

## 13 CITIES OF MEDIEVAL SERBIA MENTIONED ON COINS



ZELJKO KNEZEVIC

Градови средњовековне Србије који се спомињу на новцу 13-15 век  
Cities of the medieval Serbia mentioned on the coins 13th-15th century



**KOTOR – BAR – ULCINJ – SVAC – SKADAR – DRIVAST – ZVECAN – PRIZREN – NOVO  
BRDO – SKOPLJE – RUDNIK – RUDISTE – SMEDEREVO**

## Новац града Котора Money of the city of Kotor



### 1. City of Kotor issue under emperor Uros (1355-1371)

Silver "scepter and globus" coin. 20mm, 1.623g.

Obverse: Crowned emperor sitting on low-back bench like throne, holding lily tipped scepter and a globus. Latin legend: INPERATO VROSIVS (EMPEROR UROS) around.

Reverse: Saint Trifun standing in nimbe, in right hand holding palm branch and in left cross. Latin legend: S TRIPHON . CATARENSI (SAINT TRIFON KOTOR) around.

Reference: D 370 5-10, J 25 12, Jov 25 6.1, I 9.30, Lj X-11.

### 2. City of Kotor issue under Nemanjic rule (1186-1369)

Copper follaro "city gates" type. 19mm, 2.977g.

Obverse: Large castle with gates in the middle. Latin description: CATARI CIVITAS (KOTOR CITY) around.

Reverse: Saint Trifon standing and holding a lily tipped cross. Latin description: SANTVS TRIFON (SAINT TRIFON) around.

Reference: Jov 25 1.2, J 25 2, Dobrinic 1.1.2-1.2.6.

## Новац града Бара Money of the city of Bar



1. City of Bar issue under Serbian Balsic family rule (1356-1421) and Serbian Despotate (1421-1443).

Copper follaro "horse and dragon" type. 20mm, 2.623g.

Obverse: Saint George standing and killing dragon. Latin legend: • DAN • • TIVAR • (ANTIBAR - Italian ANTIVAR) around.

Reverse: Saint George riding horse, facing left and killing dragon. Large letters: S G (SANCTUS GEORGIUS - SAINT GEORGE) on the right.

Reference: Jov 26 3, Dobrinic 1.2.1, 1.2.3.

2. City of Bar issue under Balsic rule (1356-1421) and Serbian Despotate (1421-1443).

Copper follaro "large letter A" type. 18mm, 2.104g.

Obverse: Latin description: large letter A in the middle. TI \* \* BAR (ATIBAR - Italian ANTIVAR) around.

Reverse: Large letter G (GEORGIUS - GEORGE) and 3 stars.

Reference: Jov 26 2, Dobrinic 1.1.2.

## Новац града Улциња Money of the city of Ulcinj



### 1. City of Ulcinj issue under emperor Uros (1355-1371)

Copper follaro "Ulcinj" type. 19mm, 1.444g.

Obverse: Emperor seating holding cross scepter and globus, facing, with lions on each side of the throne.  
Latin legend: VRO SIV (UROS).

Reverse: Mary mother of Jesus standing, facing with raised arms, Latin legend: SE MAR IA around and initials P on the right side.

Reference: Unpublished variant compare with Jov 27 1, D 395 4-6, Lj X-14.

### 2. City of Ulcinj issue under emperor Uros (1355-1371) - minting dated 1355-1360

Copper follaro "City gates" type. 18mm, 1.66g.

Obverse: Ulcinj city gates with 3 towers and what appears to be a palm tree in the middle in front of the entrance with 2 circles one on each side. Latin description: DVLCINI CIVITAS (ULCINJ CITY) around.

Reverse: Mary seating on the throne holding baby Jesus. Greek initials: MP OY (an abbreviation of the Greek: "Mater Theos" – the Mother of God) to the sides.

Reference: Jov 27 3.4, J 27 9.

## Новац града Свача Money of the city of Svac



City of Svac issue under Balsic family rule (1356-1392)

Copper follaro "city" type. 20mm, 1.662g.

Obverse: Svac city in the middle. Latin description left to right: CIVITAS SOVATI (CITY OF SVAC) around.

Reverse: Saint John standing, facing and holding double cross tipped sceptre. Latin description: S IOHA NES B (SAINT JOHN) around.

Reference: Jov 30 1, Dobrinic 1.1.1.1.

Second example below is from Joksimovic collection.

These 2 are the only 2 I know that exist next to the one pictured in Jovanović catalogue.

## Новац града Скадра Money of the city of Skadar



1. City of Skadar issue under the rule of Balsic family (1356-1396) and Serbian Despotate (1403-1443).

Copper follaro "large shield" type.  
20mm, 2.049g.

Obverse: Large shield in the middle. Latin legend: C SCVTARENSIS (SKADAR) around.

Reverse: Saint Stefan standing, facing. Latin legend: S STEF ANVS (SAINT STEFAN) around.

Reference: Jov 28 3, J 28 5, Dobrinic 1.1.

2. City of Skadar issue under the rule of Balsic family (1356-1396) and Serbian Despotate (1403-1443).

Copper follaro "saint" type. 22mm, 2.258g.

Obverse: Saint Stefan standing, facing. Latin description: C SCVTARENSIS (SKADAR) around.

Reverse: Saint Stefan standing, facing. Latin description: S STEF ANVS (SAINT STEFAN) around.

Reference: Jov 28 1, J 28 7, Dobrinic 1.2.

## Новац града Дриваста Money of the city of Drivast



1. City of Drivast issue under Balsic family rule (1356-1392) and Serbian Despotate (1423-1442).

Copper follaro "saint" type. 20mm, 2.154g.

Obverse: Saint is seating. Latin description: DRIVA STI (DRIVAST) around.

Reverse: Mary seating on the throne holding baby Jesus. Latin reverse description: MA TS (MARY SAINT) on the top.

Reference: Jov 29 2, Dobrinic 1.1.2.2.

2. City of Drivast issue under Balsic family rule (1356-1392) and Serbian Despotate (1423-1442).

Copper follaro "saint" type. 19mm, 1.596g.

Obverse: Saint is standing. Latin description: DRIVA STI (DRIVAST) around.

Reverse: Mary seating on the throne holding baby Jesus. Latin description: MA TS (MARY SAINT) on the top.

Reference: Jov 29 2, Dobrinic 1.1.2.2.



## 31 ЗВЕЧАН

градић на северу Косова

На левој обали Ибра, на северу Косова, као огранак Копаоника, налази се стрма купа идеална за средњовековни град. Током XI и XII века ту је погранично утврђење под контролом рашких великих жупана. У XII веку развија се у један од најзначајнијих рашких градова. Град је простран, добро утврђен и на извршном месту. Непосредна близина рудника (данашња Трпача) даје му велики економски значај, па се ту временом развија колонија трговаца, рудара и занатлија.

У време распада Рашког царства добио га је Војислав Војиновић од челника Мусе, зета кнеза Лазара, у замену за град Брвеник (70 км северно низ Ибар). По Војислављевој смрти град је пришао његовом браташцу жупану Николи Алтомановићу. Кнез Лазар га осваја 1369. да би га Никола повратио 1372. године. Међутим, већ 1373. Никола у сукобу са Лазаром, бива заробљен и ослабљен. Тада је Звечан опет пришао Лазару. После Косовске битке 1389. године, кнегиња Милица је била принуђена да Бајазиту призна вазални однос. Цена је била, између осталог, и предаја Звечана турској посади. Нема података колико дуго је турска посада била у граду за време трајања Деспотовине. После Првог балканског рата 1912. године је у саставу Србије.

У време борбе око града, између Николе и Лазара долази до ковања овог новца са именом и представом града. Име сизерена - цара Уроша, наглашава да је кован пре 1371. године.

1. ЗВЕЧАЊИ ГРАД  
IMPERATOR - VROSIVS

18/0,96 Lj(-), J(31-1), I(9.11)  
вредност - љубитељска  
реткост - RR



На лицу новца је приказ градске куле и цркве лево и десно, а на валицију грб Немањића. Регистрован је само приказани примерак.

City of Zvečan issue under emperor Uros (1355-1371)

Silver "city and helmet" type. 18mm, 0.96g.

Obverse: City in the center with a tower and a church. Serbian Cyrillic description: ZVEVANb GRAD (ZVEČAN GRAD) around.

Reverse: Decorative helmet in the center facing left. Latin legend: IMPERATOR VROSIVUS (EMPEROR UROS) around.

Reference: Job 31 1, J 31 1, I 9 11.


Only the example in Jovanović catalogue is known to exist.

## 34 ПРИЗРЕН


Призрен, привредни центар југа Косова, насељен је још у раном средњем веку. Рашкој држави припојио га је Немања. Под турску управу потпада 1455, четири године пре коначне пропасти Рашке. У Првом балканском рату улази у састав Србије.

Призрен се у Рашкој развијао као војни, привредни и верски центар. Милутину, Душану и Урошу служио је као привремена престоница. Ценећи по бројности дубровачке колоније, постао је један од најјачих привредних градова Рашке. По распаду Рашког царства осваја га Вук Бранковић од краља Марка. У време Вуковог заробљеништва 1396-1397. из призренске ковнице изашао је овај градски новац.

1. 

<p>IIII ПРІЗР ЕНЬ IC XC</p> <p>11/0,42 Lj(-), J(34-1), I(41.1) вредност - лубитељска реткост - RR</p> <p>На наличју новца Исус седи на престоу са високим наслоном. Регистрован је само приказани примерак.</p>	
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2. 

<p>IIII ПРІЗР ЕНЬ IC XC</p> <p>11-14/0,66 Љ(XIV-26), J(-), И(41.2) вредност - лубитељска реткост - RR</p> <p>Исус седи на престоу без наслона. Регистрована су 3 примерка тежине: 1.08, 0.48 и 0.41.</p>	
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3. 

<p>IIII ПРІЗР ЕНЬ IC XC</p> <p>11/0,40 Љ(XIV-27), J(34-2), И(41.3) вредност - лубитељска реткост - RR</p> <p>Исус стоји у мандорли. Регистрован је само приказани примерак.</p>	
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City of Prizren issue under the rule of Nemanjić family (1166-1455).

Silver "3 lines" type. 14mm, 0.66g.

Obverse: Serbian Cyrillic description in 3 lines: IIII ПРІЗР ЕНЬ (PRIZREN).

Reverse: Christ seating on a throne holding a book gospel decorated with 4 gems. Greek initials: IC XC (Greek: Ιησους Χριστος - Jesus Christ) above. 4 triple pellets around the throne.

Reference: Job 34:2, J 34 1, I 41 1.

Jovanović published 3 in his catalog, I only saw one in a private collection.

## Новац града Ново Брдо Money of the city of Novo Brdo



### 1. City of Novo Brdo issue under despot Djuradj Brankovic (1427-1456)

Silver "sword" type of Novo Brdo. 13mm, 1.226g.

Obverse: Crowned Djuradj enthroned facing, holding sword and globes. Serbian Cyrillic description: ДЕСПОТЪ ГЮРГЪ (DESPOT DJURDJ).

Reverse: Lion rampant (Brankovic family emblem) facing left. Serbian Cyrillic description: NB БРД (NOVO BRDO).

Reference: J 139, Jov 42-37, I (45.31).

### 2. City of Novo Brdo issue under despot Djuradj Brankovic (1427-1456)

Silver "3 line" type.

Obverse: 3 line Serbian Cyrillic description: ГНЪ ДЕ СПО ТЪ ГЮРГЪ (SIR DESPOT DJURADJ).

Reverse: Lion rampant (Brankovic family emblem), facing left. Serbian Cyrillic description: НОВО Б Р • Д О • (NOVO BRDO).

Reference: Jov 42 32.2, J 42 12.2.

Jovanović published only 2 in his catalog, one with description НОВО Б Р б Д О • and one with letter b missing and description НОВО Б Р • Д О •. I only saw second variant in a private collection pictured here. So it's only 3 known to exist.

## Новац града Скопља Money of the city of Skoplje



1. City of Skoplje issue under the rule of Nemanjić family (1282-1392).

Silver "3 lines" type. 14mm, 0.56g.

Obverse: Serbian Cyrillic description in 3 lines: II CKO ПЛb (SKOPLJE).

Reverse: Christ seating on a throne holding a book gospel decorated with 5 gems. Greek initials: IC XC (Greek: Ιησους Χριστος - Jesus Christ) above.

Reference: Jov 35 1, J 35 1, LJ XIV-28, I 40 2.

Heritage Auctions Europe Auction 74 16-21 May 2022 lot 7003

1. City of Skoplje issue under the rule of Brankovic family (1371-1392).

Silver "saint" type.

Obverse: Serbian Cyrillic description: CKOП IE (SKOPLJE) around.

Reverse: Christ seating on a throne holding a book gospel decorated with 5 gems. Greek initials: IC XC (Greek: Ιησους Χριστος - Jesus Christ) above.

Reference: Jov 35 2.1, J 35 3, I 40 1.

Second example below is from a Zikic collection.

Jovanović published 1 of the first type and 3 of the second type in his catalogue.

## Новац Рудника Money of Rudnik



Rudnik issue under despot Djurdj Brankovic (1427-1456)

Silver "sword" type minted in Rudnik. 14mm, 0.96g.

Obverse: Crowned Djurdj enthroned facing, with drawn sword and holding globus. Serbian Cyrillic description: ДЕСПОТЬ ГЮРГЬ (DESPOT DJURDJ).

Reverse: Lion rampant (Brankovic family emblem), circular Serbian Cyrillic description: РЎДННКб (RUDNIK).

Reference: J 138, Jov 42-36, LJ (XIII-15). I (45.29).

Rudnik was a mountain with a inhabited place where money was minted I am not sure if it was a city as well or just a small place with minting house.

## Новац Рудишта Money of Rudiste



1. Rudiste issue Vojvoda (Duke) Ivaniš Kovacevic under Brankovic family (circa 1450-1459)

Silver "3 lines" type. 14mm, 0.950g

Obverse: in 3 lines Serbian Cyrillic description: БОЕВ ДА НВА ННШб (VOJVODA (DUKE) IVANIS).

Reverse: Lion rampant (Brankovic family emblem), facing left. Serbian Cyrillic description: Р Ъ Д Н Ψ А (RUDISTE) around.

Reference: Jov 45 1, J 45 1, I 49 1, D 338.

2. Rudiste issue under despot Stefan Lazarevic and Brankovic family (1402-1459)

Silver "2 lines" type.

Obverse: in 2 lines Serbian Cyrillic description: Р Ъ Д Н Ψ А (RUDISTE).

Reverse: Lion rampant (Brankovic family emblem), facing left.

Reference: Jov 46 1, J 46 1, I 45 30.

Jovanović published 1 in his catalog, I have seen 3 more in a private collection. So there is 4 known to exist.

Rudiste was an inhabited place where money was minted I am not sure if it was a city or just a small place with minting house.

## Новац града Смедерева Money of the city of Smederevo



### 1. City of Smederevo issue under despot Djuradj Brankovic (1427-1456)

Silver "sword" type of Smederevo. 15mm, 0.956g.

Obverse: Crowned Djuradj, standing, in cloak and crown, with drawn sword in his right hand and globus in his left hand. Serbian legend: ДЕСПОТЬ ГЮРЪГЪ • (DESPOT DJURDJ) around.

Reverse: Lion rampant (Brankovic family emblem), 2 stars and Serbian legend: С • М Д Р В О \* \* (SMEDEREVO) around.

Reference: Jov 42-34, I (45.19), Lj XIII-16.

### 2. City of Smederevo issue under despot Djuradj Brankovic (1427-1456)

Silver "sword" type of Smederevo. 12mm, 0.816g

Obverse: Crowned Djuradj sitting on the throne, facing, holding sword in his right hand and globus in his left hand. Serbian description: • ДЕСПОТЬ • ГЮРЪГЪ • (DESPOT DJURADJ).

Reverse: Lion marching to the left (Brankovic family emblem). Serbian description: С М Д Р В • О • (SMEDEREVO).

Reference: J 42 35.1, Jov 42-35, LJ (XIII-14), I (45.23).

Money is a silent witness of true history!

From the 7th to the 15th century, these 13 cities were part of the Greek or Roman and, for the longest time, Serbian medieval states, Duklja (Zeta), Raška, The Serbian Kingdom, The Serbian Empire and the Serbian Despotate. Today, Kotor, Bar, Ulcinj and Svač, which is near Ulcinj, are part of the modern state of Montenegro. Skadar and Drivast, which is near Skadar, is part of Albania. Zvečan, which is near Kosovska Mitrovica, Prizren and Novo Brdo, which is near Priština, are part of the Republic of Serbia, part of the southern Serbian province of Kosovo and Metohija. Rudnik, a mountain near Gornji Milanovac, Rudište, which is southwest of Avala near the village of Ripanj, and Smederevo are also part of the Republic of Serbia today. Skopje is part of and the capital of North Macedonia.

The first place where Serbian medieval coins were minted was Brskovo, today part of Montenegro, it is mentioned in charters but not on coins.

Images below: Map with the location of all cities that minted and issued money with the name of the city in medieval Serbia. Examples of coins of 10 cities from my personal collection, an example of the city of Svač from the Joksimović collection, an example of Novo Brdo and obol Rudište from the private collection of an anonymous colleague, an example of the city of Skopje from the Žikić collection and examples published in Miroslav Jovanović's catalogue from 2012