



One week tour Bulgaria&Istanbul

1st Day: Varna - Shoumen



Arrival at Varna Airport and transfer the town of Shoumen. Overnight in Shoumen.

En route visits:

- The rocky relief of Madara Horseman included in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

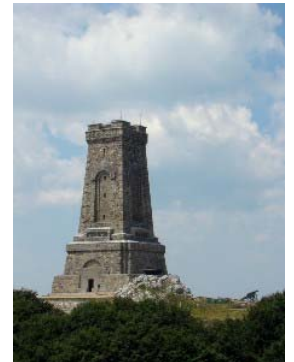
2nd day Shoumen – Velko Turnovo – Sofia

Overnight in Sofia.



En route visits:

- Veliko Turnovo - the mediaeval capital of Second Bulgarian Kingdom/1185-1393/. The Tzarevetz Hill with the strong fortress walls, Baldwin Tower and the Patriarch's Church.
- The impressive Russian Memorial Church in Shipka village.



- The Shipka Monument of Freedom on the peak, dedicated to the heroic deeds of both Russian soldiers and Bulgarian volunteers who fell in fierce battles defending the Shipka Pass during the Russo-Turkish Liberation War (1877-1878).



3rd day Sofia –Rila Monastery – Plovdiv

Overnight in Plovdiv.



En route visits:

- Walking sightseeing tour in the centre of Sofia
- The impressive Alexander Nevski Cathedral and its Crypt with Icons
- The Rila Monastery, the largest one on the Balkan Peninsula included in the UNESCO World Heritage List.



Founded in the 10th Century in the heart of Rila

Mountain, many times destroyed and recovered over the centuries this spectacular monument is famous for its remarkable architecture, vibrant paintings, rich library and medieval defence tower.

4th day Plovdiv

Overnight in Plovdiv.



En route visits:

- The Old Plovdiv - walking along the beautiful houses from the Bulgarian Revival period (18th-19thC), the Roman Theatre, the Balabanow House and the St. St. Constantine and Elena church.
- The second largest in Bulgaria Bachkovo Monastery (1083), famous for its miraculous icon of Virgin Mary and unique wall-paintings dated to 11th -12th and 17thC.

Optional tour wine tasting & dinner

5th day Plovdiv – Istanbul

Overnight in Istanbul



Visits:

- Afternoon sightseeing tour of the Orient's most famous city of Istanbul, visiting the Blue Mosque, The Hippodrome, Theodosius Obelisk and panoramic tour. Drive across Bosphorus Bridge and stop at the Continent Asia. Leisure time to enjoy the wonderful view and to stroll around

6th day Istanbul

Overnight in Istanbul



Day at leisure and take part in optional tours:

- Visits to the Topkapi Palace, Hagia Sophia and Grand Bazaar
- Night club with dinner & Turkish show – folklore, belly dances and floor show.

7th day Istanbul – Varna

Depart for Bulgaria in the afternoon. Overnight in Varna

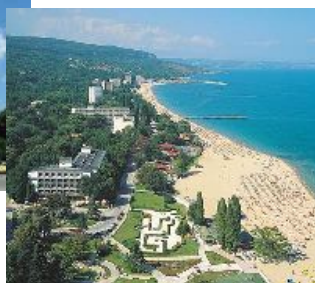


Morning optional tour:

- Boat trip along Bosphorus and a visit to the Egyptian Bazaar.



8th day Varna – Air port



- Sightseeing tour of Varna with Cathedral
- Transfer to the airport. End of services



ELTA TOURS

Varna, Bulgaria

eltatours@dir.bg

www.eltatours.com