

Women's Ritual Traditions of Bulgaria

Sacred Dance Journey including the Koprivshitsa Festival

with Laura Shannon & the Bisserov Sisters

2-14 August, 2010

Monday, Aug. 2. Arrival in Sofia, Bulgaria, where you will be met at the airport. Transfer to hotel in Gorni Lozen. Dinner and evening party with live music and dancing with local groups.

Tuesday, Aug. 3. Morning: Sightseeing in Sofia including National Ethnographic Museum. Afternoon: dance class.

Wednesday, Aug. 4. Travel to Oborishte for picnic and on to Panagyurishte. Overnight in Panagyurishte, visits to historical houses and local weavers. Blessing ceremony in church.

Thursday, Aug. 5. Sightseeing in Panagyurishte, travel to Koprivshitsa.

Friday, Aug. 6. Koprivshitsa festival.

Saturday, Aug. 7. Koprivshitsa festival.

Sunday, Aug. 8. Travel to Plovdiv. Evening meal in a special place, live music and dancing.

Monday, Aug. 9. Morning: Sightseeing in Plovdiv including museums. Afternoon: dance class.

Tuesday, Aug. 10. Travel to Dospat lake in Rhodope region. Meeting with local folk group. Relaxing time in beautiful natural surroundings, dance class.

Wednesday, Aug. 11. Sightseeing in Dospat area (Trigrad canyon), possible dance class. Evening meeting with another local folk group.

Thursday, Aug. 12. Travel to Bansko via Gotse Delchev ethnographic museum. Overnight in Bansko, meeting with local folk group.

Friday, Aug. 13. Travel to Sofia via Rila monastery. Overnight in Sofia or Gorni Lozen, celebration dinner and dance party with live music.

Saturday Aug. 14. Depart from Sofia anytime (airport transfer included), OR:

Optional four-day additional journey to Svilengrad and Greek Thrace

for the festival of the Virgin Mary on August 15th and meetings with women's groups there.

Saturday Aug. 14. Rest day, relaxing and/or sightseeing in Sofia.

Sunday Aug. 15. Celebrations of the Festival of the Virgin Mary, overnight in Svilengrad.

Monday Aug. 16. Sitohori in Greek Thrace for Panegyri in honour of the Virgin Mary and gaida festival. Live music and dancing. Overnight in Svilengrad.

Tuesday Aug. 17. To Pentalofos in Greek Thrace. Picnic, museum, meeting with women's group for dance class, demonstration of weaving and traditional costumes. Evening party with live music and dancing. Overnight in Svilengrad.

Wednesday Aug. 18. Return to Sofia. Departure from Sofia on the evening of Aug. 18 or anytime on August 19 (airport transfer included; small additional charge for those staying Aug.18).

Price for trip August 2-14: in double room 1450 euro per person. Single room supplement: 330 euro. Flight to Bulgaria is not included and must be arranged by you.

Price for trip August 14-18: in double room 450 euro per person. Single room supplement: 95 euro.

Price includes airport transfers, hotel accommodation in double rooms with half-board, two picnics, dance and singing workshops, entry to Koprivshitsa festival, and transportation in our own comfortable air-conditioned bus. Accommodation is in comfortable hotels (and in private homes in Koprivshitsa).

Please be aware that this itinerary is subject to change. Places are strictly limited.

For more information, please contact Laura Shannon:

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