

BULGARIA



To: Gert Goltz, GertGoltz  
From: petko, INTERNET:petko@web.bg  
Date: 16/07/02, 23:02 PM  
Re: Petko Petrov

Dear Gert,

As I already tell you we went to the route in Rodopes.  
I will give you short description

Accommodation in Sofia - we are still discussing what will be better for you - a hotel in the center or in the vicinity of Sofia. In the center walking one can see many things, but the temperatures are little bit higher than in the vicinity. (during the night in the center one can use only a bed sheet and in the vicinity one may need a blanket too)

First day out of Sofia - to Rila monastery. It will be relatively easy walk in a forest above 1300 m altitude. One have to have a hammer, may be a chisel and I think must have a camera (not for the minerals, but for the monastery)

Trip to Kremikovtsy. It is a huge open pit for iron ore and barite. A lot of interesting minerals can be find. One have to have a helmet, hammer (bigger - better, we will have at least one big - 3 or 5 kg), chisel, gloves and glasses and clothes for a dirty job. Those clothes may be will be so dirty (iron and manganese minerals) that you will not use them on the other localities and you will not wear them in the bus (the driver will not let you in).

Trip to Luki area We already had successful negotiations with the director and he promised to let us in (even in Saturday) and we will have a meeting with collectors (not for exchange but for purchase). Luki is a kingdom of carbonates - from calcite Mn calcite rodohrosite and not only . . . Some of the samples are really nice, but fragile. Prepare yourself for packaging of fragile mineral drosses. The mine is relatively old - more than 50 years. The mineralisations are two types - vein (with no drosses) and metasomatic - with a lot of cavities . . . We will visit the ore body 4a (the full size 450 m length, 100 m width and 15 m height). We will not walk around all of the body (it is spread to 3 levels in the mine). The equipment is standard for underground mines - helmet, rubber boots, instruments, rucksack . . . They will give us lamps and belts, but if you need enough light - take your own lamp. The walk underground is one km in one direction to the shaft, then down with the shaft and easy walk from the shaft to the ore body. On the way back we may not have possibility to use a trolley or something like this for the rucksacks.

The night we will spend in Pamporovo resort - hotel Perelik (3 stars with a swimming pool . . .)

Next day in Madan we will have only meetings with miners and visiting of camps. The distance for walking into the mines is 3 km in one direction and sometimes in a lot of mud. Recently they had a visitor who broke the safety rules and they do not want to have visitors any more

The evening we will spend in the same hotel in Pamporovo.

Next day - Eniovoche. There is a mine, but the cavities even in the metasomatic ore bodies are not many and the mine is heavy to walk around (several 50 m chimneys with mud and water dripping). We will visit an outcrop of the ore vein and will have the possibility to collect some rhodonite and other manganese minerals. When we arrived in Eniovoche it was after sunset and too late to visit the outcrop, but the geologist told us the road to the outcrop is in good condition and the outcrop too.

There is a forest nearby, but it is a good idea to have a sun hat. Protection glasses are a must.

On the way to Kurdzhaly we will have the possibility to visit an outcrop with Island spar calcite.



The night we will spend in Mineralni bani - hotel Joniko. This hotel has no internet page, but it has a swimming pool. The showers in the rooms are also with mineral water.

Chala deposit - rare phosphates and sulfates. The slope is not very steep and we will walk only in one direction - down (2 or 2,5 km). During the walk we will have several stops (5-7) to see the outcrops. High boots, long pants, sun hats and glasses are a must. It is a good idea to have a sun protection milk. The slope is southern without forest and very hot. One have to have a small hammer and a rucksak. After this slope we will visit the dams (the place where the ore wait for transportation to the benefaction plant) and if you are lucky you will fin wawelite and other minerals. (usuallu we are lucky). We will visit an old damp with small pieces of nice turquoise. Optional - if one have desire and power left in the bateries, we can visit an outcrop if diaspora (1 km walk in one direction).

The next day is the last - thrunks of petrified wood outcrop and travel to Plovdiv and Sofia airport.

If you have any quastions - do not hesitate to ask.

I hope the group will be in good condition for the long travel and warm (hot) weather.

yours  
Petko Petrov

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