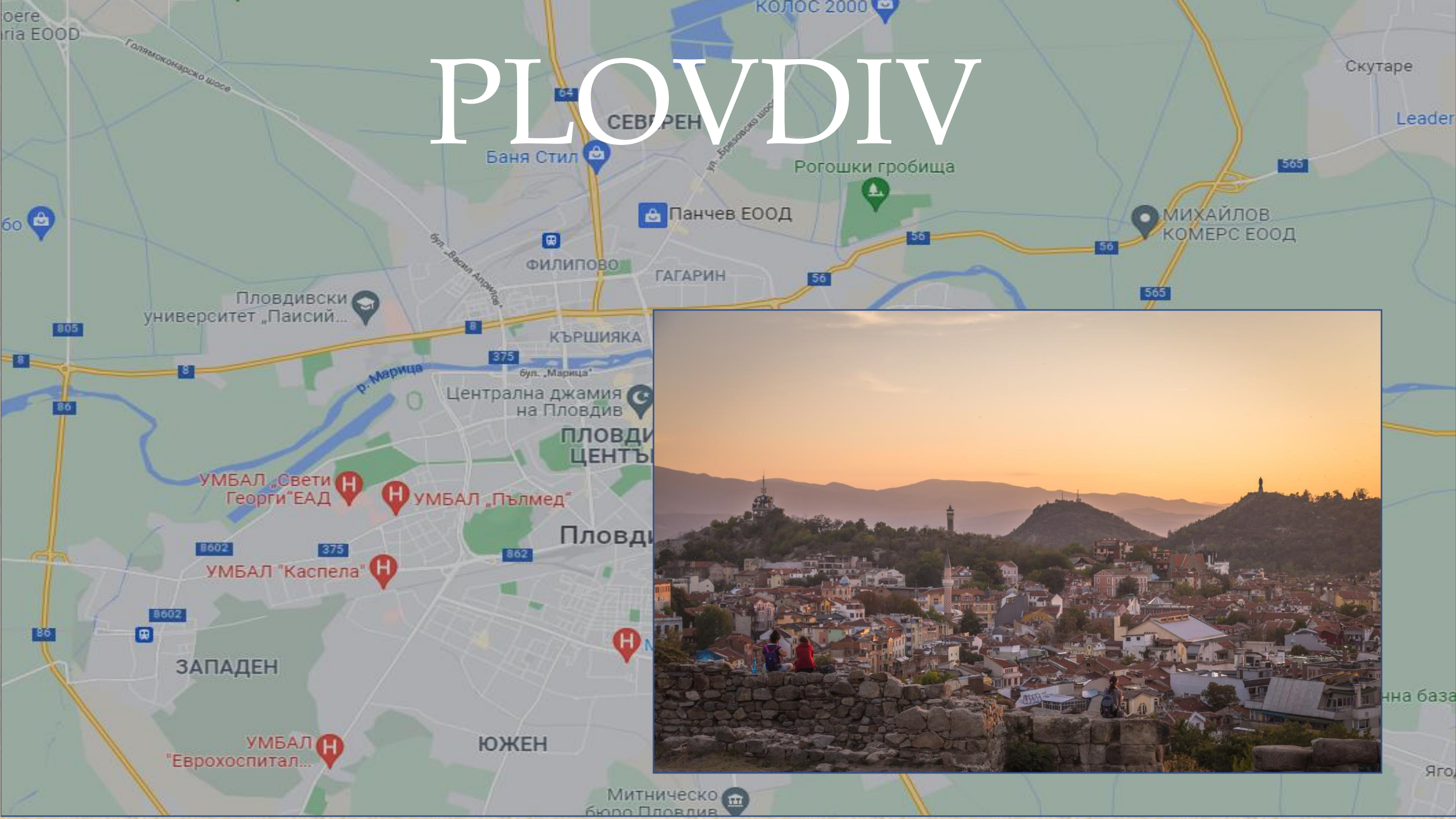


PLOVDIV



HISTORY OF PLOVDIV

Plovdiv is one of the oldest cities in Europe. Archaeologists have discovered pottery and other objects of everyday life from as early as the Neolithic Age, showing that in the end of the 7th millennium B.C there already was an established settlement there.

In 72 BC, Plovdiv was seized by the Roman general Terentius Varo Luculus. The city was incorporated into the Roman Empire, where it was called Trimontium (City of Three Hills) and served as capital of the province of Thrace. Thrimontium was an important crossroad for the Roman Empire and was called "The largest and most beautiful of all cities" by Lucian. In those times, the Via Militaris (or Via Diagonalis), the main military road in the Balkans, passed through the city.



IDEAS TO MAKE PLOVDIV MORE SUSTAINABLE FOR EVERYBODY

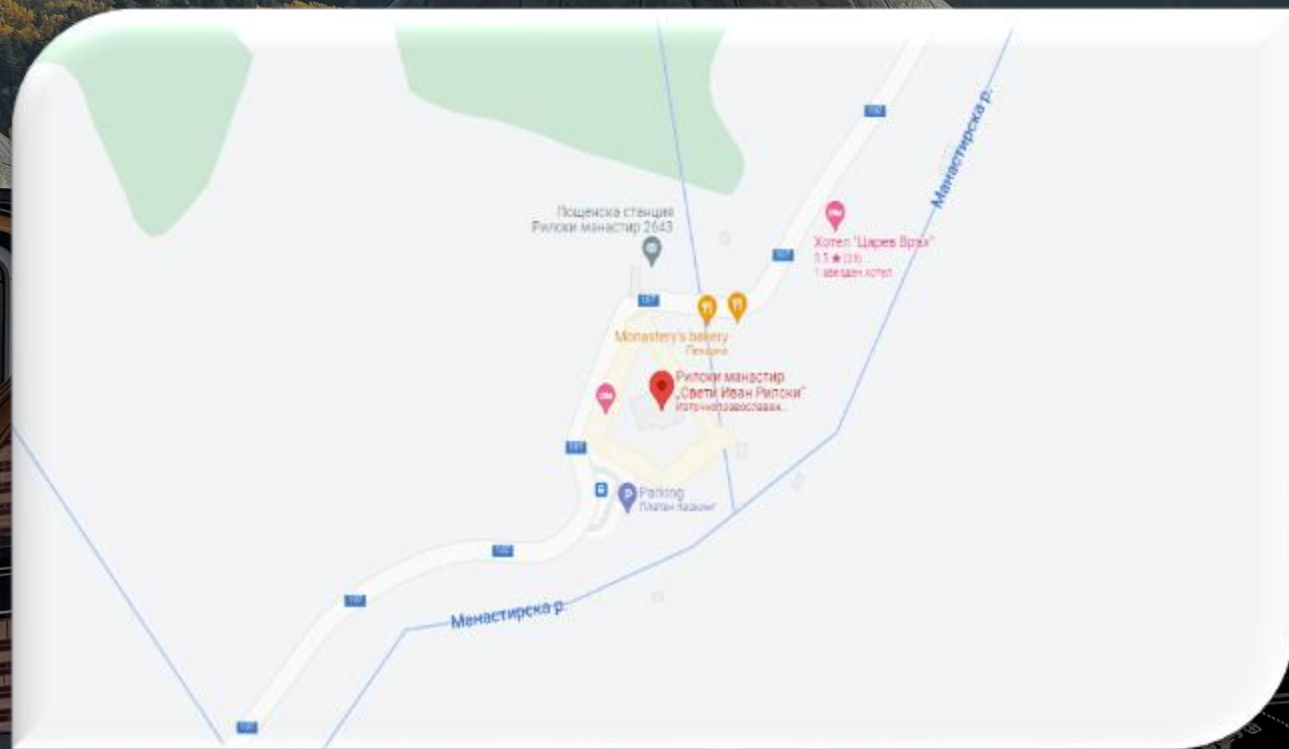
To be accessible for people with special needs

To make Recycling mandatory and to make plastic bottle deposits

To put more recycling bins all over the city

To put more information signs about the history and the sights there

RILA MONASTERY



HISTORY

The image shows the Rila Monastery church, a large brick building with multiple domes and arched windows, set against a backdrop of dense green trees. In the foreground, there is a stone wall with a red-tiled roof. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Rila Monastery was founded in the 10th century by St John of Rila, a hermit canonized by the Orthodox Church. His ascetic dwelling and tomb became a holy site and were transformed into a monastic complex which played an important role in the spiritual and social life of medieval Bulgaria. Destroyed by fire at the beginning of the 19th century, the complex was rebuilt between 1834 and 1862. A characteristic example of the Bulgarian Renaissance (18th–19th centuries), the monument symbolizes the awareness of a Slavic cultural identity following centuries of occupation.

FACTS ABOUT THE MONASTERY

It is situated in 1147 meters altitude in the highest mountain in Bulgaria and the Balkans – Rila (Musala – 2925 m).

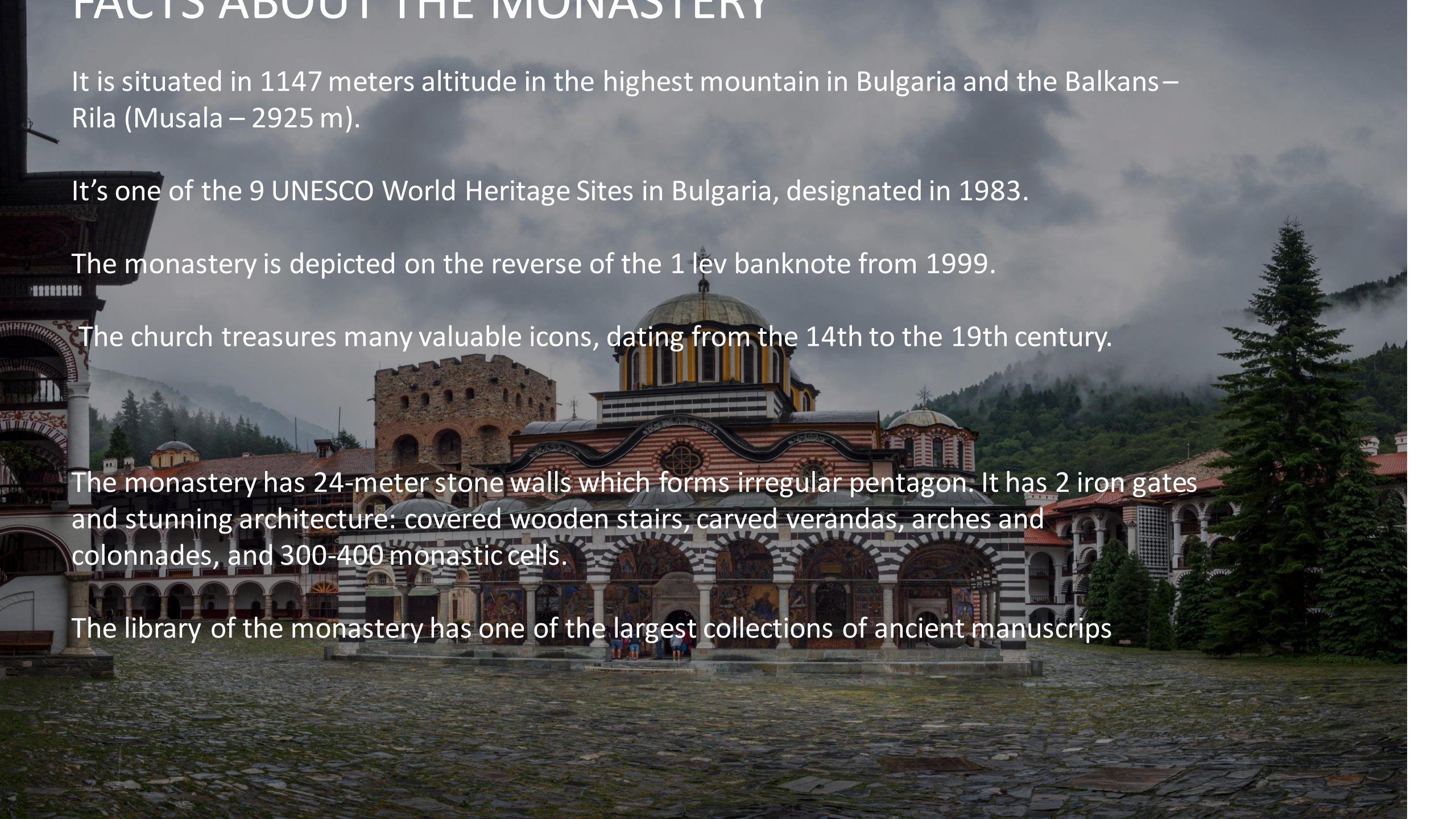
It's one of the 9 UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Bulgaria, designated in 1983.

The monastery is depicted on the reverse of the 1 lev banknote from 1999.

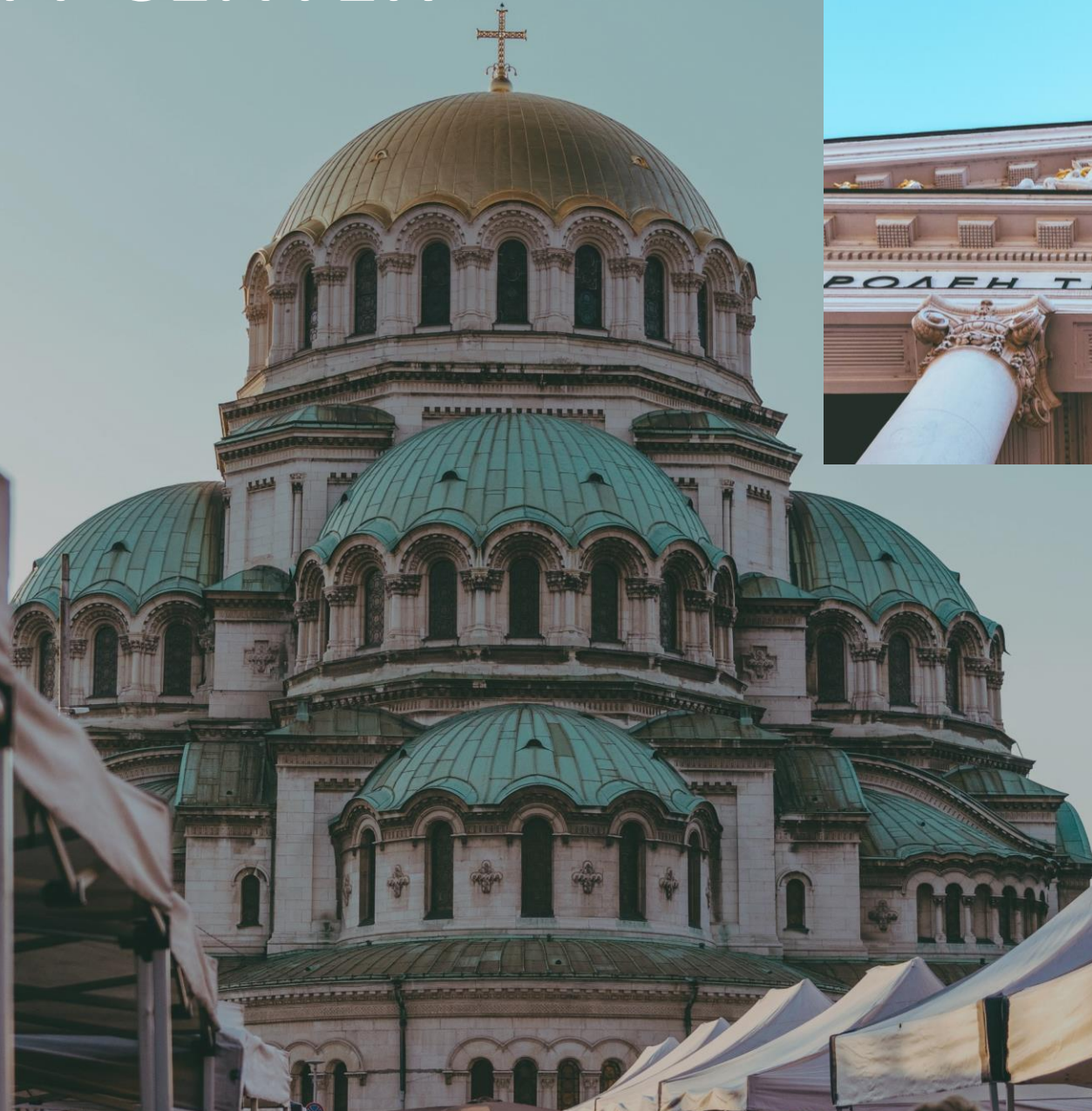
The church treasures many valuable icons, dating from the 14th to the 19th century.

The monastery has 24-meter stone walls which forms irregular pentagon. It has 2 iron gates and stunning architecture: covered wooden stairs, carved verandas, arches and colonnades, and 300-400 monastic cells.

The library of the monastery has one of the largest collections of ancient manuscripts



SOFIA CITY CENTER



HISTORY

Sofia is the capital and largest city of Bulgaria. It is situated in the Sofia Valley at the foot of the Vitosha mountain in the western parts of the country. The city is built west of the Iskar river, and has many mineral springs. It has a humid continental climate. Being in the centre of the Balkans.

Sofia has been named one of the top ten best places for start-up businesses in the world, especially in information technologies. In 1979, the Boyana Church in Sofia was included onto the World Heritage List, and it was deconstructed in the Second Bulgarian Empire, holding much patrimonial symbolism to the Bulgarian Orthodox Church.



HOW TO MAKE SOFIA MORE SUSTAINABLE

More green places around the buildings

More Corsswalks

Bike rental services

