Polis – Selling Sarajevo

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Time Out has just published one of it's magazine guides to Sarajevo. Currently there is one direct flight from London to the Bosnian capital thanks to British Airways. As I left after our media and politics conference it was about two-thirds full. Sarajevo is still in recovery from the civil war and siege which only ended properly in 1996.

Sarajevo But in a horrible way the conflict has turned this wonderful city in to the "last undiscovered great European capital", as Martin Bell puts it. Despite 'ethnic cleansing' it is still a wonderful cultural mix of Islamic and Slav architecture, art and food. The old centre with its beautiful bazaar surrounded by wooded hills would make a perfect weekend destination if you want somewhere warm, lively but very gentle – and all just a couple of hours flight from Gatwick. Of course, media attention will attract the hordes and ruin the very atmosphere I so relished – but I know you, dear reader, you are not one of those stag party louts are you?

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