



INVEST IN ŽEPČE

www.razepce.com

Location	Central Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ze-Do Canton, Federation of BiH, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Population	31.582 (2013)
Territory	282 km ² ; 16% arable land, 62,7% forests, 21,3% roads and others
Climate	Moderate continental
Address	Stjepana Radića bb., 72230 Žepče, +387 32 888 600



European Cities and
Regions of the Future
2014/15

TESLIĆ, TEŠANJ AND ŽEPČE (BEAR) ARE AMONG
TOP 10 INVESTMENT DESTINATIONS IN EUROPE 2014/15
FDI Magazine (Financial Times Group)

Žepče is part of the **BEAR** development initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina. FDI Magazine (Financial Times Group) selected the BEAR area as one of the **top 10 investment destinations in Europe** in the category of **cost effectiveness for investors** (2014/15).

Žepče is fast becoming one of the most popular investment destinations in Southeast Europe primarily because of:

- **Maximum readiness of mayor and municipal staff to provide support to investors,**
- **Favourable geographic location – quick and easy access to millions of people,**
- **Favourable business costs and incentives for investors,**
- **Opportunities for networking and cooperation with existing enterprises,**
- **Competitive and professional and motivated labour force,**
- **High standards for quality of life and success.**



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We take care of your needs

- Mayor, municipal team, and Žepče Development agency (RAŽ), are committed to facilitating investments.
- We provide support and assistance to potential and active investors as *one stop shop* - at all stages



Quick and Easy Access to Millions of People

Žepče is located on one of the vital routes in the central Bosnia, connecting Southeast Europe, and the Adriatic coast (next to the M-17, and the railway Ploče – Sarajevo – Budapest).

- Doing business in the Žepče municipality means easy access to the market close to 600 million consumers without customs tariffs cost (free trade agreements of BiH),
- Delivery times from Žepče to main European markets can be calculated in hours/days,
- Better transport connections than most other locations in BiH and SEE,

Favourable Production and Business Costs, Incentives for Investors

The costs of production and maintaining an enterprise in Žepče are very competitive and are among the lowest in Europe (see the fDi Magazine award):

- Investors are granted significant incentives when buying/leasing property in Žepče,
- Minimal bureaucratic procedures and easy access to land plots equipped with basic infrastructure in the business zone Polja
- Lower fees for construction permits for production capacities,
- Stimulation incentives available at Canton Ze-Do
- Very favourable tax rates in BiH - corporate and individual Income taxes are only 10%,
- Very competitive labour prices,
- Costs of energy and utilities among the lowest in Europe.



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Favourable Sectors for Investment, Networking and Business Cooperation

Business contacts in Žepče are realized quickly and easily. These are Žepče's economy' competitive advantages:

- Strong SME sector (348 individual and 302 incorporated enterprises),
- Export-oriented economy,
- Qualified and competitive labour force,
- Availability of raw materials and subcontractors (open to cooperation with foreign companies),
- A long-standing tradition in wood, light metal and textile industries and trade,
- Trade, catering and transportation services available.

Qualified and available labour force

Public and private sectors support creation of a productive and proficient labour force by providing school equipment and university scholarships.

- Computer Science Programme is founded in Žepče,
- There are three high schools in the Municipality of Žepče,
- Technical programs and variety of three-year programs for trades' occupations available,
- Almost 90% of the pupils continue their education after finishing elementary school.

There are two higher education institutions in the immediate vicinity (Doboj and Zenica) with the programmes in information technologies, economic and management, philology, law, tax, art academy, and communication.

High standards for life and success

Žepče is a desirable location for families with the respectable conditions for healthy living. The Žepče is a child friendly community that nurtures a family life, with the local administration supporting investors and entrepreneurs.

- Žepče first mentioned in 1458,
- Tourism potentials based on clean and eco-friendly environment,
- 14 mineral water springs and numerous drinking water springs,
- Agricultural arable land for organic farming,
- Leading BiH municipality in raspberry production,
- Sports, recreation and transit tourism, hunting and fishing,
- Known for its traditional cuisine (apple, pear, quince and plum brandy),
- Pre-school care, elementary and high schools facilities available.



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Municipal administration is recognised for its proactive client oriented approach

Municipal administration adopted ISSO standards in organisation and won BEACON scheme award. A successful inter-municipal cooperation with Teslić and Tešanj within the BEAR (Business Excellence Area) development initiative resulted in the recognition and award by FDI Magazine in 2014.

Municipal administration successfully cooperates with various international organisations, private and not for profit sectors. Public – private forum (LEF) is an ongoing development initiative aimed at enhancing the competitiveness of business community. A great example of municipal proactive approach on development is establishment of Žepče Development agency (RAŽ) in 2012.

Žepče Development agency (RAŽ)

Žepče Development Agency (RAŽ) is founded by the municipality with aim to support small and medium enterprises, provides professional and expert assistance in all aspects of prospective and active investments.

"In the past two decades the municipality of Žepče has become an example to economically and socially desirable and dynamic area for living. All around you can see new factories, production facilities and warehouses, as well as buildings for service activities." – Mato Zovko, Mayor of Žepče

Success stories of enterprises in Žepče include:

- Car Trim BH - one of leading world producers of leather and textile car, and aeroplane interiors,
- TITANIC - leader in welding and metal processing technology in BiH,
- Bositex - medical textiles, uniforms for medical workers, hospital sheets and other textile products for healthcare institutions,
- Tisakomerc – wood industry – production of wooden products and export.

For additional information about advantages for investors in Žepče municipality please visit www.razepce.com.

For additional information about BEAR initiative of Teslić, Tešanj and Žepče please visit www.bear.ba.

Žepče Development Agency RAZ

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