

# Eight traditional hike

## Winter Belasitsa 2015

### Again in the youngest Nature Park of Bulgaria

Welcome to the most exciting winter hike in Belasitsa Nature Park! For the admirers of the mountain sceneries, for the fans of the Bulgarian culture, wine and folklore – the period is 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> of February, the place is Belasitsa!



#### THE PROGRAMME

##### Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> of February

Departure from Sofia – Central Railway station (meeting at 6:45 a.m.), trip by train to Petrich (7:05 – 11:26 a.m.). At noon – transfer by bus to Belasitsa hut (720 m above sea level) and hiking to Kongura hut (1280 m above sea level). Overnight.

##### Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> of February

Ascent of Golyam Kongur peak (1951 m above sea level) with its wonderful view to the entire Belasitsa ridge, the neighboring mountains and the Kerkini lake. In the afternoon – hiking down to Petrich and overnight in guest houses in Samuilovo village – visiting Valyo Yankish and friends.



##### Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> of February

A walk to the Shy Waterfall. At lunch time - tasting local specialties from the Podgorie villages, folklore programme in Orbelia Winery (near Kolarovo village) and local wine-tasting.

In the afternoon – possibility to visit the mineral water baths in Rupite. Departure to Sofia by train from Rupite (5:00-9:32 p.m.).

#### **Winter Belasitsa 2015** includes: transport

– train Sofia-Petrich and back, organized local transport with a bus (Petrich - Belasitsa hut, Yavornitsa – Samuilovo - Kolarovo, Kolarovo – Rupite, etc.); overnights – Kongura hut, guest houses in Samuilovo and Yavornitsa; food – tasting local dishes and wines; folklore programme and last but not least – an experienced mountain guide!



#### **Make donation!**

Please support the Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation in protection nature and promoting the sustainable tourism in Belasitsa! Make a donation of 120 leva (60 euro) and take part in Winter Belasitsa 2015. The event is organized in the frame of “Belasitsa beyond boundaries” project implemented by BBF in collaboration with the Nature Park “Belasitsa” Directorate, National Park “Kerkini” – Greece, Ecological Association “Planetum” – Macedonia and Foundation EuroNatur – Germany, co-financed by the German Federal foundation for Environment (DBU).

For information and registration please contact Rossen Vassilev (Roko) +359888330010, rossen.vassilev@biodiversity.bg or Martina Koleva +359893543244, martina.koleva@gmail.com

You will need your own ski/ snowshoes, trekking poles, crampons and peeps (avalanche transceiver), hiking equipment and insurance. On request we can inform you about possibilities for rented equipment and mountain insurance.

**EXTRA DAY:** After one additional overnight on Sunday, we can visit by bus on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> some sites in Ograzhden Mountain (Churilovski Monastery), Macedonia (Koleshino and Smolare waterfalls) or Greece (Kerkini Lake). More information is available on request.

**WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU SOON IN BELASITSA!**