



## Country Profile: Bulgaria

Bulgaria is a quickly developing European nation undergoing significant economic changes. Tourist facilities are widely available, although conditions vary and some facilities may not be up to Western standards. Goods and services taken for granted in other European countries may not be available in many areas of Bulgaria. Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on Bulgaria for additional information.

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### COUNTRY OVERVIEW



<b>Country Name:</b>	Bulgaria
<b>Continent:</b>	Europe
<b>Capital City:</b>	Sofia
<b>Boundary Countries:</b>	Greece, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Turkey
<b>Recommended Hospitals in Capital:</b>	Dr. I.S. Greenberg Medical Center (Sofia) Sofia: Lozenetz Hospital, Thorax 2 Medical Center, Sveta Ekaterina University Hospital, Vita Medical Center, Thorax Clinic, Dr. Stefan Chernodrinski Clinic
<b>Main Cities:</b>	Plovdiv, Lom, Pleven, Ruse
<b>Country Size:</b>	110,910 sq km
<b>Population:</b>	7,517,973

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### COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Language:</b>	Bulgarian 84.5%, Turkish 9.6%, Roma 4.1%, other and unspecified 1.8%
<b>Currency:</b>	Bulgarian Lev (BGL)
<b>Predominant Religions:</b>	Bulgarian Orthodox (82.9%), Muslim (12.2%), Roman Catholic (1.7%)
<b>National Holidays:</b>	Liberation Day, 3 March (1878)
<b>Economic Status:</b>	The Bulgarian government is committed to economic reform and responsible fiscal planning. A \$300 million stand-by agreement negotiated with the IMF at the end of 2001 has supported government efforts to overcome high rates of poverty and unemployment.
<b>Security:</b>	Bulgarian Armed Forces: Ground Forces, Naval Forces, Bulgarian Air Forces (Bulgarski Voennovazdyshni Sily, BVVS)
<b>US Presence:</b>	<a href="#">U.S. Embassy in Sofia</a> 16, Kozyak Street Sofia 1408, Bulgaria Telephone: +359 2 937 5100 Fax number: +359 2 937 5320
<b>Major Airports:</b>	Airports: 212, Airports w/paved runways: 128  Sofia International Airport EAD (SOF/LBSF) Sofia Airport, Bulgaria, 1 Christopher Columbus Boulevard, 1540 Sofia, BULGARIA Tel: (Director Secretary) +359 (0)2 937 20 03, (PR) +359 (0)2 937 20 72 Fax: +359 (0)2 937 20 10, +359 (0)2 945 90 51 Website: <a href="http://www.sofia-airport.bg">www.sofia-airport.bg</a> <a href="mailto:public@sofia-airport.bg">public@sofia-airport.bg</a>

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