

## Trakia Tourist Region

















For more than 8 millennia, the most important trade and military routes have passed through Thrace, connecting Europe with Asia and North Africa.

Here you will find treasures, shrines and tombs masterpieces of human creative genius;

On the territory of the tourist region of Thrace there is a huge wealth of immovable cultural values. Here was the heyday of 8 civilizations and cultures: Prehistoric, Thracian, Roman, Byzantine, Old Bulgarian, Ottoman, Renaissance and modern culture.





Traκia Tourism Region is a perfect place for cultural, wine tourism, business tourism, urban leisure and shopping tourism, for health, adventure and ecotourism.

Here, history, culture, preserved nature are successfully combined with the enjoyment of the taste of wine and the pleasure of travel.





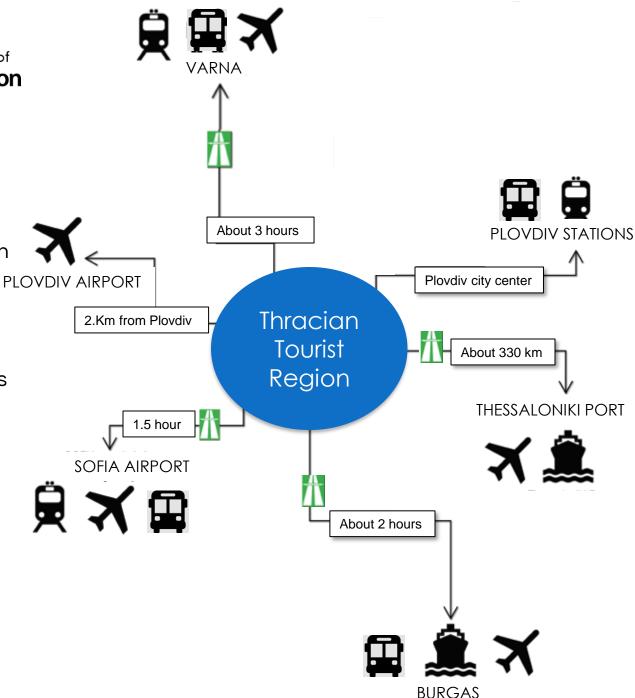
Thracian tourist region has an area of about 16,000 square kilometers with rich biodiversity, natural landmarks, and ancient civilizations. Over 500 are immovable cultural values, it is rich in mineral waters.

They are an exceptional testimony to cultural traditions, directly or indirectly connected with events and living traditions, ideas, beliefs, with artistic works of extraordinary universal significance.



#### LOGISTIC ADVANTAGES

- The region is located in south central Bulgaria.
- Fast accessibility on an international scale is guaranteed by three airports
   Plovdiv, Sofia and Burgas.
- Land transport connecting Plovdiv with Greece and Turkey takes less than 3 hours.





#### **Brezovo municipality**







Brezovo is inhabited since ancient times. In one of Thracian mounds, a noble Thracian leader with a golden wreath, an iron scepter and a gold ring is supposed to be buried. Discovered treasures are kept in the museums in Plovdiv, Sofia, and St. Petersburg. The natural resources, clean air and water, green forests and the rich historical heritage develop different types of tourism. You could enjoy picturesque tourist routes for lovers of hiking and extreme tourism. Picturesque mountain villages supply conditions for recreation and rural tourism.





Chirpan Municipality is proud to show 290 million years of recorded history of their land and the momentous tooth fossil of the last pre-human hominid. Explore the rich culture and variety of festivals, enjoy your unforgettable wine and Spa experiences or come as a pilgrim to the oldest monastery in Europe. Fall in love with lavender and sunflower fields.





#### Art & Culture

- Yavorov Museum
- Chirpan History Museum
- Nikola Maney Art Gallery



Religious and Spiritual Traditions
- St. Athanasius the Great Monastery







- Paleontology & Archaeology

  Museum of paleontology "Gema-world"

  Karasura Archaeological Site





- Chateau Hotel Trendafiloff
- Midalidare Estate, Hotel and Spa





#### Mineralni Bani balneological resort

- one of the best ones for relaxing and healing;
- wonderful forest vegetation and clear air;
- favorable for all the seasons;
- 59 degrees Celsius mineral water;
- unique with chemical composition and healing properties;
- specialized in treatment of peripheral arteries diseases of organic and functional type.

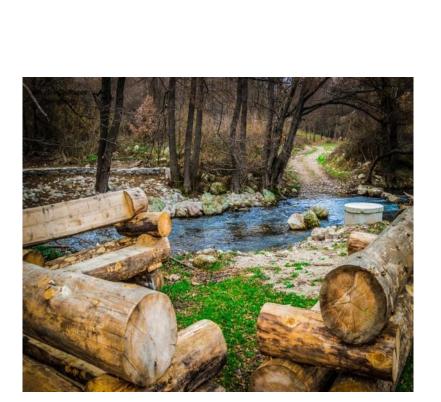


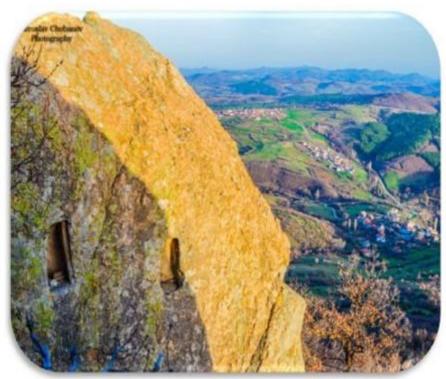




#### Mineralni Bani cultural - historical heritage

The district is rich of many megalithic monuments, ruins from the most ancient European civilization – cult niches, rock tombs, sharapani and nearby sanctuaries and fortresses.





Along the eco paths you will find coquet sites for relax equipped with benches, bowers and places for barbecue, located on places with a panoramic view towards the wonderful forests of the Eastern Rhodope mountain.



#### Mineralni Bani festivals



- The Festival of the mineral water, health and beauty conduct last weekend of August;
- International children's ethnic festival Children of the Balkans with spiritual power in Europe! conduct on 31st May and 1st June. Over 2 000 children take part from Bulgaria, Turkey, Macedonia, Greece, Serbia, Romania, Croatia, Georgia, Poland etc...
- The Festival Horo dancing at the vintage conduct end of September. It includes a competition in dancing of groups from all over the country. The festival is combined with an ancient Thracian ritual in the honor of gods Sabaziy -Zagrey. All participants in the ritual wear Thracian clothes and wteaths of vine leaves.



#### Cultural and cognitive routes in Harmanli Municipality







At the foot of Sakar Mountain

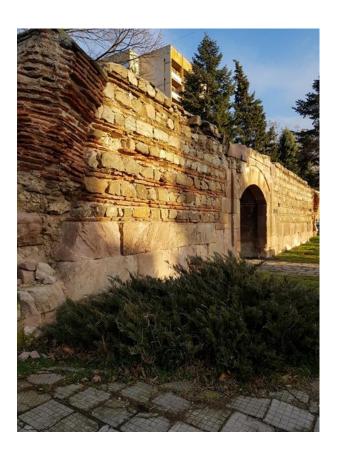
Along the way, many interesting places and experiences await you, including - Roman road - Via Diagonalis, Castra Rubra Fortress, Orthodox churches, wine cellars, culinary, hunting and cultural tourism in the area



#### Cultural and cognitive routes in Harmanli Municipality







Apart from its beautiful nature, the region is also attractive for its special mystery. One of the ancient civilizations in the world - that of the Thracians has left here bright traces for themselves through many cult shrines, tombs and dolmens. The Menhir is dated II-I millennium BC, and Caravanserai - XVI century. They are very impressive architectural ambassadors from ancient times



#### Cultural and cognitive routes in Harmanli Municipality





A trip through the cellars in the Eastern Rhodopes and Sakar will make you strongly believe in the divinity of Bulgarian wine...In the area of Harmanli you can indulge in two passions at the same time - wine and a trip to natural and historical sites.



#### Festival tourism in Harmanli Municipality





- Thracian embroidery conduct in April;
- Sesame conduct in July. Visitors have the opportunity to see how sesame is sown and processed;
- On Harmana held in September, this festival officially opens the grape harvest in South Sakar;
- Songs near Maritsa organized in late October;





**Perushtitsa Municipality** is located in a unique natural area. It combines the fertility of the field with the coolness of the mountains. The area is rich in archeological finds. One of them is the Red Church The Scarlet Temple of the Holy Mother of God. One of the pearls of early Christian architecture in Europe. On the territory of Perushtitsa are found rich archaeological evidence of prehistoric settlements that existed during the Neolithic, Copper, Bronze and Iron Ages, ie. in the period 7000 - 1 000 BC. Monastery "St. St. Theodore Tyrone and Theodore Stratilat". In the immediate vicinity are the remains of the fortress Peristitsa, built in the XI-XII century.

# Management organization of **Trakia Tourism Region**

#### **Perushtitsa Municipality**





Historical church St. Archangel Michael built in 1849, with donations of people of Perushtitsa is a massive three-nave stone church. It was the last fortress and refuge of the inhabitants of Perushtitsa who revolted in April 1876 against the Ottoman rule. Many of its defenders would rather end their lives on their own than fall alive into the hands of ferocious Turkish troops.

- Eco-trail Monastery route is approximately 16 km long. It passes through the Historical Museum, Danovo School, Kalugerski Harman, the Kocho Chestemenski monument and reaches the monastery of St. Todor and the meadows, continues to ancient stone fountain in the protected area Peristitz.
- Second eco-trail On the path of the heroes is approximately 16 km long. The trail passes through the Historical Museum, Danovo School, the Monument to the Three Generations and reaches the Genishen area. Then to Leshtenska Polyana. It descends to Baten Dam and returns to Perushtitsa.
- Third eco-trail Young Scouts is approximately 8 km long. It passes through the Historical Museum, Danovo School, reaches the Baten Dam and returns.



#### **Topolovgrad Municipality**

In the area of Topolovgrad there is rich cultural and historical heritage. The monuments date back to Antiquity, the Middle Ages, the period of the struggle for religious and national freedom.

16 cultural monuments of national importance have been registered.

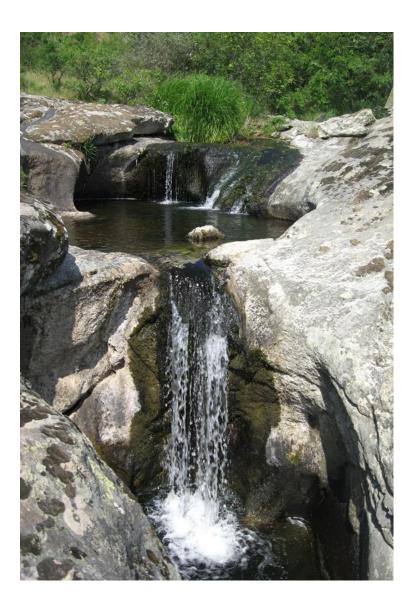




#### **Topolovgrad Municipality**

- Thracian dolmens;
- Temple of the Sun an ancient sanctuary of the sun, the fortress "Paleokastro". On this peak and around it there is a Thracian rock sanctuary. The area was inhabited from the 5th century BC to the 11th century;
- Holy Trinity Monastery located about 6-7 km from Topolovgrad is one of the largest monasteries in Bulgaria;







#### Parvomay Municipality





Since the millennial existence of man in the region there are settlement and grave mounds, ancient settlements and necropolises, medieval populations and fortresses, pagan and Christian temples. During the Neolithic the area was densely populated. The most valuable finding from the era is a gold plate used as jewelry found around Parvomay. It can be considered one of the oldest processed gold products in the world.





**Maritsa Municipality** More than 300 cultural monuments, mounds, settlements, tombs, statuettes, columns have been discovered here. These discoveries speak of a rich history from the deepest antiquity - from the time of the Thracians, through the era of Roman rule to the present day. The Calendar of the cultural events of the Municipality shows the rich cultural life in the villages, filled with many holidays, celebrations and participations with rich amateur art.



#### Maritsa Municipality

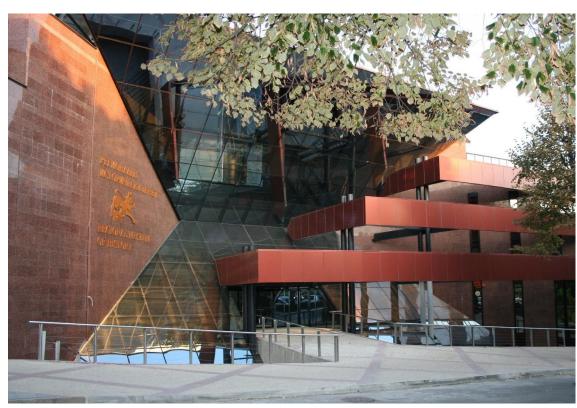


Maltepe mound measuring 90 m in diameter and 22 m in height. It is part of a large Thracian necropolis connected with ancient Philippopolis in the 1st c. BC. - III c. AD. It is a complex of central tombs and secondary burial facilities, most probably connected with the Thracian ruler Remetalk II, an ally of the Roman emperors, and his family. A reconstruction of the ancient religious beliefs and burial practices of the Thracian sovereigns who ruled the kingdom of the Odrysians.



**Stara Zagora City** - offers good conditions for development of ecological, sports and adventure tourism with its natural landmarks and rugged terrain. It is one of the most ancient cities in Europe. The place has been inhabited since the Neolithic Age (VII-VI millennium BC). Three prehistoric settlements in the municipality are of global importance:

- The Bereket mound the largest historical monument in Bulgaria from that time;
- The Azmash mound thoroughly studied
- The best preserved in Europe mound and with the richest inventory Neolithic dwellings.
- The oldest copper mines in Europe (V millennium BC) were discovered 8 km from the city.









#### Regional Historical Museum

The museum exhibition presents the history of the city and its surrounding region from the 6th millennium BC to the National Revival and the Russian-Turkish Liberation War. The remnants of one of the main streets of the antique city of Augusta Trayana have been preserved at the ground level.

#### Neolithic Dwellings Museum

It was built on the location where the remains of a dwelling from the early Neolithic Age (6th millennium BC) were unearthed. It is one of the best preserved from this period in Europe. The permanent exhibition within the building contains a collection of ceramic vessels, small cult sculptures, jewelry and tools, made by the prehistoric settlers who created one of the first European civilizations.



#### **Stara Zagora City -**





#### **Antique Forum Complex**

The Antique Forum is part of the Archaeological Complex "Augusta Trayana - Vereya - Stara Zagora". Its territory includes the forum plaza with the amphitheater, the western city gate and fortress walls with a portion of the main trading street of the antique city. Today the Forum Complex is used as a stage for performances, concerts, festivals and other events.

Antique mosaics from a private house 4th c. - a figure composition in more than ten colors and shades which decorated the space around a small pool in the reception hall of a rich private home.

#### Dionisius Procession Antique Mosaic

- with more than 15 color shades. According to experts this is one of the most beautiful mosaics from all mosaics found in Bulgaria, exhibited in the Regional Museum of History.







**Stara Zagora City** - Museum of Religions Architectural Complex

This is a unique place of cult, revered as sacred since the most remote historical times. Remains of a cult pit from the early Iron Age (10th-9th c. BC), a pagan temple (2nd-3rd c. AD) and the foundations of a medieval Christian church were uncovered in the prayer hall of a Muslim temple.

Stara Zagora Art Gallery

Located in the renovated building of the covered city bazaar, built in the early 1930s, the Gallery funds contain works of almost all prominent Bulgarian artists from the last two centuries.



## PLOVDIV THE OLDEST CITY IN EUROPE IN TERMS OF CONTINUITY OF LIFE

#### 8 THOUSANDS YEARS HISTORY

- Over 700 immovable monuments
- Over 300 000 objects exhibited in six museums of the city:

- Ancient Plovdiv Municipal Institute
- Archaeological Museum
- Historical Museum
- Ethnographic Museum
- Natural History Museum
- City Art Gallery







#### THE ANCIENT PLOVDIV HISTORICAL RESERVE

## MORE THAN 50 TOURIST SITES COVERS AN AREA OF 35 HECTARES



- Prehistory
- Thracian culture
- Hellenistic period
- Roman culture
- Middle Ages
- National Revival period
- XX c.







- One of the best preserved in the world 1st c. AD
- A stage for cultural events
- 3,500 marble seats, 28 rows, Imperial Lodge



## ROMAN STADIUM, EARLY CHRISTIAN BASILICA, PERISTYLE BUILDING EIRENE & BISHOP BASILICA

#### STAGES FOR CULTURAL EVENTS











**Wine and gourmet parade**, combines traditional Bulgarian wines and fine cuisine held at the Old town of Plovdiv. Gift your senses – we are waiting for you!

A true wine festival uniting history, culture, wine and gourmet.





**Young Wine Festival** is unforgettable wine celebration in the romance of National Revival houses in Plovdiv. Every year more than 20 000 visitors from Bulgaria and around the world taste more than 200 types of young wine of leading Bulgarian wineries.







26,27,28 Nov. 2021 Plovdiv, Old Town









INTERNATIONAL MAVRUD DAY OCTOBER, 26th



## MAVRUD DAY October, 26<sup>th</sup>

Symbolically dedicated to the ancient local variety Mavrud, the initiative aims to increase the interest and popularity of local Bulgarian varieties around the world. The holiday includes an official conference part, a rich weekly educational and entertainment program in the country and monthly activities abroad presenting Bulgarian wine.





#MAVRUDDAY





#### CONTACT WITH US FOR MORE DETILES

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Thank you for your attention!

