

Adventure Travel  
4x4 Expeditions  
Consultancy  
Training



**OneLife Adventure**

[www.onelifeadventure.co.uk](http://www.onelifeadventure.co.uk)

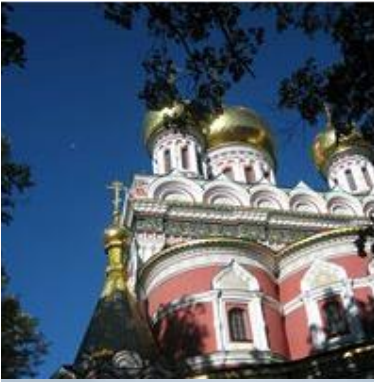
# Bulgaria Recce Explorer

15<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Bulgaria is a land with diverse terrain encompassing Black Sea coastline, a mountainous interior and rivers, including the Danube. A cultural melting pot with Greek, Slavic, Ottoman, and Persian influences, it has a rich heritage of traditional dance, music, costumes, and crafts – so the books say, so it's about time to go and find out some more.

For this recce we start at Belogradchik, not far from the border crossing at Vidin. Heading east using trails and back roads to Stambolisky lake, stopping off to see Gods Eye's, a large cave that has two holes in the roof. Nearby there is a nearly deserted village to explore. We then head towards Momin Sbor, on the way stopping at Emin canyon, an excellent place for a picnic lunch. Tonight we'll stay with our guide and his family, with facilities to check over the vehicles, Nearby is the historic capital of Veliko Turnovo, a large castle, lots of good restaurants and a chance to stock up for the next few days. We then head off road to the mountains, stopping at the historic village of Bozhentsi, typical of old Bulgaria, full of traditional houses and great food for lunch. We then head up into the mountains, wild camping as we go before getting to Shipka. This tower was built to commemorate the defeat of the Ottoman empire, housing a museum; you can see for over 100km in all directions. Next will be Buzludzha, built in the communist era in the grand monumental style and for contrast, Etera, a traditional village, preserving buildings from across the region, also traditional crafts can be bought here, a good place for souvenirs, Onto Elana to see this historic town and stock up on food, there is a golden domed church at Shipka and a Thracian tomb, before ending at Koprinka lake, we use a nice hotel here, a great place for a shower and freshen up. We now head south crossing a large old military training ground that's now a massive area of wilderness and wild life before reaching Chirpan. Continuing along the peaks towards Sopot, location for the world championship hang gliding competitions, expect some great views and sheer drops. Continuing on tracks through the forests, we swing back north, crossing the peaks via a national park. We finish the day in Apriltsi and a night at a hotel with spectacular views of the mountains we have just crossed. We then head back north and west to Vidin using back roads and trails to end the adventure wild camping on the Danube. Well that's the plan .....

Join us as we explore the wilder edges of Europe.





Adventure Travel  
4x4 Expeditions  
Consultancy  
Training



**OneLife Adventure**

[www.onelifeadventure.co.uk](http://www.onelifeadventure.co.uk)

## Summary

<b>Start point</b>	Vidin, W Bulgaria.
<b>Finish point</b>	Vidin, W Bulgaria.
<b>Number of days</b>	12 days, 12 nights - meet evening of 14 <sup>th</sup> September
<b>Approx. distance</b>	1500 kilometres (not including transit)
<b>Road conditions</b>	Mixture of gravel, rock tracks and local roads. As its a recce, routes may vary and we'll grab opportunities to explore things of interest as we go.
<b>No' of vehicles</b>	Maximum of 6 vehicles or 12 adult guests plus our support vehicle and our local guides vehicle.
<b>Accommodation used</b>	Accommodation will be mainly wild camps in the wonderful Bulgarian countryside but we will use some good standard campsites or local hotels with toilet/shower facilities as required.
<b>Specialist equipment - vehicle</b>	A well maintained and serviced 4x4 vehicle fitted with basic underbody protection. A CB radio must be fitted. Tyres of All Terrain or Mud Terrain tread patterns are most suitable. Front and rear recovery points and a basic set of recovery equipment (strop and 2 shackles) is essential, along with a spade. A winch is not essential and additional fuel cans are not needed. A vehicle fridge/coolbox is useful for cold drinks and keeping food fresh.
<b>Specialist equipment - camping</b>	Either roof or ground tents are suitable. You will need good quality sleeping mats if using ground tents, along with warm sleeping bags. You should bring your own chairs, table, stove, pans, cutlery and utensils. Clothing can be light as the days will be hot especially in the south. However you should bring some warm and windproof outer wear for the mountain peaks in the north. Protection from the sun and UV is needed.
<b>Passport</b>	Required.
<b>Visa</b>	Not needed for citizens of the EEU.
<b>Health</b>	No special requirements beyond small first aid kit and EHIC – European Health Entitlement Certificate (available from UK Post Offices).
<b>Cost of living</b>	Cheaper than the UK. You will be able to withdraw Bulgarian Lev from ATM's and credit cards are accepted.



Adventure Travel  
4x4 Expeditions  
Consultancy  
Training



**OneLife Adventure**

www.onlifeadventure.co.uk

## Weather

Still warm and but it can be cool up on the mountains, September is a dry month with around 8 hours sunshine a day, light snow may be present on the highest peaks.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Average daily temp</b>												
Max °C	2	4	10	15	20	24	28	26	24	16	8	4
Min °C	-4	-3	1	5	9	13	14	14	11	6	1	-2
<b>Rainfall mm</b>	40	40	50	70	70	70	60	70	40	30	50	40

## Food and Shopping

Good country style cooking with traditional pork and game dishes. There will be plenty of opportunities to eat traditional dishes in country restaurants. Food is readily available even in small villages on a daily basis. Meals can be cooked individually or communally, the choice is yours and we will co-ordinate and assist you with food purchasing while in country.

## Schedule and Pace

The route and timings are not fixed, we will be free to break journey, stop and explore, as you desire. We aim to be in the campsite by 17.00 on most days to allow us to relax and enjoy the experiences of the day. The daily distances driven vary due to the terrain and ground conditions but a typical day of 140 km will be 2-3 hours driving in the morning, 1 hour for lunch and then a further 2 hours driving. There will be one rest / non driving days during the trip when you'll be free to explore or rest as you choose, additionally there will be time to visit major sites and attractions on our route.

## Outbound shipping

The crossing from Dover to Calais is made by ferry and is included in the expedition price. You are free to specify your own preferred dates and times.

**Note** – While this section of the expedition is unsupported by OneLife Adventure, we are happy for you to join us as we drive down to the starting point of the trip – perfect while you get used to driving “on the wrong side”! Accommodation, meals and refreshments you take during this transit stage are not included.

## Inbound Shipping

The return crossing from Calais to Dover is made by ferry and is included in the expedition price. Again, you are free to break the return journey and specify the ferry dates and times allowing you to extend your holiday as you choose.

**Note** – As for the outbound journey, this section of the expedition is also unsupported by OneLife Adventure but again you are welcome to join us for the return. Accommodation, meals and refreshments you take during this transit stage are not included.





Adventure Travel  
4x4 Expeditions  
Consultancy  
Training



**OneLife Adventure**

www.onlifeadventure.co.uk

## Cost

- £1450 per person for the first 2 adults (based on 2 sharing) **inclusive of Dover Calais ferry crossings.**

The expedition price includes **flexible return ferry crossing from Dover to Calais, all campsite/accommodation costs, full backup and guiding from the support team.**

- *If one adult and one under 16 only then the price is for 2 adults.*
- *Under 16's - £399 each.*
- *Adult single supplement, add £475.*
- *For each additional adult up to a maximum of 4 per vehicle, add £325*
- *Your fuel, food, snacks, drinks and personal spending are not included.*



**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR  
TO BOOK YOUR PLACE ON THIS  
EXPEDITION  
PLEASE CONTACT US**

**NUMBERS ARE LIMITED – maximum of 6 vehicles or 12 adults!**

## OneLife Adventure Expedition Rating System

### **BULGARIA RECCE EXPLORER**



Easy, short driving days, suitable for families and drivers with basic off road driving skills.



Easy camping with occasional wild sites interspersed by sites with facilities, no technical needs, suitable for families and young children.



Higher off road content, moderate driving days, suitable for families and medium off road driving skills.



50%+ wild camping, some technical needs, suitable for families and young children used to camping.



**Longer days occasionally and high content of off road driving, recoveries likely and moderate levels of off road skills needed.**



**80% wild camping +, weather or environment requires some technical clothing/equipment, suitable for experienced families with older children.**



Long days and long distances are the norm, likely to encounter severe hazards and will require teamwork to succeed, experienced drivers.



Extreme weather (hot, wet or cold), will require extensive technical equipment, irregular meals and physical discomfort will be the norm! Success is achieving the destination – Camel Trophy style.



OneLife Adventure, Barn House, Back Lane, Tholthorpe, N Yorks, YO61 1SN, United Kingdom

Mobile +44 7776 140626

info@onlifeadventure.co.uk

Office +44 1347 830188