

## BULGARIA



**Country Dialling Code (Tel/Fax): ++359**

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**Capital: Sofia Time: GMT + 2**

**Background:** Having fought on the losing side in both World Wars, Bulgaria fell within the Soviet sphere of influence and became a People's Republic in 1946. Communist domination ended in 1991 with the dissolution of the USSR, and Bulgaria began the contentious process of moving toward political democracy and a market economy while combating inflation, unemployment, corruption, and crime. Today, reforms and democratization keep Bulgaria on a path toward eventual integration into the EU and NATO.

**Location:** Southeastern Europe, bordering the Black Sea, between Romania and Turkey

**Map References:** Europe

**Area:** total: 110,910 sq km land: 110,550 sq km water: 360 sq km

**Climate:** temperate; cold, damp winters; hot, dry summers

**Terrain:** mostly mountains with lowlands in north and southeast

**Natural Resources:** bauxite, copper, lead, zinc, coal, timber, arable land

**Population:** 7,796,694 (July 2000 est.)

**Nationality:** noun: Bulgarian(s) adjective: Bulgarian

**Ethnic Groups:** Bulgarian 83%, Turk 8.5%, Roma 2.6%, Macedonia, Armenian, Tatar, Gagauz, Circassian, others (1998)

**Religions:** Bulgarian Orthodox 83.5%, Muslim 13%, Roman Catholic 1.5%, Jewish 0.8%, Uniate Catholic 0.2%, Protestant, Gregorian-Armenian, and other 1% (1998)

**Languages:** Bulgarian, secondary languages closely correspond to ethnic breakdown.

**Economy:** In April 1997, the current ruling Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) government won pre-term parliamentary elections and introduced an IMF currency board system which succeeded in stabilizing the economy. The triple digit inflation of 1996 and 1997 has given way to an official consumer price increase of 6.2% in 1999. Following declines in GDP in both 1996 and 1997, the economy grew an officially estimated 3.5% in 1998 and 2.5% in 1999. In September 1998, the IMF approved a three-year Extended Fund Facility, which provides credits worth approximately \$900 million, designed to support Bulgaria's reform efforts. In 1999, an unfavorable international environment - primarily caused by the Kosovo conflict - and structural reforms slowed economic growth, but forecasters are predicting accelerated growth over the next several years. The government's structural reform program includes:

(a) privatization and, where appropriate, liquidation of state-owned enterprises (SOEs); (b) liberalization of agricultural policies, including creating conditions for the development of a land market; (c) reform of the country's social insurance programs; and (d) reforms to strengthen contract enforcement and fight crime and corruption.

**Industries:** machine building and metal working, food processing, chemicals, construction materials, ferrous and nonferrous metals, nuclear fuel.

**Currency:** 1 lev (Lv) = 100 stotinki

**Railways:** total: 4,294 km standard gauge: 4,049 km 1.435-m gauge (2,710 km electrified; 917 km double track) narrow gauge: 245 km 0.760-m gauge (1998)

**Highways:** total: 36,759 km paved: 33,818 km (including 319 km of expressways) unpaved: 2,941 km (1998 est.)

**Waterways:** 470 km (1987)

**Ports and Harbors:** Burgas, Lom, Nesebur, Ruse, Varna, Vidin

**Airports:** 216 (1999 est.) Airports - with paved runways: total: 129 over 3,047 m: 1 2,438 to 3,047 m: 19 1,524 to 2,437 m: 15 914 to 1,523 m: 1 under 914 m: 93 (1999 est.) Airports - with unpaved runways: total: 87 1,524 to 2,437 m: 2 914 to 1,523 m: 10 under 914 m: 75 (1999 est.)

**Visa:** required by all except nationals of EU, Japan, America and Canada

**Duty Free:** goods required: 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 250g of tobacco, 1 litre of spirits and 2 litres of wine, 100g of perfume, objects and foodstuffs intended for personal use.

**Health:** no specific precautions.

## HOTELS•MOTELS•INNS

**BANSKO**

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...such a lovely place...



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#### SOFIA

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**EXTREME TEAM HELICOPTER CHARTERS**, Bulgaria, Sofia 1582,zh.k.Druzhiba 2,Bild 284, Tel:359 898 804 370, [info@exteam.bg](mailto:info@exteam.bg) , <http://www.vta-extreme.com/en>

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#### SOFIA

**BIZARRO**, 101 "Knjaz Boris I" str. at the corner with "Positano" str., Post Code: 1000, Phone. 02/4 808 808 Gsm. 089/ 4 808 808, E-mail: [info@clubbizarro.com](mailto:info@clubbizarro.com) , <http://www.clubbizarro.com>

**CHALET SUISSE**, 50 Botevgradsko Shousse Blvd, 1517 Sofia , +359 884 24 94 50, Cuisine: Swiss, [info@chaletsuisse.eu](mailto:info@chaletsuisse.eu) , <http://www.chaletsuisse.eu>

**CRYSTAL PALACE RESTAURANT**, 14, Shipka Str.,9 489 499, 0885 58 17 58, Cuisines:International, [restaurant@crystalpalace-sofia.com](http://restaurant@crystalpalace-sofia.com) , [www.crystalpalace-sofia.com](http://www.crystalpalace-sofia.com)

**EMBASSY**, Sofia, Dr. Petar Beron Str. 9, phone 00359-2-963-14-09, Cuisines: Greek, Lebanese, Middle Eastern, [embassyethnic@hotmail.com](mailto:embassyethnic@hotmail.com) , <http://www.embassyethnic.com>

**ENOTEKA UNO**, Sofia , 45, Vassil Levski Boulevard, T:(02) 981 43 72; (02) 981 46 13 , fax: (02) 981 43 73, [enoteca@uno-sofia.com](mailto:enoteca@uno-sofia.com) , <http://www.uno-sofia.com>

**HAPPY BAR AND GRILL**, 145В ул. Георги С. Раковски, София, Sofia, София-град, Bulgaria, +359 2 9861449, [www.happy.bg](http://www.happy.bg)

**KOHINOOR**, 3 ул. Хан Аспарух, София, Sofia, София-град, Bulgaria, +359 88 2532541, [www.kohinoor.bg](http://www.kohinoor.bg)

**KRACHMA PRI YAFATA**, 28 "Solunska" str., 980 17 27, [www.pri-yafata.com](http://www.pri-yafata.com)

**KRIM**, 17 Slavyanska Str , Sofia ,P: +359 (02) 988 6950, Cuisine: European, <http://www.krim.bg/en>

**KRIVOTO PIZZA RESTAURANT**, 10 Hristo Georgiev Str.Sofia, Cuisine: Italian, [krivoto1@abv.bg](mailto:krivoto1@abv.bg), <http://www.krivoto.com/en>

**LA TRIBUNA BISTRO**, 2 – 4, Budapeshta Str.,8 10 77 01, 0889 66 10 01, Cuisines:International, [restaurants@arenadiserdica.com](mailto:restaurants@arenadiserdica.com) , [www.arenadiserdica.com](http://www.arenadiserdica.com)

**MODERATO RESTAURANT**, 6, Atanas Dalchev Str., 1113 Sofia, Bulgaria, 970 01 11 / 45, Cuisines:International, [moderato@fpihotels.com](mailto:moderato@fpihotels.com) , [www.apartmenthouseiztok.bg](http://www.apartmenthouseiztok.bg)

**OLIVES**, 12, Graf Ignatiev Str. 986 09 02; 0894 OLIVES, 75, Vasil Levski Blvd. 0885 OLIVES, Cuisines:french food, [www.olives.bg](http://www.olives.bg)

**POD LIPITE**, 1, Sofia , +359 2 8665053, [www.podlipitebg.com](http://www.podlipitebg.com)

**PRIME STEAKHOUSE** ,Sheraton Sofia Hotel Balkan , 5 Sveta Nedelya Square, Sofia 1000 , Bulgaria, <http://www.primesteak.bg>

**PRI YAFATA** , 28 Solunska str., Централна София , +359 2 9801727, Cuisine: Seafood, [www.pri-yafata.com](http://www.pri-yafata.com)

**RESTAURANT CAPRI**, Sofia, Bulgaria, Hristo Chernopeev Str. 1 , phone. 003592-971-03-24, Cuisines:EUROPEAN, [restaurant\\_capri@abv.bg](mailto:restaurant_capri@abv.bg) , <http://www.capri-bg.com>

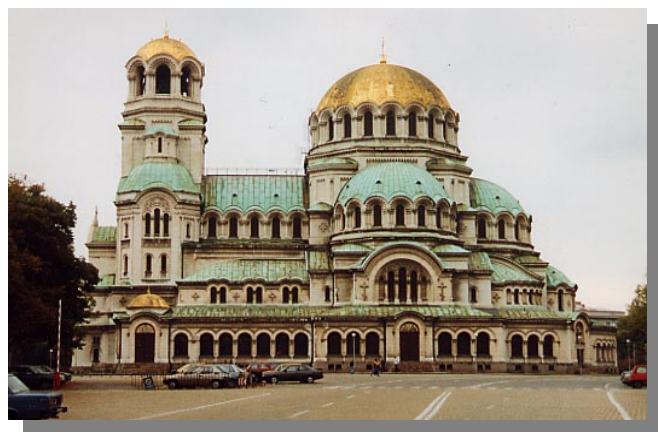
**RESTAURANT HOTEL SVETA SOFIA**, 18, Pirotska Str., 981 2634, 983 5033, Cuisines:french food, [sales@svetasofia-alexanders.com](mailto:sales@svetasofia-alexanders.com)

**SASA JAPANESE RESTAURANT**, 31 Cherni Vrah Blvd, Sofia, 1421, Bulgaria, Cuisine: Japanese, +359 2 9635414, [www.sasa-bg.com](http://www.sasa-bg.com)

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**MODUS HOTEL VARNA**,46 ул. Стефан Стамболов, Варна, Варна 9000, Bulgaria, Cuisine: International, +359 52 660910, [www.modushotel.com](http://www.modushotel.com)

**MR. BABA** , South Beach, Varna , +359 52 614629, [www.mrbaba.net](http://www.mrbaba.net)



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<http://www.biomet.bg/english>  
**BULGARIAN STATE RAILWAYS**,Ivan Vazov Street,Sofia, 1080,Tel:359 2 932 55 60, Fax:359 2 8907188, [bdz@bdz.bg](mailto:bdz@bdz.bg), <http://bdz.bg>  
**EUROLINES BULGARIA EVROBUS**,Tel:359 2 812 08 10,359 2 812 08 12, <http://www.eurolines.com/en/countries/bulgaria>, <http://www.eurolines.bg>  
**ETAPGRUP**,140 Vasil Levski blvd.,floor 2,Post code: 1504,Phone: 359 2 936 60 11, Sofia, Bulgaria,[director@etapgroup.com](mailto:director@etapgroup.com) ,<http://www.etapgroup.com>

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<http://www.amawaterways.co.uk/ships/amaprima>  
**FRED.OLSEN CRUISE LINES**, White House Road,Tel: 44 0 1473 746167,0845 421 3672,Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 5LL, [internet@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:internet@fredolsen.co.uk),  
<http://www.fredolsencruises.com/places-we-visit/country/bulgaria-cruises>  
**HOLLAND AMERICA LINE**,300 Elliott Avenue West,Seattle, WA 98119, Phone: 800 5478493,Fax: 206 905 8962,[questrelations@hollandamerica.com](mailto:questrelations@hollandamerica.com) ,  
<http://www.hollandamerica.com/cruise-vacation-onboard/Prinsendam>  
**MSC CRUISES** ,UK,Queens House, 55/56 Lincolns Inn Fields,London,WC2A 3LJ, UK,Tel:0203 426 3010,[http://www.msccruises.com/gl\\_en/Cruise-Destinations/Mediterranean/Bulgaria/Overview.aspx](http://www.msccruises.com/gl_en/Cruise-Destinations/Mediterranean/Bulgaria/Overview.aspx)  
**PRINCESS CRUISES**, Richmond House, Terminus Terrace, Southampton, SO143PN,<http://www.princess.com/excursion/existfordestination.do?portid=NE1&exType=S&t=E>  
**THE RIVER CRUISE LINE**,Anson House,Compass Point,Northampton Road, Market Harborough,LE16 9HW,Tel: 0844 544 6124, Fax: 0844 544 6583, [enquiries@rivercruise.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@rivercruise.co.uk) ,<http://www.rivercruise.co.uk/country/bulgaria>  
**VIKING RIVER CRUISES**,Nelsons House 83 Wimbledon Park Side,London SW19 5LP, United Kingdom,<http://www.vikingrivercruises.co.uk/ships/viking-aegir/index.html>

## FERRIES

**FERRYSPEED AGENCY, VARNA**,1, Primorski., Varna 9001, Bulgaria, Phone: 359 52 683 238, [ferry@navbul.com](mailto:ferry@navbul.com) ,[www.navbul.com](http://www.navbul.com)  
**UKRFERRY**,4a, Sabanskyy lane, Odessa, 65014, Ukraine,Fax:380 482 348297, [ukf@ukrferry.com](mailto:ukf@ukrferry.com) ,<http://www.ukrferry.com/eng>

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**ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY AND PLANETARIUM "COPERNICUS"**,Primorski Park 4,Varna 9000,Phone:359 52 684 441, [mail@astro-varna.com](mailto:mail@astro-varna.com) ,<http://www.astro-varna.com>  
**FESTA DELFINARIUM EOOD**,Primorski Park,Mestnost "Saltanat",9000 Varna, Bulgaria, tel./fax:359 52 302199,[delphin@festa.bg](mailto:delphin@festa.bg) ,<http://dolphinsarium.festa.bg/en>

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**ZOOPARK**,гр. Варна, м-ст „Салтанат“ № 5,teL: 052/820 613; 0884 095 506, [info@varna-zoo.com](mailto:info@varna-zoo.com) ,<http://varna-zoo.com>

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<http://trakart.org/en>  
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**CITY ART GALLERY OF BORIS GEORGIEV**,Tel. 359 52 612 363,Fax. 359 52 620 446,[artgalleryvarna@abv.bg](mailto:artgalleryvarna@abv.bg) ,<http://www.varnacityartgallery.com>  
**KASTHA MUSEUM GEORGI VELCHEV** ,General Radko Dimitriev st., 8, Varna, Bulgaria ,tel. 359 52 612 363,359 52 620 446,[artgalleryvarna@abv.bg](mailto:artgalleryvarna@abv.bg),  
<http://varnacityartgallery.com>

**MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE**,7 "Paraskeva Nikolau", tel: 359 639 729,<http://visit.varna.bg/en/museums/preview/16.html>  
**THE NAVAL MUSEUM**,N.2 blvd. Primorski, Varna, tel/fax:359 52 731 523, [mus\\_maritime@abv.bg](mailto:mus_maritime@abv.bg) ,<http://www.museummaritime-bq.com/eng>  
**VARNA ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM** ,Tel:359 52 681011, [archaeological@museumvarna.com](mailto:archaeological@museumvarna.com),  
<http://www.archaeo.museumvarna.com/en>



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**GOLDEN SANDS**  
**ARROGANCE MUSIC FACTORY**,Golden Sands, Bulgaria,Tel:359 885 800 275,<http://www.arroganceclub.com/en>  
**CLUB MENTHOL** ,20 Nikola Mihailovski str., Varna, Bulgaria, Phone: 052 981 731  
**COCKTAIL BAR CHEERS**,Republika 117, Varna,Phone: 359 52 731 790, [qtkirov@gmail.com](mailto:qtkirov@gmail.com) ,<http://www.bar-cheers.com>

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**JEEP SAFARI VARNA**,Andrey Kirov,Tel:359 887981761, <http://safari.kemanbg.com>

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**HORSE CLUB KICHEVO RIDIN TRIPS** ,Varna 9000, Kichevo,Tel:0988 701 674,[office@horseclubvarna.com](mailto:office@horseclubvarna.com) ,<http://horseclubvarna.com/en>

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**PLOVDIV ROMAN THEATRE**,Ancient Plovdiv Municipal Institute,50 Konstantin Stoilov Street,Plovdiv 4000 ,Tel: 359 0 32 633 380, [info@oldplovdiv.com](mailto:info@oldplovdiv.com) ,<http://oldplovdiv.com/en>

**SOFIA**  
**ALEXANDER NEVSKY CATHEDRAL**,Sofia,Phone: 359 2 988 1704, <http://www.sofia-guide.com/attraction/alexander-nevsky-cathedral>

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**AUGUSTA SPA HOTEL**,Hissar , Bulgaria,Tel:359 2 9401110, [booking@augustaspahotel.com](mailto:booking@augustaspahotel.com) ,<http://www.augustaspahotel.com/book.html>  
**VARNA**  
**FELISTA BEAUTY**,Varna, 16 Doctor Petar Skorchev Str.,Phone: 359 885 62 00 29,[felistabg@gmail.com](mailto:felistabg@gmail.com) ,<http://felistabg.com>  
**ORANGE FITNESS** ,Tel: 02 476 66 66,[info.sofia@orangefitness.bg](mailto:info.sofia@orangefitness.bg),  
<http://www.orangefitness.bg>  
**SPA MUSITTA** ,Tel:052 602000,<http://spamusitta.com>

## MONEY EXCHANGE & BANKS

**BULGARIA GUIDES LTD**,1000, Sofia, Bulgaria,5 Graf Ignatiev Str., office 205,  
Tel:359 87 80 222 88,[office@sofia-guide.com](mailto:office@sofia-guide.com), <http://www.sofia-guide.com/bulgarian-money-exchange-rates>

**THE CENTRAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA** „Knyaz Alexander I Sq., 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria,Tel: 3592 91459, fax:3592 980 24 25,  
[press\\_office@bnbank.org](mailto:press_office@bnbank.org), <http://www.bnb.bg>

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**NATIONAL POLICE SERVICE**,Sofia 1000,29, Shesti Septemvri Str.,  
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<https://www.mvr.bg/en/AboutUs/StructuralUnits/National+Mol+Services/Police/default.htm>

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**VLADIMIROV KISKINOV**,Sofia, Bulgaria „Full-Service Law Firm in Sofia, Bulgaria,  
Phone:359 2 9881828 ,[www.vladimirov-kiskinov.eu](http://www.vladimirov-kiskinov.eu)

**ZACHARY TSVETKOV**,Sofia, Bulgaria „Immigration Lawyer in Bulgaria,  
Phone:359 88 8872466 ,[www.zacharytsvetkov.com](http://www.zacharytsvetkov.com)

## TRAVEL GOODS SUPPLY

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<http://www.atg-apa.net>

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<http://www.diamond-sport.com>

## HOSPITALS, DENTISTS

**ALLDENTAL TRAVEL CLINICS**,blvd."Vasil Levski" № 33, Sofia, Bulgaria, 1000 ,  
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[info@dental-studio.biz](mailto:info@dental-studio.biz), [http://www.dental-studio.biz/index\\_eng.html](http://www.dental-studio.biz/index_eng.html)

**MEDICA 3- DR. Z. TODOROVA** „Varna, Bulgaria, 9000, Golden sands resort - Hotel Melia Grand Hermitage,Tel:22 307 18 73 ext: 33703

**UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL "SOFIAMED"**,1797 Sofia, Bulgaria,Mobile phones:359 895 555 444,359 895 555 442,<http://hospitalsofiamed.bg>

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<http://artospheric.org/en>

**BANSKO JAZZ FESTIVAL**, <http://banskojazzfest.com/en>,  
<https://www.facebook.com/International-Jazz-Festival-Bansko-188540863488>

**BEGLIKA FESTIVAL**,variety of workshops, performances, theater, mountain sports, games an quality Bulgarian and Balkan music,[beglika@gmail.com](mailto:beglika@gmail.com),  
<http://fest.beglika.org/en>

**DIFFERENT VISION**,Stara Zagora, includes music scene, exhibitions, film screenings, art installations, workshops, historical reenactments, Tel:0887 450 340,  
[b.kanidu@abv.bg](mailto:b.kanidu@abv.bg), <http://www.razlichniatpogled.org>

**FUNCITY,VARNA**,The program contains music, extreme sports, street dance, new forms of visual and applied arts, crafts, workshops and entrepreneurship, [office@funcity.bg](mailto:office@funcity.bg),  
<http://www.funcity.bg>

**MEADOWS IN THE MOUNTAINS**,innovative music on two stages, conceptual art and good mood,[volunteers@meadowsinthemountains.com](mailto:volunteers@meadowsinthemountains.com),  
<http://www.meadowsinthemountains.com>

**SOFIA ROCKS**,at Akademik Stadium,the biggest Bulgarian Rock Festival , Tel:359 87 824 3327,<https://www.facebook.com/SofiaRocksFest>, [www.sofiarocks.bg](http://www.sofiarocks.bg)

**VOINEGOVTSI FESTIVAL GROUNDS**,1223 Voinegovtsi, Sofiya-Grad, Bulgaria, the Bulgarian rock, alternative, ska, and metal scene,Tel:359 87 738 5100,  
<https://www.facebook.com/TheWrongFest>, [www.wrong-fest.com](http://www.wrong-fest.com)

**WAKEUP**,music festival offers a 60 hours set of non stop music in 20 different styles and 3 scenes with over a 100 artists,Tel: 00359 895766984,[wakeupbg@abv.bg](mailto:wakeupbg@abv.bg),  
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