

Vinča is an archeological site located 15 km from Belgrade that marks the zenith of the European Neolithic. Between 5300 and 4300 BC the area of today's Serbia and the Central Balkans became the cultural centre of Europe, and a large settlement was formed on the site of today's Vinča. Archaeological findings from Vinča and other neolithic sites in this part of Europe changed the view of prehistoric man. The remains of the excavated settlements speak of a developed housing culture and the progress of civilization.

Good to know: 18 Roman emperors, one fifth of all Roman emperors, were born on the territory of today's Serbia. This is the largest number of emperors born in some province out of Italy. One of them, maybe the best known, was born in Niš, city in south of Serbia – emperor Constantine I, called Constantine The Great.

There are many ancient, prehistoric and medieval sites around Serbia, showing that this part of Europe was inhabited throughout history: Neolithic and Bronze Age settlements Bujanj in Niš, Gamzigrad – Romuliana, the palace of Galerius near Zaječar (late 3rd - early 4th century AC), Horreum Margi ancient settlement in Čuprija (2nd century AC), Medijana settlement in Niš (4th century AC), the Roman military settlement of Singidunum in Belgrade (2nd century AC), the small ancient city of Sirmium in Sremska Mitrovica (1st century AC), fort Timacum Minus near Knjaževac (1st to 5th century AC), the Byzantine city of Justiniana Prima near Lebane and others.



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REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT



ARCHEOLOGY RESEARCH and CULTURAL HERITAGE in Serbia

Lepenski Vir

is an archeological site located in the Đerdap gorge, on the banks of the Danube, close to the city of Majdanpek. It was the centre of one of the most important prehistoric cultures and the remains of religious architecture dating from 6500 to 5500 BC have been found at this site.

Artefacts found on this site include fish-like human heads, with fish or deer motifs and some intriguing inscriptions on them: symbols resembling the coordinate system, sketches, letters, numbers and landscapes. Besides this, it is also intriguing that the middle of the settlement was square-shaped, so it is assumed that the builders had certain mathematical knowledge. The settlement's square centre was presumably the place for conducting rituals, and it was found that people who lived here arranged different rock sculptures around their fireplaces.





Viminacium

Good to know:
Not all archeological sites are open to visitors throughout the year, but artefacts from all these sites can be found in many museums around Serbia, which are open all year round and charge either 2-5 EUR or no entrance fee.

Mammoth Park in Viminacium

The most famous and best preserved is a mammoth from Serbia named Vika, which lived in the prehistoric period, in the Miocene, 5,000,000 years ago. The mammoth was presumably female, about 60 years old. It was over 4.5 meters tall, over 5 meters long, and the live animal weighed over 10 tons. It was found in the basin of the river Morava, which was formed when the Pannonian Sea retreated.

Most of the archeological sites are constantly researched and maintained by experts from museums, archeological institutes and universities. If you are interested in visiting some of the sites as an expert or help fellow researchers maintain or further explore some of the sites, you can contact them via their websites. If you need any help in contacting fellow archeologists or curators from Serbia, you can write to StudyInSerbia@tempus.ac.rs.



There are many magnificent monasteries in Serbia, some dating from the 13th and 14th century, which keep the spirit of that time. Monuments around Serbia are a testimony of great suffering, but also great victories, in conflicts during Serbian history, but many of them are dedicated to certain men and women who made their contribution to the Serbian people but also to the world. It is a common thing for many cities to have a fortress dating from the Middle Ages, such as Petrovaradin in Novi Sad, fortresses in Smederevo, Golubac, Ram, Zaječar, Kruševac and others. Cultural and historical sites like Tešnja, the old quarter in Valjevo, the old quarter in Novi Pazar, Topčider in Belgrade or Sremski Karlovci town core are just some of many places of great importance and are protected by the Republic of Serbia.



Monasteries, monuments, and cultural and historical sites



Natural landmarks

Natural beauty of Serbia attracts many nature lovers, offering contrasts in its sceneries, unspoiled, sometimes rocky and a bit wild, such as Đavolja Varoš (Devil's Town) – a wondrous soft volcanic rock valley, the breathtaking Uvac, Drina and Danube gorges, many clean water springs and lakes, even a small desert-like area – Deliblatska peščara – the largest sandy terrain in Europe with numerous rare species of steppe plants and animals. On the other side, tamed hills of Šumadija, Pannonian plains of Vojvodina and vineyards of Vršac are always welcoming and offer peaceful and relaxing nature experience.

is a site with the remains of an ancient city and military camp, located at the confluence of the rivers Mlava and Danube, near Požarevac. The military camp at Viminacium came into existence when the Roman Empire spread to the Balkans, probably during the early decades of the 1st century AD, when the Romans first reached the Danube. Viminacium later became the capital of the Roman province of Upper Moesia (Moesia Superior), the administrative, economic, military and cultural centre of the area at the northern border of the Roman Empire (limes). Legion VII Claudius (Legio VII Claudia Pia Fidelis) was permanently located in the Viminacium camp, and the river traffic was controlled by the River Fleet Department.

Today, close to the place of the preserved remains of the Viminacium city and military camp, there is a scientific and research centre. It is a modern place for hosting international scientists and students, summer schools, congresses, etc.