



SARAJEVO OPEN 2024

FIRST INFO

The Skating Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina would like to extend our warmest welcome to all competitors, event officials and guests of the ISU members to

Sarajevo Open 2024

which will be held at the Sport Hall Mirza Delibašić-Skenderija, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, from February 14th to 17th.

This guide provides important information you will need as you prepare your trip to the host city – Sarajevo.

MARKING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1984 WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES IN SARAJEVO

February will be the month in which we will celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Sarajevo 84 Winter Olympic Games. On this occasion, many cultural and sports events will be organized in Sarajevo, such as indoor and outdoor concerts, art exhibitions, specially adapted museum exhibits, workshops and competitions in winter Olympic sports.

We are proud that Sarajevo Open 2024 has been declared as the main sporting event. The numerous guests from the world of sports, medal winners from 1984 will honour us with their presence in that period. We are especially happy that the ice dance couple who marked the history not only of the Olympic Games but also of our sport, Jane Torvill and Christopher Dean, will make our competition an opportunity to enjoy their performance once again.

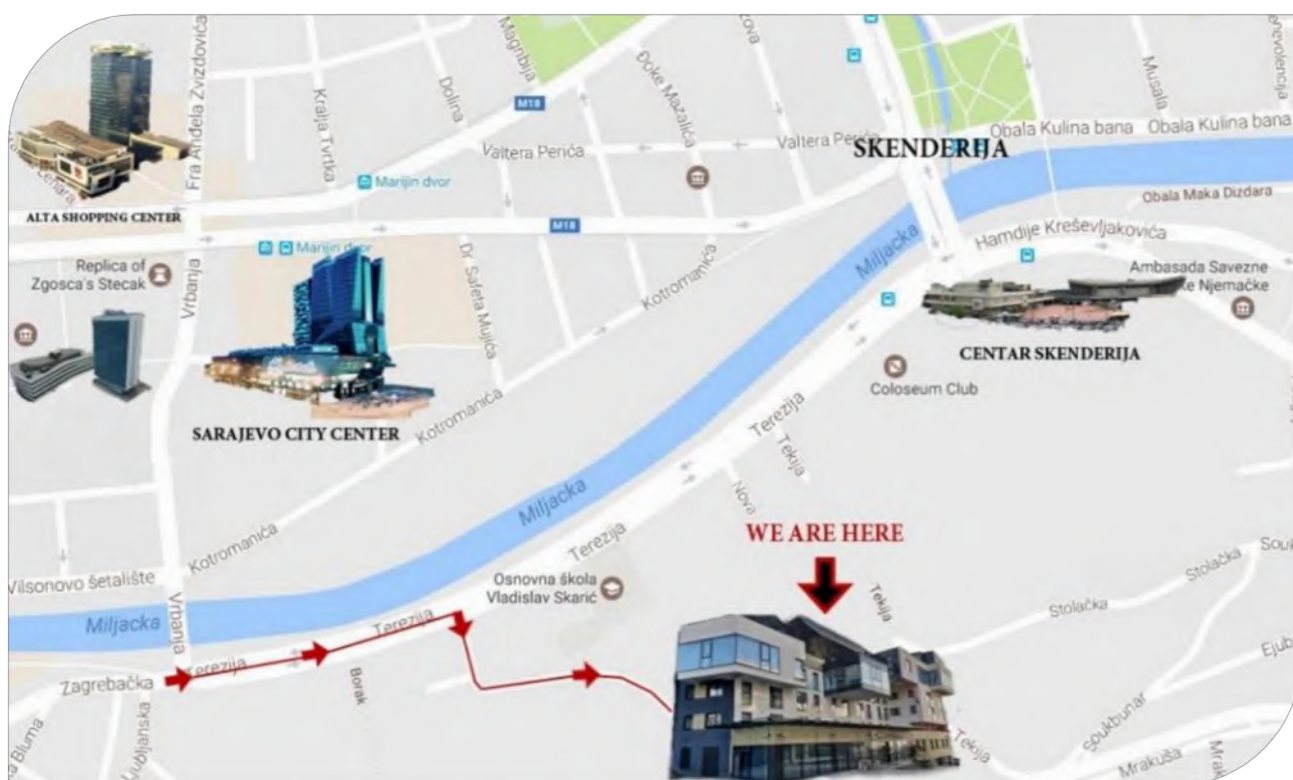
We will share more information about The Program Marking the 40th Anniversary of the Winter Olympic Games in Sarajevo 1984 in an update of this First Info.

OFFICIAL HOTEL – APARTHOTEL CENTER SARAJEVO

DESCRIPTION OF THE HOTEL

APARTHOTEL CENTER SARAJEVO is a newly opened facility in the centre of Sarajevo, and belongs to a group of four-star hotels. The features that would be especially highlighted are a unique location for anyone who likes to be in the center of the city and again pleasantly distanced from the city noise, making the pleasant vacation guaranteed. The hotel is located in Skenderija, close to the main events of the central and large events organized in the city of Sarajevo (Youth Centre, Skenderija plateau, Mirza Delibašić Hall, Zetra Olympic Hall etc.) The hotel has a total of 79 units, of which 10 are rooms, 9 studio apartments and 60 apartments with one, two, three or four bedrooms. All units are exclusively equipped with high quality and modern furniture, with the implementation of the most up to date hotel

technology in terms of reputation in the world-famous hotels. The total capacity of the hotel is 380 people (basic beds) with possibility of expanding the capacity through extra beds. Luxury apartments and rooms in our hotel will give your guests an unforgettable experience. All rooms and apartments have a flat-screen TV with cable channels, a wi-fi connection, a separate bathroom, a hairdryer, safe and other equipment available during your stay. Also, all apartments have fully equipped modern kitchens. As part of the offer, the hotel provides a free garage spot under video surveillance, both for passenger cars, minibuses and buses. This property serves breakfast at the base of a buffet. We have vans and more passenger vehicles in case there is a need for transportation of guests, organization of tourist tours, etc. Prices and pictures are included. We are available for any additional questions. In the hope of achieving future business cooperation, we warmly welcome you.





SERVICE OFFER



ADDRESS: Muamera Omerbegovića 14, SARAJEVO, Bosnia and Hercegovina

RECEPTION: +387 33 257 400

FAX: +387 33 257 402

WHATSAPP/VIBER: +387 61 484 493

MAIL: aparthotel.cs@gmail.com

HOTEL MANAGER: +387 61 223 791

MAIL: haris.ahcs@gmail.com



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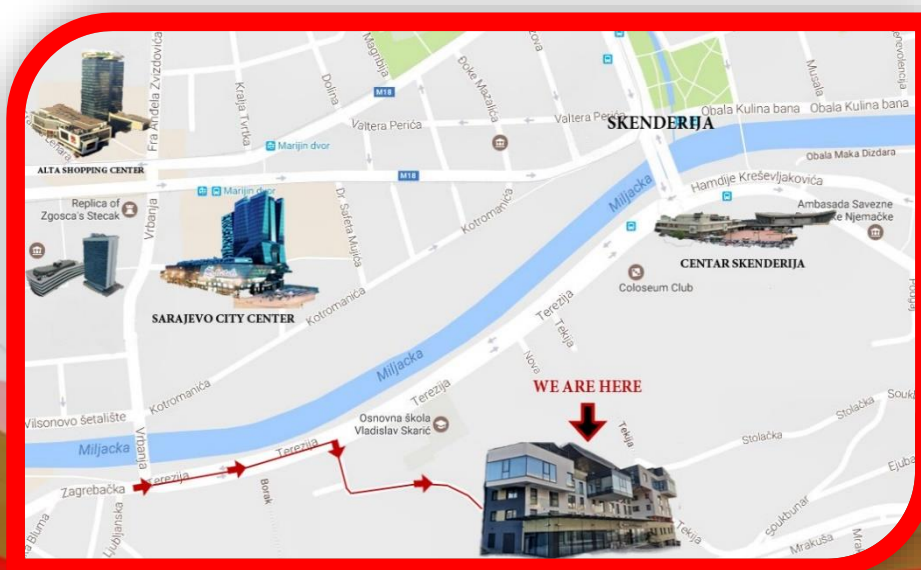
We are able to offer you our hotel and apartment accommodation service. Also, we are able to provide you with space for any type of event or social gathering. We're offering you a very attractive space that is an ideal place to hold conferences, presentations, meetings, seminars, team building etc. (Rooftop room on the hotel with a panoramic view of the city).

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OFFER FOR ACCOMMODATION SERVICES

R/ BR	TYPE	TYPE OF UNIT	PRICE PER PERSON / 1 NIGHT (EUR)									
			GUEST NUMBER									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	ROOM	PRESTIGE ROOM - king size bed + bathroom	80,00	40,00								
2	STUDIO APARTMENT	STUDIO APARTMENT - Studio apartment with king size bed + pull-out bed + kitchen + dining room + bathroom	80,00	40,00	35,00	30,00						
3	APARTMENT	PRESTIGE APARTMENT (1-BEDROOM) - Apartment with 1 bedroom (1 king size bed) + living room with pull-out bed + kitchen + dining room + bathroom + toilet	85,00	42,50	40,00	35,00						
4		SUPERIOR APARTMENT (2-BEDROOM) - Apartment with two bedrooms (with king size beds) + living room with pull-out bed+ kitchen + dining room + two bathroom + toilet				45,00	40,00	35,00	30,00			
5		EXCLUSIVE APARTMENT (3-BEDROOM) -- Apartment with three bedrooms (with king size beds) + living room with pull-out bed+ kitchen + dining room + two bathroom + toilet				50,00	45,00	40,00	35,00			
6		PENTHOUSE APARTMAN (4-BEDROOM) - Apartment with four bedrooms (2 bedrooms with king size bed, 2 room with single beds) + living room with one pull-out bed + kitchen + dining room + 3 bathroom				60,00	55,00	50,00	45,00	40,00	37,50	35,00

PRICE INCLUDE:

- Breakfast
- Wireless WI FI internet
- Underground garage with video surveillance
- Accommodation for children up to 6 years of age (max. one child FREE up to 6 years of age per booked accommodation unit)
- Baby cot (subject to availability upon guest request)
- The price of the overnight stay includes VAT 17%

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Residence tax (up to 12 years - not subject to residence tax; from 12-18 years – 0.50 EUR/1 night; from 18 years – 1.00 EUR/1 night)
- Laundry services (washing and ironing of guests' personal belongings), price according to the valid price list
- Late check out after 11:00 a.m., price according to the valid price list
- The resulting damage if the damage was caused by the fault of the guest

AIRPORT SHUTTLE:

EUR 18.00 per person / in two directions (airport-hotel / hotel-airport) - TRANSFER RESERVATIONS NEED TO BE MADE IN ADVANCE

ADDITIONAL MEALS:

LUNCH/DINNER – 23,00 EUR per person/pear meal (only for groups over 15 people) **Breakfast:** 07:00-10:00 **Lunch:** 13:00-16:00 **Dinner:** 18:30-21:30
 Additional meals price does not include the consumption of drinks (except the welcome drink)

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CANCELATION :

- The reservation must be made in writing to: aparthotel.cs@gmail.com
- If there is a change regarding the period of stay or cancellation of the reservation without notifying the hotel in writing at the email: aparthotel.cs@gmail.com at least 48 hours before the day of arrival, the full price of the reservation will be calculated and charged for the entire period of the planned stay.

-Guests and users of the hotel's services are obliged to comply with the hotel's house rules

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ENTRY VISA INFORMATION

With the right papers, entering Bosnia and Herzegovina is easy. Procedures at both the borders and the airport are standardized and uncomplicated.

Citizens of the following countries are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 90 days within the six-month period from the date of first entry:

Andorra	Hungary	Qatar
Argentina	Ireland	Romania
Australia	Iceland	Singapore
Austria	Italy	Slovakia
Belgium	Japan	Slovenia
Bulgaria	Republic of Korea	Serbia
Canada	Latvia	Spain
Croatia	Liechtenstein	Sweden
Cyprus	Lithuania	Swiss Confederation
Czech Republic	Luxembourg	Turkey
Denmark	Mexico	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Estonia	Monaco	Ireland
Finland	Netherlands	United Arab Emirates
France	Norway	United States of America
Germany	New Zealand	
Greece	Poland	

Article 5 (Visa-free regime for citizens of **Azerbaijan**)

(1)

Citizens of Azerbaijan who are holders of valid ordinary passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 90 days within a period of six months from the date of first entry.

(2)

Citizens of Azerbaijan who are holders of diplomatic and service passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of

Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 30 days and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

Article 6 (Visa-free regime for citizens of **Brazil)**

(1)

Citizens of Brazil who are holders of valid ordinary passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina for a period of stay not exceeding 90 days, while the total length of stay does not exceed 180 days period per year from the date of first entry and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

(2)

Citizens of Brazil who are holders of diplomatic and service passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 90 days and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

Article 8 (Visa-free regime for citizens of **Indonesia)**

Citizens of Indonesia who are holders of diplomatic and service passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 90 days and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

Article 9 (Visa-free regime for citizens of **Israel)**

(1)

Citizens of Israel who are holders of valid ordinary passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 90 days within a period of six months from the date of first entry.

(2)

Citizens of Israel who are holders of diplomatic and service passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 90 days and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

Article 10 (Visa-free regime for citizens of **Kazakhstan)**

Citizens of Kazakhstan who are holders of diplomatic and service passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 30 days and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

Article 11 (Visa-free regime for holders of valid passports of **the People's Republic of China, passports of **Taiwan** and passports issued by the **Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China**)**

(1)

Citizens of the People's Republic of China who are holders of diplomatic, service and business-ordinary passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit,

and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 90 days and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

(2)

Taiwan passport holders, as well as holders of passports issued by the Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong and Macao) are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 90 days within a period of six months from the date of first entry only if the passport contains the ID card number.

Article 13(Visa-free regime for citizens of **Malaysia**)

Citizens of Malaysia who are holders of ordinary, diplomatic and service passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina for a period of stay not exceeding 90 days and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

Article 14(Visa-free regime for citizens of **Moldova**)

Citizens of Moldova who are holders of diplomatic and service passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 90 days and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

Article 15 (Visa-free regime for citizens of the **Russian Federation**)

(1)

Citizens of the Russian Federation who are holders of ordinary passports, Seaman's book (to be in possession of certificate of vessel documentation) and identification document (travel document) for their return to the Russian Federation are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina for a period of stay not exceeding 30 days within every 60 days period from the date of first entry and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

(2)

Citizens of the Russian Federation who are holders of diplomatic and service passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 90 days and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

Article 16 (Visa-free regime for citizens of **Ukraine**)

(1)

Citizens of Ukraine who are holders of valid ordinary passports, child travel document, Seaman's books and identification document for their return to Ukraine are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina for a period of stay not exceeding 30 days within the two months from the date of first entry and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

(2)

Citizens of Ukraine who are holders of diplomatic and service passports are exempted from the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, and transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 90 days and in compliance with concluded international agreement.

Article 17 (Visa-free regime in the case of possession of a Schengen visa or a residence permit in the countries which are signatories to the Schengen Agreement or in the European Union member states)

(1)

Citizens of the countries with whom Bosnia and Herzegovina has a visa regime may enter Bosnia and Herzegovina with passport and without the obligation to obtain a visa for entry, exit, transit and stay on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina only if they have a valid multiple entry Schengen visa or a visa issued by the EU member state or the proper residence permit in the Schengen Area or the European Union member state and after inspection done by the Border Police of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(2)

Provisions from the paragraph (1) of this Article are valid only if holders of the Schengen Visa or a visa issued by the European Union member state or the proper residence permits in the Schengen Area or the European Union member states are coming to Bosnia and Herzegovina

From:

- a) Country which is signatory to the Schengen Agreement
- b) European Union member state
- c) c)Country which signed the Readmission Agreement with Bosnia and Herzegovina that have entered into force.

(3)

A period of stay in Bosnia and Herzegovina in cases of this Article is possible up to 90 days within a period of six months from the date of first entry while the one continuous stay in Bosnia and Herzegovina cannot be longer than 15 days and within validity period of a visa or residence permit issued by the country of the Schengen Area or the European Union member state.

(4)

Provisions from paragraph (1) of this Article do not apply to persons who are forbidden to enter, exit, transit through or stay in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

For more information about the above visa exemption program, please visit the official website of **Ministry of Foreign affairs**. The website link is provided below:

https://www.mvp.gov.ba/konzularne_informacije/vize/default.aspx

TRANSPORTATION



By Plane

Sarajevo airport (www.sarajevo-airport.ba, 033 289 100) is located at the base of Mount Igman.

The airport is 12 km from the town centre. There are no shuttle buses but there is a bus line from the airport to Bezistan (Old Town) provided by the Public Transportation Company "Gras" (www.gras.com.ba). In the cold months, early-morning flights may be delayed or cancelled as the area is sometimes covered with heavy fog until late morning or later. But usually this airport is a pleasure to arrive at and depart from.

You can change money at the airport exchange desk, rent a car from one of the car rental booths located in the arrival hall, and, in case you need to contact your hotel, buy a phone card at the post office.

The airport is open from 5 a.m. until 10 p.m.

By Car

Bosnia and Herzegovina have begun major construction on the C5 corridor that will link BiH with major motorway routes to the Croatian coast to the south and Budapest to the North.

Road conditions **have drastically improved** in the past year making driving throughout BiH a safer and more pleasant experience. The road system in BiH tends to be rather curvy as many of the main motorways are constructed through mountain valleys. Although you may not be able to travel by car at the speed of other European destinations, driving from town to town in Bosnia and Herzegovina is as pleasant as driving gets.

There is lots of beautiful scenery, the roads tend to be quiet, and there are plenty of quality places to stop for a drink or a meal. Some of the country's best restaurants are right next to a major road. There is little chance of running out of petrol in the middle of nowhere as there are many petrol stations along all major routes. Equally comforting is the number of garages. For relatively little money, the '**AUTOMEHANICAR**' will make repairs and the '**VULKANIZER**' will fix your flat tire.

We do offer a **few warnings** whilst traveling by car in BiH:

- Take a good map with you. Road signs in some areas are frequent and accurate but they may suddenly be gone altogether.

- Road signs in the Republika Srpska are mostly in Cyrillic.
- The law stipulates that you always have to carry a spare tyre, a jack, an extra headlight bulb, a first-aid kit, a tow rope and a hazard triangle. During routine police check you may have to show that you do indeed have all that.
- In the winter period, snow chains are vital.

By Bus

The bus system of Bosnia and Herzegovina functions well. Centrotrans/Eurolines and a range of smaller bus companies have reliable bus routes to many locations throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina.

There are daily bus routes from neighbouring Croatia and Serbia. Bus travel is reasonably priced and a one-way ticket to the furthest in-country destination from Sarajevo will not cost more than 20 euro. At the smaller stations, you pay when you get on the bus. At the main bus stations, you are meant to buy your ticket at the ticket booth, but even there you can normally get it on the bus as well. Usually there is an extra charge of 1 or 2 KM for each sizeable bag you carry with you.

Useful terms

place of departure – **mjesto odlaska**

destination – **destinacija**

day of trip - **dan voznje** (**Pon** – Mon, **Uto** – Tue, **Sri** – Wed, **Cet** – Thu, **Pet** – Fri, **Sub** – Sat, **Ned** – Sun)

time of departure - **vrijeme odlaska**

search – **pretraga**

departure – **odlazak**

arrival – **dolazak**

duration – **trajanje**

price – **cijena**

Centrotrans is a Eurolines member and runs regular buses from many European destinations to Sarajevo. Bus schedules, on-line reservations and main European office addresses can be found on the Centrotrans website: www.centrotrans.com.

By Rail

Getting around by train is a little slower than other modes of transport, but much more comfortable. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, trains are punctual and low-cost. Bosnia and Herzegovina is a member of the Interrail system so train lovers from the rest of Europe can easily include Bosnia and Herzegovina in their travel plans. For more information visit: www.zfbh.ba and www.zrs-rs.com.

By Boat

Bosnia and Herzegovina have only one tiny strip of coast at Neum and there are no ferries that dock there.

With seasonal schedules, ferries do come from Italy (Ancona and Bari) to the ports of Split and Dubrovnik. If you are traveling by car, these ferries may save you traffic jams along the Croatian coast. If you do not have your own means of transport, you will find the transfer to the bus stations at the port (in Split) or close to it (in Dubrovnik) easy and hassle-free.

If you are a ferry person, check the ferry companies websites: SEM (www.sem-marina.hr), Jadrolinija (www.jadrolinija.hr) and Adriatica Navigazione (www.adriatica.it). right at the coast of the Semantics, a large language ocean.

HEALTH



The chance of getting one of the standard travellers' illness' is very slight, as drinking water throughout the country is excellent and food hygiene is good.

Bosnia and Herzegovina have no legal requirements for vaccinations. **To find a pharmacy, ask for 'APOTEKA'.** In major centres, there are many of them, and there is usually **at least one that is open 24 hours a day.** These pharmacies will generally have all regular prescription drugs readily available. There are many public health clinics in Bosnia and Herzegovina and some very good doctors in most towns. **It is advised to contact your embassy if you need medical attention,** as embassies usually have lists of doctors they have good experiences with.

SAFETY

You are going to Bosnia? Are you sure? Why would you do that? Is it safe there? Aren't there mines? You can't come to Bosnia and Herzegovina without having this conversation. Apart from the mines, **Bosnia and Herzegovina is one of the safest places in Europe.** Violent crime is virtually non-existent. For men and women alike, walking the streets of any town or city at any time of day or night is a relatively safe bet.

MONEY



Originally, the KM was pegged to the German mark. With the introduction of the Euro, the KM changed its peg without the least bit of trouble (1.95 KM for 1 Euro). There are many ATM machines in all major towns and cities. **US dollars, British pounds, Yens and other major currencies can be exchanged at the banks and exchange offices that are present in most major towns. They also swap your leftover KMs back into any of these main currencies.** Most banks do not have a fixed fee, but take a percentage of the total amount. As this percentage varies, you should do a bit of research before exchanging large amounts of money. Although credit cards are increasingly widely accepted in major towns, you should not rely on them.

VISA and Master will be accepted in most places.

INTERACTING WITH LOCAL PEOPLE



Even without the increasing number of tourists visiting BiH, the locals are more than familiar with guests from every country in Europe, North America and the Near & Middle East.

Local people will almost always be very friendly. This is common to the region but Bosnian hospitality is something special. **Bosnians will go out of their way to assist you in finding something and often invite someone to their home for a coffee.** Once you enter someone's home as a guest, expect the red-carpet treatment. Rich or poor, your host will most certainly serve you coffee, followed by an offer of cigarettes. The unwritten rule is never to light up without offering the people around you a cigarette as well. More than likely the host will bring out sweets (biscuits or chocolate) and if the energy is right out coming the local spirits and food. Coming from the west, one might see it as going a bit overboard, but the tradition of treating guests like one of their own is taken seriously. **Most young people will speak English,** as it is taught in all the schools from an early age. American movies are popular here and many people have learned English from watching films.

In western Herzegovina and northern Bosnia many people speak German. Over 300,000 refugees lived in Germany during the war and many more lived and worked in Germany before the conflict began. For the most part, young people here don't want to speak about the war or politics. They would rather hear about new music, cool movies, good books or just shoot the breeze with you. The older generation often brings the war and

politics into conversation. **As a visitor you will see BiH has a very dynamic blend of all walks of life.** Some women dress in more traditional styles or will be covered. That by no means makes them different or unapproachable.

BUDGETING



If you are used to Western Europe and North America, you will find Bosnia and Herzegovina surprisingly inexpensive. Food, going out, transport: it all costs very little and the prices get even lower when you leave the urban centres.

Most food in Bosnia and Herzegovina is of high quality and very affordable. A fine meal in a good restaurant will cost some 10-15 euro, including modestly priced beverages. If you have much less to spend it is possible to have a 3 KM meal with pies and yoghurt or to get affordable food from any of the many supermarkets. **Going out is possible whatever your budget.** Transport between cities is very reasonably priced. Mostar to Sarajevo will cost you between 10 and 18 KM, for example. **Within town, buses are always cheap, but taxi prices depend on the town you're in.**

EATING AND DRINKING

From whatever angle you look at it: the people in Bosnia and Herzegovina take eating and drinking very seriously. Traditional foods are very hearty and mainly meat based.



Meat is extremely well prepared and often organic. In the urban centres one can find a wide range of great quality restaurants serving mainly Italian, Mediterranean, Viennese and traditional cuisine.

Water

Almost every town has one of more public fountains – often to be found in front of the mosque – and the water is invariably excellent. There are roadside fountains as well, built long ago for travellers, and most mountain walks will pass by small springs and streams of sparkling fresh water. **In short, you have no worries when drinking the water in Bosnia from the tap or elsewhere. It is probably higher quality water than you have at home!**

Coffee and tea

When in Rome, do as the Romans do. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, we drink coffee. It is the backbone of social life. Nowadays, coffee is widely available and affordable. **The traditional coffee is 'BOSANSKA KAFA'.** It is similar to what the rest of the world calls Turkish coffee, and **it is served with oddly-shaped sugar cubes and 'RAHAT LOKUM' (Turkish delight).** By now, espresso and white coffee are available everywhere in towns and cities. In town, an espresso will cost you 2 KM. The other coffees are more expensive. In villages, you may well get your Bosanska kafa from 1 KM. There is a tea drinking tradition as well. You'll enjoy your tea most if you drink what the locals drink. Don't ask for black tea with milk. People here don't drink it, don't know about it and don't serve it well. Try the herbal teas instead. There are a great many types and they generally have a very nice fragrance. They are often organic and come straight from the forest.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police	122
Fire	123
Emergency	124
Roadside Assistance and Road Conditions	1282
International Phone Operator	1201
International Directory Enquires	1183
Local Directory Enquires	1182
Time	125