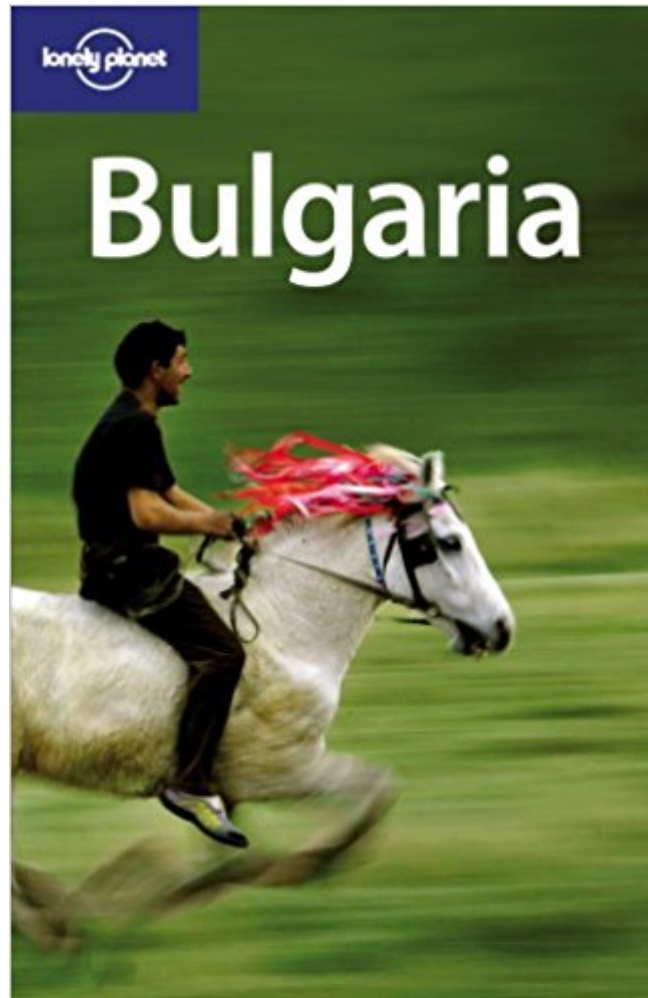




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Lonely Planet Bulgaria (Country Travel Guide)



Synopsis

Discover Bulgaria
Sleep like a monk and rise at dawn to see Rila Monastery's frescoes in the early morning rays
Say dobur den to cats lounging in the old-world side streets of Veliko Tarnovo
Clamber up Belogradchik's majestic rocks and explore the defensive bunkers of the Roman Kalet
Fortress
Lay down your towel at the best Black Sea beaches for swimming, partying or relaxing
In This Guide:
Two expert authors, 80 days of in-country research, 35 detailed maps
New chapter on Bulgarian wine
Content updated daily: visit lonelyplanet.com for up-to-the-minute reviews, updates and traveller suggestions

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

...for the adventurous traveler who wants to live like a native.' --Real Simple Magazine, June 2005

Who We Are
At Lonely Planet, we see our job as inspiring and enabling travelers to connect with the world for their own benefit and for the benefit of the world at large. What We Do
* We offer travelers the world's richest travel advice, informed by the collective wisdom of over 350 Lonely Planet authors living in 37 countries and fluent in 70 languages.
* We are relentless in finding the special, the unique and the different for travellers wherever they are.
* We update our guidebooks by visiting thousands of places in person to get the details right and tell it as it is.
* We always offer the trusted filter for those who are curious, open minded and independent.
* We challenge our growing community of travelers; leading debate and discussion about travel and the world.
* We tell it like it is without fear or favor in service of the travelers; not clouded by any other motive.
What We

BelieveWe believe that travel leads to a deeper cultural understanding and compassion and therefore a better world.

As a very old timer with Lonely Planet Guidebooks, I have observed a turn in them from "survival guides" to more general to almost vague guides. It is not clear to whom these guides are intended. This one although recently updated lacks much basic information about places, times, prices etc. As was written by a former reviewer:" If you need a guidebook to visit Bulgaria, this is not the book you should buy". We recently returned from an 8 day trek in the mountain areas covering the Rila, Pirin and Rhodopi ranges. Many of the places we visited are not mentioned at all in the guide and those that are have very limited descriptions. I recommend trying the Rough Guide.

Great reference guide - FAST DELIVERY

I bought the book before a trip to Bulgaria and it made our trip much more interesting. I will use it again before a return visit.

I spent 2 weeks driving around Bulgaria in October 2009. I used this guide exclusively for accommodations and frequently for restaurants. I found it accurate and discerning. It led us to a number of unique and excellent hotels and with no losers. The restaurants it recommended were good choices. The description of the Bulgarian cities, travel sites, and history was good, helpful, and accurate. A good buy all around. Doug Van Vlear

If you need a guidebook to visit Bulgaria, this is not the book you should buy. Major mistakes in history, cities descriptions and biased commentaries make this guide useless for people who travel the first time to the country. Travelers will learn that there is an impressive Roman castle in Vidin, or search for prehistoric constructions around the Belogradchik rocks. Tough task, since the Vidin Castle is Medieval and the Belogradchik rocks don't have any prehistoric construction preserved. You will learn that by October all Black Sea resorts have closed, which is totally false. There are endless possibilities to stay on the Black Sea coast during October, for less money and huge discounts, and many of the hotels (all 4 and 5 star hotels, for example) are open year around. In Nessebar, UNESCO World Heritage Site, you will search for Roman ruins (again, is everything that Lonely Planet see in Bulgaria "Roman"?), where surrounded by Byzantine Churches and medieval Revival architecture. Biased and false commentaries such as "youthful maritime cockiness of Varna"

are abundant. (Varna is one of the most elegant cities on the Black Sea Coast, often compared to Barcelona or Lisbon, plus it hosts the oldest gold of the world, recently exhibited in NYC. There is nothing "cocky" about the city - an adjective better used for Burgas, for example). The examples of lack of accuracy are endless. My advice: go with Eyewitness Guide or any other guidebook.

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