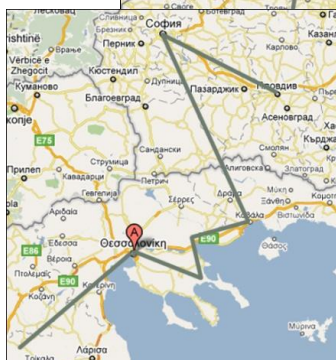
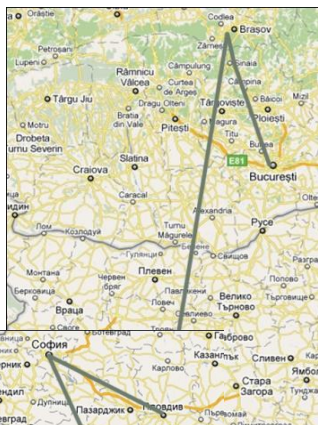


GREECE/BULGARIA/ROMANIA 12 DAYS/ 11 NIGHTS



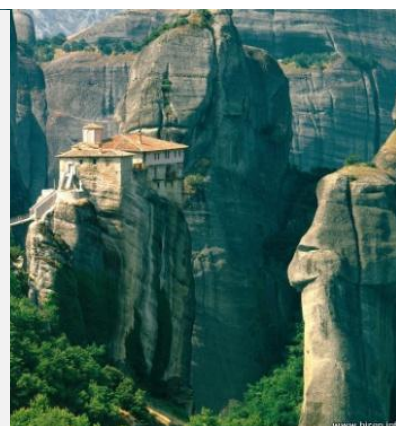
1st Day - Thessaloniki

Breakfast at the hotel. City tour passing from the main sites of interest: the picturesque old town, the byzantine church of Agios Dimitrios, the Arch of Galerio, the Rotonda, the lively city center and the interesting archeological museum. Afternoon free. Dinner and overnight at the



2nd Day – Thessaloniki/Vergina/Olympos /Kalambaka

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to Vergina and visit of the impressive museum containing the Royal Macedonian Tombs and other treasure of spectacular beauty. Further on to the traditional village of Litochoro at the footsteps of the legendary Mount Olympos, the home of Gods. Free time. Departure to Kalambaka. Accomodation at the hotel, dinner and overnight

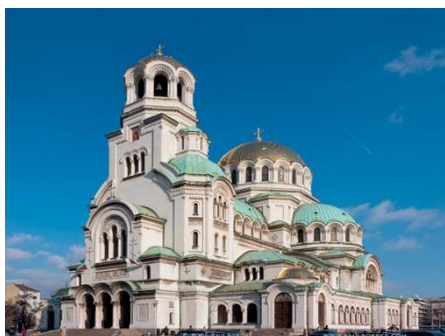


3rd Day – Kalambaka/Ouranoupoli

Breakfast at the hotel. Visit of the impressive “Meteora” and the byzantine monasteries “hanging” on the top. Departure to Ouranoupoli. Accomodation at the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

4th Day – Mt. Athos Cruise/ Kavala.

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to Mount Athos cruise . Possibility to see from the boat some of the famous monasteries of Agios Oros. Back to Ouranoupoli. Departure to Kavala. Accomodation at the hotel. Dinner and overnight.



5th Day – Kavala / Kulata/Melnik/Rila /Sofia

Breakfast at the hotel.Melnik, the smallest Bulgarian town (300 inhabitants), located amidst a natural fortress of majestic sandstone pyramids, famous as a center of viticulture and red wine industry.

Wine tasting in Melnik, then the group goes to Rila Monastery, the biggest spiritual and cultural center in Bulgaria for hundred of years and a part of UNESCO World Heritage list.

Leaving towards Sofia, 120 km from Rila. Accommodation in sofia

6th Day - Sofia/ Plovdiv

Breakfast at the hotel.Sightseeing in Sofia: part of the city walls, the 6th century church of St.Sophia and the St.George Rotunda (4th c.), The Cathedral of St.Alexander Nevski, The Russian Church, the Military Club, the beautiful building of the Sofia University, the National Art Gallery, the National Theatre, etc.

The group goes towards Plovdiv, the second largest city of Bulgaria, visits the famous Bachkovo Monastery (11th c.) situated amidst the slopes of the Rhodope Mountains nearby, with the murals of the church dating from the 17th century.Accommodation in Plovdiv.

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Karamanli 84, 54644 Thessaloniki Greece

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7th Day – Plovdiv / Kazanlak (Rose Valley) /Veliko Turnovo

Breakfast at the hotel. Sightseeing tour of Plovdiv, which was Cultural Capital of Europe in 1999: the old town with cobblestone streets winding between National Revival homes and Byzantine fortress walls, the Roman Theatre built in the 2nd century, etc.

Crossing Bulgaria through its heart, towards Veliko Turnovo, passing through the Rose Valley, the group stops in the town of Kazanluk, at the famous Thracian Tomb, to view the Hellenistic frescoes from the 4th century BC. Driving through Shipka Pass to Etara, the group reaches Veliko Turnovo, the former capital. Accommodation in Veliko Turnovo.

**8th Day – Veliko Turnovo/Arbanassi / Russe / Giurgiu / Sibiu**

Breakfast at the hotel. Visit in Veliko Turnovo: the Tzarevets hill with its fortress walls, palaces and churches, etc. Leaving to Russe, the border town on the Danube River.

Crossing the Danube into Romania and going towards the city of Sibiu, crossing the Meridional Carpathians into Transylvania. Visit in the center of the city, which was entirely restored before Sibiu became European Capital of Culture in 2007:

The Grand Square is, as its name suggests, the [largest square](#) of the city, and has been the center of the city since the 16th century. 142 m long and 93 m wide, it is one of the largest ones in Transylvania. Brukenthal Palace, one of the most important Baroque monuments in Romania, lies on the north-western corner of the square. It was erected between 1777 and 1787 as the main residence for the Governor of Transylvania Samuel von Brukenthal. It houses the main part of the National Brukenthal Museum, opened in 1817. Next to the palace is the Blue House, an 18th century Baroque house bearing the old coat of arms of Sibiu on its façade. Accommodation in Sibiu.

**9th Day – Sibiu / Sighisoara / Brasov**

After breakfast, the group leaves towards the medieval town of Sighisoara, in the very center of Romania, the oldest still inhabited fortress of Europe, listed as a World heritage Site.

Tour of the fortress for 2-3 hours: The Clock Tower with its Museum, The Church of the Hill, The House of Vlad Dracul, all the guild towers. Leaving after lunch, passing next to the river Tarnava, seeing the Orthodox Cathedral.

Leaving towards the city of Brasov, continuing the tour in-between the burgs of Transylvania, at the foot of Tampa Mountain. Visit in the center: The Black Church, a remarkable monument of architecture dating from 1384; the Council Square with its buildings, which is the centre of Brasov. Going up to Poiana Brasov, the resort on the mountain, with its restaurants, to admire the view from above. Accommodation in Brasov.

10th Day – Brasov / Predeal / Sinaia / Bucharest

Breakfast at the hotel. Leaving from Brasov, towards the Bran Castle-visit the castle, guided tour (2-3h). Then, taking the road on the Prahova Valley, through the resorts there (Sinaia, Busteni, Predeal), the group makes a stop in Sinaia to visit the Peles Castle-guided tour (min. 2-3 h) and the Sinaia Monastery, next to the palace. Leaving towards Bucuresti. Accommodation in Bucuresti.

11th Day - Bucharest

Breakfast at the hotel. Visiting the most important sights of Bucuresti: the Romanian Athenaeum, a landmark of architecture and culture, The Revolution Square where the events of 1989 took place, the Palace of the Parliament, the second largest building of the world after the Pentagon, The Arch of Triumph which is a copy of the one from Paris, the Orthodox Patriarchy, the Village Museum with Herastrau Park and Floreasca Lake, The Cismigiu Gardens (Park), etc. Accommodation in Bucharest.



12th Day – Departure Breakfast at the hotel. Departure.