



code: VBG 0029

Duration: 8 days

Group size: min. 4 | **Price:** 488€/person/adult & child

Departure dates: 2017/2018

Welcome to a magnificent world of high peaks, marvelous circuses of crystal glacial lakes, beautiful waterfalls and incredible landscapes!

This is the Rila and Pirin hike which will reveal for you the majesty and beauty of the two highest Bulgarian mountains – Rila and Pirin. There rises the highest peak on the Balkan Peninsula in Rila – Moussala peak (2925m.). And Pirin mountain is the second highest mountain in Bulgaria with the highest peak Vihren (2916 m).

We will climb both peaks and will enjoy the

incredible nature and natural diversity
of the Rila and Pirin regions.

On

the

territory

of Rila

are located the highest glacial lakes in the country - the most famous of which are the Seven Rila lakes.

The mountain lovers and fans of hiking will enjoy a week of activities combined with picturesque landscapes and the realm of wild nature. During this perfect hiking holiday we will also feel the unique Bulgarian spirit in the small and cosy family hotels we use and the magnificent Rila monastery – the most significant monument of the Bulgarian culture which we will also visit.

Day 1. Arrival

Welcome to Bulgaria. On this first day we will transfer you to the first place of accommodation in Rila mountain.

Day 2. Musala peak

Today we climb Musala peak – an extraordinary mountain experience and enjoyment of the divine beauty of Rila mountain. The summit view from Musala is very impressive. From the top of the mountain there is an incredible view to the highest peaks of the large massif of Rila, the peaks of Pirin mountain and the green forests of Rhodopi mountain. A truly overwhelming experience. Walk back to the start point and overnight.

Day 3. The seven Rila lakes

This day is dedicated to the most eminent area of Rila mountain – the sacred Seven lakes of Rila. The area of the lakes is one of the most stunning mountain landscapes of Bulgaria. On our way we enjoy fine views over the mountains.

Day 4. Malyovitsa

We start from the valley of Malyovitsa situated in the northwest parts of Rila Mountains towards the Malyovitsa hut.

Dominating the view is mount Malyovitsa (2729 m.) – with its vertical north wall it is considered as a symbol of the Bulgarian alpinism.

We take the

hiking path that follows the valley and reaches the top from its south side. Along the valley there are

two glacial plateaux, called “terraces”, many moraines and a blue lake at about 2500 m. elevation.

Day 5. Rila mountain – Rila monastery – Bansko

Today we drive to Rila Monastery – the best known of Bulgaria`s monasteries and part of UNESCO list of World Heritage.

Rila Monastery is known for its mighty architecture and its scenic mountainous surroundings. The Valley of River Rilska and the high peaks flecked with snow has always impressed pilgrims and visitors through the years. Have a look at the old treasures in the museum or just have a stroll around and enjoy the fresh air of the mountain and the monastery`s beautiful architecture. Option for a 4km long walk through the forest to the grave of St. John of Rila. Transfer to

Bansko.

Day 6. Mount Vihren

We start the day with a transfer to Vihren hut and from here we ascent the highest peak in Pirin mountain – Mt Vihren (2914 m). On our way to the peak we enjoy the beautiful view of Vlahini and Banderishki glacial lakes. With it's elegant form and impressive outlook, Vihren dominates the

large
massif of
Pirin mountain

.
The south
part of Vihren
looks to
the
wonderful

Vlahini lakes,
the
east
part
dominate
the
s
above 1000 m deep valley where Vihren Hut
is situated
but most impressive and powerful is
the
North
side
of Vihren with it's breathtaking high wall.

Hike back to the hut and transfer to Bansko.

Day 7. Pirin hike

A last day with hiking activities is waiting for us. Today we head to the Popovo lake. The Popovo lake (2270 m. above the sea level) is situated in the northern part and the most picturesque part of

[Pirin](#)

mountain. It is the champion of the Pirin lakes, also known as the "Pirin Sea".

From here we hike further to Valiavishki lakes.

The Valiavishki lakes are group of about 15 lakes in the northern part of the Pirin Mountain, located terrace-like in the Valiavishki circus.

Hike down to the valley and transfer back to Bansko for a last night.

Day 8. Departure

Transfer back to Sofia and the airport for departure.

What's included:

✓ Accommodation at 3*** family run hotels and guesthouses; We use as much as possible cozy places with pleasant and friendly atmosphere, in the heart of the nature.

✓ 7 breakfasts and 7 dinners – often prepared by our hosts. The delicious traditional Bulgarian cuisine and the generous hospitality are part of the atmosphere of an unforgettable journey. Ordering lunchpacks on spot at average price of 4/5 EUR per person is also possible.

✓ All entrances to parks and reserves

✓ Lift tickets

✓ English speaking professional guide

✓ All transport

✓ Transfers to/from Sofia or Plovdiv airport

✓ VAT and all local taxes

What's not included:

✓ Tipping

✓ Private transfers

✓ Meals and drinks not included above

✓ Insurances
✓ Air tickets
✓ Other expenses requested in advance)
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