



# PERSONAL TOUR



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## DISCOVER MAGIC OF BULGARIAN LAND AND SKY

Bulgaria is a small piece of paradise, located in Southeast Europe, on the Balkan Peninsula. The country offers perfect conditions for tourism due to its sea, winter and health resorts, as well as numerous historical and cultural sites. There are 4 seasons – snowy winter, green and fresh spring, golden autumn and warm and sunny summer

### Day 1

Sofia - Arrival at **Sofia** airport. Transfer and accommodation at the hotel.  
Dinner and overnight in Sofia.

### Day 2

Breakfast. **Sightseeing tour of Sofia the capital of Bulgaria.**

Founded thousands of years ago, today the city continues to develop as the country's cultural and economic center.

The city is located at a strategic crossroads. Visit to St. Nedelya Cathedral, St. George Rotunda, Russian church of St. Nicolas, St. Sophia Church, St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, Ivan Vazov National Theater. Lunch in Sofia.

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**At the afternoon - departure to Plovdiv - sightseeing tour of Plovdiv and visit to Asen's fortress. Departure to Pamporovo.**

Plovdiv is one of the oldest cities in Europe – the beginning of its history dates back to 4,000 years BC.

In ancient times Thracians inhabited the Three Hills and built a fortified settlement – the largest city in Thrace.

In the 4th century BC Plovdiv was conquered by Phillip of Macedonia. He gave the city one of its many names – Phillipopolis, and had it surrounded by thick fortified walls. Later the Thracians regained their power over the city, but after a series of battles in the 1st century AD it became a part the Roman Empire.



**Asen's Fortress** is the most interesting and most often visited tourist attraction in the Asenovgrad region.

The natural cliff massif where the fortress is situated comprises an area of 12 hectares. Its strategic location and natural defenses explain why it has been used since the days of the Thracians, who fortified it in the 5th century BCE. In 1231, Tsar Asen II (reign 1218-1241) completed the largest expansion and rebuilding of the fortress, as proclaimed on a carved stone monument.

Accommodation in 3 or 4 star hotel. Dinner and overnight in Pamporovo.



### Day 3

#### **Pamporovo - Breakfast- Guided visit to Rozhen NAO, Shiroka Laka and Smolyan**

The tourists come to Pamporovo mostly in wintertime because the resort is designed primarily for skiing. Almost all ski runs here start from Shezhanka (the Snow White) Peak and their altitude ranges from 1926 m to 1400 m. We will taste homemade yogurt with honey.



#### **NAO Rozhen-**

The Rozhen National Astronomical Observatory was officially opened on March

Rozhen is the biggest astronomical facility on the Balkan Peninsula.

There is a visitor center open during the year.

**Shiroka laka village** is located in the Rhodopes, 23 km northeast of Smolyan and 16 km away from Pamporovo. The name of the village derives from the old Bulgarian word "laka" – curve, bend, meander. Shiroka laka was founded in the 17th century and has now become one of the most popular tourist destinations in Bulgaria. The village has preserved its architecture from the Bulgarian Revival Period, its musical culture, beautiful landscapes, and rich history. Shiroka laka is famous for its beautiful, authentic



Rhodope houses that lie amphitheatrically on both sides of the river. Lunch in Shiroka laka. At the afternoon departure to Smolyan town.

#### **Sightseeing in Smolyan visit Planetarium. .**

Smolyan is a tourist center in the West Rhodopes lying 800 m above sea level, near the famous Bulgarian winter resort of Pamporovo. If there is a destination, which is worth visiting by every tourist in every season of the year, then this is certainly the Rhodope mountain.

The restaurants serve delicious local dishes.

**Planetarium Smolyan** - On September 6th 1975, the biggest Planetarium with public observatory in Bulgaria opened its doors in the town of Smolyan. The Planetarium is the town's most frequently visited place of interest. The planetarium and observatory complex works with no day off. Dinner and overnight in Pamporovo.

## Day 4

### **Breakfast- departure to – Kardjaly –and thracian sanctuary - Perperek – Tatul.**

Kardjali is located in the heart of the Eastern Rodophi Mountains, along the two banks of the Arda River. There are two big dams in the outskirts of the city - "Studen Kladenec" Dam to the east, and Kardjali Dam to the south. The site is a wonderful place for recreation, fishing and historical and cultural tourism. You could taste local food and wine.

**Perperek** -The complex is located around 20 km north of Kardzhaly. Local people known as Djini tepesi (The ghosts mountain).

Archaeologists speculate that Perperikon is famous svetilishte of Dionysus. This is an open and unique boulder with several characters from one of the oldest scripts in the world - Cretan Linear. Perperikon is literally carved into the rocks and takes final shape (like a palace, a sanctuary and a fortress) to I-IV v.sl.Hr. Today it extends about 10,000 square meters Perperikon is the most ancient

church in the Rhodopes. At the beginning VB. Bishop Niketa Rimesianski translated the Bible into the language of the clan and begins Christianization of the population Perperikon become bishop center and exist as such until the fall of Bulgaria under Ottoman rule. In XIII-XIV century. richest city becomes a source of conflict between Bulgaria and Byzantium and is fortified with additional towers. Forest Perperikon stands today. Lunch in Momchilgrad.



### **Tatul - the village of the gods**

About 14 km to the northeast of Momchilgrad there is a village by the name of Tatul. The Thracian system of rituals and beliefs revolved around the solar cult. For sure, the sanctuary in Tatul was used as an observatory of a kind for studying the movement of the Sun on certain days of the year. The sanctuary is dated back to the 12th century BC.

In 2006 a sensational announcement was made – on the grave of Orpheus a grape-vine of the legendary Thracian ‘zela’ variety grew out, which has been thought to disappear ages ago. The most intriguing fact is that there are no vines growing on this hill and within a 10-km perimeter no grapes are grown. Maybe this is a message Orpheus sends to his successors. The variety has been named the “Tear of Orpheus” and is a blend of Mavrud and Cabernet flavors. Sightseeing in Kardjaly dinner and overnight in - Kardjaly.



## Day 5

### **Breakfast - departure to Stone wedding - Stone mushrooms - Sofia**

The "Stone Wedding" is magnificent natural phenomenon located south of village of Zimzelen (Eastern Rhodopes), 5 km away from Kardzhali. Nature has left a very impressive stone formation which resembles a gathering of people, animals and birds. Formations are volcanic tuffs of rhyolite composition,



whose age is about 35 million years ago. The content of various minerals in the rocks they are dyed in different colors - white, yellow, pink, green, rubiginous.

**The Stone Mushrooms** Natural Sight, is another tourist attraction, located near the village of Beli Plast. The Stone Mushrooms are 3 meters high and have the harmonious forms of natural mushrooms. They all have pink spots, pure blocks and greenish cowls and are chiselled in riolythic volcano tuffs. The region of Kardjali is also rich in cave formations.

Lunch in Plovdiv.

Dinner and overnight in Sofia



### **Day 6 Departure day**

Breakfast. Transfer to the airport.

#### **Price include:**

- Transfers and transport;
- 6- Nights;
- 6-Lunches;
- 6 Dinners;
- Guided tours;
- Translation.



**THE PRICE DEPENDS ON THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (FOR EXAMPLE GROUPS OF 10, 15, 20 OR MORE PEOPLE) AND THE SEASON. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US.**