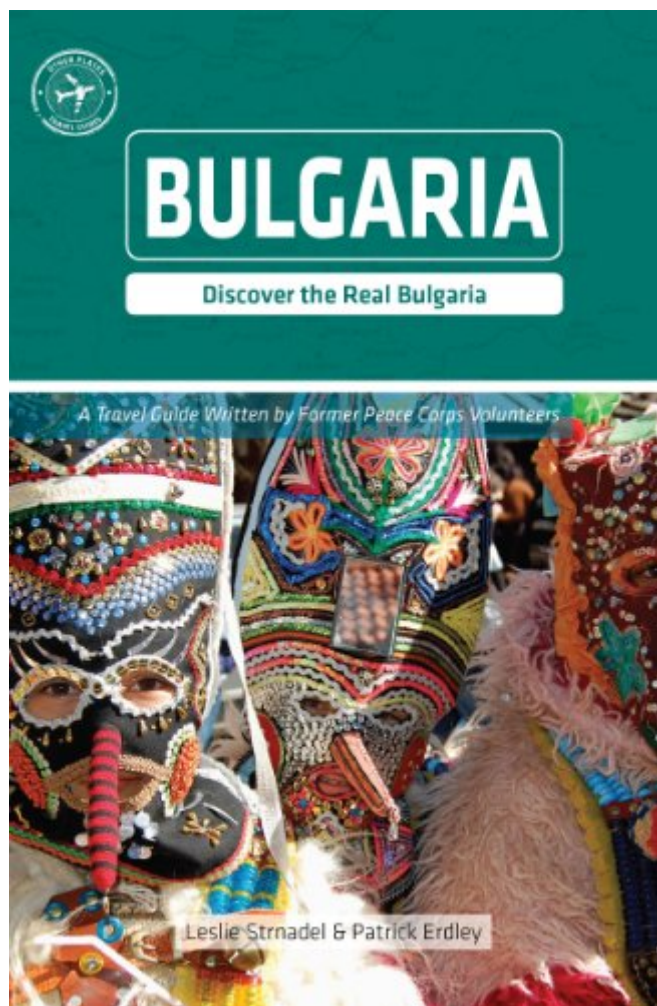


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Bulgaria (Other Places Travel Guide)



Synopsis

Once hidden behind the Iron Curtain, Bulgaria has slowly emerged as a refreshing European travel destination. The country's unique culture, rich history and natural beauty will captivate first-time visitors and have them coming back for more. Leslie and Patrick, the authors, served as Peace Corps Volunteers in Bulgaria, each spending over two years in the country. They lived, worked and played in local communities of Bulgaria while experiencing everything this Eastern European country has to offer. With the help of a national network of locals and expats, they have shared their unique insight and insider information throughout this book. To experience the real Bulgaria and to travel like a local, this book is a must.- Discover the capital city of Sofia with our walking tour, highlighting the best cultural spots and places to relax in this historic city. - Marvel at the impressive Rila Monastery, Bulgaria's largest monastery, or the awe-inspiring site that is Glojane Monastery.- Sunbathe on the Black Sea Coast or explore an ancient seaside town.- Hike through one of Bulgaria's spectacular national parks and spend the night in a traditional hidja.- Enjoy Bulgarian dishes like gyuveche or kavarna kebab and wash it down with local red wine or, if you are in for something stronger, a glass of Bulgaria's traditional rakia.

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Customer Reviews

Thorough, informative and well written, one can truly "discover the real Bulgaria" when reviewing this travel guide. Not only do Strnadel and Erdley provide essential information such as entry requirements, money, safety, medical, places to stay and places to eat, they provide optional itineraries for short or long visits, as well as hiking and camping in the National Parks, site seeing in major cities and the many monasteries. The excellent descriptions of the rich Bulgarian history dating back thousands of years make me anxious to visit this mysterious and beautiful country. And let's not forget the very helpful language reference. Thank you! Blagodarya!

Up to date, as our Bulgarian daughter-in-law attests. Nice presentation of hotels and restaurants. Itineraries assume that one spends all the time in a particular geographic area. More is needed on the northwest of the country.

My wife and I normally rely on Lonely Planet, but this book had so many good reviews that we decided to give it a try. We spent two months this year (2013) traveling through this part of the world, including a sojourn in Bulgaria. We found this guide to be of some use (especially with respect to customs, history, etc.). However, it seems to be intended for younger people with more money. It is filled with bars and restaurants and things for younger folk to do. Its great weakness regards transportation. There are sections on getting to major cities, but they are generally deficient. For example, it mentions getting from Bulgaria into Turkey, but fails to give advice on getting from Edirne (a border town in Turkey) back into Bulgaria (hint: There is no bus back!). This may seem unimportant -- unless you are (as we were) in Edirne. There is little except concerning major tourist sites. This may be the book for you. However, if like us you prefer to travel inexpensively and to delve into culture and off-the-beaten-track places, this is not the best book. Next time we will return to Lonely Planet.

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