

Route -2



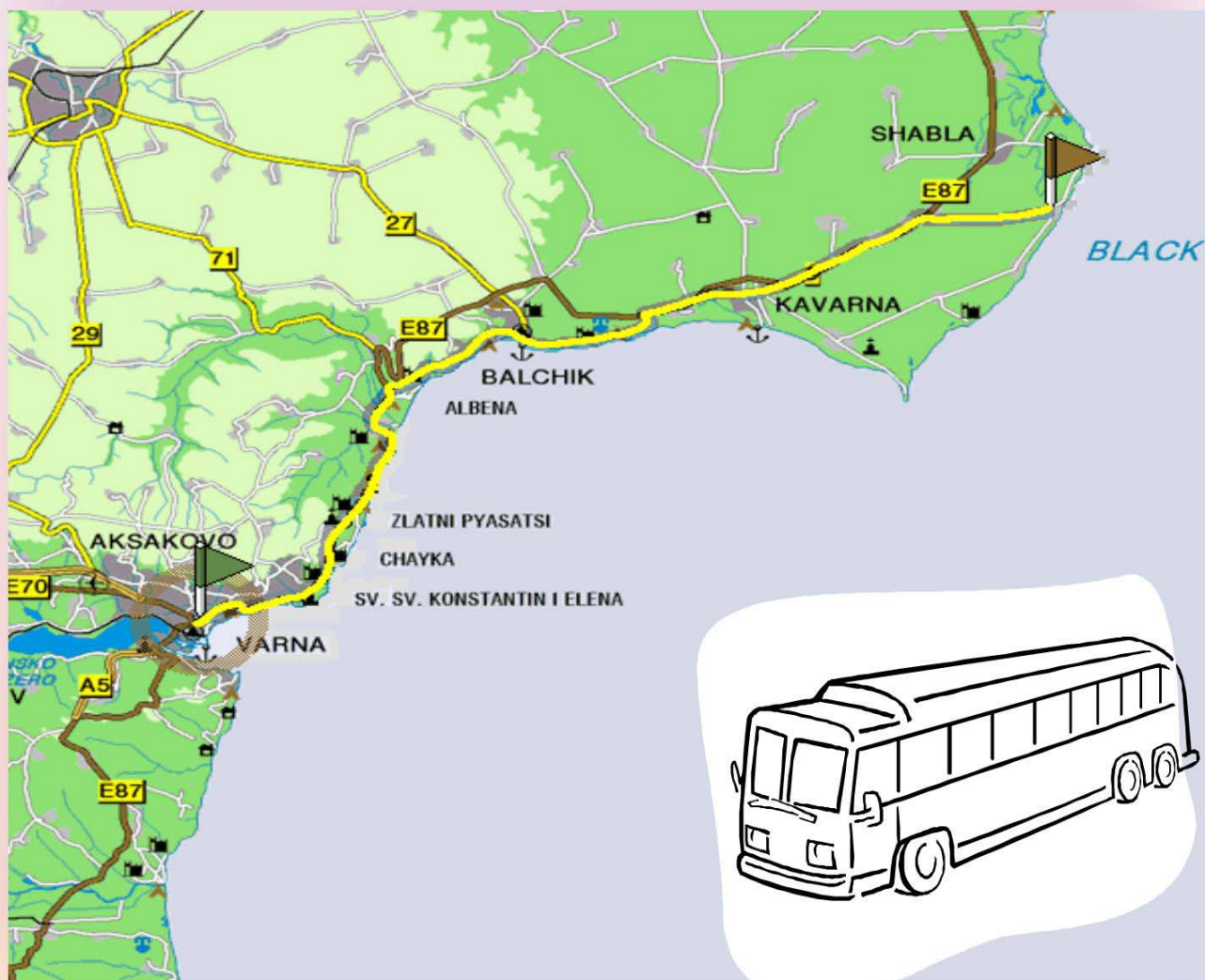
Varna - Aladja Monastery

Golden Sands - Albena

Balchik - Kavarna

cape Kaliakra

Kamen Bryag - Tyulenovo



Aladja Monastery

12km north from Varna



It was an active Isichast monastic community, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, during the Second Bulgarian Empire since the 12th century and perhaps survived until the early 18th century. Today, it is a popular tourist destination. Its present name appeared in the late Ottoman period; Alaca (Turkish: motley) referred to its colourful murals



Aladja Monastery is a medieval Orthodox Christian cave monastery complex in northeastern Bulgaria, 17 km north of central Varna and 3 km west of Golden Sands beachfront resort. It is situated in a protected forest area adjacent to Zlatni Pyasatsi Nature Park. The monastery caves were hewn into a 25-m high vertical carst cliff near the upper edge of the Frangen plateau on several levels. The complex also includes two small nearby catacombs.



Golden Sands



17km north from Varna



Golden sands is famous with its nice golden sand and long beaches. The Bulgarian Black Sea coast enjoys a mild and pleasant climate. Rainfall is low, heavy falls of snow and fogs extremely rare. The Black Sea beaches are covered with crystal clear sands.

Because of its natural beauty, Bulgarian Black Sea coast has become famous international resort area

The park lies 17km. north of Varna, near the Golden Sands resort.

The average altitude is 110m, and the highest point in the park is 269.3 m above the sea level.

On the territory of the park there are 5 tourists and bicycle routes with different difficulty and duration. The routes pass through old fountains, places for rest, and places that disclose fantastic panorama of the sea.



The name Golden sands comes from an old legend: Pirates digged in huge golden treasure in the seaside north from Varna. The land took revenge on the bandits and transformed the gold into wonderful sand.



Albena

35km north from Varna

The Albena resort is located 12 km away from Balchik, 30 km away from Varna and 500 km north-east from Sofia. Albena is one of the most prestigious Bulgarian Black sea resorts. It's situated near the Baltata reserve, which is a dense forest near the Batova River. The combination of a fresh air, greenery, delicate sand with golden color and a very clean water makes this area favorable place for tourists. The beach is 5 km long and 150 m wide.



The forest reserve "Baltata" contributes greatly to the unique natural conditions that Albena offers to its guests. The reserve spreads out on 183 ha longoz forest, starting from the main road Kranevo _ Albena, continues behind the hotels in the resort and reaches the open waters of the Black sea. Nowadays "Baltata" is an integral part of Albena; together they offer a unique combination of preserved nature and a modern tourist resort providing different forms of recreation and ecotourism



Balchik

47km north from Varna

The main sight of Balchik is the Palace of queen Marie of Romania, wife of king Ferdinand, and the botanical garden. The mixture of architectural styles European and Oriental makes it an unique and unforgettable site.

That is the first Art gallery in South Dobrudza and is situated in a nice building erected in the beginning of 20 century. It exposes modern Bulgarian art and organizes various exhibitions.



Kavarna



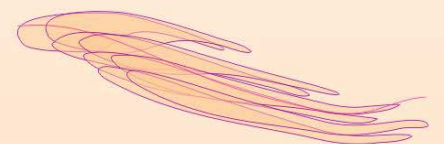
Here where the modern town exists there was an fortress, called Bizonne, founded by Greek colonists in the 5th century BC. However, crucial earthquakes destroyed both the town and the fortress, and some parts of the rocks sank under the sea.



The "Saint George" church was built in 1836 and the "The Holly Assumption" Church - in 1860. Both churches played an important role during the Ottoman rule and after the Liberation as educational and cultural centers. The churches are also related to the fights for the establishment of an individual municipality in the region. Their architectural structure and precious icons make them sites of great

cape Kaliakra

Kaliakra is a beautiful cape close to the Romanian border. Close to Kaliakra (12 km.) one can visit the town of Kavarna, which lies 60 km away from Varna. The cape stretches 2km deep into the sea and consists of 60-70m-high limestone rocks, the inaccessibility of which has been the main reason for the construction of an ancient fortress named Tirisis there.



Kamen Bryag

Kamen Bryag is a combination of a sea with shading green and blue nuances, a beautiful panorama, and a crystal pure air. People have lived here for thousands of years in harmony with nature and they have preserved untouched beauties and amazing abundance of plants and animals in combination with cultural and historic heritage.

You will find neat and tidy, cozy village homes, without any unneeded luxury. The hosts will welcome you with sincere gaiety, their sense of humor and wit will warm you up.



Churches. Some of the excavated tools date back to 5th century BC.

2 km southwards from the village of Kamen Bryag you can find the Yayla National Archaeological Reserve. 101 caves have been documented- single ones or in groups. They had been used as homes for thousands of centuries, some of them used to be tombs or churches. Some of the excavated tools date back to 5th century BC.

Tyulenovo

The small village is a typical rural settlement. Its name comes from the old times' seasonal migration of seals to those waters. Seals have not arrived for more than 20 years now, but the name of the village is there is remind of them. Somewhere in the middle between Kamen Bryag and Tulenovo and close to an abandoned army barrack, those that have chosen to walk the 5km distance between the two villages can visit the so-called Rocky Monasteries. A metal staircase that starts in a small hole in the rock climbs down to a complex of cave homes.



Further on down you can get to a megalithic complex. The megalith consists of spherical forms carved into the rock to illustrate ancient inhabitants' cult to the Sun. The stone suns have a diameter of above 1 meter, and are grouped into ensembles of two or three. synchronised water dance.