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**INVESTOR GUIDE** 



#### BOLJEVAC

#### The Municipality of Boljevac is an excellent place for new investments.

The Municipality of Boljevac is at a great location for business:

- Boljevac is close to highway (Corridor X)
- Boljevac is in near vicinity of EU (Bulgaria and Romania)
- It is also close to the Corridor 4
- It is at the foot of the Rtanj mountain
- It is close to the airports in Nis and Kraljevo, and a couple of hours drive away from the airports in Sofia and Belgrade

Geographic location of Boljevac is especially favorable for the development of the wood industry and mining



#### WHY BOLJEVAC?

The Municipality of Boljevac offers good support to anyone who wants to do business in Serbia:

- Fast and efficient local administration is at your service
- The Municipality provides investors with the necessary communal infrastructure (road, water...)
- The Municipality provides support in applying for excellent subsidies and incentives on a state level

## THE MUNICIPALITY OF BOLJEVAC IS ALSO CHARACTERIZED BY:

- Simplified administrative procedures
- Skilled and available workforce
- A number of locations for greenfield and brownfield investments
- Competitive land prices
- Excellent resources for tourism and agriculture development
- The support of RARIS to the investors



WOODED AREA COVERS 45.1% OF LAND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BOLJEVAC WHICH IS TWICE THE AVERAGE OF SERBIA

BOLJEVAC WAS CERTIFIED BY NALED AS A MUNICIPALITY WITH FAVORABLE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT.



## KEY FACTS

- The territory: 828 km<sup>2</sup>
- About 10.500 people currently live in Boljevac.
- More than 230 entrepreneurs and about 75 companies are working in Boljevac.
- About 2.700 people work in Boljevac with an average salary of 63.180 dinars (net), while there are about 830 unemployed.
- Significant natural resources for agricultural development. There are about 20.400 hectares of arable land and around 3.000 registered farmers.
- Mineral resources (The Coal Mine Bogovina is located just 17 km from Boljevac), watercourses, famous Rtanj Mountain...

## KEY FACTS

- The most significant tourist potentials are the Rtanj Mountain, the Bogovinska cave, several monasteries, nature, many picturesque villages.
- Boljevac has several festivals, out of which "Crnorečje" is most famous folk music and dance festival.

## PEOPLE

- 12.994 inhabitants according to the 2011 census.
- Assessment for 2020. 10.950.

Description	2020	
	F	Μ
Children of 6 years and younger (preschool age)	220	236
Children of 7-14 years (primary school age)	332	367
Children of 15-18 years (high school age)	196	222
Children of 0-17 years	703	764
Number of young people (15–29 years)	750	899
Population in working age (15–64 years)	3.160	3.460
Total population	5.532	5.418

Source: Vital statistics, Statistical office of the Republic of Serbia

## PEOPLE

- The educational structure is dominated by people with high school education who have 26% of women and 40% of men, while there are 6% of women and 6% men with bachelor and master degree.
- It is estimated that more than 1.400 people are in the diaspora. According to the 2011 census, that number was 1.396.



• Total investments in fixed assets in 2019 in the Municipality of Boljevac amounted to 2.5 million euros, and the structure of investments looked like this:

Total	Construction Works	Land	Domestic Equipment	Imported Equipment	Cultivated Biological Resources	Intellectual Property
2,581	2,040	20	475	39	0	5

Source: Chamber of Commerce of Zajecar and Bor administrative districts

• Foreign Trade in the Municipality of Boljevac in 2020 amounted to about near 10 million EUR.

Total Foreign Trade (000 EUR)	Export (000 EUR)	index I-XII 2019/ I- XII 2018	participation in export of the Serbia as a whole (%)	lmport (000 EUR)	index I-XII 2019 / I-XII 2018	participat ion in import of the Serbia as a whole (%)	Balance (000 EUR)	coverage of import by export (%)
9,794	6,324	99	1.1	3,470	73	0.6	2,853	182

Source: Chamber of Commerce of Zajecar and Bor administrative districts

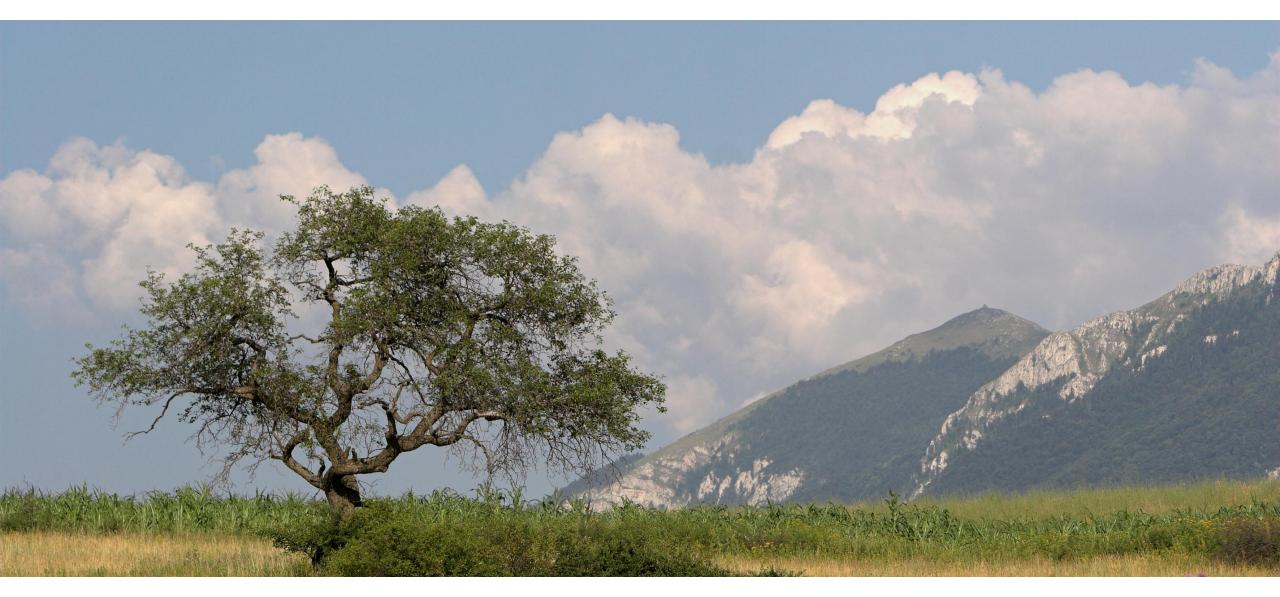
- In 2020, just under 3.000 people were employed
- The structure of the number of employees by activities is dominated by manufacturing industry and mining.
- Average salaries without taxes, in the period from 2017-2022 increased from 37.365 dinars in 2017 to 47.070 dinars in 2019 and to 63.180 dinars in 2022. Despite the growth, salaries are slightly below the national average.
- In 2021, 838 unemployed people were registered
- The number of unemployed has been decreasing in the last five years, from 960 in 2017 to 838 unemployed in 2021.

#### The most important investments are:

- FPM Agromehanika (production of agricultural machinery) with more than 250 employees,
- Bioenergy Point (production of wood pellet) about 100 employees,
- Unimer (metal processing industry) with 40 employees,
- Rudex doo (production of explosives and detonators) about 200 employees
- Hotel "Ramonda" 4\*
- A large number of small investments in tourist facilities around the Rtanj mountain

On the territory of the Municipality of Boljevac, agricultural production is also important, in which, according to the agricultural census, almost 4.500 people are engaged on near to 3.000 registered agricultural farms.





#### WHY SERBIA?

- Competitive tax rates VAT, income tax, etc. are among the lowest in Europe.
- Restructured and stable financial system.
- Simple procedures for founding and registering a company.
- Simple procedures for performing foreign trade and for realizing the investments.
- Free market access with over 1,1 billion consumers (EU, Russian Federation, USA, Kazakhstan, Turkey, CEFTA countries - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Northern Macedonia, Moldova, Serbia and UNMIK / Kosovo, members of the Free Trade Agreement with EFTA countries - Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland and an agreement with Belarus).
- Favorable business environment in Serbia with a system of incentives provided by the state..

# RARIS - Regional Development Agency of Eastern Serbia

The goal of RARIS is to support development initiatives based on institutional connections and partnerships that lead to the sustainable development of Eastern Serbia.

- RARIS has exceptional cooperation with several ministries, domestic institutions and organizations.
- RARIS provides a range of services to entrepreneurs and companies: providing important information, organizing promotions, training, mentoring, advisory services, assistance in the project preparation etc.
- RARIS has many years of experience in cooperation with the diaspora.
- RARIS runs a regional investment portal <u>www.investeastserbia.com</u>

#### www.raris.org





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