

# Serbia

## Golija-Studenica

**Declaration date:** 2001

**Surface area:** 53,804 ha

**Administrative division:** Ministry of Health and Environment

### Human activities:

The transition area has 6,600 inhabitants within 42 dispersed rural communities which are characteristic of these mountainous regions (2001). Their main economic activities are livestock rearing and extensive farming, and collection of secondary forest products such as mushrooms and medicinal herbs. The biosphere reserve includes the Studenica Monastery, which is a cultural World Heritage site and a popular tourist attraction.

### Ecological characteristics:

Golija-Studenica Biosphere Reserve is situated in southwestern Serbia and belongs to the inner zone of the Dinaric mountain system. It covers a mountainous region and includes a mosaic of different ecosystems such as forests, shrubs and lakes. The local population cleared parts of the forests over centuries and thus created species rich pastures and meadows which are still maintained today. In the area, many non-governmental organizations are interested in the protection of the natural environment and in the implementation of sustainable development principles. With the establishment of a biosphere reserve, these organizations will be able to carry out their programmes and contribute to the functions of the Golija-Studenica Biosphere Reserve, based on a rich history of scientific research and observations.



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*\* Details found on this information sheet are derived directly from the UNESCO website and are not a communication from the biosphere reserve.*