

PRISTINA 30. MAY – 2. JUNE 2018

This time the trip went to Pristina, which is the capital of Kosovo. This is European Capital No. 37, which we visit. We drove to [Dalen Parkering](#) as usual and parked the car there. Then we were transported by Dalen to the airport. We traveled with [Norwegian](#). The airplane departed from [Oslo Airport Gardermoen](#) at 15.10 and was arriving at Pristina Airport at 18.35.



[Oslo Lufthavn, Gardermoen](#)

It was expanded in 2017, so it is now about twice as large in area as before.



[Pristina International Airport.](#)

A little about [Kosovo](#):



Kosovo's location in Europe



Flag



Coat of arms

The area where Kosovo is located today has belonged to many different states. From approx. year 100 AD, it became part of the Roman Empire. From around 700 to 1455, the region became part of the Bulgarian empire, the Byzantine Empire and then to the Serb medieval states. It was then conquered by the Ottoman Empire. In 1912, the country was placed under Serbia and in 1918 it became part of Yugoslavia, as part of Serbia. In 1999, the United Nations got control over the province following NATO's military intervention and following a resolution by the UN Security Council. On February 7, 2008, the Kosovo parliament declared independence as the Republic of Kosovo, with a partial international recognition of this declaration. From Wikipedia: [Kosovo](#) and [History of Kosovo](#).

A little about [Pristina](#):



Pristina's location in Kosovo



Coat of arms

Pristina is the capital of Kosovo; 200 000 inhabitants (2011), almost all are Albanians. Prior to the conflict in Kosovo in the last part of the 1990s, the city had a Serbian population of approx. 40,000. The number has since sunk to 2000.

The regional parliament and the UN (which governs Kosovo from 1999) have their headquarters in the city.

Some industry, including textile and food industry. International Airport. Artwork. University (1970), museums. Imperial mosque and Turkish bath from the 1400s. The city suffered some damage when it was bombed by NATO in 1999.

This is taken from [Store Norske Leksikon](#)

When we arrived at the airport in Pristina, there was a taxi driver waiting for us. We had booked a transfer through the hotel. The trip from the airport to the hotel took about half an hour and cost 20 €.



We had booked at the [Royal Hotel & Spa](#). We had booked a room with a terrace, but when we arrived we got a room without a terrace. We protested. Then we looked at several rooms before we decided. We took this room.



This is the front desk. Everyone was very gentle and friendly, but there were a few details that were not good enough. We booked a hotel with a restaurant, but the restaurant was closed and the breakfast was rather simple to be a 4 star hotel.



The room looked like this. The mattress in the beds was not good and the pillows were hard.



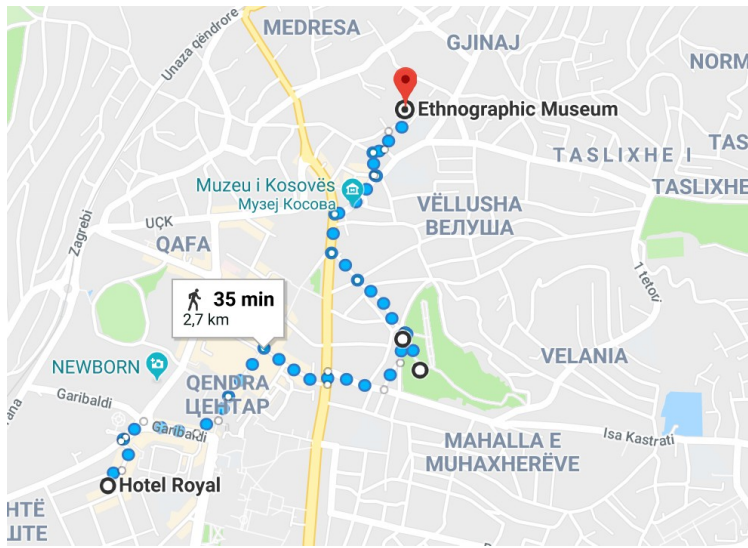
Here we are at Gardermoen before the departure. We had pizza.



When we arrived at the hotel we wanted to have a meal in the restaurant, but when we were told that the hotel restaurant was closed, we walked straight nextdoor where there was a small restaurant.



The restaurant is called [Frame](#). Here we wait for the food. We ate there every day and we were mostly satisfied with the food. Most dishes were very good.



The following day we took a sightseeing tour. We followed about this route.



When we had walked along the street we noticed this building. It is called Palac mladeze a sportu (Palace for Youth and Sports). It was completed in 1977. It has two arenas with space for 8000 and 3000.



Further afield we saw [the Cathedral of Saint Mother Teresa](#). The plans were approved in 2007 and it was opened in 2017. It is one of the largest buildings in Kosovo.



Further on we looked towards the [National Library](#). The building was opened in 1982. It is a rather special building with 99 domes.



Here we have passed the National Library.



Then we came to [Church of Christ the Saviour](#). It was scheduled to be completed in 1999, but the construction was interrupted by the war in 1998-99. It is uncertain what will happen to it. Many want it demolished.



Then we reached the city park. This bust is at the entrance where we entered.



In the park there was a small cafe.



We had to have a break and a beer here before moving on.



This is the most common beer brand in Pristina.



Flowers and trees in the park.



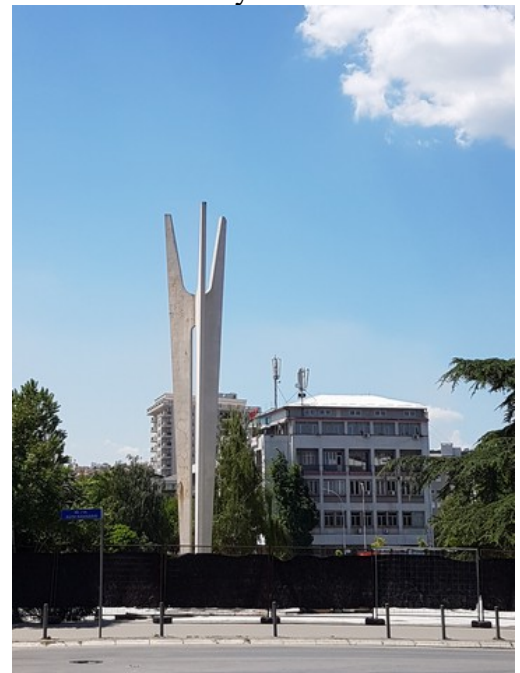
On our way we passed past the mosques '4 Lullat' and Hasan Beg. I do not know anything about them.



Here we come to yet another mosque. It is called Carshia and is the oldest building in Pristina. It stood in the middle of the bazaar of Pristina, which does not exist anymore.



Here we see it from another angle.



When we turned around we could see this monument called Permendorja. For brotherhood and unity for Pristina.



This is the Kosovo museum founded in 1949. It is the largest museum in Kosovo.



Then we arrive at the Jashar Pasha Mosque from 1834.



This is a [clock tower](#) that stands at the college.



The minaret at the [Emshirit-mosque](#).



The last stop of the walk was at [the Ethnological Museum](#). The entrance.



One of the houses. Other houses appeared to be undergoing rehabilitation.



A well at the museum.



When we had arrived so far, we were tired, so we took a taxi back to the hotel. We had lunch at the restaurant next to the hotel.



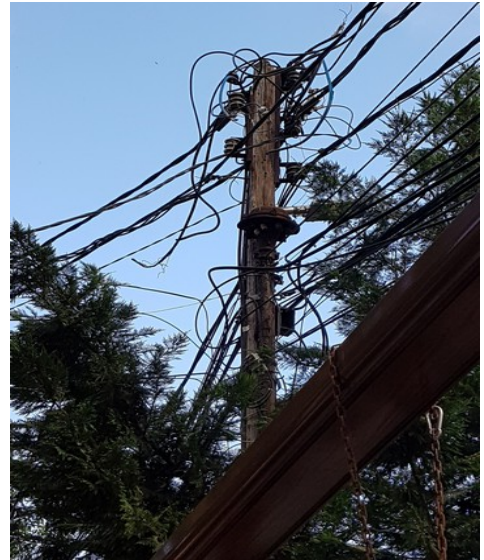
Another picture of the restaurant.



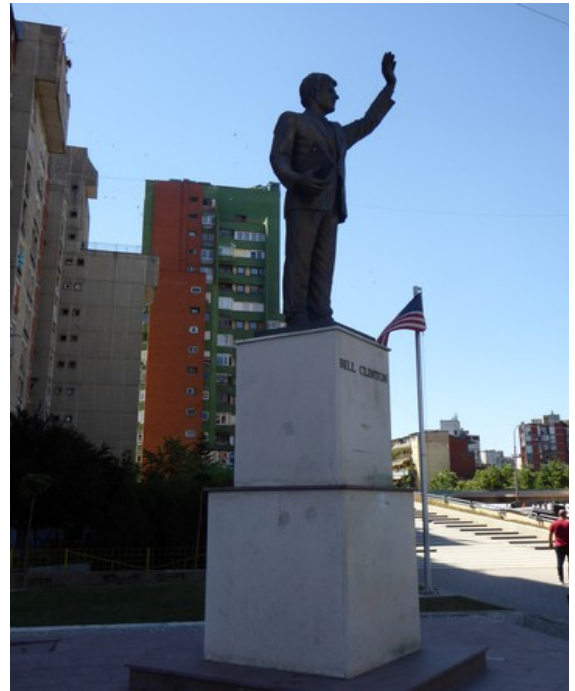
Here we are waiting for the food.



I ordered a tuna salad.



A mast outside the restaurant. I am always impressed that electricity can go through such wires.



The next day we also went for a round. The first stop was on [Bill Clinton Boulevard](#) where there is a statue of US Former President Bill Clinton. The people wanted to thank Bill Clinton for his involvement in ending the war in 1998-99.



Then we're back to [the Cathedral of Saint Mother Teresa](#) which is at a junction.



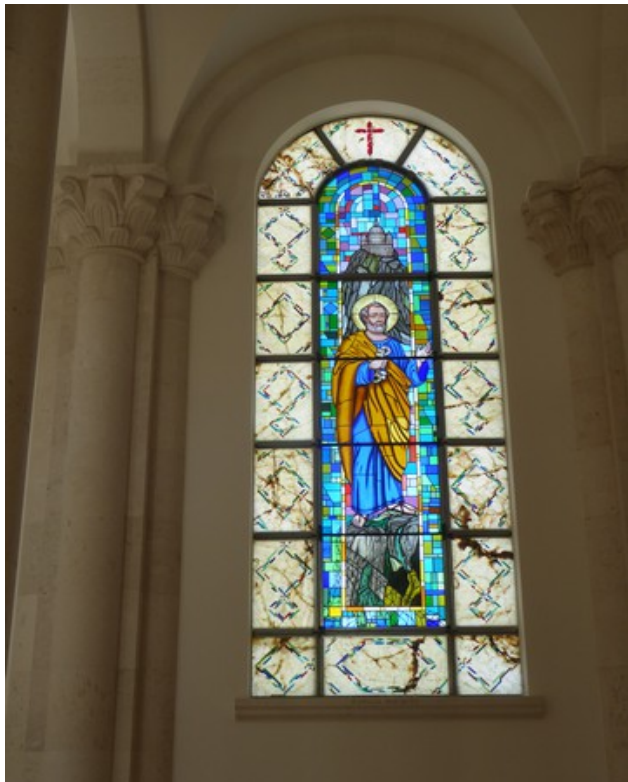
This is one of the streets.



This is the other street.



We had read that there should be a statue of Mother Teresa near the church, but all we asked showed us into the church.



Some pictures inside of the church.





It is a big and nice church.



This is the statue we were looking for. We later found out that it is on the square / pedestrian street. This is taken from the web.



Olive trees on the square outside the church.



[Heroinat](#) is a memorial to honor all women who suffered during the war in 1998-99. It is on the opposite side of the street from the Newborn Monument.



The [NEWBORN](#) monument was erected on the day Kosovo declared itself independent, February 17, 2008. Now it is 10 years ago, and it is therefore changed to NEW10RN.



The American School is located right next to the Newborn Monument.



We thought to have a beer at this cafe next to the Newborn Monument, but they did not have beer, so we went on and found a restaurant by the square / pedestrian street.



This is the direction to the square.



This day was the children's day and there was a performance of song from the stage.



Then some pictures of the life on the square.





In the square stands a statue of [Zahir Pajaziti](#). He was the first commander of the Kosovo Liberation Army. He was killed during gunfire with the Yugoslav army.



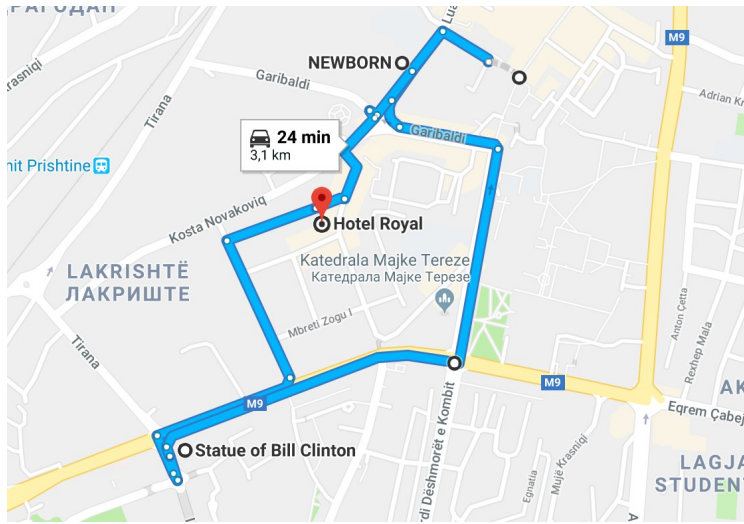
On the way to the hotel, we take a picture of the start of the square / pedestrian street.



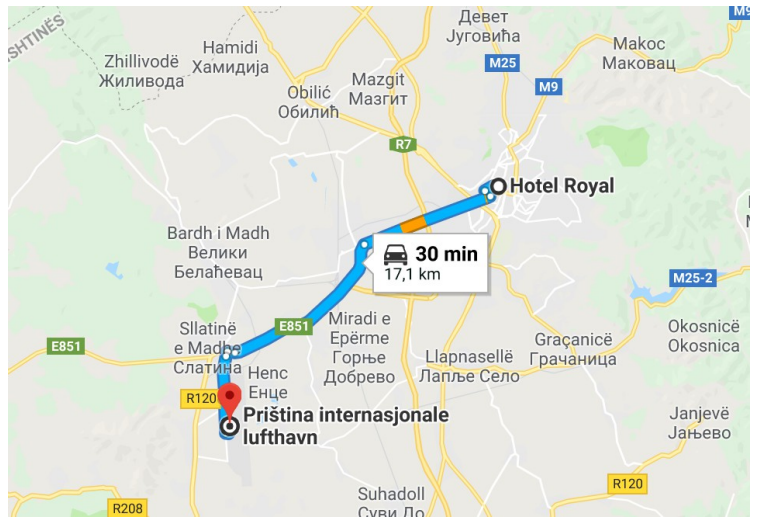
On our way to the hotel we saw some nice roses in a garden.



We had lunch at the restaurant next to the hotel. I had meat in tomato sauce and cheese. Very good.



This is about the round we went this day.



This is the road to the airport.



View from our terrace at the hotel.



From the terrace we look down to the restaurant where we used to eat.

The last day we had to go back to Norway in the evening and we relaxed at the hotel until it was time to book a taxi to go to the airport.

When we got there we were told that the plane was delayed. When we arrived at Gardermoen at about two o'clock at night, we were glad that we had booked a room at [Clarion Hotel & Congress Oslo Airport](#).

We slept late the next day, had breakfast, picked up the car at Dalen Parkering and drove home. The breakfast in the hotel was good and there was a lot to choose from.