshoes and trekking poles rental (10 EUR per day); airfare tickets; travel medical insurance; personal costs and expenses; other drinks during meals; optional transfers, activities and excursions; voluntary basis donation for the Studenica monastery, gratitude.

**Single use:** Price is given for multiple rooms (twin, triple, 4 beds). If you wish to have your own room in the accommodation and if available, there is a single supplement charge of **XY EUR**. If you are traveling alone and would like to share a room, we will match you with a roommate. If a roommate is not available, we will not charge extra for this "forced single".

**Do not forget to bring:** deep waterproof and warm hiking boots and an extra pair of shoes, 20-30 l backpack, snowshoes and hiking poles (both possible to rent), a lot of dry fit and cotton T-shirts, sweater or warm fleece; water and windproof winter jacket and rain gear, long winter/ski pants and cotton leggings/underpants, gloves, underhat and a hat, a small headlamp, water bottle or thermos flask (min. 1,5 l), snacks, sun cream and a sunglasses, a hat, lip balm, camera, personal toiletries, slippers, valid passport and a smile ©.

**Info & Reservations:** Pavle Pavlovic

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# Map of the tour

