

VENUE



SOFIA UNIVERSITY SAINT KLIMENT OHRIDSKI

The University is the first school of higher education in Bulgaria. Its history is an embodiment and a continuation of centuries of cultural and educational traditions in this country.

Link: <https://www.uni-sofia.bg/index.php/eng>



Rectorate – the central building of the University. It is situated in the heart of the city, next to the buildings of the National Library and the Parliament.

Address: 1504 Sofia, 15 Tsar Osvoboditel Blvd. Transport communications include subway, bus (84, 94, 280, 306), tram (20, 22), trolley bus (1, 2, 4, 11).



Centre for Eastern Languages and Cultures

The Japanese Studies Department at Sofia University “St Kliment Ohridski” has a history of 30 years. It is the only program in Bulgaria accredited to award bachelor, master and doctor degrees in Japanese Studies. <http://japanology.bg/>

Address: 1303 Sofia, 79 Todor Aleksandrov Blvd., floor 3, room 31A. Subway “Opalchenska St.”, bus (74), tram (3, 8, 10, 20, 22), trolley bus (1, 5).



Map of the locations of the Rectorate and the Centre for Eastern Languages and Cultures.

TRANSPORT

Public transport



The most convenient transport to the venue is the subway (metro) – Sofia University ‘St Kliment Ohridski’ Station. The subway runs from Sofia Airport Terminal 2 (from Terminal 1 there is a free bus to Terminal 2 subway station), as well as from the railway station and from the Central bus station – Central Rail/Bus Station of subway.

One ticket costs 1.60 BGN. One-day full network coverage 4.00 BGN. 3-day full network coverage 10.00 BGN. 3-day full network coverage with tourist discounts 20.00 BGN.

See also: <https://www.sofiatraffic.bg/bg/transport/tarifa-i-prevozni-dokumenti/702/tarifa>

Taxi



The approximate price of a taxi transfer from the airport, from the railway station and from the bus station to the venues is 15-20 BGN.

Care must be taken for illegal taxi cars!

Recommended taxi companies:



OK SUPERTRANS Tel. & Viber +359 2 973 2121

<https://www.oktaxi.net/en>



YELLOW TAXI Tel. & Viber +359 2 91119

<https://www.yellow333.com/>



TAXI FOR ONE EURO Tel. +359 2 80 700

<http://1euro.bg/>

ACCOMMODATION

Sofia has quite an unlimited number of accommodation options. Everyone can find their place according to their preferences and opportunities.

Recommendation for hotels near the Rectorate



InterContinental Sofia, 5 stars

Overlooking The Parliament Building and offering stunning views of Alexander Nevski Cathedral, InterContinental Sofia is the capital's ultimate luxury hotel.

<https://www.ihg.com/intercontinental/hotels/gb/en/sofia/sofco/hoteldetail>



Arena di Serdica, 5 stars

Arena di Serdica Boutique Hotel is an elegant modern facility, which hosts one of Sofia's most precious treasures – the remains of the roman Amphitheatre of Ancient Serdica, which date back to the III-IV century. Next to Sofia's main cultural sights and institutions, the Arena di Serdica Hotel offers the perfect setting for both business and leisure.

<https://www.arenadiserdica.com/>



Crystal Palace, 4 stars

Crystal Palace Boutique Hotel is located next to the famous Doctor's Garden, Sofia's National Library, the University of Sofia, the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and other main institutions, cultural sights and places of interest. Close and convenient. <https://www.crystalpalace-sofia.com/>

Recommendation for hotels near the Centre for Eastern Languages and Cultures



The luxurious BEST WESTERN PLUS **Bristol Hotel** is located in the very heart of capital city Sofia and is prepared to meet the sophisticated taste of every guest.

<http://www.bristolhotel.bg/en/>



Hotel Central Sofia is located in the central part of Sofia, as well as to important administrative buildings, cultural monuments and tourist attractions. To reach the center of the city it takes about 10 min. on foot, the Rectorate – 20 min. and the Centre for Eastern Languages and Cultures – 5 min. Convenient transportation by tram, bus, subway. <http://central-hotel.com/en/about/>

Other recommended hotels in the center of Sofia



Best Western Premier Collection **City Hotel**, 3 stars – located near the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and the Sofia National Opera and Ballet.

<https://sofiacityhotel.com/en/>



Best Western **Art Plaza Hotel** offers high quality service and comfort. The hotel is located in the heart of the city Sofia, just 50 meters from the famous Vitosha Boulevard.

<http://www.artplazahotel.bg/en/>



Coop, 4 stars – offers all the necessary services that will make your stay a pleasant experience. It is a new urban hotel opened in 2017, representing the refined building, built in the style of old Sofia. It serves as a tourist offer made by some of the most important Bulgarian cooperatives. Highly recommended for best price:comfort/convenience ratio. <http://www.coophotel.bg/en/>

Budget accommodation:

Sofia University offers a limited number of budget accommodations about 30 minutes by public transport from the venue (within 25 Euro per night, newly renovated). If you wish to use this service please send a request to jstudies.su@gmail.com in advance.

LANDMARKS



BULGARIA is located in Southeast Europe and is a member of the European Union. The internal and external transport connections are provided by airports in Sofia, Plovdiv, Varna and Bourgas and rail and bus stations in most of the settlements in the country. The currency of exchange in Bulgaria is BGN (lev). 1 EURO \approx 1.985 BGN



SOFIA is the capital of Bulgaria and is located in the western part of the country. It was originally a Thracian settlement called Serdica and is the largest Bulgarian city. It accommodates over two thousand years of active history and culture.

Sofia Tourist Information Centre is located in the underpass of "St. Kliment Ohridski" Sofia University.

<http://www.tourism.government.bg/en/content/sofia-tourist-information-centre>

Must see in Sofia



National History Museum – located at the foot of Vitosha mountain, where one can explore permanent and temporary exhibitions. <https://historymuseum.org/en/>



National Gallery Kvadrat 500 is the newest and largest building of the National Gallery. Some 1,700 artworks from the gallery's rich fund of over 42,000 museum pieces by Bulgarian and foreign artists are exhibited in 28 halls on four levels. There is also a ukiyo-e collection and Asian art halls.

<https://nationalgallery.bg/visiting/kvadrat-500/>



The **National Museum of Military History** (NMMH) is a state museum, which from its establishment until today is a structure of the Ministry of Defense. It investigates, preserves, processes scientifically and popularizes cultural valuables connected with the national and European military history. In possession of a rich and fine art collection.

<http://www.militarymuseum.bg/index-en.html>



In the very center of the city, near the Maria Luiza street, can be seen the remains of **Serdika**, old Sofia.



The central part of Vitosha Blvd is a **pedestrian zone** with many shops and restaurants.



Boyana Church "St. St. Nicholas and Panteleimon" is a medieval Bulgarian church in the Boyana district of Sofia, located at the foot of Vitosha mountain. It is one of the cultural symbols of Bulgaria and was included in 1979 as a cultural monument in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

<http://www.boyanachurch.org/historyen.htm>



Sofia has many **parks** for recreation – South Park (Yujen), West Park (Zapaden), Borissova gradina (close to the Rectorate), etc.



The largest park in Sofia is the **Vitosha mountain**, an hour away from the city. To the top of the mountain lead two lifts: seat and cabin.

One day trips from Sofia



Rila Monastery is the largest and most famous Eastern Orthodox monastery in Bulgaria. It is situated in the southwestern Rila Mountains, 117 km south of the capital Sofia. Founded in the 10th century, the Rila Monastery is regarded as one of Bulgaria's most important cultural, historical and architectural monuments. Under the protection of UNESCO. It enchants visitors all year-around.

<https://www.rilamonastery.info/>



Plovdiv is the second largest city in Bulgaria. It is located in the western part of the Upper Thracian Plain, on both banks of the Maritsa River. Plovdiv has a history of over 8000 years, whose past can be traced back to prehistory. It is one of the oldest living cities in the world. European Capital of Culture for 2019.

The Ancient Theater (in the picture) is protected by UNESCO.



Koprivshitsa is a town in central Bulgaria. In 1978 it was recognized as a national architectural reserve of international importance and a settlement for international tourism. It accommodates some of the finest examples of traditional architecture from the period of the Bulgarian Renaissance. Surrounded by beautiful nature.