

BULGARIA OPERA TOUR

17 – 21 SEPTEMBER 2008



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Day 1 – 17 September 2008 - SOFIA

Arrival in Sofia. Transfer to the hotel*. City tour**. Overnight.

Day 2 – 18 September 2008 – SOFIA – PLOVDIV

Breakfast. Departure towards Plovdiv – the second largest city in Bulgaria. Attend the opera “**Nabuko**”. Overnight in Plovdiv.

Day 3 – 19 September 2008 – PLOVDIV - VARNA

Breakfast. Departure towards the city of Varna. Attend the opera “**Aida**” by Verdi. Overnight in Varna.

Day 4 – 20 September 2008 – VARNA – VELIKO TARNOVO

Breakfast. Departure towards Veliko Turnovo. City tour. Overnight in Veliko Tarnovo.

Day 5 – 21 September 2008 – VELIKO TARNOVO

Breakfast. Full day in Veliko Turnovo and the surrounding areas - museum village of Arbanassi, Petropavlovski monastery, Preobrajenski monastery. Overnight in Veliko Tarnovo.

Day 6 – 22 September 2008 – VELIKO TARNOVO – SOFIA

Breakfast. Departure towards Sofia. Transfer to the airport.***

Depending on the flight schedule. The hotel accommodation can be after the city tour.*
 For 2 – 3 pax the city tour is on request.**
 Depending on the flight schedule, the stay in Sofia can be extended.***

The tour includes:

- Accommodation in 4* hotels;
- Meals: Breakfast
- Entrances to all productions and places mentioned on the itinerary;
- Professional guide throughout the itinerary;
- Accommodation and meals for the driver and the guide;
- Transportation according to the whole programme.

We are expecting you!



Sofia

Roads from all parts of the world have intersected here from nearly 7,000 years. Peoples have come and gone, civilizations have risen and fallen, but the city have stayed. Chronicles have called the city Serdika, Sredets and Sofia. Today's modern capital comprises more than 250 historic, archeological and architectural landmarks. The remains of solid fortress walls and splendid palaces, mosaics in public baths and marble columns of administrative buildings are still part and parcel of this colorful city. Monuments from different ages exist side in perfect harmony in the St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral. Its crypt is a genuine treasure trove of mediaeval Bulgarian art. The St. Sophia early Christian basilica (5th - 6th c.), which has given the city its name, towers majestically nearby.

City tour in Sofia includes:
National Archaeological Museum, National Theatre, Russian Church St. Nikola, Parliament Square, Alexander Nevski Memorial Cathedral with the most valuable collection of Bulgarian Icons (13-19th c), St. Sofia Church (6th c), St. George Rotunda (4th c), National Palace of Culture.

Plovdiv

is the second largest city in Bulgaria, situated on the Maritsa River. Its unique location on these ancient crossroads has stimulated strong cultural and political influences from East and West civilizations, and yet maintained its unique cultural identity.

Being older than most of the oldest towns like Rome, Athens, Carthage or Constantinople, an almost contemporary of Troy, Plovdiv is a town built upon layers of towns and a culture developed upon layers of cultures. All sightseeing tours include the architectural and historical reserve Old Plovdiv. The millennial history of Plovdiv is reflected here with all its cultural diversity.

Varna

This place was inhabited even before the Greeks established the colony of Odessos there about 580 B.C. Later, under the Romans and their successors, the Slavs, Varna became a major port trading with Constantinople, Venice and Dubrovnik. In 1393 it was captured by the Turks, who made it an important military centre. Nowadays it is the main port for both naval and commercial shipping and, adjacent as it is to the coastal resorts of Golden Sands, St. Constantine (Drouzhba) and Albena, it has a cosmopolitan atmosphere. Of particular interest are the National Revival Museum, the Ethnographic and City Historical Museum, the Art Gallery, the Navy Museum and the Aquarium, the Natural History Museum, the Zoo and the Dolphinarium, the Sea Gardens, 17th century Cathedral of the Holy Mother, the 2 century Roman thermae, the natural reserve at Kamchiya, etc.

Veliko Tarnovo - the Medieval Capital city of Bulgaria

One of the most picturesque Bulgarian towns, situated 240 km north-east of Sofia. It is located along the historical hills of Sveta Gora, Tsarevets and Trapezitsa. The town is majestically perched on the two banks of the Yantra River, cutting a peculiar and unique gorge through the Turnovo Hills. The whole city is spreading along the steep hills and the majority of buildings carry the vision of the 18-19th century. The houses are huddled close to each other naturally positioned amidst the steep rocks. There is a lot to be seen and done in Veliko Tarnovo. Visitors can't help admiring the numerous unique monuments of the Renaissance period - a never ending wealth of spiritual and material values. Veliko Tarnovo has always been an attractive site for tourists from Bulgaria and foreign countries. Every year by the end of March the unique "Voice and Light" show is performed on the Tsarevets hill, representing the glorious history of Bulgaria.

Arbanasi- one of the most picturesque old settlements in Bulgaria

It is situated upon the rocky plateau of the same name and looks on to the old part of the ancient Bulgarian capital - Veliko Turnovo (4 km north-east). Arbanasi is famous for its unique housing construction and its churches, abounding in mural paintings. The settlement was founded in the XIII-th century by distinguished Bulgarian boyars. It gradually turned into a rich settlement where stock-breeding and trade flourished. The houses numbered 1000. Today, they look like strongholds with their high stone walls, but their outer facades contrast with their inside coziness and comfort.

Preobrajenski monastery

The masterpiece of another age, of other principles in architecture and art, is the Preobrazhenski Monastery, erected 7 km from Veliko Turnovo in one of the pictureque gorges of the Yantra River. A world of much sun and vivacity greets up here. It was burned to the ground when the capital of the Second Bulgarian State was taken; centuries had pass before life was reinstated here, on the top of the ruins. The Preobrazhenski Monastery started its second existence only in 1825.

OPERA TOUR 17 – 21 September 2008 – RATES

EUR

NOTE: All rates are in

TOURS 2008	COST PER PERSON IN DOUBLE / SINGLE ROOMS FOR A PARTY / GROUP OF							
	4-8		9-15		16-25		26 - 35	
	DBL	SGL	DBL	SGL	DBL	SGL	DBL	SGL
BULGARIA OPERA TOUR 2	519	592	404	477	379	452	353	426

All mentioned rates include the following:

- Hotel Accommodation as per package 🍷 Meals: breakfast
- 🍷 Entrance Fees to all productions and places mentioned on the itinerary
 - Professional Guide throughout the itinerary
- The above rates are inclusive of VAT and provincial tax

Rates do not include the following:

- Any personal expenses 🍷 Tips for guide 🍷 Porterages

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