# THE ROUTE

# Compiled by a team led by

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SECTION 1	Bulgarian literature in search of the man of modern times
TOPIC OF THE ROUTE  General concept of the cultural program of the route	The target audience for the cultural program in the route is foreign tourists who have strong humanitarian interests. The route aims to introduce them to the complex issues of modernity and modernity in culture. For this purpose, the route offers to familiarize foreign tourists with a Bulgarian 'anthology' of literary models representing the modern personality. Through texts by Bulgarian authors from the second half of the nineteenth to the end of the twentieth century, a variable series of projects unfold - projects about a collective or deeply individual future imagined as personal. Throughout the talks, we search for a connection between the author's birthplace, the cultural context, and literary examples. An additional perspective is offered through the possibility for comparative observations, through linking literary-historical facts from Bulgarian literatures, European literatures and in a more specific sense Slavic literatures.  The journey in the proposed route begins with an exploration of the architectural and archeological national sites
	in Sofia. And while this journey seeks to find the first manifestations of the modern man in Bulgaria from the so-called Palaeologan Renaissance (Boyana Church and the church in Zemen), it also juxtaposes their 'reading' with their literary incarnations from the 20th century.  The next significant place on the route is the town of Karlovo with its markedly localized Bulgarian Revival understanding of modernity. The latter can be observed through the backgrounds (historiographical and literary) of prominent Karlovo natives: revolutionary strategist Vasil Levski; revival teacher and translator Rayno Popovich; scholar Botyo Petkov; pioneer journalist, editor and publisher of periodicals and travel writer Ivan Bogorov; and the first major modernists Evlogi and Hristo Georgievi.  The search for images of the modern man continues in one of the cities with the most noticeable presence of the

phenomena of the emerging (with the support of the Revival donation) new time of the liberated Bulgaria - Plovdiv. Through

the 'lyrical voice of the local' the talk here highlights the dramatic discrepancies of the rift between the 'society in process of modernization' (as a project of the ideological and political) and the personal feelings of the still existing 'non-modern' humanity. This stage of the route continues with another perspective - through a presentation on Bulgarian socialist architecture and its manifestations in the town of Dimitrovgrad; and it tells about the twists and turns in the myth of the *city of youth* and the myth of the *enthusiastic singer of modern construction sites* - Penyo Penev.

It is not by chance that the route puts its final, unifying touch on the anthological arrangement in words and images of the modern Bulgarian man in Dimitrovgrad.

#### **TEAM**

Presented here is the team which includes lecturers, doctoral students and undergraduate students from the Faculty of Philology of the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv:

Supervisors: Assoc. Prof. Elena Getova, PhD. and Prof. Lyubka Lipcheva-Prandzheva, DSc.

Participants: Polna Petkova (doctoral student), Magdalena Gogalcheva (doctoral student) and Milena Mincheva (undergraduate), Iliya Dimitrov (undergraduate), and Plamen Hadjiev (bachelor)

# **Travel plan** - organization of the visited sites by days and places

# Day one:

Sofia - Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, National Art Gallery, Saint Sofia Ancient Church, National Archaeological Institute and Museum at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, National History Museum

A visit to the Boyana Church and the Zemen Church

**Lecture 1:** (in the yard of the Zemen Church):

The Man... from the Icon

In the evening - a screening of the film *Boyanskiyat maystor* [The Boyana Master]

#### Day two:

Trip to Karlovo - National Museum Vasil Levski; Historical Museum - Karlovo; the house of Rayno Popovich; the house of scholar Botyo Petkov, bust - a monument of Dr. Ivan Bogorov; the Wool Factory - built in 1891 by the brothers Evlogi and Hristo Georgievi, the villa of Evlogi Georgiev near Karlovo (prospects for its restoration)

**Lecture 2:** (in the Historical Museum of Karlovo): <u>The Modern Man of the Bulgarian Revival</u>
Arrival in Ploydiy

Day	three:
Day	un cc.

Plovdiv: historical walk in the Old Town - Balabanov House, Hindlian House, Ethnographic Museum, Gate Hisar Kapia, the church St. Constantine and St. Elena, the two basilicas, the Ancient Theater

**Lecture 3:** (in the House of Hristo G. Danov): *Revival Donation and the Construction of Liberated Bulgaria* 

## Day four:

**Lecture 4:** (Union of Scientists in the Old Town of Plovdiv): <u>Non-canonical Charms. Plovdiv Poets from the Last Decades of the 20th Century</u>

# Day five:

Departure for Dimitrovgrad **Lecture 5**: (Penyo Penev Museum): *The White Spring of a Utopia* 

## Day six:

Departure from Dimitrovgrad.

# Authors who will be presented:

Lecture 1: Geo Milev, El. Bagryana, Fani Popova-Mutafova

**Lecture 2:** Travelogues and projects by Iv. Bogorov, excerpts from R. Popovic''s textbook *Hristoitiya* 

**Lecture 3:** Memories of Plovdiv by Iv. Bogorov, L. Karavelov, N. Gerov, Hr. G. Danov and J. Gruev

Lecture 4: Ivan Teofilov

**Lecture 5:** Geo Miley, N. Vaptsarov, Penyo Peney, Ivan Radoev