

HISTORY OF SOFIA



Elitsa Bineva 7A

SOFIA

- Bulgaria's capital and largest city
- Sofia was originally as Thracian settlement called *Serdica* or *Sardica*, possibly named after the Celtic tribe Serdi that had populated it.. It finally became Sofia from the beginning of the 15th century taking on the name from St. Sofia church (wisdom).





LONG AGO

- Evidence has been found that Sofia was inhabited as early as 7000 years ago. Thracian and Roman remains can still be seen dotted around the city: in the underpass in front of the presidency; behind the Military Club, and behind the Sheraton hotel.
- Sofia's thermal springs meant that it was always an attractive place for settlement. There are springs in the city center, Gorna Banya, Knyazhevo, Bankya and Ovcha Kupel
- commercial, industrial, cultural and economic centre in its region and the Balkans



THE PANAGYSHITE TREASURE



MIDDLE AGE

- Sofia first became part of the First Bulgarian Empire during the reign of Khan Krum in 809. Afterwards, it was known by the Bulgarian name *Sredets* and grew into an important fortress and administrative centre.
- After a number of unsuccessful sieges, the city fell again to the Byzantine Empire in 1018. In 1128, Sredets suffered a Magyar raid as part of the Byzantine Empire, but in 1191 was once again incorporated into the Bulgarian Empire at the time of Tsar Ivan Asen I.



SOPIA'S MINERAL WATER SPRINGS



GROWS BUT DOES NOT AGE



LIBERATED BULGARIA

- Sofia was liberated by Russian forces in 1878, during the Russo-Turkish War, 1877-78.
- Sofia became capital of Bulgaria as recently as 1879, after six hundred years. Sofia was felt to possess a strategic location and the change of capital marked the end of Bulgaria's dark ages under Ottoman rule.



NOWADAYS



THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION!

