

*"TREASURES" FOR VISITING
WHEN YOU ARE IN PLOVDIV REGION*

*DJAVOLSKOTO
GARLO
(The Devil's Throat)*

http://caves.4at.info/index.php?cave_id=145

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUMHXzkXN6Y>

<http://www.bulgariainside.com/bg/articles/%25D0%2594%25D1%258F%25D0%25B2%25D0%25BE%25D0%25BB%25D1%2581%25D0%25BA%25D0%25BE%25D1%2582%25D0%25BE-%25D0%25B3%25D1%258A%25D1%2580%25D0%25BB%25D0%25BE/160/0/index.html>

Devil's Throat Cave

If you have decided to combine your holiday in the spa resort of Devin, Bulgaria with a tour around the resort, be sure to pay a visit to the Devil's Throat cave abyss.

Devil's Throat Cave is **one of the most amazing caves** in Bulgaria and one of the phenomena of

Trigrad Gorge, located less than 10 km away from Devin spa resort in West Rodophe Mountains.

The cave was formed due to landslide long time ago. The part that is open to visitors consists of artificially dug tunnel about 150 meters long and impressive in size hall with an underground waterfall.

Devil's Throat cave takes **first place** among the Bulgarian caves with the largest and most magnificent hall which is sufficient enough to accommodate the Alexander Nevski cathedral in Sofia. Devil's Throat cave however **has the highest underground waterfall** in the Balkans and one

of the highest in Europe. The impressive 42 meters tall waterfall along with a big landslide took part in the formation of the huge hall in the cave called the Roaring Hall which has a length of 110 meters, height 35 m and a width of 45 meters. From this room the waters of the underground river speeds and powers up and is going through more than 270 meters underground edit, crosses 13 thresholds each large as 8 meters to reach a siphon (very deep lake) at the end. The width of the galleries is from 2 to 10 m and their height over 4 meters in many places the ceiling is not visible. On many places in the underground galleries logs are seen trapped in the rocks and looking like matches. Siphon of the cave is about 150 meters wide and there has been only one attempted (in 1970) for it to be examined. It was a great expedition with the best equipment. Siana and Evstati both professional scuba divers dived to study the siphon and never came up. Since then there have been no attempts to study the siphon and other underground galleries in the cave.

After the siphon river waters are passing through a 60-foot gallery and are coming to the surface through another cave called "Bottom of the devil". Here speleologists are organizing trips by boat upstream of the underground river.

Devil's Throat is one of the most challenging caves around Devin spa resort, because to get out of it ones have to climb 301 steps, passing close to the waterfall. In high waters, the flow of the water falling into the cave is 2300 l / sec, but during dry periods - 200-300 l/sec.

The name of the cave derives from its exit and that is in the form of devil's throat, as well as from

the many legends about it. Legends date back to Thracian times when people believed that it is the entrance to another world, the world of immortality. For centuries people have sacrificed the most beautiful women in order to appease the gods. People say that nothing comes out of the water maze of the cave ones it goes in. Even today, attempts are done by throwing various objects, whole trees and logs, but nothing comes out. Experiments are made with colors that appear on the surface over an hour and a half after being released, which is evidence of the very long underground labyrinths of the cave.

One of the legends of the Devil's Throat is associated with the mythical Thracian singer and musician Orpheus and his beloved Eurydice. Orpheus descended into the underworld to appease Hades, the god of death and to regain Eurydice. Hades agreed, but had one condition - Orpheus not to turn back and look for her until they leave the underworld. Orpheus failed to succeed during the progress towards the outcome turned. So he lost Eurydice forever. Hence the locals facetiously name the cave - Cave of divorces.

An interesting fact about the cave is that during the winter can be seen the largest colony in the Balkans of the cave long wing bats in it, reaching 2000 in number.

The cave is open to visitors all year round from 8 - 18h, the temperature there is around 8 °, regardless of seasons, so you can wear warm clothes, especially if you decide to visit it in the summer.

<http://www.dospat-bg.com/main.php?act=331&id=207&vtype=>

<http://bulgaria-tourismbg.com/contents/view/290/Itemid/28?lang=en>

WONDERFUL BRIDGES

Deep and high in the majestic Rodope Mountains, there is a magnificent site, called The Wonderful Bridges. Coming from the city of Plovdiv you have to follow the road to Pamporovo resort. About 2-3 km after you pass the Hvojana village you have to take the right turn, direction Zaborudo village. Then some km later you'll reach the Wonderful bridges. The road is narrow and winding but, still, quite acceptable for a passenger vehicle.

<http://vbox7.com/play:75cb6769>

A legend describes the creation of the bridges. Many years ago, a dragon started attacking the herds of Zaborudo shepherds. Finally, they gathered together to find a way to deal with the problem.

A donkey was loaded with tinder and set free. The dragon swallowed the donkey and the tinder started burning inside it. The furious dragon found a small hole and hid there.

Years ago, after its body decayed, the bridges were formed.

<http://www.bulgarian-mountains.com/bg/Huts/Rodopi/ChudniMostove>

KAMENNATA SVATBA

THE WEDDING STONE

<http://bulgaria-tourismbg.com/contents/view/10?lang=en>

<http://vbox7.com/play:e98fe015>

<http://www.kardzhali-tourism.info/?module=multi&do=5&id=77>

<http://www.visit.bg/zabelejitelnosti/?id=185>

<http://www.balkandjii.com/details.php?pid=304&cid=63>

<http://www.panoramio.com/photo/17236547>

http://poseti.guide-bulgaria.com/SC/Kardjali/Kurdjali/Zimzelen/_id=154

KAMENNATA SVATBA

It encompasses area of 5ha in the land of Zimzelen village north-east of Kardzhali. These original forms are sculptured by nature in soft volcanic rocks, beautifully coloured in white and pink and with height from 0.5m to 10m.

THE LEGEND:

It's name is the Stone Wedding. Nature has left a very impressive stone formation that resembles a gathering of people, animals and birds. There is an interesting legend told in connection with this place: A handsome young man fell in love with a charming lass from the near-by village. But - because she always wore a head cloth - he had seen only her captivating eyes; he had never seen her face because of local custom. He loved her very much and became ill from the pain of love. His father was worried and went to the lass's family to save his son's life. He bought her, according to the custom in those ancient days, for a lot of gold. A cheerful wedding began. The wedding guests took the lass and set off for Zimzelen. Riding a mule, the bride, dressed in her fine new gown, was thinking about her native home but was happy to marry the lad. The father-in-law walked next to her with his son (the happy bridegroom) and all the wedding guests from the two villages. As they *passed through the clear stream, a sudden gust of wind blew away the bride's head cloth. The father-in-law saw and was awe-struck at the beautiful face of the young lass. But that lasted just for a moment. He came 'round and evil thoughts entered his mind. The wind understood him and got furious. A storm began and then the worst thing happened -- the bride turned into stone, as she was all dolled up, on her mule. After her, the father-in-law and the wedding guests were turned into stones, too. The young man could only stand in the terror and agony of the moment, but soon he began to wail and begged the storm he to be turned into stone, too. So it happened. He petrified but even today, there's a puddle shining in front of him. The village old people say the drops in this glimmering puddle are his tears.*

The figures of the bride and broom can be clearly distinguished in the middle of the procession. The monument was designated as a natural monument in 1974. Note: The monument is suitable for tourism with a marked route to it.

<http://tourism.kardjali.bg/?pid=1,16>