



THE ROYAL COMPOUND OF SERBIA

GROUP VISITS AND TOURS





HRH Crown Prince Alexander and Crown Princess Katherine

WELCOME

Dear visitor,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to The Royal Compound of Serbia. My grandfather, HM King Alexander I commissioned the construction of this remarkable Complex as a testament to our great nation.

For over five decades this cultural gem was enjoyed by only a few, and now, upon our return it has been opened to the public, so that everyone can visit and admire its beauties.

The visit will take you on a journey of Serbia's past and present. The history of Serbia is displayed throughout the entire Complex.

My family and I are deeply touched by your desire to take advantage of this unique opportunity to visit The Royal Palaces and come into direct contact with these symbols of our splendid Serbian cultural heritage. It is our heartfelt wish that you feel welcome and thoroughly enjoy your visit of The Royal Compound.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be "Alexander".

HRH Crown Prince Alexander

GROUP VISITS

*Central Salon
of the White Palace*

The Royal Compound encompasses The Royal Palace, and subsidiary structures – all set within exceptionally designed parks. The Compound is open to visitors from the beginning of April until the end of October.

Tours of The Compound last approximately one and a half hours. Tours visit The Royal Palace, The Royal Chapel and The White Palace, and provide enjoyment in the natural beauty of the surrounding Royal Park.





THE ROYAL COMPOUND

The Royal Compound of the Karadjordjevic Dynasty occupies 331 acres or 134 hectares at the highest point of Dedinje Hill, in one of the most exclusive parts of Belgrade. It is surrounded by extraordinary gardens and parks that were designed by Eduard André, the master landscape architect and director of parks of Versailles.

After going through the main gate of The Royal Compound, visitors will immediately feel the serenity and harmony with nature that prevails in this unique oasis in the very heart of Belgrade. The better part of The Royal Compound is covered with parks in the English style, where plants, trees and flowers are allowed to grow in their natural state. In

contrast, the areas directly around the palaces are designed in the manner of French parks, in which flowers, bushes and trees appear in neatly shaped forms and are planted in symmetrical patterns.

The main road leading to The Royal Palace passes the Royal Guard House and the Gendarmerie House toward the first built structure of The Compound, the Thatched House. King Alexander I resided in the Thatched House while supervising the construction of The Royal Compound and it also served, at different times, as the study room of the King's three sons and artistic atelier of Queen Maria.

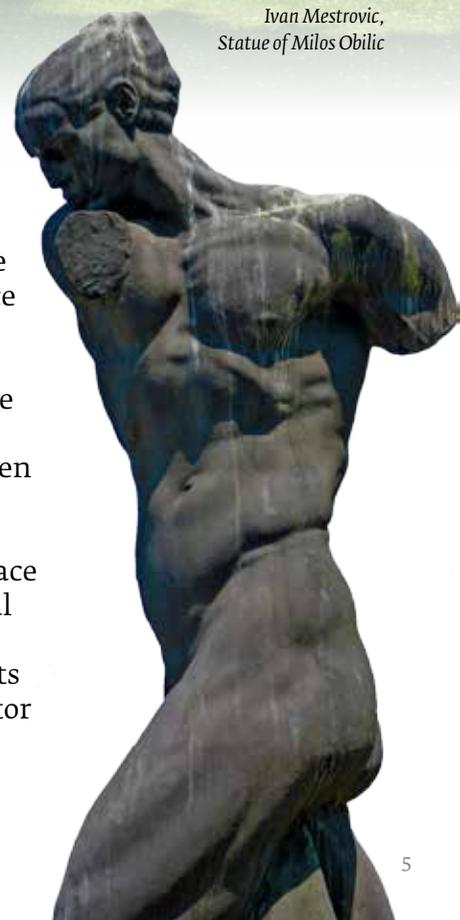


THE ROYAL PALACE

The Royal Palace consists of a basement and three floors and features a series of luxuriously decorated anterooms, salons, dining rooms, libraries and apartments. Visitors to The Royal Palace will see: the Formal Entrance Hall which features details taken from Serbian Medieval art, the Blue Salon whose style is patterned after the French salons of the 18th century, the Royal Dining Room and Library decorated with Renaissance details, the Salon of the Wedding gifts of King Alexander and Queen Maria, which features masterpieces of Italian Renaissance art, the Patio and King Alexander's Office.

The Royal Palace is built in the Serbian-Byzantine style. Work on The Palace began in 1924 and was completed in 1929, from which point on it became the private residence of King Alexander and Queen Maria. Zivojin Nikolic was the chief architect. When designing the palace Nikolic relied a great deal on his associates, the Russian émigré architects Nikolai Krasnov and Victor Lukomski.

*Ivan Mestrovic,
Statue of Milos Obilic*



THE BLUE SALON

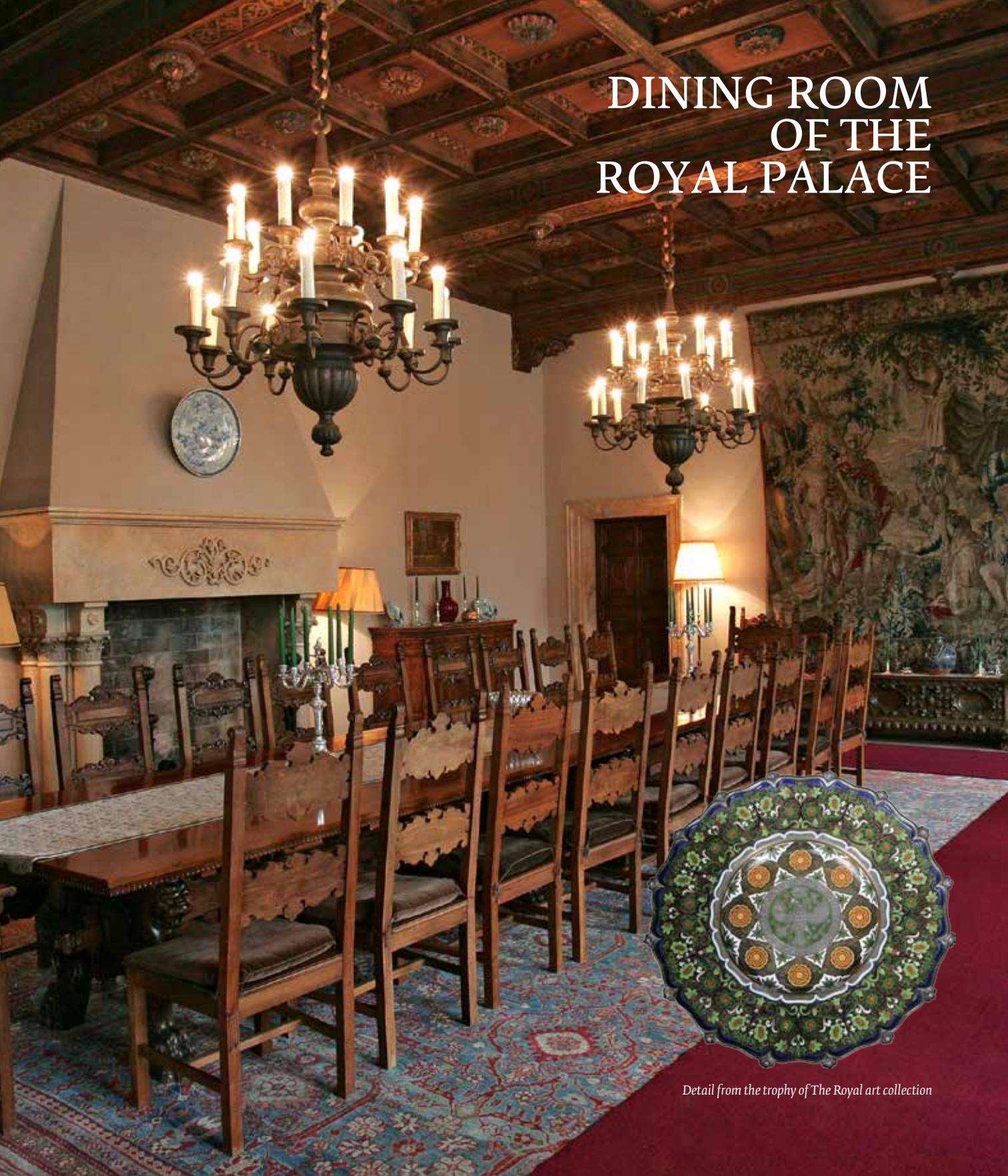
Throughout The Palace, there are items from the art collection of The Royal Family including chosen works of domestic and foreign painters, sculptors and masters of the applied arts. A few featured artists of note include: Jacopo Palma il Vecchio, Nicolas Poussin, Andrea Allovigi, Biagio d'Antonio, Augustin Pajou, Ivan Mestrovic, Paja Jovanovic, Toma Rosandic, Frano Krsinic and Vlaho Bukovac.



Nicolas Poussin, Venus and Adonis



DINING ROOM OF THE ROYAL PALACE



Detail from the trophy of The Royal art collection

A photograph of an ornate room, likely a basement or a hidden chamber in a palace. The walls are covered in intricate red and gold floral patterns. A large, black, glossy statue of a monk in a long, flowing robe stands in the foreground, looking down. In the background, a golden Buddha bust is mounted on a dark wooden pedestal. The ceiling is also decorated with elaborate patterns. A small, glowing lantern hangs from the ceiling on the left. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and richly detailed.

SECRETS OF THE ROYAL PALACE BASEMENT

One of highlights of the Palace tour is the visit to the Palace Basement where guests enjoy viewing the striking contrast created by the architects, who fashioned a series of spectacularly shaped rooms featuring motifs from Russian tradition and fairy tales.



Detail of fresco decoration from the basement ceiling

Work of HM Queen
Maria Karadjordjevic,
Knight in Contemplation



The Royal Compound offers visitors an exceptional and inimitable aesthetic experience. After more than half century of being a “forbidden city”, Crown Prince Alexander opened its gates to both the people of Serbia and to foreign visitors.



THE ROYAL CHAPEL

The Royal Chapel is attached to The Royal Palace and dedicated to Saint Andrew the First-Called, patron saint of The Royal Family of Karadjordjevic. The chapel was built at the same time as The Royal Palace and is attached by a lovely arched colonnade offering to the visitors magnificent views of the northern, western and southern parts of Belgrade, as well as the cascades of The Palace Rose Gardens.

The Royal Chapel was built in the style of the Royal Church located in Studenica monastery (1313-1314), the memorial church of King Milutin, and the Church of Saint Andrew at a prominent monastery on the River Treska in Macedonia (1389), the memorial church of the son of King Vukasin. The Chapel is painted with frescoes made after the sketches of Russian painters who were given the task of travelling around Serbia and copying the most powerful and beautiful frescoes from Serbia's medieval monasteries.





THE THATCHED HOUSE

THE FIRST BUILT
STRUCTURE
IN THE COMPOUND

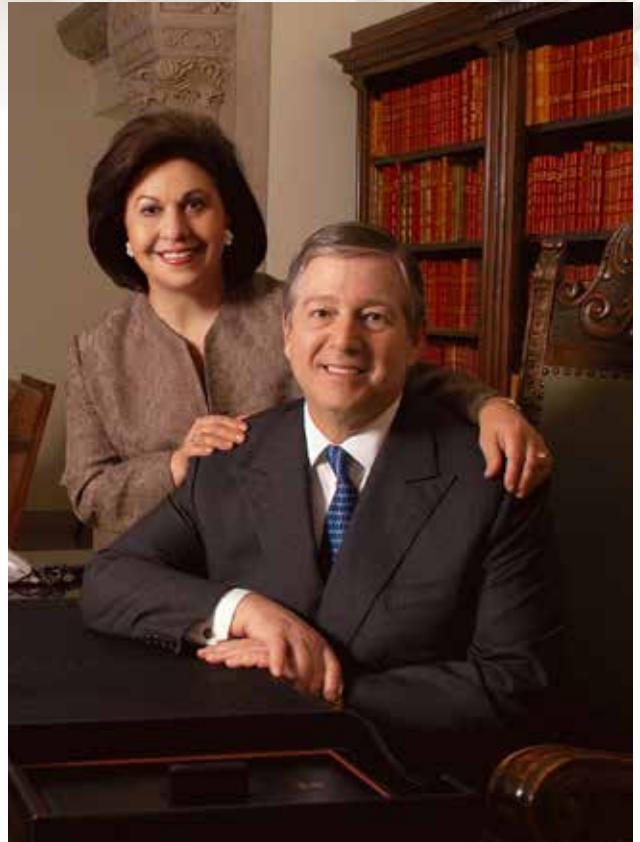
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THE ROYAL FAMILY

*Their Royal Highnesses
Crown Prince Alexander
and Crown Princess Katherine*

Crown Prince Alexander returned permanently to his homeland on his birthday, 17 July 2001, together with his wife, Crown Princess Katherine and his three sons Princes Peter, Philip and Alexander, after living in exile for nearly 60 years.





*Their Royal Highnesses
Prince Alexander,
Hereditary Prince Peter
and Prince Philip*

*Grand Cross
of the Order
of the Yugoslav
Crown*



*Order of
St. Prince Lazar*

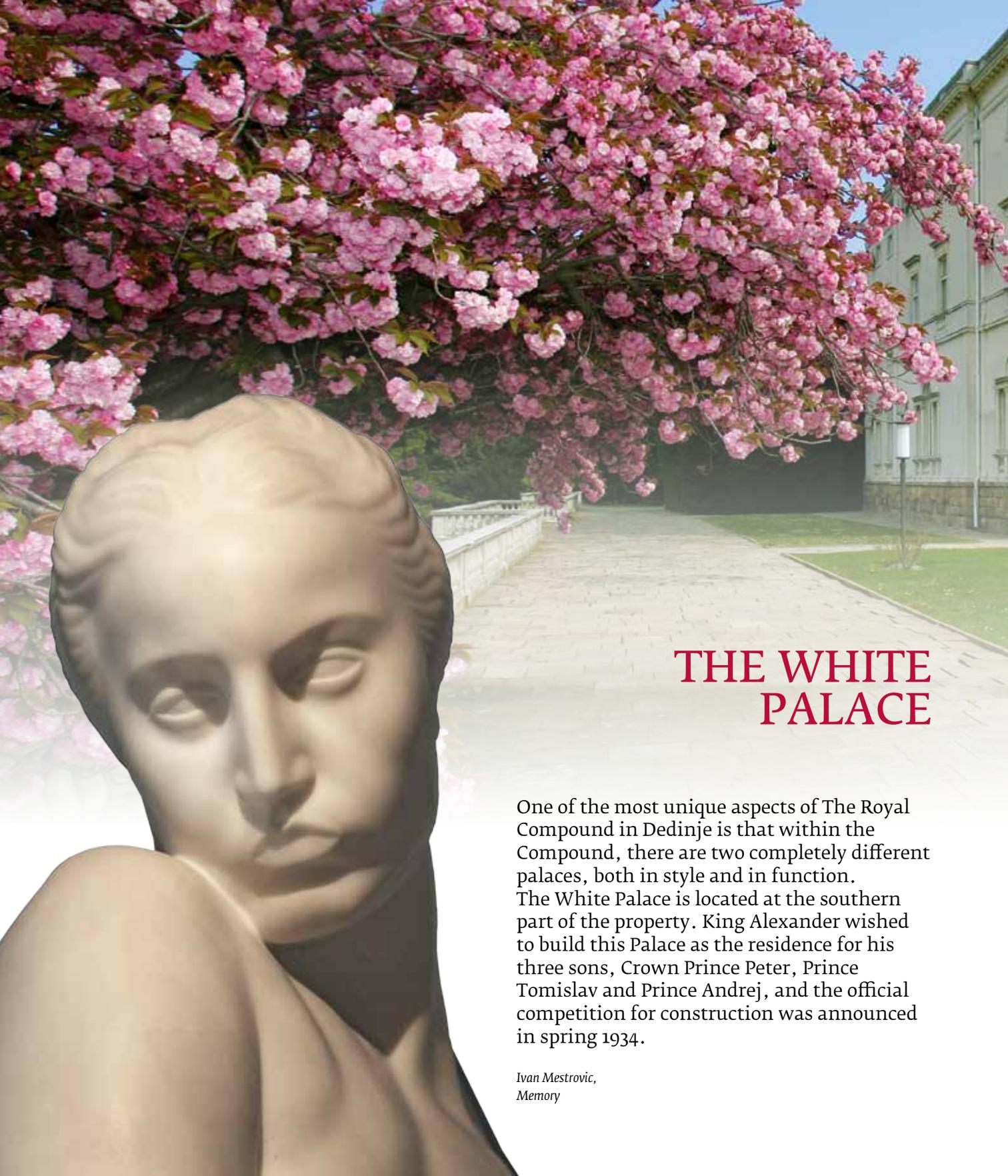
**EXPLORE
THE ROYAL
COMPOUND
GREAT
OUTDOORS!**





ATTEND OUR OPEN TOURS!

Did you know that in the Royal Compound there are more than 180 different types of trees and plants? Spanish pines, Arizona cypress, Sequoia trees, Chestnut, Maple trees, Tulip tree...



THE WHITE PALACE

One of the most unique aspects of The Royal Compound in Dedinje is that within the Compound, there are two completely different palaces, both in style and in function. The White Palace is located at the southern part of the property. King Alexander wished to build this Palace as the residence for his three sons, Crown Prince Peter, Prince Tomislav and Prince Andrej, and the official competition for construction was announced in spring 1934.

*Ivan Mestrovic,
Memory*



Belgrade architect Alexander Djordjevic won the competition with his neoclassical design. However, only two months after construction began on The White Palace, King Alexander was assassinated in Marseille, on 9 October 1934.

Construction continued, however, and The White Palace was finished in 1936, at which point the son of King Alexander's uncle, Prince Paul, who had recently been appointed one of three Regents of the Realm, moved in with his family.

The structure of The White Palace has struck visitors ever since with its simplicity, noble elegance, balance and symmetrical precision of its design.



*Art school of Rembrandt van Rijn,
Portrait of an Old Man*



*Workshop of Alexander Roslin,
Portrait of Grand Duchess Maria Fyodorovna*



The White Palace also holds within its walls masterpieces of European decorative and fine art. Passing through the Entrance Hall, the Central Hall, the Royal Dining Room, the Golden Salon, the Small Salon and the Library, visitors have the opportunity to see fine examples of furniture and other interior design elements from the period of Louis XV and Louis XVI, unique porcelain pieces from Sèvres, exceptional Chinese, German and French vases, crystal Venetian chandeliers and other artefacts. Visiting The White Palace also offers unique experience to get a closer insight into the artistic works of Simon Voue, Nicolas Poussin, Sebastian Bourdon, Eugène Fromentin, Rembrandt van Rijn, Paolo Veronese, Antonio Canaletto, Paja Jovanovic, Djura Jaksic, Steva Todorovic, Ivan Mestrovic, Vlaho Bukovac and Konstantin Danil.

Jacopo Palma il Vecchio,
Holy family with St. John The Baptist, St. Katherine,
and Donors (Holy Conversation)



Art school
of Rembrandt van Rijn

THE ROYAL ART COLLECTION

The Royal Compound in Dedinje is a unique establishment that has preserved, for more than nine decades, art and collections of our very rich historical and cultural heritage. By having extraordinary collection of the world's greatest Masters of Arts it is unquestionably part of the world cultural heritage.

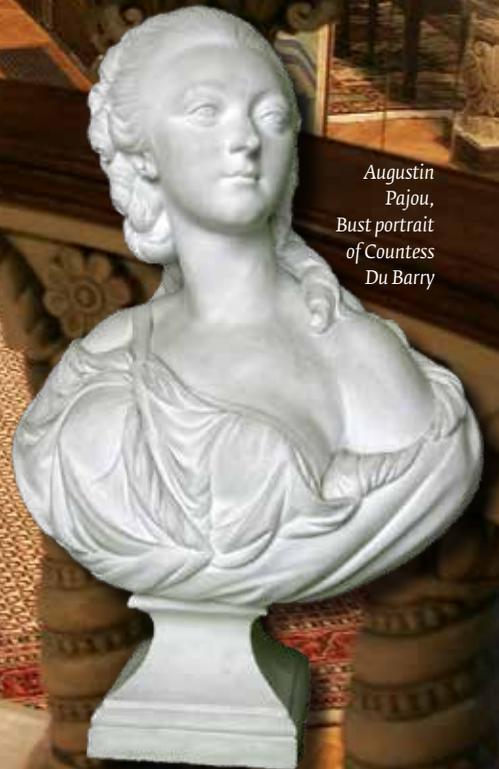


Unknown artist,
Garden pot of Ferdinand II Medici,
glazed majolica



Most likely made in Caffaggiolo (near Florence), a renowned centre of Tuscany pottery, which was, for a time, under the patronage of the Medici family, whose arms and motto appear on some of its wares like these pots with the coat of arms of Ferdinand II Medici (1610–1670), after his marriage to Vittoria de la Rovere. The earlier work shows the influence of the Florentine masters, particularly Botticelli; Donatello's work was also copied. Typical themes are: a rich blue, used as a background; lemon yellow, orange, and green; also lustre, and a dark cherry red peculiar to the factory.

EAST AND WEST



*Augustin
Pajou,
Bust portrait
of Countess
Du Barry*

JOIN US AT THE ROYAL COMPOUND!

The Royal Compound offers visitors an exceptional and intimate aesthetic experience. After more than half century of being a “forbidden city”, Crown Prince Alexander opened its gates to both the people of Serbia and to foreign visitors.

The Royal Compound represents a unique historical and cultural treasure that everyone should share and that no visitor to Serbia should miss. Join us at The Royal Compound for an experience that will stay in your heart and your memory forever.

In order to make your stay as pleasant as possible, please observe the following rules of admission to The Royal Compound:

- No visitors will be allowed before previously registering at the Office of HRH Crown Prince Alexander or Tourist Organization of Belgrade
- No bulky luggage – it must be left on the bus
- No consumption of food or drinks anywhere in The Royal Compound
- No ill-suited clothes (shorts, mini skirts, strapless shirts etc.)
- No photographing of the premises used by the security or military
- No photographing inside of two Palaces
- No parting from the group – all visitors must follow the guide at all times
- No smoking
- No sitting on chairs or any other piece of furniture or terrace parapets
- No touching of any exhibited artefacts
- We reserve the right in our sole and absolute discretion to refuse admission to any person if circumstances reasonably so require and our decision shall be final and binding
- We reserve the right to suspend or cut short a particular visit if circumstances reasonably so require
- All mobile telephones must be switched off while within the interior parts of The Royal Compound
- Parents shall be held responsible for their children
- We may require that any visitor whose behaviour is in any way disruptive should forthwith leave The Royal Compound
- The Office of HRH Crown Prince Alexander reserves the right to postpone confirmed visit 48 hours prior to your arrival due to unexpected circumstances.

VISIT THE ROYAL COMPOUND

The Royal Compound is open to visitor sightseeing from the 1st of April, until the 31st of October. Tours are organized on Saturdays and Sundays at 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM. The transfer to the Royal Compound is organized from the Nikola Pasic Square, at 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM.

FOR ALL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
AND BOOKINGS PLEASE CONTACT:

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Special Offer!

If you are interested in additional sightseeing options, apart from the regular week-end sightseeing tours, please make your enquiry directly to the Office of HRH Crown Prince Alexander at:

THE ROYAL PALACE

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