

The Mysteries of the Rhodope Mountains

About

A Rhodope mountain adventure suitable for those who want to combine their love for nature with their thirst for excitement. This tour first takes you to the villages of Gela and Shiroka Laka – two stunning architectural reserves with a rich history and unparalleled rural atmosphere. Nearby, in the breathtakingly beautiful Trigrad Gorge, lies the Devil's Throat cave – a place that has inspired countless legends. Its underground rivers lead to unknown places, and it is said that whatever enters their murky waters is never seen again. We'll explore the cave and go off-roading from there to the Eagle Eye viewing platform to enjoy a gorgeous panoramic view of the Rhodope mountain slopes from up high.

Highlights

- Pass through the picturesque Trigrad Gorge
- Explore the Devil's Throat cave – one of nature's most fascinating mysteries
- Enjoy an off-road drive through the wilderness
- See the stunning landscapes visible from the Eagle Eye viewing platform

Description

We'll first visit two picturesque villages of Gela and Shiroka Laka. Their histories are closely entwined, and date back to Thracian times. They are known for their unique architecture, which has earned them the status of architectural reserves. Their unique rural atmosphere will immediately immerse you in Bulgaria's culture and help you get close to its folklore.

After our visits to the two villages, we'll drive through the stunning Trigrad Gorge near the town of Devin.

The Devil's Throat cave is one of the Trigrad Gorge's most notable features. According to a local legend, the mythical musician Orpheus entered the Underworld in search of his beloved Eurydice through this very cave. The Devil's Throat's so called Rumbling Chamber is the second largest cave chamber in Bulgaria – it is large enough that the St. Alexander Nevski Cathedral can fit comfortably inside it. In this chamber is the tallest subterranean waterfall in the Balkans (60 m). The underground river goes into a syphon-tunnel, and where the water flows is yet unknown. At first glance, the river emerges from the depths of the mountain with ease, only 100 m from the entrance, but an experiment in which a large section of the

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river was dyed showed that it takes over 2 hours for the water to run its full course and come out through the other side. Judging by the speed of the flow and the time it took for it to reach the other side, the subterranean section of the river is 40 km long. The Devil's Throat truly lives up to its name, and it is considered one of the most mysterious places in the world.

From there we'll go on an off-road drive to the Eagle Eye viewing platform located an hour and a half away from Yagodina cave. We'll drive through a picturesque part of the Rhodopes until we reach the viewing platform. Here we'll stop to enjoy a panoramic view of the surrounding area – breathtaking landscapes as far as the eye can see, a view of the Buynovsko gorge from above, the mountain Rila and Pirin in the distance, and even a glimpse of the mountains of Greece. This platform at the edge of a cliff is where you can feel what it's like to soar through the sky like an eagle.

From there we'll head back to Plovdiv.

Price per person

- For a group of 4 or more: 50 €
- For a group of 2-3: 70 €
- For a solo tourist: 80 €

The price includes

- Tour guide
- Car transfers

The price does not include

- Entrance fees
- The off-roading
- Lunch