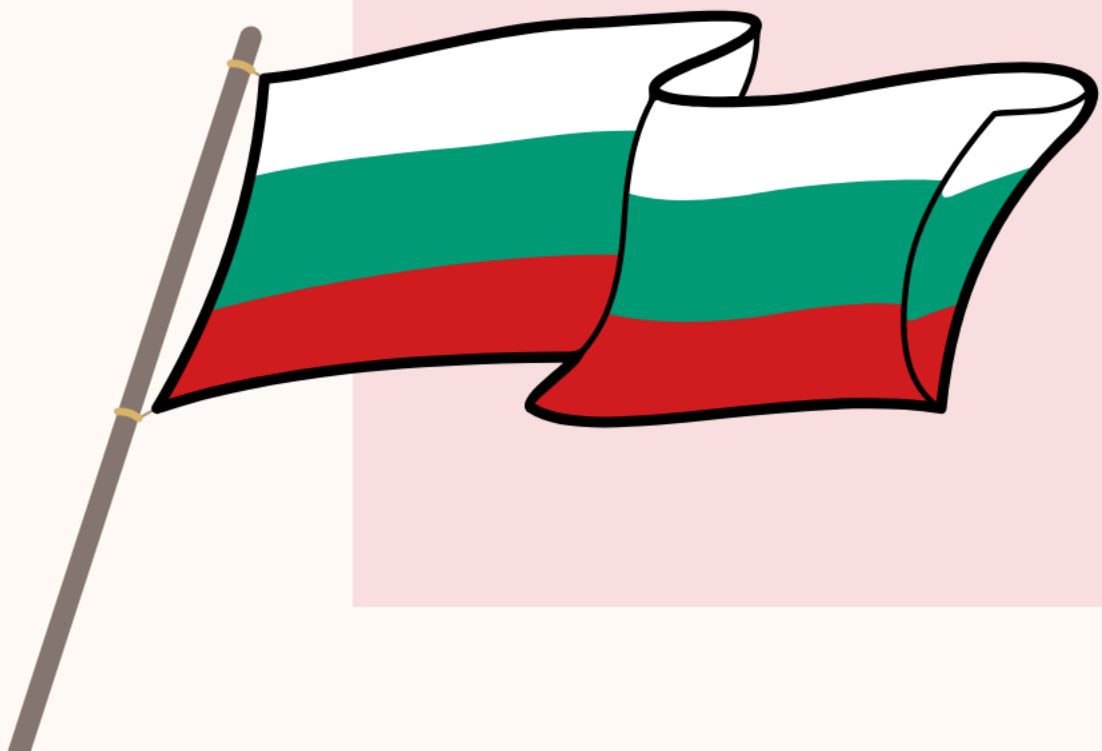


BULGARIA

-one of the oldest European countries



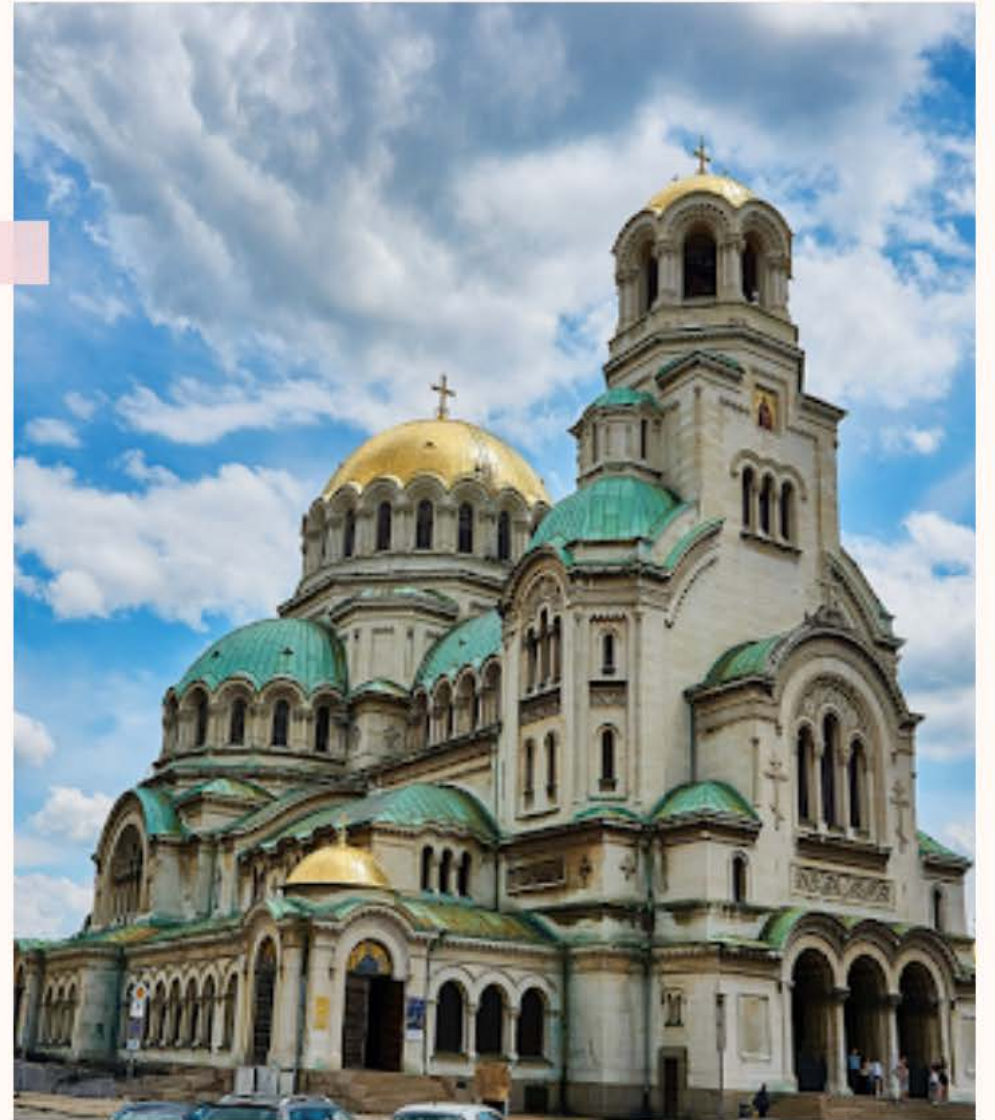
GEOGRAPHY

THE LAND AREA OF BULGARIA IS 110,550 SQUARE KILOMETERS. THE COUNTRY IS SITUATED ON THE WEST COAST OF THE BLACK SEA, WITH ROMANIA TO THE NORTH, GREECE AND TURKEY TO THE SOUTH, AND YUGOSLAVIA TO THE WEST. CONSIDERING ITS SMALL SIZE, BULGARIA HAS A GREAT VARIETY OF TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES. EVEN WITHIN SMALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, THE LAND MAY BE DIVIDED INTO PLAINS, PLATEAUS, HILLS, MOUNTAINS, BASINS, GORGES, AND DEEP RIVER VALLEYS.



Bulgarian History

BULGARIA WAS FOUNDED BY SLAVS IN 681. IN 1018 BULGARIA FELL UNDER BYZANTINE RULE. FROM 1185, THE SECOND BULGARIAN EMPIRE RE-ESTABLISHED BULGARIA AS AN IMPORTANT POWER IN THE BALKANS FOR TWO MORE CENTURIES. IN 1396 BULGARIA FELL UNDER OTTOMAN RULE. IN 1878 WITH THE HELP OF RUSSIA, WHICH ORGANIZES THE RUSSO-TURKISH WAR, BULGARIA GOT ITS INDEPENDENCE.



Cathedral Saint Aleksandar Nevski-Sofia

Bulgaria Public Holidays

BULGARIAN CULTURE

- NATIONAL DAY OF BULGARIA – 3TH OF MARCH
- ORDANOV DAY OR CROSS-SEARCHING IN THE COLD WATERS, CELEBRATED ON THE 6TH JANUARY.

-
- BABA MARTA – 1ST OF MARCH.
 - ST. GEORGE'S DAY (GERGIOVDEN).
 - MARTYR TRIFFON ZAREZAN (PRUNER) WINEMAKER'S DAY – CELEBRATED ON THE 14TH FEBRUARY.



Jordanov Day



Baba Marta



National Day Of Bulgaria



Traditional Bulgarian Costumes And Embroideries

Bulgarians tend to wear traditional costumes for a number of festivals, as part of their folk dance culture, or as seen through various periods in history.

A folk costume (also referred to as regional costume, national costume, or traditional garment – ‘nosiya’ in Bulgarian) expresses the identity of a specific population and their traditions through costume. This type of clothing is usually hand-made from local materials and consists of several colours (some are very bright and playful).

Traditional Bulgarian Foods



Banitsa is a very widespread Bulgarian dough dish, which is often present on the Bulgarian table in any of its multiple variants. It is prepared by dough sheets with various fillings. Sheets can be bought ready or they can be rolled out by dough.

Tarator (Cucumber Soup) is one of the traditional Bulgarian dishes. It is prepared mainly in the summer months, because it has a cooling effect, but many people prepare it all year long.



Patatnik is a dish, which is very typical for the Rhodope region. Its recipe contains products, which had always been present there in large quantities – potatoes and white cheese

Facts About Bulgaria That Are Worth Knowing

- BULGARIA RANKS THIRD IN EUROPE FOR THE NUMBER OF ITS VALUABLE ARCHEOLOGICAL MONUMENTS AFTER ITALY AND GREECE.
- ALEXANDER NEVSKI IS THE OLDEST AUTOCEPHALOUS SLAVIC ORTHODOX CHURCH IN THE WORLD.
- THE BULGARIAN ARMY HAS NEVER LOST A SINGLE FLAG IN BATTLE.
- THE CYRILLIC ALPHABET WAS INVENTED BY TWO BULGARIAN MONKS – CYRIL AND METHODIUS BACK IN 9TH CENTURY.
- THE CYRILLIC ALPHABET BECAME THE THIRD OFFICIAL ALPHABET OF THE EU AFTER THE ACCESSION OF BULGARIA TO THE EU ON JANUARY 1, 2007.
- IN BULGARIA WAS FOUND THE OLDEST GOLDEN TREASURE. (3000 GOLD OBJECTS DATING BACK MORE THAN 6000 YEARS)
- THE ANCIENT BULGARIAN CALENDAR WAS DECLARED AS THE MOST ACCURATE IN THE WORLD BY UNESCO IN 1976.
- PLOVDIV IS EUROPE'S OLDEST INHABITED CITY.
- THE BULGARIAN FOLK SONG "IZLEL E DELYU HAYDUTIN" WAS SENT IN SPACE ON THE BOARD OF THE US SPACE PROBE VOYAGER

- WORLD'S FIRST DIGITAL WRISTWATCH WAS DEVELOPED BY THE BULGARIAN, PETER PETROFF.
- THE FIRST ELECTRONIC COMPUTER WAS INVENTED BY JOHN VINCENT ATANASOFF WHO HAS A BULGARIAN ORIGIN.
- FOR 29 YEARS SO FAR NO WOMAN HAS MANAGED TO BEAT THE RECORD OF THE BULGARIAN STEFKA KOSTADINOVA FOR THE HIGH JUMP OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN ROME WITH SENSATIONAL 2.09 METERS.
- BULGARIA IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST WINE EXPORTING COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD. WINE PRODUCTION HAS A LONG HISTORY DATING BACK TO THRACIAN TIMES.
- BULGARIA RANKS THIRD IN EUROPE IN BIODIVERSITY, WITH A NUMBER OF RARE AND ENDEMIC SPECIES.
- THE BULGARIAN FLAG CONSISTS THREE COLORS: WHITE, GREEN AND RED, LAID HORIZONTALLY FROM TOP TO BOTTOM. THE WHITE IS A SYMBOL OF HOPE, THE GREEN IS A SYMBOL FOR THE WONDERFUL NATURE, AND THE RED IS A SYMBOL OF THE BLOOD SOAKED INTO OUR LANDS.
- BULGARIAN WELCOME THE SPRING WITH BABA MARTA. EVERY YEAR ON 1 MARCH BULGARIAN GIVE A MARTENITSA (WHITE AND RED BRACELETS) TO EACH OF THEIR FRIENDS TO CONGRATULATE THEM ON THE BEGINNING OF THE SPRING AND FOR HEALTH. THE MARTENITSA IS WEARING UNTIL YOU SEE A STORK OR A BLOSSOMING TREE.

Thanks
for watching