


MACEDONIA



**UNDISCOVERED
TOURISM TREASURE**





 She

 He

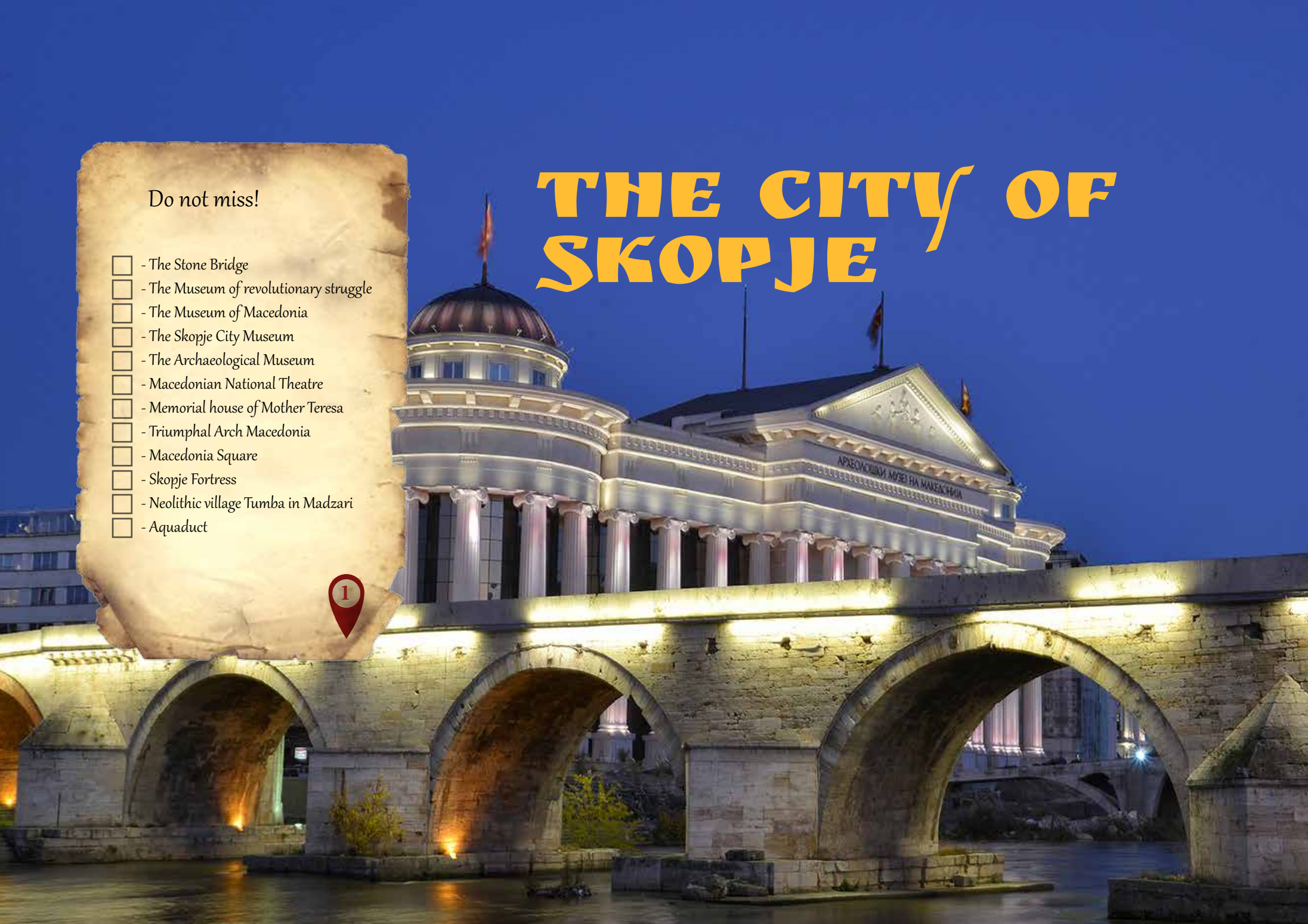
Google does not know everything! One can get informed, but not get direct experience. What some coffee looks like, but not how it tastes. Where certain place is located, but nothing about how it feels to be there! Which are the good places for going out, but it cannot replace the feeling of holding hands. Where there are secrets - but one needs to discover them. Exploring is left to us. Therefore, put your hat on, put the backpack on your back, and go ahead - discover Macedonia!

Do not miss!

- The Stone Bridge
- The Museum of revolutionary struggle
- The Museum of Macedonia
- The Skopje City Museum
- The Archaeological Museum
- Macedonian National Theatre
- Memorial house of Mother Teresa
- Triumphal Arch Macedonia
- Macedonia Square
- Skopje Fortress
- Neolithic village Tumba in Madzari
- Aquaduct



THE CITY OF SKOPJE





Skopje is the capital of the Republic of Macedonia, full of contrasts – the old and new seems to be competitors with some silent agreement. Skopje is full of cafes which have a spectacular view towards the old and the new parts of city. On one side of the Stone Bridge, there are modern shopping malls of glass and metal and the Kale Fortress right behind them. Charming views that take your breath away, the old and the modern Skopje are close friends - different but perfectly complementary.



On the streets of Skopje you will not hear only one language, but an abundance of languages - a real pot of diversity. Many perceive it as a tasty soup of many ingredients, such as old wine since it has witnessed the entire human history: from the beginning in the Neolithic period, being a Roman base, outlasting the Byzantine Empire, the Ottoman Empire, set on fire, destroyed by earthquakes... There is a city always re-born from the ashes, like a fiery phoenix. This is the spirit of Skopje - vivacity, energy, vitality, joy. Speaking of joy... The evenings are full with entertainment! One of the things that dominates the Internet is the fun and nightlife in Skopje. A number of recommendations can be found on blogs advising you how to spend the night in excellent disco clubs, pubs, restaurants, cafes.



Adam of Govrlevo - ceramic figure of a male torso in a sitting position. One of the oldest artefacts from Macedonia, dating from 4-3 century BC.



SKOPJE OLD BAZAAR

Do not miss!

- Mustafa Pasha Mosque
- Daut Pasha Hammam
- Sultan Murad Mosque
- Clock Tower
- Old Bazaar
- Kurshumli Han
- St. Saviour Church
- Oriental food (simit, burek, tavche-gravche, kebaps)





A walk through the Old Bazaar is revitalising! Vibrant and full of life, different from the modern parts of the city and full of uniqueness. One of the specific things, as remains from the past, are the old barbers. Visiting the barber shops, and the delicious traditional Macedonian food and coffee on the cobblestone streets can make the day better. The Old Bazaar is one of the oldest and largest markets in the Balkans, as a time machine - every next corner takes you through the different periods of its existence. Colourful rugs, teahouses, ancient old shops, modern music, the smell of tradition... and the food. The appetites are increased by the supply of fresh baked bread with delicious kebabs, available at every corner.



The Bazaar makes you smile. The walk-through will relax you and the music will subtly lead you through the narrow streets filled with shops, restaurants and pastry shops. Handmade filigree and precious jewellery is sold in almost every store, because the Bazaar is a place of crafts. Filigree is a piece of magic which contains a story in itself, emotion and memories replicated through the delicate butterflies and flowers of thin gold or silver wires. Macedonian filigree masters are masters at creating delicate jewellery and souvenirs!

Filigree - art craft with a long tradition in Macedonia, which is considered one of the finest, most beautiful and oldest techniques for processing metal. Macedonian filigree often incorporate processed precious stones.



MATKA CANYON

Do not miss!

- Vrelo cave
- Monastery of Our Lady, Matka
- St. Andrew Monastery
- Boating through the canyon
- Canoeing
- Mountain hiking
- Rock climbing





Matka is a sorceress, captivating with its beauty. It provides canoeing options for beginners along the canyon accompanied by a guide or an option of canoeing on the Treska River. Interesting names that make us associate the brightness of the water that can be seen, nor the cliffs where one feels so small in comparison with the nature that surrounds us. This magic offers surprises behind every corner are home to ancient churches and numerous mysterious caves, under and above the lake.



Cave "Vrelo" has significantly lower temperature than the outside. The entrance to the cave is through the river, directly by boat. This underwater cave has a huge open-space area called the "concert hall" due to its acoustics. Excellent venue for concerts, decorated by nature. In the middle of the cave there is a huge rock called "pine-cone" with its own underground lake. Diving expeditions have so far reached the depth of 212 meters (which makes this cave - the deepest in the Balkans, and the second deepest in Europe), but due to the depth and darkness, some future expeditions will examine this miracle of nature.



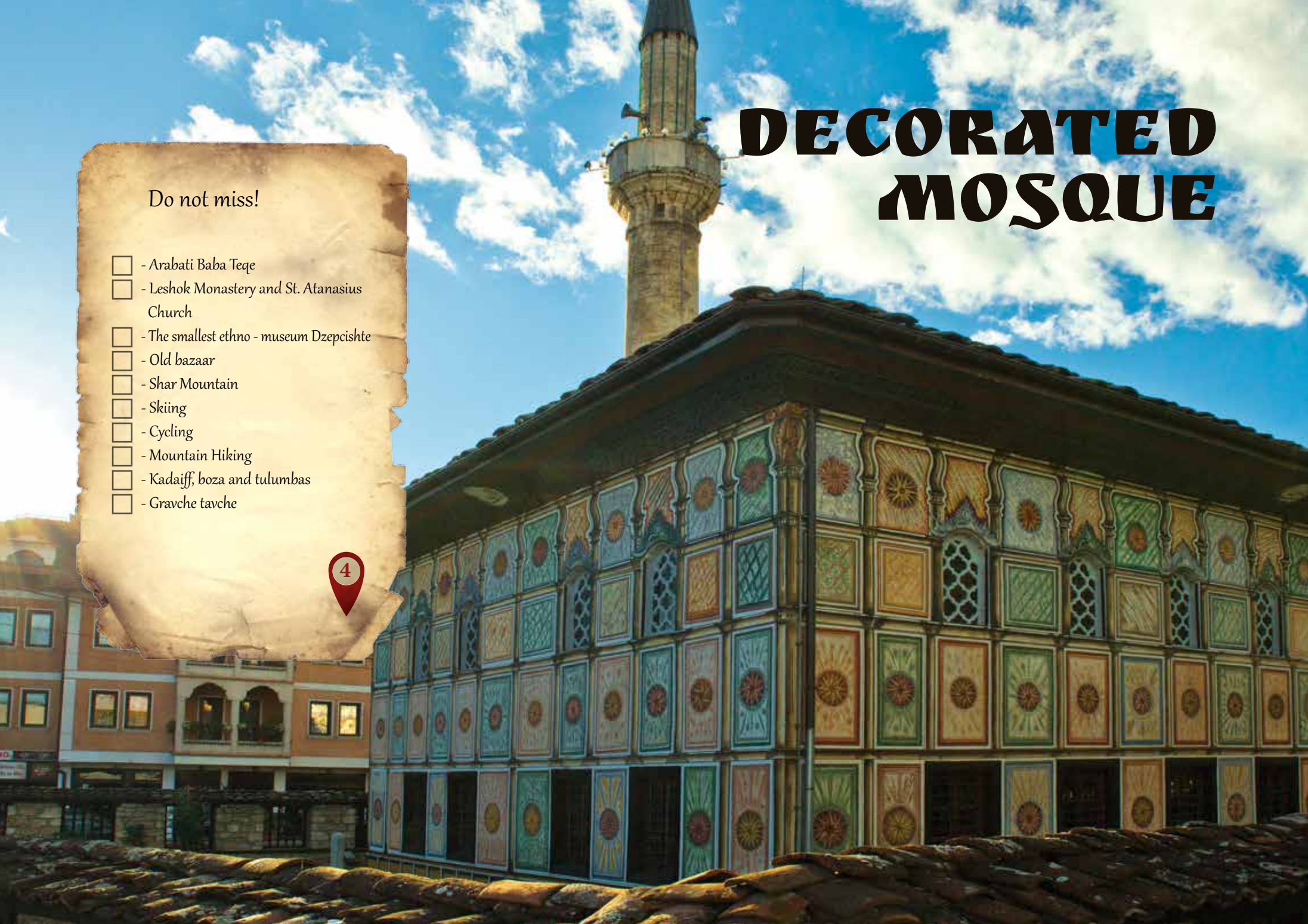
Venus Pudika is almost fully preserved life-size sculpture, made of fine-grained white marble originating from the 11 century. It was found in large thermal facility at the archaeological site Skupi.



DECORATED MOSQUE

Do not miss!

- Arabati Baba Teqe
- Leshok Monastery and St. Atanasius Church
- The smallest ethno - museum Dzepcishte
- Old bazaar
- Shar Mountain
- Skiing
- Cycling
- Mountain Hiking
- Kadaiff, boza and tulumbas
- Gravche tavche





Tetovo is located west of Skopje in a region rich in natural beauty located on the slopes of the Shara Mountain, the largest mountain in Macedonia. On top of the mountain there are ski resorts and nature untouched by human hand. Clean air and slopes perfect for skiing guarded by Shara Mountain dogs - sheepdog sweet as a bear and big as a lion. They are protectors of cattle of villagers who produce homemade cheese, meat and milk. Taste that must be tried.



Narrow streets, people chatting while rushing through the streets and many stone bridges – this is Tetovo. You have not visited Tetovo if you have not tasted widely known Tetovo beans. The main decoration of Tetovo is the Decorated Mosque - a temple and piece of art. This 5-centuries old mosque looks like it was designed yesterday, resembling beautiful music box decorated with precious decorations and ornaments. The interior, however, speaks of another time, a world full of carpets and walls are placed as arabesques at the ceiling painted with great places in the clouds.



Tetovska manada - a bronze statuette dating from the VI century BC. It represents a companion to the god of wine Dionysus.



NATIONAL PARK MAVROVO

Do not miss!

- Mavrovo Lake
- The submerged church of St. Nikola
- "Sharko's hole" cave
- "Deer leap" bridge
- Winter sports
- Mountain Hiking
- Cycling
- Polenta with sour milk
- Mavrovo cheese

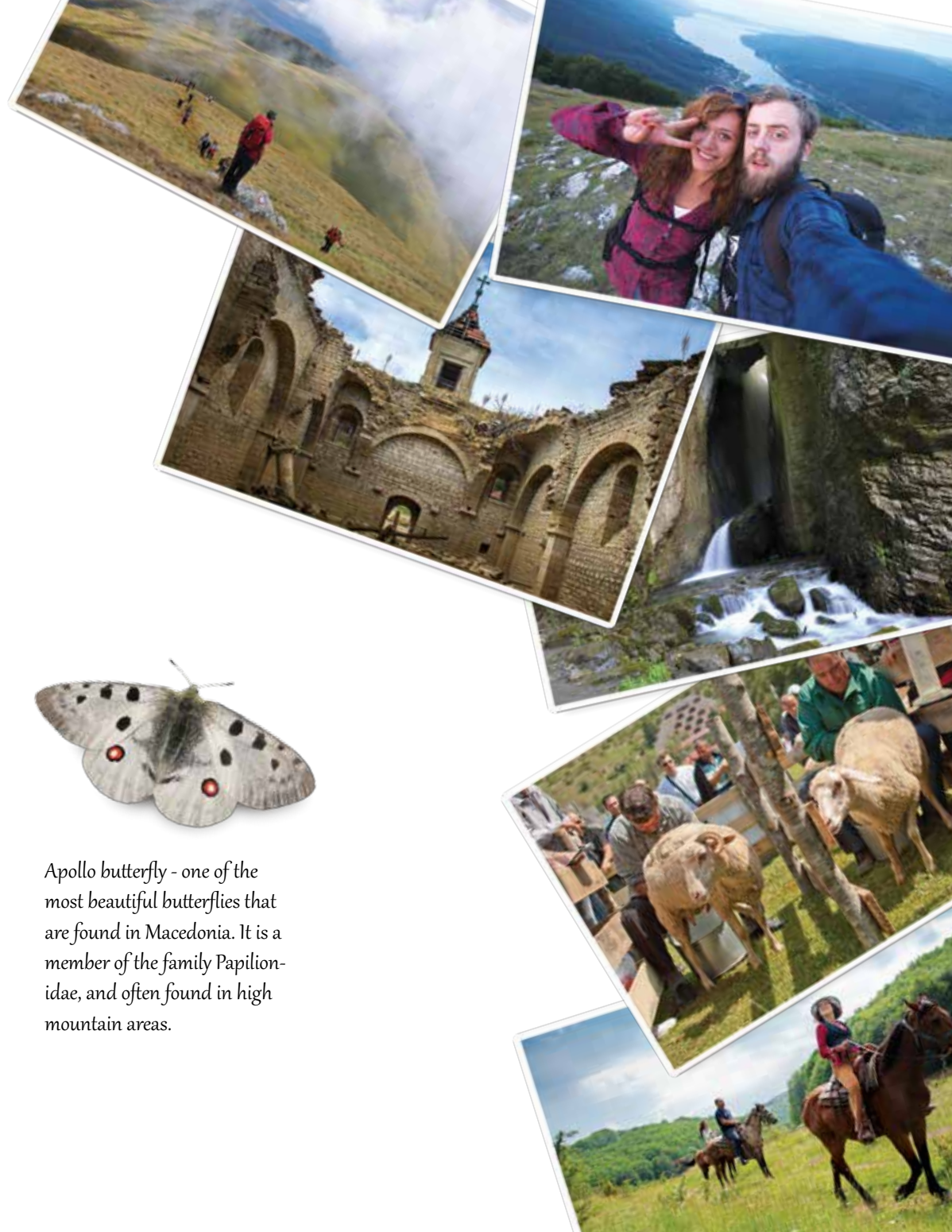




Mountain air in the National Park “Mavrovo” awakens the senses. It is refreshing and vibrant in the wild landscape rich in untouch nature, fresh air, unique animals and plants, and all this along a few mountains, valleys and lakes. One can everywhere see flocks of sheep that produce healthy, strong milk and well known Mavrovo cheese. “Mavrovo” is the largest national park in Macedonia rich with secret mountain waterfalls!



On top of the mountain Bistra, there is a horses ranch! Curious beginners accompanied by instructors have an opportunity to experience horse-riding through the mountain. At the very top, the view is spectacular. The green color that dominates meets the blue of the Mavrovo lake, behind which one can see Korab with the highest peaks in Macedonia.

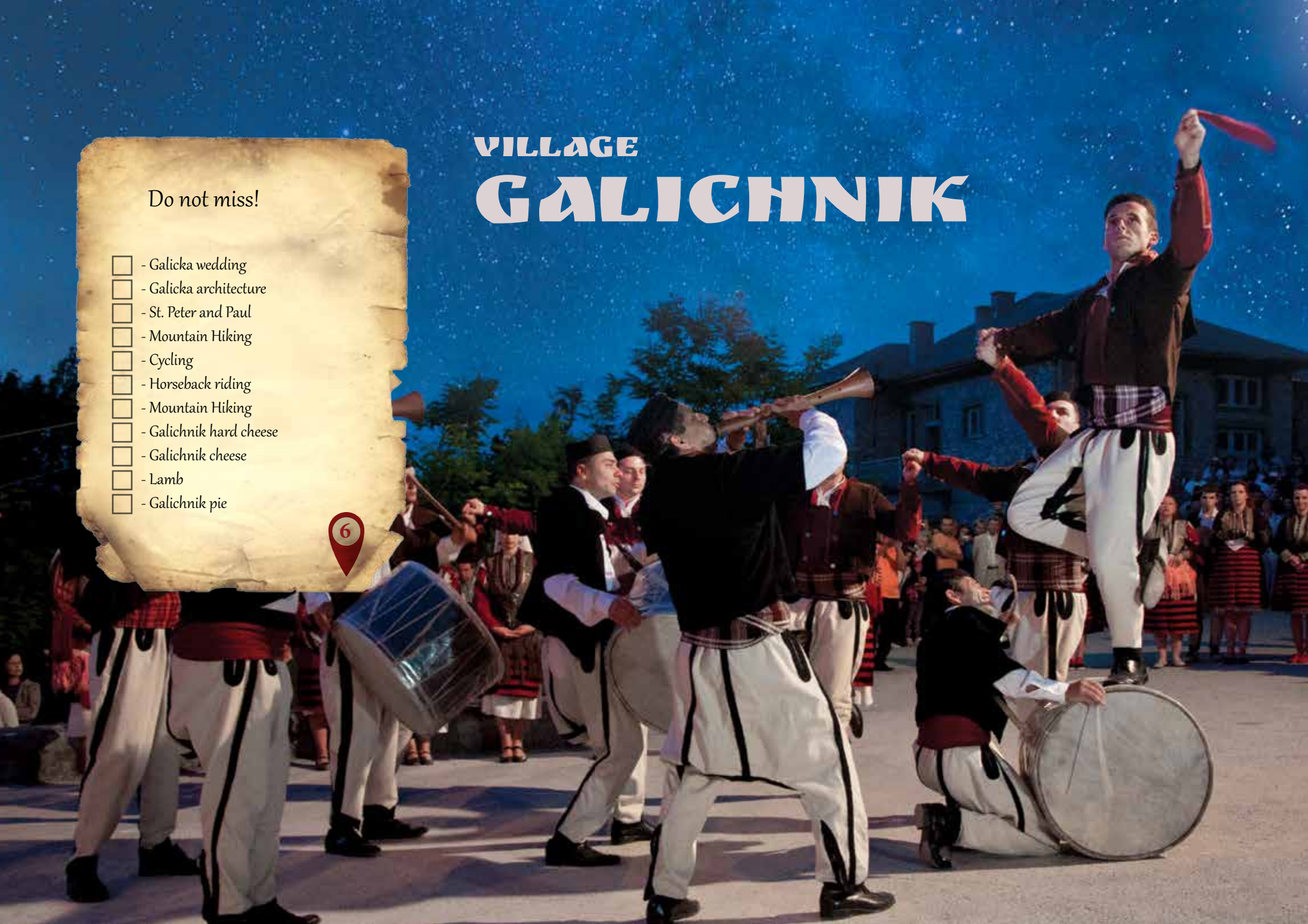


Apollo butterfly - one of the most beautiful butterflies that are found in Macedonia. It is a member of the family Papilionidae, and often found in high mountain areas.

VILLAGE GALICHNIK

Do not miss!

- Galicka wedding
- Galicka architecture
- St. Peter and Paul
- Mountain Hiking
- Cycling
- Horseback riding
- Mountain Hiking
- Galichnik hard cheese
- Galichnik cheese
- Lamb
- Galichnik pie





The famous Galichnik stands for its specific Macedonian architecture. It is a village of migrants surrounded by natural beauty, a place where traditional Galichnik wedding is held. It is known as the place with the most beautiful Macedonian traditional costume, but with even more beautiful cheese and yellow cheese is served even on the Titanic menu. The view from the village is directed towards Debar Lake and towards the known Reka villages.



Galichnik, among other things, is known for its weddings! Galichnik wedding is more than just a wedding, it is an event that is so loud, lavish and large, resembling a festival or celebration. During the Christian holiday of St. Peter's, bride looks at her groom through the inner part of the ring, and then climbs on a horse and rides to his house. The guests are richly dressed in the spirit of tradition - embroidered costumes resembling filigree! Drums, trumpets and wonderful old-fashioned instruments thundering like thunder and echo across the mountain! The power of music makes us shiver while the couple arrives in the village on a horseback.



Galichka buckle - ornament that even today, just as in many past centuries is worn as an integral part of folk bridal costume of Galichnik wedding.



Do not miss!

- Monastic quarters
- The monastery library
- The wooden iconostasis
- Debar Lake
- St. George the Victorious
- Rajchica
- Korab waterfalls
- Reka villages
- Pie eating festival



MONASTERY ST. JOVAN BIGORSKI



St. Jovan Bigorski is located just under Bistra and Galichnik monastery. Looking outside, the monastery complex looks like a gray castle (the origin of the name "bigor"), but inside it is decorated with fantastic wooden carvings, manually made by the best Miyak masters – Petre Filipovski-Garkata and Makarie Frchkovski. About 1000 years old monastery has adopted its own order to be respected by the guests. The complex comprises a church, synod, guest rooms and a library that is packed with old books. The decor in the monastery is one of the unique in Christianity, the monastery is surrounded by flowers, trees, wood carving, decorations and icons. It is full of relics and dozens of centuries-old icons, including the icon of St. John the Baptist, banded in silver armor.



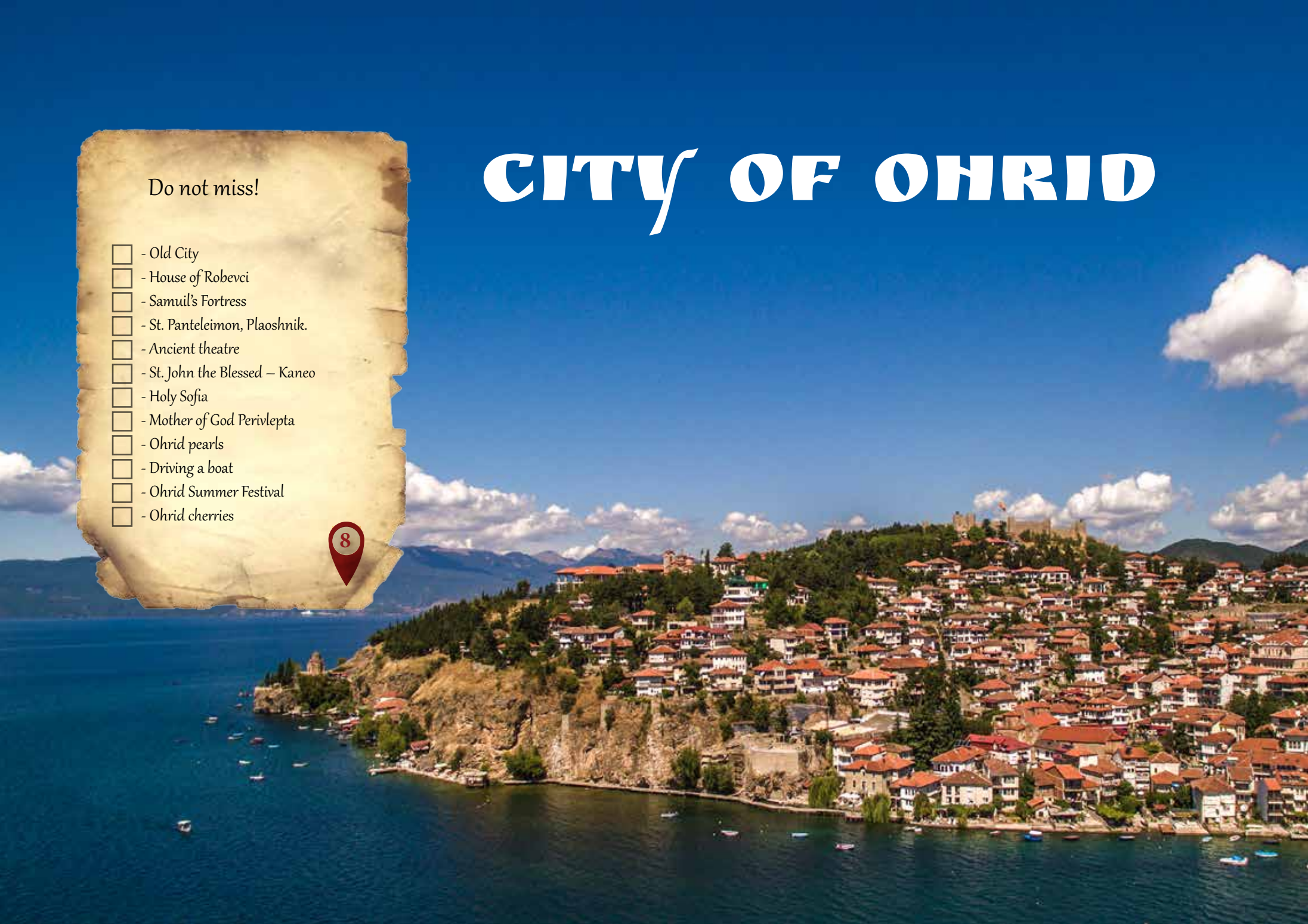
Rajchica convent full of welcoming nuns offering the attendees knowledge in custom made mitre of spiritual leaders in the Orthodox world. These ceremonial robes are beautiful as paintings made by the skilful hands of nuns. Rajchica is located on the shore of Lake Debar and has the most beautiful view of the sunset, when the colours romantically spill. The village of Janche is located nearby - famous for its authentic old houses with preserved authentic lifestyle where you can taste the vegetables and fruit with natural fragrance.



CITY OF OHRID

Do not miss!

- Old City
- House of Robevci
- Samuel's Fortress
- St. Panteleimon, Plaoshnik.
- Ancient theatre
- St. John the Blessed – Kaneo
- Holy Sofia
- Mother of God Perivlepta
- Ohrid pearls
- Driving a boat
- Ohrid Summer Festival
- Ohrid cherries





The ancient city of Ohrid is located on the shore of the lake, the pearl of the Balkan Peninsula. The city has 365 churches, one for each day of the year. The city is double protected by UNESCO as a cultural and natural heritage, the city can see things that will make you visit it again.



Water and sunshine, sounds, seagulls and boats that sway on the lake waves, giving Ohrid a Mediterranean flavor, while the city's architecture reminds you that you are in one unique place. Samuel's fortress is located above the city, whose walls date back to 2000 years ago and used to be a home to a variety of soldiers and armies. Not far away is Plaoshnik, a combination of Christian temple, complex of buildings and tombs dating back to the very beginnings of Christianity. Several centuries later, the University of St. Clement was located here - the place where the Cyrillic alphabet for the Slavic peoples were invented. Ancient soil walked by people for thousands of years, inventors, creative people, saints, until the people who fought wars and spread the word of Christianity.



Asseman gospel - the oldest Macedonian Glagolitic manuscript from the beginning of XI century, containing 158 parchment sheets and optional weekly gospel - aprakos.



Do not miss!

- Biljana Springs
- Ohrid Swimming Marathon
- Sailing
- Paragliding
- Hiking
- Diving
- Ohrid trout
- Ohrid bleak
- Ohrid eel



LAKE OHRID





Lake Ohrid is the oldest lake in Europe. That itself is a fascinating fact, but knowing that it was inhabited by people back in the Neolithic and is home to over 200 endemic, prehistoric animals and plants, makes it unique. The reconstructed Neolithic settlement “Bay of Bones” represents life in the great history when people were building settlements in the water in order to protect the animals. Endemic species of fish, such as lake Ohrid trout and eel are found in the lake. Eel is a resident of the lake and world traveller - through Drim out of the lake, traveling all year to distant parts of the world-Sargasso Sea and back again.



The beaches with small white stones surrounded by dominant blue-green lake waters which is perfect for water sports. Ohrid is the home of the swimming marathon, which was attended by participants from all countries of the world. Marathon of 30km attracts numerous audience that contributes to make amazing spectacle.



Gold funerary masks Trebenishte. (VI-V century BC)



Do not miss!

- Cave churches St. Athanasius
- Bridge of Poetry
- Struga Poetry Evenings
- National Museum Struga
- Memorial House of Miladinov Brothers
- Vevchani and Vevchani Carnival
- Remains of the Via Egnatia
- Fishing village Radozhda
- Eels - Struga style



STRUGA RIVIERA



If you visit the Ohrid lake, you have to visit Struga, too and as the saying goes "There is no other place as Struga! Struga is best known for "Struga Poetry evenings" the world's largest event of this kind with a tradition of 50 years. If the city Ohrid has its Swimming Marathon, then Struga has literary marathon which brings world's greatest poets every year. Book festival where the whole world exchange art and part of which were Allen Ginsberg, Ted Hughes, Pablo Neruda, Margaret Atwood and many others. They all stood on the bridge that crosses the river Drim and Ohrid lake - and read poetry, bringing the world together. In deed, there is no other place like Struga!



Belvica is a specialty of the city of Struga and Radožda is a village on the western shore of the Ohrid lake. Do not be tricked by the appearance of Radožda - although today it looks like a modern village has existed for tens of centuries. Proof of this is the secret of Radožda called "St. Archangel Michael" small church with magical frescoes - located in a cave.

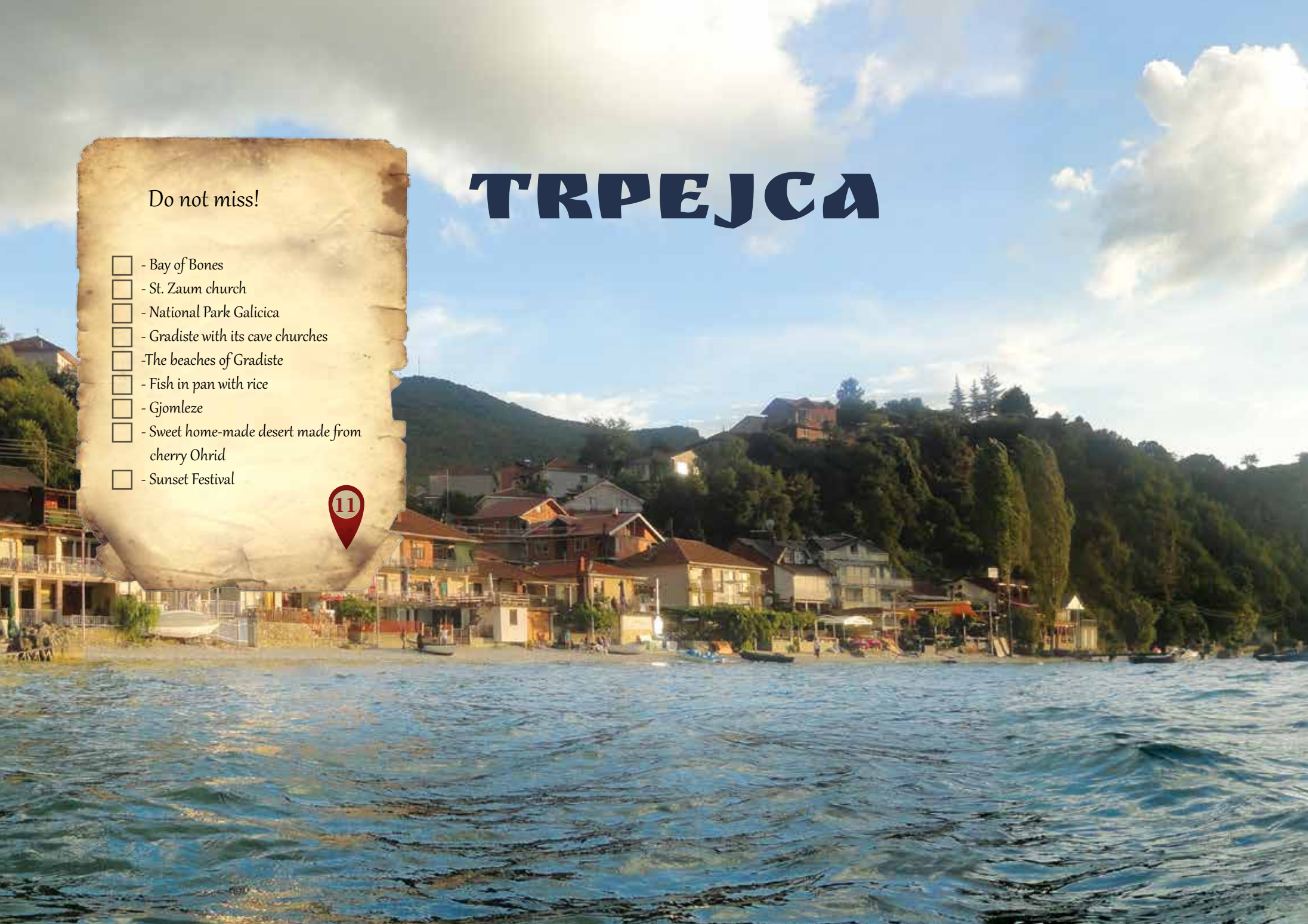


The production of the famous Ohrid pearls is a secret known only to a few Ohrid families.

TRPEJCA

Do not miss!

- Bay of Bones
- St. Zaum church
- National Park Galicica
- Gradiste with its cave churches
- The beaches of Gradiste
- Fish in pan with rice
- Gjomleze
- Sweet home-made desert made from cherry Ohrid
- Sunset Festival





Tranquillity and relaxation can be found in Trpejca, the most famous fishing village in Ohrid, famous for its delicious food and above all the beautiful sunset. Trpejca is impressive - houses placed on a rounded hill resembling a drop over the lake and the houses reach the very lake water edge.



Offering life with love and peaceful pace, Trpejca has a blessed energy that rests the body and spirit. Sunset, gold, violet, blue - a moment in which one cannot help but fall in love. Sunset is a spiritual appetizer and for a main course Trpejca always offers freshly caught fish, rose Macedonian wine, Macedonian homemade cheese, fresh salad and home baked bread. Absolutely romantic!



Ohrid trout (*Salmo letnica*), endemic fish from Ohrid lake is the most commonly used symbols in different spheres of life in the country, in the present and in the past.



ST. NAUM

Do not miss!

- St. Naum Of Ohrid Monastery
- Tomb of St. Naum
- Sources of the river. Drim
- Boating on the river sources
- Fish stew





ST. Naum monastery is a monastery of the Macedonian educator Naum, a disciple of Cyril and Methodius, the creators of the Cyrillic alphabet. There is an old legend that the monastery was initially royal palace, given as a gift to St. Naum for curing the king's daughter. Out of love for Christianity, he decided to give up its rich heritage and dedicated himself to science and Christianity. In 910, according to legend, St. Naum died. When he knocked at the gates of St. Peter, he welcomed with the words: You do not belong in this paradise, go to the Earth paradise. His relics are found in the Monastery, the place exudes holiness, but fulfilling and deep humility. The spirit of St. Naum the Miracle Worker still lives, and his wonders survived to this day have through many legends as instructive stories. As per the legend the visitors who put their ear of his grave can hear the beating of his heart, which is actually the visitor's heart but the silence makes this trick.



On the back side of this wonderful monastery there are the sources of the Ohrid lake - Black Drim river, which fills up the lake and flows out of it. Surrounded by a maze of small lakes with turquoise clear waters, surrounded by a deep silence and thick green forest. The silence and beauty of the church in St. Naum are specific, moments that can be heard ringing of nature with some restful silence.



Celtic helmet III-century BC
Areheoloshki site Lihnidos



PRESPA LAKE

Do not miss!

- Grand City Island
- Ljubojno village
- Brajchino village
- St. George church - Kurbinovo
- Bird watching
- Mountain Hiking
- Cycling
- Prespa carp
- Cironki (dried fish)





When in Trpejca and looking at the Ohrid Lake, behind you is the mountain Galichica, and behind it again... another lake, Prespa. The area is very quiet, almost untouched nature, the beaches are sandy, and this is a great opportunity for all those who would like to admire its nature alone, in peace and quiet. Scientists claim that Ohrid and Prespa Lake are connected, and that one lake tributes into the other through deep, underground rivers and caves under the mountain Galichica.



Galichica is another national park. Prespa Lake is located in the national park, including the Golem Grad Island (Grand City Island). The island, though small, is the biggest in Macedonia, and represents a very isolated and mysterious place. It has a specific outlook - white cliffs, white trees, many pelicans and untouched nature surrounding them. Golem Grad is the largest colony of Dalmatian pelicans in the world - here the birds have found their home since the island is full of special pelican food - snakes! Like anything else in Macedonia, the island has a long history - Golem Grad used to be inhabited in the past, and is full of mysterious remains of ancient temples and fortresses. Only for the brave and curious!

Fresco - Angel of Kurbinovo
- a masterpiece of Byzantine
art from the XII century



Do not miss!

- Indigenous pine "Molika"
- Pelister Eyes (lakes)
- Archaeological city of Heraclea
- City of consuls Bitola
- Museum of Ataturk
- Shirok Sokak (Main Street), Bitola
- Cycling
- Mountain hiking
- Shkembe chorba (tripe soup)



NATIONAL PARK PELISTER

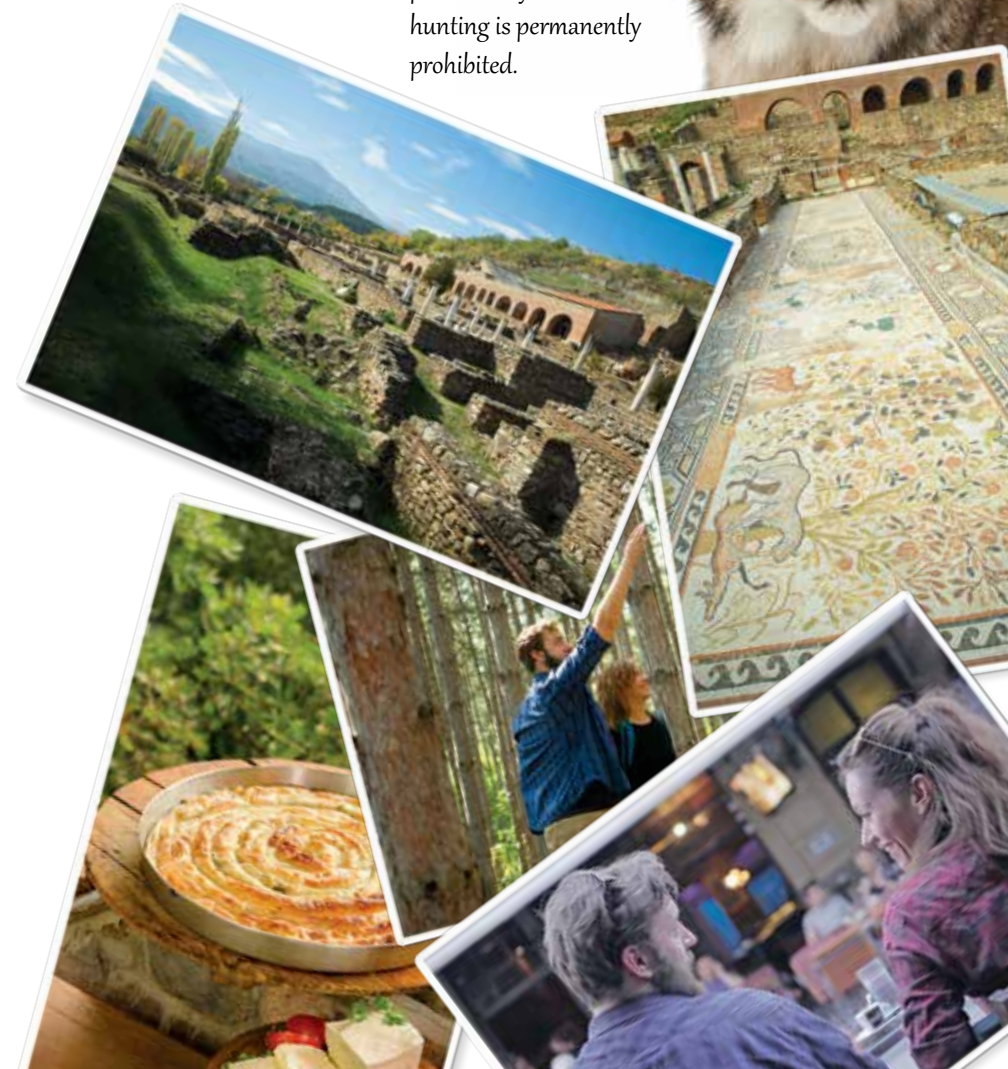


Behind Prespa lies a very large, cold and high mountain. Pelister is the third national park that is simply enticing due to its untouched nature. During winter, Pelister is a ski attraction, while its peaks bring down the cold air to the slopes, thus refreshing the city of Bitola below. Bitola is located just below Pelister. Locals boast that it is the best city culture-wise and the second largest in Macedonia. The busiest street "Shirok Sokak (Main Street)" stretches across the city's centre as a necklace, offering many bars, cafes, restaurants and shops, theaters and ... many, many people. It is customary in Bitola to have a cup of coffee on Shirok Sokak, a place which we may bear witness to all events.



Nearby Bitola we have the ancient city of Heraclea, founded in IV century B.C. by Phillip II of Macedonia, father of Alexander the Great. Since it was located on the most important road of ancient times, Via Egnatia, Heraclea was a great city, full of life. Strolling through its ruins, one may see the amphitheatre, attesting to times with excited capacity crowds, playful musicians on the streets, children running after the horse carts, women at the water wells, and shining monuments of those times... The floor is decorated with one of the most beautiful mosaics with jumping deer, attacking lynxes, pomegranate trees and lush colourful peacocks.

Balkan lynx is the most endangered indigenous species, for which all protection measures are undertaken. The lynx is protected by law, and its hunting is permanently prohibited.



Do not miss!

- Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Zrze
- Monastery of Holy Dormition of Mother of God - Treskavec
- Smallest Tobacco Museum
- Macedonian ruby
- Marble Lake
- Boldering - rock climbing
- Old bazaar of Prilep
- Beer Fest, Prilep
- Prilep shirden (lamb abomasum delicacy)
- Mavrovo cheese



MARKOVI KULI

(MARKO'S TOWERS)





To the northeast of Bitola, there is a city named Prilep, above which a giant hill rises, full of huge rock formations and stone towers built by human hands. This hill - the gatekeeper of Prilep, called "Markovi Kuli (Marko's Towers)", is 700 million years old and named after the legendary folklore hero King Marko.



The rock resembling an elephant, which is soon to be protected by UNESCO as a natural resource, from the heights of "Marko's Towers" looks like a prehistoric temple, remnant of an old civilization. These towers are believed to have inspired the Viking fortresses. Mariovo region lies to the south of Prilep. It is a place rich in forests, green valleys, known for its specific Mariovo cheese and its untouched nature and architecture.



Macedonian ruby - national gemstone with a unique range of colours and shades. It features specific olive-pink colour, and on the scale of precious stones stands near the top by relevance.



KRUSHEVO

Do not miss!

- The "Makedonium" complex
- Museum of the Ilinden Uprising
- Mechkin Kamen (bear stone) Monument
- Memorial house of Toshe Proeski
- Holy Transfiguration Monastery
- Winter sports
- Cycling
- Tandem paragliding
- Hang gliding
- Coffee with lokum (Turkish delight)
- Krushevo sausages

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Krusevo is the highest city in the Balkans - at 1350 meters elevation, with an impressively fresh air, it is great for paragliding and mountain biking. Krusevo is the most important place in the Macedonian history - in 1903, the uprising for liberation from the Ottoman Empire began here. The brave cosmopolitan rebels – comprised of Macedonians, Albanians, Aromans (Vlachs) and others - managed to establish the Krushevo Republic and live in hard fought freedom for ten days. Although the rebellion was quickly put down, and the population brutally punished, this defiance is the core of the Macedonian spirit - their flag proudly bore the motto “Freedom or Death”.



There two most important houses in Krushevo. One belongs to the famous Macedonian singer Toshe Proeski, who inspired the hearts of millions with his music. The second one is the Makedonium - construction shaped like a poppy with various colours, standing as a symbol of the Macedonian struggle for independence. Throughout the whole city, there are re-enactments of the Krushevo Uprising battles. This revolution occurred on the Orthodox holyday of St. Elias (August 2nd), today known as Ilinden - a national holiday in Macedonia in honour of the brave fighters of the Krushevo Republic. The famous “creshovo topche”, cannon made of cherry wood, is also located here.



Ordinance whose body is entirely made of acacia or cherry wood. It was very important in encouraging and raising the morale of the rebels

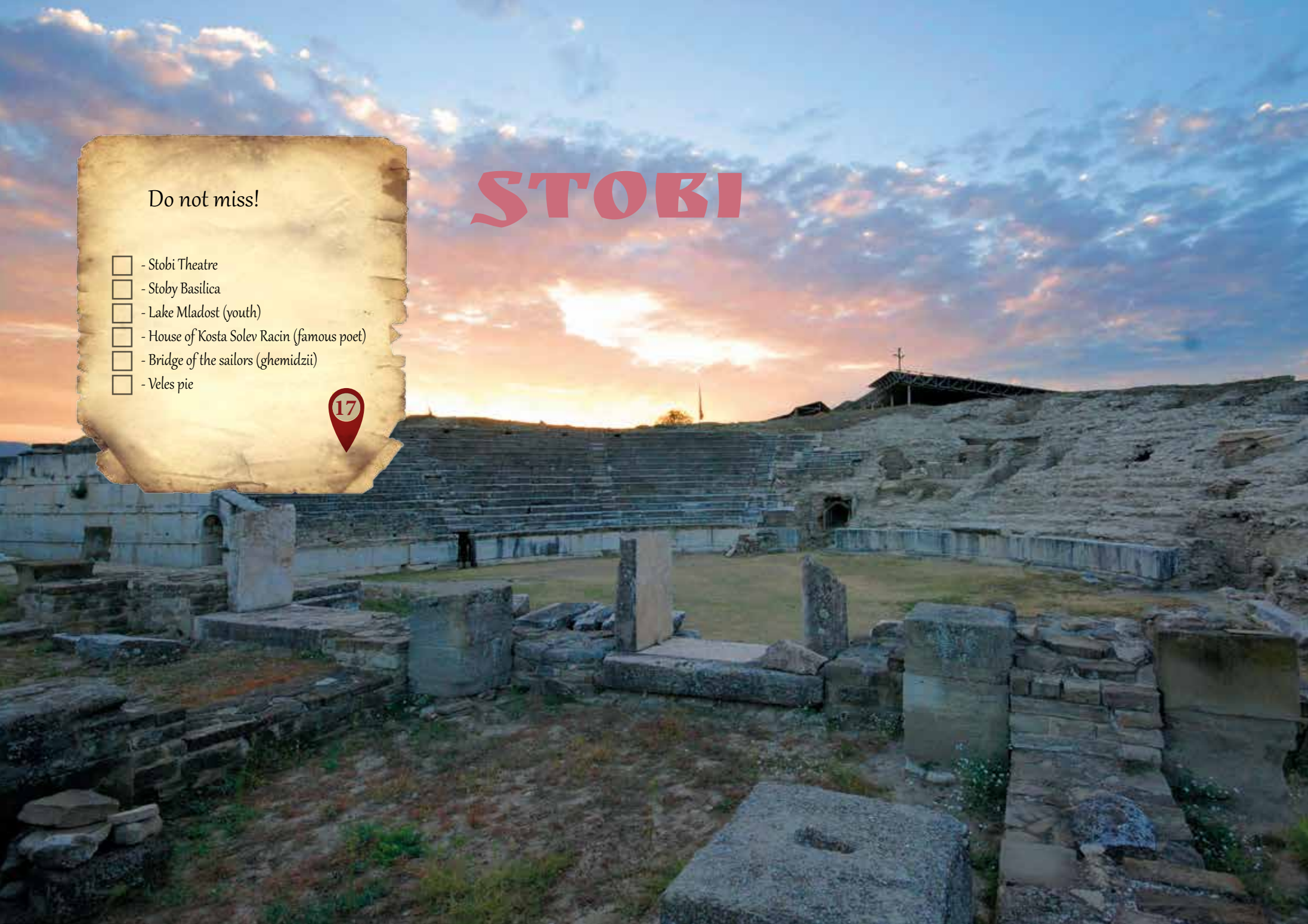


Do not miss!

- Stobi Theatre
- Stoby Basilica
- Lake Mladost (youth)
- House of Kosta Solev Racin (famous poet)
- Bridge of the sailors (ghemidzii)
- Veles pie



STOBI

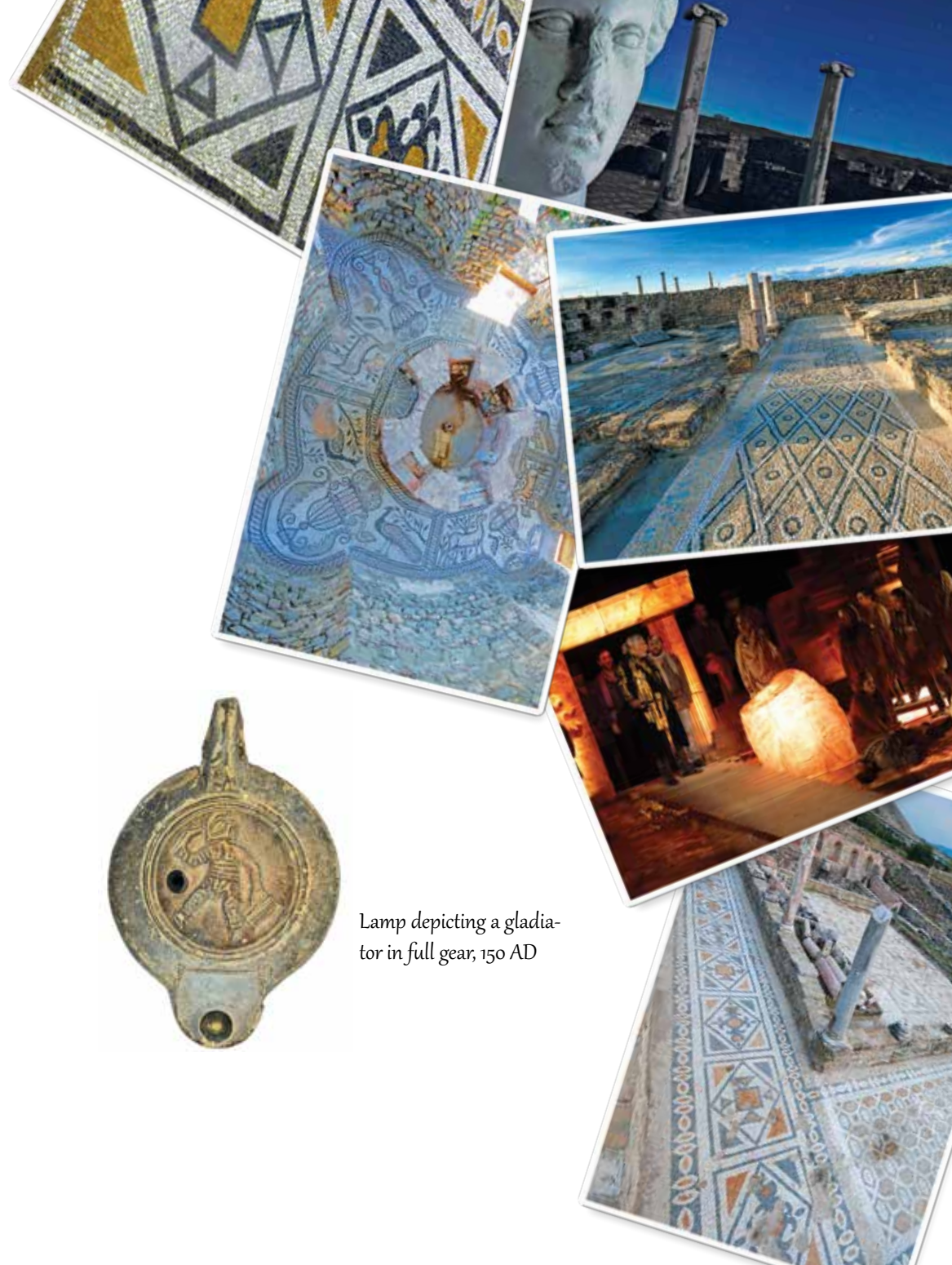




Stobi is located in the central part of Macedonia, and is another ancient site spread over a large area. Squeezed between the rivers Vardar and Crna, Stobi was a tempting settlement site since ancient times. It is mentioned for the first time in the writings of the Roman historian Titus Livius, who in the period between 59 to 17 BC wrote about a battle that took place almost two centuries ago near the "Old city of Stobi". According to records found, the beautiful mosaic and the theatres were built sometime in distant antiquity. However, the history of Stobi was long, with golden ages - when the first Christian basilica was built in the IV century, but also with dark and difficult periods survived by this site.



Stobi is stretching on hundreds of square meters, full of ancient buildings - the holy street, the Episcopal Basilica, the residence, the magnificent theatre, the palace, the city fountain, the large bath, the synagogue, the Roman house ... Stobi has everything, even a casino. To this date, plays are performed at this ancient theatre, usually the ancient tragedies of Sophocles, Virgil ... the same plays seen by the residents of Stobi thousands of years ago.



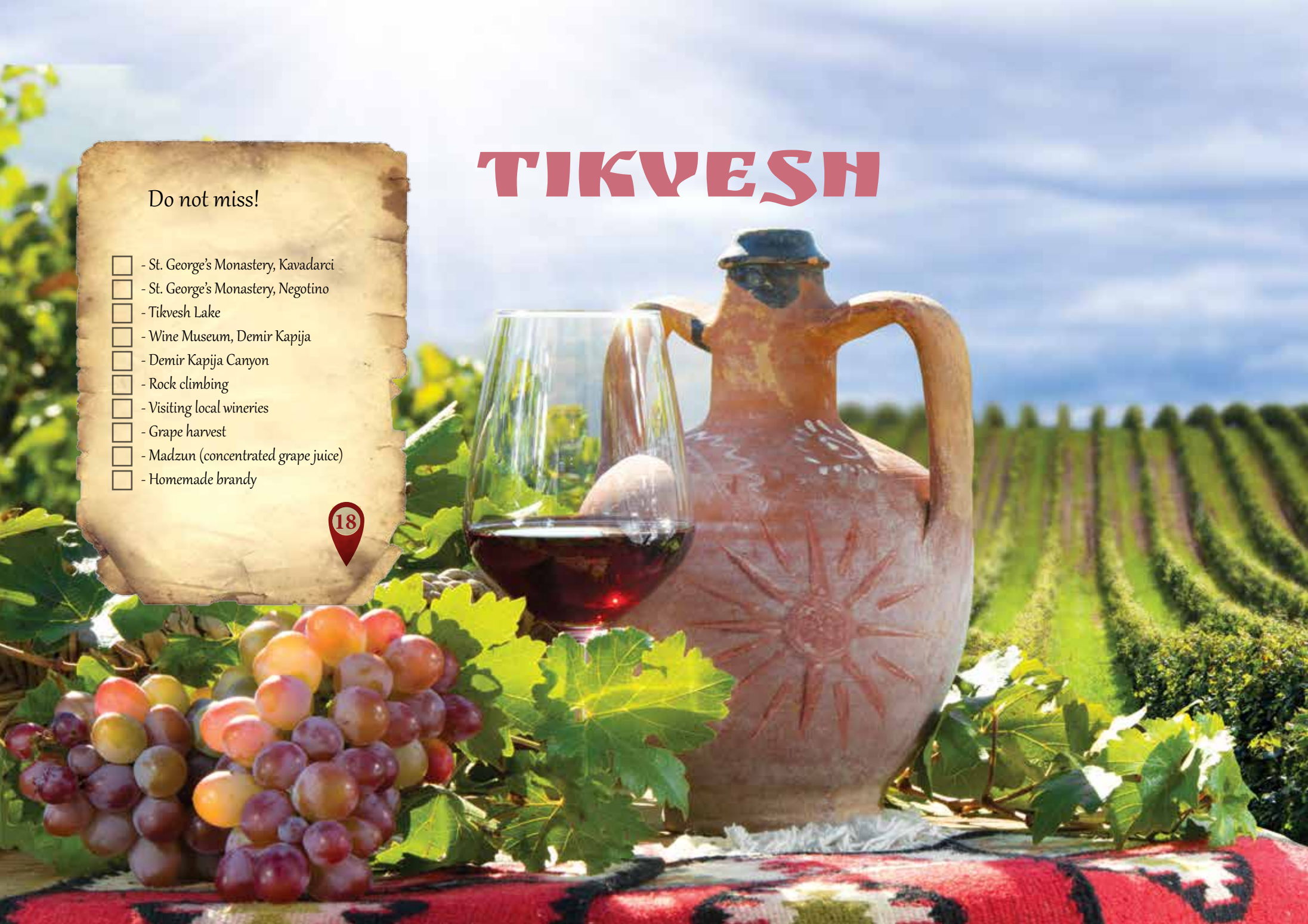
Lamp depicting a gladiator in full gear, 150 AD

TIKVESH

Do not miss!

- St. George's Monastery, Kavadarci
- St. George's Monastery, Negotino
- Tikvesh Lake
- Wine Museum, Demir Kapija
- Demir Kapija Canyon
- Rock climbing
- Visiting local wineries
- Grape harvest
- Madzun (concentrated grape juice)
- Homemade brandy

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Vardar River is the main vein of Macedonia, and Tikvesh is the heart - Wine valley, with wine red as blood. This area has the most beautiful vineyards and is source of highest quality wine in the country. Wherever you turn, you see vineyards. In Tikvesh, all roads lead to wine. According to some archaeological excavations, antique wine glasses and huge stone troughs for grape-stomping were found under the local vineyards, dating back to 1300 BC, a whole millennium before the cult of Dionysus - the ancient god of revelry, fertility and wine.



The tradition originating from ancient times is alive today. In this part of Macedonia, there are more modern wineries, with new, unusually fine wines exported to foreign markets. Even the most aromatic wine is processed using the most contemporary technologies. Tasting is available at every step, and the locals are eager to have their products evaluated.



Kantharos - wineglass from IV-III century BC, decorated with red painted ivy branch, found at the Vardar Hill site, near Gevgelija.

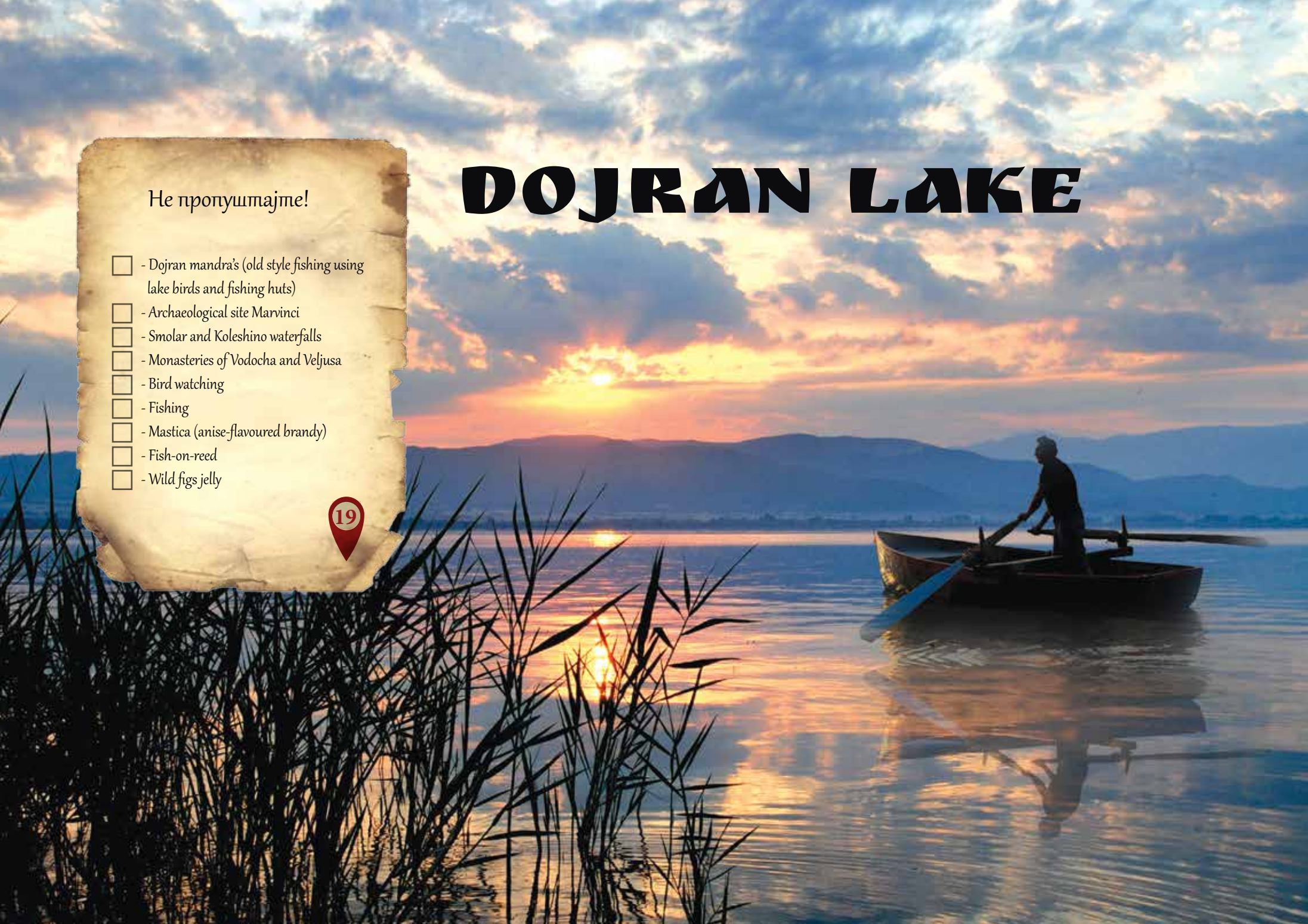


Не пропуштајте!

- Dojran mandra's (old style fishing using lake birds and fishing huts)
- Archaeological site Marvinci
- Smolar and Koleshino waterfalls
- Monasteries of Vodocha and Veljusa
- Bird watching
- Fishing
- Mastica (anise-flavoured brandy)
- Fish-on-reed
- Wild figs jelly

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DOJRAN LAKE





The city of Gevgelija is located in the south-east of Macedonia, which, among other things, is called the Macedonian Las Vegas due to its casinos. Fun nights, full of adrenaline and adventure, this city offers a completely different experience from the rest of the country. The smallest lake in Macedonia - Dojran Lake is shined upon by the mountain of Belasica. Beside the delicious fish delicacies, Dojran is also known for the healing properties of the lake algae, especially in the fall.



The old and new parts of Dojran may be visited in a short time period. However, the ambiance leaves a lasting impression, its unique silence and tranquillity that may be easily felt. The sounds of nature can be heard from all sides, people talking quietly going about their business, and bathers sunbathing and healing in the warm Dojran Lake waters. What makes Dojran special is the lake view - on the surface, small fishing huts are seen, seemingly float on the water, testifying to the traditional way of fishing. Dojran locals are fishing using cormorants! During the summer, the silence is disturbed by the numerous alternative music festivals that last for days.



Pottery for everyday use found at the archaeological site Mrdaja, on the shore of Lake Dojran, dating from the XIII to XI centuries BC



Do not miss!

- Kratovo
- St. Gabriel of Lesnovo Monastery
- St. Joachim of Osogovo Monastery
- Vinica Kalé
- Terracotta reliefs
- Tsotsov Stone
- Radin bridge
- Museum of Stone Art
- Museum of Mineral Collection
- Kratovo pastrmajlija (pizza-like dish)



KUKLICI





Kratovo is located in the north, a mining centre since ancient times. Kratovo appears mystical in the mountains with houses up the steep rocks as chamois, and the gorge cutting the city in half seems like a deer jumping over the curved stone bridge. Not far from here lies St. Joachim of Osogovo Monastery, known for its location and the cave dwellings etched by the monks themselves. Eastern Macedonia has more surprises. Kuklitsi is the place where the folklore legend says that once upon a time, there was a wedding where all participants were petrified due to a curse.



Science tells even more impressive story about Kuklitsi - strange human-like rocks occurred over millions of years, while the prehistoric lake that once existed here evaporated. This is of those rare cases where scientific discoveries do not destroy the legend, but rather complement it. Truly Macedonia is wonderful country ...



Terracotta reliefs - ceramic plates from the V-VI century, shaped using a mould, found at the Vinica Kalé. They testify to early Christianity in Macedonia and are one of the greatest archaeological enigmas in this region.



Do not miss!

BEROVO

- Berovo Lake
- St. Archangel Michael Monastery
- Monastery complex
St. Mother of God Balaklija
- Winter Center Golak
- Waterfalls on Ravna River
- Mountain hiking
- Cycling
- Horseback riding
- Plum brandy
- Honey
- Berovo cheese
- Babin kolach (Grandma's cake)

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Berovo is a town in the mountains of Eastern Macedonia, known for its fresh mountain air that makes you feel stronger. It has been scientifically proven that Berovo is the richest town with oxygen in the Balkans! In addition, during the hot Macedonia summers, Berovo is a frequent destination for chilling and enjoying the natural beauties. Berovo Lake, surrounded by dense green forests in all directions, is a sight worth seeing. At any moment one might expect to see a fox, owl, deer, wolf ... The hearts of Berovo and the wild are beating in the same rhythm!



Berovo dishes may be easily considered as proper delicacies on the Macedonian menu! Pine honey, Berovo sour milk, baked white potato, Berovski beans, freshly picked mushrooms, roasted Berovo cheese, bread baked in a firewood oven ... This list goes on. The air and the elevation of Berovo provide for growing of delicious plants, and the Berovians have the talent to transform them into delicious food! Or, delicious drinks, such as the Berovo plum brandy ...



Coin with the image of Philip II of Macedon, father of Alexander the Great. IX century BC, archaeological site – Carevi Kuli (King's Towers), Strumica, Eastern Macedonia.



KOKINO

Do not miss!

- Kokino Observatory
- St. George - Staro Nagorichane
- Memorial Centre of ASNOM (Anti-fascist Assembly for the National Liberation of Macedonia)
- Hermit's cave Prohor of Pchinja
- Matejche Monastery
- Holy Oak
- Kumanovo sudzuk (sausage)
- Kumanovo meزالak (selection of small dishes)





In the north, not so far from Skopje, is Kokino - one of the oldest megalithic observatories in the world's history. This means that the ancient inhabitants of Macedonia had their own calendar that marked the seasons, whereas the best periods for sowing and harvesting were determined by consulting the stars. Kokino is thousands of years old, the thrones are made of stone, whereas the calendar is carved into the rocks.



NASA ranked Kokino as the fourth most important ancient observatory in the world, preceded only by Abu Simbel in Egypt, Angkor Wat, and the one and only Stonehenge. After a 500-meter walk, one reaches an impressive structure. The stone thrones, thousands of years old, were once traditional tribal leaders and clerics used to sit. Perched high on the throne, the observer can see where heaven and earth converge, and past and future end at a single point, the present moment.



Ocarina - a musical instrument made of purified clay with irregular spherical shape, dating from the neolithic times, i.e. 6000 BC, found at the site Mramor, in the Macedonian municipality of Chashka.



MACEDONIAN VILLAGE

Do not miss!

- Macedonian rural architecture
- St. Panteleimon - fresco of Christ's mourning
- Millennium Cross
- Visit the artisans
- Mountain hiking
- Cycling
- Macedonian specialties





Situated on the slopes of Vodno, and nearby St. Pantaleimon Monastery, Macedonian Village rallies the entire diversity of the Macedonian rural architecture and culture in an interesting whole. From a typical house from the regions of Debar, through Kumanovo, Prilep, and ending with Ohrid's architecture. Sitting on the chardak (balcony) of one of the houses, Skopje valley opens up as if on one's hand, holding the capital as a handful of Ohrid pearls.



The view from the Macedonian Village is really something special! St. Pantaleimon Monastery is right around the corner. The ancient church looks small from the outside, but from the inside exudes a restful silence. Built almost thousand years ago, the interior of St. Pantaleimon is patterned with wood-carvings and adorned with vivid centuries-old frescoes. One of the frescoes is of particular importance - "Lamentation of Christ" where the Holy Mother of God is depicted as if it were alive, hugging Christ who is arched in pain. The identity of this great Macedonian artist is unknown, but his work has announced the Renaissance 150 years earlier.



Great Mother - terracotta goddess of fertility and protector of the home and family. Dating from the Neolithic period, found at the archaeological site Tumba-Madzari (Skopje).



A woman with long, dark hair is seen from the side, looking out over a vast ocean at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects on the water's surface. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and the overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful. The woman's hair is slightly blurred, suggesting a gentle breeze or movement. The background shows a range of low mountains or hills in the distance, silhouetted against the bright sky.

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acedonia is treasure that cannot be discovered twice in a same way. She hides a new story behind every corner, and holds a secret for you in all of its corners. If you are thirsty for delicate beauty, untouched wilderness, endless history and spiritual food - come to Macedonia and you will be richly rewarded. So, wait no more, and discover your story in Macedonia!

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