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STATE UNIVERSITY OF NOVI PAZAR

GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

This guide is intended for international student coming to Novi Pazar within some exchange programs or individually. We hope that the information provided in this Guide will address your basic question regarding your mobility period in Novi Pazar and help you in your first weeks in the new environment.

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ACADEMIC INFORMATION

TYPES OF STUDY PROGRAMS OFFERED

The departments comprising the State University of Novi Pazar offer a variety of study programs at **Bachelor**, **Master** and **Doctoral** level.

COURSES FOR DEGREE SEEKING AND EXCHANGE STUDENTS (pay attention to language of instruction!)

All departments and study programmes details (teaching staff, teaching material, time tables and exams schedules, with a complete course catalogue are here: <http://www.np.ac.rs/en>)

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

The official language of instruction is Serbian. . However, there is a case of complete study programs **in English** (e.g. undergraduate program English language and literature study programme at the Department of Philology) or of some courses that could be provided in English (depending on the number of students). Foreign students will be offered consultations and literature in English in order to fulfill the obligations stipulated in their Learning Agreements. International Officers and Academic Coordinators at departments will provide more information about this.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE DATES

The academic calendar of the State University of Novi Pazar is as follows:

STUDY TERM	START MONTH	END MONTH	EXAMINATION PERIOD
Winter	October	January	20 January – 20 February
Spring	February	May	1 June – 15 July 20 August – 30 September

Note: Students are advised to arrive a week or two before the beginning of semester in order to complete all the necessary paperwork and when necessary find accommodation. Expected date of arrival is 15 September (+-3 days) for winter and 15 February for summer semester.

GRADING SYSTEM

Within the Republic of Serbia higher education system, a 5 – 10 grading scale is used (5 as fail, 6 passing grade and up to 10 for excellent performance).

LOCAL GRADES	ECTS GRADES	CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER OF POINTS	
			from	to
10	A+	excellent	95	100
9	A	exceptionally good	85	94
8	B	very good	75	84
7	C	good	65	74
6	D	sufficient	55	64
5	F	fail	0	54

ECTS credits

1 academic year -60 credits

1 semester – 30 credits

TAKING EXAMS

For schedules of courses or exams students should refer to the [department information boards](#) or [university website](#). When taking exams students usually need to apply for exam (fill in form). For each exam period there is a mandatory 5-day application period that student need to respect. More information can be obtained from the student service officer or from student-buddy.

SUNP ERASMUS ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISORS

DEPARTMENTS	ACADEMIC STAFF	ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
Department of Law science	Doc.dr Senad Ganić sganic@np.ac.rs	Jasmina Zoranić Head of student service jzoranic@np.ac.rs
Department of Economy	Prof.dr Milica Vujičić vujicmilica@yahoo.com	Vehbija Fetahović Student service officer vfetahovic@np.ac.rs
Department of Philology	Doc. dr Aleksandra Popin aleksandrapopin@sbb.rs	Dzevad Daca Student service officer dzdaca@np.ac.rs
Department of Philosophy	Prof. dr Dragan Bogdanović draganbogdanovic@gmail.com	Marko Gemaljević Student service officer mgemaljevic@np.ac.rs
Department of Technical sciences	Prof. dr Žarko Barbarić zbarbaric@np.ac.rs	
Department of Mathematical sciences	Doc. dr Dženis Pučić dzpucic@np.ac.rs	Senada Čatović Student service officer scatovic@np.ac.rs
Department of Chemical-tehnological sciences	Prof.dr Miloš Filipović milos.filipovic.50@gmail.com	Hana Halilović Student service officer halilovichana@np.ac.rs
Department of Arts	Prof.mr Ervin Čatović ecatovic@np.ac.rs	
Department of Biomedical sciences	Prof. dr Zana Dolićanin dolicanin_z@yahoo.com	Nihad Gilić Student service officer ngilic@np.ac.rs

The candidates need to make sure to fill in additional or supporting documents, during the application period, that are required for different categories of mobility. This means that communication with relevant departments of the State University of Novi Pazar is useful and in some cases necessary during the application process – to make a study plan, preliminary learning agreement, research and teaching plan, etc. Candidates are advised to contact the academic and administrative advisors at the department of their choice in order to receive detailed information on enrolment requests and entrance examination.

ENROLMENT

Exchange mobility programmes

Exchange students are enrolled as students of the State University of Novi Pazar for a limited period of time (duration of their exchange period) and will not graduate from the State University of Novi Pazar. They will only complete a portion of their study program and return to their home institution.

Exchange students will be enrolled **after arrival**. Students are enrolled at the level of the **host faculty** which has previously agreed to accept them. . The mobility is regulated by the inter-institutional agreements with all details on recognition.

Full-degree programmes

A foreign citizen can enroll in the status of a self –financing student (paying the full tuition fee of approximately EUR 600). All the documents necessary for the enrolment (in undergraduate, master and doctoral studies) must be translated into Serbian and sealed by an official court interpreter.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

APPLICATION

Domestic and international students directly apply and get enrolled in all levels of study at a certain department of the State University of Novi Pazar.

Candidates are obliged to present their original documents for inspection and submit their copies and certified translations and the application form. In order to be considered for admission, the following is required from all international applicants:

- Validated diploma or school leaving certificate of four-year secondary education, with the transcripts of records for each of the four years;
- Proof of Serbian language proficiency (B2 level);
- Proof of payment of the entrance exam fee;
- Application form, available at the Student Service.

ENTRANCE EXAM

Entrance exams are organized in the Serbian language. The candidates pay the entrance exam fee and other application-related expenses directly to the university bank account. The candidates have to show their passport or ID card when taking exam. In order to enroll, the candidates have to submit:

- Original documents (validated diploma or school leaving certificate of four-year secondary education, with the original transcripts of records for each of the four years of schooling);
- Birth certificate, with certified translation into Serbian;
- Proof of having health insurance for the current academic year;
- Two registration forms (the so-called ŠV-20, available at the bookshop on the ground floor.
- State University of Novi Pazar index (student booklet)
- Two photos 4.5x3.5cm and one phot 2.5 x2 cm;
- Proof of payment of tuition fee for self -financing students

The University reserves the right to require some additional admission documents.

REGISTRATION CALENDAR FOR DEGREE SEEKING STUDENTS

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

First enrolment competition	June – July
Submission of candidates' documentation	June
Entrance examination period	June – July
Enrolment	July
Second enrolment competition	September
Submission of candidates' documentation	September
Entrance examination period	September
Enrolment	September

MASTER STUDIES

First enrolment competition	October
Submission of candidates' documentation	October
Entrance examination period	October
Enrolment	October

DOCTORAL STUDIES

Enrolment competition	October – November
Submission of candidates' documentation	October - November
Entrance examination period	November
Enrolment	November

VALIDATION OF DOCUMENTS

All documents related to previous secondary education have to be validated and recognized by The Serbian Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development. Requests for recognition of foreign school certificates and diplomas are to be submitted personally or sent by registered mail to the following address: MINISTARSTVO PROSVETE, NAUKE I TEHNOLOŠKOG RAZVOJA Sektor za školske uprave, stručno-pedagoški nadzor i srednje obrazovanje i vaspitanje Nemanjina 22-26 11000 BEOGRAD. For all the information regarding this procedure, please contact **The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development** <http://www.mpn.gov.rs/?lng=lat>

Applications for the recognition of a foreign higher education document are submitted to the State University of Novi Pazar by filling in the form and enclosing the documentation as requested.

COSTS OF STUDYING

Costs of studying depend on the specific status a foreign student has at the State University of Novi Pazar. Students who hold the scholarship of the Government of the Republic of Serbia do not pay tuition fees, they are granted free accommodation, free health insurance.

Students, who independently enroll at the State University of Novi Pazar have to pay for the following (unless otherwise agreed and/or provided by the foreign visitor's status):

Tuition fees at all departments of State University of Novi Pazar are around € 600 (RSD 75000).

Textbooks and instruction materials are not included

STUDENT ORGANIZATION

The main student organization at the State University of Novi Pazar is the Student parliament. Its role is to resolve students' problems and improve their participation in the work and management of the University. They are also very active and organize various activities including student festivals, volunteering work, student excursions, etc. During winter semester some student organizations organize the so-called freshmen welcome parties. For details on Student parliament, please visit: <http://www.np.ac.rs/en/studenti/studentski-parlament-1>

BUDDY NETWORK

Student parliament has initiated Buddy Network to help incoming students. Buddy Network comprises State University of Novi Pazar students that are asked to contact their designated foreign student(s) before arrival, provide them with information and answer question that they might have, help the find accommodation, explain procedures and rules, help them with temporary residence application, enrollment and everyday life and activities. Using the Buddy Network is optional.

SERVICES AT THE UNIVERSITY

Within the University Campus, there is a health care centre, as well as university library, post office, banks, and bookshops. Departments of the State University of Novi Pazar are in charge of the academic services available to students.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

The Central University Library is located in the central building, second floor.

Reading room, the third floor, office 33

Working hours of the Library: Monday-Friday, 7:30 – 19:00

Librarian: Ajsela Kijevčanin

E-mail: bibliotekadunp@np.ac.rs

The Central Library primarily collects literature for interdisciplinary studies at our University. Within the consortium of Serbian libraries for joint acquisition (KoBSON), there is a possibility to access thousands of expert journals.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Medical services are provided by the Student Health Center located at the University Campus. All foreign students have to have medical insurance (either from their home country or purchased in Serbia). **Please check for validity of your insurance before your arrival!** There are many private practices in Novi Pazar where you can also seek assistance. It is advisable to ask your buddy to help you in case you need any medical treatment. Monthly health insurance for foreign students: € 66.

National health insurance Fund <http://www.eng.rfzo.rs/>

In case of medical emergency or illness students should follow procedure in their insurance policy. It is advisable to have a buddy with you if possible for procedural matters (whom to ask and how to proceed). Most doctors speak English.

<http://www.dznovipazar.rs/>

<http://www.poliklinikaramovic.com/>

<http://poliklinikagrlica.rs/>

SPORT

Novi Pazar is the sporting center of Sandzak. The University Sports Association coordinates the work and organizes various inter-university national sporting events. One can also take part in various other sports activities all year round (football, futsal, basketball, volleyball).

SERBIAN LANGUAGE COURSES

At the State University of Novi Pazar, you can learn Serbian at the Department of Philology. It offers a variety of Serbian courses:

-Survival Serbian

- Informal Serbian, organized by the members of the Student Parliament,

- Online learning platform- <http://centar.filfak.ni.ac.rs/sr-rs/>

- Various courses of Serbian for academic purposes ranging from A1 (Beginners) to C2 (Advanced) level.

It is important to note that these language courses are not free of charge. The tuition fee depends on the number of students. More information about these courses : <http://www.np.ac.rs/index.php/dep-filoloske-nauke>

Contact person: Nadija Rebronja
E-mail: nrebronja@np.ac.rs

THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE (IRO)

The International Relations Office of the State University of Novi Pazar considers the internationalization process as one of its main strategic lines, encouraging this process through the signing of agreements with foreign universities, institutions and enterprises.

Its main tasks are to:

- Plan, apply for and manage international projects.
- Strengthen cooperation and foment networking with foreign universities through the signing of agreements.
- Extend knowledge and seek cooperation with foreign companies and institutions.
- Develop cooperation programmes with third countries in the field of teaching and research.
- Manage mobility programmes for students, teachers, researchers and administrative staff.

SUNP INTERNATIONAL OFFICE CONTACT

Edin Dolicanin, Erasmus+ coordinator

Damir Skarep, IRO officer

Jasmin Delimedjac, IRO officer

Email: iro@np.ac.rs

State University of Novi Pazar,
Vuka Karadžića bb 36300 Novi Pazar
IRO office is located on the 1st floor (office 1)

VISA AND RESIDENCE

Non-EU citizens: Please consult the nearest Serbian embassy or [Ministry of Foreign Affairs'](#)-website for information whether you need visa. In case you need visa we will send you an invitation letter (one of the documents needed to apply for the visa). Please bear in mind that visa application process can take a month or more and that it is student's obligation to obtain this document on time. In case you do not need visa, follow the instructions for EU citizens considering the length of stay permitted before having to apply for residence permit.

EU citizens: For travel and stay of up to 90 days no visa or residence permit is required. Although EU citizens can enter Serbia with their ID-card **it is recommended that you use passport.**

Registration: Under the law **all foreigners** are required to register their residence (address in Serbia) at Internal Affairs Office (local police department) within 1 -2 days upon arrival. Hotels and hostels will do this automatically and student will be given a card with name and address. This document (card) is submitted when applying for temporary residence permit so, keep it. In private housing students will need to register themselves and bring with them: their passport, copy of owner's ID and copy of proof of ownership (purchase contract or similar). Buddy network of the University will help students with this procedure.

Temporary residence: For all stays longer than 90 days **all** students **must** apply for a temporary residence permit (before 90-day period is finished). Failure to do so is a violation of the Law on Foreigners and may result in monetary fine and deportation. The International Office asks all students to present either residence permit or proof that the application has been submitted within 80 days after arrival.

Documents for issuance of the temporary residence stay:

- passport (valid six months after the expiring of stay);
- registration of residence (see above);
- 2 passport-type photos (4x3cm);
- filled [forms](#) (3x);
- proof of the means of subsistence (scholarship or bank statement with minimum of 75 EUR per month) ;
- proof of valid health insurance;
- confirmation from the faculty of student status;
- proof of payment of administrative taxes (for stay up to 3 months around 90 EUR, for stay up to 1 year 135 EUR)

ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION AT THE UNIVERSITY

Upon arrival, all international students are obliged to register at International Relations Office.

The following documents uploaded during the application process or sent to our Office prior to arrival provide the basis for enrollment:

1. Application form
2. CV
3. Transcript of Records
4. Proof of Registration at the Home Institution
5. Copy of Passport
6. Learning Agreement
7. Motivation Letter
8. Language Certificate (English or Serbian B2)

The State University of Novi Pazar International Office and Student parliament BUDDY NETWORK, with the assistance of Student Service are there to support logistically all incoming students upon their arrival and during their stay such as Welcome Days for foreign students in specific mobility programs at the beginning of each academic year.

After registering at the International Relations Office of the State University of Novi Pazar, you are obliged to register the Office for Foreigners of the Ministry of Interior, submitting the following:

-2 photos

-Certificate from the State University of Novi Pazar

-Certificate from the Ministry of Education

-Form No.8 (request for issuing a temporary stay visa-for foreign citizens- in Serbian: Zahtev za izdavanje boravišne vize-za strance),3 copies, printed two-sided

- Proof of Accommodation (a certificate from the housing provider/hostel, dormitory, etc/,or personal presence of the flat owner in case of a private accommodation)

- CV in Serbian

HOW TO GET TO NOVI PAZAR

1. YOU CAN TAKE A FLIGHT TO BELGRADE AIRPORT

Belgrade Airport is 18 kilometers away from the Belgrade city centre ([Airport-Belgrade](#)) and 275 kilometers from Novi Pazar.



TAXI TRANSFER from Belgrade

Various travel agencies from Novi Pazar offer transfer from and to Belgrade airport in vans or cars. Price can vary from 3000 RSD to 5000 RSD depending if it is calculated per person or per vehicle.



BUS TRANSFER from Belgrade airport to the Central Belgrade Bus station

Tickets are available in the bus. Buses leave regularly in front of the Airport building. Taxi service is also available and prices are regulated (ask at the information desk at arrival).

1. Minibus line A1

Ticket price: 250 RSD

Travel time: 30 min.

Route: Airport - Novi Beograd - Central Railway Station (exit here) - Slavija

Frequency: 05.00 - 21.00 h

2. Local bus (GSP) line number 72

Ticket price: 120 RSD (**Note** : Belgrade uses an e-ticket service "BusPlus". Prepaid tickets are cheaper than those sold by the driver)

Travel time: 45 min.

Route: www.gsp.co.rs – exit Zeleni venac market (last station)



FROM BELGRADE TO NOVI PAZAR

Novi Pazar is some 275km south of Belgrade and it is well connected with the capital. Rail and Bus Stations are located in vicinity of each other.

Take a bus from the main bus station. Buses go very often, but it is recommended to take the ones which take the faster (highway) road.

Travel time: around 5 hours, depending on the route taken and traffic.

Ticket price: EUR 10 <http://www.bas.rs/redvoznje.aspx?lng=sc>

SHORT INFO - Novi Pazar

Novi Pazar is located in southwest Serbia, in Raška District. It lies in the valley of the rivers Jošanica, Raška, Deževska and Ljudska, on the plateau Pešterska visoravan, 280 km away from Belgrade. It is surrounded by the mountains Golija and Rogozna. **The name of the town dates back to the 15th century.**

The founder of the town is the **Turkish Isa-Beg Ishaković**, who built it near the medieval fort Trgovište, also known as Ras. The spa-towns Novopazarska banja and Rajčinovića banja are situated in the direct vicinity of Novi Pazar.

This area is known for its **numerous historic-cultural monuments**, the most important of which are: Petrova crkva, Đurđevi stupovi (endowment of Stefan Nemanja) from the 12th century, Sopoćani Monastery from the 13th century, Town-fortress with an observatory tower from the 15th century and Amir-Aga Han (roadside inn)....



Arap mosque foto: Sasa-Maricic

The Hasan Celebi mosque is one of the oldest mosques in Novi Pazar. It was first mentioned in 1528, but there are no reliable data about its founder. According to a legend, Hasan Celebi was an Arab. Among other mosques, there are the **Hadži-Hurem (Bor) mosque** and **Lejlek (Havale Ahmed-bey or Ahmed-bey Silhadar) mosque**.

The oldest building in Novi Pazar is the **Metropolitanate (Mitropolija)**, which is a remarkable example of traditional architecture of the late 18th century. **The Church of St. Nicholas** in Novi Pazar is recognizable by the large iconostasis.

Top 10 reasons to visit Novi Pazar:

1. Try Novi Pazar's Specialty Ćevapi and Mantije



Mantije at Sidro

2. Visit Sopoćani Monastery



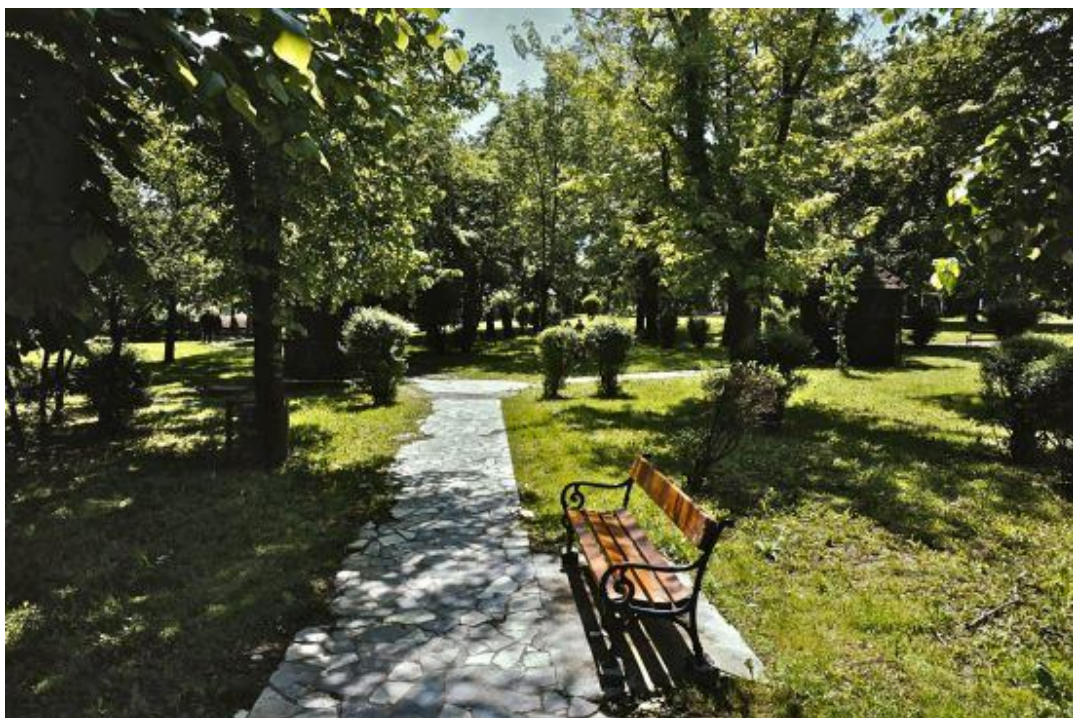
Sopoćani Monastery
Courtesy of Bojan Milović

3. Have a Drink at One of the City's Countless Cafés



Jazzva
Courtesy of Jazzva

4. Spend an Afternoon in the City Park at the Old Turkish Fort



City Park
Courtesy of Husein Djulović

5. Explore the Bustling Streets of the Old Town



1. Maja

Courtesy of Ilma Gudžević

6. Sample a Traditional Turkish Coffee



Turkish coffee

Courtesy of Jessica Collins

7. Get Some Fresh Air in the Surrounding Hills and Countryside



Hills around Novi Pazar
Courtesy of Ivana Slavković

8. Attend a Live Music Performance at One of the City's Pubs and Bars



Live music at Studio Dory
Courtesy of Husein Djulović

9. Enjoy a Meal for under €5 at a Restaurant on the Pedestrian Street



Pedestrian Street
Courtesy of Ilma Gudžević

10. Browse the City Market on a Sunday



Green Market
Courtesy of Husein Djulović, Taken from <http://novipazar.greeters.info/>

LIVING IN NOVI PAZAR

From the bus station you can walk or take a taxi. Taxi is not very expensive. It is around EUR 0.80 to the city centre (avoid offers from unregistered taxi) to your place of residence. We recommend having a buddy waiting for you there.

ACCOMMODATION

Private accommodation: Private accommodation is an affordable and convenient solution. The price for a single room apartment is between 100 and 160 EUR per month (depends on the location and amenities) excluding utilities. Rent for bigger apartments range between 150-250 EUR. Utilities include heating, electricity, garbage disposal etc. and range from 50 to 100 EUR per month depending on real costs or number of residents. The International Office can give advice but does not offer or provide private accommodation. The State University of Novi Pazar Buddy Network can be of assistance with finding accommodation. From previous experience exchange students find accommodation relatively quickly.

Hotels and hostels: We recommend using hotel or hostel for the first few days if you do not have apartment reserved. There are several of them near the city center and one near the University Campus. Prices range from 8-20 EUR per night but for longer or group stays discounts can be negotiated. Students can stay in a hostel before finding private accommodation or when friend are visiting. Useful websites:

<http://tonp.rs/?lang=en>

<http://hoteltadznd.com/>

<http://www.hotelvrbak.com/>

<http://www.hotelatlas.rs/>

LIVING EXPENSES

A studio flat costs between 100-150 EUR/month. Additional expenses for utilities (heating, water, garbage disposal etc.), telephone, electricity, cable TV, are around 30-60 EUR and depend on the city area and size of the apartment. Food in supermarkets costs about the same as in most EU countries. Local grocery stores have higher prices and are therefore not recommended for bigger shopping. Bigger supermarket chains (such as Maxi, Aman, Idea,) offer considerably lower prices and special promotions. There are numerous restaurants and cafés where you can eat for around 3-5 EUR or less. Most places will also offer vegetarian menu and you can eat different fish specialties, but in general food in Serbia is dominated by meat. In average you will need around 300-400 EUR to cover your basic living expenses (rent, food and living).

Most supermarkets, accept credit and debit cards (Visa, Visa Electron, Master, Maestro, Diners), which is not always the case in the shops and restaurants in Novi Pazar. Please check the acceptability of the cards at a specific place before making any purchase.

CLIMATE

Novi Pazar has a four-season moderate continental climate. Autumn is longer than spring, with long sunny and warm periods. Winter is not severe, with an average of 22 days of sub-zero temperature. January is the coldest month, with an average temperature of -2°C. Spring is usually short and rainy, while summer arrives abruptly. The average annual temperature is 10.4°C. In a year, the average rainfall is 900 mm.

SHOPS

There are many shops in the pedestrian area of the city center. There are also several smaller and bigger shopping malls with most of the familiar labels. Prices vary from shop to shop and depend on the label, but clothes and shoes can sometimes be more expensive in Serbia than in EU countries.

TRANSPORTATION IN NOVI PAZAR

Most of important places are walking distance.

TAXI – For those who are in a hurry there are several TAXI companies in Novi Pazar. Please always use official taxi companies (like “Mega”, “Maxi”, “Kes”). Price is per kilometer but one ride in city should not be more than couple hundred of Dinars. Non-regulated taxi drivers may approach you (at the bus station) but their price will be significantly higher. We advise caution.

EXPLORING THE CITY AND SURROUNDINGS

Novi Pazar is an easygoing city. Find out more at: [Novi Pazar on Wikipedia](#). You can walk to most places but if you are in a hurry you can use public transportation, taxi or bike. You can explore numerous cafes and clubs in the city center, walk (or hike) along the Raška or rest in one of the city parks. The night life is very diverse. There are places to go out in the centre of Novi Pazar, mainly bars or cafés until midnight. After that there are still some bars and night clubs open. Drinks cost about 120-140 dinars in average (which is around 1-1,2 EUR).

SAFETY

Novi Pazar is considered to be a safe city with relatively low crime rate. Students should exercise common sense with regards to their behavior and actions. Any lost or stolen property should immediately be reported to the proper authorities. Please take care of your passports. If you are living in a rented apartment avoid making noise after 22h.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Emergency telephone numbers: Police 192 ; Fire Department 193 ; Ambulance 194

International dialing code for Serbia is +381, but for making calls abroad from Serbia dial 00.

USEFUL WEBSITES

The official website of Novi Pazar: <http://www.novipazar.rs/lat/>

Tourist Organization of Novi Pazar: <http://tonp.rs/>

National Tourism Organization of Serbia: <http://www.serbia.travel/home.779.html>

Novi Pazar greeters <http://novipazar.greeters.info/>

<http://serbia.superodmor.rs/novi-pazar>

USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT SERBIA

CYRILLIC LETTERS AND LANGUAGE

Serbian is a South-Slavic language. It is mutually intelligible with Croatian, Bosnian and Montenegrin and similar to Macedonian, Bulgarian and Slovenian. For some incoming students Serbian is hard to learn, but those from Slavic countries will pick up the similarities easily. Cyrillic letters are used, but it is common to use both. For more information see: [Wikipedia](#).

CURRENCY

Legal tender is Serbian **Dinar (RSD)**.

Denominations: 1, 2, 5, 10 and 20 Dinar (coins);

10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1000, 2000 and 5000 Dinar (banknote).

1 EUR = around 123 RSD (*exchange rate fluctuations are to be expected*)

Please see the official exchange rate for EUR at the National Bank of Serbia :

<http://www.nbs.rs/export/sites/default/internet/english/scripts/ondate.html>



Foreign currency can be exchanged in all banks and post offices (but their exchange rates are less attractive), as well as in many authorized exchange offices (in Serbian Menjačnica). They can be found on every corner (literally) and they do not charge any commission.

BANK ACCOUNT

There are a lot of different banks in Novi Pazar. Most of them are foreign-owned (Intesa, EFG, Halk Bank, Hypo-Alpe-Adria Bank, Raiffeisen Bank, Société Générale etc.). These banks are independent of their parent companies. All banks offer accounts for non-residents, please contact the bank directly if you want to open an account. You can use the ATMs to make cash withdrawals or your cards to make payments.

MOBILE PHONE

There are three operators for mobile telephony in Serbia and all offer special promotions for new customers. All companies also offer HSDPA internet access:

:: **TELENOR company** Part of the Telenor Group (Norway). For their latest promotions and rates check: www.telenor.rs

:: **MTS company** The largest and state-owned mobile network operator in Serbia and it is also present in Bosnia and in Montenegro. For their current offer check their website: www.mts.telekom.rs

:: **VIP company** The newest mobile network operator in Serbia, owned by Telekom Austria. It has attractive offers and discounts on mobile phones. Check their website for all the latest information: www.vipmobile.rs

INTERNET AVAILABILITY

Broadband internet access is widely available (cable, ADSL, wireless), but it depends on your accommodation (ask for details). Prices and speeds are changing (currently for 15 Euros per month you can get 4Mbit or faster flat rate). There are many cafés with free wireless internet and faculties have their own computer rooms and/or wireless internet access. If you have EDUROAM account you can use it at the Campus as well. You can also use HSDPA (High Speed Mobile Internet) provided by mobile network operators - please check their websites for latest offers and information. In some parts of the city center you can access the free Wi-Fi city network.



EXPLORING SERBIA

For exploring Serbia we recommend using buses, which are more reliable than train.

Belgrade is the capital of Serbia. It has about 2 million inhabitants and a very vibrant life. You can also visit the fortress, numerous museums or concerts. Other recommended activities include visit to cultural-historical monuments, monasteries, mosques, Guča Trumpet Festival (held annually in August), EXIT music festival in Novi Sad (annually held in July) rafting, visit to the mountains, skiing etc. Serbian sites so far added to the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites: **Studenica monastery, Stari Ras and Sopoćani, Mediaeval Monuments in Kosovo** and **Gamzigrad – Romuliana**. Also, the **UNESCO MAB Council** has declared part of the Golija nature park as the **Golija-Studenica Biosphere Reserve**.

Typically Serbian

- It does not take long for foreign visitors to Serbia to discover the **hospitality, kindness, openness and warmth** of the country's residents.
- **Shaking hands**, done using the right hand, is customary when being introduced or meeting somebody of either gender.
- **Kissing** is not a necessity when meeting somebody for the first time, but every time you meet from then on, if you have developed affection for the person in question, kissing three times on the cheeks is the order of the day in Serbia. Of course, nobody will object if you only kiss once or twice while giving a long and sincere hug.
- Toasts are made by clinking glasses, making direct eye contact and loudly proclaiming "*Živeli!*" A speech is usually only made on formal occasions, normally by the host, but a guest may give one, too.
- Serbs enjoy rich and flavoursome **food** and normally have three meals a day, with lunch being the largest.
- **Paying the bill** in restaurants is a big part of the Serbian mentality. The host will almost never allow a guest to pay for lunch, dinner or drinks because it is customary for the host to take care of all expenses while a guest is staying with him or her.
- In contrast to the rest of Europe, there is no single day of the week in Serbia when you cannot have a **night out** and that holds true for all generations, for all lifestyles and musical tastes and for all available budgets. After a wild night out, somewhere around three or four o'clock in the morning, people continue onward in search of grilled meat or *burek*.

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