



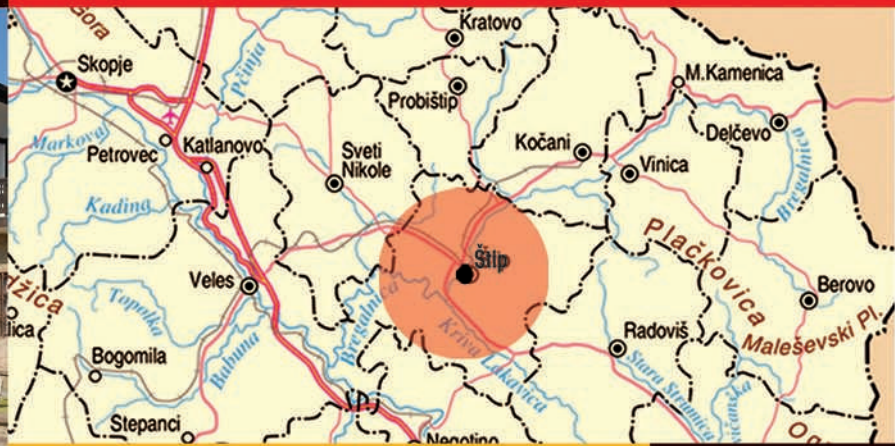
MUNICIPALITY OF STIP



STIP

CITY MAP
INCLUDED

GUIDEBOOK



Municipality of Stip

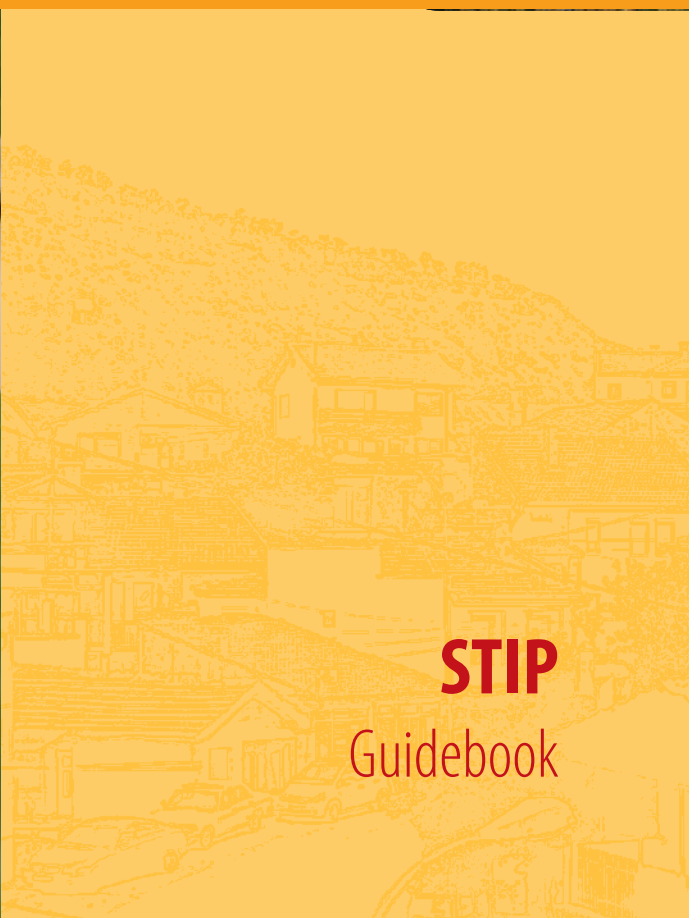
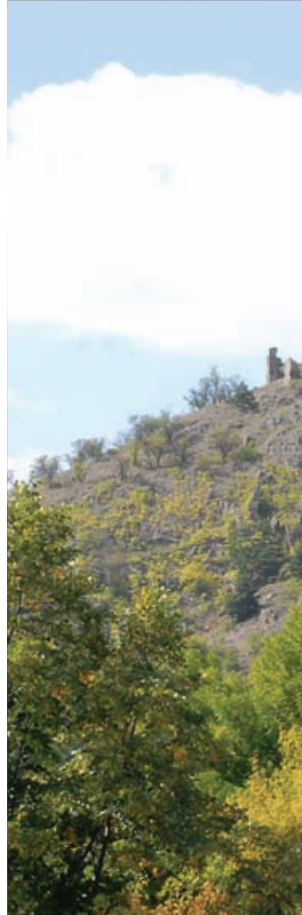
STIP - GUIDEBOOK

City map included

Stip, 2011

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STIP Guidebook



WELCOME TO STIP !

Basic information about the past, present and the future of the Municipality of Stip. Dedicated to all the tourists, adventurers, investors, businessmen, fun researchers and accidental passengers in our city Stip.

Municipality of Stip

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Dear visitors,

I'll start with a folk thought: "If you are not going to the end of the road, why bother beginning?" From being a Mayor, I am quite aware that my road has a purpose and a direction. According to me there is no greater honour than to serve the citizens. I am aware that I have to pass the road I have begun to walk, just to secure a better future for my citizens especially the young ones. It is clear to me what kind of responsibility and what kind of challenges are in front of me. Indeed, there's no better way to acquire the reputation of the community where I belong, than directly as a Mayor to solve the important problems of the citizens.



Stip is a municipality which has always been an administrative and an economic centre in Eastern Macedonia. The opportunities that the city offers are enormous.... Fantastic. Feel free to choose to invest. If you are looking for wind, you have it for windmills. If you are looking for water, we have thermal bath Kezhovica with healing water, if you are looking for land, air....Stip is the perfect place for you.

Stip is a city that I from the bottom of my heart recommend to those who have never came here. You'll be pleasantly surprised by the kindness that we have. You'll be amazed by the history we have. You'll be visually refined by the culture that we will present and pre-eminently by the friendship that we offer.

I hope that my words will be a challenge for you....that the next meeting will be in Stip for delicious "Stipska Pastramajlija", domestic wine and a nice word.

Sincerely,
Mayor of Municipality of Stip
Zoran Aleksov, PhD

Mayor Zoran Aleksov was born on 26.07.1964 in Stip. He finishes primary and secondary education in Stip, while in the 1988 he graduated at the Electro-Technical Faculty at Ss. Cyril and Methodius, on the department of informatics and automatics. He finished his Master studies in Maastricht, Netherlands in the 1995 where he achieved the title of Master of Business Management.

In 2005 obtains the title of Doctor of Information Sciences of Southwest University "Neofit Rilski" in Blagoevgrad.

In the period 1988-1996 he works as a professor of computer science in the Secondary School "Slavcho Stojmenski in Stip, while in the period 1996-2004 he was a lecturer for the subject fundamentals of computer science at the Faculty of Pedagogy "Goce Delchev" Stip. In September 2007 he was elected as an assistant professor for group of subjects in the field of computer science at the University American College in Skopje.

From 2006 he held the role of Director of Central Register of Republic of Macedonia and in the local elections in 2009 was elected as a Mayor of the Municipality of Stip.

He speaks English and Bulgarian.



“Stip is a place with fortress on the hill that guards people. There are mosques, baths, large caravan saraj and a small river in the town”

Evliya Celebi 1661



A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

Stip is the largest city in the east part of Macedonia. As of 2002 census, it had a population of about 47,000. Stip serves as a cultural and economic center for the eastern part of Macedonia, and it is the largest textile production center in the country, and here is also the location of one of the state universities, “Goce Delcev” - Stip. The city of Stip is the capital place of Stip Municipality. Stip is a significant cultural, educational, and economic center in east Macedonia. The textile and fashion industries are located in this town. The first known opera performance in Macedonia was held in Stip in 1925. Today, a festival of popular music “Makfest” is held here each year. It is well known for the “Stip Cultural Summer”, near the central core of the city. There is a thermal bath Kezovica in the famous Novo Selo, with its medical mineral springs (57-62 C degrees). Stip is the heart of East Macedonia. We hope that these sentences will help you to find challenge to visit Stip.

• Fragments from the history of Stip

Štip (or Astibo / Astibos / Astibus) has its heritage in being the ancient capital of the Paeonian tribe who were situated in the region west of the fertile river Axios basin, around the fifth and fourth centuries BC. The two tribes that lived along the river Astibo, an estuary to the Axios, were the Derrones, named after their god of healing, Darron, and the Laeaeans, who minted their own heavy coins as a sign of their sovereignty following the example of the Greek city-states on Chalkidiki. Although these tribes were heavily weakened by the Persian invasion of 480 BC, led by King Xerxes I, they remained a formidable power and well-organized people, renowned for the production of their exceptionally heavy coins with emblems including domesticated specimens of the wild aurochs for which Paeonia was also famous. They were absorbed into the Macedonian empire by Alexander I before 360 BC.

The area itself is first mentioned in the writings of the historian Polien from the 3-rd century BC, who talks of a river named Astibo which is presumed to be the river Bregalnica today. Polien also states that the Paeonian emperors were crowned in the vicinity of today's Štip. The first mention in written sources of a settlement in this area is from the time of the Roman emperor Tiberius 14-37 AD, when it is mentioned as an important settlement in the Roman province of Paeonia and the second stop on the Roman road from Stobi to Pautalia.

There are different theories about the exact location of this settlement: F. Papazoglu locates it in the city of Stip itself; Blaga Aleksova mentions the locality Kale in the village of Krupiste, and



V. Sanev offers the theory that Astibo stood at the location of present district Star Konak in Štip, on the eastern foot of hill Isar. This theory is supported by archeologists that have discovered a series of archeological findings at this location: water supply installations, mining dugouts, a necropolis, marble workshop, also extending its location to Tuzlija and Gorno district.

During the second half of the 3-rd century BC the barbarian tribes, especially the Goths destroyed much of the northern settlements in the eastern part of the Roman Empire, among which Astibo as well. However, a new settlement “Ēstipeon” - was soon founded on the same site which thrived though the late Roman and the Early Byzantine period. Between the 5-th and 6-th century AD the joint Slavic and Avar tribes attacks destroyed the Byzantine settlement, and the Slavic tribe of Sagudats permanently settled in this area, and gave the town its current name Štip. After the Balkan wars, Štip and the surrounding territory was annexed by the Kingdom of Serbia. Events concerning the Kingdom of Serbia itself meant that Štip would shortly become a part of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia together with the rest of Vardar Macedonia. On 6 April 1941, when the Kingdom of Yugoslavia was attacked by Nazi-Germany, the city was bombed by German planes. During the Second World War the Axis-allied forces occupied the city until early September, 1944, after which it was taken by German troops. Štip was liberated on 8 November 1944. Because of this, Macedonia’s modern republic recognises 8-th of November as ‘Liberation Day’ in the city and municipality of Štip, it is thus a local holiday or city day).



During the 10-th century, the Saints Cyril and Methodius, after creating the first Slavic alphabet, came to preach to the Slavic tribes in this area before continuing their route to Great Moravia, thus the Slavic population from this area were the first Christians among the Slavs.

Many rulers conquered the area of Štip during the early Middle Ages. Štip was a part of the Tzar Samuil territories, after the Byzantine victory at the Battle of Kleidion it fell again under Byzantium until 1330 when the Serbian king Stefan Dečanski conquered it and incorporated it into the Serbian Empire. Serbian rule lasted only until 1395 when Ottoman Turkey conquered the area, and renamed the city to Ishtib and made it the capital of the local county. There is little information about the development of Štip during the Turkish empire which would continue for the next five centuries, interrupted only during 1689-1690 when the city was liberated by the Austrians for two years. At the end of XVIII century, Štip started to develop faster.

THIS IS ŠTIP

In the middle of the River Basin Bregalnica in the heart of Eastern Macedonia, is the municipality of Štip. Situated between the heights of the Isar, Merite and Kumlakot along both banks of the dry valley of Otinja, is stretching Štip, which is the center of eastern Macedonia and one of the oldest Macedonian cities. Lies at an altitude of 300m.

It is spread on an area of 810m² where 47,796 people live according to the last census. Of the total number of inhabitants of this area which represents 3.1% of the surface of Macedonia,





there are representatives from various ethnic communities. Stip's multiethnic environment includes: 41,670 Macedonians, 12 Albanians, 1272 Turks, 2195 Roma people, 2074 Vlachs and others. Based on the density of population is: 81.95 resident lives of km². Covering this area, the Municipality of Stip includes 71 settlements.

The hill Isar, with its early medieval fortress on top, dominates the city and provides the common reference as -The city under the Isar.

The area surrounding the city is suffering from deforestation which is contributing to the temperature extremes, summers being hot and dry with days above 40 °C (104 °F), and winters being cold and snowy (but short) and minimums going to -10 °C (14.0 °F). The soil is mostly sandy, and has large patches of red soil (Macedonian: Crvenica) which indicates large percentage of Iron in the soil. The geographical area of the city of Štip is bordered by the mountain Plackovica east, by the Krivolak valley south-east, the estuary of the river Bregalnica in the south-west, and by its alluvial plain in the north.

Stip is connected with other cities in Macedonia via public transportation as well as some neighboring countries. The train station

located in the northern suburb "Zeleznicka" provides links to Kočani in the east, and Veles and Skopje to the west. There is a large fleet of private taxi vehicles in the city, with very competitive prices. Generally, You can visit Stip traveling with the car on the highway M-5 (Stip-Kocani-Delcevo), and connect to the E-75 highway Stip-Veles. The travel direction in the region goes via R-601 (Stip-Plackovica) and R-526 that goes through the city and connects to freeway M-5.

Stip is the center of the Eastern planning area. The area of Stip is mostly mountainous and hill located. It is characterized by moderate continental climate with some Mediterranean influence on the change in climate. Winds are blowing throughout the year. From 365 days a year, in Stip, 270 days there is a flow. This situation results in a predominantly clean air. In the last two years Spanish, Slovenian, Italian and Canadian companies have expressed interest in the exploitation of wind through the preparation of a field of windmills for energy production.

Near Stip is Plackovica Mountain. It is ideal for development of mountain tourism. Plackovica has the highest peak Lisec (1754m), which is a challenge for many mountaineers.

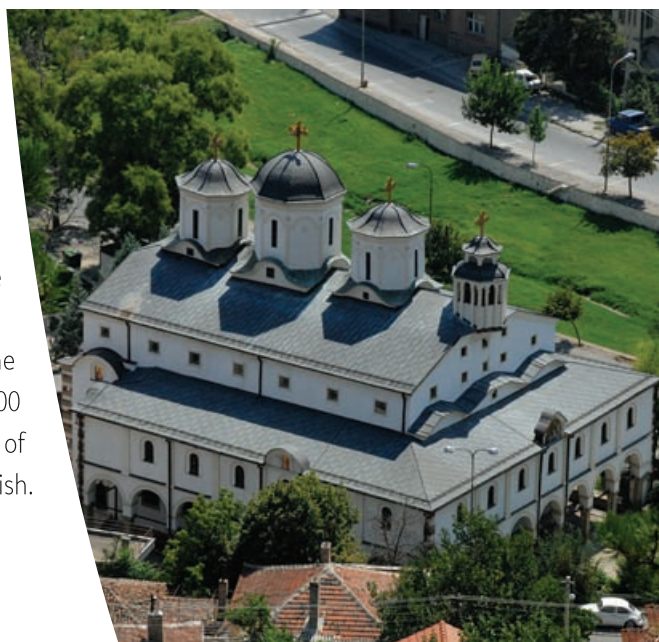
This is why the city has Mountaineering Association Lisec, and the most common way to access the mountain starts right from Stip, via Mountain House Vrteska is going to the high position to the monastery of St. Gjorgi.

There are two rivers flowing in Stip. Bregalnica is the bigger river which passes through Stip on the way to flow of the River Vardar. The smaller one divides the city into two parts and is called Otinja.

With some special captures the rare archaeological Bargala is 15 km far from Stip. It covers an area of 5 hectares. Bargala is a late-antique city that lived from the 4-th to the 6-th century.

Fortress Isar is a special landmark for the city. It is an elevation of 150 meters above the level of the river Bregalnica. In 2009 researchers have discovered 30 meters from the tunnel that leads from the river to the top of the Isar. That confirmed the most told Stips' legend about conquering the city through a secret tunnel under the Isar, wrote the Turkish travelogue Evliya Celebi in the 17 century. Studies in the last period only are confirming about the history. The goal is carrying out conservation and reconstruction of the fortress, which by the end of 2011 should be lightened up. The view is completely turned on to the historical fortress Isar if you stand at the entrance of the beautiful building of the municipality of Stip. It is located in the central part of the town. It is situated on the left side of the river Otinja.

The cultural wealth of Stip is enormous. The city and the near area register more than 200 churches. The pride of the town is the church of St. Nikola, which is based on Bregalnica's Parish.



Many of the churches are older than 3-4 centuries, and there are examples of such churches as St. Jovan Krstitel which dates from 1350. Inherent in Stip is the Novo Selo that is on the road to Radovis, in the canyon of the River Bregalnica behind the Isar. It is a historic place known for the residence of the Macedonian revolutionary Goce Delchev, who was a teacher at the school in Novo Selo. This school has been reconstructed and became the seat of the Chancellor of the Stip's University Goce Delchev.

There are numerous pre-schools, elementary/primary and middle school institutions in Štip. There are five high/secondary schools, each somehow specialized in a particular field, according to the educational policy of Republic of Macedonia. The five high schools are as follows:

- Music High School
- Textile Secondary School “Dimitar Mirasčiev”
- Secondary School for Children with Special Needs – Iskra
- Medical Secondary School “Jane Sandanski”
- Electro-Technical Secondary School “Kole Nehtenin”
- Lyceum “Slavčo Stojmenski”

The youth in Stip is educated in four primary schools. The municipality includes 5 schools from the educational institutions. The interest for the music was big considering the fact that Stip is a city where opera was first performed and established the first music school. With the opening of the University Goce Delchev in Stip, a large number of young people from Stip, the region of the country have the opportunity to acquire university education right in our municipality. Although founded in 2007, the University has 13 faculties and one Higher school. In just 3 years the University has managed to attract 8000 students which represents a record that should accompany the spread of Stip's University.

Stip has a student dormitory and dormitory for secondary students. Accommodation



capacities are increased with the new student dormitory which is under construction by the University with the support of the Municipality of Stip. Stip has more media. Today two TV stations are active: TV Iris and TV Star. Radio station that covers the national level is Kanal 77, radios on local level are: Radio Stip; UGD FM; Angels FM ; Dos FM (Turkish radio) and cable operators Robi and Cabletel. The Municipality of Stip by the Department for Public Relations is active in the field of written media, so that the daily is published Daily bulletin, updates municipal Web site www.stip.gov.mk and monthly regulates and issues Municipal gazette Mosaic.

Stip has developed a network of cultural institutions that are important: NI Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments and Museum, where collections are kept and funds in the field of archeology, ethnology, history and art.

NU Library Goce Delcev, which today works with modern standards and with the largest scope of publishing activities. More than 20 years within the library works and literary club Iskra;

House of Youth includes cultural activities which are interesting for youngsters. Astibo Jazz Festival;

NU Center for Culture Aco Shopov where as stem forms work: Children's Drama Studio and Art Studio. Within the center the National Theater is successfully functioning . The tourists would be certainly interested and attracted by the gallery of icons in the church of St. Bogorodica.

Stip is famous for the Festival of pop melodies Makfest. 24-th edition was held in 2009 in the organization of local self-government. Stip is also known for Stip's cultural summer. Bezisten Art Gallery is a cultural monument which dates from the second half of the 16th century when he served as a main bazaar for the sale of luxury goods. Today is the most appropriate space for music concerts and art exhibitions.

With special captures rare archaeological site Bargala is far from Stip 15 km. It covers an area of 5 hectares





ECONOMIC PARAMETERS

On the right bank of the river Bregalnica, about 2 km southwest from the center of Stip, the exit of Novo Selo, which was merged with our city, are phenomena of the thermal mineral water Kezovica and L'dzhi. Today this place is edited with a new bathroom with pools and Rehabilitation Center. Chemical analysis confirm that the water temperature is constantly 58 degrees, and it abounds with a variety of minerals that favorably affect human health. Within the spa Kezovica there is a Department of physical medicine and rehabilitation, which has its own capacity of beds. Kezovica thermal bath, according to its radiation falls in the order of most radioactive thermal mineral water, not only in Macedonia but also beyond the Balkans. Otherwise, the underground environment of Stip abounds with large thermal mineral waters and water despite the medical and recreational purposes may be used for heating, energy and electrification targets.

Stip is a wonderful place. It is enriched with new projects implemented by the program for local economic development. Working closely with both Public Enterprises: Isar and Stip Proekt, they regulated banks of rivers Otinja and Bregalnica, reconstructed the streets and sidewalks, street lighting set Prudent, regeneration and creating of new green spaces, parks, children playgrounds and make corners with children swings.

Stip is known as an industrial area with developed industries. Main characteristic of the economy in the Stip is textile industry that successfully exists more than half a century.



Stip is a leader, according to the number of employees in the textile industry. This means that private companies are bearers of cluster employment in the population of Stip. The establishment of business relations with foreign partners is also important. In Stip there are over 60 fashion apparel, and among the most important partners are Germany, Belgium, Netherlands and Spain.

There are many fashion clothing companies working including the outstanding profitability and the importance of several brands are noted. Well-established companies and fashion houses are: Albatros, Beas-S, Kit –Go Teks, Gracija, Modena, Mavis, Maksima, Beas-S, Briteks, Stipko, Stip-teks, Longurov, Vivendi, D&A, Amareta, Anateks, Angroteks, EAM, Milano, Vabo, Zogori, Metro Premier, Tekstil Invest-Denim, Tekstil Logistik, Eskada and many others.

With many years of successful existence in the Leather - Industrial production in Stip, the leader is the shoe factory Bargala. It's not only leading in domestic, but 80% of the production is intended for import to the European market and above all in Italy. There are two other shoe factories in Stip: Mar-Eva-Mar and others.

The food - processing industry is significant for the region of Stip. There are facilities for confectionary industry, production of oil, production of soft drinks, processing and preservation of fruits and wineries including the most representative which take place: Ezimit Vино and Imako. In the industrial zone of the city of Stip, where there is an excellent road and rail communication with the rest of the country is located the company Brillijant, leading to the Balkans. It's a factory



with high quality functions in the production of edible oil, dairy products and lamb meat.

Factory of confectionery products Multikrem; factory of candy and chewing gum Evropa and Makpromet; factory for soft drinks Ada and others.

From the internal aspect of the local food products, at the top of our traditional food is the well-known Stipska pastrmalija. As a brand of the city it can be found in all the restaurants in Stip. Stip Municipality appears as an organizer of the traditional event Pastrmalijada that is held each year on November 8 - the liberation day of Stip, where the hotel facilities such as Oaza, Izgrev or Vago (motel-restaurant and gas station) is filled with guests from home and abroad.

The development of the industry is planned also through the free industrial zone as an additional incentive for construction of the cargo airport project under the Government of Macedonia, with the expansion and adaptation would be turned into a major airport in the state. The project has been awarded to the Turkish company TAV, which soon will begin reconstruction of Skopje airport and construction of cargo airport near Stip. The cargo airport is very important For the development of Stip as providing air transportation of agricultural production in the region.

Stip in total agricultural area is 31,757 hectares of which 9906 hectares are arable land. The feature and the benefit of agriculture in Stip is that in this part of the Ovce pole water flow of Hydro system Bregalnica and most agricultural areas are covered by the





irrigation system. Stip is known as a city that offers more parks and promenade for recreation and entertainment. In the city center is a located place Suitlak that is known for the small forest, paths for walking and recreation. This is one of the most favorite places of the citizens in Stip who go out in nature with their loved ones after a working day. Pride to all the citizens of Stip is FC Bregalnica, founded in 1921. They play their games at the City Stadium in Stip which has capacity for 6000 spectators.

Stip also has other sport clubs: ping-pong club at the University Goce Delchev, wrestling club "Balkanec" (one of the most awarded in Stip, also in Macedonia), basketball club Tekstilec, boxing club "Bargala" and many others.

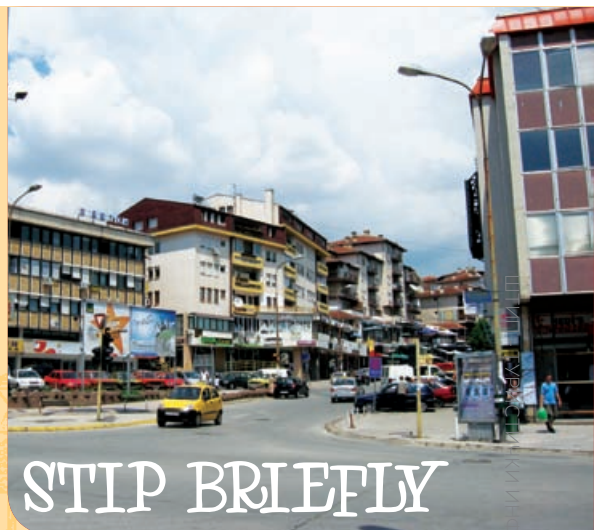
Macedonian architecture is very unique and can be seen in many structures around Stip. Historical and legendary New Village has many of the traditional houses. It remain as national treasure because of it's museum value. On the way to the thermal spa Kezovica, many of the houses in traditional old macedonian architecture can be seen. Together with the icons gallery, it is a place with large capacity for spiritual venture. It is unforgettable and eternal city of Stip.

We can write or speak about Stip with days. Believe us, we can easily add more pages about historical monuments or modern industrial capacities of Stip. But what is printed in these edition, we think it is appropriate to form the picture about beauties and possibilities of Stip. In fact, what remain unsaid, we can easily fulfill if You come as investor, journalist, sportist, adventurist or simply as tourist. Next pages will offer photographs that witness about the beauty of Stip.





PERIMETER: 893 km²
 PERIMETER OF THE CITY: 13.5 km²
 SUBURBS: 34
 NUMBER OF INHABITANTS IN MUNICIPALITY: 47.798
 NUMBER OF INHABITANTS IN THE CITY: 42.625
 PRIMARY SCHOOLS: 4
 HIGH SCHOOLS: 5
 UNIVERSITIES: 1
 RADIO STATIONS: 5
 TV STATIONS: 2
 CLINICAL CENTER: 1
 INDUSTRIAL ZONE: 1
 NON-COMMERCIAL AIRPORT: 1



STIP BRIEFLY

STIP CENSUS 2002	TOTAL	MACEDONIANS	TURKS	ROMAS	VLAHS	SERBS	ALBANIANS	BOSNIANS	OTHER
TOTAL	47796	41670	1272	2195	2074	294	12	11	265
FEMALE	23876	20935	612	1039	981	153	4	6	146
MALE	23920	20735	660	1156	1093	144	8	5	119
R.MACEDONIA (%)	2,36	3,21	1,63	4,07	21,39	0,83	0	0,06	1,26

MAIN INDUSTRY CAPACITIES

TEXTILE INDUSTRY: More than 60 fashion confections have employed over 50% of the working strength in Stip. Stip primarily is known as a textile city. The most of the production is exported in Netherlands, Belgium and Germany. Stip is also the city of the famous brand Astibo which is again actualized by the consortium of few powerful textile factories. Between some of the leader capacities are fashion confections as: **Albatros, Kit-Go, Modena, Mavis, Maksima, Gracija, Beas-S, Briteks, Stipko, Stip-teks, Longurov, Vivendi, D & A, Amareta, Anateks, Angroteks, EAM, Milano, Vabo, Zogori, Metro Premier, Tekstil Invest-Denim, Tekstil Logistik, Eskada** and many others.

LEATHER WORKING: The most famous brand of the shoemaking industry is the factory for shoes **HC Bargala**. In Stip shoes are also produced in capacities of **Mar Eva Mar** and others.

CIVIL ENGINEERING: **Beton, Pelagonija, Slimko and Aktiva.**



AGRICULTURE: Although not falling within the ranks of agricultural regions still there are facilities that are especially important. Important wine producers are:

Ezimit, Imako and Winery Anevski.

HOTEL TRADE: **Hotel Oaza** (in the centre of the city), **Izgrej** (located on the entrance of the city), **Garni** and motel **Vago**.

WOOD INDUSTRY: Known by the brands **Breza, Elan Trejd, Mebel Engineering, Radodizajn.**

PRODUCTION OF FOOD AND BEVERAGES: Oil factory **Brilijant**, confectionery factories **Multikrem, Evropa** and **Makpromet**.

METAL INDUSTRY: **Metalna, Birotehnika, Eko solar.**

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES: The well-known Macedonian market companies have their own capacities in Stip. The Slovenian group **TUS** opened its first market in Stip. Also there are: **Tinex, Kam market, Nada-Merkur, Kit-Go** and **Makpromet** markets.

CATERING INDUSTRY: Many restaurants that offer excellent specialties exists in Stip. Among them are: **Dublin, Necko, Zaki, Univerzitetski klub, San Remo, Grof, Chardak, Biznis, Kazablanka, Stipska kukja, Verona, Roma, Mal odmor** and others. Café bars are: **Square, Fashion, Passa, Versaj, Jazz Art**, while the fast foods are: **Hambi, Bambi, Stojanche, eatery Tase** and other. Night party offers the discotheque **Cabare**.

THE MOST PROFITABLE COMPANIES IN STIP IN 2008

According to the reports published in 2008, the most profitable company in the city of Stip is the oil factory **Brilijant**. The balanced profit was 5 million euros. Behind it is the cable operator **Robi** with the profit of 854 000 euros. On the third place is **Centre Design** with 771 000 euros, and fourth is **Semak Fashion Company**. The fifth on the list is **Textile Logistics Macedonia** with the gain of 521 553 euros. Sixth is **Niko 2002** with 415 804 euros. The company **Zmaj Promet** with 390 206 euros



is on the seventh place on the top list. Eight is **Beas ABS** with 381 184 euros, ninth is **FAM Mode** with 359 405 euros and tenth is **Winery Ezimit** with 335 296 euros. They all together estimated over 10 million euros. In the book of the most successful 200 companies in Macedonia for 2008, the oil factory Brilijant from Stip was among them.

MAIN STATE PROJECTS: Under the Decision of the Government of RM Turkish Company **TAV** need to build cargo – airport near Stip with tendencies someday to become main civil airport. The construction of the road direction Stip-Miladinovci is planned which will contribute in reducing of 30 km of travelling to the capital city Skopje.

Ministry of Culture in cooperation with Municipality of Stip need to arrange space around fortress Isar with adequate illumination. It is planned and regulating of the basin of the River Bregalnica (with support of the Macedonian government), so the whole river basin will be regulated. The project was started in July 2009 and will continue to be realized with a support by the Government of RM. The concept provides mini- artificial accumulations. Specifically, the basin of the river Bregalnica in the entrance of the Stip (at the place known as Emir Kjuchuk Sultan Bridge) will be transformed in large park, decorated with candelabra, pedestrian paths and other. The coast of the river Bregalnica, behind the city's Isar, landscape with narrow aspects, should also receive adequate pedestrian zone.

ENERGY: In 2009 a new power station of 110 kilowatts is released. There is a great interest in investing in renewable energy sources. Stip is known as a windy area and is one of the three best locations for the construction of a wind farm. Study is prepared, and as a result of the favourable conditions there is interest from Slovenian, Spanish and Canadian companies for the construction of windmills. Working on projects for the illumination of the gallery Bezisten and complete replacement of city lights with saving and economical one. A feasibility study is prepared for the Energy Efficiency of School Kole Nehtenin, so now there is a serious approach to finding investment.

LOCAL PROJECTS: According to the planned projects in the period 2009-2013 significant attention will be devoted to reconstructing the riverbed Otinja by enabling new parking spaces. Planning and regeneration of the town square as part of a broader project to reconstruct the street Vanco Prke and be turned into a pedestrian zone, free of cars and traffic.



Effective management of water distribution network of the Municipality of Stip is one of the priority objectives so the appropriate project is applied for securing the funds. Thus, there will be reconstructed 15 km of water supply network.

The construction of the collector which connects the settlements Balkanska and Chardaklija has begun. Also, there are developed and applied projects for the reconstruction of the sewer system in five streets in Stip.

Intensified cooperation with business sector contributes Local government for short time to set new children's playground and to reconstruct existing one. By JP Isar were built on two green areas. One is front the trade centre Dujle, and the other that occupies the vast expanse represents a new recreation park in UC Babi. Re-evaluation of the property tax and the recovery of a database of real estate on the territory of the Municipality of Stip is another successful project of local government. This is implemented by July this year in order to solve the problem of illegally built facilities.

CROSS-BORDER PROJECTS AND INNER-MUNICIPALITY COOPERATION

Municipality of Stip works on registration of illegal constructed objects across the city. For that purpose, a project was made for Municipalities of Stip and Karbinci. Now it's the phase where financial support is crucial for this activity. Stip also participates in cross-border cooperation with city of Kustendil (Bulgaria) in order both municipalities to use the IPA funds from EU.

CULTURE: There is an idea to create a centre that will unite all the cultural and entertaining activities that local government is famous for in one place. It includes: Stip cultural summer, festival of pop music "Makfest", the day of liberation of town 8-th of November, the day of the town 19-th December (St.Nicholas), event known as "Pastramajlijada" (dedicated to the local food speciality), marking the new year's cultural events, but also forming of the folklore and arts performance group of the town.

IMPORTANT CULTURAL, HISTORICAL AND TOURISTIC MONUMENTS AND SIGHTSEEINGS IN STIP

ISAR FORTRESS

Between the two rivers, **150 meters** high on the rocky hill over the town, the Stip Fortress, or better known as the **Isar** stands guard. People say that the fortress was built by King Marko, while his sister Maria was building a road and bridge through the canyon so that the people could cross the River Bregalnica. Even though she advised her brother to build things that would be useful to the people instead of a fortress that will exist only during his life time, King Marko was stubborn and built the fortress. The prediction of the clever Maria came true; the fortress was of short duration. For a long time after that, the people spoke of Maria's good deed, singing a song whenever they passed the road through the canyon that she built, while the fortress of King Marko was soon in ruins. The exact time of the construction of the fortress is unknown. It can only be said that it dates from the early Middle Ages, having all the characteristics of medieval art. Located high above, it guarded the town of Stip in the state of **Czar Samoil**. Main parts of the fortress were:

1. Castle (palace). It was at the top of the hill. It is long 106 m and wide 20 m. At the end of the north part was a guard tower that was destroyed. In the northern part there was a tank that collected the water from the rain. In the middle of the eastern wall (completely destroyed) is the main tower (donzon). On the south side behind these towers was the gate, while on the north side of the tower was located a small house for the guards. Through this gate, people entered into the palace.

2. Economical part of the castle (cvinger). It is on the hill sides: on the north, east and south from the castle on a place long 250 and wide 50 m. For a better safety, there were two gates aside the wall. The easiest approach was on the north, on a very small walkaway that leads down the





river. This part of the wall was totally destroyed.

In the 13th Century the fortress was under Bulgarian administration and after that under the Serbian ruler Stefan Decanski. In 1382 it was conquered by the Turks. After the firearms were invented, the fortress was deserted. Some of the building material of the fortress was from the ancient town of Astibo.

Three churches were built under the fortress as protectors from the three sides: The Church of St. Vlasius is to the north. Only its foundations can be seen today. The Church of **Holy Archangel Mihail** is to the east and the church of **St. John The Baptist** to the south side.

During ottoman empire the fortress was destroyed and till today it remains mostly in ruins with very little preserved parts of the construction.

ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE BARGALA

The ancient town **Bargala** was located at the foot of mountain Plackovica. Nearby is the river Kozjacka and a small village called Kozjak. It is believed that the ruins founded there belong to an ancient town Bargala. The town was built in the early 4-th century, because there were some Roman documents found, containing information that the city gate of Bargala was built by **Antho Alipius**, administrator of the province. Bargala town soon expanded into a powerful center, and become **Episcopal** center of Bregalnica region. The latest is belief is because of the Episcopal basilica discovered in the center of the city. Bargala was a civilian city, there were no army inside. There was a military fortification



near the town. But army was withdrawn in the time of Constantin I, and this place was inhabited by civilian population too. Bargala became a christian city since the first years of existence. On the capital entrance of the tribelon the following inscription was found “Christ, help your slave, the episcope Hermia”. It is believed that donors of the basilicas here, were episcopos **Philipe** and **Eustatius**, from the Stoby city. The complex of the Episcopal vasilica comprehended the Episcopal residenc, the town piscina and the housin complex with a wide porch and colonnade. The church was build according to the standard type of old Christian construction. From the architectural point of view it is three-nave basilica. It had impressive floor covered with stone plaques, except for the north floor that was covered with multicolored mosaic. The beauties floor is considered to be that one in the presbytery, which was covered with white and gray plaques in opus sectile. In **1984**, another **Christian building** was found near Bargala. It was just behind the walls of the city. It is believed that this building is dating from the end of the 4th century too.

OLD CITY CLOCK

The old city clock is a monument of culture from 17-th century. It is under protection of the state. Citizens recognize the city clock as “Begova kula” or Tower of the Beg. According some historical material, the clock was built by a Turkish ruler (beg) that lived in the city. But his name remained unknown. He built the clock tower in order to protect his family during crise situations. That is why on the top of the tower there was a gun-room and terrace. A century later, a clock mechanism was placed on the top of the tower. Part of the tower was destroyed in 1934. Some believe that it was because of security reasons, some said, it was a result of some disturbances caused by citizens’s revolt because the clock was too loud. According an old document by the clock keeper, the tower was built in 1650 and it is related with a legend. A Turkish beg was in love in the beautiful girl Anka. He wanted to take her and made her his bride. The girl refused that, and managed to keep it that way for a long time. She promised to marry him only if he left some monument valuable for the city.



She suggested to build a clock tower. Anka thought that the Turkish beg will give up, but because he was madly in love with her, for a very short time he managed to construct the tower and married the beautiful girl Anka from Stip.

HUSA MEDIN PASHA MOSQUE

The Husa Medin Pasha Mosque was built on a hill on the left side of the town. It is known as the church of **St. Ilija**, because it is believed to have been built on the foundations of an ancient Christian religious place. According to the legend, Husamedin Mehmed Pasha built the mosque in the 17-th Century on the foundations of a church from the 13-th or 14-th Century that was dedicated to St. Ilija. Next to the mosque is the grave of Husa Medin Pasha.

BEZISTEN- Art Gallery

Among the buildings in the central part of the town of Stip, there is a building, outstanding with its architecture, typical for the Medieval **Islamic** trade centers. It is the Bezisten (Turkish word for market place). The time of its construction cannot be precisely determined. The Bezisten was used as a main **market place** where trade and selling various goods was going on during the time of the Turkish rulers in these areas. Considering this, we may suppose that this building dates from **16-th** or **17-th Century**. It was burned down during the war between Austria and Turkey.

The Bezisten in Stip has a stone construction with a rectangular basis that is divided into three separate rooms covered with vaults with massive domes rising above them. There are glass holes on them that allow the daylight to enter the interior space and contribute to the noble ambient of the Bezisten. Today, the Bezisten is used as a space for cultural performances: exhibition, art gallery launching ceremony e.t.c.



"GOCE DELCEV" SCHOOL

In the manorhouse of the church of Holy Mother of God in Novo Selo (New Village) there is a school where the revolutionary Goce Delcev used to teach. Next to it there is the house where the revolutionary lived. Today it is privately owned, but restored in authentic style.

The school was named after the great Macedonian revolutionary hero. After opening of the University of "Goce Delcev", this school was given to the University. After reconstruction that will preserve the old and historical look, in the building will be placed the top officials of the University.



CHURCH OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD Novo Selo

The church of the **Holy Mother of God** is one of the architectural masterpieces of the well-known Macedonian constructor **Andrea Damjanov**. It has the shape of a basilica, with a three-nave disposition and an interesting design of the roof with three different layers. The interior is wide and decorated with floral motifs and animal figures. The iconostasis and the baldachin are carved. According to the sign over the south entrance, the temple was renovated in **1850**.

The people of Štip talk about the building of the church by the Damjanovi brothers. It took **31 years** to build. The material was brought by oxen and the outside columns were made and processed by hand.

A gallery of rare icons was formed on the second floor of the church. Today, there is a male and female altar, because nuns used



to live in the church. The church has a **hiding place** where Goce Delcev used to hide. In the walls of the church there are two more hiding places where 30 other men used to hide. There was a tunnel under the throne of the archbishop that led from the church to the houses in the village. This is how they escaped from the Turks.

CHURCH OF ST. SPAS Holy Savior

The church of the Holy Savior is located on the left bank of the Otinja River, on the road to Novo Selo. Standing on a flat rock, it draws attention with its small dimensions and a peaceful beauty. The church has one dome and it is assumed to have been built by the **duke Dimitar** in **1369**. The fresco ensembles from the **14-th Century** has not been saved. The second painting inside the church is from **1601** done by the fresco painter **Jovan**, who put his signature in Greek. Around the church there is a necropolis with graves. from different times.



EMIR KUCUK SULTAN'S BRIDGE

This is one of the most significant historical monument of the town. It is located near the entrance of Stip, across river Bregalnica. According historical data, the bridge was constructed in 1672. It is a rear example of Turkish architecture. The bridge was named after the sultan Kucuk Emir. During the first Balkan war (1912) the bridge was a demarcation line that separated the town on a Serbian and Bulgarian part. Suburbs on the left side of the bridge were under Bulgarians while the suburbs on the right side under Serbian domination. Because of the



water level in the river, this bridge in the past had a very important communication role, but today with continuous decrease of the water level of river Bregalnica, it has more historical and archeological value.

GALLERY OF ICONS

ST.NICHOLAS CHURCH HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (NEW VILLAGE)

In the church of St.Nikola, the gallery was formed in 1990 and accommodates rich fund of art works from the churches and monasteries from Bregalnica region. The gallery exhibition, enriched with the icons of the great iconostasis of the church's naos, the fresco-decorations and abundantly engraved baldachin (semicircular board leaned on four poles in the altar where the holy communion is exercised), are real rarities for the historical fine arts church past on this soil.

This exhibition is comprised by art works-icons, done by many of our known and anonymous zographs (icon painters) who worked in the churches and monasteries of Eastern Macedonia in the 17th, 17-th and 19-th century, as well as old printed church books, gilded putiri (glasses for communion), engraved silver crosses, relics, and other valuable sacral exhibits. In the southern part of the gallery of this church 29 icons are presented that date from 18-th and 19t-h century, by the icon painters: Dziko from village Osoj, Konstantin zograph, Petre Novev Pacarev from village Tresonce, Krste zograph from Veles, Adamce zograph and others.





We would list the following icons: *St. Kirik and Julita, Nativity of Christ, Holy Trinity, Virgin Mary and Christ, St. Jovan with the zitie (saint's biography) etc.* In the western part of the gallery 32 icons are presented, most of them dating from 19-th century. Painters of these icons were: Danail Kocov from Stip, Stanislav Dospeski, Krste Zograph from Veles and others. More significant amongst them are the ones presenting *Jesus Christ, St. Nikola Deisis, Holy Mother of God - Umilitelna etc.* In the northern part of the gallery 31 icons are presented, works of the icon painters: Petre Novev, Isaija Debarlija, Konstantin Andonov. With its painting and colors distinguish the icons with presentation of *St. Simeon (one of the twelve Christ's apostles), St. Mina, Baptizing of Christ and others.* On the iconostasis in the northern chapel there are 16 icons, works of the authors: *Krste from Veles, Atanasie, Dziko from Osoj, Atanas from Krusevo etc.* We underline the icons: *St. Pantelejmon, St. Apostle Filip and St. Jovan.* On the iconostasis in the southern chapel there are 13 icons, most of them painted by the icon painter *Krste from Veles.* We mention: *Transfiguration of Christ, Apostle Toma, St. Dimitrija and others.*

The attention of the visitors is primarily attracted by the icons that are situated on the large iconostasis in the naos of the church and there are 67 of them, all of them are works of one of the most famous zographs from 19-th century, more precisely from 1890, and this is the icon painter **Dimitar A. Papradiski**.

From all of them we emphasize the icons with presentation of the Assembly of Apostles, the Apostle Pavle, St. Haralampie, St. Simeon Stolpnik, The Annunciation, the Archangel Gabriel etc. In the gallery space of this church there are seven showcases where more Psalters (books with various church texts) have been exhibited, printed in Moscow in the first half of the 19-th century. Minei (books describing all services for celebrating Holy Mother of God, St. Jovan Preteca (St. John Forerunner) and other saints, divided into twelve months), Gospels (books with texts of the four Evangelists: Mateja, Marko, Luka and Jovan).

At the end we would only add that this gallery exhibition in this representative church with its exhibits that show the beauty and the values of the sacral cultural heritage owned by Bregalnica region, is an important part of people's life in our renaissance history. The visitors really have so much to see and to delight himself spiritually in the church museum-gallery in the church St. Nikola. It is very important to know that similar gallery with valuable icons exists also in the church in Novo Selo (New Village).

CHURCH OF ST.NICHOLAS

One of the most representative sacral objects, built by the proto-master **Andreja Damjanov**, is the church St.Nikola in Štip, built on the site of the old Sifieva church dedicated to St. Nikola (1341) by the master constructor **Gjorgi Novakov-Dzongar**. For the renewal-rebuilding of this church witnesses the inscription board built-in above the main western entrance, whose text says that the church was constructed in the time of the Metropolitan of Kustendil and Stip - Ignatija in 1867. The upper floor of the church in 1990 was transformed into a valuable **gallery** of icons. Today it is a main church and a seat place of Bregalnica eparhy.



CHURCH OF "ST. ARCHANGEL MICHAEL"

The road that leads to the fortress, on the east side of the hill, under the Veterans' Monument is the one, which reaches the church of Holy Archangel Michael. It is a small medieval church, built in the first half of the **14-th Century** by the Protosevastes **Hrelja** and in 1334, Czar Dusan devoted it to Hilandar. The church has one dome on a cross-shaped basis. The outside walls are decorated with blocks of processed stone and the only entrance is on the west side. The church is not fresco painted.



ST JOVAN KRŠTITEL John The Baptist

On the right bank of the river Otinja, on the south side of the hill where the "Isar" is located, a church dedicated to St. Jovan the Baptist was built in **1350**. It is a single-





room church with no cupola. Its construction was supported by Jovan Probistipovic, Despot Oliver's landowner. Today only fragments remain from the fresco paintings. The paintings of Czar Konstantin and Czarina Elena can be seen on the south wall around the entrance.

CITY INSTITUTE AND MUSEUM

The Institute and Museum was formed in 1950 as a city institution, but in 1955 it was transformed into a regional museum. Attempts of making a short list of the biggest advantages and successes of city's museum is a difficult job. It is not simple, because the museum posses many collections in the area of archeology, ethnology, history, art history and modern art.

Main activities of the city's museum in Stip is to explore, discover and preserve historical material, professional protection of archeological material and protection of the city monuments with large historical value. Among other activities, people in the city's museum also take care for church galleries, and reconstruction of ancient city of Bargala.

During a work on the pipelines, a settlement from the earliest Neolithic phase, the one of a kind in Macedonia, has been found near Stip. A team of archaeologists working in the field near the village of Krupiste has found the settlement at the Grcarica locality.

Archaeological finding has shown that it is about the oldest settlement from the Neolithic age in our country. It is a part of the first phase of Amzabegovo-Vrsnik group, which archaeologists have not been able to capture so far. This site is





extremely important for the archaeological science.

Later, a **skeleton** that was unearthed at the Granarica archaeological site near Stip and later named Slave Makedonski is 6.745 years old and lived in the early Neolithic period. Carbon dating analyses, carried out at the University of Glasgow in Scotland, showed the skeleton was the oldest one found in Southeast Europe.

The analyses of the samples sent to the university in Scotland indicate that the skeleton is 6.745 years old, minus or plus 30 years. According to the findings, the Granarica site dated back to the early Neolithic period and was the oldest one in Southeast Europe.

PUBLIC THEATRE

In 2001, the city theatre in Stip celebrated its 50 years anniversary. This theatre was formed in 1949 as a regional institution, but real theatre work begins 2 years later. First workers were teachers that made theatre performances with groups of pupils. It was a possibility to identify talented students, that will become professional actors. In the

50's of the past century, city theatre in Stip made many performances in more than a hundred cities across the world. In the past, people from this theatre made 300 premieres and more than 5000 reprises. During those 5 decades of existence, more than 1 million visitors saw some of the drama performances. This theatre is well known for quality drama performances but also with very talented actors that are famous in Macedonia.

CITY LIBRARY "GOCE DELCEV"

City Library, "Goce Delcev" has two epithets – National and Regional library, with home and deposit activity. It started with work from **1872** as a reading room, with the charitable contributions of Stip's donators. In 1972 year it grew in National Library and receives the name of the great Macedonian ideologue Goce Delcev.

Today, it is a **regional** and national library, which activity covers not only Stip and Karbinci but also the eastern region of Republic of Macedonia. The library is an open type. Books, magazines, newspapers and other

publications are available to readers every day in the week, from 7am till 7pm. In its composition works also a department for kids of pre-school and school age, for adults, for processing of monographic publications and for previous editions, department for deposit literature and music, department for home activity.

THE CENTRE OF CULTURE "ACO SOPOV"

The Centre of Culture "Aco Sopov" in Stip is built in 1979 and has a useful area of 3100 m² out of which 420 m² are for the stage area. The Centre has a large hall with 615 seats and a small hall, i.e. the scene with 120 seats. Within performance activity of Centre are organized manifestations in the area of musical scene arts, dramatic, fine, literary art, as well as a variety of social and cultural - educational forms (lectures, debates, academies, etc). Many events occurred at the center: pop festival "Makfest", "Bienale studio of art-drawings" in honour of the poet Aco Shopov and others. Annually, more than 130 events take place at the center. In the part of the building was placed army cultural center, but it was given to the new formed University and transformed into a head office of the University of Goce Delchev.



MONUMENT OF LOST SOLDIERS IN SECOND WORLD WAR

The citizens of Stip are actively involved in National Liberation War. During the Second World War in the resistance against fascism are including around 2000. Thereby around 814 people lost their lives from which 88 in direct

conflict with the enemy. In honor of lost lives, in 1974 then Assembly of Municipality of Stip raised memorial monument to fallen soldiers in National Liberation War.

MONUMENT OF DEPORTED JEWS

In the past, a lot of Jewish families have lived in Stip. According to a Turkish census book from the year 1512, 38 Jewish families lived in Stip. According to the analysis, the Jews in Stip began to settle after 21 years of travelling around the world, especially after their banishment from Spain in 1498. More precisely, the Jews came in Stip from Solun. They lived in the center of the city, on the left side of the river Otinja. There was the Jewish neighborhood. According to the census on the Kjustendil sandzak where also the nahija in Stip is, with its administrative center in the year 1519, the city had 201 turkish family, 6 Christian neighborhoods with 333 Christian families and one Jewish neighborhood of 15 families. At that time Stip counted 2700 residents of which 75 were Jews.

The situation between the two Balkan wars and after the World War II was not only bad for the Macedonians but also for the other communities. Among them were also the Jews in Stip. Many of them moved from Europe, while those who remained in Bitola, Skopje and Stip were significantly weakened. But despite the political and economic problems, they managed to not only ensure the survival of its population, but also a rich social life. The Jews in Stip had their own municipality, synagogues, schools and other institutions.

Here before the war lived about 160 families with about 560 inhabitants. They have dealt with trade and according to the stories at the time held about 27 retail stores in various range. In most of the shops, the owners have worked and there are cases where carriers of the work were their relatives





working in the role of assistants. With trade were occupied about 7 forms while a smaller number of Jewish merchants have dealt with intermediation.

During the Second World War as a result of the Nazi ideology, which proclaimed the extermination of the Jews, the situation is deteriorating. As elsewhere in Europe, and the Jews in Stip were a subject to deportation in the concentration camps for mass execution. The line of life was suspended on March 11, 1943 when 551 people of 131 families were deported from Stip and killed in the Treblinka concentration camp. According to the filled papers, the action began at 4 o'clock when ten formed groups of policeman and agents have informed the Jewish families to be prepared to carry their valuables.

At 6 am, the Jewish families were gathered in the square and their homes were sealed and then transferred to trucks at the railway station which is 3 kilometers away from the center of Stip. At this place was made a complete hearing where they took all their valuables. The search lasted 5 hours. The Jews were loaded in 14 wagons, 40 people in a wagon. The Composition was accompanied by policeman from Veles. From there the train joined the composition for Skopje, after what the Jews from Stip as many others from Europe have ended in the death camps.

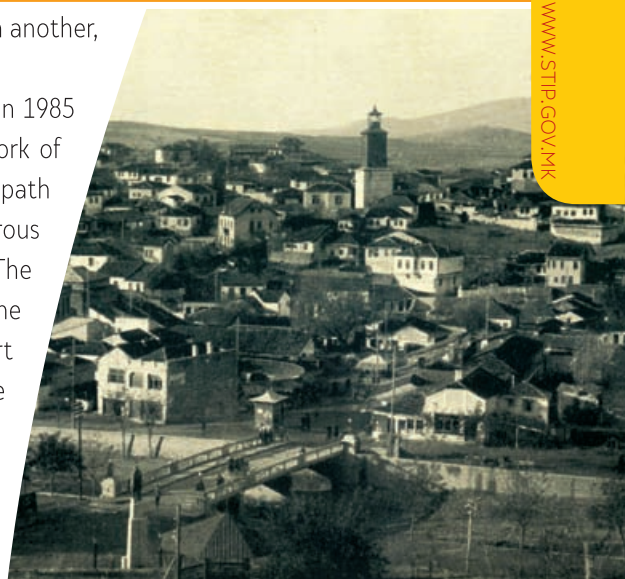
For the action of the deporting the Jews from Stip, was published an article in the newspaper "The People's voice" from May 1943. It said:

„One day, early in the morning, the entire city was blocked, the Gestapo's and the damned Bulgarian agents and gendarme knocked on the Jewish doors. So they began to throw them on the alley, like cattle, the women, the children and men from their own houses. The gendarmes started to persecute them to the station with bayonets on their guns. They took them on the station and stripped them to bare skin and started searching them. They took everything what they found: foe wearing, for eating and all their money. What they left to them are only the clothes on their backs and for each of them one mattress and quilt and took them to The Monopoly of Skopje where they gathered the Jews from all over Macedonia. They were



kept there for some time as cattle, placed one on another, hungry, naked and barefoot...”

In the honor of the deported Jews from Stip in 1985 was raised a monument. The monument is a work of the artist Metodi Andonov and symbolizes the life path of the Jews which goes upwards, until the disastrous March when the ir life path suddenly terminated. The monument is located next to the building of the Institute and Museum of Stip and with the support of the municipality of Stip recently has begun the reconstruction of the Jewish cemetery on the exit of Stip.



MONUMENT OF FALLEN HEROES IN THE CONFLICT IN 2001

The conflict from 2001 left three families from Stip without their brave sons. On March 4, 2001, the Capitan **Kircho Dimitrovski** (33 years) died in the region of village Tanushevci. He was married and left two children behind.

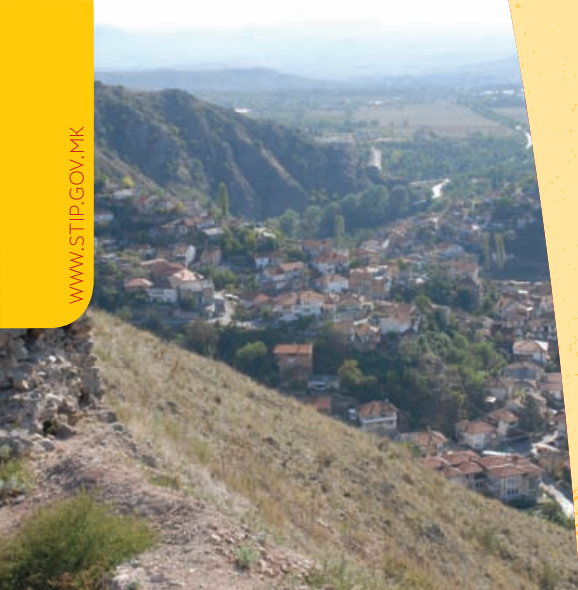
On May 3, 2001, around 5:40 a.m. members of Army of RM in village Vaksince, (Kumanovo), in patrol with transporters entered in an ambush by a group of terrorists who opened crossed fire on a vehicle. The soldiers returned with shots of fire weapon, but in the shootout mortally were wounded two soldiers. Died **Dimitar Dvojakovski** (29 years), soldier in agreement, married and father of one son, and **Vlatko Petrov** (24 years), soldier in agreement from the village Chardaklija, Stip.

Municipality of Stip will never forget their sons who died for the peace and security of Macedonia. In locality Suitllak and in the army of Stip depot were raised monuments in their honour.



NEW VILLAGE - NOVO SELO

One of the oldest settlements in Stip is Novo Selo. Although there is no accurate data for the



period of formation of the settlement, it can be assumed that, as a separate settlement Novo Selo existed before the thirteen century. Between 13-14-th century New Village was a vakaf (turkish regional unit) of the sultan Bajazit. When sultan Murat 2-nd came to power, it was transformed into a military suburb with special rights and privileges.

From the time of its formation, in Novo Selo, lived exclusively Christian population. This confirms the census of **1519**, under which **21 Christian families** lived. During the 19-th century, Novo Selo, plays a key role in the awakening of national awareness among the Macedonian people, especially after teaching at Dame Gruev and Goce Delchev.

New Village is the birth place of many famous people from Stip. Part of them are with an appropriate historical placement, but part are still a subject of controvesries. In New Village Mihajlo Apostolski, Todor Alexandrov and Vancho Mihajlov were born. One of the oldest families in New Village are: Chepreganovi, Mijalkovi, Hadzi-Kimovi and others.

There are many legends about New Village-Stip. It is a kind of living treasure of the town. It is rich with old macedonian architectural houses, visible on every step or on every corner. Some of them are protected with Law and some still need reconstruction in order to be preserved and protected.

KADIN ANA MOSQUE

This is the main religious object of Muslim population in Stip. While the mosque **Husa Medin Pasha** has a historic significance Kadin Ana mosque is in use and serves as a facility in which members of Islamic religion perform their Muslim religious traditions. It was built in the 19-th century.

CITY SQUARE "LIBERTY"

From a historical point of view, location across the river Otinja and the school "Vanco Prke", on the right side of the river bench was always a natural place for a city square. These location in this purpose was visiable on some archive photographs. During the 70's, marbel cubes were used for decoration. But because of the destructions and damages through

the past decades, it faces reconstruction. According to the plan of local government, reconstruction and new decoration of the city, the square is among the top projects in the next years. It is a part of the larger project that includes reconstruction of "Vanco Prke" street above the square in the walkaway zone, that will be very popular for all the citizens and tourist visitors.

TRADITION - PEOPLE'S RELIGIOUS CUSTOMS

Stip is famous for long and meaningful tradition for centuries. Stip as a municipality celebrates many religious holidays that are common for other towns in Macedonia (saint days or celebration of specific religious dates) but also is known for many unique customs that attracts people.

HOLLY 40 MARTYRS

On the 22-nd of March, the citizens of Stip used to climb the local hill named Isar, where the historical fortress is located. On the first day of spring, there is an old tradition of throwing 40 small stones from the top of the hill Isar. The last one, 40-th remains in the hand of every man and women, boy or girl. When visitors of these events step down from the hill, they need to shake hands with 40 people. After that, the 40-th stone is taken home and placed under the pillow. There is a traditional belief that on that day, because of the stone everyone will have a dream that includes it's future bride or groom.

KOLEDE -NOEL

This is one of the oldest religious beliefs. During this religious event, children sing traditional religious songs (kolede songs) and older people light fire in neighbours around the town. During the event, housewives make traditional holiday pie, cookies for the kids, citizens drink wine and home made brandy etc.





APPEARANCE OF GOD - BOGOJAVLENIE, VODICI

It is the most common religious holiday that people of Stip celebrate. On this day, the local priests bless the water of the local river Bregalnica. It is religious holiday and on that day, after the blessing ceremony, Archbishop of Bregalnica Eparhy (main orthodox church) throws the holly cross into the water. According traditional beliefs, the person that will get the cross out of the water will have luck, health and happiness during the year.

CHRISTMASS / EASTER

Both are big religious holidays among the orthodox people in the municipality of Stip. On Christmas, the most important part of the custom is the holly dinner. On that day, every family before dinner dashes the holly bread (locally named "kravajce") into pieces and shares it among the members of the family. A little coin found inside the bread means luck and health for the person.

Easter is also a big religious event among the people in Stip. Citizens usually gather in front of the main church of St. Nicholas at the center of the town, on midnight. The most tragic event in Christianity (death of the son of god Jesus) is important as the day of his birth (Christmas). At midnight sharp, people break with each other with the red eggs as a symbol of resurrection of the son of God.

ST. NICHOLAS

For many years people in Stip celebrated Saint Nicholas. In his honour main church was named with his name. From december 2009, this day is proclaimed as "city day", and the saint is protector of the town and the people.





DELIGHTFUL STATISTICS

In 1797 Stip had 3000 inhabitants and in 1807 almost double. In 1837, the number of inhabitants tripled. In that year Stip had 17.000 inhabitants. At the end of 19-th century (1899) Stip had 20.900 citizens.

After the second world war, Stip had 45 villages. Untill 2002, over 35 were abandoned and the rest had less then 100 inhabitants.

In 1924, Russian musicologist Sergej Mihajlov performed the first opera Pagliacci in Stip. It is also the date of the first ever performance of opera in Macedonia.

The second name for Stip is "Macedonian Manchester". After opening of the state University "Goce Delcev", the third nickname of Stip is "Macedonian Oxford".

In 1952, textile factory "Makedonka" started to work with 120 textile workers. Three years later the number grew up to 1224. In the golden time of the factory, in 1987 "Makedonka" had 5900 workers. This factory became a trademark of textile industry of city of Stip.

Fashion company "Astibo" was opened in 1962 with 119 workers. Ten years later in 1972 it had 2000 employees and in 1987 it reached the record of 4800 workers. Astibo stopped working in 1990. After a pause of 18 years, the factory and the brand is facing a new rebirth.

Today, 5610 citizens (around 40% of all employed in municipality) work in 58 companies from the textile sector. Textile industry remains the main economy perspective in Stip.

A person needs 45 minutes to sew a pair of jeans that costs 1.5 euros, comparing with 30 minutes needed for a Long-Sleeved shirt that costs 1.3 euros.

Stip is a city with the biggest number of fashion and textile factories. Despite the cheap cloth from many states around the globe, the quality of Stip textile fabrics is very famous and recognizable across Europe.

ПОВАЖНИ ТЕЛЕФОНИ / IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Информации /
Information
188Полиција / Police
192Итна помош / Emergency
194Помош на патот /
Road help
987Противпожарна бригада /
Fire Brigade
193Меѓународни разговори /
International calls
901Музеј
Public museum
392 044Центар за култура
The centre of culture
392 010Театар
Theatre
391 366Градска библиотека
City library
391 247Железничка станица
Rail station
392 904Автобуска станица
Bus station
389 600Електростопанство
Electrical supply
391 543Водостопанство
Water supply
392 596Пошта
Post office Stip
392 205Брза пошта
Fast mail
9800ЈП Исар
PC Isar
391 125ЈП Штип проект
PC Stip proekt
393 878АМД Штип
AMD Mobile service/road help
391 987**ТУРИСТИЧКИ АГЕНЦИИ**
TOURIST AGENCIES
Феријал Кашиков
Ferijal Kasikov
384 002Медитеран
Mediteran
397 001Атлантик
Atlantic
397 623Црво експрес
Crvo express
389 494**СМЕСТУВАЊЕ / ACCOMODATION**Хотел Изгрев
Izrev hotel
394 918Хотел Оаза
Oaza hotel
390 899Хотел Гарни
Garni hotel
388 622Хотел Ким
Kim hotel
075/525 095Мотел Ваго
Vago motel
388 622**РЕСТОРАНИ**
RESTAURANTSНационален ресторан Мал одмор
National restaurant Mal odmor
380 187Нецко 2
Necko 2
395 359Чардак
Cardak
397 900Заки
Zaki
397 795Штипска куќа
Stipska kuka
390 950Ресторан Гроф
Restaurant Grof
384 384Ирски паб Даблин
Irish pub DublinПицерија Верона
Pizza bar Verona
390 111Пицерија Рома
Pizza bar Roma
386 446Пицерија Сан ремо
Pizza bar San remo
395 396Пицерија Алберта
Pizza bar Alberta
382 541Ресторан Казабланка
Restaurant Kazablanka
389 210Универзитетски ресторан
University restaurantМеана Софра
Meana Sofra
397 757**ТАКСИ СЕРВИС / TAXI**Ла косте
La coste
15 77Де лукс
De lux
15 60Ново такси
New taxi
15 99Клиничка болница
Clinical hospital
394 099Медицински центар
Medical centar
393 666**АВТО СЕРВИСИ / CAR SERVICES**Авто сервис Лимонатка
Car service Limonatka
380 077Авто сервис Пирели
Car service Pireli
391 417Центар за гуми ТТГ Пит стоп
Tire service TTG Pit stop
394 063**ОСИГУРИТЕЛНИ КОМПАНИИ**
INSURANCE COMPANIESВардар Осигурување
Vardar insurance
380 061Кјуби Македонија
Kjubi Macedonia
391 137

PUBLISHER:
Municipality of Stip

FOR PUBLISHER:
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PHOTOS:
Studio FOTOMAK-Stip
INTERFOTO-Stip
photo archive of Municipality of Stip
& private collections

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Year
2010 / 11

PRINT:
EVROPA 92 - Kocani

PRINTING
2000

These publication is property of Municipality of Stip. It is not allowed any unauthorised printing and publishing or using a parts from the text or photos for other purposes.

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BEAUTIES OF STIP



ШТИП - ТУРИСТИЧКИ ИНФОРМАТОР • СТРИП.БИ.БИ.БИ





ЕКО - ПАРК ВРТЕШКА



ШТИП

КОЧАНИ

БЛАГЕЦ

БЕРОВО

РАДОВИШ

СТРУМИЦА

ИЗВЕДУВАЧ:
ДПС ЛИСЕЦ - ШТИП

ЛЕГЕНДА

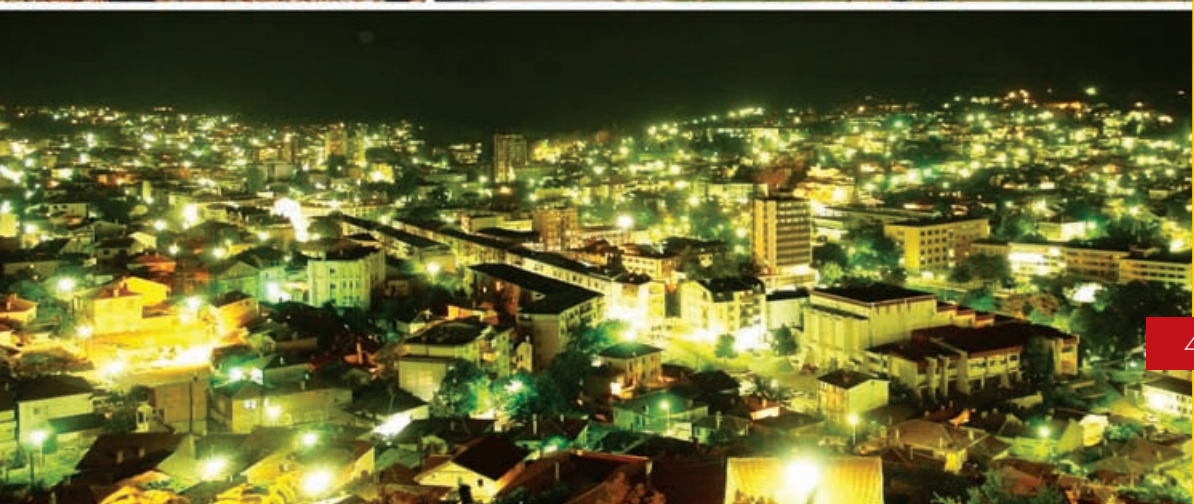
1. ВРТЕШКА (ПЛ. ДОМ)
 2. ЧУКА (ШУМСКА КУКА)
 3. ПЕШТЕРА КУП
 4. ТУРТЕА
 5. ШУМАЈА (ПЛ. ДОМ)
 6. ЛИСЕЦ
 7. ПАРУЦА
 8. ГРОБ НА ДАМЕ ГРУЕВ
 9. СУВИ ЛАКИ
 10. КАЊОН КАМНИК
 11. ЛОКАЛИТЕТ БАРГАЛА
- ИНВЕСТИТОР:
ФОНД ЗА ЖИВОТНА СРЕДИНА













Свети Никола

ШТИП



