

# PROGRAM

## for the Easter pilgrimage of BOYA in Bulgaria

13 - 18 of April 2004

April 13 (Tuesday) –

### VARIANT A

- Arrival of the Greek, Romanian and Serbian participants in Sofia.

9.30 - Departure for Plovdiv \Philipoupolis\ (from the square in front of the railway station)

12.00 - 13.00 - Arrival in Plovdiv and meeting with the Metropolitan of Plovdiv Arseniy

13.00 - 14.00 - Lunch

14.00 - 16.30 - Sightseeing in the old city and going to churches

16.30 - Leaving for Asenovgrad

17.00 – 18.00 - Vespers and meeting with priests and laymen in the church “St. Nikolai”

18.00 -19.30 - Visit of Asenovgrad town

19.30 - 20.30 - Accommodation of the participants Accommodation of the participants

20.30 – Dinner

### VARIANT B

- Arrival of the Greek, Romanian and Serbian participants in Sofia.

13.00 - Departure for Plovdiv \Philipoupolis\ (from the square in front of the railway station)

15.30 - 16.30 - Arrival in Plovdiv and meeting with the Metropolitan of Plovdiv Arseniy

16.30 - 18.30 - Sightseeing in the old city and going to churches

18.30 - Leaving for Asenovgrad

19.00 -20.00 - Accommodation of the participants

20.00 - Dinner

April 14 (Wednesday)

8.00 - 10.30 - Holy Liturgy in the church “St. Nikolai” in Asenovgrad

10.30 - Departure for Batchkovo monastery

11.00 - 12.30 – Veneration of the miracle-working icons and seeing the museum of the monastery

12.30 - Departure for Asenovgrad

13.00 – 14.00 - Lunch

14.00 - Leaving for Shiroka laka vilage

16.00 - 17.00 - Sightseeing in the village and going to church

17.00 - Departure for Devin

18.00 – Arrival in Devin

18.00 – 19.00 - Vespers and meeting with priests and laymen in the church “St. Ivan Rilsky”

19.00 - 20.00 – Accommodation of the participants in a hotel and a motel in the town

20.00 - Dinner

### April 15 (Thursday)

**8.00 - 10.30 - Holy Liturgy in the church “St. Ivan Rilsky”**

**10.30 - 12.00 - Pilgrimage to the chapel “St. Georgy” near the town**

**12.00 - 13.00 - Lunch**

**13.00 - Departure for Hadzhidimovo village**

**16.30 - Arrival in the village and in the monastery “St. Georgy” in Hadzhidimovo**

**17.00 – 18.00 - Vespers**

**18.00 – 19.00 - Accommodation of the participants**

**19.00 – Dinner**

### April 16 (Friday)

**8.00 - 10.30 - Holy Liturgy**

**10.30 - 11.30 - Meeting with the Metropolitan of Nevrokop Natanail**

**11.30 - 12.30 – Lunch**

**13.30 - Departure for the Rila monastery**

**15.00 - 17.00 - Veneration of the relics of St. Ioan from Rila, the miracle-working icons and seeing the museum of the monastery**

**17.00 – 18.00 - Vespers**

**18.00 - 20.00 - Accommodation of the participants in a motel nearby the monastery**

**20.00 – Dinner**

### April 17 (Saturday)

**8.00 - 10.30 - Holy Liturgy**

**10.30 – Pilgrimage to the chapel, the cave and the grave of St. Ivan Rilsky**

**11.00 – 12.30 – Going to the chapel, the cave, the grave and the agiasmo of St. Ivan Rilsky**

**12.30 – Going back to the motel nearby the monastery**

**13.00 - 14.00 – Lunch in the motel**

**14.30 - Departure for Samokov**

**16.00 - Arrival in Samokov**

**16.00 - 17.00 – Accommodation of the participants in Samokov monastery**

**17.00 – 18.00 – Vespers**

**18.00 – 19.30 - Sightseeing in the old city of Samokov**

**19.30 - 20.30 - Dinner**

### April 18 (Sunday)

**8.00 - 11.00 - Holy Liturgy in the monastery**

**11.00 - 12.30 - Going for sightseeing to the resort of Borovetz**

**12.30 - 13.30 - Lunch**

**14.00 - Departure for Sofia**

**15.30 – Arrival in Sofia**

**N. B. This program may be changed in the course of the preparing the pilgrimage and making more precise the appointments.**

# EXPLANATIONS TO THE PROGRAM FOR THE EASTER PILGRIMAGE

## April 13 (Tuesday)

While sightseeing the participants will see the old city of Plovdiv (Philipoupolis), the amphitheater and the old city fortress walls. They will go to several old churches: “St. Constantine and Elena”, “St. Marina” and “St. Bogoroditza”. Also the same day will be the sightseeing of Asenovgrad which is known as the town in Bulgaria with greatest number of churches and chapels.

In the town the participants will take part in a meeting with youth Orthodox Christians in the church “St. Nikolay”.

## April 14 (Wednesday)

During the second day will be the pilgrimage to Batchkovo monastery (founded by Georgian monks). In the monastery the pilgrims will venerate the miracle-working icon of Panagia and will see the museum of the monastery.

In the afternoon there will be a short stay and sightseeing in the village Shiroka laka which is famous for its old Bulgarian architecture and its church which has been built for 50 days.

In Devin the participants will take part in a meeting with youth Orthodox Christians in the church “St. Ioan Rilsky”.

## April 15 (Thursday)

During the day the participants will go to the chapel “St. Georgy” near the town of Devin which can be seen on the first photo on the web-site of BOYA [www.boyanet.org](http://www.boyanet.org) – “Pilgrimages in the Rodophee monitions “ (the chapel is situated very picturesquely on the top of a hill).

In the afternoon the participants will depart for Hadzhidimovo village. The village is famous with its the monastery of “St. Georgy” which is a residence of the Metropolitan of Nevrokop Natanail.

## April 16 (Friday)

During the fourth day the pilgrims will be on a pilgrimage to Rila monastery (founded by St. Ivan Rilsky). In the monastery the pilgrims will venerate the relics of St. Ioan from Rila, the miracle-working icon of Panagia and will see the museum of the monastery.

## April 17 (Saturday)

During the fifth day the participants will be on a short pilgrimage to the chapel, the cave and the grave of St. Ivan Rilsky.

In the afternoon the pilgrims will leave for Samokov and the monastery “Pokrov Bogoroditchen”.

In the evening they will go sightseeing in old town of Samokov.

## April 18 (Sunday)

The last day the participants will have a short sightseeing in the famous winter resort Panporovo.

In the afternoon the pilgrims will leave for Sofia.