

# SMEDEREVSKA JESEN - THE ULTIMATE WINE FEST OF SERBIAN YEAR



Smederevo, the medieval capital of Serbia, is already preparing for the local event of the year - Smederevska Jesen, a major Grape and Wine festival.

The tradition of wine production in what many locals dub as the medieval capital of Serbia goes back hundreds of years. Smederevo attracts thousands of heritage lovers who come there to admire its architectural pride - Europe's largest lowland fortress dating back to the 15th century as well as charming streets and beautiful vistas over the Danube River.

**Most visitors arrive for Smederevska Jesen, the traditional grape and wine festival which celebrates the region's wine heritage since 1888.** Along with the presentation of excellent grapes and wines, the festival features many cultural and sporting events.

The autumn wine festival is organized at the end of September and lasts three days. The wine-growing tradition there is deeply rooted and dates back to Roman emperor Probus. Local rulers gradually created vineyards in order to further develop the industry. Duke Milos Obrenovic even created a 36-hectare vineyard and wine cellar at his estate in the 15th century, which produces quality wines even nowadays.

**The festival naturally features a selection of local most delicious wines; a special grape of local produce, 'Smederevka' comes with a great reputation, however, Chardonnay, Rhine Riesling, and Cabernet Sauvignon are praised as well.** The quality of local wine is equally matched with culinary delicacies, featuring fantastic cheese pies, Serbian gibanica, roast pork with bread, succini moussaka or sarma of leaves.

Thousands of visitors gather there every September to enjoy the local amazing atmosphere. The programme of events is already set and will feature a carnival of medieval knights and many music performances. Tourists plan early and book their accommodation on time. Local Hotel Car Smederevo, recently constructed, lies 8 km from Smederevo and features 43 rooms with all modern amenities as well as a great restaurant, a swimming pool with a sauna and a fitness centre.

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