

BELGRADE

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TOURIST GUIDE

# Topčider

*The Pleasure of  
Simultaneous Travel  
through Space and Time*



Tourist  
Organization  
of Belgrade



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Simultaneous Travel  
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The forested and well maintained park in the valley of the Topčider River extends across 111,336 m<sup>2</sup>. It represents the last branch and remnant of the old forests that gave the northern part of Serbia its name – Šumadija („Forest Country“).

The name Topčider stems from the Turkish word *topči* – “cannoneer” and the Persian word *der* – “valley”. This was the location of the artillery camp where the Turks, during the siege of Belgrade in 1521, cast cannons for their assaults on Belgrade. Topčider later became the favourite picnic ground for the pashas of Belgrade, often visiting with large entourages, coming from the city for *teferić* (picnics).

During the Austrian rule in 1688 this part of the Belgrade surroundings was noted on the maps as Topčijino village, while the valley of the Topčider River housed the homesteads of the wealthier Austrian citizens.

This was the location where a military camp was organized during the First Serbian Uprising and the Conquest of Belgrade during the period of 1804–1806.



The Beauty of Nature



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## 1. ARRANGEMENT OF TOPČIDER



Princess Ljubica and the young Prince Mihailo Obrenović, Princess Ljubica's Residence

The lush slopes of the Topčider hill, covered in greenery, always attracted the attention of the residents of Belgrade. Topčider is where Prince Miloš built a palace complex during the eighteen-thirties and this is where the seat of political power, education, religious and cultural Belgrade was being created for years.

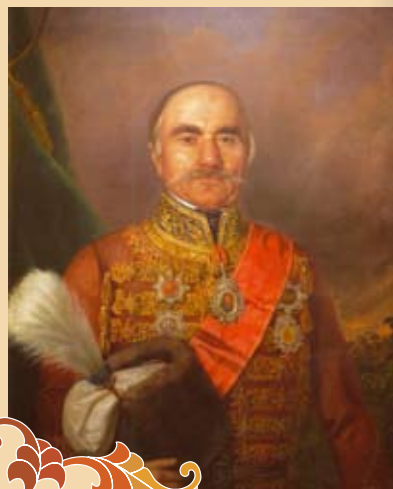
After the publication of the Hatt-i Sharif (Sultan's Edict) of 1830, Serbia gained autonomous status within the Ottoman Empire, and Prince Miloš Obrenović gained the hereditary title of Prince. After the residence of his wife and children in Belgrade town, Prince Miloš decided to erect his permanent residence in Topčider, near the crossroads and far from the Turkish commanders and military garrisons in the Belgrade fort.

Several traffic lanes of the old road network that passed through Topčider during the 18th century survived to this day thanks to the renewal Prince

Miloš undertook while building the residential complex. They lay on the route of the former Topčider Road.

In a letter to Toma Vučić Perišić from 1831 he ordered: "Ensure that, in cooperation with Captain Stanković, the road along and across Topčider, wherever it may be ruined and slurred by water, be made well again. Let no wagons move across Topčider, lest they spoil the meadows. You will also take the time to find me some lime burners to burn lime, since I am intent on building a number of edifices in Topčider".

When the Belgrade pasha learned of this, he did not want to allow Miloš to build upon his grounds. Miloš managed to change his will with rich presents and soon the building of the future princely complex began (the Residence, the church, the church residence, the fountain and the inn). Prince Miloš gathered the renowned builders of the time and three years later the Residence ("Konak") was completed, as the central building of the complex.



Portrait of Prince Miloš Obrenović, National Museum in Belgrade



## 2. TRAVEL WRITERS ON TOPČIDER

The writings of travel writers visiting Belgrade during the 19th century describing Topčider still survive. The first note of the village of Topčider is found in the travel book *Belgrade, the Heavenly Settlement* by Elvija Čelebija, from the 17th century. He notes it to be one of the well known picnic grounds in Belgrade.

Here are some of the later writings on Topčider by world travellers who stayed in Belgrade during the 19th century.

In his travel journal from 1855, Roman Zmorski recalls his visit to Topčider: „Among the somewhat more distant picnic grounds is the village of Topčider on Sava. During the reign

of the Turks this is where the barracks of the artillery, the Turkish cannoneers were. Thence the name. Prince Miloš later built his residence there. During the reign of Aleksandar Karađorđević this place housed a reformatory for prisoners and a school of agriculture.”

The travel writer Felix Kanitz noted during the second half of the 19th century: “I found it difficult to depart from this beautiful place in Topčider that has the same attraction to the citizens of Belgrade as, for example, Saint-Louis for the Parisians or Schönbrunn for the Viennese.” Kanitz also noted that during the late 19th century there was much interest in investing in Topčider.



Topčider on a Belgrade postcard from 1898

The French politician and publicist Joseph Renacq, in his travel journal *Travels to the East* from 1870 made note of a carriage ride to Topčider: “The cabbie who took me to Topčider deserves more note. This is a tall fellow, as wiry as a bleak, completely black, almost burnt by the sun, as talkative as a magpie and on occasion more melancholy than a horse in a hearse. He speaks German, has barely any respect for his Frankish masters and knows all the girls in Belgrade.”

The English journalist Herbert Vivien, correspondent to the London *Daily Express*, described Topčider in his memoirs *Serbia, Heaven for the Poor Man, Beautiful Belgrade* from 1896: “...The road to Topčider is well maintained and it became the sole place to use for an afternoon ride or drive. After passing the state tobacco factory and the sizable beer brewery of Mr. Vajfert, one enters an alley of linden and black locust trees and promptly arrives at the Topčider forests and gardens.

Topčider is located two miles from Belgrade and it can be reached in just 10 minutes by the electric tram. There is a restaurant there, a very popular spot, and dining there in the summer, outside, is considered elegant.

The hills around Topčider house a number of villas, where the more distinguished citizens of Belgrade spend their summers. The villa of Prince Miloš, the founder of the

current dynasty, is located down among the gardens. It is an attractive place to visit. The inside of the building remains nearly the same as it was when Miloš resided there, the sole difference being that his clothes and other relics are now on display in glass cabinets. The arrangement and furniture are, as can be expected, Turkish, and leave quite an impression with their simplicity.”



Topčider on the Plan of Belgrade from 1897



### 3. CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE OF TOPČIDER

This green oasis in the immediate vicinity of the centre of Belgrade, upon the former paths of the princely residences, picnic and hunting grounds, was arrived at in olden times by chariots and chaises, while a tram started to operate along this line at the end of the 19th century.

Some of the facilities from those times are gone, but this region is rich in natural, historical and cultural heritage near the centre of town and is today ideal

for maintaining physical fitness and renewing knowledge on the cultural heritage of Belgrade.

Take a walk around Topčider, visit all the attractions of this ambient environment and the permanent exhibit of the Museum of Serbian History in the Residence of Prince Miloš. Try to conjure up some of the vanished details from the past, when Topčider was the centre of all the important events in Serbian life of the time.



Green oasis in the immediate vicinity of the centre of Belgrade

## RESIDENCE OF PRINCE MILOŠ

(built between 1831–1834)

The Residence of Prince Miloš was built in accordance with the residential architecture of the Ottoman Empire, developed by the Turkish ruling class and accepted by the wealthy individuals of all ethnic communities in the Balkan Peninsula. It was built by the masters Janja Mihailović and Nikola Đorđević, while the works were managed by Hadži-Nikola Živković, overseer and master builder for all construction initiated by Prince Miloš.

According to data from the book *Finances and Institutions of the Renewed Serbia by the Year*

1842, the “Topčider residence, with repairs and expansion of relevant buildings can be seen to have cost Prince Miloš 76,283.13 groats.

The Prince moved into the Residence on May 3rd, 1834, and this is where he resided most frequently during his first rule (1815–1839), while after the Saint Andrew’s Assembly, during his second reign (1858–1860), the Residence was the Palace of the Principality of Serbia where the Assembly was seated. Prince Miloš died at the Residence on September 14th, 1860.



Oldest depiction of the Residence of Prince Miloš, Engraving by Kvitz from 1856

## Anecdote

A Czech, Eduard Mihel, head of the palace kitchen of Prince Miloš Obrenović, often retold an occurrence when Prince Miloš, already severely ill before his death, wished for him to prepare some items of food. Prince Miloš was in his Residence, outside Belgrade. The cook was perplexed, since the food ordered could only be prepared at the palace in Belgrade. As always, he followed his master’s orders and sent the meals off by “Tatar” (a swift horseback courier), who took them galloping and handed them, still warm, to the old master. Satisfied with the food and the swift service, the Prince sent Mihel a gold ducat as a gift.

The Residence represents a typical example of old architecture with expansive porches and a divanhan, a form of glazed balcony where Prince Miloš most likely rested and observed the surroundings smoking a chibouk and drinking

coffee. Up until World War II, the preserved marble table of Prince Miloš, with the engraving “M.O. 1860”, stood underneath the sycamore trees while in front of the house a round stone, called “binyekdash” still stands. It was used to



Contemporary appearance of the Residence of Prince Miloš

enable Prince Miloš to mount a horse more easily.

The Great National Assembly was held at the Residence, soon after the assassination of Prince Mihailo (May 29th, 1868) who died without an



Flag of the Principality of Serbia

heir, in order to choose the new ruler of Serbia, Prince Milan Obrenović, with a temporary regency ruling the country until the time of his coming of age.

The Residence was turned into the Museum of Prince Miloš and Mihailo, and thereafter the Forestry Museum was located there for a certain period as well. During the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the First Serbian Uprising (in 1954), the Museum of the First Serbian Uprising was opened in the Residence, its theme being the entire period of fighting for freedom against the Turks (from 1804, until the second Hatt-i Sharif in 1839). The museum exhibits were used as a starting point for the formation of today's History Museum of Serbia in 1963.

**Address:** Rakovički put 2  
**Open:** 10–17 h (April–October), 11–16 h (October–April), closed on Mondays  
**Telephone:** 2660 422  
[www.imus.org.rs](http://www.imus.org.rs)



Stamp of Prince Miloš (Residence of Prince Miloš-History Museum of Serbia)

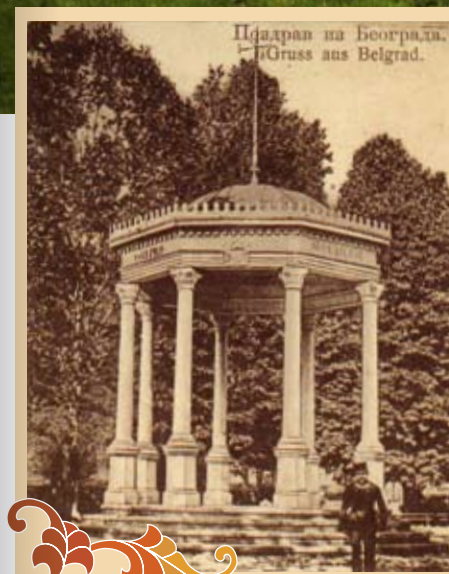


Plate of Prince Miloš (Residence of Prince Miloš-History Museum of Serbia)

## TOPČIDER PARK (arranged in 1831 and 1834)



Topčider park



Pavilion of Prince Miloš, 19th century

Along with the construction of the Residence, access ways were built, trees were planted and the surroundings of the palace complex were arranged. The first park in Belgrade took root in the marshy spaces, among the reeds and cattails.

The words of Prince Miloš speak of the care and love he put in arranging Topčider: "Let no wagon here, lest they spoil the meadows." And from those meadows, through the skills of the Czech and French gardeners that the Serb Prince hired, a beautiful park arose. He spared no expense in purchasing plants and seedlings, and the immense sycamore tree before the Residence today stands as one of the symbols of Belgrade.



Topčider sycamore, protected as a natural rarity

There are tales of its planting – the Frenchman who led the park arrangement works asked Prince Miloš what to do with the single remaining sycamore seedling. The Prince ordered the seedling to be put in the nearby lime pit and buried. This is how one of the oldest and most beautiful sycamores in Europe grew, protected as a natural rarity (34 m tall, trunk circumference of 7.35 m, bow diameter 49 m).

To honour Prince Miloš returning to power in 1859, a monumental stone obelisk was set up in the park, along with the park sculpture called *Žetelica* ("Harvester"). The park was increasingly taking on a popular character. An advertisement

from 1860 declared that from May, every day, an "omnibus" would drive from Terazije to Topčider.

The park contained two pavilions, one from the period of the reign of Prince Miloš, and another, set up by decree of Prince Mihailo in 1865, during the celebrations of the fifty-year anniversary of the Takovo Uprising.

Across from the Church of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul there was a flower seedling nursery and glasshouse (built in 1866), where gardeners grew flowers and decorative seedlings for the parks in Topčider and Belgrade.

## TOPČIDER RIVER

The area of Topčider from the time of Prince Miloš was delineated by the river that had its flow completely altered in subsequent regulations. The Topčider River joins Sava at the bottom salient of Ada Ciganlija. Swans lived at one time in this right-hand side tributary of Sava (31 km in length).

There were also several smaller wooden bridges across the river. The citizens of Belgrade used to visit those to walk, bathe or sun on the beaches of Topčider River. The beaches are, unfortunately, gone today and the name of this river is mostly invoked when discussing pollution.

## CHURCH OF THE HOLY APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL

(built between 1832–1834)

A dense forest grew at the spot where the church on Topčider stands today.

The Church of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul was erected as the palace chapel of Prince Miloš

Obrenović, in accordance with the plans of the same masters who built the Residence, under the oversight of Toma Vučić Perišić. Prince Miloš erected the church on the spot where, during the First Serbian Uprising and following an intense confrontation with Karađorđe, his life was spared.

The people remembered the rich wedding that occurred in this church, as yet unfinished at the time. It was the most numerous wedding ever to occur in this region, with Prince Miloš and members of his family in attendance. The wedding was between the brother-in-law of Miloš, the Belgrade merchant Gavriilo Vukomanović, and the daughter of the Šabac merchant Petar Bugarin. Following the wedding, two kolos were danced before the church: the peasants' and the lords' kolo with over a thousand guests. The prince, as a noted diplomat, danced in the peasants', while the Princess Ljubica danced in the lords' kolo.

The residents of Belgrade gathered around the church, particularly on Sundays. Those wishing to have a memento of their trip could have the moment recorded in photographs. Jovan Hajnović made "express photographs in five minutes" in a small photography atelier near the church.



Church of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul

## CHURCH RESIDENCE

(built around 1833)

A church residence was built behind the church, in the spirit of the traditional Serbian folk architecture – a type of Šumadija house called "bondručara". This building may have been built before the church and the Residence of Prince Miloš were built, and merely renewed and rearranged during the construction of the church.

As the Church of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul was the centre of religious life and the seat of the metropolis of Serbia until 1860, the proposal of the first constitution of the Orthodox Church in the Principality of Serbia was drafted in the church residence.

## MONUMENTS AND FOUNTAINS

The park in front of the Residence contains three monuments:

**Obelisk** (set up in 1859)

The monument shaped as a simple truncated stone pyramid was set up in honour of the second coming of Miloš into power. It is the work of the stonemason Franz Loran and is one of the few preserved monuments from the mid 19th century.



Obelisk



Žetelica Sculpture

**Žetelica**  
("Harvester") Sculpture (set up in 1852)

This oldest example of the decorative park sculptures in Belgrade from the 19th century represents the goddess of agriculture Ceres. It was cast in bronze and is the work of the Viennese sculptor Fidelis Kimmel.



Monument to Archibald Reiss

**Monument to Archibald Reiss**  
(set up in 1931)

The monument was erected in gratitude to Archibald Reiss, the Swiss criminologist, publicist and honorary captain in the Serbian army. It is the work of Marko Brežanin and it was set up in the immediate vicinity of Reiss' house two years after his death.

## TOPČIDER FOUNTAINS

During the sixth decade of the 19th century three healthy potable water springs existed in Topčider. One of them was near the church, a spring-fountain of cold water where the sakajis collected potable water and distributed it around Belgrade before the waterworks were constructed. This spring was later buried, since there was another spring-fountain nearby, wherefrom water is collected to this day.

**Fountain of Miloš** (at the Topčider Church)  
(built between 1831–1834)

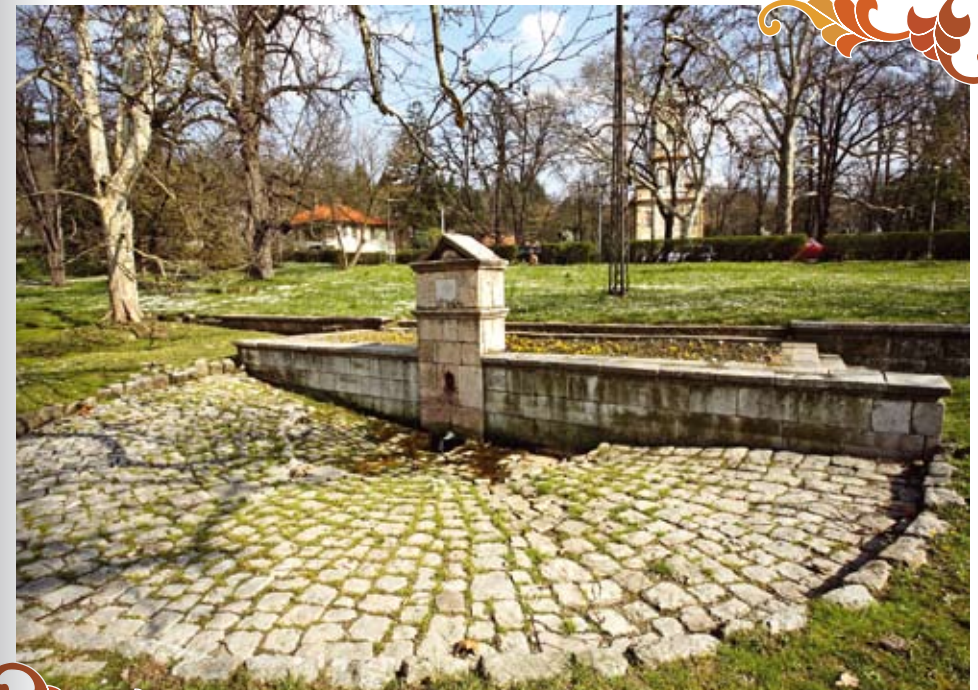
This fountain, built simultaneously with the Residence as part of the residential complex, is the oldest of the fountains of Topčider.

**Vračar Fountains**  
(built between 1858–1860)

Two fountains (popularly known as the Right and Left fountain) make up a single whole and are located on the side of the road from the church, towards the Topčider Star, and belong to a period of intense construction in Topčider.



Vračar Fountains



Fountain of Miloš

Поздрав из Београда  
Souvenir de Belgrade



Building of the Small Residence on a postcard, 19th century

## THE SMALL RESIDENCE BUILDING

The construction of a single-story representative building commenced upon the return to power of Prince Miloš in 1859. This building of the Small Residence on a hilltop above the rear end of the big Residence (still standing, though in a somewhat altered state), popularly known as the “konačić” (“tiny residence”), was most likely used by Prince Mihailo as a summer house. This building was built under the influence of west-European architecture.

## MILOŠEV KONAK RESTAURANT

(built during the eighteen-thirties)

The *Milošev konak* restaurant is located in the Topčider Park. It was built as an inn during the eighteen-thirties when the forming of the

residential centre of the Principality of Serbia began in the area of Topčider. It was part of the complex where the palace-Residence of Prince Miloš was located.

Topčider Park, initially constructed as the palace park, became accessible to all from 1903, as a popular picnic ground for notable citizens of Belgrade. The music in the garden of the *Topčider Restauration* was somewhat different to other suburban inns. The guests were invited to the garden to hear “the jazz band under the direction of Rade Miljković, the best prim-player playing popular tunes and schlagers”.

The building underwent considerable alteration during the intervening time, with the current appearance arising after the modifications from 1974, in accordance with the plans of the architect Đorđe Petrović.



#### 4. TOPČIDER – BELGRADE’S PICNIC GROUNDS



Road leading to Topčider, prior to World War I

The *Album of Belgrade with Brief Description and Plan*, by the bookbinder Lj. Velicki from 1886, describes Topčider as: "... a fenced-off wooded beautiful place, one hour of walking by foot to the south of Belgrade. It is decorated by beautiful shaded footpaths, flower gardens and fountains, and has several fenced off fountains with healthy potable water, therefore the citizens of Belgrade often go to Topčider for visits in the summer."

Topčider was most frequently approached by carriages called fijakers, a form of public transport in 19th century Belgrade. As the population complained of the high prices the

Administration of Belgrade Town decreed that the tariffs for fijaker rides be: "From the town to Topčider, 40 street grotes for three hours, for three or four persons. For each additional hour, free bargain is to be had."

With the introduction of the electric tram in 1894, the popular „topčiderac” going from Terazije to Topčider, this natural complex gained an advantage over other Belgrade picnic grounds. The *Guide to Belgrade* from 1905 notes that the ride from the main station in the centre of Belgrade to Topčider took 25 minutes and cost 25 centimes.



Tram to Topčider, 1894

Field trips into nature, as well as St. George's day reveilles in Košutnjak, Topčider, Rakovica and Avala became a part of city life.

Throughout the season the Serbian State Railway published advertisement in the *Serbian*

*News*: "The citizens of the capital are hereby notified that as of March 28th, 1904 (the first day of Easter, until further order) trains for walks between Belgrade, Topčider, Rakovica, Kneževac, Kijev and Resnik shall be put in everyday service."



Burdelj Inn, beginning of the 20th century

Advertisements in the daily papers indicate that with the improved transportation connections with the centre of Belgrade Topčider became a popular place for trips and relaxation in nature.

The *Through Belgrade* regular column in *Politika* announced the program of the Department of Music of the Royal Guards: "Music on Sundays at 17 hours at the Park in Topčider. Entrance is free and accessible to all."

There were two inns in Topčider: *Gospodarska mehana* ("Lords' Inn") at the confluence of the Topčider River, and the *Beli Bagrem* ("Black Locust Tree") at the Careva Čuprija. The *Kasina (Burdelj)* restaurant was opened later, near the *Topčider* railway station, advertised with: "Various snacks, hot and cold dishes, well tempered merc beer at all times. Unusually favourable locale for social lunches and weddings. Service is swift, and prices unusually favourable."

After World War I, as the railway tracks required expansion, this old inn was torn down.

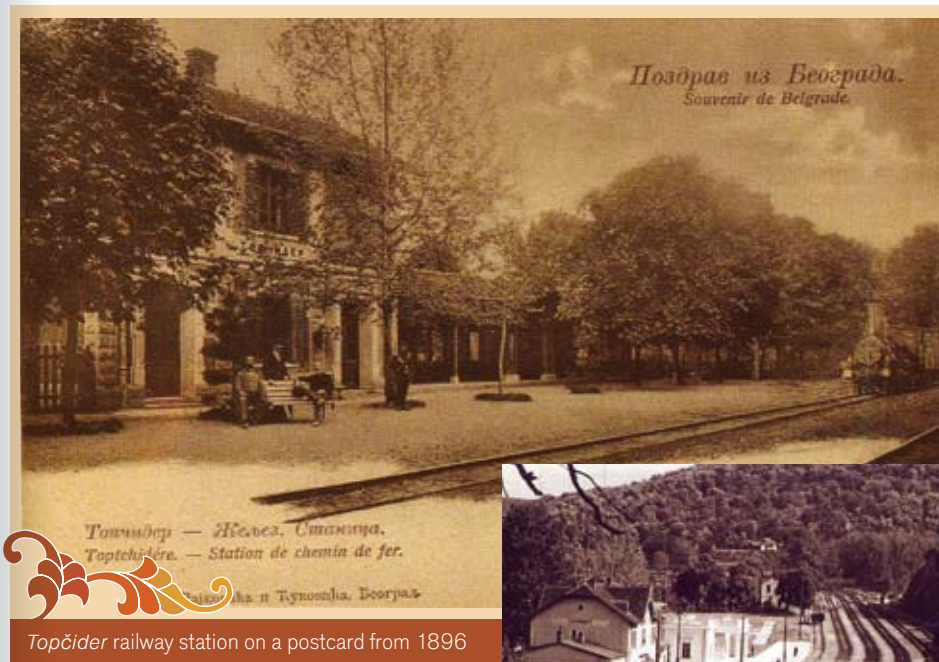
One of the typical advertisements appearing in the *Politika* daily is the following from 1934: "At the Topčider Inn, from April 1st on every day, a Jazz band will play from 3 o'clock until midnight, with the chapelmaster Vasa. The restaurant has a first class local and international kitchen, as well as natural local and foreign drinks. All social snacks, weddings and banquets are accepted. Upon request, I serve at homes as well. Tel. 26-536 Restaurateur M. Krsić."

It would seem that the city administration decree on catering facility working times was not observed in the inns of Topčider: "Inns shall be opened until 11 o'clock in the evening, however music in gardens shall not be played beyond 10 o'clock before midnight under any circumstances."



Tram station in Topčider, 1904

## 5. IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF TOPČIDER



Topčider railway station on a postcard from 1896



Building of the *Topčider* railway station, 1924

### TOPČIDER RAILWAY STATION

The first building of the *Topčider* railway station complex was built in 1884, as a regular stop, at the time when the Main Railway Station in Belgrade was opened.

The initial building of the *Topčider* station was demolished during World War I and a new one was built during the nineteen-twenties. By expanding the building of the court waiting room in 1936, in accordance with plans by the architect Rajko Tatić, the appearance of this building was completed "in a renaissance style, with the interior furnished in an English style."

Only the expansion from 1936 survives today.



The contemporary station is the previous court waiting room from 1936

## HAJDUČKA FOUNTAIN AND THE MEMORIAL OF THE LOCATION OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRINCE MIHAILO OBRENOVIĆ

The forest near Topčider was fenced off with a high fence until the early 20th century, and does and deer were raised there, thence the name Košutnjak ("doe preserve"). The thick forest was a closed palace hunting ground until 1903, and Košutnjak was thereafter open to the public.

According to popular legend the name of the



Hajdučka Fountain on Košutnjak

fountain stems from the place where Prince Miloš secretly met hajduks by a spring. Up the hill, several minutes from this fountain, is the place where Prince Mihailo Obrenović was killed. The shaded path leads to a clearing where a wrought iron fence marks the spot where Prince Michael was assassinated on May 29th, 1868.



Memorial of the Location of the Assassination of Prince Mihailo Obrenović

## HOME OF ARCHIBALD REISS



Home of Archibald Reiss, 1936

The German Archibald Reiss came as a neutral observer at the behest of the Serbian government to investigate the crimes of the Austro-Hungarians, Germans and Bulgarians against the civilian population during World War I.

After the war he was awarded the medal for courage for his work, and the Belgrade municipality awarded him with a lot on the

Topčider road, next to the tram line near *Gospodarska mehana*, as a small token of appreciation for his work for Serbia.

Reiss did not want to stand out from his environment, so instead of a luxury villa he build a modest house, much alike Serbian peasant houses, with a garden full of flowers and footpaths.

### Monument of Culture

Dr Archibald Reiss built a house according to the plans of the constructor Lazar Lacković in 1921. The *Dobro polje* ("Good Field") villa, as Archibald Reiss called the house, after a place in Macedonia where one of the crucial battles of the Thessaloniki front occurred in 1918, is located in Vojvode Mišića Boulevard nr. 73.

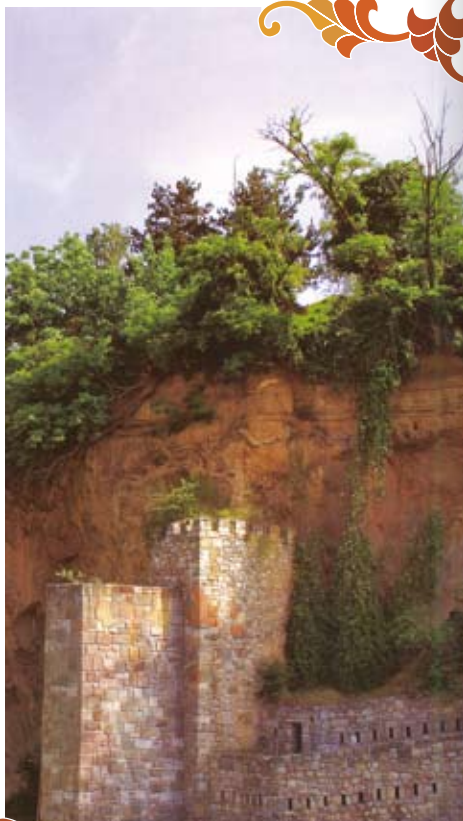
## MAŠIN MAJDAN

*Mašin majdan* ("Masha's Well") near Careva Čuprija, is a natural monument of geographical heritage and represents the remains of the Mediterranean stage of the history of the Pannonian Sea (between 40–45 million years old). These rocks preserve the fossil remains of fish, shellfish and corals bearing witness to the warm waters of a tropical sea that once met the shores of Belgrade.

The rocks from this old rock quarry were most likely used in building the Residence of Prince Mihailo, paving the roads and the first villas of Dedinje and Topčider.

This space was turned into the *Topčider Summer Stage* in 1947, after the closing of the rock quarry, and in accordance with the plans of the architect Rajko Tatić. A great stone arch on Topčider Hill led to an open stage, ideal for concerts, with excellent acoustics on a stage hewn into limestone rocks.

This forgotten space is today used by alpine mountain climbers who regularly practice rock climbing in this spot, which is ideal for their training.



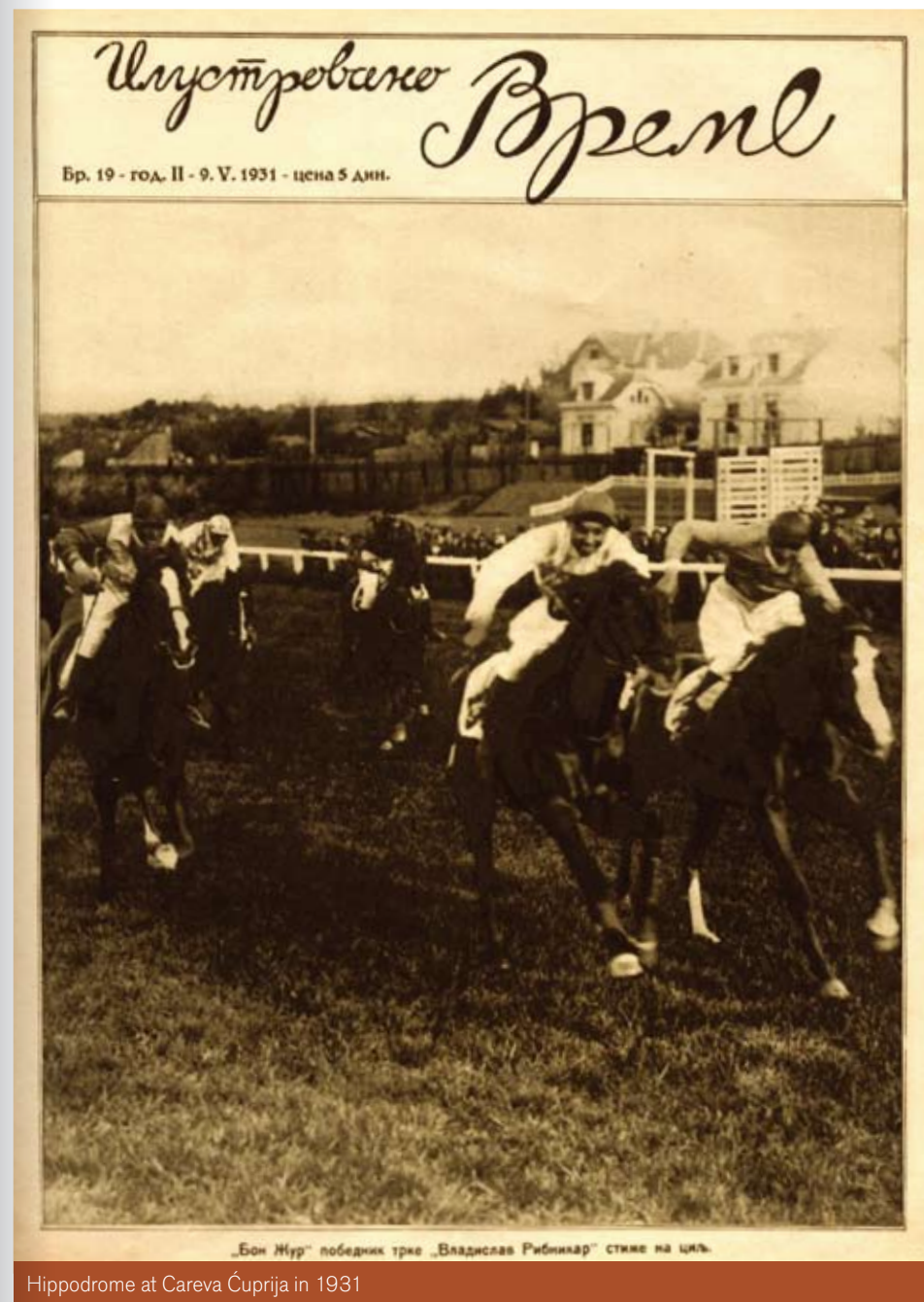
Topčider  
Summer Stage

## BELGRADE HIPPODROME

The tradition of horse racing in Belgrade is much older than the history of today's hippodrome. The first modern horse races in Serbia were organized in 1842, according to a west-European template, by the English consul Lloyd George Hodges in honour of the Sultan's emissary Sakib—Effendi. The racecourse (on the location of today's segment of the Kralja Aleksandra

Boulevard, from the Faculty of Law and *Metropol* Hotel, to the Technical Faculties and a line of buildings in Kraljice Marije Street), was built in 1863.

The racecourse was moved in 1906 to Bara Venecija and Banjica. It did not remain long in these locations, since a new hippodrome was soon built in the Topčider valley.



Hippodrome at Careva Čuprija in 1931

Credit for building today's hippodrome lies with the *Danubian Circle of Riders Prince Mihailo* and Vladislav Ribnikar, a long-time president of this association and the founder of the *Politika* daily newspaper. The Hippodrome at Careva Čuprija was built in 1914, and the first races were held right before World War I.

The golden age of the hippodrome was the period between the two world wars when races were held there, but it also served as a gathering place and a spot to show off the latest fashions.

After the death of King Aleksandar I Karađorđević in 1935, the 2.000 m race bearing his name was established, along with the *Memorial of Vladislav*

*Ribnikar* race. In marking the fifty-year anniversary of the founding of the *Danubian Circle of Riders* in 1940, a bust of Vladislav Ribnikar was set up at the hippodrome, the work of the sculptor Dušan M. Jovanović.

During the nineteen-eighties a full reconstruction of the race courses was undertaken, along with the reaffirmation of the equestrian sports and horse breeding in general that followed during subsequent years. The race course at Careva Čuprija is a modern hippodrome today with a developed betting system and a space that provides full enjoyment to those who love the speed, power and beauty of these noble animals.



Belgrade Hippodrome today



Home of King Petar I Karađorđević

## HOME OF KING PETAR I KARADORĐEVIĆ

The building constructed in 1896 in Vase Pelagića Street was declared the memorial house of King Petar I Karađorđević during the third decade of the last century. A small number of items from the royal legacy were preserved in the Historical Museum of Serbia and the Karađorđević family house at Oplenac.

This White Villa, where King Peter spent the last two days of his life, is planned to host an exhibit

displaying the intimate side of the King's life in the then rented house on Senjak. Of the small number of precious exhibits preserved, the stove, currently exhibited at the Residence of Prince Miloš in Topčider is the most beautiful.

Portraits of the Karađorđević family will also represent part of the exhibit, and the yard preserves the appearance of an old garden with protected plant species.



Modern sculpture of the Topčider Giraffe



## 6. TOPČIDER TODAY

Delineated by the Vojvode Mišića and Vojvode Putnika Boulevards, the number 3 railway line and the left bank of the Topčider River, the oldest park in Serbia is still a favourite Belgrade picnic ground.

You will surely enjoy the greenery, tranquillity and preserved nature, a mere few kilometres from the centre of the city. This ambient environment attracts not only with its natural beauty, but also the cultural-historical heritage and memories of events and important dates from the past.

This place is ideal for relaxation and recreation, a romantic meeting place for lovers, but also a place where the catering facilities offer a good time and a tasty bite to eat. Topčider still preserves the authenticity of the Obrenović

residential complex and the Prince's Residence you can visit. You can see authentic furniture, items and pieces of art that depict the lives of the Obrenović family and the historical turmoil of the 19th century during the creation of the Serbian state as part of the regular museum exhibit.

### MILOŠEV KONAK RESTAURANT

(national cuisine and "live music" on working days)

**Telephone:** 2663 146

**Open:** every day between 08–01 h

### TRADITIONAL RESTAURANT ŠARIĆ

(log cabin with national cuisine)

**Telephone:** 063 1120 719

**Open:** every day between 08–01 h

## 7. A WALK AROUND TOPČIDER

Topčider stands as one of the walks on offer as part of the regular program of city sightseeing *Walks Around Belgrade*. Visit this historical and natural jewel of Belgrade with a guide, you will surely like it.

**Departure:** every first Sunday at 11 h (April–November), Prince Miloš Residence

**Language:** Serbian-English

**Duration:** 60 minutes

**Price:** 200 dinars

**Tickets:** TIC Terazije, underground passage at the *Albanija* Palace

**Route:** Residence of Prince Miloš, Topčider Park, Fountain of Miloš, Church of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, Church Residence, Topčider Fountains, Seedling Nursery, Mašin majdan, Monument to Archibald Reiss, *Žetelica* Sculpture, *Obelisk*, Topčider River, *Milošev konak* Restaurant





## 8. ARTIST'S IMPRESSION OF THE TOPČIDER AMBIENTAL ENVIRONMENT

(author: Irena Paleček Radmanović)



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## ILLUSTRATIONS

Photographs: Branko Jovanović, Dragan Bosnić

Artist's impression of the Topčider ambiental environment: Irena Paleček Radmanović

Documentation of the Heritage Department of the Library of the City of Belgrade

Documentation of the Cultural Heritage Preservation Institute of Belgrade

Documentation of the Museum of the City of Belgrade

Documentation of the Museum of Serbian Railways

Documentation of the JP Hippodrome Belgrade

## TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES

### Nikola Tesla Airport

☎ 2097 828 (Monday - Sunday 8–22 h)

### Knez Mihailova 6

☎ 3281 159 (Monday - Saturday 9–21 h)

### Terazije

underground passage at the *Albanija* Palace

☎ 2635 622 (Monday through Friday 9–20 h, Saturday and Sunday 9–16 h)

### Main Railway Station

☎ 361 2732 (Monday - Friday 8–20 h, Saturday and Sunday 8–16 h)

### Sava Harbour

Karadorđeva b.b.

(April–November: Monday through Sunday 8–19 h)

### Tourist Centre Zemun

Zmaj Jovina 14

☎ 2192 094 (Monday through Friday 9–15 h, Saturday 9–13 h)

### Information Centre of the Tourist Organization of Serbia, Čika Ljubina 8/1,

☎ 6557 127 (Monday – Saturday 9–21 h)



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