



# SURVIVAL GUIDE

BEST COURSE IN SPRING 2022  
MOSTAR

# CONTENT

WELCOME TO BOSNIA!	2
BASIC INFO	2
HEART-SHAPED COUNTRY	3
WELCOME TO MOSTAR!	4
FOOD & DRINKS	6
HOW TO GET TO MOSTAR?	8
MONEY MONEY MONEY!	11
OTHER IMPORTANT INFO	13
SMALL BOSNIAN DICTIONARY	14
WHAT TO DO BEFOREHAND?	15
WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU?	16
USEFUL TIPS	17
EMERGENCY NUMBERS	17



# Welcome to Bosnia and Herzegovina!

## BASIC INFO:

Capital and the largest city: Sarajevo

Total area: 51,129 m<sup>2</sup>

Population: 3.832.201 (per 2015)

Currency: Convertible Mark (BAM)

Official languages: *Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian*

Call number: 387

Internet TDL: *ba*





## HART-SHAPED COUNTRY!

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a heart-shaped country located in the heart of Southeast Europe. Here, Eastern and Western civilizations met, sometimes clashed, but more often enriched and strengthened each other through fascinating history. Bosnia covers the north and central part of the country, and the name probably originated from the old Indo-European word "bosana", which means water, which Bosnia has in abundance. The southern region ruled by Herceg Stjepan was later renamed Herzegovina after the Ottomans conquered the area. The most important thing to know is that Bosnia and Herzegovina is a stunningly beautiful country with a range of landscapes, cultures, traditions and people. And as the old cliché says "people make a place", so BiH is proud of its hospitality and acceptance of guests as if they were family members. And for us, family is something special.





# Welcome to Mostar!

Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina



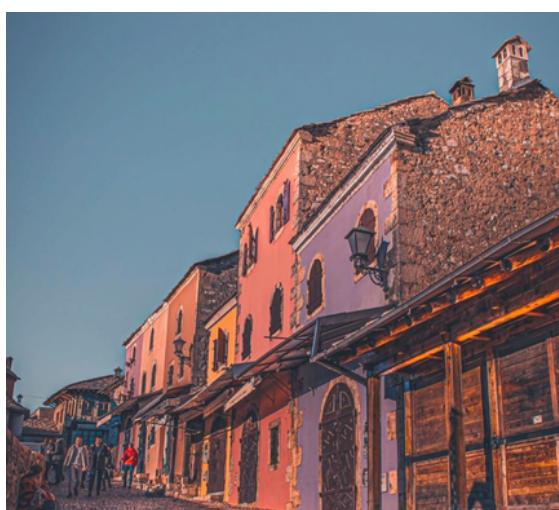
The city of Mostar - one of the sunniest cities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is a place with beautiful landscapes, rich history and above all – a true clash of civilizations! Mostar was founded in the 15th century and was an important Ottoman regional center until the late 19th century. Named after the men who guarded its Old Bridge, Stari Most, the town passed from the Ottomans to the Austro-Hungarian Empire in the late 19th century. After WWI, it became a part of newly-formed Yugoslavia. Engulfed in war after Bosnia and Herzegovina declared independence in 1992, the town was shelled repeatedly. Its Old Town, including its celebrated bridge, was all but destroyed.



## Welcome to Mostar!

After the war ended, UNESCO and donor nations launched a five-year project to rebuild the historic Old Town and the bridge in an effort to heal the deep ethnic divide that characterized the destruction. The resulting reconstruction was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2005.

"It's different with Mostar, I never say goodbye to it. Because you can leave Mostar, but he doesn't leave you. It creeps under your skin, flows through your veins and unites with you without you even being aware of it. And then it's too late, nostalgia draws you forever to the city born on the banks of the Neretva "(A. Šantić).





## Food

Balkan cuisine, which includes Bosnia and Herzegovina, is an interesting (and delicious!) combination of Western and Eastern traditions. Bosnian cuisine has a rich tradition influenced by Turkish, Middle Eastern, Mediterranean and Central European cuisine. Here are some suggestions on what to try in Mostar.

### What to eat?

Kebabs are a dish that you can find all over the Balkans, and it is a baked dish made of minced meat. It resembles kebab and can be made from different types of meat; from chicken, lamb, to beef. It is most often served with chopped onion, kajmak, ajvar or sour sauce.

Burek is a puff pastry stuffed with meat. This is one of the most popular dishes in the entire Balkans.

Meat under the sač (peka) means any meat prepared in the traditional way under the sač or peka. A sač or peka is a metal or ceramic lid that covers the meat and over which the ashes and live coal are sprinkled in order to cook the meat. With this procedure, the meat remains juicy and full of flavor.

## Food

Bosnian pot is a traditional dish in BiH. Recipes vary from region to region and from person to person, but it is mostly a stew of beef, lamb, potatoes, garlic, carrots, tomatoes, parsley and whole peppercorns.

Baklava is a dessert made from layers of dough and chopped nuts tied together with sweet syrup or honey. In BiH, baklava is made from walnuts and sugar syrup.

Coffee culture is very strong in this part of the Balkans, so this especially goes for taking a cup of traditional Bosnian coffee.

Rakija is a popular type of alcoholic beverage in the Balkans that is obtained by distilling fermented fruit. The typical rakija is colorless and has a strong aroma, which is made of plums (šljivovica) or grapes (loza).





## How to get to Mostar?

A very useful page when looking for routes and means of transport <https://www.rome2rio.com/>

Given that Mostar is one of the most popular destinations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, it is well connected with other cities such as Sarajevo, but also with others such as Dubrovnik and Kotor. Below you will find the most important airports, train stations and bus stations.

### By plane ✈

Mostar International Airport (OMO) is located in the village of Ortiješ, about 7 km southeast of Mostar. The airport was completely renovated and reopened in 1998. Some of the airlines operating at the airport are Albastar, Croatia Airlines, Eurowings and Trade Air. Most flights are seasonal, but flights to Zagreb are available throughout the year. Sarajevo International Airport (SJJ), also known as Butmir Airport, is the main international airport in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is located near the capital Sarajevo, and the distance from Mostar is about 70 km. The number of airlines operating at the airport is about 15, and they offer numerous flights to over 30 destinations in Europe and the Middle East.



# How to get to Mostar?

## By bus

Mostar is one of the most popular destinations in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is very well connected with other cities in the country such as Sarajevo, Medjugorje and Tuzla, but also with cities across Europe such as Dubrovnik, Split, Kotor, Podgorica and Belgrade. Here you can find more information about bus stops in Mostar.

There are two bus stations in Mostar:

The Eastern Bus Station is located in the eastern part of the city near Ivan Krndelj Square, 1 km from the center.

The Western Bus Station is located in the western part of the city in Vukovarska Street, about 3 km from the city center.

## By train

Mostar is located on the railway that connects Ploče and Sarajevo, ie Bosnia and Herzegovina with Croatia.

Mostar Railway Station is located near the Eastern Bus Station, on Ivan Krndelj Square. This route mainly follows the Neretva River and passes through Sarajevo, Konjic, Mostar and Ploče. The journey from Sarajevo to Mostar is known for the beautiful nature you have the opportunity to see.



## How to get to Mostar?

### By car

Mostar is located at the crossroads of important roads, located on the most important route E73, which connects Hungary with the Adriatic Sea. Mostar is located about 130 km south of Sarajevo and about 130 km from Dubrovnik. Keep in mind that the roads in BiH are not in the best condition and there are no double highways, except on the outskirts of Sarajevo. When it comes to parking, you won't have a problem finding it. There are two on the west side, next to the Old Bridge; one is 300 m away from the Bridge, and the other is next to the monastery in Franjevačka Street.

Are you in the mood for excursions, but don't have your own vehicle? In that case, we suggest renting a car. There are numerous agencies in Mostar such as Artic, Carrus, E&G and Budget. Compare their prices and book your vehicle on time.

### Taxi services in Mostar

Herc taxi Phone: 1599 Viber: 066/061-599

MojTaxi Phone: 1503 Viber: 063/150-300

Arny Taxi Phone: 1507 Viber 063/150-715

# Money money money?

Currency: BAM (Bosnia and Herzegovina convertible mark)  
 At the time of writing this, the exchange rate were:

1€ = 1.95 BAM

1\$ = 1.78 BAM

Money can be exchanged in banks, exchange offices and post offices at the current rate of exchange. The only legal tender in Bosnia and Herzegovina is the Bosnia and Herzegovina convertible mark. Shops in Old Town may accept Euros but be sure to always have some money in convertible marks (BAM) with you.  
 Here's how Bosnian marks look (size is not accurate):





# Money money money?

<b>Product:</b>	<b>Price in BAM:</b>
Beer	2 - 4
Beer in store 0.5l	1.5 - 2
Water 1l	1 - 2
Cigarettes	5 - 7
Milk 1l	1.2 - 1.5
Coffee	1 - 2.5
Kebab	3 - 5
Hamburger	2 - 4
1 slice of pizza	1.5 - 2
1 shot of rakija	0.5 - 2
Chips 150g	2 - 2.5
Chocolate	1 - 5
Taxi ride	2 kilometers = 3 BAM

## Other important info

### **FEES:**

Fees and deposits are calculated through 5 categories which define the different amount of the fees and deposits to be paid by students from countries in which BEST is present with at least one university. Fee is collected upon your arrival!

For Spring Season 2018 division is:

- 100% of the fee and 60.0 euros deposit: Austria, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland.
- 80% of the fee and 50.0 euros deposit: Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Italy, Spain.
- 60% of the fee and 40.0 euros deposit: Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia.
- 40% of the fee and 30.0 euros deposit: Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey.
- 20% of the fee and 20.0 euros deposit: Bosnia And Herzegovina, Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Republic Of, Moldova, Republic Of, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine.

Here you can find more:

<https://best.eu.org/courses/countryCategories.jsp>



# Small Bosnian dictionary

SLAV IT UP!

**English:** **Bosnian:**

Yes	Da
No	Ne
Hello.	Zdravo, čao.
Please.	Molim.
Good morning.	Dobro jutro.
Good night.	Laku noć.
Goodbye.	Zbogom, čao.
How are you?	Kako si?
I'm sorry.	Oprosti, žao mi je.
I'm fine.	Dobar, dobar.
Help!	Pomoć!
Tea	Čaj
Water	Voda
Bon appetit.	Prijatno.
I don't understand.	Ne razumijem, ne kontam.
Excuse me.	Oprosti.
Where's the toilet?	Gdje je toalet?
I love you.	Volim te.
Cheers!	Živjeli!
Just joking.	Ma zezam se.
One beer please.	Jedno pivo molim.
It's hot.	Upeklo.
It's windy.	Odnese.
Oh come on!	Ma to je tebi 5 minuta!
Good luck!	Slomij nogu!
Under the bridge.	Ispod Starog.



## What to do beforehand?

Inform the organizers about your:

- Allergies or medical requirements;
- Arrival, departure time and place;
- T-shirt size;
- special diet/allergies;
- Take care of both medical and travel insurance;
- Check if your country has any kind of agreement with Bosnia and Herzegovina

Don't forget your ID card or passport. The policemen will not let you into our country without documents, even if you are from EU and, please, take good care of your documents.

If you are from EU you can get in our country with your ID card.



## What to bring with you?

- ID Card
- Money (fee in euros + extra money for souvenirs, shopping, etc.)
- Travel insurance
- Medical assistance documents
- Invitation letter
- ISIC Card or any document that shows you are a student (for cheaper prices)
- Any medication you are using/might need
- Photo camera
- Some typical food and drinks from your country for the International Evening
- Hairdryer (just in case there won't be one)
- Reusable bottle of water
- Towels
- This Survival guide
- Sunscreen
- Some kind of a jacket, or something warm (it can get cold at night)
- Swimming suit
- A music instrument (always welcome)
- YOU
- A big smile!



## Useful tips

- Tap water in BiH is safe to drink (except in periods after heavy rain), and in the city you will find fountains from which it is allowed to drink.
- Next to the Old Bridge you can connect to free WiFi.
- Mostar is a safe city and the crime rate is generally low, but beware of the so-called “pickpockets” in the crowds during the heart of the season.
- Mostar was one of the terribly bombed cities of Bosnia and Herzegovina during the last war, and the city has not yet fully recovered from it. Therefore, we advise you not to enter the areas of abandoned ruins as there is a possibility of further collapse.
- Smoking is allowed and acceptable in public places everywhere except in some restaurants and cafes that have non-smoking zones.
- Leaving tips is not so common in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but locals tend to round up the amount often.

### Emergency numbers

Police: 122

Fire Department: 123

Ambulance: 124