

## SARAJEVO - FRIDAY 3 - MONDAY 6 AUGUST

We were picked up at 15.30 and driven to Gardermoen by Bjørn. Our flight was at 18.00 and arrived in Sarajevo at 20.50. From the airport in Sarajevo we took a taxi to the hotel.

Sarajevo is the capital of Bosnia Herzegovina. It is the capital number 40 in the series of European capitals we have visited.

### A bit about [Bosnia Herzegovina](#):



Location



Flag



Coat of arms

It is a federal state in Southeast Europe. The country has two states: the Bosnia and Herzegovina Federation and the Republika Srpska Federation. The district of Brčko north in Bosnia is a separate administrative unit. The country is surrounded by other countries on all sides, with the exception of a 26 km stretch of coast in the south towards the Adriatic Sea.

Bosnia was part of [Illyria](#) in ancient times. From the 600s, Bosnia was conquered by Slavic tribes, and in the 1400s the area came under Turkish control. Most Bosnians then converted to Islam and still the majority are Muslims. In 1878 Austria-Hungary occupied Bosnia, and after World War I, Bosnia became part of Yugoslavia. After World War II, Bosnia became a sub-republic of Yugoslavia, which lasted until the country declared itself independent in 1991. The 32% of the Serbs in the country disagreed. There were therefore fighting between Bosnian Bosniak-dominated government and the Serbian separatists supported by Yugoslavia. In March 1994, Bosnian Croats and Bosnian Government in Sarajevo signed an agreement on federation to end the fighting between them. They managed to run out the Serbs in 1995.

Today, 54% of the inhabitants are Bosniaks, Bosnians with Muslim roots, approx. 32% Serbs, Bosnians with Orthodox Christian background and approx. 11% Croatians, Bosnians who are Catholic Christians.

Bosnia is one of Europe's poorest countries, and unemployment among young people is more than fifty percent.

### A bit about [Sarajevo](#):



Location



Flag



Coat of arms

Sarajevo is historically known for its traditional religious diversity with followers of Islam, Orthodox Christianity, Catholicism and Judaism, who have coexisted in Sarajevo for centuries. Because of this, Sarajevo is often called 'Europe's Jerusalem.'

The city was the venue for the event that triggered the First World War when Crown Prince Frans and his pregnant wife Sofie were shot and killed on 28 June 1914. Between 1992 and 1995, Sarajevo was the venue for the longest siege in modern history during the Bosnia and Herzegovina war.



[Sarajevo International Airport](#). Flight routes started from Sarajevo in 1930. The new airport opened next to the old in 1969.



We had booked at [Hotel Grad](#) which is approximately midway between the airport and the city center.



Here we have checked in and I am working on locating light switches and electrical connections.



There was a table and chair.



Here we look towards the entrance.



The breakfast room.  
On the booking page stated that there was a restaurant in the hotel. It wasn't correct. There was only breakfast to get. The breakfast was OK.

The hotel was OK. The only thing we could complain about was that the air conditioning system did not work properly, so it was getting too cold in the room.





On Saturday we took a taxi down to the [Latin Bridge](#), which was built in 1798. Typical Ottoman architecture. This was where Prince Ferdinand was shot and killed. This led to the First World War.



Then some plant and animal life by the bridge.



From the Latin Bridge we have views over the river [Miljacka](#). It is a tributary to [Bosna](#), which again is a tributary to [Sava](#), which flows into the [Danube](#).



View down the river. The river has a small water flow and is quite shallow, so the water is often brown.





This is the minaret of the Gazi Husrev-beg mosque.



Then we passed [Tašlihan](#).

Tašlihan was one of three caravanserais in Sarajevo (together with Morića Han and Kolobara Han). A caravanserai was a large fort-like structure which could accommodate all the pack-horses and merchants.



View up the street that goes along the ruins.



These are some of the ruins of Tašlihan.



More ruins.



Next to Tašlihan lies [Hotel Europe](#).





They have a guest sitting outside the entrance.



This is the [Cathedral Church of the Nativity of the Theotokos](#). It was built in the years 1863 to 1868. It is one of the largest orthodox churches in the Balkans.

[Theotokos](#) is a common title of Virgin Mary.



This building houses the [National Gallery of Bosnia and Herzegovina](#). It was opened in 1946.



A tourist bus is located outside Theotokos Cathedral.

On the way further we arrive at the cathedral of Sarajevo, the Sacred Heart Cathedral.







Outside the cathedral stands this statue of Pope John Paul II. It was set up in 2014.



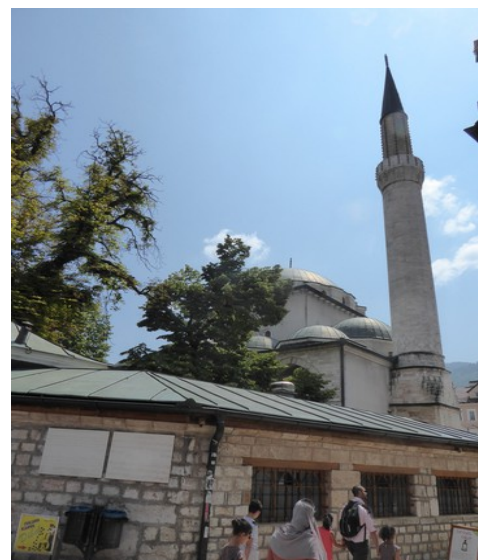
The [Sacred Heart Cathedral](#) was consecrated in 1889. It is the largest Catholic church in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



This is a pedestrian street called [Ferhadija](#). It has had many names, but is called Ferhadija from 1993.



This is the [Ferhadija Mosque](#).

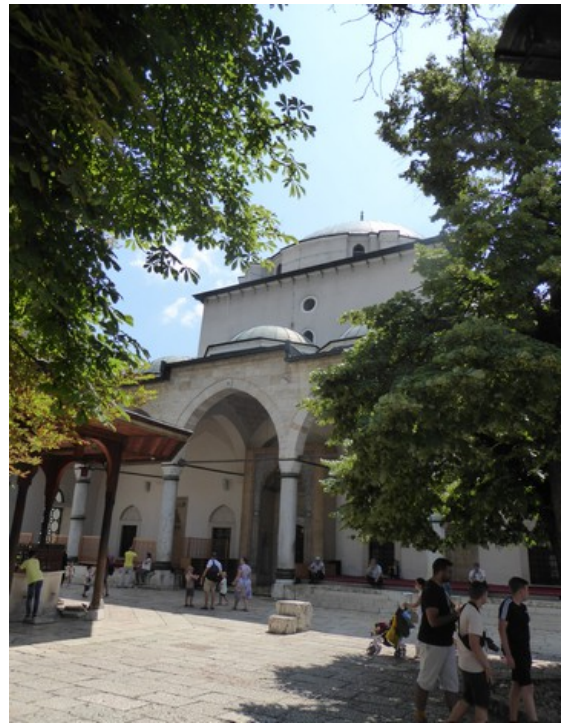


The minaret.





[Sarajevo Clock Tower](#), is one of the highest bell towers in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It's probably the only clock in Europe that shows the time in the [lunar calendar](#).



Next to the clock tower lies the [Gazi Husrev-beg Mosque](#). It is the largest mosque in Bosnia-Herzegovina.



Just in front of the mosque is a shardiwan that was supplied with water through pipes from a source 7 kilometers away. Now it is connected to the modern water system.



The front of the mosque with minaret.



On the east side there is a building that was used as a food store at the ground floor and religious education for children on the first floor.



Here we are out on the street again. The mosque is behind this wall.





This is the entrance to [Morića Han](#), which was built in 1551 as a caravanserai with room for 300 people and 70 horses.



Big samovar?



A long passage inward.



A huge selection of carpets, clothes, lamps and much more.



There is even a restaurant there now.



This sign was on the ground.





Large selection of lamps.



Now it was time for a break and a beer at [Hookah Bar Culhan](#). [Hookah](#) is a water-pipe.

This is the most common beer.



After the break, it was a short way to [Baščaršija](#). This was the old marketplace and the historical and cultural center of the city.

On the square is this fountain called [Sebilj](#). It was built in 1753. There are several copies that Sarajevo has given to different cities.





We see [Muslihudin Čekrekčija Mosque](#) from Baščaršija.



Then we went down to Miljacka to take a picture of the former [Sarajevo City Hall](#). The building was very damaged during the siege of the 1990s and much of the contents and old manuscripts were destroyed. The building has been restored at a cost of over 7 million Euro and was completed in 2013. It is now a national monument.



View up the river towards [Šehar-Čehaja bridge](#).



View down the river towards Careva čuprija.



The view of the hill where the [bobsleigh tracks](#) for the 1984 Olympic Games are located. Much of the plant has been destroyed, but the tracks themselves are usable and they try to get the entire plant operational.



After this we had to have food. We went in here. The place is called [Konoba Fakat](#). They had good food and the service was impeccable.





We shared a Ćevapi.



This was the beer, Sarajevsko. It is brewed by Sarajevska pivara, which lies in Sarajevo.



The furniture was special.



Here we got the food and the beer. I pour.



Get in good mood instantly!





In the evening we went down to Miljacka to find a place to eat. I had found a restaurant near the hotel on the map. This is Miljack below the hotel.



A little pine tree.



Incredibly long needles.



We found the place. It's called Čevabdžinica "Zmaj"

JELA SA ROŠTIJA		
<b>VELIKE PORCIJE</b>		
Čevapčići	230 gr.	6,00 KM
Pilešakavica	230 gr.	7,00 KM
Sudžukice	230 gr.	6,50 KM
Teleća jetra	230 gr.	6,50 KM
Teleći bubrezi	230 gr.	6,50 KM
Pileći file	230 gr.	7,50 KM
Teleća brzica	230 gr.	8,00 KM
Teleća šnicla	230 gr.	8,00 KM
Teleći raznjici	230 gr.	6,50 KM
Kombinacija <small>(ovaj porcijski = 5 čevapči)</small>	230 gr.	8,00 KM
Mješano meso	280 gr.	1,00 KM
Kajmak	50 gr.	
<b>MALE PORCIJE</b>		
Čevapčići	115 gr.	3,50 KM
Mala pilešakavica	150 gr.	4,00 KM
Sudžukice	115 gr.	4,00 KM
Teleća jetra	130 gr.	3,50 KM
Teleći bubrezi	130 gr.	3,50 KM
Pileći file	130 gr.	4,00 KM
Teleća brzica	130 gr.	4,50 KM
Teleća šnicla	130 gr.	4,50 KM
Teleći raznjici	130 gr.	3,00 KM
Hamburger	100 gr.	0,50 KM
½ sortuna		0,50 KM
Salata	130 gr.	1,50 KM
Kajmak	0,25 gr.	0,50 KM
<small>Napomena: U ovoj porcijski je uračunato pola sortuna</small>		
<b>NAPICI</b>		
Pivo	0,33 l	2,50 KM
Gazirani sokovi	0,25 l	2,00 KM
Prirodni sokovi	0,20 l	2,50 KM
Mineralna voda	0,25 l	1,50 KM
Bosanska kafa		1,50 KM
Jogurt	0,20 l	1,00 KM

Besplatna kućna dostava 033 654 169; 061 139 401

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The menu was at Bosnian and the serving lady could not speak English. Then it was like choosing food by chance.



Fortunately, this guy sat at the neighboring table. He offered to be an interpreter and explain the menu for us.





Then, waiting for the food.



Here comes the food.



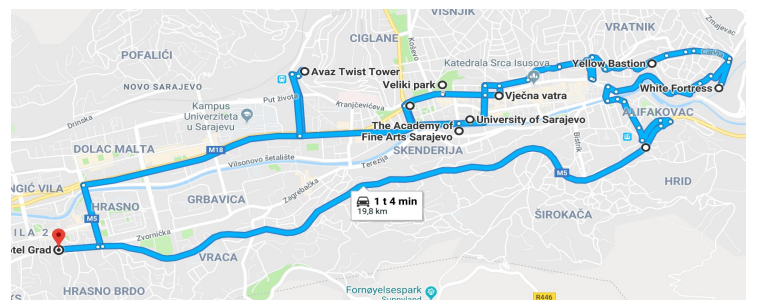
We had ordered barbecue food.



I had meat. Accessories were bread, raw onion and lightly fermented cabbage. Good food.



Anne Berit had chicken fillet. The accessories were bread and lightly fermented cabbage. Good food.



The next day, Sunday, we wanted to see sights that are too far apart to make it convenient for us to walk. Therefore, we planned to go by taxi a round like this. We booked a taxi at the hotel and asked to get a driver who spoke good English. He spoke English, but I thought he was hard to understand.





The first stop was at the statue of Tito. [Josip Broz Tito](#) was a communist revolutionary and political leader. During World War II, he led the Yugoslav partisans' fight against the occupying forces. After the war, he became the president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia until his death in 1980.



[Avaz Twist Tower](#) is the tallest building in former Yugoslavia. It is 178 meters high. It was completed in 2008. On the 35th floor there is a cafeteria overlooking the whole city. On the 36th floor there is a similar view in the open air. A Bosnian newspaper has headquarters in the building.





This is the taxi we drove with.



In this building there are still lots of bullet holes in the façade after the siege of the city in the 1990s.



The [Ali Pasha Mosque](#) was built in the years 1560 – 1561.



This is [the eternal flame](#) which commemorate those from Sarajevo who fell in World War II. The memorial was set up in 1946.



The pedestrian street at the eternal flame.





This is the main street that passes by the eternal flame.



[The Academy of Fine Arts](#) was originally built as an evangelical church. The Academy moved in here in 1981.



This was a burial place for adults.



This was a burial place for children.

This is in the [Veliki Park](#). Earlier there was a graveyard here, which the old tombs tell about.



This is a [memorial](#) over the children who lost their lives in the siege of Sarajevo in the 1990s. More than 1300 lost their lives.



Here are listed the names of 521 children. The monument stands on the outskirts of Veliki Park.





As we drove up to the white fort, we saw this cemetery, [Šehidsko mezarje Kovači](#), where there are buried soldiers from the army in Bosnia and Herzegovina who died in war. There are plans to build a hall, amphitheater and walls that contain the names of all the killed soldiers from the 1992-1995 war.



The first president in Bosnia-Herzegovina, [Alija Izetbegovic](#), is also buried here. This is his grave.



The next stop was at the white fort, [Bijela Tabija](#). This is the view from there to the west. The white fort was built around 1550 and it controlled the entrance to Sarajevo from the east. Over the years it has been poorly maintained and many have used stone from here as building materials. There are plans to restore some of this for a tourist attraction.



It is clear to see from these pictures that the devastations are great.





View of the southern parts of Sarajevo.



Here we see along the valley that goes further east.



Then we have moved on to the yellow bastion, Žuta Tabija. The name comes from the yellow stone used in the walls.



This is on top.

The yellow bastion is a cannon fortress at the entrance of the 'Walled City of Vratnik', which is one of the oldest districts in Sarajevo. It was built between 1727 and 1739 in the area called Jekovac. It served as one of the defense points against the Austria-Hungarian troops in 1878. The fortress was damaged and rebuilt several times. The last renovation took place in 1998.





The view.  
We see, among other things, the Adaz Tower on the right.



An old cannon.



The restaurant building.



A nice house above the fort.



After this we were driven to a restaurant called [Kod Bibana](#).  
Description at [Destination Sarajevo](#).

This is the way up to the entrance.





Here we are in the outdoor restaurant.



The view.



The restaurant building.



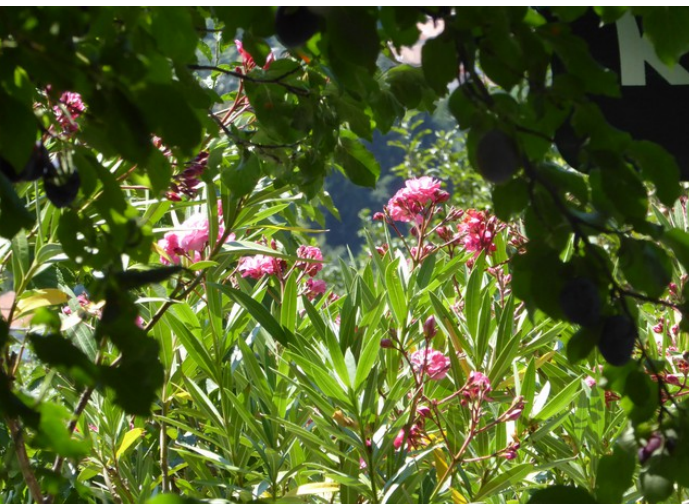
We have got a beer.



Anne Berit sees a birdhouse in the birch above us.



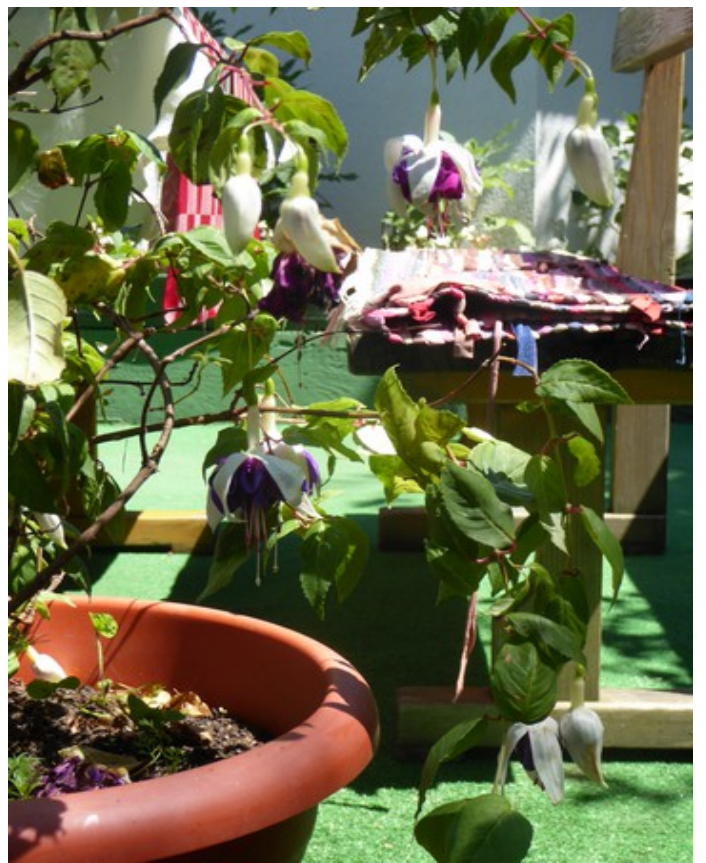
Here is the birdhouse.



Various plants in the garden.







<u>SPECIJALITET KUĆE</u>		
Šarena dolma ispod saća (mix vegetables stuffed with meat and rice under the bell)	por	13,00 KM
Teletina ispod saća (Roasted veal under the bell)	250gr	16,00 KM
<u>RIBE</u>		
Pastrmka (Trout)	por	14,00 KM

This is an excerpt of the menu.  
We shared a Sarena dolma ispod saca.





This was the wine we had.



This is the food after it was eaten.



It turned out that Hamdo Neimarlija and Mediha Varatan who live in Salt Lake City were on holiday in their home country. We agreed to meet at this restaurant, called [Žara iz duvara](#), The Singing Nettle. The name of the restaurant comes from the fact that they use nettle in all dishes.



She served us. Very nice service.



Anne Berit's food.



Mediha's food.





I lift off the lid.



That's how my food looked like. It was very good.



Mediha is also very pleased with the good food.



Hamdo tastes the snaps.



After the meal we had snaps in glasses like these. It is made of nettle,



The day after, on monday, we were going to have lunch. Then we took a taxi to the restaurant that belonged to the hotel. It was 2 kilometers away. It's called [Restoran Cappuccino](#), and it turned out that it was very good.





Here we have sat outside.



We were recommended to sit inside, for they were expecting rain, so we walked in.



Here we are inside.



We ordered white wine.  
It was a wine from Herzegovina.



Anne Berit chose risotto with chicken.



I chose risotto with mussels.





The forecasted rain came and it became so dark that the roof light turned on. Then it looked like this.



A cloudburst.



There are big ponds outside.

When we were back to the hotel, all the taxis were busy, due to the rainy weather. Then we got a lift back with the hotel owner.

When we checked out and went to the airport, the traffic was very slow with long queues. A man that walked on the sidewalks went as fast as us a long way.

Our flight was from Sarajevo at 19.30 and was in Oslo at 22.30. There Bjørn was ready to pick us up and drive us to Kongsvinger.