# Bohemian Kafanas by Night, a Fortress Above the Danube — A 5-Day Serbia Itinerary

Five days in Serbia's two largest cities — Belgrade's Kalemegdan Fortress perched over the meeting of the Sava and Danube rivers, a candlelit dinner among Skadarlija's bohemian kafanas, and the Nikola Tesla Museum, before a short train ride north to Novi Sad, where the Petrovaradin Fortress and its crooked clock tower loom over the Danube. A day trip to the Baroque wine town of Sremski Karlovci rounds out the trip, with real hotels and 2026 prices for every stop.

| DURATION | BEST TIME TO GO | FROM |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **5 Days** | **April-June or September** mild temperatures for walking and wine-country day trips, ahead of the summer heat spike and after the crowds; the Sremski Karlovci grape harvest runs into September | **$550 USD / person** for 2 people, incl. 4 nights' lodging, the Belgrade-Novi Sad train, and a Sremski Karlovci wine tasting |

## Day 1 Belgrade Arrival & Kalemegdan Fortress

*A first afternoon on the ramparts where the Sava meets the Danube, then a candlelit dinner in Belgrade's old bohemian quarter.*

### Airport Transfer — Belgrade Nikola Tesla Airport to City Center

**~30 minutes · shuttle bus ~$6 USD, taxi ~$25-30 USD one-way**

The A1 minibus runs from the airport to Slavija Square roughly every 30 minutes for a few dollars; a metered taxi from the official rank is faster and costs about the same as most European capitals.

### Kalemegdan Fortress & the Sava-Danube Confluence

**~2 hours, self-guided · park free, Military Museum ~$3 USD / person**

A fortress rebuilt more than 40 times across two millennia, its ramparts now a park looking straight down on the point where the Sava River pours into the Danube — the Victor monument and the old Military Museum's tank collection sit inside the walls.

### Dinner — Sesir Moj, Skadarlija

**~2 hours · $20-30 USD / person**

Skadarlija's cobbled, lantern-lit street has been Belgrade's bohemian quarter since the early 1900s, and Sesir Moj ("My Hat") is one of its oldest kafanas, serving grilled meats and Serbian wine to the sound of a live tamburitza band most nights.

**Sesir Moj** · https://www.sesirmoj.rs/

### Overnight — Hotel Moskva

**From $110-140 USD / night, for 2 people**

Belgrade's landmark pink Art Nouveau hotel on Terazije Square, open since 1908 and once host to Alfred Hitchcock and Albert Einstein, with a century-old patisserie counter in the lobby.

**Hotel Moskva** · https://www.hotelmoskva.rs/en/

## Day 2 Nikola Tesla Museum & Saint Sava Temple

### Petrovaradin Fortress & the Clock Tower

**~2.5 hours, self-guided · grounds free, casemate tunnels tour ~$5 USD / person**

Nicknamed the "Gibraltar on the Danube," this 18th-century Habsburg fortress looks down on Novi Sad from across the river, its lopsided clock tower — the hour and minute hands are reversed in size so river boatmen could read the time from far off — the most-photographed spot in the city.

### Dinner — Dunavska Street, on your own

**~1.5 hours · $15-25 USD / person**

Novi Sad's pedestrian old town is lined with cafes and restaurants along Dunavska and Zmaj Jovina streets, an easy walk from the fortress bridge back across the Danube.

### Overnight — Hotel Leopold I

**From $130-160 USD / night, for 2 people**

A hotel built directly into the walls of Petrovaradin Fortress, its vaulted stone rooms and courtyard restaurant making it one of the more unusual places to sleep in the region.

**Hotel Leopold I** · https://www.hotelleopold.rs/en/

## Day 4 Sremski Karlovci's Wine Country

*A Baroque wine town a short ride from Novi Sad, and a tasting in the vineyards of Fruska Gora.*

### Bus or Taxi — Novi Sad to Sremski Karlovci

**~25-35 minutes · bus ~$2 USD, taxi ~$15-20 USD one-way**

Local bus line 60 runs from downtown Novi Sad to Sremski Karlovci several times an hour; a taxi is faster and easily shared between two people for about the same per-person cost.

### Sremski Karlovci Old Town

**~1.5 hours, self-guided · free**

A pocket-sized Baroque town that once hosted the 1699 treaty ending the Great Turkish War, its pastel-colored Patriarchal Court, Orthodox cathedral, and Serbia's oldest grammar school all within a five-minute walk of the main square.

### Wine Tasting, Fruska Gora Winery

**~2 hours, tasting of 5-6 wines · ~$20-25 USD / person**

Sremski Karlovci has made wine since the 18th century, prized for its amber dessert wine, bermet; family-run cellars around the town square offer walk-in and reservable tastings of bermet alongside local reds and whites grown on the Fruska Gora slopes just outside town.

### Overnight — Hotel Leopold I

**From $130-160 USD / night, for 2 people**

A second night inside the fortress walls back in Novi Sad.

## Day 5 Return to Belgrade & Departure

*A last train south along the Danube before the flight home.*

### Train — Novi Sad to Belgrade

**~1 hour · ~$4-8 USD one-way**

The same line back south, with the Fruska Gora hills visible off to the west for much of the ride.

### Departure Transfer — City Center to Nikola Tesla Airport

**~30 minutes · shuttle bus ~$6 USD, taxi ~$25-30 USD one-way**

The same A1 shuttle line closes the loop back to the airport, with bags collected from the hotel that morning for anyone with an afternoon flight.