



HUMAN
RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT
CENTRE



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

ERASMUS+

SAMOKOV

INFOPACK



DEAR PARTICIPANT,

PGT is devoted to changing and contributing to the environment for the students and youths in our community. Throughout the years we have been doing activities that aimed at giving them more opportunities to develop their personal and professional skills and outlook on life. We are looking forward to welcoming you in our organization and our community where you will have the chance to experience the life in Samokov, to learn and practice Bulgarian and to gain insight into the work that we do.

We hope that this info pack will contribute to your initial understanding of our country and community and that you will find the needed information about our Foundation and the environment and life in our town and country.

Should you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes,

PGT team.

ABOUT US

In 1959 Vocational School of Textiles opens in Samokov. Later in the school year 1971/72 the school grew into a vocational school in textiles. Until 1976 The school does not have its own building, as the students study in the building of the high school (2 shifts) and in one of the buildings of the factory "Rilski len".

In 1976 the school received one of its buildings (ie building №1), which is housed to this day. Building №2 has been owned by the school since 1982. From the school year 1983/84 there are classes in the existing new educational form - with specialties: weaving, cooking, sales consultant, operator-accountant, administrator-organizer, which lays the foundations of the vocational school of textiles and catering.

For its 25th anniversary in 1984. The school was awarded the Order of Cyril and Methodius - II degree. In 1998 the school was transformed into a Technical School of Tourism and Textiles, with classes in the following specialties: "Culinary", "Organizer in textile production", "Operator in knitting", "Technology and management of production and service in catering" and "Management in the hotel industry".

From the school year 2000/2001 the classes "Organizer in the textile production" and "Operator in the knitting production" dropped out, and in 2003. is transformed into a Vocational School of Tourism. The school has the material base for conducting educational and practical activities in high-class hotels in Borovets, which allows students to find themselves in a real work environment among professionals in the tourism industry.

The tourism industry offers a job that is attractive, creative and artistic - meetings with new people, getting to know different life, culture, traditions and national cuisine. It enriches your general culture and gives you the opportunity to get acquainted with historical, geographical, archeological and natural landmarks and phenomena.

Currently there are 21 employees in the high school.

We have been working on Erasmus+ for over 10 years.

More information could be found on the following links:

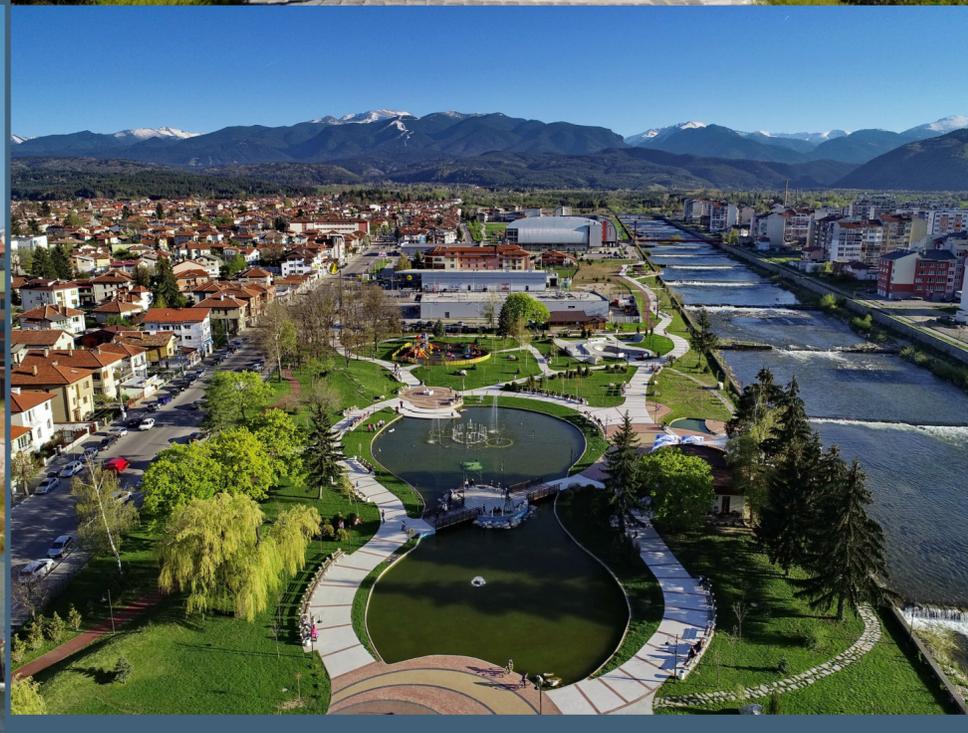
Profesionalna gimnazia po turizam - <https://www.pgtsamokov.org>

[Facebook Page](#)

The town - Samokov

Samokov (Bulgarian: САМОКОВ) is a town in Sofia Province in the southwest of Bulgaria. It is situated in a basin between the mountains Rila and Vitosha, 55 kilometres from the capital Sofia. Due to the suitable winter sports conditions, Samokov, together with the nearby resort Borovets, is a major tourist centre. It is populated by roughly 30,000 inhabitants.

ON THE MAP



CLIMATE

Samokov has a humid continental climate (Köppen climate classification Dfb) with an average annual temperature of approximately 9 °C (48 °F). The altitude of 950 metres, in the skirts of Rila mountain, and the mitigating proximity to the continental mediterranean climate zone, are both strong factors in forming the climate. Summers vary from very warm, sunny and dry to warm and humid, while winters can be relatively mild and wet with lots of snowfall, but also colder and drier. Springs can be cool and wet, while in autumns there can be numerous sunny and warm days.

SAMOKOV WEATHER BY MONTH // WEATHER AVERAGES

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Avg. Temperature (°C)	0.1	2.3	6.3	10.4	15	18.5	20.8	20.6	17.3	12.2	6.1	1.7
Min. Temperature (°C)	-3.5	-1.8	1.4	5	9.1	12.1	13.8	13.5	10.5	6.7	2.3	-1.6
Max. Temperature (°C)	3.7	6.5	11.3	15.9	20.9	25	27.8	27.8	24.2	17.7	9.9	5.1

Due to the mountain proximity of the town and the period of the working, we encourage the participants to take some various clothes with them.

USEFUL LINKS

1. Tourist Information Center - <http://samokov-info.com/?lang=en>
2. Things to do in Samokov and surrounding area as in TripAdvisor - https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g969290-Activities-Samokov_Sofia_Region.html
3. The Official Website of Borovets - <https://www.borovets-bg.com/en/page/info/borovets/1804156485>
4. Samokov Info - <https://samokov.info/en/zabelezhitelnosti-en>

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

FOOD - Most shops are open throughout the whole week. The working hours vary from shop to shop. Their schedule is written on their entrance. Main shops/supermarkets are BILLA, LIDL, T-Market. There are also small local shops easily found and visible throughout the town. Also fresh and local fruits and vegetables can be bought in the market and small shops around.

There are also local restaurants and coffee shops which offer different kind of cuisine, the most popular are the traditional dishes.

More about Bulgarian cuisine - <https://www.kashkaval-tourist.com/7-bulgarian-food-classics/>, <https://sofiaadventures.com/bulgarian-food-cuisine-best-dishes/> and <https://www.andrey-andreev.com/en/guide-bulgarian-food/>

HEALTH - There is one hospital in the town.

There are two pharmacies that work on Sundays, one is located near the Police Station another one near the hospital.

ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORT - Different concerts, performances and sport events are organized throughout the year, the schedule is spread in the town and the participants will be notified for the events in which they could take part in. There are a few gym centers, swimming pool and tennis court and running paths in the town. The highest peak on the Balkan Peninsula (Musala) is located nearby the town, hiking is widely spread.

CONNECTIONS TO OTHER PLACES - There is a bus running every 30 minutes to Sofia. The duration of the journey is 1 hour. Ticket varies from BGN 5-6 (which is around EUR 2.5-3). The last bus from Sofia departs at 20:00 o'clock from the Bus Station Sofia South. Other cities which could be reached by bus are Plovdiv, Blagoevgrad, Dupnitsa. The busses run less often. Be careful and plan well with us if you decide to visit. There are other busses to nearby villages. About 20 km. away is located thermal resort of Belchin and Spa resort of Sapareva Bania with a few open air mineral swimming pools.

Another way of transport is a taxi hire - around 1 BGN per km.

WORKING PLACEMENTS

Samokov economy is comprised mainly of manufacturing, agricultural and hospitality industries.

There are around 3136 firms registered in Samokov, the large proportion of them are Small and Medium Enterprises which scope varies (trading, beauticians, pharmacies, photography, computers, drivers, sports etc.). Samokov Municipality is the biggest employer in the area.

There are 11 schools in the town and 7 kindergartens.

Due to its proximity to Borovets and location tourism in Samokov is a popular sector. There are many hotels, restaurants, bars and other facilities in Borovets.

Some of the biggest manufacturing companies include:

Si-Commercial - distributing confectionary goods, today the company is one of the biggest producers of cake bars, swiss rolls and biscuits on the Balkan peninsula.

Samel 90 - Samel-90 PLC works with more than 32 countries around the world and is proud with the quality of its products and the long term relationships which have been created. It was established in 1964 aiming at satisfying the needs of the Bulgarian Army of Electronic Communication Equipment. After 1990 the traditional range of special purpose products has been enriched with consumer electronics in the fields of telecommunications, specialized electronics for lighting industry, automotive spare parts, etc.

Kompir - the largest processing company of Bulgarian potatoes

PHOTOS OF SAMOKOV



For more info follow the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdN144DD78E>

BOROVETS

Another hot spot nearby is an international mountain resort of Borovets, famous ski resort and starting point for hiking during the summer. It is located 10 km. away from Samokov and public transport is available too.



HOTELS

There are several hotels in Samokov. The proposed prices are approximate and per night - they may be changed as it depends on how many people will come and for how long. Also, depending on the number of participants accommodation in a flat can be provided for **150 EUR** per month per person.

HOTEL ARENA SAMOKOV - **40 EUR PER NIGHT**/5-6 MINUTES FROM THE CITY CENER



GUEST HOUSE ELIZABETH DE LUX ROOM ONLY **30 EURO**/1 MINUTE AWAY FROM THE CENTER



HOTELS

KOKOSHKOVA BOUTIQUE HOUSE **70 EURO** 10 MINUTES WALK AWAY FROM THE CENTER

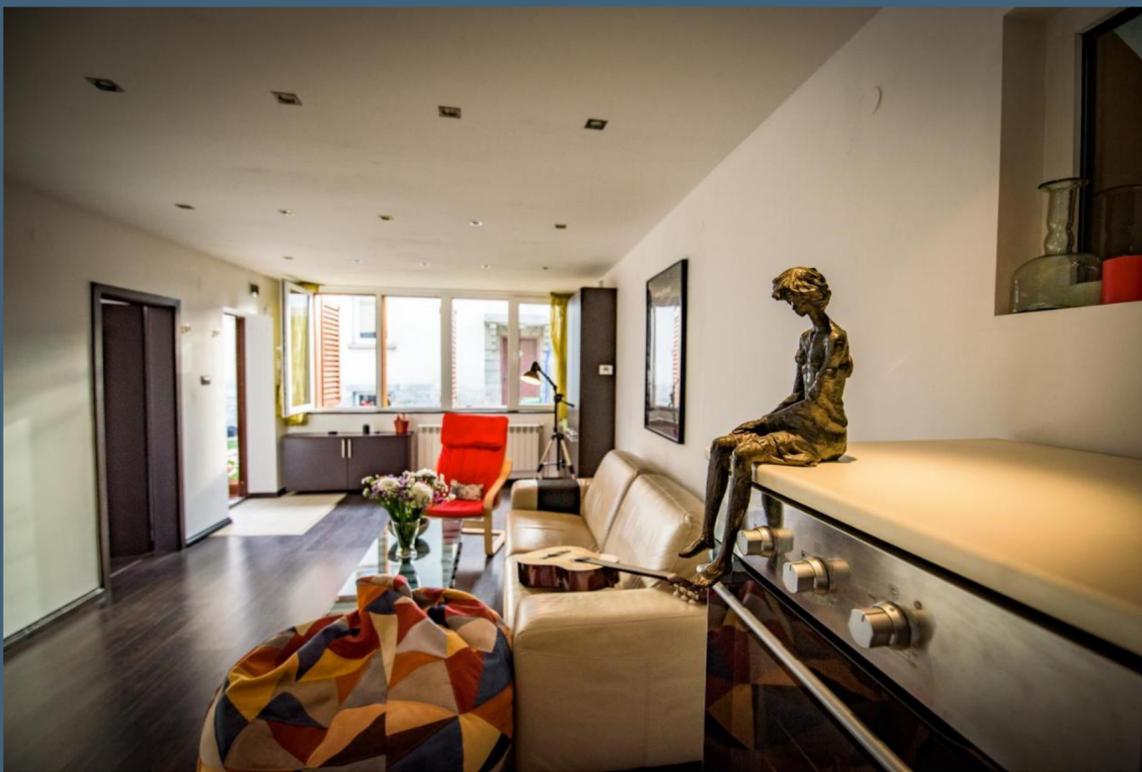


PRI PAVKATA + COOKING FACILITIES STUDIO **34 EURO** 5 MINUTES FROM THE CITY CENTER



HOTELS

THE CLOCK HOUSE STUDIO **40 EURO** 10 MINUTES WALK AWAY FROM THE CENTER



HOTELS IN BOROVETS

As some of the participants can work in Borovets it may be more suitable for them to be accommodated in the ski resort. Although the journey from Samokov to Borovets takes 10-15 minutes, they may opt to stay closer to their work placement. Apart from hotels, there are many studios which are approximately **40-60 EUR** in case the participants prefer to stay in a flat.

SAMOKOV HOTEL **55 EURO** 1 MINUTE TO THE CENTER



HOTEL LION **60 EURO** 5-10 MINUTES TO THE CENTER



FLORA HOTEL **50 EURO** 5-10 MINUTES TO THE CENTER



ABOUT BULGARIA

Bulgaria (/bʌlˈdʒɛəriə) ; Bulgarian: България), officially the Republic of Bulgaria (Bulgarian: Република България) is a country in Southeast Europe. It is bordered by Romania to the North, Serbia and Macedonia to the west, Greece and Turkey to the south, and the Black Sea to the east. The capital and largest city is Sofia; other major cities are Plovdiv, Varna and Burgas. With a territory of 110,994 square kilometres (42,855 sq mi), Bulgaria is Europe's 16th-largest country.

The country occupies an area of 110,879 km², compared it is somewhat larger than Iceland (103,000 km²), or slightly larger than the U.S. state of Tennessee. Due to its compatible size it takes around 4-5 hours drive to reach the sea from Sofia.

Bulgaria has a population of 7.15 million people (2015), the largest city is Sofia with 1.3 million inhabitants. Official language is Bulgarian, which is written in Cyrillic.

Bulgarian currency is called LEV.

1 BGN = 0.511292 EUR

1 EUR = 1.95583 BGN

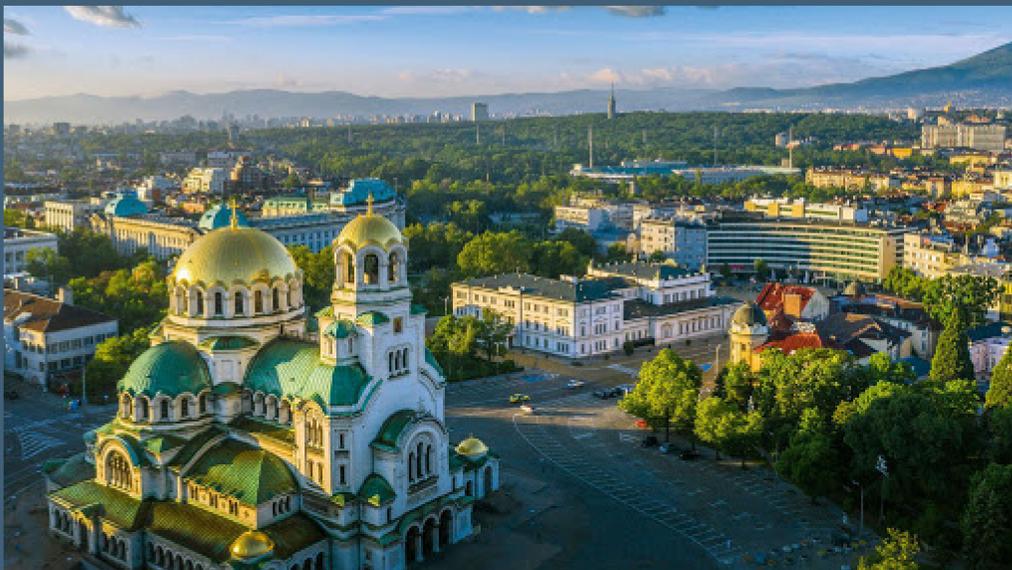
1 BGN = 0.511292 EUR



Sofia



Varna



Plovdiv



More visuals of Bulgaria here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1-Jmq7BLFE>

National Emergency Numbers

Ambulance

Tel: 150

Fire/Rescue

Tel: 160

Police

Tel: 166

BULSAR (Bulgarian Black Sea Search & Rescue)

Tel: 088 161

Car Breakdown Service - Sofia

Tel: 1286

Car Breakdown Service - outside Sofia

Tel: 146

Pharmacy On-Duty

Tel: 178

European SOS 112

The number 112 can be dialed to reach emergency services - medical, fire and police - from anywhere in Europe. This Pan-European emergency number 112 can be called from any telephone (landline, pay phone or mobile cellular phone). Calls are free. It can be used for any life-threatening situation, including:

- Serious medical problems (accident, unconscious person, severe injuries, chest pain, seizure)
- Any type of fire (house, car)
- Life-threatening situations (crimes)

CONTACT US



pgterasmus@gmail.com



Profesionalna gimnazia po turizam
ul. Sofiysko shose 18, 2000 Samokov, Sofia,
Bulgaria

Best of luck!

