



Project name: Affirmation of the natural and cultural values in the border region for better visibility and access

Photo album

natural and cultural heritage in the cross-border region Gevgelija – Bansko

Фото албум

природно и културно наследство в трансграничния регион Гевгелия – Банско

Фото албум

природно и културно наследство во прекуграничниот регион Гевгелија – Банско

Project name: Affirmation of the natural and cultural values in the border region for better visibility and access

Project is implemented in partnership with

***ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY BANSKO* ASSOCIATION**

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What to see and do in Bansko?

Welcome to Bansko - an all year resort and a symbol of Bulgarian culture!

Bansko Municipality is a magical mix of history, traditions, culture. With ancient architecture, heroic history, authentic folklore, several centuries-old culture, preserved traditions and customs, specific cuisine, incredible humor and rich language - the mountain and revival town will touch you to the past.

Nature can be called the "greatest treasure" of the municipality. This is evidenced by the Pirin National Park, Yulen, Bayuvi Dupki - Djindzhiritsa Reserves and the protected Natura 2000 sites located on its territory. This small part of the paradise includes centuries-old spruce-pine forests, extensive dwarf formations, mountain sharp crests, deep cirques, and emerald glacial lakes. Pirin National Park is recognized as a site of world significance and by UNESCO order from 1983 it is included in the Convention for the Protection of the World Natural Heritage.

Bansko and Dobrinishte have ski areas with chair lifts and ski slopes on a very high level, suitable restaurant and hotel facilities. Modern gondola lift connects the town of Bansko with the higher part of the Pirin mountain, where is the ski area, which provides excellent conditions for professional and amateur skiing. Other villages in the municipality offer many opportunities for rural tourism.

Paisii Hilendarski and Neofit Rilski, the poet Nikola Vaptsarov and many other significant personalities are born here.

Numerous archaeological sites of the prehistory, antiquity and Middle Ages testify to the settlement of the municipality from earliest times.

Bansko Municipality is also famous for its rich cultural heritage, massive sports and cultural events, mineral and silver water with proven healing properties.

There is a railway station of the Septemvri - Dobrinishte mountain train. Bansko municipality is characterized by the presence of an extremely varied vegetation with representatives of more than 6 plant belts - alpine, subalpine, coniferous, beech, rocky, grassy, anthropogenic. The forest territories occupy 76% of the municipality. Altogether in Pirin there are 1100 taxons plants of which 70 species are endemic.

The species diversity of mammals in the park is about 50% of the mammalian fauna in Bulgaria; invertebrates are represented by nearly 30% of the species in Bulgaria; the established 159 bird species represent 40% of the species diversity for Bulgaria.

What to see and do in Gevgelija?

If you speak with the language of generosity, warmth and tolerance, then you have found the right place - Gevgelija.

Macedonia in the heart, Europe in the soul.

Gevgelija is a portal for new friendship and partnership.

Gevgelija can always offer more than what you expect, as Gevgelija comes from a century-old tradition.

Once, the crossroads of traders from/to Europe, today Gevgelija is a town host to every traveller and open to future cooperation.

It was founded in 1886 as a town and provide a decent life for its citizens.

Due to soft Mediterranean climate, the ecological environment and the welfare of the countryside is becoming a desirable destination for life and a recognizable brand.

And it is not just because of the hospitality of the town and the society.

Because of the early tomatoes, ripe figs and spacious grape vines,

Due to the tourist facilities and the hotel capacity, But also because of the benefits and living conditions provided by European standards.

Gevgelija is and remains a European portal for the Republic of Macedonia.



Geographic location of Bansko

Bansko municipality is situated in Southwest Bulgaria, at the foot of northern Pirin, and covers parts of the Razlog valley, the Momina Klisura gorge on Mesta River and part of the Western Rhodopes - in the administrative borders of Blagoevgrad region.

It borders with Razlog, Belitsa, Velingrad (Pazardjik district), Garmen, Gotse Delchev, Sandanski and Kresna municipalities.

The municipal centre is located at 925 m above sea level and is 150 km away from Sofia and Plovdiv and 60 km from Blagoevgrad Regional Centre.

The main approaches to the municipal territory are:

from northwest, from Struma river valley and international road E-79 (Struma A6), through the town of Simitli and the Predel saddle (1140 m), separating the Pirin and Rila mountains;

from northeast, from valley of Maritsa river, international road E-80 (Trakia / Maritsa A1), Velingrad, Saddle Jundola (1350 m) and Avramovi kolibi (1400 m);

from south, from Ilinden-Exoxhi border checkpoint through the town of Gotse Delchev and Momina Klisura Gorge at the Mesta River.

Bansko Municipality is formed by 8 settlements - 2 towns (Bansko and Dobrinishte) and 6 villages (Gostun, Kremen, Mesta, Obidim, Osenovo and Filipovo). The cities are located in the Razlog valley, on the international road II-19 Simitli - Gotse Delchev. The villages are situated along the Mesta River, on the eastern slopes of Pirin and the western slopes of the Rhodope Mountains. Only Mesta village is located on road II-19. Nearest to Bansko is the town of Dobrinishte (6 km) and the farthest - the village of Kremen (27 km).

The relief is extremely varied - valley and flat in the river valleys, hilly, low, middle and alpine, the latter prevailing as a territorial range. The altitude varies between about 600 m along the Mesta River in the south-eastern part of the municipal territory to over 2900 m.

The climate is trans-continental with Mediterranean influence, and in the higher parts - mountainous. In general, summer is short and cool, winter is long and cold, and the transition seasons are relatively short, with late and cool spring and warmer autumn.

Hydrographic network is represented by the rivers Mesta, Glazne, Dobrinishka, Retije, Kamenitza and many natural mountain lakes.

There are mineral waters springs in Dobrinishte and three unspoiled in the town of Bansko.

Municipal population in 2012 amounts to 12873 people, incl. 11643 people in towns and 1230 people in villages.

Geographic location of Gevgelija

Municipality of Gevgelija is located in the southernmost part of the Republic of Macedonia on the border with Greece, at an altitude of 64 m and on area of 485 km².

The common border with the Hellenic Republic and proximity of the Thessaloniki port represent a significant advantage. Bogdantsi, Valandovo, Demir Kapia and Kavadarci municipalities has also common borders with Gevgelija.

The composition of the municipality is from town of Gevgelija and following villages: Bogoroditsa, Gabrovo, Davidovo, Kovantsi, Konsko, Miletkovo, Miravtsi, Moin, Marzentsi, Negortsi, Novo Konsko, Petrovo, Pardeitsi, Sermenin, Smokvitsa, Uma.

Many times called "flat as a teapot," Gevgelija is proud of its location on the right bank of Vardar River at foot of Kozuf and Payak Mountains. Gevgelija has always been the crossroads of the main routes in this part of the Balkan Peninsula, where all the economic and cultural links between Southern and Central Europe have been realized.

Gevgelian valley extends from north to the southern side of the Bulgarian - Greek border. The relief is divided into many hills and peaks, among which there are south-facing broad valleys. Lowest elevation of Vardar River, at the state border, is 45 m above sea level, and the highest is 88 m. The relative height between these two points is 43 meters for distance of 26 kilometres.

The influence of the Mediterranean climate in this region is particularly pronounced up to 300 m above sea level. The mountain climate prevails only in the highest parts of Kozuf Mountain.

The average annual temperature is 14.3 °C. The coldest month of the year is January with an average temperature of 3.2 °C, and July is warmest with an average temperature of 25.7 °C. The average annual rainfall is 745.2 mm³, mostly in autumn and summer. The average number of days with snowfall is 8.3 days.

The larger water streams that flow into the river Vardar are the rivers Suva, Konska, Merzenska, Kovanska, Zuica, Petrushka and Yavoritsa. The Vardar tributaries are relatively low and some dry out during the summer.

The municipality has rich sources of mineral and thermal mineral water. One of the most famous are Smradliva water and Negortsi baths, as well as in the vicinity of the village of Smokvitsa.

There are 22,988 inhabitants in the municipality, of which about 15,685 live in municipal centre of Gevgelija.



Category History

 Категория История

 Категорија Историја



Monument of Sava Mihaylov, Gevgelija

Description	Sava Mihaylov (1877-1905), Macedonian revolutionary, participant in the Macedonian Revolutionary Movement, member and leader of the Macedonian Revolutionary Organization. He graduated from Thessaloniki School and then was a teacher in Gorna Dzhumaya, where he was also District Chief of GMORO. He is betrayed and joins Yane Sandanski' detachment for Miss Stone affair. Since beginning of 1903 he has been "voivoda" in Gevgelija. He took part in the Ilinden Uprising and together with Argir Manassiev organized a diversion of Vardar' railway bridge near Gevgelija. He died on 1 March 1905 near Smol village, Gevgelija. Shown by some shepherds Arnauts, together Apostol Petkov' detachment (a total of 42 persons) are surrounded by Turkish troops. The battle killed 36 people, including Sava Mihaylov. He suicides to not be captured by the Turks. Turkish Government awards all its participants with awards, medals and more. During the Second World War, Gevgelija partisans' community was named Sava Mihaylov.		
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Telephone	n/a	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	n/a	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	24/7	Dress code	no
Address	7th November str.	Parking	yes, in 10 m.
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	62 m.
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	41.1401201,22.5026286
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Gergelija by roads	0 m.

Monument of Paisii Hilendarski, Bansko

Description	St. Paisii Hilendarski monument was founded in 1976 by sculptor Stoyu Todorov and is located in the center of Bansko. The composition's architect is Konstantin Antonov. It was officially opened in 1977. The monument presents the author of "Slavonic-Bulgarian Story" standing in full stature against the backdrop of several large pages of his famous book. The figure is carved from a rare black granite from Rhodopes mountain. Distressed marble pages are from Ilindentsi's quarry.		
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Telephone	n/a	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	n/a	Accessibility	asphalt, pedestrian area
Opening hours	n/a	Dress code	no
Address	Vazrazhdane square.	Parking	yes, in 100 m.
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	938 m.
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	41.836325, 23.487505
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Bansko by roads	0 m.



Historic buildings • Исторически сгради • Историски објекти



Church of Sveta Troitsa (Holy Trinity) with clock and bell tower – architectural and construction monument of national significance, Bansko

<i>Description</i>	The site was donated by Lazar German and construction started in 1833 with establishment of community public council. It is a three-nave pseudo-basilica with a length of 44 m, a width of 22 m and a height of 12 m and is considered to be one of the biggest of this type in the country. The main building is made of stone, with wall thickness around 110 cm. Roof structure is supported by 12 wooden columns - made of fir, wrapped with tarred ropes. The church was consecrated in 1835. The murals and carvings are made up to 1841 by the masters of Bansko' Art School - Velyan Ognev, Dimitar and Simeon Molerovi. Church complex also includes clock and bell tower in the courtyard, which was built in 1850. The tower has a stone structure and is a rectangular pyramid with a height of 29.50 m (without wooden superstructure) and square base of 5.20 m. Usta Gligor Doiuv was lead master of the tower. There are four bells of different sizes, all made in Plovdiv. Self-taught master Todor Hadzhiradonov makes the tower clock which is installed in 1866.		
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<i>Telephone</i>	+359 887 636424	<i>Type of transport</i>	by car or pedestrian
<i>Web, e-mail</i>	no	<i>Accessibility</i>	asphalt
<i>Opening hours</i>	08:00 – 17:00 every day	<i>Dress code</i>	normal clothing
<i>Address</i>	Pirin str. № 15, Bansko	<i>Parking</i>	yes, in 150 m
<i>Foreign languages</i>	no	<i>Altitude</i>	941 m.
<i>Ticket price</i>	n/a	<i>Coordinates</i>	41.835397, 23.487130
<i>On-site services</i>	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	<i>To Bansko by roads</i>	0 m.

Library "Gotse Delchev", Gevgelija

<i>Description</i>	According to the elderly Vancho Karayanov it was build around 1911. Recent studies indicate that it was built eight years before the beginning of twentieth century by a Turk who planned the building for a bank at ground floor and family home at the upper floor. Architecture has many rich ornaments recognizing a flower poppy, which at that time dominates in these areas. The building is of particular importance to Gevgelija, because it has become a famous décor over the years, but also a "brand" which is proud of the town. It was built by Debar' craftsmen who were not chosen at random – known widely for their work. It is believed that a similar house was built in Thessaloniki. The supporting pillar was specially poured for the purpose in Thessaloniki. The library has a significant collection of original works, including the book Mirror, written by Macedonian enlightener Kiril Peychinov and printed in 1816. In 1945 grew into a public library and was named Gotse Delchev. Since 1950 it is situated in today's premises at Beshirov Konak. The site is under protection of Ministry of Culture and Gevgelija' municipal property. Initially, the library has been working on ground floor and since 1985, on upper floors, as well as in a private building.		
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<i>Telephone</i>	+38972266910; fax: +38934211564	<i>Type of transport</i>	by car, bus and pedestrian
<i>Web, e-mail</i>	www.bibliotekagevgelija.edu.mk	<i>Accessibility</i>	asphalt
<i>Opening hours</i>	07 – 20 (mon-fri) 8-14 (Sat); from 1st September to 15th June does not work Saturdays	<i>Dress code</i>	no
<i>Address</i>	Vaso Karajanov str. 1, Gevgelija	<i>Parking</i>	Yes
<i>Foreign languages</i>	MK, EN, BG, SR, HR, GR	<i>Altitude</i>	62 m
<i>Ticket price</i>	membership fee for local (150 denarii) and 10 denarii for each book	<i>Coordinates</i>	41.1403652,22.5051468
<i>On-site services</i>	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	<i>To Gevgelija by roads</i>	0 km





Georgi Stardelov

Description

Georgi Stardelov is a Macedonian aesthetician, essayist, literary critic, theorist and academician. He was born in 1930 in Gevgelija. Graduate philosopher from the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade. Doctor of Philosophical Sciences from 1965. Professor of the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje (1956-1966), Dean (1975-1977), First Dean of Interdisciplinary Studies in Journalism (1977-1981), Chairman of the Macedonian Writers' Association and Chairman of the Macedonian PEN Center. For his integral creative contribution, the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje created a doctoral dissertation entitled "Concepts for Aesthetic, Cultural and Literary Criticism by Georgi Stardelov" (1977). He was elected as a MANU' member in 1986. For the period 2000 to 2004 he was Deputy chairman of the MANU and on January 1, 2008 became chairman of the MANU. In 1993 he led a macro project "History of the Culture of Macedonia" with 20 editions. He was a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Literature, Culture and Art "Contemplation". Stardelov is a skilled scientist in many disciplines - philosophy, history, aesthetics, theory and sociology of culture and art, history of literature.

Nikola Vaptsarov

Description

The prominent Bulgarian poet with world renown Nikola Vaptsarov /7.12.1909, Bansko - 23.07.1942, Sofia / was born in a literate family. Ever since earliest childhood, he has been extremely sympathetic, and later he has been in great love for people. He is fascinated by literature and dreams of following in this field, but at the will of his father he enters the Marine Mechanical School in Varna (1926-1932). His life and creativity are devoted to struggle, to striving to build a more beautiful, fairer world, full of faith. He joined the anti-fascist struggle and on 4th of March 1942, he was arrested. On 23 July of that same year his death sentence was read. In 1952, at the Second Peace Congress in Warsaw, becomes the honourable Peace Prize posthumously. On the occasion of 100th Unesco anniversary, 2009 was announced for Nikola Vaptsarov' year. To date, his poetry has suffered over 100 editions, in more than 70 languages.





No: 18 National Institution Museum - Gevgeliya (Vladov Konak)

Description Vladov Konak was built in 1906 and in 1992 was restructured in National Museum. Here are several departments of prehistory, the ancient period, but also an ethno-historical collection. A huge number of rarities dating back to 8th to 4th centuries BC, found in following sites: Suva Reka, Miltsi, Bishov Yavor and Paragon are exhibited in Museum's galleries. Found values testify to a civilization that has reached peaks of material and spiritual culture. Large containers of grain, wine, or oil are found in special niches, a mega glass with a Macedonian shield symbol, silver coins with Alexander the Great' image, as well as wine containers, aromatic oil containers and other antiquities of the classical and pre-Roman period.

Telephone	+38934213660 ; fax: +38934218673	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	www.muzejgevgelija.mk ; numgvg@gmail.com	Accessability	asphalt
Opening hours	08 – 16 (mon-fri); for groups are possible visits and Sat and Sun	Dress code	no
Address	Marshal Tito str. 26, Gevgelija	Parking	Yes
Foreign languages	MK, EN, BG, SR, GR	Altitude	56 m
Ticket price	60 denars for single and 30 for groups	Coordinates	41.1423180,22.5091393
On-site services	shops nearby	To Gevgelija by roads	0 km

Historical - ethnographic complex "Radonova kashta", Bansko

Description The emphasis is placed on the significant place that our town occupies in Bulgarian history and its remarkable contribution to establishment of the Bulgarian nation. On the ground floor of renovated buildings, archaeological excavations items from the region are exhibited. Ceramic fragments and fully preserved vessels, varied coinage, plenty of glass, exquisite ornaments and more. They all testify to activity since the time of Thracians, which continued in antiquity and the Middle Ages. Also, rich ethnographic exposition presents in a unique way the essence and peculiarities of lifestyle. It is also called Hadjiradonova or Hadjilaskova house.

Telephone	+359 749 83132; +359 893 363193	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	mk_bansko@mail.bg	Accessability	asphalt
Opening hours	summer: 9:00 – 12:00 13:00 – 17:30 winter: by preliminary appointment non-working day – Sunday and Monday	Dress code	normal clothing
Address	Aton str. № 3, Bansko	Parking	yes, next to it
Foreign languages	English and Russian	Altitude	951 m.
Ticket price	3 lv. adults; 1 lv. students and retirees	Coordinates	41.8336739,23.4857286
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Bansko by roads	0 m.





Category Ancient

 Категория Антични обекти

 Категорија Антички обекти

Ruins and buildings from various historical periods / excavations •
Руини и сгради от различни исторически периоди/ разкопки • Ископини и згради од различни историски периоди



Archaeological complex "St. Nikola", Bansko

Description	The "Nameless Town" is situated 4 km southeast of Bansko in St. Nikola' area. Archaeological researches began in 2003, when foundations of an early Christian basilica were found. The settlement is situated on 1100 m altitude and built on a natural stone ridge with vertical three-sided verandas with a height of 100-120 m. Numbers of stone walls foundations are welded together with mortars and buildings with preserved altitude up to 3.00-3.20 m and thickness of 0.65 m. All of them are surrounded by a fortress built of much larger and processed stones, with a thickness of 1.10-1.20 m, which outlines an area of about six acres, including the inner city, a number of ceramic vessels, iron objects, ornaments, glass fragments, coins (covering a huge period from the 4th century BC to the 18th century BC).		
Telephone	n/a	Type of transport	by SUV and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	n/a	Accessibility	dirt road and mountain trail
Opening hours	n/a	Dress code	no
Address	St. Nikola area	Parking	yes, in 200 m.
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	1042 m.
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	41.8118593,23.5317104
On-site services	no	To Bansko by roads	6.9 km.

Archaeological site of Vardarski Rid to Gevgelija

Description	Vardarski Rid is probably the first site in Gevgelija. The fortress is permanently inhabited for more than 1000 years from the end of the Bronze Age (XIII century BC) until Romans' arrival (II-I century BC). Six consecutive settlements, starting from small prehistoric settlement of the 1st Reed, during the 5th and 4th centuries BC are the base for establishment of old ancient Macedonian town „Gortinias“, mentioned historically as one of the centers of Ancient Macedonia. After a period of more than 1,000 years during the Middle Ages (11th-11th centuries AD), the necropolis sector was used again for the burial of Vardarski Rid' population. The findings of all six studied sectors are remains of an Old Macedonian town (6th century BC), and there are also graves from the oldest, probably initial settlement from Bronze Age's end (XIII century BC).		
Telephone	contact the Gevgelija Museum for more information	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	http://www.muzejgevgelija.mk/vardarski%20rid.htm	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	24/7	Dress code	no
Address	no	Parking	Yes
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	69 m
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	41.1490356,22.5213390
On-site services	motel, bar and restaurant nearby	To Gevgelija by roads	0 km





Prehistoric rock sanctuary Mitrovica, Osenovo

<i>Description</i>		Mitrovica Rock Sanctuary is situated on an imposing rock top, on the eastern bank of Mesta river, with easy access by road to Ribново town. The sanctuary is multistage and cult sites are developed in height. On penultimate site today is chapel of St. Dimitar – Mitrovica, which has inherited ancient Thracian cult monument and has been celebrated to this day. In its lower part, it also had an architectural part that was severely damaged by a treasure hunter's invasion. There is a stone mound of considerable size, serving as an altar. Particularly dry masonry, construction of mortar solder, fragments of Roman building ceramics. Ceramic pottery dates back to the pre-Roman, Roman and late antiquity epochs. The open gifts places indicate that it is a sanctuary of the Great Goddess, probably Demetra. Unfortunately, this unique ancient Thracian cult monument is destroyed by treasure hunters.	
<i>Telephone</i>	n/a	<i>Type of transport</i>	pedestrian
<i>Web, e-mail</i>	n/a	<i>Accessibility</i>	mountain trail
<i>Opening hours</i>	n/a	<i>Dress code</i>	see routes in Pirin mountain
<i>Address</i>	no	<i>Parking</i>	no
<i>Foreign languages</i>	n/a	<i>Altitude</i>	1 169 m.
<i>Ticket price</i>	n/a	<i>Coordinates</i>	41.7505407,23.7222102 (megalithic arch) 41.7529362,23.7210612 (a rock cut altar)
<i>On-site services</i>	no	<i>To Bansko by roads</i>	~ 33.5 km.



Category Culture

 Категория Култура

 Категорија Култура

Cultural Settlements • Културни селища
Културни населби



The old town, Bansko

Description As a real expression of wealthy merchant family's prosperity, the interesting old homes - fortresses of Bansko, built for security and active defence of their owners. They are distinguished from the widespread types of mountain Bulgarian house on their complex internal distribution, availability of service rooms, secret corridors and hiding places on their massive stone construction. Most characteristic feature of fortified Bansko house is the presence of a stone housing core adapted for temporary residence and defence. The house walls are massive, stone made, outer reaching 1.20 m of thickness. There are carved holes, "fighters", serving for shooting. Doors are low, made of pine wood with iron lockers. Windows are small, protected from the outside with iron grilles and inside with wooden shutters, sloping with sliding walls, beams embedded in the wall. "Chardak" (Veranda) is spacious, surrounded by beautifully landscaped wood fence and artificially cut wooden columns.

Telephone	n/a	Type of transport	by car or pedestrian
Web, e-mail	n/a	Accessibility	asphalt, pedestrian area
Opening hours	n/a	Dress code	no
Exit point	Sveta Troitsa (Holy Trinity) Church	Parking	yes, many places to park
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	943 m.
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	exit point 41.835397, 23.487130
On-site services	shops, bar and restaurants	To Bansko by roads	0 km.

Demonstrations of life, crafts • Демонстрации на бит, занаяти
Демонстрирање за живот, занаети

Valiavitsa in Bansko (for laundry, rugs, blankets, etc.)

Description By rolling in water, woollen fabrics become softer and with a mossy surface. Later, thhis facility begins to be used for laundry, without the use of soap or detergents. Working facilities can be seen on Glazne Str., Gotse Delchev Str. and near the Gondola lift station.

Telephone	n/a	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	no	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening bours	n/a	Dress code	no
Address	no	Parking	yes, in 30 m.
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	from 946 to 1001 m.
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	above Gondola 41.825301, 23.477525 on Glazne str. 41.836007, 23.483405 on Gotse Devlchev str. 41.834664, 23.484872
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Bansko by roads	0 m.





House - museum "Nikola Vaptsarov", Bansko

<i>Description</i>	The museum is dedicated to Nikola Vaptsarov, a poet antifascist, whose remarkable work places him among the most popular poets of the twentieth century. It is situated in the house where the poet lived after 1912 and was opened for visitors in 1952. This venue also gives a start of Bansko' museum work. Expositions present an ethnographic collection about the poet from childhood to his death. Also, his mother's living room and his living room are intact. The museum exposition is spread over two floors, original documents are displayed. On ground floor films in English, French, German and Russian are presented. On the wall panel can be found family tree of the poet and other Bansko' genera. Upstairs Vaptsarov's life is traced after entrance the Marine School in Varna. Here is also the prize from the World Peace Congress, which was posthumously received in 1952. The house was declared a historical monument of culture of national importance in 1973.		
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<i>Telephone</i>	+359 749 83132 +359 893 363193	<i>Type of transport</i>	by car or pedestrian
<i>Web, e-mail</i>	mk_bansko@mail.bg	<i>Accessibility</i>	asphalt, pedestrian area
<i>Opening hours</i>	summer: 8:30 – 13:00 14:00 – 18:00 (mon-fri) 9:00 – 13:00 14:00 – 17:30 (sat and mon) winter: 8:30 – 13:00 14:00 – 17:30 (mon-fri) 9:00 – 13:00 14:00 – 17:00 (sat and mon)	<i>Dress code</i>	normal clothing
<i>Address</i>	Nikola Vaptsarov sq. № 3, Bansko	<i>Parking</i>	yes, in 150 m
<i>Foreign languages</i>	English and Russian	<i>Altitude</i>	930 m.
<i>Ticket price</i>	3 lv. adults; 1 lv. students and retirees	<i>Coordinates</i>	41.837534, 23.488924
<i>On-site services</i>	Shops, bars and restaurants nearby	<i>To Bansko by roads</i>	0 m.

Hamмам Art Gallery (Old Turkish Bath), Gevgelija

<i>Description</i>	The only preserved object of Ottoman' architecture in Gevgelija since the end of 19th century is so called "urban hammam". This site is state protected (Decision No 08-2304/2 of 31.12.2003) and declared as a cultural monument. Hammam (Turkish bath) is located in town center, north of the old town market. With donations from twin Municipality Karach (Republic of Turkey), our own funds and help from Ministry of Culture, Hammam has been restored, reconstructed and adapted to art gallery that works under responsibility of National Museum. Its dominant and original appearance is preserved with two copper domes (small and large), main room where hammam is placed on a huge central marble pedestal, side benches and a small reception. Hammam has managed to survive and survive for the future generations of Gevgelija.		
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<i>Telephone</i>	+38934213660 ; fax: +38934218673	<i>Type of transport</i>	by car, bus and pedestrian
<i>Web, e-mail</i>	http://www.muzejgevgelija.mk/amam.htm	<i>Accessibility</i>	asphalt
<i>Opening hours</i>	08:00-16:00	<i>Dress code</i>	no
<i>Address</i>	7th November str.	<i>Parking</i>	Yes
<i>Foreign languages</i>	MK, EN, BG, SR, GR	<i>Altitude</i>	62 m
<i>Ticket price</i>	n/a	<i>Coordinates</i>	41.1410497,22.5018303
<i>On-site services</i>	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	<i>To Gevgelija by roads</i>	0 km



Historic cultural monuments / Religious sites

Исторически културни паметници/ Религиозни места • Историски споменици на културата / Религиозни локалитети



Church Voznesenie Hristovo - St. Spas, Gevgelija

Description	Saint Spas Church is located near Suva River in south-eastern part of the town. Next to the church a Konak was build. The church is known also as a monastery among the population. It was built in the beginning of the 19th century and finished until 1912. There are frescoes, icons and iconostasis in it. Visited by a large number of Orthodox Christians, especially during celebrations of St. Spas holidays, which is celebrated for two days.		
Telephone	no	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	no	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	06:00-19:00	Dress code	Normal clothing
Address	Ilindenska str.	Parking	Yes
Foreign languages	MK,EN,SR,BG,GR	Altitude	55 m
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	41.1391358,22.5108824
On-site services	no	To Gevgelija by roads	0 km

"Uspenie Bogorodichno" Church - architectural and construction monument of national significance, Bansko

Description	It was built in 1774 with subsequent alterations. It is a half-dug stone one-aisle structure with a double-sided roof. Known for its unique woodcarving of the iconostasis - so-called "Banski ikonostas" (the "masterpiece of the carving art", "the best of the group of iconostases, worked by the same woodcarving workshop of the Bansko school," one of the significant Early Renaissance wood-carved monuments on our lands ") and of the Archdiocese throne. The original icons are made by Toma Vishanov (Molera), founder of the Bansko Art School. After a fire in 1958, they were replaced with copies. It functions as a cemetery church and is used for funeral rituals and memorials.		
Telephone	+359 892 234612	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	no	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	09:00 – 12:00	Dress code	normal clothing
Address	cemetery of Bansko	Parking	yes, in 30 m
Foreign languages	no	Altitude	904 m.
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	41.842796, 23.492850
On-site services	no	To Bansko by roads	0 m.



Galleries • Галерии



Permanent iconic exhibition "Bansko Art School" (Rila or Hilendarski convent), Bansko

Description	The exhibition is situated in six halls of oldest preserved building in Bansko, built in 1749. The one-storey building is preserved in its authentic form and in culture monument. The house performed functions of a female convent initially to the Hilendar, and later to the Rila Monastery. Bansko Art School' founder is Toma Vishanov - Molera (born around 1750). According to family' legend, Vishanov studied painting in Vienna and after his return was named Moler – the German word for artist (Maler). His school was developed in the field of monumental and icon paintings. Bansko icon exhibition shows original icons painted by many school' representatives. Major place is dedicated also to his son Dimitar, his grandson Simeon and others.		
Telephone	+359 749 83132 +359 893 363193	Type of transport	by car or pedestrian
Web, e-mail	mk_bansko@mail.bg	Accessibility	asphalt, pedestrian area
Opening hours	summer: 9:00 – 12:00 13:00 – 17:30 winter: 11:00 – 15:00 non-working day – Sunday and Monday	Dress code	normal clothing
Address	Yane Sandanski str. № 3, Bansko	Parking	yes, in 50 m
Foreign languages	English and Russian	Altitude	937 m.
Ticket price	3 lv. adults; 1 lv. students and retirees	Coordinates	41.836186, 23.488272
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Bansko by roads	0 m.

House of Culture (Pioneer House), Gevgelija

Description	House of Culture, Gevgelija operates within the Pioneer House. It is located in town' center, hosts and organise numerous cultural events, especially for municipal holiday on November 7, St. Spas - a patron of Gevgelija' town, and also many theatre performances throughout the year.		
Telephone	+38978444791	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	n/a	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	08:00 – 16:00	Dress code	no
Address	7th November str.	Parking	Yes
Foreign languages	MK,EN,SR	Altitude	62 m
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	41.1444260,22.5014011
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Gevgelija by roads	0 km





Folk Dance Composition "Pirinsko nastroenie" with choreographer Desislava Bahanova

Description

The ensemble was created in 2008 by Desislava Bahanova, who is also a proud daughter of authoritative singer and performer of Bansko folklore - Georgi Gjmov. Their performances embody a lot of love for folklore, traditions and stage art. At present, there are 12 women and 3 men.

Crafts / Talents • Занаяти / таланти Занаети / таленти

Weaving; Knitting by Sting-Robbery

Description

The weaving loom is a device for weaving fabrics or rugs. It is also practiced by hand.

Festivals/events/fairs • Фестивали/събития/панаири Фестивали/настани/панаѓири

International Jazz Festival Bansko (August)

Description

Founded in 1998, International Jazz Festival in Bansko is the largest summer music forum in Bulgaria. Tremendous popularity that festival has gained among specialists and admirers around the world has made it one of the most important international cultural events in the Balkans. Concerts are free to the audience and the organization is sponsored. Traditionally, the program features styles and groups representing almost all strands of the genre. Evening concerts gather thousands of audiences in front of the open stage in town center Bansko - "Nikola Vaptsarov" Square.

Cultural Festival "Meeting of Singing Cities", or known as "Raspna Charshiya – Trabi, Trabi, Gevgelijo" (June)

Description

The Cultural Festival "Meeting of Singing Cities", or known as "Raspna Charshiya - Trabi, Trabi, Gevgelijo", is traditionally held each year in partnership with Macedonian House of Culture and under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture and Municipality of Gevgelija. About 250 members of cultural-art groups and entities from nine cities in Macedonia and one ensemble from Bulgaria take part in the festival. The program starts from Church of St. Spas, in honour of the saint - defender of Gevgelija and continues along Marshall Tito street to the central town square where the program of the ensembles is held, from Gevgelija, Valandovo, Doiran, Negotino, Strumica, Kochani, Radovis, Ohrid, Kriva Palanka and from Sandanski, Republic of Bulgaria.



Theatres and concert halls • Театри и концертни зали • Театри и концертни сали



The National Theatre, Gevgelija

<i>Description</i>	National Theatre was built during the Second World War in the early 1960s. Until now, town theatre has undoubtedly confirmed its function with many performances. Through this cultural temple, large number of local and foreign theatre groups were promoted with their own plays and after a short stagnation due to a fire in early 1990s, it was rebuilt to serve the society. Series of theatrical and other cultural events took place here during the last few years, especially in 2011, when Gevgelija was nominated by Ministry of Culture for town of culture in Republic of Macedonia. The theatre is located in town center.		
<i>Telephone</i>	+38934213843	<i>Type of transport</i>	by car, bus and pedestrian
<i>Web, e-mail</i>	no	<i>Accessibility</i>	asphalt
<i>Opening hours</i>	n/a	<i>Dress code</i>	depending on the performance
<i>Address</i>	7th November str.	<i>Parking</i>	Yes
<i>Foreign languages</i>	MK,EN,SR,BG	<i>Altitude</i>	62 m
<i>Ticket price</i>	depending on the performance	<i>Coordinates</i>	41.1404402,22.5026916
<i>On-site services</i>	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	<i>To Gevgelija by roads</i>	0 km

Chitalishte (Community center) "Nikola Vaptsarov - 1894", Bansko

<i>Description</i>	Community house ("Chitalishte") "Nikola Vaptsarov" is a unique spiritual and modern cultural centre. Place that provides access to culture and information. A place where everyone can evolve as an artist. Cultural centre with rich material and technical base meeting all modern requirements. Helps in organisation and gives a stage to major cultural events, supports library, cultural, educational and artistic-creative activities.		
<i>Telephone</i>	+359 889 943499	<i>Type of transport</i>	by car, bus and pedestrian
<i>Web, e-mail</i>	chitalishtebansko@abv.bg	<i>Accessibility</i>	asphalt
<i>Opening hours</i>	8:00 – 12:00 13:00 – 17:00 (mon – fri)	<i>Dress code</i>	normal clothing
<i>Address</i>	Nikola Vaptsarov sq. № 1, Bansko	<i>Parking</i>	yes, next to it
<i>Foreign languages</i>	English and Russian	<i>Altitude</i>	928 m.
<i>Ticket price</i>	depending on the performance	<i>Coordinates</i>	41.838280, 23.488337
<i>On-site services</i>	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	<i>To Bansko by roads</i>	0 m.



Local Markets • Местни пазари • Локални пазари



Sunday Market, Bansko

Description	Traditional "Sunday Market" has become a part of Bansko' spirit. Anyone who wants to learn more about the purpose of healing herbs growing in Pirin Mountain; for honey quality or to taste fruits, vegetables, sweet, dairy and meat products from home production can visit the market near central Square N. Vaptsarov. Homemade wines or grape brandy are also displayed for sale. The lovers of industrial and household goods can continue their Sunday walk along Tsar Simeon Street, where they will see the industrial market located between town park and the stadium.		
Telephone	n/a	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	no	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	every Sunday from 8:00 – 15:00 h.	Dress code	normal clothing
Address	1 Angel Balev Street (food) and 74 Tsar Simeon Street (industrial goods)	Parking	yes, in 50 m.
Foreign languages	it is possible for a seller to know foreign language	Altitude	925 m.
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	food and beverage market 41.838510, 23.489142 market for industrial goods 41.834881, 23.493970
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Bansko by roads	0 m.

Food • Храна

Humor from Bansko and the region

Description The colourful and rich Bansko dialect language, typical humor, materialized by Bansko' "londhi" donates with much warmth and laughter.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aGDxLCXfg08&t=27s>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MlcQJx7fOWM>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gw-cYCL_QSE
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5vLO1BFVM4w>
<http://mybansko.net/речник-на-думи-и-изрази-от-банско-и-региона/думи>
https://web.facebook.com/groups/245575365618866/?_rdc=1&_rdr
<https://sheese.be/>

Gevgelija' dialect

Description Gevgelexicon - Unique Glossy Dictionary from local dialect. The pocket edition of Gevgelexion is issued by Stef Stefanov. "Gevgelexicon" is a multi-year effort to collect and process 1040 unique words that depict the local dialect.



Kapama

Description On the bottom and walls of a large clay pot with some vegetable oil are placed several leaves of sauerkraut. On them, kardsted rice and prunes. Around it there put sausage, pork, veal and chicken, thinly sliced pieces of bacon/pork fat, mixed with sliced cabbage and chekan (red beetroot), garden and forest spices. Bake for 5 hours on moderate fire or about 10 hours on low heat (for the night).

Local dialect and cultural elements
Местен диалект и културни елементи
Локални дијалекти и културни елементи

Cultural Centers • Културни центрове • Културни центри



Library "Gotse Delchev", Gevgelija

Description	According to the elderly Vancho Karayanov it was build around 1911. Recent studies indicate that it was built eight years before the beginning of twentieth century by a Turk who planned the building for a bank at ground floor and family home at the upper floor. Architecture has many rich ornaments recognizing a flower poppy, which at that time dominates in these areas. The building is of particular importance to Gevgelija, because it has become a famous décor over the years, but also a "brand" which is proud of the town. It was built by Debar' craftsmen who were not chosen at random – known widely for their work. It is believed that a similar house was built in Thessaloniki. The supporting pillar was specially poured for the purpose in Thessaloniki. The library has a significant collection of original works, including the book Mirror, written by Macedonian enlightener Kiril Psychinov and printed in 1816. In 1945 grew into a public library and was named Gotse Delchev. Since 1950 it is situated in today's premises at Beshirov Konak. The site is under protection of Ministry of Culture and Gevgelija' municipal property. Initially, the library has been working on ground floor and since 1985, on upper floors, as well as in a private building.		
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Telephone	+38972266910; fax: +38934211564	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	www.bibliotekagevgelija.edu.mk	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	07 – 20 (mon-fri) 8-14 (Sat); from 1st September to 15th June does not work Saturdays	Dress code	no
Address	Vaso Karajanov str. 1, Gevgelija	Parking	Yes
Foreign languages	MK, EN, BG, SR, HR, GR	Altitude	62 m
Ticket price	membership fee for local (150 denarii) and 10 denarii for each book	Coordinates	41.1403652,22.5051468
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Gevgelija by roads	0 km

Community Center (Chitalishte) "Dimitar Blagoev 1925", Dobrinishte

Description	Cultural activities in Dobrinishte started back in 1919 in a corner of a local shop where a place for a library was setup. First books and magazines "Firefly" and "Nature" were available there. Due to the lack of a theatre hall a village barn was adapted for this purpose. In 1920 first stage play, the comedy "The Three Corporals" was released. Despite cultural activity, official establishment of a center took place in the spring of 1925. Community center was named "Podem". Later, they got a statute, a seal and a protocols book. In 1953, was renamed to "Dimitar Blagoev". The arts and libraries have been constantly expanding over the years, activities are constantly growing. The number of amateurs is over one hundred and figure is constantly growing.		
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Telephone	+359 884 509932	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	http://dimitarblagoevdobrinishte.blogspot.com chitalishtedobrinishte@mail.bg	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	08:00 – 12:00 13:00 – 17:00 (mon-fri)	Dress code	normal clothing
Address	Nezavisimost sq. № 2, Dobrinishte	Parking	yes, next to it
Foreign languages	ENG	Altitude	841 m.
Ticket price	depending on the performance	Coordinates	41.821257, 23.563554
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Bansko by roads	8.2 km.



Souvenirirs • Сувенири



Souvenir shops in Bansko

Description	There are a number of souvenir shops on each main street, especially in winter season. Only two of them are shown as examples.		
Telephone	no	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	no	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	09:00 – 18:00	Dress code	normal clothing
Address	n/a	Parking	yes, next to it
Foreign languages	English and Russian	Altitude	around 930 – 950 m.
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	Shop 1 41.836677, 23.488359 Shop 2 41.836908, 23.490754
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Bansko by roads	0 m.



Souvenir shop at the Museum – Gevgelija (Vladov Konak)

Description	Multiple copies of artefacts found at archaeological excavations from Gevgelija' region is displayed at the National Museum, Gevgelija and there is an option to purchase them.		
Telephone	+38934213660 ; fax: +38934218673	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	www.muzejgevgelija.mk ; numgvge@gmail.com	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	08 – 16 (mon-fri); for groups are possible visits and Sat and Sun	Dress code	no
Address	Marshal Tito str. 26, Gevgelija	Parking	Yes
Foreign languages	MK, EN, BG, SR, GR	Altitude	56 m
Ticket price	60 denars for single and 30 for groups	Coordinates	41.1423180,22.5091393
On-site services	shops nearby	To Gergelija by roads	0 km



Category Architecture



Категория Архитектура

Категорија Архитектура

Old Architecture / Architectural – Ethnographic

Старинна архитектура/ архитектурно – етнографски • Стара архитектура/ архитектурно – етнографски



Sirleshtova House - with special value, Bansko (private house)

Description	Revival house and a monument of culture. It was built in the 18th and 19th centuries by Hadjidradon' brothers. Common property is divided by stone walls in three ways in the middle, each of them with separate entrance. Later it became Sirleshtovi' property. It is quite interesting with its facilities for living and defending and this is not visible outwardly. It is surrounded by a tall and thick stone wall, behind which is the garden. There are two floors, wooden veranda and barn. It was built perhaps 150 or 200 years ago, but the imaginative owner has thought not only about good family' life, but also about their security. Secret bunkers allow long-term defences, safe retreat and house abandonment in need. The shelter also has a backup exit in front of a long corridor leading into one of the courtyards.		
Telephone	n/a – private house	Type of transport	by car or pedestrian
Web, e-mail	n/a – private house	Accessibility	pedestrian area
Opening hours	no	Dress code	normal
Address	Yane Sandanski str. 12	Parking	yes, in 100 m.
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	936 m.
Ticket price	n/a – private house	Coordinates	41.835631, 23.488798
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Bansko by roads	0 m.

The old charshia in Gevgelija

Description	Old Charshia is located in the town center and is under monuments protection and historic importance. Recognizable structure as a typical oriental bazaar, cobbled stone blocks and small two-storey shops glued to one another, depicts the Macedonian style of the XIX century. It was built in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. There were several commercial and craft buildings in “Old Charshia”, as well as dining facilities that served the town's inhabitants and nearby villages with various goods ranging from food to craft and others. Most shops were held by Turkish and Jewish merchants who after the Balkan wars, began to emigrate massively from the region mainly to Istanbul and Izmir (Republic of Turkey). Nevertheless, Old Charshia continues to exist with the same look as a trade and craft place to this day. All buildings there are authentic.		
Telephone	no	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	no	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	24/7	Dress code	no
Address	Brand Petrushev str.	Parking	Yes
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	62 m
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	41.1397496,22.5022722
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Gevgelija by roads	0 km







Category Nature

 Категория Природа

 Категорија Природа

Protected areas Защитени територии • Заштитени територии

National Park Pirin

Declared to preserve the nature of natural ecosystems and landscapes together with their plant and animal communities and habitats since 1962 under the name of Vihren National Park and in 1974 it is renamed to Pirin National Park. In 1998 was assigned with a status of National Park and area was extended to 40332.4 ha. Includes territories Bansko, Gotse Delchev, Razlog, Sandanski, Strumyani, Kresna, Simitli' municipalities. Area of Pirin National Park within Municipality of Bansko is 14 777, 26 ha. Included in UN' lists of National Parks and their equivalent reserves. In 1983, it was included in UNESCO's World Heritage List with an area of 26413.8 hectares to protect the unique diversity of landscape forms, plant and animal species.



Lakes • Езера

Lakes in Pirin

The natural lakes in Pirin Mountain range more than 270. Most of them are circular (glacier). Nearly all of them are more than 2000 m above sea level. Their total number within Bansko Municipality exceeds one hundred, with a total area of 107.4 ha. Some are: Vasilashki (12 permanent and one temporary), Strazhishki (5 permanent and 3 temporary), Valiavishki (with Prevalski 4 permanent), Tipitski (2 permanent and 1 temporary), Banderishki with Ovinati lakes (5 temporary), Popovo Lake (3 permanent), Ribni (5 permanent), Banski (2 permanent) and Kravevi Lakes (12, 7 of which are very small). The Jangal (Kremen) Lakes are 9 (7 permanent and 2 temporary).

Popovo Lake (Papaz Giol) is the largest (131.9 decares); the longest (517 m); the widest (452 m) and the deepest (29.5 m). Fourth largest in Bulgaria and situated at 2234 m above sea level. It is located between the Momini dvori and Djangal' peaks. In its northern part, a small island is located.

The artificial lakes and rivers are located in the lower parts.

Relief • Релеф • Релјеф



Peaks in Pirin (over 50 marble and granite peaks with a height of 2500 m.)

The criteria for the survey are peaks, which are located within the boundaries of Bansko Municipality or very close to it and are over 2800 meters above sea level.

Vihren (2914 m) - Marble peak, third on the Balkan Peninsula. Some of its old names are El Tepe and Ilin Peak. It rises between Kutelo and Ovinati (Hvoinati) peaks.

Kutelo (2908 m) – a marble peak, located between Banski Suhodol (separated from Koncheto) and Vihren.

Banski Suhodol (2886 m) - a marble peak that rises on the ridge between Kutelo and Bayuvi Dupki; has the shape of a cone, with very steep and rocky slopes.

Polejan (2852 m) – a granite peak. One of its oldest names is Mangur Tepe. It rises between ridges of the Obidim mts.

Kamenitsa (2824 m) – a granite peak with many steep and stony slopes, located south of Tevno Lake.

Small Polejan (2823 m) – Near peak Polejan.

Bayuvi Dupki (Kamenititsa) (2821 m) – located between Razlog and Banski Suhodol, on the territory of Razlog Municipality. Its composition is of marble rocks, with steep and rocky slopes.



Kozuf mountain

Mount Kozhuf is located on the border between FYRoM and Greece. Highest peak in Kozuf is called Zelen breg and is 2.171 meters above sea level. Kozhuf mountain covers an area of 893 km. In proportion, 80% of its territory is located within Macedonia and the remaining 20% in Greece. Its territory begins from Bosavitsa river and Vardar River, near Demir Kapija. The border passes along Vardar River and on the right side of the most impressive part – canyon of Demir Kapija. It crosses the state border and near Lummnitsa village (850 m asl). On the territory of Hellenic Republic continuing westwards dividing the Payak Mountain, the northern sides of Meglen Valley to the Pulevac saddle (1165 m) to Mirechko. From Mirechiko through Muscovite grave (1019 meters) occupies the northern side of Vitachevo and reaches the river Bosavitsa. Kozuf abounds with huge water resources and numerous springs of rivers. Doshnitsa River is one of the finest and cleanest rivers in Macedonia. From its spring beneath Zelen breg, to its inflow in Vardar river there is no industrial sites to pollute it. This is the cleanest river in which trout, crabs and more live. The animal world in Kozuf is represented by the lynx, which is a rare and protected species. Unfortunately, for 2-3 decades no deer are noticed. Occasionally there are bears looking for peaceful places and migrating between Greece and Macedonia.



Baikusheva mura

Black fir; years to the date of announcement: 1200; Actual Age: 1274; height (m): 22; perimeter (m): 7.8. Declared by Decree of the Council of Ministers No 14282 of 23.07.1940; The oldest coniferous tree in Bulgaria.

GPS: 41.7669646,23.4231137



Polish elm, Negortsi village

According to Dejan Mandjukowski, in the courtyard of St. Atanasii Church (village of Negortsi) we can see the largest and oldest tree of Polish elm (*Ulmus campestris*) in Republic of Macedonia. It is protected by law and local people assume it is about 5 centuries old. With its huge size, this elm impresses visually and majestically conquers space. GPS: 41.1838928,22.4791961

Rivers • Реки



Vardar river

Vardar is the largest river in Macedonia, with a length of 388 km and a water area of approximately 25,000 km². Its most southern part passes through Gevgelija.



Mesta river, Bansko



Glazne River

It is formed by Banderitsa and Demyanitsa rivers, which joins about 2.5 km southwest above the town. In the past water have been used as a driving force of many gadgets. The river has flooded the western Bansko many times, but now its waters are curbed by high walls. The name is borne by the fact that when it passes between stones it seems to whisper as if it is casting "voices". Not far from the village of Banya flowing into Iztok River. It is 24.6 km long. The river has uneven outflows, with pronounced spring-summer high water and winter low-water.

Mineral and thermal waters • Минерални / термални води

Balneology (bath), Dobrinishte

Description	The public bath was built in 1934 under the architect Barov's project. Meanwhile, the municipality was ruled by GMRO with Mayors Toma Munin and Georgi Munin. The bath has a female and male pool, as well as private baths. On second floor is situated a hair salon. In 1963 the town is declared as a balneology resort. On the bath's back, a public laundry is situated and it is free of charge.		
Telephone	+350 887 949333	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	n/a	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	06:30 – 20:30 every day	Dress code	no
Address	town park	Parking	yes, in 50 m.
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	832 m.
Ticket price	1.50 BGN per adult; 0.60 leva for children over 8 years old; 0.40 leva for children aged 5-8	Coordinates	41.822657, 23.566237
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Bansko by roads	8.4 km.



Smradliva voda

Description	Smradliva voda is a tourist site, 24 km away from Gevgelija and 712 meters above sea level. It is located in village of Konsko' region, between peaks of Flora, Adjibarica and Belezi. Known for its mineral water and healing properties for stomach and kidney diseases. Its mineral springs are known as "Smradliva voda" and this names the whole area. Water smells unpleasant as a "spoiled egg". The chemical composition is hydrocarbon, mineralized, slightly aerated water. Water can be drunk for treatments of abdominal disorders; kidney stones; sand, stones and inflammation of the urinary tract. Clean mountain air and the healing power of the water contributed to their use by locals even between the two world wars and after the Second World War, visitors' facilities were built.		
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Telephone	n/a	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	n/a	Accessibility	asphalt
Opening hours	24/7	Dress code	no
Address	no	Parking	Yes
Foreign languages	MK,EN,SR,BG	Altitude	735 m
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	41.1920612,22.2816722
On-site services	shops, bar and restaurants close	To Gergelija by roads	24.2 km



Hanna Cave, Bansko

Description	A small cave with size of a niche. There are no cave halls, stalactites, stalagmites and other cave formations. Hanna Cave cannot offer you such experiences, but will compensate you for the unique views that reveal to the mountain. The cave is located above Banderitsa Hut in the chute, which descends from Djamdjievi rocks.		
Telephone	n/a	Type of transport	pedestrian
Web, e-mail	n/a	Accessibility	mountain trail
Opening hours	n/a	Dress code	see routes in Pirin mountain
Address	no	Parking	yes, Banderitsa hut
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	2044 m.
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	41.7702870,23.4226232
On-site services	restaurant of Banderitsa chalet nearby	To Bansko by roads	14.5 km.

Waterfalls • Водопади

Banderishki Skok Waterfall, Bansko

Description	At 1,700 m of height, Banderitsa River forms the largest waterfall - Banderishki Skok, which is 11 m high. In 1965 the surrounded area is protected. Situated under Banderitsa Hut in Banderitsa Canyon, where the river runs over two kilometers of rocky and narrow terrain with a depth of up to 30m. Then, northern of Bunderishka Polyana at the foot of Kutelo peak, the river falls underground and flows for 1,500 m.		
Telephone	n/a	Type of transport	pedestrian
Web, e-mail	n/a	Accessibility	mountain trail
Opening hours	n/a	Dress code	see routes in Pirin mountain
Address	no	Parking	n/a
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	1693 m.
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	41.7744680,23.4323503
On-site services	no	To Bansko by roads	15.3 km.





Natural landmark "Wedding - rock formation", Osenovo village

Description	„Svatbata“ (Wedding) is located below Osenovo village, off the road, just before two very sharp bends. It is a group of rock formations with interesting shapes. The protected site occupies an area of 13.1 ha and was declared as a natural landmark in 1976. It is located above the main road and is visible to here. This rock formation formed during the years when the limestone rocks are lengthened. According to the legend, the evil mother-in-law curses the young couple of their wedding, and along with them all guests, and they all had been petrified. The composition resembles people's figures and figure of the angry bear standing on her hind legs, depicting the evil mother-in-law, is most pronounced.		
Telephone	n/a	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	n/a	Accessibility	500 m dirt road
Opening hours	n/a	Dress code	no
Address	no	Parking	yes, 500 m.
Foreign languages	n/a	Altitude	906 m.
Ticket price	n/a	Coordinates	place of observation 41.769906,23.716957
On-site services	no	To Bansko by roads	27.4 km.

Information Centers • Информационни центрове • Информативни центри



Visitor Information Center, Bansko

Description	More popular among locals like "Old Cinema." It was built in 1929 and for many years hosted Community center "Razvitie". Besides its main activity for providing all kind tourists information about town and the region; the promotion and presentation of Bansko' destination on national and international tourist fairs, this center actively participates in events' organization included in Cultural Calendar of Municipality of Bansko . Every year during the whole summer season, Visitor Information Center, with the assistance of Museum Complex Bansko and "Nikola Vaptsarov" Community center, organised the program: CULTURAL NIGHTS "TRADITIONS AND ART".		
Telephone	+359 749 88580 ; +359 888 251095	Type of transport	by car, bus and pedestrian
Web, e-mail	infocenter@bansko.bg	Accessibility	asphalt, pedestrian area
Opening hours	09:00 – 18:00 (mon-fri) 10:00 – 18:00 (saturday) 10:00 – 14:00 (sunday)	Dress code	normal clothing
Address	Vazrajdane sq. № 4, Bansko	Parking	yes, in 100 m.
Foreign languages	English and Russian	Altitude	940 m.
Ticket price	depending on the performance	Coordinates	41.835986, 23.487212
On-site services	shops, bars and restaurants nearby	To Bansko by roads	0 m.

Routes • Маршрути

From Konsko school the village of Sermenin

There is a marked with signs mountain bike trail, long 7.7 km, mainly used by members of Kozuf Mountaineering Association.



Eco-path "Demyanishka Reka", Bansko

It starts from Bansko, just below Katerina Hotel and crosses Demyanitsa Hut up to Yane Sandanski Hut. Starting point of the route is approximately 3 km from the road connecting Bansko with Vihren and Demyanitsa Huts. The route takes about 4-5 hours in one way, but of course, the descent is considerably faster than the climb. At Demjanitsa Hut the tourists can choose new directions, food and accommodation. On the eco-path information boards with 14 themes are situated, which presents geological features of Demyanski Circus and biodiversity' impact of the region, Yulen Reserve, routes options from Demyanitsa Hut, the past of Pirin' region and natural sights. Near the Hut and one of the main points on the route, the river accepts some of its biggest tributaries - Karkumska and Yulen, and become a classical high-mountain river, respectful of its blooms water. **GPS: 41.8044555,23.4720218 (start point)**

Routes in Pirin Mountain (for hiking)

Please visit the following site for detailed routes developed by Pirin National Park https://www.pirin.bg/?page_id=596 (for a list) or <http://pirinmap.com/index.php/bg/> (for visualized tourist routes). Choose a town to go and remember that you need: comfortable and healthy hiking shoes, overcoats, hat, glasses and sun lotion, insect lotion, first aid kit, raincoat and water! Before you go hiking:

- consider the route and assess your physical capacity;
- get a card and see what routes should be followed;
- choose your good outfit;
- avoid moving yourself in the mountains;
- inform your loved ones and hikers about the selected route;
- move along marked paths only;
- remember that in the mountains we are guests of the wild inhabitants;
- keep the flora and fauna!



Thematic parks • Тематични паркове • Тематски паркови



Dinkut, Gevgelija

<i>Description</i>	Dinkut is developed and build under this project. It will become most beautiful and excited park with many facilities. It is located very close to the town, just about 1 km. The project represents an integral ground solution within the framework of the site which implies coordination of the contents for sport and recreation, fun holiday and alike. The project covers the following content for entertainment, recreation and sport: Summer cinema; Space handled for fitness and gymnastics; Children's playground with modern equipment; Artificial rock climbing; Playground for soccer; Playground with equipment from natural materials (sand, houses, etc.); Trim trail. The project envisages installation of urban equipment: candelabras, benches, trash cans, information boards and fountains.		
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<i>Telephone</i>	n/a	<i>Type of transport</i>	by car, bus and pedestrian
<i>Web, e-mail</i>	n/a	<i>Accessibility</i>	asphalt
<i>Opening hours</i>	24/7	<i>Dress code</i>	no
<i>Address</i>	n/a	<i>Parking</i>	Yes
<i>Foreign languages</i>	n/a	<i>Altitude</i>	98 m
<i>Ticket price</i>	free	<i>Coordinates</i>	41.1359774,22.4798164
<i>On-site services</i>	no	<i>To Gevgelija by roads</i>	0 km



Town Park, Bansko

<i>Description</i>	Bansko' town park is located near the town center. The park is located on more than 20 acres and has many amenities. Landscaped with huge and diverse tree species, asphalt alleys, the park is an attraction for many people, especially during hot summer days. There is a small lake with an island that can be reached by a wooden bridge. In early past there were a children's playground and a restaurant where everyone relax while their children have fun. Park is entirely green with many benches and resting spots. There is a fountain, which creates a great atmosphere during summer months. The monuments of Hadji Vulcho - a donor of the iconographic school and Kostadin Golev - founder of the Bulgarian Communist Party in Bansko in 1918 are situated here.		
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<i>Telephone</i>	n/a	<i>Type of transport</i>	by car, bus and pedestrian
<i>Web, e-mail</i>	n/a	<i>Accessibility</i>	asphalt
<i>Opening hours</i>	n/a	<i>Dress code</i>	normal clothing
<i>Address</i>	on the corner of "Tsar Simeon" Str. and "Banyo Marinov"	<i>Parking</i>	yes, next to it
<i>Foreign languages</i>	n/a	<i>Altitude</i>	929 m.
<i>Ticket price</i>	n/a	<i>Coordinates</i>	41.836177, 23.492187
<i>On-site services</i>	Summer bars in the park. Shops, bars and restaurants nearby	<i>To Bansko by roads</i>	0 m.



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