



UNPLUGGED

VIVE
VITAM

A graphic element consisting of three curved, overlapping lines in green, yellow, and red, positioned to the right of the word 'VIVE'.

Dear Friends & Family,

The entire PSG Family would like to wish you and your loved ones a wonderful and fulfilling Holiday Season and a happy and healthy New Year!

Since the time of ancient Greeks, leisure has been held in high esteem amongst the elites. Through time, it has become an integral part of our lives, a safety valve if you will, through which our deepest emotions are morphed into something creative and vivid, something that celebrates life and beauty.

What we do in our leisure time tells more of the people we are, than our job, so we hope you will enjoy what we've prepared for you – a collection of some of our passions, hobbies and leisurely activities that brighten our days, broaden our horizons and just plainly make us feel good.

From our family to yours – we wish you a great Holiday Season, and a year filled with positive energy and moments worth cherishing.

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Aleksandar Ruzanovic

Cloud Admin Team / Peer Review Administrator

One Queen to Rule Them All



Some people like dogs, others like cats.

My pets are small, flying insects – honey bees.

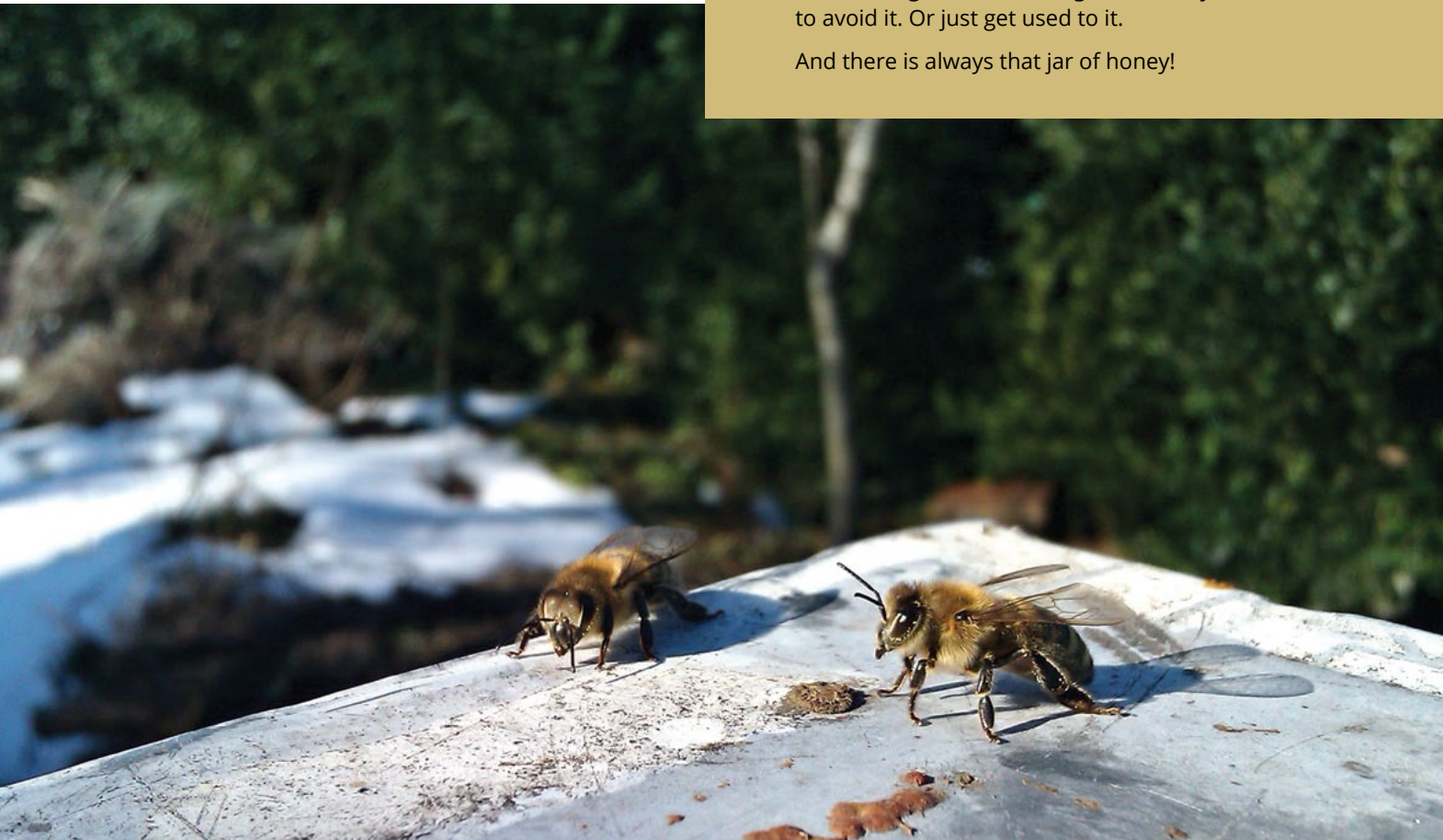
It's all my grandpa's fault. He always had a jar of honey for his grandchildren, and I was curious about where it came from.

Bees are fascinating! I can watch them all day long as they fly in and out of the hive, gathering nectar and pollen. Inside the beehive, thousands of other bees are drawing a new comb, serving their queen, raising young, converting nectar into honey. Always as busy as a bee.

Beekeeping also means being outdoors on a sunny day, away from the keyboard and the computer screen.

And although bees can sting, over time you learn how to avoid it. Or just get used to it.

And there is always that jar of honey!



Birdwatching

Maja Vujovic

Cloud Admin Team /
Peer Review
Administrator



Before I took up this not-so-common hobby, my knowledge of birds and interest in them had been very limited. Although I am a nature lover, I couldn't even imagine that these little creatures deserve my undivided attention.

Last year, an ornithology society in my hometown invited all interested citizens to bird watching training which would last for several months. I saw it as a great opportunity to explore something new or, what is more, to connect with nature.

People who responded to this initiative were mostly students of biology, amateur birders, wildlife thrill-seekers and activists of different nature preservation organizations. I joined a like-minded and friendly group and my guide gladly advised me on the issues such as bird guides, optics, clothing and many other aspects of bird watching.

In my opinion, the most difficult part of bird watching is getting up early because some species are active only at dawn. Sometimes you need to get up at 3 a.m. to arrive at a specific location.

The next demanding challenge is certainly the recognition of bird sounds and appearance, since, for a beginner, all forest birds sound and look almost identical.

I have also noticed that experienced birders are of a very competitive nature and that they can be very passionate about their occupation. Sometimes it is very hard to make a difference between a joke and criticism in their comments. You don't believe me? Just watch the movie "A Big Year" based on a non-fiction book about three obsessive amateur birders.

Fairly good equipment will help you see rare birds, even in your close-by neighborhood, the species you believe live far away from you.

Bird watching has given me a chance to photograph them as well. I have united this new hobby with my old love – photography. Now I have the opportunity to take photographs in such hidden places I would have never dreamed of visiting before.

Bird watching goes beyond a hobby and raises awareness of bird preservation. And that is not all. You can promote your interest in nature by protecting it in so many different ways, like reporting illegal hunting and logging or feeding animals during winter.



Two Kids and a Baby

Milica Novakovic

FundRef Team / Peer Review Administrator

We believe in starting things early. As Kjara's father and I are very keen on water and sports, it was quite natural to start swimming with her as early as possible. Having spent so many months suspended in the amniotic fluid in the womb, it's not surprising that babies have a natural affinity toward water. In fact, floating in a warm pool will feel more familiar to them than walking on dry land. It was just a matter of finding the right kiddie pool for Kjara and the ultimate fun water journey began.



Should I stay or should I play?



Mom, there's a whale over there... no, wait... it's just dad!



Dejan Hornjak

Cloud Admin Team / Peer Review Administrator

Fishing



Fishing is our family hobby. Even before my wife and I met we both used to go fishing, and now we do it with our kids. That is the best way to spend a whole day in nature, without the internet and telephones.

After realizing how much our kids and our friends' kids enjoy this outdoor activity, my friend and I have decided to organize a fishing school. We promoted this school on many different social networks and the turnout was great.

We have been running this school for 2 years now and all our students are having a fantastic time. They have learnt a lot about fishing, as well.

They have learnt how to tie a hook and set up a fishing rod. This is why we love fishing so much. It's a perfect, relaxing way to spend time with our family.



Back to Nature

Aleksandar and Ivana Lomić

Cloud Admin Team / Peer Review Administrators

When we found out that we were about to become parents, we immediately started looking for a peaceful place, away from the city, where we would “stay in touch” with nature.

On the slopes of Mount Fruska Gora, in the village called Čortanovci (with the population of 2,300 people, 30 km away from Novi Sad) we found a piece of land with a house where we would spend most of our free time.

Over the years we’ve had a lot of fun with friends and relatives, playing, growing fruits and relaxing.





Passion for the Ride

Jelena Kohajm

Peer Review Analyst – PES

When I was asked to write about my hobby or leisure time, the topic was a bit vague to me. I was thinking of traveling, arranging home aquariums or spending time with my kids.

Then I realized that my whole family enjoys motorcycling. This passion started spontaneously by watching MOTO GP. This is the first time I fell in love with this amazing sport. Very soon, it became the main part of every other Sunday.

The rush of watching these titans during the season was rising from month to month and I am still dreaming of riding to Brno and supporting Valentino Rossi, like a real fan should.

After a while, my husband decided to buy his first real motorcycle, a Suzuki RF600. Before this, he had been driving scooters.



We used to ride it on a local track, Miseluk or to nearby destinations. More serious trips came later with the BMW1200GS.

Over the years, I have become a good traveling companion (at least I hope so).

Someone might say that the reason why you would ride a motorcycle is the adrenaline rush. My partner cannot explain it. Maybe because he cannot relax completely? Or because his arms and legs are constantly busy? I don't believe it is either of these. When you ride you feel everything is multiplied. There is no shelter. You can feel everything: the temperature, the acceleration, the wind... you move along with the motorcycle. It is a combination of fear, relaxation, excitement and pleasure. Words fail to describe it. You need to feel it.

It doesn't matter where you ride to, distances long or short – the rush remains the same.

The thunder of hundreds bikes is amazing. You can feel it if you decide to travel to Ostrvica, the long-extinct volcano, the only one in Serbia.



I am not sure if it is a fortune or a misfortune – my kids also fell in love with motorcycles. Although they are still little, they spend every moment with their father and me in the garage, just playing or helping with small repairs on our beauty.

Currently, I am spending all my free time just playing and laughing with my children, but we still have family reunions on Sundays in front of the TV. Now we are richer for two little fans. And I still have goals. The next one is Transfagarasan road in Romania (which my husband has visited a couple of times... without me... for now).



Biking – Active Excitement

Robert Bartos

Systems Engineer Lead



Mountain biking in Slovenia

I enjoy riding my bike during my free time. When weather permits, I also use it as a mode of transportation to the office and for moving around town. When traveling, we sometimes pack our bikes with us and enjoy riding through new and exciting destinations, discovering beautiful sites while being active.



Biking along the Danube on Christmas Day



Weekend Escapes to the Country

Ivanka Jevic Ajcev

Client Manager

Last summer my family bought an old country house about 100 km north from Novi Sad, in the Banat region. Since then, we have been spending our weekends there enjoying the peace and quiet of the countryside. It's an escape from hectic city life and a computer screen which is an inevitable part of my daily work routine.

I have discovered a new passion there – gardening.

Growing your own food is not just a simple pleasure but a very satisfying experience – seeing vegetables grow from seed, serving them fresh on the table: onions, garlic, lettuce, tomatoes, beetroot, celery, carrots, potatoes, chard...

Being able to pick your own fruits from your own backyard is amazing! We grow strawberries and blackberries, apples, pears, cherries and grapes.





I have also planted my flower garden where I grow different kinds of perennial flowers and bushes.

I love our weekends in the country, enjoying life in the slow lane, outdoors, together as a family.

Watching my son running around barefoot on the grass, riding his bicycle, playing freely in the yard, alone or with other children, fills my heart with joy.





Hand-Made Cosmetics

Natasa Novcic Petrovic

Peer Review Analyst - PES





Eight years ago, my family of four moved from the city of Novi Sad to the nearby village at the foot of the mountain of Fruska Gora, changing typical urban surroundings for a green oasis.

Living so close to the woods, with a yard full of wild plants and a home garden with various herbs, got me thinking about how to substitute industrial cosmetic products with natural, hand-made ones using ingredients from our very own garden.

I decided to start with soaps and deodorants which I could make together with my kids.

The preparation of ingredients starts with basic raw materials – domestic soap made of pork fat and coconut oil. To enrich the basis with additional scents, we simply go out and pick herbs from the garden: basil, lavender, immortelle, marigold, nettle, lemon balm.



The herbs are dried and smashed into powder and then melted together with the basis. After that, the liquid is poured into molds and tiny jars and left to cool.

This activity is another opportunity to bring the family together – we learn together, plan our next home-made products, enjoy our time making good things for us and for our friends.

What a great feeling it is to do your weekly shopping knowing that you do not have to waste time on shelves with cosmetic products! :-)

Silk Painting



Dear friends, welcome to the world of silk!

My name is Marija and my hobby is silk painting. I was introduced to silk painting a few years ago, in 2012, by my mother-in-law. In fact, it is our hobby. It started very spontaneously, but now we are making real works of art. We also started a small business. We make scarves, clothes and paintings. Each piece is handmade and unique.

Historically originating from China, this art form has spread over the centuries and nowadays it is very popular all around the world.



Marija Sipka
FundRef Team / Peer Review Administrator

It is a unique technique. Silk paintings are created on white silk with specific dyes. There are a couple of ways of painting on silk. First of all, it is useful to stretch a piece of silk, than draw on it using gutta contour and then dye it. Silk paints are usually very thin. They are water based and can be fixed with a hot iron. Working with silk is not easy. You have to be very careful and patient.

We always find inspiration in small things in life, world of nature, love, and family.

For me, silk painting is a beautiful form of art, a lovely, relaxing and wonderful hobby that I recommend to everyone.

If you'd like to give it a try, here is a short tutorial on how to make a scarf. You will need the following:

1. Silk, 115 x 30 cm
2. Silk colors
3. Gutta contour
4. Frame
5. Brushes
6. Water

Stretch your silk on a frame. Firstly, use a pen to draw some shapes (e.g. flowers) on the silk. Outline the contours with gutta. Wait for it to dry and then color in! Dip your brush into the paint, then touch your silk fabric. Watch the color spread. Play with different patterns and colors. Finally, fix the colors using an iron. Voila! Your very own piece of original artwork!





Be Present!

Marijana Radomirovic

Peer Review Analyst Team Lead (PES)

Every day thousands of faces, words and thoughts “run” through our minds.

We have to plan, contemplate, think, rethink about everything. We plan our future, analyze our past, worry and wonder... we have forgotten to live in this moment, to live in the present. One wise man said “Remember: it is not a coincidence that the words “present” and “gift” have the same meaning.”

Our hobbies allow us to take a break from the daily routine, to clear our thoughts and to refresh our mind and body, to be present in the moment and to feel connected to our souls. I try to use physical and creative activities to reenergize from daily stress – yoga, running, tennis on one side, and painting and decoupage on the other.

When I paint I just “zone out”. I’m so focused yet so away.

I love to give my art-crafts to my friends. This present is even more special because I think about the person I’m making a decoupage gift for, while I’m working on it.



Knitting Needles and Puzzles

For me it is hard to pick a favorite hobby, so I'll tell you about two of them.

The first one is a little bit archaic, even forgotten. I am talking about knitting. Yes, real traditional knitting with yarns and needles.

When you hear someone talk about knitting, I'm sure the first thing that comes to mind is an image of a granny sitting in a rocking chair, slowly working away at a pure white, itchy sweater for you to wear out of guilt.

Please reset that thought, because I am about to outline the best reasons why you should pick up the needles, and start knitting as well. For example, it allows you to be your own fashion designer, and, more importantly – it's a fantastic stress reliever.

Sanja Skevin

Java Developer



My second hobby is solving jigsaw puzzles. For as long as I can remember, my aunt always had a puzzle set up on the table, and I would sit next to her for hours, especially on rainy days. I loved hunting for the right place for pieces. I loved everything about jigsaw puzzles and I've recently rediscovered why.

I enjoy puzzles because they are an excellent visual exercise. When I'm working on a puzzle, I'm looking for similarities in line, color, and shape to find the pieces that go together. Like knitting, it's a great stress reliever, too.

After a jigsaw puzzle is completed, there is one more thing left to be done – frame it and hang it up on a wall.

Framed puzzles look really amazing and I already have a bunch decorating my walls.

Some of my friends enjoy my jigsaw puzzles as well.





Amigurumi

Ildiko Nemeth

Peer Review Analyst – PES

Amigurumi (lit. “crocheted or knitted stuffed toy”) is a Japanese art of knitting or crocheting small stuffed animals and anthropomorphic creatures. The word is derived from a combination of the Japanese words ami, meaning crocheted or knitted, and nuigurumi, meaning stuffed doll.

My mother taught me the basics of crocheting and knitting when I was in high school, but I have discovered the world of amigurumi recently, while looking for gift ideas for a friend’s newborn baby. After finding the patterns I liked and several online tutorials, I successfully made my first piece. And, since then, I’ve been hooked.





I enjoy the process itself more than the actual finished product – it is wonderful to see how, using just the crocheting hook and several balls of yarn, a tiny creature emerges before your eyes. For me, it is also a time to be by myself, relax, and close the door to the outside world, even just for a little while.

Maybe the most interesting fact about amigurumi is that each piece is unique – two people can follow the exact same pattern, but the final product will always be different. There's always a little bit of you that goes into every single piece.

And, just like people, each piece has at least one small imperfection that makes it special and one of a kind.





Need fresh ideas?
Books are your best friends!

Cooking

Akane Nisic
Professional Editorial Support Manager



Growing up in a four-generation household, I remember cooking was a big part of my childhood. The kitchen was one of the best playgrounds – there was always someone cooking, and I could get to try their creations. Many thanks to these happy memories – cooking is now one of my favorite leisure activities.

The fun begins before cooking – hunting for the ingredients! Buying as many locally grown and produced foods as possible at the green market. By chatting with farmers/producers, you may get an idea for a new dish to cook.



It's always fun to cook outdoors. Even cooking stew for several hours? Yes, it is fun! Time flies so quickly when you enjoy the company of family and friends in gorgeous weather.



Osechi (Japanese New Year foods) in Serbia? Why not :-). A perfect holiday to relax and catch up with friends over delicious food and drinks.

Candy Maker



Ana Todorov

Software Test Engineer, Quality Assurance (QA)

My hobby is making sweets. I like it so much because it relaxes me.

It all started a couple of years ago. I was watching a cooking show on TV and I realized I wanted to try something on my own. It was the first chocolate cake I'd ever made. Then I realized it's something that helps me unwind. I love playing with food, experimenting with new and exciting ingredients (such as chilli, ginger, etc). Of course, festive times at Christmas or New Year are ideal for making cookies.

Making them is not just about preparing, baking and eventually eating them. The whole process, starting from carefully selecting ingredients, through "playing" with them, to decorating sweets in the most creative ways, is genuine art. You know what you want to make, but in the end you are always pleasantly surprised with what you get. Surely enough, the flavors always evoke some happy memories.





Glutenfree Way of Life

Sonja Stojanovic

Peer Review Analyst – PES

I started cooking out of a hobby because I enjoy preparing food when I have spare time. And by cooking, I don't mean the food we eat every day. I like cooking gluten free food. This actually happened when I realized how much healthier and better a person can feel. I must say it's not that easy, though. The ingredients are quite expensive, but, if you do it right, it can save you both money and time, and moreover you can get rid of all the allergies you never even knew you had.

Not many people know that wheat can seriously damage your health. I was one of them, until recently. However, after reading many blogs and articles, I understood that eating glutenfree food (unless you have celiac disease and you have no choice but eat this kind of food) is a way of life, just like eating paleo or raw food.

In order to help other people and inform them about this kind of life, I started writing my own blog in Serbian. It's called *Glutenfree4happylife* and it became a sort of passion project for me. Hopefully, it will also get an English version as well: <https://glutenfree4happylife.wordpress.com>

The purpose of this blog is to let people know that going gluten free is not that big of a deal at all, but you have to dedicate yourself completely. Cooking any kind of food requires time, patience and dedication, but most of all – LOVE.

If you put love into everything you do, you can expect magical results. This is true!

I once thought I could never write a blog because it would be too complicated and you'd need to be very tech savvy. However, with the strong desire came the idea and then the realization of the plan. In addition, to write a blog about something as important as gluten free food, you first have to be well informed on what gluten is, what it does to your body and why you should avoid eating processed food that contains this protein. Most of all, you need to know the purpose of your writing: what you want to share with others and why it is important to you.



For me, it's interesting to make cakes and cookies that I once made with wheat flour, and today with gluten free flour. The whole process is completely different and it's really interesting and inspiring to see how your imagination grows, as you get new ideas for inventing recipes (that is my favorite part!) and what's more, you can eat sweets without feeling guilty. Well, not that guilty any way.

However, I wouldn't suggest going gluten free or any other way if you are not sure you can stick to it. Don't test your body with different types of food because it won't be grateful. BUT, always trust your gut!

Comic Book Collector

Bojan Miletic

Cloud Admin Team / Peer Review Administrator

I was around five years old when I first stepped into the world of comics.

I remember that the best part of my day was flipping through the coloured pages of some mini comic books. The story itself did not matter as much as the action did: fight scenes, shooting, explosions.

It was my dad who really opened my soul toward the hobby of collecting comics. As soon as I became able to read and write, he decided to share his great secret with me. I was taken to the basement

and what emerged under heaps of old, shabby and dusty things, were several cardboard boxes. And there they were. His old comic books, packed flat and orderly, covered with crumbled newspaper or even wrapped in plastic. The reason why they were hidden in a dark and damp place was probably my mom's lack of understanding for anything that would additionally occupy an already limited living space in our apartment. The act of handing over my papa's treasure was carried out under the watchful eye and followed by a serious warning: "Handle with care!"

From that very moment, comics became my true passion. I spent hours and hours enjoying the adventures of my fictional heroes: Zagor, Captain America, Asterix, Dylan Dog, Modesty Blaise, Tarzan, Conan the Barbarian...

Whatever I did, whether it was worthy of praise or punishment, was measured by comics given or taken away, locked in the cupboard until I would fix a bad grade or improve my behavior.

However, as I was getting older and becoming a teenager, my focus shifted to some other things in life and I temporarily forgot about my favorite pastime.

Fifteen years later, I found myself at the Belgrade Book Fair, loitering among various stands. All of a sudden there I was, in the crowd of people surrounding an elderly man who was talking about revival of the comic. It turned out that he was Gallieno Ferri, an Italian comic book artist and illustrator of the famous Zagor (my all-time favorite character).

What fascinated me most was the moment when Mr. Ferri took off his elegant jacket and tore open his crisp white shirt revealing the iconic red T-shirt with an eagle across the chest. "The Spirit with the Hatchet" was back.

And it won me over again. My interest was piqued. I desperately wanted to get my childhood treasures back.

I even got an autograph from Ferri on the first edition of a new series.



Now I own an entire collection and I am very proud of it. I am aware that my comics only have sentimental value and many people just don't see where the whole fun is. They find me childish and silly since all of that can be downloaded in pdf format and it costs nothing. What they don't get is the pleasure derived from the feeling of paper under my fingertips, the smell of the pages, the heft of the book – the comic book.

Old Photo Cameras

Dalibor Gulic

Software Test Engineer, Quality Assurance (QA)



Take a photo... There is nothing easier to do. You can use your smartphone or digital camera and in a few seconds you get it.

Modern cameras will do everything for you. Just push the button when you're ready.

This is way too easy in my opinion.

Good old mechanical cameras are my passion. In comparison to the contemporary cameras, this is a completely different story. You can't just point the camera and push the button. If you want to make your own photo gallery, you should have good knowledge of exposition, blend, focus and sensitivity. In addition, you need to be good at developing and fixing, if you want to do it all by yourself.

And last, but not least – how many shoots are left – in photos, not gigabytes.

And yes – those photos were real paper photos. You could put them in a frame, and hang them on the wall.



Agfa model from 1940's is my favorite camera. It is an old pocket camera, but still working. I inherited it from my grandfather and all the photos from my mother's childhood were taken with it. My first photo as a baby, too.

When I showed this camera to my 6-year-old son, he said: "Great daddy! Let's put batteries in it and take some photos!"





The Cars

Vladimir Medjesi
Cloud Admin Team / Peer Review Administrator

I've liked toy cars ever since I was a little kid. That is not unusual when you are between 2 and 12 years old, but for me that love is still persistent. Yes, I'm a "petrolhead".

As a boy, I collected many different types of toy cars and, of course, played with them.

Growing up, I started collecting solely 1:18 Scale Mercedes-Benz die-cast models.

But those toys are not for playing – I have always taken great care of them.

Whenever I travel somewhere, I'd always buy me a new Mercedes model. It is not always easy to find a proper store for this kind of toys and the prices may range from 30 to 200 Euros.

There are more than 20 beautiful Mercedes-Benz die-cast models in my collection today, kept on a shelf in their original boxes.

In my spare time my son and I open some of these boxes to marvel at the models.

We open their doors, check under the hood, look inside the trunk, steer their wheels, check the suspension – that's the way we play with them now. The Mercedes-Benz sign (star) on the hood, is very fragile and needs to be handled with extra care.



Everything inside them, up to the smallest detail, is crafted to resemble the actual car.

If someone asked me to choose the best looking one from my collection, I wouldn't be able to pick just one since, to me – all of them are beautiful in their own way.

All die-cast cars are wonderful and fun but Mercedes-Benz has a special place in my heart.

Once Upon a Time...

... classic dance was my profession.



Danijela Saro

Java Developer



Now dance has become my hobby, recreation and a favorite pastime.

My love for dancing is still there, but now I simply enjoy practicing with my children.

I like being a "mommy dance teacher." :-)

I'm always very happy when I have a chance to see dance performances of my daughters.



Groove is in the Grooves

Jelena Tipsin

Cloud Admin Team / Peer Review Administrator

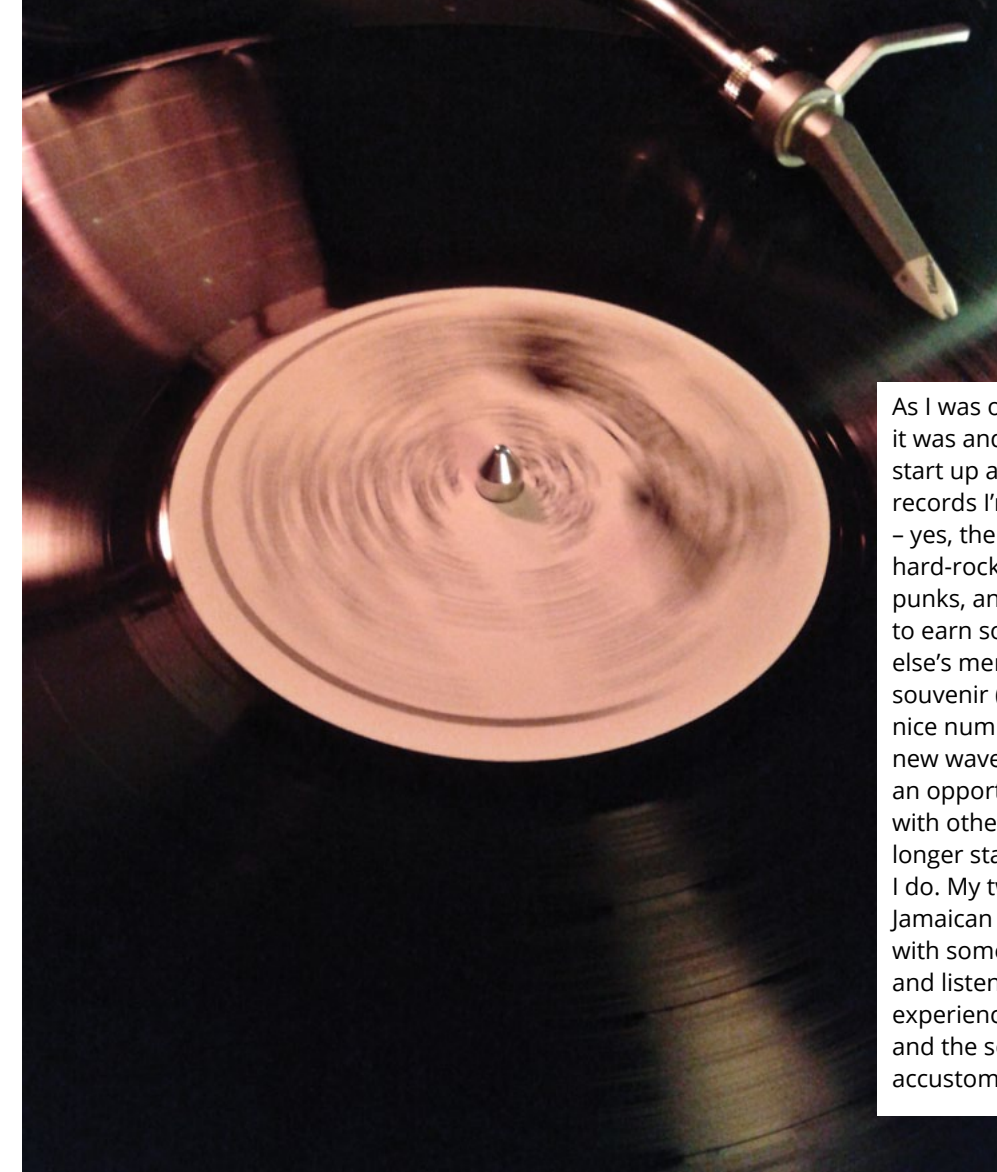
When I was growing up the cassette tapes ruled, we kids knew about records, but compact discs were the thing of the future and they were becoming the fast track route to a new music experience. Vinyl records for me were something exotic, record listening parties were a thing of the past – a thing of the 1970's. In the 1980's, records were carried around town for the records sleeve art like an accessory, they were a flag of allegiance to a subculture or simple affiliation to a music genre.

A monthly record bazaar event in Novi Sad was started at the end of 2010. As I had a chance to work at the youth center CK13, the place where the vinyl bazaar took place, I joined in to create a visual identity for the events, producing promotional posters and writing short articles about vinyl for the press.

At that point, I started my record collection from the base up. My wish was to get my hands on my favorite albums from new wave punk, and two-tone ska period, as well as to slowly immerse myself into the vinyl culture.



In the next five years, I got my own modest record sound system and my records collection started growing, from Bob Dylan's greatest hits, The Beatles' albums, Bowie's Ziggy Stardust, The Clash "Sandinista!" and some peculiar records dear to my heart (1980's pop, Eurovision songs and new romantics). Most of the people in the world think that collecting records today is a 'guy's thing'.



As I was one of few girls hunting for records it was and still is interesting for the sellers to start up a conversation with me about the records I'm trying to dig up, and the fashion – yes, the fashion. You can run into rockers, hard-rockers, metal heads, jazzers, mods, punks, and business people who only try to earn some money selling you someone else's memory (a used record) or your future souvenir (a new record). As I have collected a nice number of Jamaican ska, two-tone ska, new wave and mod records, I have been given an opportunity to play a DJ set at Cafe Graffiti with other record-loving folk who have a longer standing relationship with records than I do. My two-hour sets can range from classic Jamaican ska, British ska new wave, sprinkled with some punk here and there. Collecting and listening to records is a slow and relaxing experience – a closer relationship with music and the sounds that my generation has been accustomed to.



The Art of Making and Playing Music

Music should be important to everyone. If you do not believe me, listen to John Cage's piece "4'33"

There is nothing but silence. 4 minutes and 33 seconds of nothing.

I have a few friends who play various instruments. I play the guitar. We all have day jobs but we also like to make some noise in the evenings.

I am a member of two bands: *Lust for Trust* and *Sick Sinatra*.

Jovan Babin

Senior Java Developer / Team Leader

Lust for Trust is a metal band. We produce our own music. The band was formed 7 years ago. The first year was difficult, in a small basement, with a lack of equipment. Two years later, we began playing live gigs in our hometown, Novi Sad.

We are still rockin' all over Vojvodina. Here is a video of one of our gigs:
<https://youtu.be/xSQ-DA8qz9E>

Sick Sinatra is a band that plays rap music with good beats, riffs and lyrics which express our thoughts on everyday life, morale and our inner feelings. The band was formed one night when MC Pedja came around with a bunch of lyrics and music samples. We were playing some jazz when the MC turned us upside down. And the idea was born.

Recently, we've started performing in Novi Sad's pubs. You can check out our music at <https://sicksinatra.bandcamp.com>.





I took up playing the drums on my birthday a year ago – I was 44 at the time.

But, I can tell you precisely how this all began.

As a kid, I saw Levon Helm playing “The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down”, a recording from Martin Scorsese’s *The Last Waltz*, a documentary about The Band’s farewell concert at Winterland Ballroom in San Francisco.

I never saw anything quite like that, and I fell in love with the music at first sight.

Since then, I have been playing the guitar in a bunch of different bands and I truly love making music.

My nine-year-old son, Relja, has been playing the drums for the last three years.

I’ve been driving him to the music school, watched him practice and perform and then it dawned on me. Wait a minute, I have a drum set at home, here I am at the music school, the drum teacher is one of the best drummers in the country... so, why not?

In the words of Bernard Purdie: “Let me ‘splain it to ya. Not explain, but ‘splain.”

It does not matter how old you are, as long as you groove.

The Beat

Mladen Dukic
CTO





Neven Zeljkovic
Systems Engineer



Guitar Player

Ever since I strummed my first chord on the guitar it has been something really personal for me. There is a special feel when the guitar strings vibrate under your fingertips and produce a crunchy, warm and thrilling tone which can lead you somewhere you never expected to go.

Let the Good Times Roll

Miroslav Trandafilović

Software Test Engineer, Quality Assurance (QA)



Whenever I'm asked to say something about myself, I always feel a bit ashamed... for every word that I might say, would probably seem uninteresting. However, I myself feel extraordinary and filled with joy because of my children, my friends and my family. I consider my spare time wasted if spent by myself.

My children are a kind of little-big people with their own little worlds, where I'm allowed to float in whenever I want, often thinking that such an honor is hard to deserve.

How to play with, and how to be the best friend to my children, I've learned from the „old folks“ I simply and dearly call – Mom and Dad. They also taught me to love and appreciate nature, especially my beloved river Danube and its many wonderful sunsets.



My sister Svetlana is one of the greatest nature lovers I know and also one of the best friends I've ever had.

Slobodan, a very dear friend of mine, who is like a brother to me, is always a good company at the river bank and a great listener when times get rough.

Apart from nature, another great love of mine, that eases the hard days and cheers up the good ones, is music.

The love of music has also brought me more good and close friends... We play music together... and play silly, sometimes.



Finally, I must mention Peđa, the best friend I ever had, the best man I have ever known, and who I have loved and missed the most of all people. I could write a whole big book about him – a man blessed with unlimited joy and kindness, endlessly modest and endlessly great at the same time. I'm immensely grateful for knowing a man like him, a man of strong beliefs and attitude, who has taught me that every single life is precious.



A picture from eight years ago. The top of the hill has been „conquered“ by my two daughters and me.

Photography



Dusan Mandic

Cloud Admin Team / Peer Review Administrator





My hobby is photography. To be more specific – digital photography. As I listened to the older folks, I got the impression that only real fanatics were eager enough to get involved with photography, because they literally had to roll up their sleeves, get their hands dirty, work under red light in photo laboratories, develop films and photos to see how they turned out. There was no camera display, the results were not seen right away. It really was a difficult and complex task to produce a good photograph.

Today, fortunately, it's different, and, above all, easier. Expensive equipment is replaced with cheap cameras, accessible to everyone. Results can be seen immediately, corrected, you can try again, and so on. I was pulled into the wave, although in a backwards direction. First, I was intrigued by Photoshop and its brilliance and simplicity. When I mastered it well enough, the first job offers started coming in, requests for the photos to be "fixed." There were thousands and thousands of photos and just as many different demands. Looking at all these photos, I got the urge to take up photography.



Camera is a box that can do wonders if you learn how to use it. I still haven't learned all the possibilities offered by an average DSLR or camera with interchangeable lenses. You need to know some basics of good photography such as composition, lighting, color, contrast, line, perspective and many other elements. The learning does not stop here, and even if it does, there are always new, challenging locations you would like to visit. The desire to photograph something new and unique is the main driving force of each photographer. Additionally, you need quite some luck to be in the right place at the right time.

Of course, this all requires a lot of time and planning, which none of us have enough. I would like to photograph more new things, and this is possible for me only when I am on vacation, mostly on trips. Therefore, when I travel, this hobby of mine ceases to be a hobby and becomes an obsession. Sometimes I photograph people, sometimes it's architecture, and sometimes light at night... a sunrise or a sunset. I'll climb the hills looking for a better view, lie down on the dirty ground - no matter how wet and muddy, or steep and dangerous - there are all kinds of settings. And it is always interesting and fun, because that's exactly what the point of each hobby is.



Photography became my hobby at the moment I realized that my kids are changing and growing up too fast. I was afraid that someday I will not remember how they looked like before.

The Second That Lasts Forever

Tijana Antonic

Peer Review Analyst - CSR

Believe it or not, before I had kids I'd never paid attention to how life can be short and unexpected. I realized that one day some important people will not be part of my everyday life anymore and I was afraid that I would forget how they smiled and cried and how funny and pretty they used to be. I decided to start capturing some moments and pieces of our life hoping that they will last forever. It makes me feel that by capturing and stealing that important moment in time I can tell a story... of that person's life, of my life....



I started capturing photos and seeing the beauty on my screen. It is so much fun taking photos of my loved ones, capturing moments and emotions, seeing the look on their faces when they saw their own portraits and actually liked them.



Seeing the parts of my life on the screen makes me feel like a magician who can stop the time and enjoy the same moment over and over again.

Photography has stopped the time, just for a second, but that very second will last forever.



Photography



I enjoy capturing everyday life with a sparkle of magic.

Jelena Radin

Cloud Admin Team / Peer
Review Administrator



Lehrerin

Jadranka Bokan

Peer Review Analyst - CSR - German Language

Teaching German, reading books and magazines in German language and doing CrossFit are currently my pastime activities.

During the summer, while most of my students enjoy their summer break, I also enjoy taking long walks and swimming.

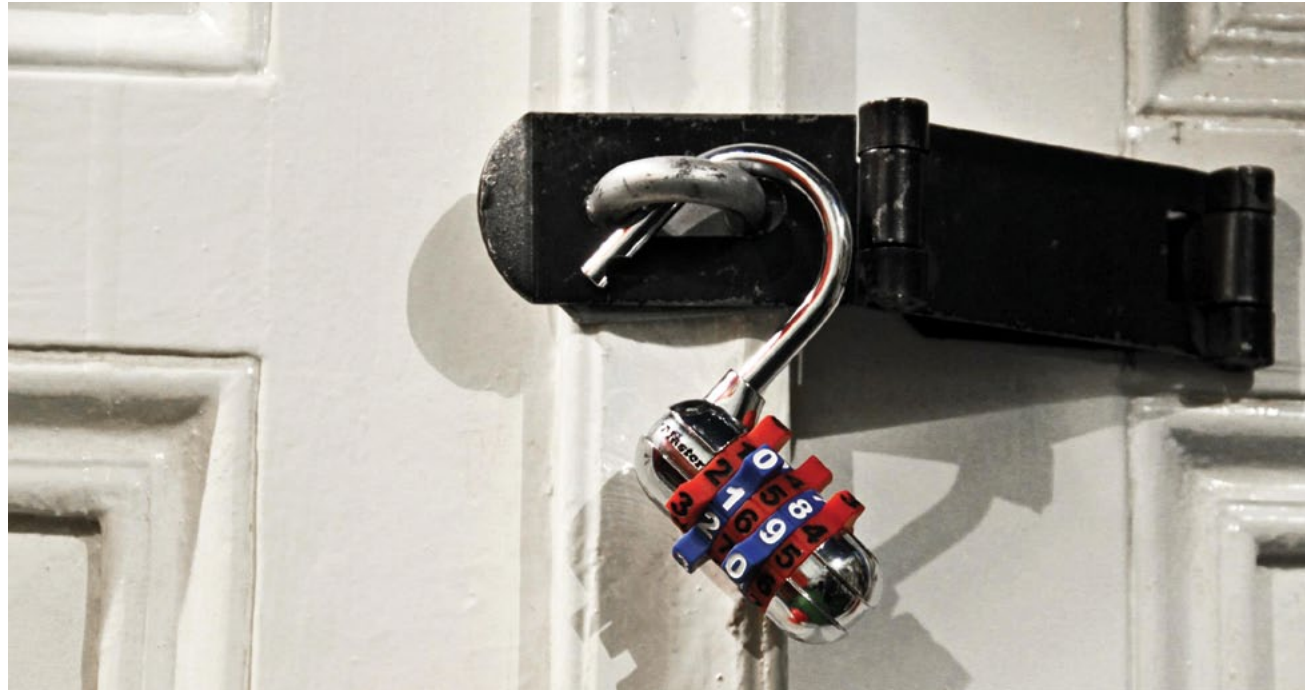
I studied German language and literature and since I am currently working in the IT sector, I do my best to keep up with latest teaching methods and to actively nurture my knowledge of German.

My students like my classes because I am trying to improve both their written and spoken language in various interactive ways. I am proud of my great teaching experience and am currently in the process of launching a web site ("German Language Workshop") for German language teachers. The website is in English and I hope it will become popular globally and attract many students.



Since sitting long hours is a huge part of my day, I felt a strong urge to start doing something good for my health. I recently discovered CrossFit and I am enjoying it immensely because it strengthens my whole body and leaves me feeling refreshed and energized. In the near future I will also try to fit a diving course into my very busy schedule.

Live Room Escape Games



Ivana Miljkovic

Customer Support Team Manager

Can you imagine yourself as a character in an adventure game? Could be fun, right?

We've discovered that it is not only a fun way to start your evening with friends but also a great team building opportunity.

There is a new sort of entertainment that is growing more popular all over the world, which, being a gamer or not, you may find both challenging and fun: Live Room Escape games.

As an addicted player of computer adventure games, of course I easily fell for the new type of gaming. However, the new addiction afflicted my colleagues and friends as well. Adela Tot, Isidora Rajsic Stefanovic, Ivanka Jevic-Ajcev, Jelena Prole, Marina Medic, and myself have formed a very successful team of "room escapers" called UB Fun. We all work at PSG and have become great friends over the years, traveling together, going out when possible and when not, having a coffee in our virtual chatroom called UB6 based on our UB Fun adventures.

How does the "Live Room Escape" work? You and your team apply for one of the rooms offered, and when you get there you are closed in a room with a "mission" to accomplish. You have to work together and organize well for the time flies so fast. If you manage to finish up by solving all the puzzles, deciphering all the clues, opening all the locks, stopping the clock, or get out within one hour, you have succeeded. You may find yourself trying to save the world from a zombie apocalypse, rob a bank, break out of prison or in a role of Alice trying to get out of the rabbit hole. There are many more "missions" and settings, so choose which one you like best and start there. However, the "Rooms" do not change settings as often as we'd like them to, in Novi Sad at least, so we grab every opportunity to venture on a new mission whenever an opportunity arises. When we traveled to Budapest, Hungary, last spring, we visited two "rooms" over the weekend we spent there.



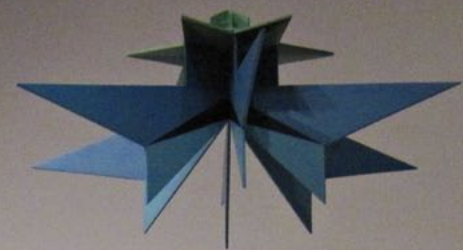
So far, amongst other impossible missions, we've saved the world twice, escaped Alice's rabbit hole in Wonderland, successfully ran from a Voodoo magician, robbed a bank and saved ourselves from being test subjects of a mad bunch of doctors.

Most of us would agree that the so-called "rabbit-hole" was most fun and challenging, but other rooms have their highlights as well. For example, when we applied for the so-called "Voodoo Room" in Budapest, we saw noone there (usually you are welcomed by a host who will explain the rules and introduce you to the game), we just followed the signs and once we found ourselves in the room, the door automatically locked behind us. That was the spookiest experience ever.



If you want to add a bit of adventure to your life, simply spice up your evening with friends, or perhaps test your team skills with your co-workers, try escaping one of the rooms or save the world in another. Saving the world feels so great once accomplished. Trust me.

The Museum Enthusiast



Marina Medic

Marketing Manager

As far as I can remember, I have always loved to travel. Inseparable from my love of travel is my passion for photography. Distances long or short – it never mattered much as long as there were new places to see and explore and moments and memories to be savored.

This passion of mine, however, comes with a twist – it is not just nature and landscapes, blue seas and sunsets, endless forests or impressive skylines my eyes and mind enjoy – the more museums, galleries or historical landmarks I manage to explore, the more fulfilling an experience the trip was.



Dusan, my husband and my perfect travel buddy, would gladly confirm this.

Our parents installed the love of traveling in both of us from an early age and now we're trying to pass it on to our kids. Sure they enjoy every vacation and trip we take together, but we also try to nurture their inquisitive minds by exposing them to local cultures, arts and history and the older they get, they seem to be more and more interested in sightseeing and learning through exploring.



To see my kids' faces in awe and wonder while they explore and learn by looking through these "windows" to history, art, nature... to different cultures and religions – to me is truly priceless.

It makes me one happy and proud momma.

The greatest test, that eventually confirmed us as a fun family of explorers, was our trip to Paris i.e. Euro Disneyland two years ago. Even though we had a four-day holiday Package that included a stay in a Disney themed hotel with unlimited admissions to both parks, we managed to enjoy the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe, explore Notre Dame, take a long walk down the Seine River, tour the Louvre and explore so much more of this magnificent city :-)
– without complaints!

Saint Eustache church inspired my younger son so much that he stated he would become an architect or a restorer someday (naturally, after visiting Corfu's Shell Museum this August, he instantly became an aspiring deep sea diver).



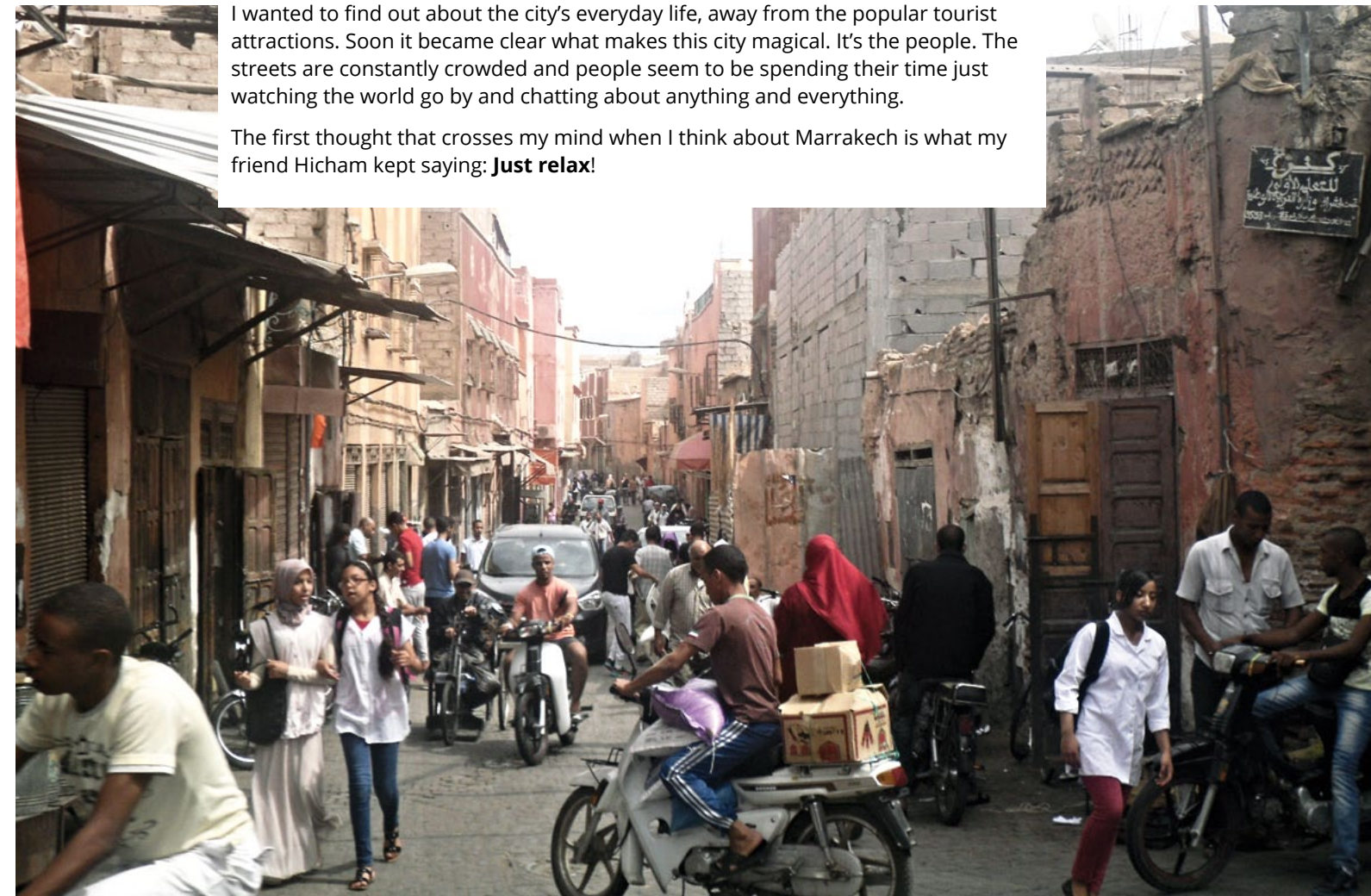


The Red City Marrakech, Morocco

Dragan Predojevic
Creative Director



I hadn't visited Morocco before this trip so I didn't really know what to expect. Perhaps this was the reason why, without any expectations, I had an unforgettable experience while exploring Marrakech aka The Red City.



I wanted to find out about the city's everyday life, away from the popular tourist attractions. Soon it became clear what makes this city magical. It's the people. The streets are constantly crowded and people seem to be spending their time just watching the world go by and chatting about anything and everything.

The first thought that crosses my mind when I think about Marrakech is what my friend Hicham kept saying: **Just relax!**

Traveling And Jogging: The Best Hobbies Ever :-)

Nikolina Pusara

Peer Review Analyst - PES

"It is not about the destination it's about the journey" – most of you would agree that traveling opens your eyes and helps you get good vibes with every step you make.

Even for a moment, an escape from everyday life is something that offers far more pleasure than one could imagine.



As someone who loves summer, I must say that the lovely Greek Island of Rhodes literally left me speechless. I truly enjoyed the beautiful beaches, rocks and water... Turquoise water made my heart ache.

Rhodes offers a rare chance to travel around on a donkey. The very idea may seem absurd to others, but I find it very interesting and exciting.

A seaside town in Waterford is magnificent. It's a place where the land meets the sea and where health and pleasure pursuits have attracted thousands of holiday makers.

The long, rolling waves in Tramore attract both swimmers and surfers. The cliffs around the resort were like heaven in my eyes.



St. Patrick's Day (March 17) is a global celebration of Irish culture, held not only in Ireland but all around the world. Many people wear an item or full green clothing on the day, and adults enjoy a "pint" of beer at a local pub...

It could be said that, during these days, Ireland is in a special mood. It is something that shouldn't be missed.



Stephansplatz square in Vienna is one of the places which helps me get into the Christmas mood. The weeks from late November to the end of the year hold a special meaning and let me become familiar with some of the most beautiful aspects of the country: deeply rooted folk traditions come alive in colorful, romantic events.

The best way to kick off the day – jogging.

There are plenty of places in Novi Sad for this kind of hobby. Novi Sad Quay is the best option for such an activity but the Fortress is much more exciting for me.

"It doesn't matter how slowly you go – as long as you do not stop."

The health benefits are important, but there are so many more things that make running the coolest way to spend your free time.

"Why run around when we can run straight over?" I like to run and leave all my weary worries behind and just focus on putting one foot in front of the other.

I enjoy jogging no matter if it's hot or cold outside. For some of us jogging alone isn't so amusing, so I prefer doing it in the company of my friends.





As life today seems more hectic than ever, leisure time has become so much more needed and valued. For me leisure is what spices up my life and everyday routine. There is no better feeling than the feeling you have when you complete all your duties and responsibilities and can finally relax and do something to enjoy yourself. In my case, it means entertaining friends or family at home or having a barbecue outdoors, hiking, cycling, visiting concerts, etc. And, of course, *my biggest passion of all:*

Travelling!

Dragana Grozdanic
Peer Review Analyst - PES

It is difficult to pick the favorite one among all the trips, but I'll try. The photo on the left was taken in Mexico, Tulum and Cozumel, the most colorful country I have ever visited. You just have to love this sea color!

I can't leave out my favorite city – Paris. Wandering around this city, discovering every street and corner, café, park or museum is what puts a smile on my face. I could go there over and over again, for the rest of my life, and never get bored!



I love nature and spending time outdoors, and what is a better way of doing so than hiking. I am no professional, but I can manage a 33-km-long marathon, organized every year on Fruska gora, near Novi Sad. This photo was taken while hiking one of the highest mountains in Serbia – Kopaonik.

“I Haven’t Been Everywhere, But it’s on My List.”

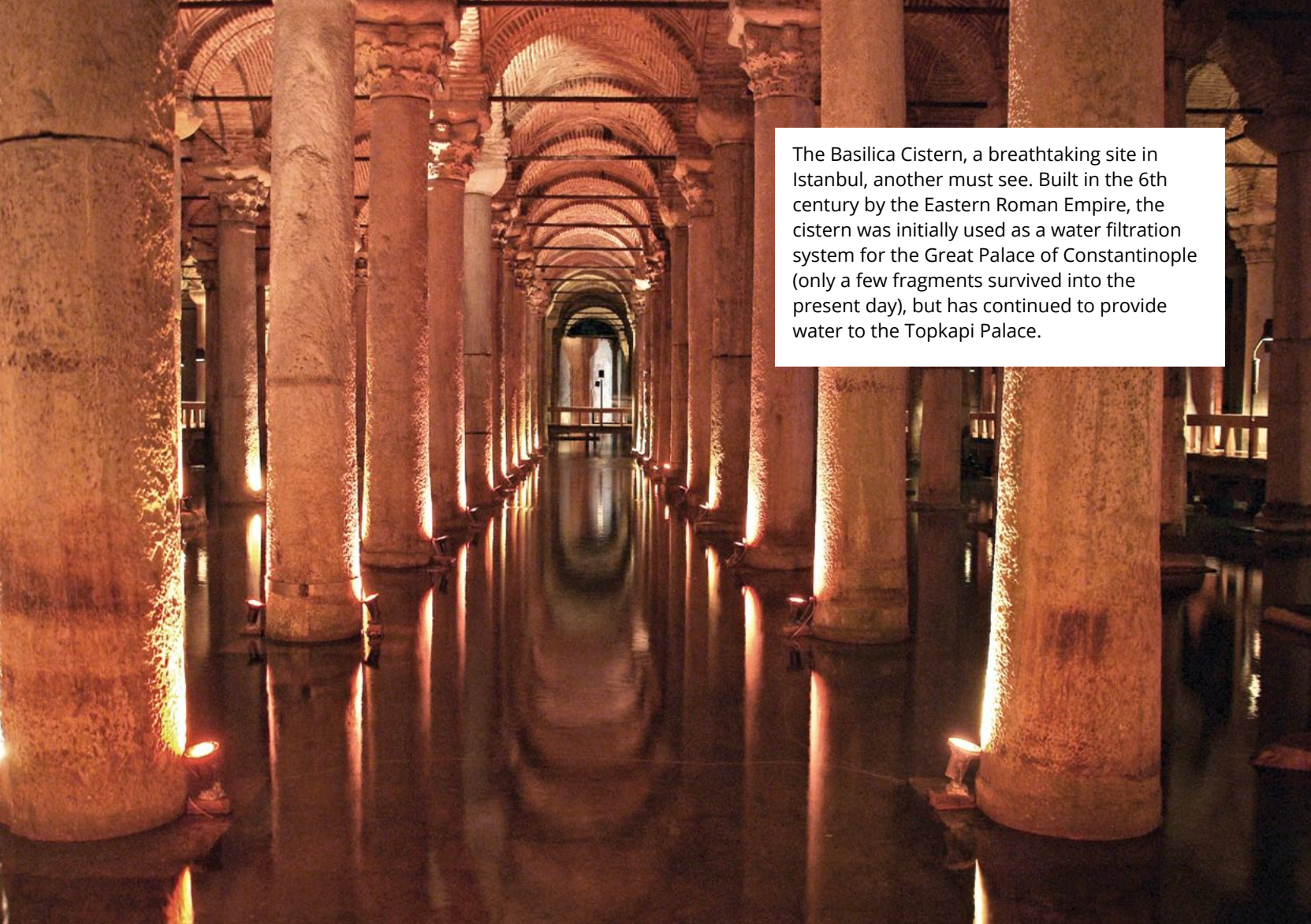
Dolores Hasoon

Cloud Admin Team Manager

I’m very lucky to say that nearly all of my spare time is spent traveling, whether it’s all the way across the world or an hour’s drive away from Novi Sad. I believe that for every adventurous person there is a place, near or far, to satisfy their wandering spirit. It’s just a matter of taking the leap. I have recently come across a quote that struck a chord with me and perfectly described my current state of mind “I haven’t been everywhere, but it’s on my list.” So I wanted to share a few of my favorite places I have visited so far.



In front of the Blue Mosque in Istanbul. Stunning architecture inside the mosque and a serene atmosphere surrounding it is something everyone should experience.



The Basilica Cistern, a breathtaking site in Istanbul, another must see. Built in the 6th century by the Eastern Roman Empire, the cistern was initially used as a water filtration system for the Great Palace of Constantinople (only a few fragments survived into the present day), but has continued to provide water to the Topkapi Palace.

Bansko, Bulgaria. A quaint little town, located at the foot of the Pirin Mountains which boasts a ski resort. Great food and a great atmosphere.

Ayia Napa, Cyprus. A bit of a party place, Caribbean-like turquoise water, stunning cliffs and great food.





Paris, France. One of my favorite cities. So much to see, each site a wonder on its own. An amazing city.



London, a city full of life, with something for everyone.



Andalucía: A Mix of Cultures

Granada: Home of famous UNESCO world heritage site – Alhambra and Generalife.



Sladjana Matic

Strategic Data Analysis Manager

The most cherished moments of my free time are those spent exploring and learning something new about the world. Here is some information I learned about Andalucía during a week I spent there.

The present Andalucía is a cultural melting pot. Moors conquered most of Iberian Peninsula in the 8th century and named it al-Andalus. They were pushed out of Andalucía in late 15th century by Isabella I of Castile (also known for sponsoring the expedition of Christopher Columbus) and her husband Ferdinand II of Aragon, who intensified the influence of catholic Spain.

The greatest Moorish cultural contributions are the architectural marvels they left behind: Al-Hambra in Granada and The Great Mosque at Cordoba. Jews, often persecuted for their beliefs, enjoyed certain freedoms under Moors. However, in the same way as Christians, they were prohibited from having administrative authority under Muslims. They became famous scholars and poets. It is not yet confirmed whether Gitanos (Romani people of Spain) invented flamenco, but it is a popular belief.

Seville: *The current capital of Andalusia and its largest city. Also, a home to one of the largest cathedrals in the world (View of Seville - from Giralda).*



Cordoba: Once a center of Cordoba caliphate, now famous for its beautiful streets and patios and The Great Mosque (now a cathedral).



The Great Mosque outside



Leisure Time is Priceless

Danko Ukropina

Cloud Admin Team / Peer Review Administrator

On work days I like spending my free time at the gym. I've been practicing taekwondo for seventeen years and sport in general has always been an important part of my life. I've been doing CrossFit for more than four years, four times a week. I like CrossFit because it forces me to push myself to the limit and I can do things I have never done before. I always feel great after a hard workout no matter how exhausted I am.



Family is the most important thing in my life, especially my kids. I always try to spend time with them and make that time full of joy, fun and entertainment. If the weather is nice, we spend most of our time outdoors. When I play with my kids I feel like a kid again – like Peter Pan who has decided never to grow up. I also like playing a variety of board games with them and I always lose. Sometimes I go to the theater, but more often I go to the cinema. I also like spending some time with my friends and have fun at our favorite coffee bar.



My favorite season of the year is summer and the seaside is my favorite place to be. I come from a small town on the Adriatic coast called Herceg Novi, which is a major Montenegrin tourist destination. Since my parents still live there, my family and I usually spend holidays together with them.

We all like swimming and diving, beaches and nature, but a small boat we own is our favorite. We often go to a deserted island called Mamula and many other wonderful places such as wild and peaceful beaches along the coast of the Bay of Kotor.





Ksenija Golubovic

Cloud Admin Team / Peer Review Administrator

Snowboarding and Traveling

From a very early age I have enjoyed all kinds of sports, especially those which can be done outdoors. Fifteen years ago, my friends invited me to spend the winter holidays with them on Jahorina Mountain in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since they were all experienced skiers and snowboarders, they were eager to teach me how to ride down the mountain. The first encounter with a snowboard, ski-lift and other winter gear essentials was terrifying. At first I didn't know how to keep my balance on the board or what to do with my legs. However, I was persistent and slowly but surely started to move.

And now the adrenalin rush and the feeling of power and freedom brings me back to the mountains year after year. I have visited some interesting places for snowboarding such as Kopaonik Mountain, Bansko in Bulgaria, Jahorina in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Zabljak in Montenegro.

Besides snowboarding and sport in general, I really enjoy traveling with my friends and family. My mother lives on Slovenian coast, so whenever I am free, I go there. I just love being by the sea, going to concerts, visiting sport events, going to the theater or having barbecues with my friends.

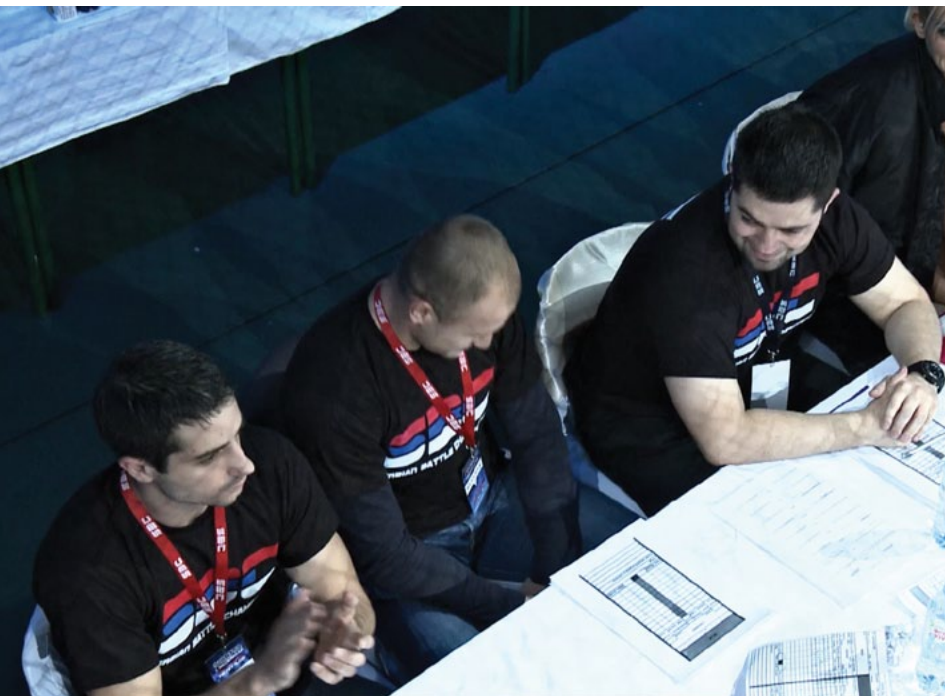
MMA - Mixed Martial Arts



Nikola Rupic
Peer Review Analyst

It is my pleasure to introduce you to the one of the fastest growing sports in the world – *Mixed Martial Arts* (also commonly referred to as MMA).

I have been a martial arts practitioner since 2002 and I have had a chance to compete in different combat sports (*Boxing, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Luta Livre*). My passion for martial arts in general and combat sports has been naturally transferred to mixed martial arts which encompasses disciplines from various martial arts and Olympic sports, such as boxing, kick-boxing, Brazilian jiu-jitsu, wrestling, judo, etc.



Originating from the full contact sport of *Vale tudo* (English: anything goes) in Brazil, the Ultimate Fighting Championship – UFC was created in the United States in 1993 with minimal rules, and was promoted as a competition to determine the most effective martial art for unarmed combat situations. The UFC is currently MMA's biggest promotion. Events are held not only in the United States but in many other countries all over the globe. Nowadays, MMA fighters cross-train in all of the styles that have proven effective in the sport.

As the popularity of mixed martial arts continues to grow, more and more fans are beginning to amass. MMA fighters are some of the most well-conditioned and skilled athletes across all sports. It takes years of dedication and hard training to be successful. Many MMA fighters in the UFC have University degrees, as a direct result of their wrestling scholarships.

In 2011 and 2015 I traveled to the United States, where I had the opportunity to visit the best mixed martial arts gyms in the world – *American Top Team* in Miami (Coconut Creek) and *Xtreme Couture Mixed Martial Arts Training Center* and *Wand Fight Team* in Las Vegas. In these premier MMA training facilities I had a chance to meet and train with the best MMA fighters, current and former world champions





The Tale of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu

Strahinja Keselj

Cloud Admin Team Lead / Peer Review Administrator

I've known Nikola Rupić for half of my life now and he is one of my best friends. However, we seldom see things eye to eye with each other. In our freshman year we started practicing different martial arts; he took up boxing while I did taekwondo. Fast forward several years into the future, after being fed up of getting punched and kicked, we wanted to try some new martial arts. A lot of disciplines were in play, but somehow we discovered and settled on Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. That's about the extent of the overlap in our taste for the discipline, we both liked it, but each of us liked a different aspect of it. It is a testament of how versatile the art of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu is. While Nikola favored a more direct and explosive approach, I enjoyed a more tactical method.



When one hears of Jiu-Jitsu, Brazil isn't the first association that comes to mind – it's the "Land of the Rising Sun". Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu is the adaptation of the Japanese martial art with some components of Judo. The story of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu began when a Japanese man named Esai Maeda immigrated to Brazil where he found work with the Gracie family. He went on to convey the art of Judo and Jiu-Jitsu to Gracie's children. However, since the Japanese version of Jiu-Jitsu incorporated several punching techniques, young Helio Gracie, a lanky kid with a weaker frame than his siblings, had trouble with absorbing all the blows. This was most likely the chief among reasons which made him develop the art which dropped all punches and kicks, while shifting the focus solely on techniques for submitting one's opponent by employing a wide range of different joint manipulations through superior positioning.

It might come across as strange talking about a martial art, but Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu relies far more on the intellectual skills than physical ones.

I learnt this first hand when I began training. I was in decent shape, but I always ended up on the wrong side of the score sheet. It wasn't until I familiarized myself with a wider range of techniques, that I started to feel more at ease in a sparring session. This in turn gave me a better understanding and appreciation of the art aspect of it and I was able to enjoy what I was doing. It truly is the chess of martial arts. You are always scheming, constantly trying to trap your opponent, repeatedly offering false moves, anticipating reactions, never letting them on what your end-game is. Although it is essentially a fighting technique which can cause serious injury, the respect and camaraderie that are instilled into students are on par with those of family values. This is why my hometown's academy appropriately bears the name "Family Fight Team".





Indoor Rowing

Stevan Bekvalac

Software Test Engineer, Quality Assurance Team Manager

Legs, hips, arms – arms, hips, legs; legs, hips, arms – arms, hips, legs... these muscle groups are all you get to work with in the beginning. Just be patient – once you perfect the technique, you can concentrate on enjoying indoor rowing and the rewarding feeling of this amazing cardiovascular training.

I know that it is very hard to devote some time to actually doing some form of exercise. Talking about how that is a good idea does not count – if this is a case with you and you have been planning on starting or going back to training, let me encourage you to finally do it: after reading this text go for a walk, or a bike ride... or Google the closest gym that contains a program for indoor rowing on ergometers :-)

I am doing my training at the Rowing Club “Danubius 1885” in Novi Sad. The best thing about this club is the location of training facilities. Just beside the Danube River, you can enjoy the view and the good vibes from the longest river in the European Union region.

Red Star is Life

Stevan Bekvalac

Software Test Engineer, Quality Assurance Team Manager

My love and devotion to the Red Star Club is not something that I do in my spare time. This is not my hobby. It has been and still is a significant part of my life. As long as I can remember, I've been a passionate Red Star fan. I've learned about sport, soccer and Red Star from my grandfather and my father. The Red Star Club was founded just after WWII, and my grandfather, who was a WWII veteran and a huge soccer fan, fell for Red Star magic and passed it to his son and his grandsons. My father took me to my first Red Star game when I was 7 years old. Don't tell anybody, but I skipped school that day and my father wrote a parental note to excuse my absence – it was his idea!

Only if you are a passionate supporter of any sport club you can understand the happiness and the sorrow that comes with it. The most successful days in the Red Star history were contemporaneous with the days of my childhood – in 1991, we won the European Champions Cup and later that year we were the soccer champions of the world – those were the days...

Nowadays my club is very far from the days of glory, and we are not even close to the success that we had in the good old days, but despite all that – I can proudly say that I am a huge Red Star fan – that is the fact that will never change.



Partizan Child



Nikola Markovic

Cloud Admin Team / Peer Review Administrator

Although I live and work in Novi Sad, I am a huge fan of a soccer club that is not from my hometown. That club is Partizan, based in the Serbian capital, Belgrade. When I was a little boy my father used to take me to the Partizan stadium.

From the very start I fell for their game and black and white club colours. I can't say that supporting Partizan is my hobby. It is rather a significant part of my everyday life.

I watch soccer, basketball, water polo and other matches on TV, and when I am not at work I spend my free time traveling to Belgrade and supporting my favorite team. I used to watch the games with my father 15 years ago, and nowadays I do it with my brother and sister. So it comes as no surprise that supporting Partizan is a part of our family's tradition.

It is interesting that there is a band called "Group JNA", which is dedicated to the soccer club Partizan. Last year they held a concert at the stadium to celebrate our championship title. Some would say that a soccer game and a concert are incompatible; but they have one thing in common – Partizan.

Soccer and basketball are the most popular sports in Serbia. Partizan has dominated the League in the 21st century, having won 8 domestic league titles in soccer, and 13 consecutive titles in basketball. They have been European water polo champions 6 times as well, and in basketball in 1991.



The entire Partizan sports society, with 26 clubs in 26 sports, is considered to have won more trophies than any other sports club in the world. I am proud to say that I have witnessed, first hand, some of the biggest successes of my club in recent history. For instance, I was at the Basketball Arena in 2010 in Belgrade when Partizan, in front of more than 24, 000 people, beat Maccabi Tel Aviv and qualified for the Euro league Final Four in Paris. Many famous basketball clubs such as Real Madrid, Barcelona, Panathinaikos and CSKA Moscow have come to Belgrade and played against Partizan, but left our country holding their heads down.

On the other hand, there are also some sad and heartbreaking moments. One of them is certainly Partizan's failure to qualify for UEFA Champions

League. I was among 30, 000 people at the stadium when the game against Bate Borisov ended in a draw and the final score 2:2. Partizan could not go on due to the defeat in the first match (1:0). Nevertheless, the atmosphere was incredible during the entire game; players got frenetic support from the stands. That is precisely what makes Partizan so special. I was also present when we lost to Besiktas two years ago with 4:0 at home. Regardless, we left the game with smiles on our faces because we had a truly great time, standing proudly by our team through better or worse.

I will finish with a quote from Dusko Radovic, a well-known Serbian writer and poet: *"Supporting Partizan is not always easy but is always wonderful."*



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Hobbies vary from one person to another. When it comes to the two of us, what we do to fill our spare time is difficult to define, since football (soccer) is more like a passion than a hobby. Our love for the game is sometimes hard to explain to a person who has no connection with it. Football comes with a particular life style, the one that can create an easy subject to talk about with all sorts of people, even if you see someone for the first time.

During our coffee breaks at work, we have realized that what we mostly talk about is our beloved football club – Vojvodina Novi Sad.

It's a local football club many people would recognize as one of the most important benchmarks of our hometown and its heritage.

Football club Vojvodina, commonly known as Vojvodina Novi Sad or simply Vojvodina, is a professional Serbian football club based in Novi Sad, Vojvodina, the second largest city in Serbia, and it is one of the most popular clubs in the country.

In its long history, Vojvodina was one of the most successful clubs in the former Yugoslavia, winning two First League titles, in 1966 and 1989. They were runners-up in 1957, 1962 and 1975, and they also won the 3rd place in 1992 and finished as 5th in the competition's all-time table. Vojvodina were also runners-up of the Yugoslav Cup in 1951. They won the UEFA Intertoto Cup in 1976, the Mitropa Cup in 1977 and were also runners-up of the Mitropa Cup in 1957 and the UEFA Intertoto Cup in 1998. From 1993 to 1997, Vojvodina won 3rd place in the national championship five times in a row and they were runners-up of the domestic cup in 1997. They were runners-up of the Serbian Super League in 2009 and achieved the 3rd place in 2007, 2008, 2011, 2012 and 2013. Vojvodina were also runners-up of the Serbian Cup in 2007, 2010, 2011 and 2013. Vojvodina won the first cup trophy in 2014.

The club is the major part of the Vojvodina Novi Sad Sports Society. It is currently the oldest football club in the Serbian Super League and the most successful football club in Serbia next to the rivals Red Star Belgrade and Partizan Belgrade.



The Most Important Unimportant Thing in the World

PLANet Systems Group Mission Statement

1. Customer Service is Job One.
2. To establish mutually beneficial relationships with our clients.
3. Understand that the most important part of business is profit.
4. Understand that the most important part of life is family, friends and community.
5. Never let the most important part of business get in the way of the most important part of life.

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Designed & Produced in Novi Sad, Serbia

Printed by Adverto, Novi Sad
December 2015