

# Bulgaria

## Travel Facts

### US State Department Travel Advisory

The US State Department currently recommends US citizens exercise normal precautions in Bulgaria.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

### Passport/Visa Requirements

For the latest passport and visa requirements for this country, please consult the US State Department's "Learn About Your Destination" search tool, available through the link below.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages.html>

### US Embassy/Consulate

[359] (2) 937-5100; US Embassy in Sofia, 16, Kozyak Street, Sofia 1408, Bulgaria; <https://bg.usembassy.gov/>; [acs\\_sofia@state.gov](mailto:acs_sofia@state.gov)

### LGBTQIA+, Women, and Special Needs Travelers

Additional travel considerations can be found on the US State Department's International Travel page.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations.html>



### Telephone Code

359

### Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance: 150; Fire: 160; Police: 166

### Vaccinations

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations for Bulgaria: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, rabies, tickborne encephalitis, meningitis, polio, measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), chickenpox, shingles, pneumonia, influenza, and COVID-19.

<http://www.who.int/>

### Climate

Temperate; cold, damp winters; hot, dry summers

### Currency (Code)

Leva (BGN)

### Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): C, F



Type C



Type F

### Major Languages

Bulgarian, Turkish, Romani

### Major Religions

Christian, Muslim, other, none, unspecified

### Time Difference

UTC+2 (7 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time); daylight saving time: +1hr, begins last Sunday in March, ends last Sunday in October

### Potable Water

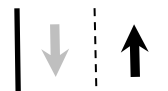
Opt for bottled water

### International Driving Permit

Suggested

### Road Driving Side

Right



### Tourist Destinations

Rila Monastery; Pirin National Park; Plovdiv Roman Theater; Sunny Beach; Tsarevets Fortress; Baba Vida Fortress; Belogradchik Fortress; Thracian Tomb of Sveshtari, ancient city of Nessebar

### Major Sports

Soccer, skiing, basketball

### Cultural Practices

Unlike in most other countries, a vertical shaking of the head indicates "no" in Bulgaria while a sideways shaking indicates "yes."

### Tipping Guidelines

At restaurants, typically leave 10% of the total bill for a tip. Tip porters 50 levas per bag and hotel housekeepers 1.50 levas per day. It is common to tip taxi drivers 10% of the fare. Tour guides should also be tipped 5-10% of the total bill.

### Souvenirs

Rose oil and other rose products, pottery, traditional dolls, handicraft items including hand-tatted lace and wood-carved items

### Traditional Cuisine

Shopska salad — tomatoes, cucumbers, onion, raw or roasted peppers, sirene (white brine cheese), and parsley; the vegetables are usually diced and salted and served with a light dressing of sunflower or olive oil and occasionally complemented by vinegar

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