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BULGARIA



## Geography

Bulgaria is located in southeastern Europe, in the eastern part of the Balkan Peninsula and on the Black Sea.

Moderate climate prevails in Bulgaria.

The rose brought to Bulgaria from Persia in the 17th century is a symbol of Bulgaria.



#### Republic of Bulgaria

Bulgaria is a Balkan nation with diverse terrain encompassing Black Sea coastline, a mountainous interior and rivers, including the Danube.

\* Capital: Sofia

\* code: +359

\* Population: 7.102 million (2017)

\* Currency: Bulgarian lev

\* Points of interest: Rila Monastery, Sunny Beach

## History

- The first Bulgarian empire (681-1018)
- The first Bulgarian empire was established by khan Asparukh as result of peace treaty with Byzantium in 681.
- In the following centuries Bulgaria established itself as a powerful empire, dominating the Balkans through its aggressive military traditions, which led to development of distinct ethnic identity
- Its ethnically and culturally diverse people united under a common religion, language and alphabet which formed and preserved the Bulgarian national consciousness despite foreign invasions and influences

## History

- The Second Bulgarian Empire (1185-1396).
- In the 11th century, the First Bulgarian Empire became part of the Byzantine Empire until 1185.
- Then, a major uprising led by two brothers Asen and Peter of the Asen dynasty, restored the Bulgarian state to form the Second Bulgarian Empire
- In1396 Bulgaria became part of the Ottoman Empire. The Turks eliminated the Bulgarian system of nobility and ruling clergy, and Bulgaria remained an integral Turkish territory for the next 500 years.
- By the 19th century, the Bulgarian National Revival became a key component of the struggle for independence, which would culminate in the failed April uprising in 1876, which prompted the Russo-Turkish War of 1877–78 and the subsequense Liberation of Bulgaria.



## Polity Symbols and institutions

Bulgaria is a parliamentary republic.

The national symbols of the Bulgarian state are the flag, the anthem and the emblem of the Republic.



# Polity Symbols and institutions



The building of the National Assembly in Sofia.

## Culture

The language spoken is Bulgarian and the script is Cyrillic.

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Аа Бб Вв Гг Дд Ес Жж Зз Ии Ий Кк а b v g d c ž z i j k [a] [b/p] [v/f] [g/k] [d/t] [e] [g/]] [z/s] [i] [j] [k/g]

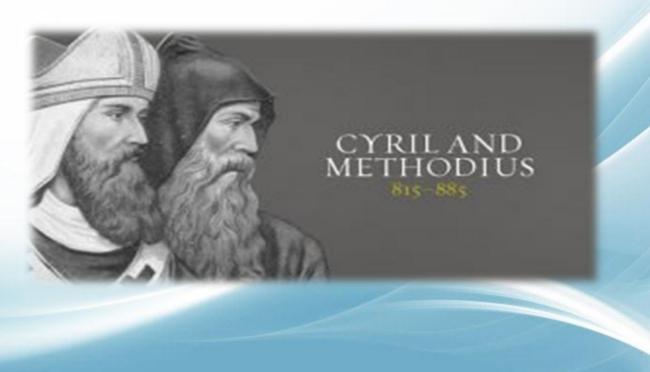
Лл Мм Нн Оо Пп Рр Сс Т t Ү у Фф Х х 1 m n o p r s t u f x [l] [m] [n] [o] [p] [r] [s/s] [v/d] [u] [f] [x]

Цц Чч Шш Щщ Ы ы ь Ю ю Я я с č š št å ' ju ja [ts] [t] [f] [s]
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Today, the Cyrillic alphabet is used by around 300 million people worldwide. Apart from Bulgaria, the alphabet is official in Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Mongolia, Montenegro, Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and by 2018, and in Kazakhstan, and decades ago the alphabet was also used in Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan, etc.

In 2007 the Cyrillic alphabet became only the third official alphabet of the European Union after Latin and the Greek alphabet.

On 24<sup>th</sup> May Bulgaria celebrates one of its national holidays, the "literacy day", dedicated to the holy brothers Cyril and Methodius.





#### HOLIDAYS



Bulgarian national holidays, traditions and customs are an integral part of the culture and way of life of our people.



#### CHRISTMAS

The Bulgarian tradition is related to the custom of Christmas. Calendars are men who go around homes with wishes for well-being and health.





#### Kukers

On January 1st - New Year's Day - traditionally a kukers fair is organized. Kuker games aim at frightening and banishing evil spirits through special magic dances and scary masks, so that there is a rich harvest.



### **BABA MARTA**

Baba Marta is a mythical character in Bulgarian folklore. It is associated with the custom of giving people and young animals Martenitza (twisted white and red thread) on March 1st.





#### **NESTINARSTVO**

Nestinarstvo is an ancient Bulgarian custom where people dance barefoot on embers (coals). According to tradition, Nestinari play the evening of Constantine and Helen's day.





## Yoghurt

Yogurt is a milky product being obtained by fermentation. The main microorganism, which participates in the fermentation process, called Lactobacillus bulgaricus and is found in free status only in the territory of Bulgaria.





### The Seven Rila Lakes

The Seven Rila Lakes is a group glacier lakes, located in the Rila Mountains.

## The Rila Monastery

The Rila Monastery is located in Southwestern Bulgaria, above the Rila River. It was built in the 10th century. The Rila Monastery is one of the cultural monasteries monuments in Bulgaria included in the list for the world UNESCO cultural and historical heritage.







Vocational High School of Economics "Ivan Iliev"







The school was founded in the distant 1949 as a "Commercial High School" for young people from Blagoevgrad and part of Kyustendil district.





In recent years, the authority of the high school has been reinforced by the wide range of specialties and projects in which it successfully participates.





Today Vocational High School of Economics is a high-class school, prestigious and preferred by many young people.





**VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL OF ECONOMCS "IVAN ILIEV"** 

Successful journey into the world of knowledge starts with one step! We are reaching out to take the first steps together!





#### **PREPARED**

- Antonia Bakalova
- Milena Metodieva