

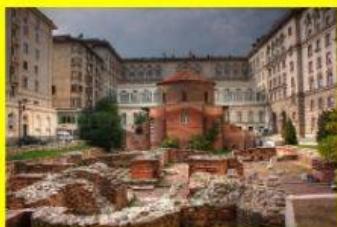
READ THE TEXT ABOUT SIGHTS IN SOFIA – THE CAPITAL OF BULGARIA AND USE THE VERBS IN BRACKETS IN A PROPER FORM (PAST SIMPLE, PAST CONTINUOUS, PAST PERFECT)

Bulgaria's capital has a lot of stories to tell, and each historic attraction will give you a new perspective on Sofia's complicated past.



St. Alexander Nevski Cathedral

The scale of this building will blow you away. Inside St. Alexander Nevski has room for 10,000 people and it's the second largest cathedral in the Balkan region. They _____ (build) it in 1880s. People _____ (create) this cathedral to commemorate the soldiers who _____ (give) their lives for the freedom of Bulgaria.



St. George Rotunda

The heart of ancient Serdica and the oldest building in modern Sofia, this red brick church was built all the way back in 300s. This building _____ (survive) unscathed for such an amount of time, and all around shows the great age of the site and civilisations that _____ (pass) though.



Vitosha Boulevard

The fanciest street in the city, Vitosha Boulevard is where all the posh boutiques and fashion houses are situated. If you're not an upmarket shopper then you can just console yourself with those arresting views of Vitosha Mountain which is capped with a dusting of snow for much of the year and framed by the street's tall buildings. The mountain is very old. It _____ (stand) even in prehistoric times.



Boyana Church

On the lower slopes of Vitosha Mountain is this UNESCO heritage site.

They _____ (build) from the 1000s to the 1800s, but the most important additions were made during the Second Bulgarian Empire in the 1200s. This is when the fabulous interior frescoes were painted, depicting some 240 historical and biblical figures in a realistic style 200 years before renaissance artists _____ (do) the same.



National Institute of Archaeology

Ferdinand I _____ (to be) on hand when this museum was inaugurated back in 1905 as a way of bringing all of the important archaeological finds scattered around Sofia and Bulgaria under one roof. The main sections here are Prehistory, Main Hall (containing items from classical civilisations), Medieval Section and Treasury. The last on that list has the Valchitran and Lukovit Treasures, two breathtaking hoards of Thracian Gold. Discovered in 1953, the Lukovit Treasure dates to the time of Alexander the Great's invasion of Thrace in 400BC.



Central Mineral Baths

Sofia has a lot of spring activity. These waters _____ (draw) visitors even in medieval times. The Central Baths _____ (date) to 1913. It's one of Sofia's most photographed buildings, constructed in the neo-byzantine style with a large dome behind an impressive vestibule. The gardens are open to the public and the fountain at the centre is fed by the hot natural mineral water.