



METRO SOFIA
МЕТРО СОФИЯ



Boyana Church

Located in the outskirts of Sofia, Boyana Church is one of the most complete and perfectly preserved monuments of East European medieval art. The church is part of the UNESCO World Heritage List primarily due to the stunning frescos, painted in 1259, that are a prime example of the art traditions in Eastern Europe during the period.

The Museum of Socialist Art

The Museum of Socialist Art covers the history of the 45-year-long communist era starting with the establishment of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and ending with the fall of the Iron Curtain. The museum's collection includes archives with statues in the park, busts and paintings representing the period, art symbols and other artefacts from the period between 1944 and 1989.

Rila Monastery

Rila Monastery is one of the holiest places in Bulgaria, established in 10th century by the heavenly protector of Bulgarians - Saint Ivan Rilski. It is precious and important repository of Bulgarian history and culture from the Ottoman Rule up to the present day. The Monastery is considered a symbol of the 19th Century Bulgarian Renaissance and is included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. The monastery is in close proximity to the 7 Rila lakes that form the most stunning landscape of the Rila Mountain.

Plovdiv

Plovdiv is Bulgaria's second largest city and is considered one of the oldest in Europe. It became an important Roman city in the early centuries of the new era. This legacy is visible even today with the exceptionally well preserved Amphitheatre. The city is known by locals for the seven hills that offer breathtaking views over the Rhodope Mountain. Another exciting attraction is The Old Town with cobbled streets and timber-framed 19th century houses with overhanging oriel windows.

Gratuities

It is acceptable to tip between 8% and 10% when you are in Bulgaria. However, this will depend upon the service level and quality of the product.

Weather

The weather in Bulgaria varies with the four seasons and features significant temperature differences between summer and winter. As summers are usually very hot with temperatures raising to 40°C, make sure to pack light and bright coloured clothes, light shoes, a hat and sunglasses. In winter the temperatures tend to stay below zero and even drop as low as -20°C so make sure to take warm clothes and boots, a hat and gloves.

Thermal Spa Bath

The thermal water springs in Sofia are numerous. The Thermal Spa bath in the center of Sofia was built in the 16th century, yet nowadays the building serves as a history museum. The only memory of its history are the fountains in front of the building that offer all visitors a chance to taste Sofia's thermal waters.

St George Rotunda

St George Rotunda is the oldest architectural monument in Sofia and the only building in good repair, intact to the roof, dated as far back as the Roman Empire.

Morning

Start your day with breakfast in the hotel and enjoy the view over the glistening domes of St Alexander Nevski Cathedral. From the square you can head down Tsar Osvoboditel Boulevard known as the "Yellow Cobbles" to come across many of the city's landmarks. When you reach the National Art Gallery, turn left to the stunningly beautiful National Theatre and relax with a cup of tea in the serene park area at the heart of the city.

Afternoon

Following the "Yellow Cobbles" you will find yourself at Nezavisimost Square, the home of all important government buildings. You can observe the Changing of Guards in front of the Presidency and the picturesque Council of Ministers building. Pass the Presidency to the left and stroll down Saborna Street which will lead you to St Nedelya Church. Passing through the square you will see Vitosha Boulevard on the left - the most popular place for locals, home to diverse range of retail outlets and cuisine offerings.

Evening

For an enchanting evening, indulge with a classical performance in the exquisite National Opera and Ballet located just a short walk away from the hotel. Stir your senses in the beautiful Floret Restaurant and Bar on your way back to InterContinental Sofia, where you can enjoy a authentic and relaxed atmosphere and taste regional dishes accompanied by creative beverages and a friendly company of local and international guests.

Vodenitzata

The restaurant offers traditional Bulgarian dishes and an extensive list of Bulgarian wines. The atmosphere recreates the authentic Bulgarian interior of the past and all waiters are dressed in traditional Bulgarian clothes.
1415 m., Orehite
T: 00359 296 710 58

Raketa - Rakia Bar

The Raketa – Rakia Bar's décor is inspired by the country's communistic past and provides a unique, relaxed and welcoming ambience for a casual meal. As the name suggests, the Bar offers an extensive selection of locally brewed rakia, a beverage that all Bulgarians take pride in.
17 Yanko Sakazov Boulevard
T: 00359 244 461 11

Cosmos

Restaurant Cosmos twists the traditional local cuisine with modernism, exploring the vast universe of tastes. The futuristic atmosphere in combination with traditional music mixed with new styles and instruments will let you experience a different side of the unique Bulgarian culture.
19 Lavele Street
T: 00359 888 200 700

AHORA by Sevda Dimitrova

Come and take shelter in the cosy and elegant place that Sevda Dimitrova designed for your pleasure. Located just outside the city centre, the restaurant offers a cuisine that is just like the character of the Chef herself - original, neat and warm.
25A Nikola Vaptsarov Boulevard
T: 00359 246 805 70

Paradise Center

The mall's fascinating architecture is inspired by its unique location – between the city centre and Vitosha Mountain. The shopping centre offers a wide diversity of international fashion brands, 4DX Cinema, 14 screen cinema complex, fitness, Spa, squash, swimming and yoga facilities, ice rink, children entertainment zone and unique Sky Park amusements.

Serdika Center

The mall is one of the largest shopping centres in Bulgaria. Located only 10 minutes away via cab from the hotel, Serdika Center offers more than 210 stores and a number of luxury fashion brands are only available there.

Coupage Wine Shop

The store prides itself in being the first Bulgarian gourmet shop that offers an extensive variety of locally produced wines and cheeses. This is the place to visit for a great introduction into the wine culture of the country, some amazing tasting sessions or even private dinners.

Antiquities Market

The daily antique market offers a wide variety of items ranging from wind-up gramophone records and communist memorabilia to religious icon paintings.

Bulgarian Rose Company Store

Bulgaria is famous for its roses; the country is the world's biggest producer of rose oil. Located only a short walk away from the hotel, the Bulgarian Rose Company store offers cosmetic products which combine the unique qualities of Bulgarian rose oil with other natural ingredients grown in the country.

Vitosha Boulevard

The Boulevard is a pedestrian area and the most popular spot for local and tourists alike, offering a wide variety of branded retail outlets for fashion, perfumes, skin care and souvenirs. Many international luxurious labels have outlets on Vitosha Boulevard and the adjoining streets.

Travel is temporary, yet the journey is forever.

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DIRECTORY

WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

EAT LIKE A LOCAL

- A Vodenitzata
- B Raketa - Rakia Bar
- C Pod Lipite

SPECIAL PLACES

- D Cosmos
- E AHORA By Sevda Dimitrova
- F André

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

- G The Cocktail Bar

WHERE TO SHOP

FIND WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR

- A Paradise Center
- B Serdika Center

LOCAL SECRETS

- C Bulgarian Rose Company Store
- D Coupage Wine Shop
- E Antiquities Market

KEY SHOPPING AREAS

- F Vitosha Boulevard
- G Graf Igantiev
- H Saborna

IN THE KNOW

- A Sofia Museum
- B St George Rotunda

DISCOVER SOFIA

TIME STARVED

- A National Gallery
- B Museum of Socialist Art
- C Boyana Church
- D St Sofia Church

