



Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Bereavement Information for Serbia

Prepared by

British Consular Services in Serbia

www.gov.uk/government/world/serbia

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The death of a relative is always distressing but if it happens abroad it can be made worse by practical problems. Consular Directorate in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London and the British Embassy in Belgrade are ready to help in any way that they can. The information below is to help you through the practical arrangements you will need to make. Please note that while care has been taken in compiling this information no legal liability for their contents is accepted by the British Embassy or HM Government.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Following the death of a British national in Serbia, their next-of-kin, or a formally appointed representative, must decide whether to repatriate the deceased to the UK or carry out a local burial or cremation. If the deceased was covered by travel insurance it is important for the next-of-kin to contact the insurance company immediately. If there is no insurance cover, the cost of repatriation or burial in Serbia will need to be met by the family. Neither the Foreign and Commonwealth Office nor the British Embassy in Belgrade have budgets to meet these costs.

If the next-of-kin is in the UK our Consular staff in London will pass on to the Embassy in Belgrade the wishes regarding the disposal of the body together with details of who is taking responsibility for the costs involved. We will do our best to make sure that these wishes are carried out. However, post-mortems may be carried out by the local authorities without the permission of the next-of-kin. You should be aware that in Serbia organs may be removed and kept during these procedures without the next-of-kin being informed or consulted.

It is important to let the Embassy know if the person who died was travelling with a tour company. The company can be a valuable source of assistance and information.

All deaths must be registered locally in Serbia. Local and International death certificates are issued by the local General Registers Office at the place of death. Register Offices are located in all the main cities and towns. If a death occurs in a village the nearest town would issue the certificate required. The local authorities need to be told if the person suffered from an infectious condition (such as hepatitis or HIV) so that they can take precautions against infection.

CONSULAR DEATH REGISTRATION AND LOCAL DEATH CERTIFICATE

There is no legal obligation for the death overseas of a British national to be registered with the British Embassy. However, there are the advantages that a British style death certificate is then available and that a record of the death is afterwards held at the General Register Office in the UK.

To apply you should see the information on our website:

<https://www.gov.uk/register-a-death>

Alternatively you can contact:

Consular Overseas Residents Services Unit

Room K4.9

King Charles Street

LONDON

SW1A 2AH

or e-mail bmdenquiries@fco.gov.uk with specific enquiries.

A registration cannot, in any case, be made without presenting the death certificate issued by the local civil authorities. The death certificate issued by the local authorities will be sufficient for all purposes in the UK, but it will need to be translated into English. International versions of death certificates are available in Serbia. (A list of translators can be found below). You can apply for a copy through the Funeral Director who can also obtain further copies of the standard or international death certificate on your behalf.

BRITISH PASSPORT CANCELLATION

In order to avoid identity fraud a deceased person's passport should be sent to the British Consulate in Belgrade or passport office in the UK for cancellation along with form **D01**, Annexed below. Next of kin can request the passport to be returned. Likewise if the passport has been lost or mislaid, relatives should get in contact with either the Consulate or passport office for instructions on reporting the loss of the

ADDRESSE/ PHONE NUMBERS

If you require any form of assistance or help, please contact the British Embassy Consular Section in Belgrade. The Consular staff will be ready to help you in any way they can. Contact address:

BRITISH EMBASSY BELGRADE
Consular Section
Resavska 46
11000 Belgrade
Serbia
Telephone: +381 11 306 0900
Fax: +381 11 306 1072
Email: Belgrade.consular@fco.gov.uk

Local and International Undertakers are responsible for preparing the necessary local or international certificates to transport the body. While the Foreign and Commonwealth Office or the Embassy cannot pay any burial, cremation or repatriation expenses we can offer help transfer money from relatives or friends in the UK to pay any necessary costs.

Local undertakers will obtain the necessary documents for transportation of the body to the UK:

- local/international death certificate;
- doctor's death certificate (indicating cause of death);
- certificate of embalming;
- certificate of permission given to transfer the remains to the UK.

LOCAL UNDERTAKER SERVICES

Undertakers' charges (which include the coffin) can vary from approximately £500 to £2000 all prices subject to exchange movements and change. In addition, if you wish to repatriate the body to the UK, you will need to take the additional expenditure listed below into account.

TRANSPORTATION OF A BODY TO THE UK

The price of repatriating a body to the UK can vary between approximately £1000 to £3000 (in addition to the costs levied by the local undertaker).

CREMATION AND TRANSPORTATION TO THE UK

Charges differ depending on which undertaker you use. However, cremation in Serbia with the ashes repatriated to the United Kingdom can cost between approximately £250 to £800. Cremation is now widely accepted in Serbia except in rural areas. If the next-of-kin choose local cremation they will need to instruct a local funeral director to arrange the necessary paperwork. If the ashes are to be taken back to the UK they can do so with the assistance of the local undertakers who will arrange the necessary paperwork and transportation.

LOCAL BURIAL

Prices of a local burial can vary between approximately £300 to £1600. If the next-of kin choose to proceed with a local burial they will need to instruct a local funeral director.

REPATRIATION

If the deceased was covered by travel insurance, the insurance company will normally have a standing agreement with an International funeral director in UK to arrange repatriations. If the deceased is not covered by insurance the next-of-kin will need to appoint an undertaker in Serbia or an International funeral director themselves.

INTERNATIONAL UNDERTAKERS IN THE UK:

ROWLAND BROTHERS INTERNATIONAL
299-305 Whitehorse Road
West Croydon
Surrey CR0 2HR

Tel: +44 (0) 208 684 2324
Fax: +44 (0) 208 684 8000
Email: Info@rowlandbrothersinternational.co.uk
Web: www.rowlandbrothersinternational.co.uk

ALBIN INTERNATIONAL REPATRIATION
LTD.
83 Westbourne Grove
Bayswater
London W2 4UL

Tel: +44 (0) 207 313 6920
Fax: +44 (0) 207 313 6999
Email: info@albininternational.co.uk
Web: www.albininternational.co.uk

FUNERAL CARE INTERNATIONAL
221 Upper Richmond Road
Putney
London SW15 6SQ

Tel: +44 (0) 208 729 0029
Fax: +44 (0) 208 780 2704
Web: www.co-operativefuneralcare.co.uk
Email: funeralcare.worldwiderepatriation@co-operative.coop

AVALON
UK Head Office
Brooke Court
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 7ES

Tel: +44 (0) 161 486 2020
Fax: +44 (0) 161 486 1473
Email: Laurence.Aspinall@avalon-trustee.co.uk
Web: www.avalonfuneralplans.com

A list of local undertakers can be found in:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/serbia-list-of-funeral-directors>

A list of translators can be found in:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/list-of-translators-and-interpreters-in-serbia>

BRAKE, GOVERNMENT CHARITY INFORMATION

Brakecare provides services for people affected by road crashes, including information contained in a Bereavement Pack that is given to families following a death on the road. Brakecare also works to promote road safety through community campaigns including Road Safety Week, educational literature. You can contact Brakecare about their Bereavement Pack or about their road safety work on 01484 559 909 or e-mail them at brake@brake.org.uk

[Brake main support pages](#)

[Brake main literature page](#)

[Coping with grief](#)

[Brake's helpline](#)

SAMM - Support After Murder & Manslaughter

SAMM is a national UK Charity supporting families bereaved by Murder and manslaughter. They also provide advice and training to many agencies on issues relevant to the traumatically bereaved.

Support After Murder and Manslaughter
Kings Norton Police Station 20
Wharf Road Kings
Norton B30 3LT

Email: info@samm.org.uk

SAMM's helpline: 0121 451 1618 and 0845 872 3440

Further information can also be found on their website at www.samm.org.uk

Annex - Form D01



HM Passport
Office

What to do with a passport when the passport holder dies

It is important that the passport of the deceased is cancelled. For security purposes, please cut off the top right hand corner of the passport before returning it to us. This is to ensure the passport cannot be used fraudulently. You should send the passport with this form to: Customer Contact Centre, Her Majesty's Passport Office, PO Box 767, Southport PR8 9PW.

If the passport is lost or unavailable let us know by completing a Lost and Stolen form (LS01) which can be downloaded at www.gov.uk/report-a-lost-or-stolen-passport

For further information please call the Adviceline on 0300 222 0000 (or Textphone: 030 222 0222 or Text Relay: 18001 0330 222 0000 for deaf or hard of hearing customers).

Please tick one of the boxes below to let us know what you would like us to do with the passport. We can either:

- cancel it and dispose of it safely on your behalf, or
- cancel and then return it to you.

Details of passport holder

Last name

First name(s)

Date of birth

Town and country of birth

Passport number

Death certificate number (if this is available to you)

Your name (title, first name and surname)

Your address

Postcode

Relationship to the deceased

Your telephone number

I confirm that as far as I know the information I have given is correct.

HMPO 23 05.15