

YOUR BUSINESS EVENT IN VELIKO TURNOVO – THE MEDIEVAL CAPITAL CITY OF BULGARIA
“The keeper of the heart and soul of Bulgaria” Anonymous Bulgarian writer



The evocative capital of the medieval Bulgarian tsars, sublime Veliko Turnovo is dramatically set amidst an amphitheatre of forested hills in the central part of North Bulgaria.

The strategic geography of Turnovo’s hills led them to be settled from the earliest times. The history of the town goes as far back as 5500 BC, when the Neolithic people settled here. The city survived the advancement and decline of many civilizations and saw numerous invaders - the Thracian tribes, the Romans, the Slavs, Ottomans, to remain in history as the Bulgarian proud and glorious medieval capital. In 1185 when Turnovgrad became the capital of the Second Bulgarian Empire (1185 – 1396), it was second only to Constantinople in importance, trade and culture flourished and it was dubbed “The Second Rome”.

Today arguably the town’s commanding pride of place is the magisterial, well-restored Tsarevets Fortress, citadel of the Second Bulgarian Empire. Among the highlights of the town’s rich cultural and historical heritage are also the Old Quarter and the preserved Medieval Market street “Samovodska Charshia” with a multitude of authentic craft shops and traditional coffee houses. In addition to its historical significance, the city has a thriving nightlife due to the fact that it is home to a university and offers great opportunities for outdoor activities in the spectacular natural surroundings.

The city is within 2 hour drive from the International Sofia Airport and offers about 5 highly categorized hotels with modern conference facilities and outstanding service. Hence, Veliko Turnovo is a great destination for corporate events of a moderate scale - private meetings, business meetings, seminars, and products launches, sample presentations, which can be perfectly combined with unique and unconventional ideas for incentive & teambuilding activities on offer.

Incentive & Team-building possibilities:

- **Wine tasting near Veliko Turnovo:** You will visit one of the renowned wineries near Veliko Turnovo and taste some of the best wine varieties from the region.
- **The Sound and Light Show on the Tsaravets Hill in Veliko Turnovo:** An audio visual spectacle which through music and powerful illumination recreates the dramatic history of the Second Bulgarian Kingdom (1185 – 1393), the fall under the Turkish and the Liberation of Bulgaria in 1878.
- **Traditional lunch at a Bulgarian family's home in Arbanassi:** The Nearby village of Arbanassi used to be one of the important merchant and cultural centres during the Bulgarian Revival period. Here we will explore the impressive Revival architecture and the beautiful frescoes at the UNESCO classified Rojdestvo Christovo Church. Then we will wash down some traditional dishes with a glass of **rakija** (the Bulgarian traditional spirit) at a local family's home.
- **Half-day bike tour in the picturesque vicinity of Veliko Turnovo:** Explore the majestic Balkan Mountains on a bike.

