

## Excursion to Bansko and Dobarsko

The town of Bansko is situated at the foot of the Pirin mountain in the south-western Bulgaria, 160 km from Sofia. Bansko strikes the visitor with its labyrinth of beauty, with its original distinctive architecture, iconography, wonderful wood-carvings, houses in Bulgarian National Revival style and flower gardens in the little yards. It is believed that the territory of Bansko was inhabited by Thracians, Romans, Byzantines and Slavs from the earliest time in history.



The town appeared in 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century it was an established Bulgarian spiritual center with developed crafts, culture, art and trade. Bansko art school became very popular and spread the fame of Bansko people over the Balkans and Central Europe.



Bansko mountain resort is attractive in all seasons and is number one ski resort in Bulgaria. It features the best ski centre and the longest ski season of all Bulgarian ski resorts.



The unique church St. St. Theodor Tiron and Theodor Stratitat in Dobarsko is famous for the mural paintings that occupy its entire interior-about 160 m<sup>2</sup>. Here you can see images that can not be seen anywhere else. You will be able to follow the life of Jesus Christ-from the Immaculate Conception to his Ascension. Here, and nowhere else, you are able to see Christ in a “space ship”-the Transfiguration scene; you can see him leading in a “space capsule”-Christ’s Resurrection.

