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### Introduction



My home country is Bulgaria. It's a beautiful land filled with many historical and natural landmarks which we as Bulgarians are proud of. In this presentation I'm going to introduce you to some of the landmarks found in my municipality – Silistra.

# Silistra municipality – general info

•Situated in the north-eastern part of Bulgaria, on the bank of the Danube River. It borders on Romania by land and by the Danube River.

- •The relief is predominantly plain.
- •The economic and cultural development of the region has been heavily influenced by the Romanian occupation of South Dobrudzha.

•One of the most interesting natural landmarks in the region is Lake Srebarna. Located in the south-western part of the plain it is part of the Srebarna Biosphere Reserve, included in the UNESCO List of World Cultural Heritage.



## Historical and natural landmarks

- •Sreburna Biosphere Reserve
- •The old oak in the Danube Park
- •Medjidi Tabia fortress
- Durostorum Drastar fortress
- •Roman Tomb
- Rock sanctuary Badjaliata
- •Fishermen Village

### Sreburna Biosphere Reserve

#### Type: Reserve

Location: Near the village of Sreburna

- The reserve includes the lake of Srebarna and its surroundings about 660 hectares guarded area and buffer zone of about 540 hectares.
- It houses 22 rare vulnerable or endangered species of animals and plants under the European red list of globally threatened animals and plants and 149 species under the Red Book of Bulgaria.
- Here can be seen 41 species of mammals, 11 reptiles and 10 amphibians, 24 species of fish and 221 species of birds.
- In 1977 Srebarna was declared a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO. In 1983 it is included in the list of monuments of world cultural heritage and natural sites of UNESCO.

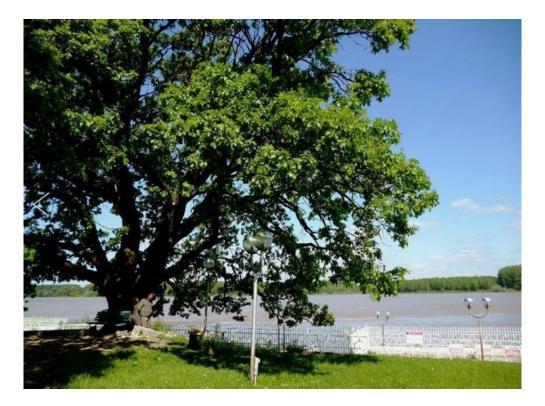


### The old oak in the Danube Park

Type: Parks and Gardens

Location: Town of Silistra

- Planted in 1910 the oak is the oldest tree in the oldest town park in Bulgaria – the Danube park of Silistra.
- •The tree represents our country in the "European Tree of the Year – 2016".



## Medjidi Tabia fortress

#### Type: Fortress

Location: Town of Silistra

- The fortress is the best preserved of total six facilities of Ottoman fortification system used during Crimean War (1853-1856) and Russo-Turkish War (1877-1878).
- It has a hexagon form and reach 8m in high. It was built in the period of 1841-1853 based on plans of the German military engineer Helmuth von Moltke, who also designed other fort near the town of Ruse - Levent Tabia.
- •The name of the fortress come from the name of Sultan Abdul Medzhid who visited the facility in 1847.



### Durostorum - Drastar fortress

#### Type: Fortress

Location: Town of Silistra

- In its beginning The Drustar Fortress (Roman name Durostorum) probably occurred as a Thracian stronghold which base was used by the Romans to build a large and strong fortress-city along the Danube.
- •The town flourished in the first III-II centuries BC under name Durostorum until 238 when tribes of Karpi destroyed it.
- •Later, in the VI century, Slavs settled here and the city revived with new strength and power under the name Drastar.



### Roman Tomb

Type: Sanctuary, Archaeological site

Location: Town of Silistra

- One of the most famous antique monuments in Bulgaria which dates back to the IV century, when the town was a Roman fortress named Durostorum. It is a unicameral vaulted stone building with an entrance on the East and dimensions 3.3m x 2.60m x 2.30m.
- •The tomb is famous with its rich frescoes decoration (geometrical, animal and human figures, hunting scenes, family couple and their servants), made probably by an artist from Egypt or Syria.
- It was discovered in 1942 and nowadays is exhibited in a special protective building.



## Rock sanctuary Badjaliata

**Type:** Sanctuary, Archaeological site

Location: Near the village of Strelkovo

- •Badjaliata is a cave and a rock-sanctuary of Zalmoksis - the mythical king, priest and god of the Thracian tribe of Getty.
- •It dates back to VI century B.C. The sanctuary is located near village of Strelkovo (Silistra region).



# Fishermen Village

Type: Ethnographical open-air museum

Location: Town of Tutrakan

- •The "Fishermen's village" is a hamlet dating back to the years of the National Revival.
- •In it the visitors may learn about the development of the fishing in Tutrakan. They will see the typical architecture of the fishermen houses, some of which are 150 - 200 years old.
- •The most typical for the fisherman's houses is the lack of a yard. This is due the fisherman's family is not being occupied with farming.





#### Thank you!