

# Ski Touring Itinerary in Bulgaria, Macedonia and Kosovo

## 1. The Republic of Kosovo:

**Day 1:** Arrival at **Prishtina, Skopje or Sofia** airport. Meet with your guide. Transfer to **Prevala** mountain pass area in Kosovo, in the foot of Sharri Mountains (1,5/3/5h). Accommodation in the area for 2 nights.

**Day 2: Sharri Mountains – Prevala.** A touring day in the area of Prevala. Ascent up to **Konjushka Peak** (2571 m) on the main ridge with 360-degree panorama of the Kosovo part Sharri Mountains. Second night at the same accommodation. Total for the day: +1100/-1100 m.

**Day 3: Sharri Mountains – Brezovitsa area.** A full day touring in the area – up to **Crn Kamen Peak**. Transfer to the area of **Popova Shapka** in Northern Macedonia – 2,45h. Accommodation. +700/-700 or +1200/-1200 m total for the day.



Sharri Mountains, Brezovitsa area, Kosovo

## 2. Northern Macedonia:

**Day 4: Sharri Mountains – Popova Shapka area.** Today we`ll do a whole day tour in the area of Popova Shapka – a couple of ascents up to the main ridge and descents. Afternoon transfer to **Mavrovo Lake** area – 1,5h. Total for the day: options +800/-800m/+1200/-1200 m

**Day 5: Korab Mountains – Kepi Bard Peak/Golem Korab Peak.** Transfer to the border check point at 1460 m – the start point of the ascent of the peak of Kepi Bard (2617 m). In favorable conditions it is also possible to climb the highest peak of Macedonia and Albania – **Golem Korab** peak (2764 m). +1100/-1100 or +1300/-1300 m total for the day. Second night at the same accommodation.

**Day 6: Mavrovo Lake – Skopje – Bansko.** A rest and sightseeing day. A 1,5h transfer to the capital of Northern Macedonia – the city of Skopje – where we`ll have a sightseeing walk. Than we leave the country on our way to the biggest ski resort of Bulgaria – the town of Bansko – 4h transfer. Accommodation in a family hotel for 4 nights.



Sharri Mountains, Popova Shapka area, Macedonia

### 3. The Republic of Bulgaria:

**Day 7: Pirin Mountains - Bezbog area.** Morning 30 min. transfer takes us to the bottom station of Bezbog chair lift. We take it up to Bezbog Hut at 2240 m. From here we ascent to one of the highest peaks of Pirin Mountains – **Mount Polezan** (2851 m). A few options for the descent, according to the conditions. Total for the day: +600/-1700 m or +1200/-2300 m (option for a second ascent).

**Day 8: Pirin Mountains - Hvoynati Peak.** We'll spend the day in the area of the highest peak of Pirin Mountains (Mount Vihren). Drive from Bansko to the ski zone above the town – 20 min. We skin up to Vihren Hut at 1950 m starting from 1650 m for about an hour. Our route goes further up along the valley near Muratovo Lake and finally to the top of Hvoynati Peak (2635 m) that offers a great close view towards the giant Vihren Peak. We've got a few options to descent according to the snow conditions. We ski back down all the way to Bansko. Total for the day: +1000/-1700 m

**Day 9: Pirin Mountains – Todorka Peak.** Today we use the lift system of the resort in order to get quick access to the highest parts of the mountain. A 1h ridge walk (boot crampons required) starts from the top lift station at 2550. We ski down the peak of Todorka, put the skins on and do a second ascent/descent in the area. Final run down to Bansko. Total for the day: +800/-2200 m,

The ascent of Todorka is a ridge hike – no technical difficulty, but fairly exposed, so boot crampons/ice axe required.



Pirin Mountains, Hvoynati Peak, Bulgaria

**Day 10: Rila Mountains – Malyovitsa valley.** A 2h morning transfer takes us to the Rila Mountain range. We skin up from 1760 m into the beautiful Malyovitsa valley. Numerous options for ascents/descents, according to the conditions. 20 min transfer to the village of Govedartsi and accommodation in a mountain hotel for 2 nights. Total for the day: +1000/-1000 m.

**Day 11: Rila Mountains – Musala Peak.** We hit the highest point on the Balkans today. Transfer to Borovets ski resort (30 min) where we take Yastrebets gondola to take us up to 2360 m. We are at the foot of Mount Musala (2925 m). About 3 hours ascent to the top than we ski back down to Borovets, located at 1300 m. 4-5 hours in total, +600/-1600 m.

**Day 12: Transfer to Sofia, Skopje or Prishtina** (1,5/4,5/7h of transfer) for outbound flight.



Rila Mountains, Musala Peak, Bulgaria