

## Bulgaria

### US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens **DO NOT TRAVEL** to Bulgaria due to COVID-19. Consult its website via the link below for updates to travel advisories and statements on safety, security, local laws and special circumstances in this country.

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

### Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 6 months after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 2 blank pages in their passport for any entry stamp. A visa is not required as long as you do not stay in the country more than 90 days.

### 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)

### Telephone Code

359

### Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance: 150; Fire: 160; Police: 166

### Vaccinations

See WHO recommendations

<http://www.who.int>

### Climate

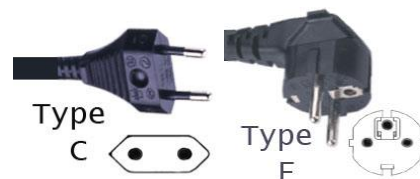
Temperate; cold, damp winters; hot, dry summers

### Currency (Code)

Leva (BGN)

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

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



### Major Languages

Bulgarian, Turkish, Romani

### Religions

Eastern Orthodox 59.4%, Muslim 7.8%

### 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

<b>Tourist destinations</b>	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
<b>Major Sports</b>	Soccer, skiing, basketball
<b>Cultural Practices</b>	Unlike in most other countries, a vertical shaking of the head indicates "no" in Bulgaria while a sideways shaking indicates "yes."
<b>Tipping Guidelines</b>	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.

Please visit the following links to find further information about your desired destination.

[World Health Organization \(WHO\) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination. http://www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

[US State Dept Travel Information - Overall information about foreign travel for US citizens. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html)

[To obtain an international driving permit \(IDP\). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs: American Automobile Association \(AAA\) \(www.aaa.com\) and American Automobile Touring Alliance \(ATA\) \(www.aataidp.com\)](http://www.aaa.com)

How to get help in an emergency? Contact the nearest US embassy or consulate, or call one of these numbers:  
from the US or Canada - 1-888-407-4747 or from Overseas - +1 202-501-4444

Friday, December 10, 2021