

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

**Bulgaria**

General Information

- Population: 7.5 million.
- It is bordered by Romania to the north, Serbia and Macedonia to the west, Greece and Turkey to the south, and the Black Sea to the east. With a territory of 110,994 square kilometres (42,855 sq mi), Bulgaria is Europe's 14th-largest country.
- The population of 7.36 million people is predominantly urban and mainly concentrated in the administrative centres of its 28 provinces. Most commercial and cultural activities are concentrated in the capital Sofia. The strongest sectors of the economy are heavy industry, power engineering, and agriculture, all relying on local natural resources.
- [Fun Fact] Bulgaria claims to have unearthed six bones belonging to John the Baptist. Their claim has received a boost from scientists who have concluded after dating them and analyzing their genetic code that they could indeed be relics of the man who baptized Jesus.

Challenges

- More than three-quarters of Bulgarians subscribe to Eastern Orthodoxy.
- Sunni Muslims are the second-largest community and constitute 10 per cent of the religious makeup, although a majority of them do not pray and find the use of Islamic veils unacceptable.
- Less than three per cent are affiliated with other religions, 11.8 per cent do not self-identify with a religion and 21.8 per cent refused to state their beliefs.

Pray

- Most denominations have missionaries in the country.
- Bulgarian Reformation Ministries. Organized in 2001, they translate the works of both the early and current Reformers into Bulgarian to put the doctrinal works of Calvin and Luther into the hands of Bulgarian Christians and give them the resources to see how the Word of God affects every aspect of life. Their goal is to help Bulgarians re-form their worldview to one based on a comprehensive view of the Scripture, using our translations and publications as a foundation for their understanding.

Reference

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bulgaria>
- <http://www.sovereigngracenews.com/2012/06/1409/>