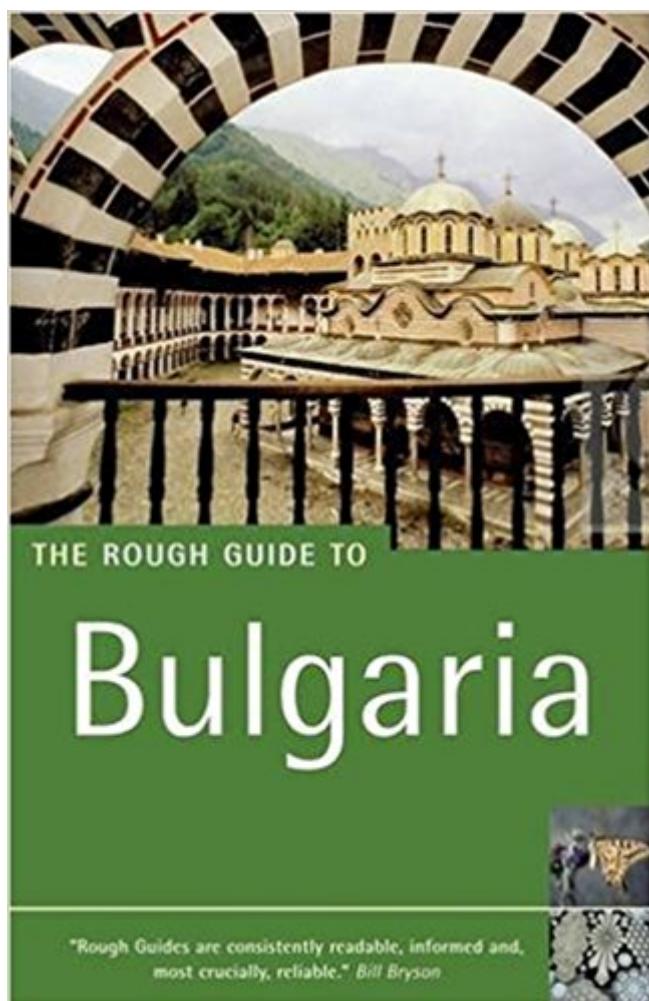


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# The Rough Guide To Bulgaria 5 (Rough Guide Travel Guides)



## **Synopsis**

This is the 5th edition of this very successful title so represents 15 years of accumulated travel experience to this little-known but deeply rewarding country. Over this period the Rough Guide has established itself as the agenda-setting book which consistently opens up new destinations and new aspects of Bulgarian tourism - from the remote Belogadchik region to the white sand beaches of the southern Black Sea coast. The Rough Guide is written and researched by people who have lived in Bulgaria, and so provides deeply insightful accounts of all the regions and their attractions. As ever, this is a guide for independent travellers on any budget, with accommodation listings ranging from the film stars' favourite, Castle Hrankov in Sofia, to local campsites.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

ROUGH GUIDES GIVE YOU THE INFORMATION MOST OTHER GUIDES DON'T --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Jonathan Bousfield has been writing for Rough Guides for over ten years. His other titles include Croatia, Baltic States, Austria and Poland. Dan Richardson first visited Bulgaria in 1984 and is also the author of Rough Guides to Romania and Hungary.

Has a lot of useful information, but I found the writing in some sections rather slapdash. For example, the section on Bulgarian history has a lot of dates, names, and places, but was frequently hard to follow. The book rightly highlights the diversity of birds to be found in Bulgaria,

which is one of the highest in Europe, but twice boasts of Bulgaria's having "seventy species of heron." I do not believe there are 70 species of heron in the entire world. Even if you include bitterns and egrets, only 10 species of heron are on the official Bulgarian list of birds recorded in Bulgaria.

I just returned from an 8 day Trek in the Mountain areas of Bulgaria, Rila mnts., Pirin and Rhodopi ranges. Although we had a wonderful local guide, I found the Rough Guide to have sufficient information about all the places and sites we visited, in addition to a very good background of each area, village and city. The book is divided conveniently and written amicably , making it an interesting and easy read while on the roads. Thank you Rough Guide

The book is ok--it leaves out an important issue---atm's and credit cards--you may not be able to use them in Bulgaria. Also, the book says it is ok to drink the water in Bulgaria. I did drink the water --and then spent a day on Cipro. Because there are not a lot of books out there on Bulgaria--this one will do in a pinch.

the 40-page "contexts" section is the best part. gives a concise review of the history of the area from minus infinity to present. not so long that you won't finish it, but not so short that there aren't enough details. wish all guidebooks had something like this for the nerdy academic inside me. otherwise, this guide was comparable to most others i have used. detailed and accurate. i have no complaints.

I very much liked this guide. It was excellent for history and background as well as how to shop. The ONLY thing that I can really fault this guide for is that all names are in English. If the place names were in Cyrillic as well, it would be helpful in recognizing locations!

This book was useful for our trip to Bulgaria. There is quite a lot of historical information which is useful. But what I appreciated is that they make clear that there is NO problem with the water in Bulgaria. I hate having to buy lots of bottles of water in a place. So we drank the water based on their advice. Despite the fact that the Kempinski Sofia had a little sign on the sink saying you should not drink. But many high end hotels are eager to sell bottled water. It was only because the guide was so clear about the safety of the water that I was saved having to order a lot to drink, or go out to find a store to buy it in. The book saved me a lot of effort. The proof of the advice is that I did not have any stomach problems. As a side observation, it is interesting that Bulgaria seems to have the water situation more together than Russia. Lugging water bottles back to our hotels in Russia a few

years ago was not fun.

I bought this book based on the fact that both authors had lived/traveled in the region for many years. I just came back from a trip to Bulgaria and this book was just horrible. In most parts(I haven't read the whole book) they describe towns as a mere array of buildings with their histories and how unworthy a visit they are. Practical information is useless(even taking into account that bus/train schedules can change frequently, the book tells you next to nothing. The section on the Rila monastery for example states something like "try to catch onward transportation from there". Try to catch?? Have they been there at all?).I could go on and on but in short--Do NOT buy this book. This is not the first time a Rough guide has disappointed me, I gave it another try for nothing. Very disappointing and a waste of money.

This book is really useful and gives you, along with the travel information, some history for each main city. According to my Bulgarian friend, the information in this book is really accurate, except for the bus line numbers...! The book even gives you the Cyrillic names of the city.If you plan to visit a lot of Bulgaria, it's a must!

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