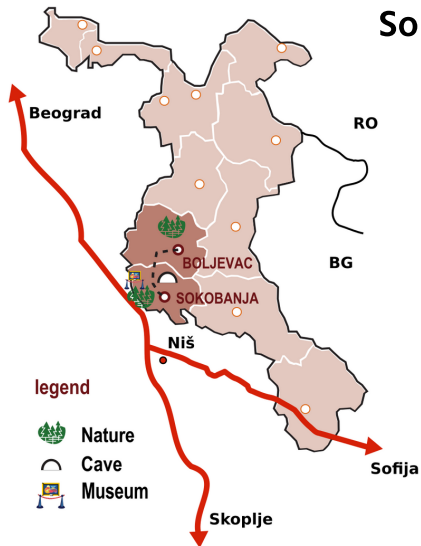


# DAYS OF THE RTANJ TEA



## Sokobanja - Boljevac - two days



### DAY 1:

#### Sokobanja

Tour of the spa - walk through the pedestrian zone and visit the local Museum in park Banjica. Going to Amam, which is a Turkish bath (and more recently a wellness center) and is the perfect place to relax. Aqua park Sokobanja is a fun water complex with an area of 16.000 m<sup>2</sup>. It is located on the location of the sports and recreational center Podina in Sokobanja, and can accommodate up to 2000 visitors.

Departure to Vrelo - the source of the river Moravica which is located at the foot of the mountain Virgo. Mark's Cave can be visited near the spring. A short trip to the beautiful Ripaljka waterfall, and then a tour of the Seselac cave in the area of the village of Seselac. The cave is characterized by rich cave jewelry and the river Ponornica, which is located in it, is a unique experience.

#### Boljevac – Rtanj

In the settlement of Rtanj, which was built next to the former mine at the foot of the mountain, you can visit the old mining shaft and the beautiful Greta Park, which is next to the settlement and the Sanctuary - Vrelo, which is believed to have an energy field that has a beneficial effect on human health. A tour of the native house of "Ljubinka Savić Grasi" in the village of Ilina. As part of a visit to the foot of the mountains, you can cause people's health and become an ethno settlement to which the trail leads you.

### DAY 2:

#### Harvesting Rtanj tea

Rtanj tea is a widely known endemic species. This medicinal herb grows only on this mountain, and a very similar one still grows on Olympus in Greece. According to tradition, it was cultivated by the Turks in their harems many centuries ago, and when Serbia freed itself from their slavery in the 19th century, this plant was transferred to Rtanj and planted at 1000 meters above sea level, where it only thrives. This type of tea works for large coughs, poor appetite, stomach problems, nervous tension, and is also very effective as an aphrodisiac.

The traditional harvest of Rtanj tea is held in August and September. It is a one-day tourist event on the southern slopes of the mountain accompanied by a tourist guide, which in addition to harvesting provides an opportunity to get to know the folk customs of this area and to enjoy eating and drinking from eastern Serbia.

# DAYS OF THE RTANJ TEA

## ACTIVE HOLIDAY AND RELAXATION:

- ▶ Hiking on the Rtanj trails
- ▶ Picnic areas in Sokobanja

## SPECIALTIES OF THE AREA:

- ▶ Lumb and cheese from Krivi Vir
- ▶ A glass of red and rose wine from Knjazevac
- ▶ Belmuž

## EVENTS:

- ▶ International festival of creativity "Crnorecje in song and dance", June, Boljevac
- ▶ Night ascent to Rtanj on St. Vitus' Day, 27th and 28th June, Rtanj
- ▶ First Accordion of Sokobanja, July and August, Sokobanja
- ▶ "St. John's festivities", August, Sokobanja
- ▶ Green Heart Fest (Rok festival), July, Sokobanja

## WE RECOMMEND:

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