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

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

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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.

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)

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

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

**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

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