Traditional Crafts and Arts Festival – Kozloduy

EUROPE, BULGARIA, KOZLODUY

The festival is organized by Kozloduy Municipality.
With the partnership of the Federation of Bulgarian Folklore Groups

ЗАНАЯТИТЕ ИЗКУСТВАТА

SEPTEMBER 10-14 2026









The festival is organized in partnership with the Federation of Bulgarian folklore groups.

The festival location

Country:

BULGARIA

One of the oldest countries in Europe, founded in 681 AD.

Location: Southeastern Europe, at the crossroads between Europe and Asia.

Population: approximately 6.4 million people.

Capital: Sofia – one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in Europe.



The festival location

BULGARIA

Bulgaria is in Southeastern Europe, at the strategic crossroads between Europe and Asia, between the Black Sea, the Danube River, and the Balkan Mountains. This position has made the land a natural bridge between civilizations, cultures, and peoples since ancient times.

These lands were once inhabited by the Thracians, who left behind remarkable golden treasures and a spiritual culture rooted in music, rhythm, and the sun. In 681 AD, the Bulgarian state was founded - one of the oldest countries in Europe, preserving its name and identity for over 1,300 years. During the Middle Ages, Bulgaria emerged as a powerful political and cultural center and gave the world the Cyrillic alphabet, a lasting contribution of European and global significance.

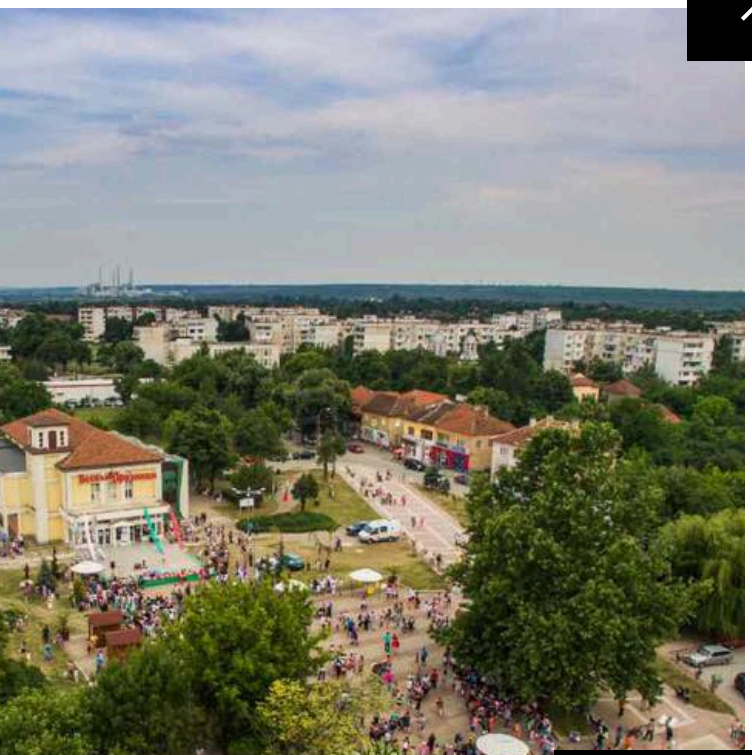


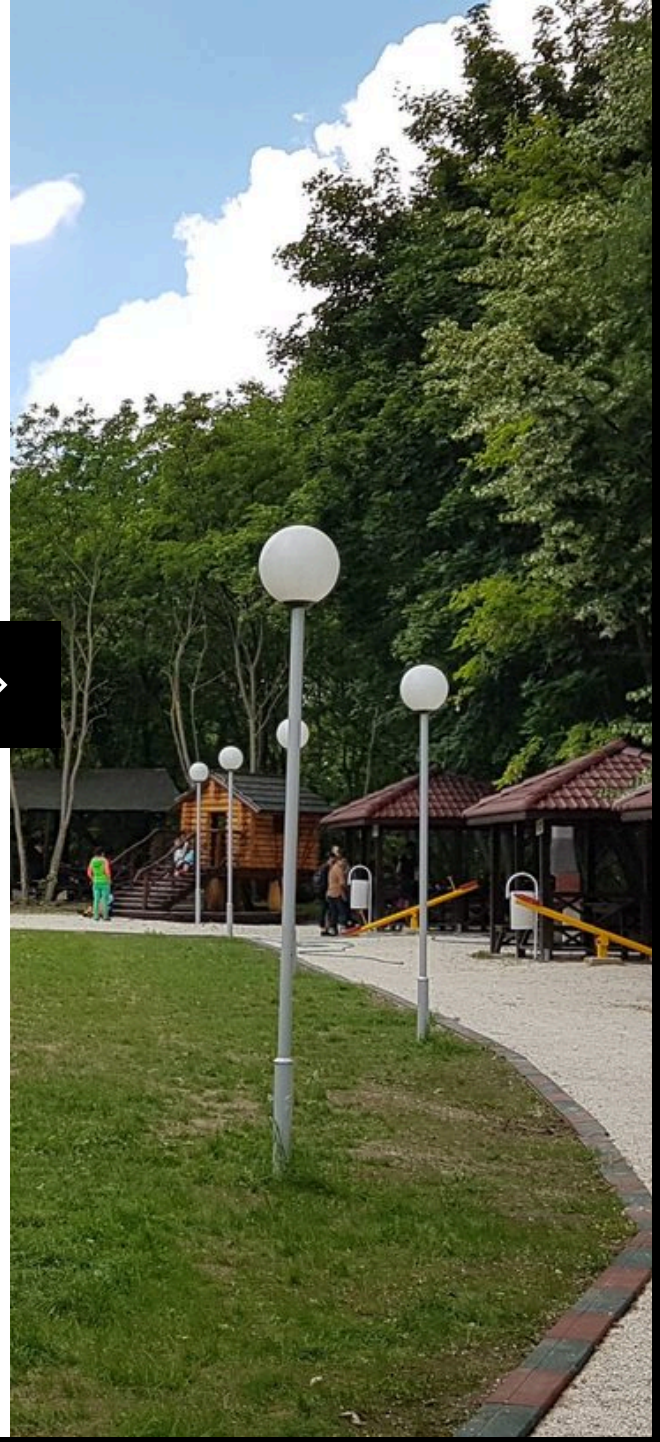
Bulgaria's nature is exceptionally rich and diverse. High mountains, fertile plains, deep valleys, rivers, mineral springs, and a sea coast coexist within a relatively small territory. Ranges such as the Balkan Mountains, Rila, Pirin, and the Rhodopes shape the traditional way of life and are deeply reflected in folk songs, dances, and rituals.

Through the centuries, the Bulgarian people have preserved their spirit through song, dance, and tradition - a living memory of history and harmony with nature.

watch Bulgaria video







watch Kozloduy video

Kozloduy city

The festival location

Kozloduy is a Danube town in Northwestern Bulgaria - a place of strong national symbolism where history and modern life meet. From the Kozloduy riverbank, in 1876, the detachment of Hristo Botev set foot on Bulgarian soil, turning the town into a lasting symbol of freedom and sacrifice. Situated on the banks of the Danube River, Kozloduy carries the spirit of the river, trade, and openness to the world.

Today, the town is also known as Bulgaria's energy hub, home to the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant, the country's only nuclear power facility. This combination of heroic past and modern development gives Kozloduy a unique identity - a town of memory, work, and future.

At the heart of Kozloduy's cultural life is Botev Park, a green space along the Danube closely connected to Botev's legacy. With its alleys, monuments, and spacious open areas, the park is a natural venue for gatherings, art, and creativity. It is here that the Festival of Crafts and Arts finds its natural home - amid nature, history, and the living presence of the Bulgarian spirit.





Traditional Crafts and Arts Festival – Kozloduy

From September 10 to 14, the traditional Crafts and Arts Festival – Kozloduy 2026 will take place in Botev Park. The Municipality of Kozloduy is organizing the event for the eighth time. This year, the festival will become international for the first time, aiming to promote traditional and contemporary crafts and arts, as well as to encourage international cultural exchange and cooperation among artists from different countries.

The festive festival days will be filled with a rich cultural program, including folk concerts by amateurs and professionals. The forum will also include an exhibition-bazaar of artisans and artists from the region and the country, workshops and studios. The festival will also include: community centers, pensioner clubs and youth organizations from the municipality of Kozloduy, which present various workshops for young and old, customs and crafts. On Sunday, traditionally, interesting and exciting farm games take place.

SEPTEMBER 10–14 2026 BULGARIA, KOZLODUY

watch video

watch video

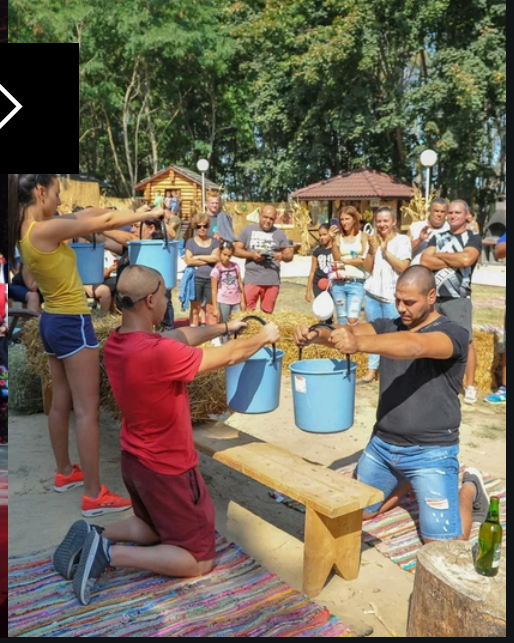












10- 14 SEPTEMBER 2026

The performances during the festival are:

- Opening ceremony - participation in a parade, official opening of the first festival day and a concert.
- Participation in a concert program during the second festival day.

A total of 2 performances (2 days) in the concert program, each lasting up to 30 minutes (two performances of up to 15 minutes each, or up to 30 minutes combined).

Participants will have the opportunity to observe or participate in the festival games as well.

The festival organization will provide:

- Free hotel accommodation for 4 nights
- 3 meals daily, first meal – lunch on Sept. 10, last meal breakfast on Sept. 14, 2026
- Free bus transfers from/ to Sofia
- Medical assistance for first aid in case of emergency and accidents.

Accommodation

- Hotels

Main group requirements:

- Maximum 25 people
- Dance in traditional costumes
- High quality music records are required (if applicable)
- Strictly observe the Festival program
- Provide the national flag of their country

The festival is organized in partnership with the Federation of Bulgarian folklore groups.

Attractions











FEDERATION OF BULGARIAN FOLKLORE GROUPS

About Us

Founded in 2012, the Federation of Bulgarian Folklore Groups brings together people and communities dedicated to preserving and promoting Bulgarian musical and dance folklore. Our mission is to keep traditions alive, pass them on to future generations, and present them to the widest audiences through modern forms, technologies, and events.

We work actively to support the development of folklore groups across the country by encouraging cooperation and assisting them in participating in national and international performances. We maintain partnerships with institutions, organizations, and related folklore associations around the world to promote the richness of Bulgarian folklore beyond our borders and to build cultural bridges with other nations. The Federation also supports a number of international festivals held in Bulgaria.

The President of the organization is Miroslav Asparuhov.

Festivals in Bulgaria in 2026, in partnership with the Federation of Bulgarian Folklore Groups



International kids and young festival "Mezdra May"

MAY 7–8, 2026
BULGARIA, MEZDRA



International Festival “EKRENE”

JUNE 27–30, 2026
BULGARIA,
KRANEVO VILLAGE RESORT



International Folklore Festival "The Folklore Magic of Mezdra"

JULY 19–23, 2026
BULGARIA, MEZDRA



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