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SKI TOURISM IN BULGARIA

multimedia



Operative Program "Regional Development 2007-2013
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The project is financed by the European Regional Development Fund
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Grant Scheme BG161PO001/3.3-01/2008 "Support for Effective National Marketing of Tourist Product and Improvement of Information Service", Contract No BG161PO001/3.3-01/2008 /001-5 "Multimedia Catalogue of the Tourist Sites and Electronic Marketing of Destination Bulgaria"

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Bulgaria is now among the popular European destinations for winter tourism. The country has several ski areas which offer excellent conditions for skiing, snowboarding, ski running and other winter sports.

The total length of the ski slopes in Bulgaria exceeds 210 kilometers. The highest slopes have a height from 2,600 meters above the sea level, and the maximum displacement reaches 1,630 meters. All ski runs are equipped with modern chair and cabin lifts, as well as tow lifts. The modern facilities and the developed infrastructure of the complexes guarantee excellent conditions for sports throughout the active winter season. The best conditions for winter sports are in the period from the beginning of December to April. Most major ski areas are equipped with snow facilities and guarantee the availability of a high quality snow cover.



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VITOSHA

Altitude of the ski runs: from 1,650 to 2,290 meters.

Overall length: 20 kilometers.

Maximum displacement:

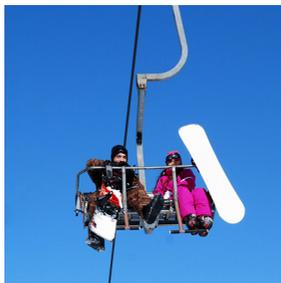
725 meters.

Longest run: 3.1 kilometers.

Lifts: 12.

The ski area in Vitosha mountain is the closest one to the capital city - just one hour from downtown. The greatest variety of tracks here is available for intermediate and advanced skiers and snowboarders.

The ski center Aleko is the oldest one in Bulgaria. It is located at an altitude of 1,800 meters and its slopes are located on the northern slope of the mountain.





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The second ski resort of Vitosha is Konyarnika - Vetrovala. Its altitude is 1,507 meters. The access to the ski areas of Vitosha is easy. The infrastructure and facilities

are well-developed and enable conditions for night skiing. The area has working facilities for artificial snow, which help improve the conditions for winter sports practicing.



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BANSKO

Altitude of the runs: from 990 to 2,600 meters.

Overall length: 75 kilometers.

Maximum displacement: 1,570 meters.

Longest run: 16 kilometers.

Lifts: 14.

Tow lifts: 10.

Bansko is one of the largest ski centers in the country. The resort is located in the Pirin mountain, 150 kilometers south of Sofia. The total length of ski runs is 75 kilometers, as the longest of them has a length of 16 kilometers. Almost all tracks are equipped with working facilities for artificial snow, which produce a high quality, long lasting snow cover. The ski area has a runway equipped with lighting for night skiing.





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The greatest challenge for skiers in Bansko is the Tomba track, named after the Italian skier Alberto Tomba.

There is a cabin lift available for tourists, which leads them

from the starting point of the lift station in the town of Bansko to Banderishka meadow.

The resort hosts races of the Ski World Cup.



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BOROVETS

Altitude of the runs: from 1,350 to 2,560 meters.

Overall length: 58 kilometers.

Maximum displacement: 1,230 meters.

Longest run: 12 kilometers.

Facilities: 12.

Another great ski resort is Borovets - it is the oldest mountain resort in Bulgaria. It is situated at 1,300 meters above the sea level on the northern slopes of Rila Mountain, about 70 kilometers from Sofia city. Borovets offers three ski areas - Sitnyakovo, Yastrebets and Markudzhik. Markudzhik is the highest of the three areas.





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The slopes of Yastrebets and Markudzhik 3 are a challenge for every skier and have been used repeatedly for various races.

There is a children's snow park in Borovets which offers activities for the kids, as well as specialized ski training.



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MALYOVITSA

Overall length: 4 kilometers.

Longest run: 1.2 kilometers.

Lifts: 1.

Tow lifts: 5.

The Malyovitsa resort is located less than 80 kilometers from Sofia in the Rila Mountain, at the foot of peak Malyovitsa (2,729 meters above the sea level). The ski center is located in the area of Mecha Polyana (Bear Meadow). It has three ski runs, with two tow lifts for children and three tow lifts for adults, two of which are dish-type and one is anchor type. The height of the ski runs start from altitude of 1,600 meters.





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PAMPOROVO

Altitude of the runs: from 1,444 to 1,930 meters.

Overall length: 37 kilometers.

Maximum displacement: 476 meters.

Longest run: 5.1 kilometers.

Facilities: 9 tow lifts and 6 lifts.

Pamporovo is the largest resort in the Rhodope mountains. It is located 260 kilometers from Sofia and 85 kilometers from Plovdiv. The altitude of the resort is 1,650 meters.

Almost all runs in the resort start at peak Snezhanka. There are good conditions for beginners, as well as for advanced skiers. The slopes in the resort can be used by snowboarders, there





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are conditions for downhill skiing on rough terrain. Half pipe is available for snowboarders. The ski area has many places suitable for sledging.

For the fans of extreme skiing, Pamporovo offers night illumination of track Snezhanka 2 by 28 illuminators; the run is 1,176 meters long.



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CHEPELARE

Altitude of the runs: from 1,150 to 1,873 meters.

Overall length: 20 kilometers.

Maximum displacement: 710 meters.

Longest run: 6 kilometers.

Lifts: 1.

Another popular winter resort is located near Pamporovo - Chepelare. Chepelare is a town with long history and traditions in the ski sports.

The ski center is located just after the end of the town, near the road to Pamporovo. The ski runs and ski paths of the center are 20 kilometers long. The tracks are of varying length and difficulty and are suitable for





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both advanced and beginner skiers and snowboarders.

A four-seat lift is available for skiers. It travels the distance of 2,700 meters from the

starting point of the station in Chepelare to Mechi Chal

peak for 9 minutes. The ski area has facilities for artificial snow.



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UZANA

Altitude of the runs: from 1,300 to 1,400 meters.

Overall length: 8 kilometers.

Maximum displacement: 256 meters.

Longest run: 1.3 kilometers.

Tow lifts: 8.

The resort Uzana is located in Stara Planina, in the geographical center of Bulgaria, and offers excellent conditions for a ski holiday. The altitude of the resort is from 1,220 to 1,350 meters.

The ski area has several tracks, some of them are: Uzana Tour (length 1,100 meters), 18 Edelweiss and Impulse.

Most of the tracks are suitable for beginners.





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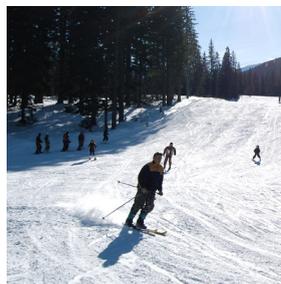
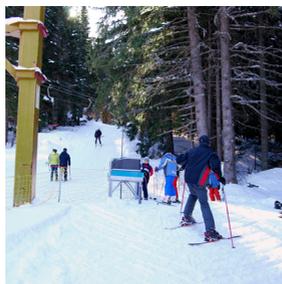
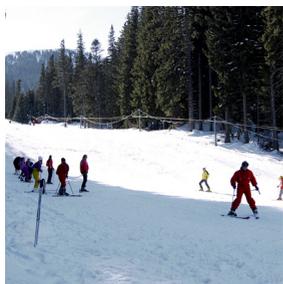
KOM - BERKOVITSA

Overall Length: *1500 meters.*

Tow lifts: *2.*

The ski center Kom-Berkovitsa is located at the foot of Kom peak (2,016 meters) in the Balkan Mountains, 15 kilometers from Berkovitsa and 100 kilometers from Sofia.

The resort offers an alpine track with length of 1.5 kilometers. It starts from Malak Kom peak, which is located at 1,959 meters altitude. The runway is equipped with a modern tow lift, anchor type, and a lift for children.





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