

Craiova - Mănăstirea Osenovlashki (7 tronuri) EN

Descriere

Maglavit monastery

Descriere

The first church was erected in 1935, by several locals, on the place where the shepherd Petrache Lupu had seen on May 31, 1935 "a white bearded monk [...] who stood two hands above the ground". In 1935, on several Fridays, Petrache Lupu had seen the Old man (God), transmitting commands to the world for heading towards the Church, to the right faith. Soon, a few thousand believers begin to arrive in Maglavit every day. On the places where the revelations took place are raised crosses, wayside crosses and even a pulpit for preaching the divine commandments. On September 14, 1935, the foundation stone of the future monastery was laid, and some monks were sent here. It is noteworthy that on the Danube a small village of nuns was established. The construction of this site has seen agitated times for 70 years. In 1936, the construction of several houses began, at a rather slow rate. The Second World War and the establishment of the communist regime led to the abolition of the monastery. The monastic life began only in 1990, when the construction of the settlement was resumed. The works evolved slowly, being intensified only after 2006. In 2010, the Maglavit Monastery was transformed from a monk monastery to a nun's monastery. Currently, the construction work is almost completed.



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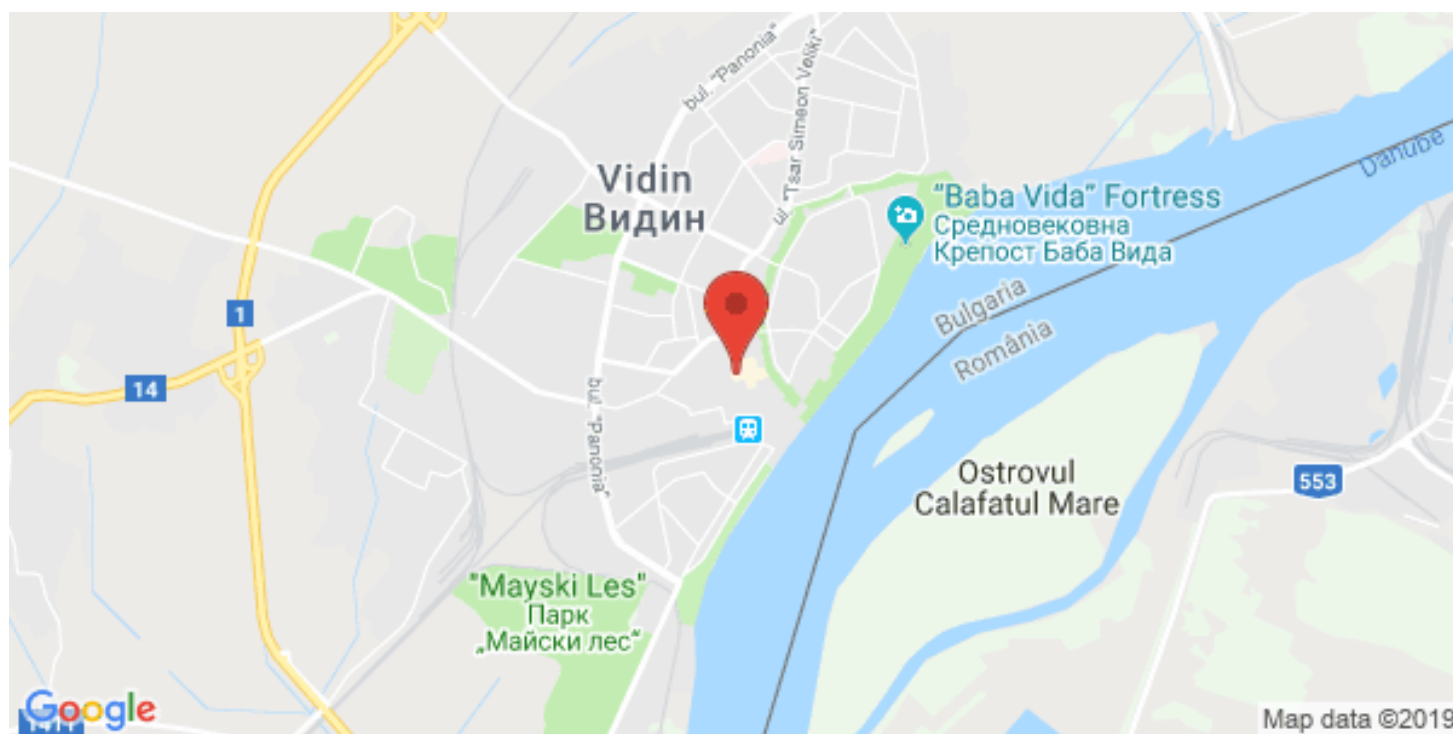
Saint Demetrius Cathedral

Descriere

Cathedral St. Demetrius is the business card of Vidin. The church is the second largest in Bulgaria and the third largest in height, measuring 33 meters. The first building was built on a wooden structure, which collapsed over time, so it was necessary to build a new large church, built between 1885-1926. It was a realization of Antim, the first Bulgarian exarch, and the construction was made with the efforts of all the believers in the city. Proiectul aparține unui maestru al școlii din Tryavna și unui arhitect italian. It is a basilica with three naves, in the form of a cross, with a large interior space. To keep track of time, one of the bells has a clock built in 1900. The interior space of the building is divided into three planes. The iconostasis is an artistic work of the Debar School, with the help of the famous Philipovci family, made in 1923. The church is beautifully painted by a team led by artist Zhelyazkov, from Repin's Russian school. In addition to the icons of the Bulgarian saints, there are also several Bulgarian national heroes in the holy place. The painting "Gifts from the Tsar Peter (927-970) to St. John of Rila" is found only in this church.



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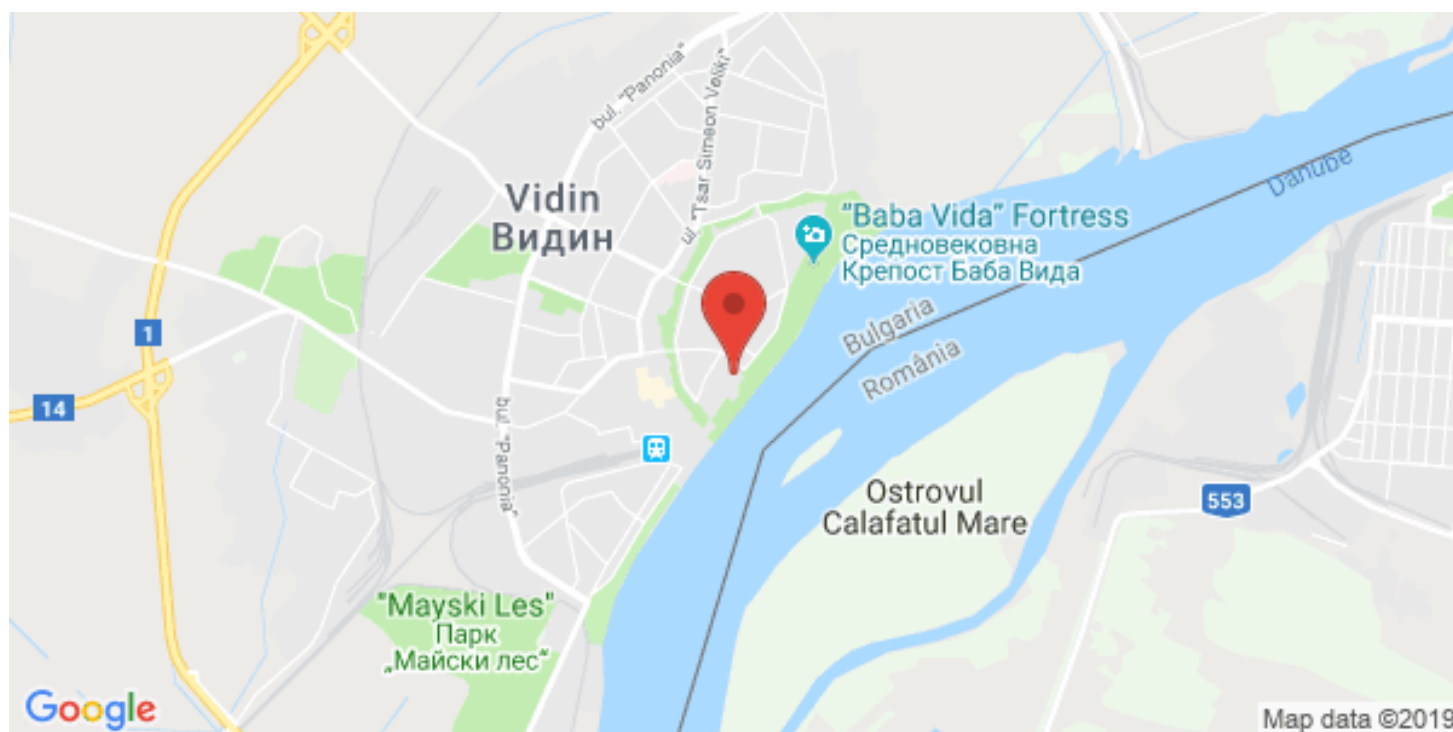
Church Saint Nicholas

Descriere

The church is part of an eparchial complex, next to the Church of St. Pantelimon, the Cathedral of Vidin and the Mausoleum of the Exarch Antim. The first church was built in 1799, on the ruins of the old bell tower, being an annex of the Church St. Pantelimon. The new church was built under another project in 1926. It is a basilica with three intersecting naves, with apse and pronave, with two galleries, north and south, and one to the west. From the outside, the church is impressive, with a large dome, two towers located symmetrically above the central entrance, as well as beautiful facades, with round and vaulted windows. Inside the church we find an extremely beautiful mosaic floor and a mosaic on the southern wall, representing Saint Nicholas the Mircle Doer, most probably executed in Berlin. The beautiful icons and murals are made by the masters of the Debar School, Philip Filipov, Krastyu Yankov and Jeliaskov. The church was renovated in 2009. Here there are regular services attended by the Metropolitan of Vidin.



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The Monastery of St. John Rilski of Chiprovtsi (Ciproviți)

Descriere

Ciproviți Monastery is one of the oldest monasteries in Bulgaria, according to historical sources, being called Jeleznič Monastery, due to its proximity to the locality of the same name, on the Ogosta river valley. It was founded in the tenth century and played an important role in the revolutionary movements for the liberation of Bulgaria. Throughout the centuries, generations of priests have been formed here, manuscripts and religious books have been written and copied. The monastery is linked to the first battles against the oppressing Turks, being a place of refuge for all the tzars of the Second Bulgarian Empire from the fourteenth century. Here were deposited the relics of St. John of Rila, when they were brought from Hungary. The existence of the monastery is closely linked to the older history of the region, reminiscent of the Thracian, Roman and medieval times. In the 16th-17th centuries, the local population of Orthodox and Catholics, grouped around the Ciprovti Monastery, participated in the battles against the Turks. The monastery witnessed six uprisings against the Turks, serving as a refuge for the outlaws. For this reason it was burned six times, but it was redone every time, remaining one of the most solid landmarks of the Orthodox faith in the past centuries. The monastery has a very rich library with Slavonic books and manuscripts, being sought by specialists in the field. Located at the foot of the Balkans, the monastery complex was last reconstructed in 1876, having a rectangular shape. The last rehabilitation of the church was made in 1829, of stone, in the shape of a nave with an apse, a style borrowed from Gothic architecture. Beside the central gate of the complex are located two apartment buildings with two floors, the space of the egumen, a tower with ossuary and chapel and the bell tower, where the remains of some freedom fighters in northwestern Bulgaria are buried. Above is the sanctuary of St. John of Rila. In the past, in the complex there were stables and warehouses. The exterior facade of the church is covered with pictures and inscriptions carved in stone. The iconostasis is splendid, made by an unknown craftsman, and the icons are painted by Hristo Enceev from Koprivštita. In the western wing of the monastery is the chapel of St. Anastasius the Great, made in 1880, with murals representing local saints. Every year, during the feast of the patron saint (October 19), a great agape is celebrated in the honor of St. John of Rila. The entire monastery is restored, with central heating and sanitary spaces. It is a cultural monument of national

importance, inscribed on the list of 100 monuments.



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Loupshanski Monastery

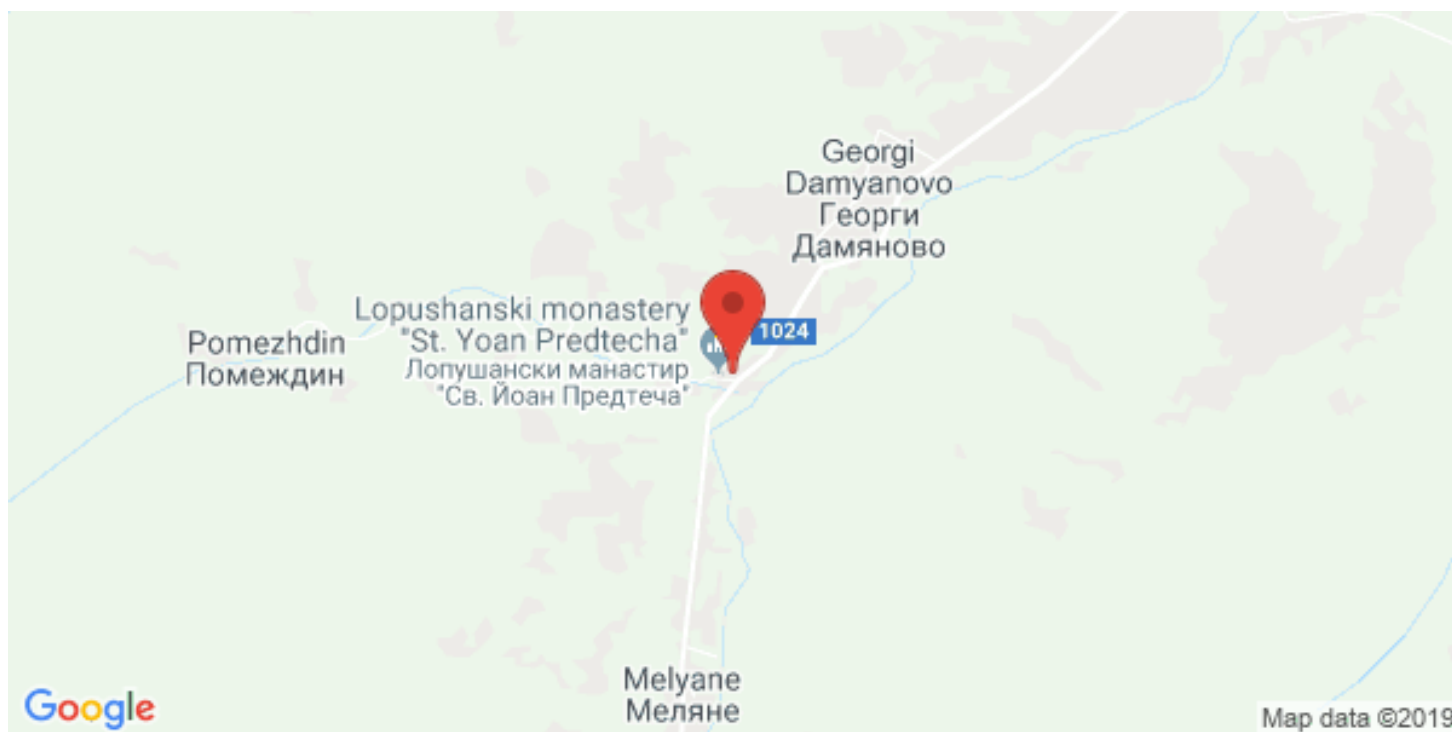
Descriere

Loupshanski Monastery, dedicated to "St. John the Forward-walker", is located in the western part of the Balkan mountains, near the river Dalgopolska Ogosta. The present buildings are built over an older monastery from the 14th century. Often burned down and devastated by the Turks, the monastery was long uninhabited, hence the name of Desert Monastery. In 1850, the monks Dionysius, Gideon and Gherasim began the reconstruction of the monastery. A monastery school was also opened, and secret meetings were held in the church between the rulers of the region, one of the conspirators being the Archimandrite Dionysius, abbot of the monastery. The entire monastery complex, with the church, the residential and household buildings, the chapel with the ossuary and the shrine, was created by the master Lilo from the Slavine School, who has twice visited the Rila Monastery for this purpose. The monastery church thus became practically a copy of the one in Rila, being the third largest in the country, with three naves, three apses, a pseudo-basilica, two lateral chapels and stone reliefs depicting soldiers, animals, birds. The church, large and imposing, has an iconostasis, a magnificent sculpted art achievement of the Samokov School, as well as splendid icons painted by brothers Stanislav and Nicola Dospevski, the successors of the renowned painter Zaharia Stoianov from Samokov. Particularly impressive are those with Jesus

Christ and the Virgin Mary, made in 1863 by Stanislav Dospevski. The monastery is famous for the icon of the Virgin Mary, a miracle worker, who saved and healed many people, but also for the armored icon of the Virgin Mary, found built into an old wall. In the courtyard of the monastery, besides the marvelous fountain of 1856, ornamented with embossings, there is also the new church, similar to the old Roman one near the monasteries, as well as the exhibition of icons.



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Klisurski Monastery

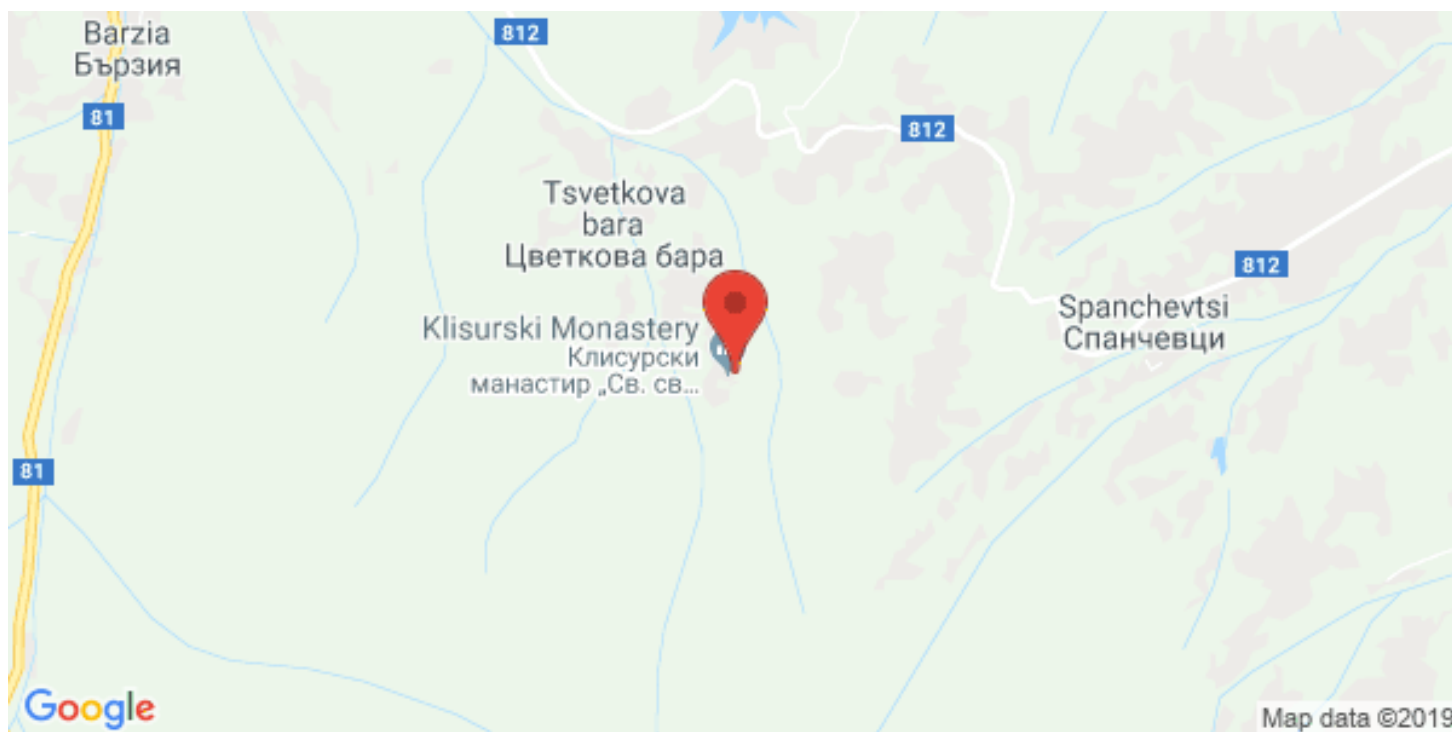
Descriere

The holy place, located on the hill in the center of the complex, has the shape of a church with three naves, a crucified tower, with three apses, a dome with an eight-walled barrel in the middle, an outer nave and two bell towers on the north and south. The splendid iconostasis is the work of master Stoiceo Fandakov from Samocov. From the tenth century until today, the monastery has served as a true spiritual center in the region. Repeatedly, it was set on fire, plundered, destroyed and rebuilt by locals. In the modern era, only in 1867, Ilia Stoyanov from Draganița village, following a vision of St. Nicholas, begins the restoration of the holy place, managing to involve the local population in this work. His successor, Alexandar Damianov from Bercovita, later became the abbott Antim, being the son of a rich man, dedicating his life and personal wealth to the development of the monastery, so that from 1887 to 1890, the church was built. Supported by the surrounding Orthodox population, he manages to buy a large number of monastery land. The abbott Antim dies at the age of 95, after spending 55 years in this monastery. In 1891, the talented painter Nikola Obrazopisov (1828-1925), a connoisseur of the traditions of Mount Athos, is called to paint the new icons donated by the founders. Between 1936-1937, the successor of the Russian painter Repin, Gospodin Jeliaskov, his daughter Olga and his son-in-law, prof. Gherghi Bogdanov, paint the place

again. Subsequently, the archimandrite Antep, the current protozoan of the Metropolis of Vidin, begins extensive work on the infrastructure of the monastery complex. Visitors can learn about the history of the monastery by visiting the church museum, which contains valuable exhibits, photographs, documents, church utensils, service books and icons. Here you can also see the ruins and objects of the first Bulgarian and Metropolitan exarch of Vidin, Antim, as well as those of the Metropolitan of Vidin, Dometian.



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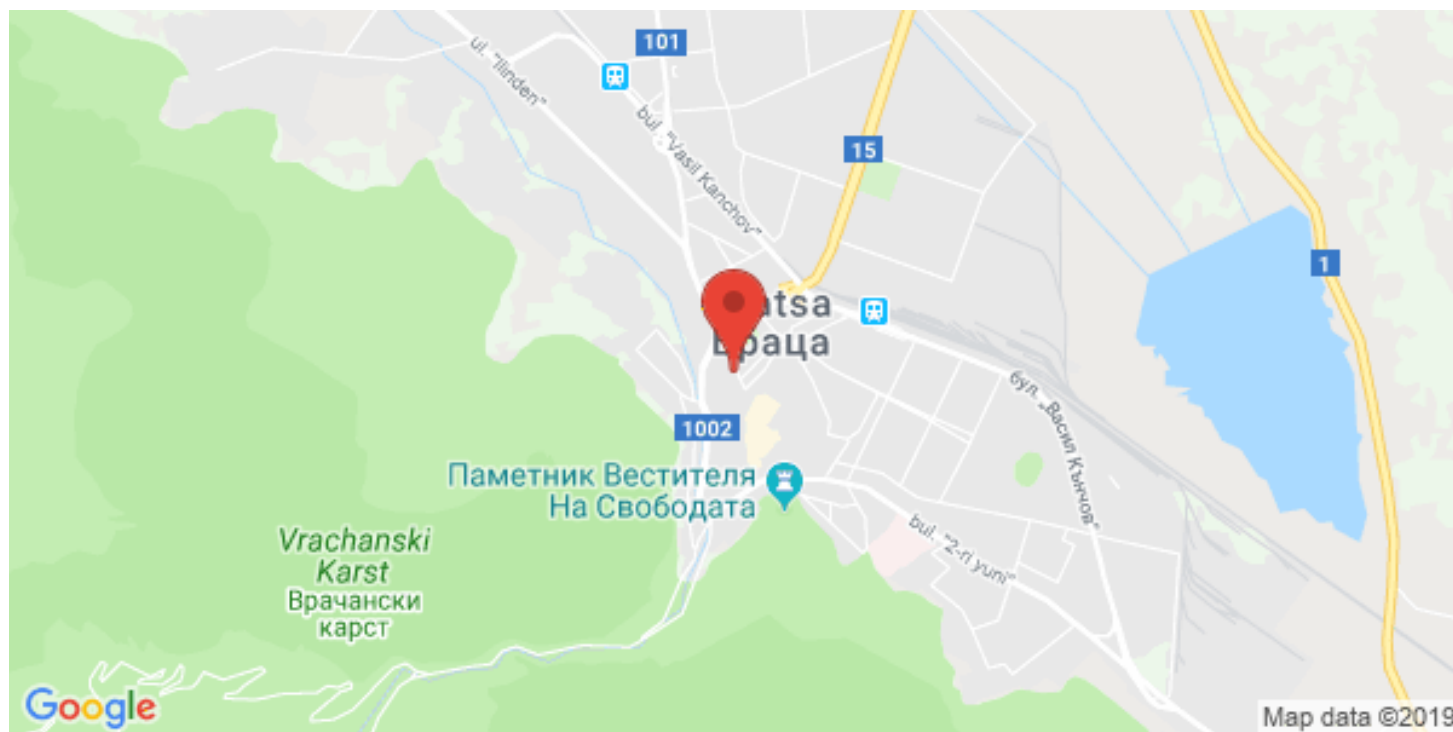
Cathedral of Saint Apostles in Vratsa

Descriere

The church is located right in the centre of Vratsa. Built on the site of an older church from the 17th century, it is the largest and most imposing church in the city. It has the shape of a large basilica with three naves, three apses and a dome with eight walls. The three altars inside are dedicated to Paisie Hilendarski of Hilandar and the Holy Sophronie of Vratsa (Vrachanski). The painting is frescoed, and the iconostasis and the episcopal chair are adorned with floral ornaments and decorative motifs with animals. A beautiful wood carved crucifix can be found on the pulpit. It is designated a cathedral for the Metropolitan of Vratsa, where the solemn liturgy is celebrated.



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Cherepish Monastery

Descriere

It is a Bulgarian Orthodox monastery in the Vratsa diocese, located in the Iskar Gorge, in the so-called *Swiss Bulgaria*, due to the beauty of the area. Founded during the second Bulgarian country, under Tsar Ivan Shishman (1371-1393), the monastery was a great literary and educational center. It hosts the Seminary of Sofia, which prepares priests for the entire country. It was burned several times during the battles with the Turks, being redone every time. The monastery church is shaped like an arched nave. The iconostasis is carved, and the icons belong to the Tryavna Schools, through the painter Yoanikii Vitanov and Debar, through Vasil Iliev. It holds valuable church objects, as well as old frescoes by Pimen Zografski.



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Monastery 7 Thrones (Osenovlaski)

Descriere

It is located in the Iskar river gorge, at the foot of the Stara Planina mountains, near Cerbului meadow, Mezdra municipality, on the border between Sofia and Vratsa districts. The monastery was founded in the eleventh century, being destroyed several times, and the last reconstruction dates from 1815. The church has a dome in the form of a cross, and the four altars inside also form a cross, being separated by the interior walls. The icons are from the XVII-XIX centuries, being the result of the work of artists from the Tryavna School, from the Vitanovtsi family. Mentions about the monastery can be found in the liturgical books of the 16th-18th centuries. Over time, the monastery has been a literary and educational center, and there is a school for children here. According to a local legend, here came 7 boyars from Bessarabia who founded the seven villages nearby. Today the monastery is a large monastery complex, composed of church, residential buildings and bell tower, and around the monastery there are wonderful conditions for resting and tourism.



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