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INTERNATIONALESМЕЖДУНАРОДЕН
MITOSFESTIVAL
ФЕСТИВАЛМИТОСТ
RUSEРУСЕВBULGARIЕНБЪЛГАРИЯ
03.–07.10.2012

INFORMATION ABOUT RUSE

This year's festival city Ruse (Russe, Rousse, Rustschuk, in Bulgarian Pyce) is situated in the North of Bulgaria, close by the Danube. If you cross the "The Friendship Bridge" you are already in Romania, in the town Giurgiu. This bridge is currently the only bridge that connects these two countries. In case you feel like going for a longer walk – the bridge is approximately 7 km from the city centre.

WORTH SEEING IN RUSE

For everyone enthusiastic about architecture:

In the whole city centre you can marvel at houses from Baroque and Renaissance. Because of this Ruse is often referred to as "The Little Vienna". During your strolling around the city centre you should definitely stop by the theatre "Sava Ognjanov" and the Opera. Whilst the houses reminiscent Vienna the statue in front of the town hall may remind you a bit of New York: The "Monument of Liberty" resembling its New Yorker original was built here.

For everyone interested in history:

There are approximately 140.000 exhibits to look at in the Regional Historical Museum. You should definitely see the Borovo treasure and the archaeological findings of the antique Danubian fortresses Yatrus and Sexaginta Prista. Apropos, the ruins of the latter fortress can be found only few streets away from our festival headquarters in the ul. Tsar Kaloyan 2. The "Pantheon of National Revival Heroes" (blvd Tsar Osvoboditel) is also worth seeing.

For everyone who wants to reach the top:

The highest building of Bulgaria is a TV tower (204 m) and is located in Ruse. On top there is a café with an observation platform offering a nice view over the city. Or you can test the view from our hotel with its 22 floors.

For everyone interested in premieres and records (or useless knowledge):

The first private bank of Bulgaria was founded in Ruse and also the first film screening in a Bulgarian cinema took place here. Nowadays, Ruse is supposed to be the city with the most shopping malls in Bulgaria.

For everyone who wants to bring home some souvenirs:

Bulgaria is famous for its rose-growing. However, it probably will be quite hard for you to bring home fresh roses. You can buy the popular Bulgarian rose water or rose oil instead.

WORTH SEEING AROUND RUSE

If you have some time for a short excursion into the surrounding area, the Nature Park "Rusenski Lom" around 22 km from Ruse may be something for you. There you can have a look at "Rock-hewn Churches of Ivanovo" which belong to the UNESCO World Heritage. From the 13th till 17th century they were hewn out of solid rock and you can still admire the frescos from the 14th century there.

And if you would like to go even further:

Bucharest – 72 km | Varna – 200 km | Burgas – 294 km | Plovdiv – 300 km | Sofia – 324 km

A SHORT EXCURSION INTO HISTORY

To the South of today's Ruse, at Russenski Lom, the settlement Tscherwen was formed in the 5th century. Around the 15th century the town Ruse we know today started to develop there. Because of the strategically important location near the Danube in the north of the Ottoman Empire the city was expanded to a fortress. In addition, thanks to its convenient location the city emerged to a trade centre. In the renaissance period Ruse was also an important cultural centre.

In the second half of the 19th century the development of the city benefited especially from the Danubian shipping and the first Bulgarian railway line Ruse–Varna, the first final stop of the Orient-Express. With its more than 26,000 citizens it was the biggest city in the Bulgarian principality at that time. Nowadays it is the fifth biggest city in Bulgaria.

HUNGRY? THIRSTY? TIPS FOR YOU:

Buddha House – our festival centre

Healthy organic dishes and drinks. Cozy atmosphere. Café and library in one. Good to know: for the guests of Buddha House – water for free.

Hotel Riga – our accommodation

Hosts several cafés and restaurants. In “Vienna Café” there is a nice choice of tasty cakes. The “Riga Tavern” is in traditional Bulgarian style and offers Bulgarian cuisine. More favourable lunch meal during the week. The “Panorama Restaurant” offers above all a wonderful view over the Danube. Besides, it is one of the best gourmet restaurants in Bulgaria. As guests of the hotel do not forget to ask for discount!

Арт клуб (Art Club) – café directly at the city park

You can enjoy Bulgarian and European cuisine or simply have a cup of coffee in a pleasant atmosphere, accompanied by jazz music, sometimes even live.

Бамбук (Bambuk) – ул. «Велико Търново» 5 (ul. Tarnovo 5), Art Hotel – open daily from 11 am until 11 pm.

Chinese cuisine. Big choice (around 100 meals) on fish, meat but also vegetarian. Wonderful desserts. Reasonably priced.

Чифлики (Chiflika) – ул. «Отец Паисий» 2 (ul. Otec-Paisii 2) – open daily from 11 am until 2 am.

A few metres away from our festival headquarters. Traditional Bulgarian cuisine with lunchtime offers. Many desserts. Rustically-historical ambience, the staff wears traditional costumes. In the evenings there is Bulgarian folklore with singers and dancers.

Дел Кано (Del Cano) – пл. «Света Троица» 15 (pl. Sveta Troica) 15

Close by the Opera. International cuisine. Offers one of the best lunch menus in town. Friendly, English speaking service.

Happy Bar & Grill – пл. «Свобода» (pl. Svoboda 4) – open daily from 11 am until 11 pm.

Close by the beautiful theatre building. Offers the following menus: “Happy Bar & Grill”, “Happy Sushi” and “Happy Breakfast”.

Irish Pub Terassa – блрд «Придунавски» 6 (Pridunavski Blvd 6) – open daily from 9 am until 11 pm.

Both traditional Irish dishes and Bulgarian cuisine. And all that with a wonderful view over the Danube.

Слънчевата къща (La Casa Soleggiata) – ул. «Олимпи Панов» 23 (ul. Olimpi-Panov 23) – open daily from 11 am until 11 pm.

Italian restaurant serving pasta, soups, risotto, pizza, meals with meat and fish and above that desserts.

La Strada – ул. «Александровска» 77 (ul. Aleksandrovska 77)

Offers a nice atmosphere, international cuisine and also tasty vegetarian dishes. If you like Italian pasta, then this is the right place for you.

Pulp Fiction – ул. «Александровска» 43 (ul. Aleksandrovska 43) – open daily from 8 am until 2 am.

Lively café, bar and restaurant. Meeting point for Ruses youth. Rich selection of tea, coffee and also cocktails. In the menu you can find salads, pasta and Mexican dishes. Sometimes a DJ will be spinning the disc.

Триада (Triada) – блрд «Фердинанд» 6 (Ferdinand Blvd 6) – open Mo–Sa 10.30 am until 11.30 pm.

During the fish season there are 20 different kinds of fish to choose from. On the menu you can also find salads, meat and traditional Bulgarian dishes.