

TOURIST PLACES, FACILITIES AND EVENTS THAT MACEDONIANS SHOULD VISIT

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Abstract

Identity is a trait, a property, a sense of something that exists and that stands out and differs from others. Macedonian identity is a unique feature of an ancient nation with its own language that existed and still exists on the territory of Macedonia.

The uniqueness of the Macedonian identity is a multi-millennium mosaic layered and supported by a diverse natural and cultural heritage.

The aim of the paper is to strengthen the Macedonian patriotic identity through tourism by identifying tourist places, facilities and events that Macedonians should visit to confirm their continued existence at home, in the immediate neighborhood and beyond to promote cosmopolitanism. Whether Macedonians will make the visit with a physical presence individually or organized through travel agencies, or virtually using the Internet - modern technology for education, is a personal decision of every Macedonian.

The material in the paper is divided into three parts. The first part mentions tourist places, facilities and events in the area of RS Macedonia. We are talking about locations that reflect the continuity of Macedonia and Macedonians from the earliest days until today. From the large number of locations, we single out the most important tourist places, facilities and events that Macedonians should visit.

The second part mentions tourist places, facilities and events in neighboring countries, as well as in other countries on the Balkan Peninsula and in Europe, which should be visited by Macedonians, because they are important for Macedonian patriotic identity and cosmopolitanism.

In the third part, there are listed tourist locations in countries on other continents that are significant for Macedonians and should be visited for the purpose of strengthening Macedonian patriotism, identity and cosmopolitanism.

The selection of tourist locations - places, objects and events are grouped by time period of creation, type (natural and anthropogenic) and geographical location.

At the end, in the conclusion, we give an overview of sister cities from Macedonia with cities in the world, and there are over 300 cities that Macedonians should know and visit for the sake of tourism promotion of Macedonia and the Macedonian people in the world.

Key words: tourism, places, facilities, events, Macedonia, Macedonians

JEL Classification: Z32 Tourism and Development; Z39 Tourism: Other

INTRODUCTION

¹ Identity of the author: Ethnic Macedonian, eight generation (Cvetan, Pavle, Dimitria, Georgia, Naum, Jon, Venko, Nikola), speaks the Macedonian language, writes with the Macedonian alphabet, cherishes the Macedonian traditions and lives in Macedonia.

Each country takes care of its national identity first in the home country, then for its presence in the immediate environment and more widely around the world.

Today, the promotion of one's homeland can be practiced through various forms of tourist visits to places, objects and events significant for the national identity. Whether the Macedonians will do it with a physical presence individually, in groups through travel agencies or virtually - using the Internet - modern technology for information and education, is a personal decision of every Macedonian.

Therefore, Macedonians should, throughout their lives, visit tourist places, facilities and events in as large a number as possible, and constantly educate themselves, which will strengthen their personal - Macedonian identity and strengthen their self-confidence.

Also, in the part of self-education via the Internet, it is desirable to read domestic and foreign digital literature (books, monographs, scientific papers, etc.), then to search websites of travel agencies (tourist offers and programs), web pages of tourist places, facilities and events, from which you can get a lot of useful information about Macedonia and Macedonians.

In the specific case, Macedonia² (today only its northern part is a sovereign state: the Republic of North Macedonia³) and the Macedonian people need to use tourism services in various ways to promote themselves in the world.

After all, the Republic of North Macedonia has a long and rich history, it has a diverse natural and cultural heritage. In the UNESCO register, RNM it participates in the total world heritage with only two heritages: Natural and cultural heritage of the Ohrid region and Ancient and primeval beech forests of the Carpathians and other regions of Europe. (Dimitrov, V. N., 2024)

We hope that this text will contribute to tourist affirmation, in general, of Macedonia, and will arouse interest among Macedonians in tourist patriotism and identification in the homeland and around the world.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

When compiling the text, literature and several methods were used, namely: method of description, inductive-deductive method, method of analysis and synthesis, method of abstraction and concretization, method of classification and method of generalization.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the list of natural heritage of R.N. Macedonia includes 4 national parks (171,063 hectares), 4 strict national reserves (12,855 hectares), 3 areas with exceptional natural features (2,338 hectares), 14 different plant and animal species that live in areas outside the nature reserves (2,709 hectares) and 33 natural areas in the category of the so-called "monuments of nature" (61,655 hectares). While, for cultural heritage, there are 10,974 objects registered as immovable cultural heritage (4,361 archaeological sites; 1,726 churches and monasteries with over 150,000 square meters of wall fresco painting; followed by mosques; protected houses; monuments; etc.) and 500,000 museum relics (Dimitrov, V. N., 2020).

² Macedonia as a territory has existed for 3 millennia or 2832 years, counted from 808 AD. for example AD until today. Throughout history, Macedonia existed as an independent kingdom, and then began two millennia of subjugation by various conquerors, who divided it and changed its name. But there were also periods when parts of Macedonia were independent, and in the last nine decades only the northern part is a republic and an independent state. The diverse past has contributed to the territory of Macedonia having an invaluable cultural heritage.

³ Additions to the name Macedonia due to political reasons in the last eight decades (1944-2019): Democratic Federal Republic of Macedonia, DFRM (1944-1946); People's Republic of Macedonia, PRM (1946-1963); Socialist Republic of Macedonia, SRM (1963-1991); Republic of Macedonia, RM (1991-2019), recognized by 133 countries worldwide; application to the UN with temporary reference Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, FYROM (1993-2019); Republic of Northern Macedonia, RNM, North Macedonia (Republic) (2019-). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Macedonia retrieved on 08.04.2024. In the text, we will use the abbreviated name of the country, that is, only the initial letters of the adjectives or RN Macedonia.

According to the national institution, Administration for the Protection of the Cultural Heritage of the RSM, 77 goods have been entered into the register of intangible spiritual heritage, however, their number is several times more than the stated number, but, unfortunately, they have not yet been placed in the Register. (Dimitrov, V. N., 2024).

In this paper (it can be said that it is a continuation of the ones cited above, Dimitrov, V. N. 2020; Dimitrov, V. N. 2024), we identify several tourist places, facilities and events that Macedonians, a greater number of them, should visit in their lifetime. Also, through this manuscript, we initiate the state services in the Republic of Macedonia (Administration for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Agency for Support and Development of Tourism and other institutions) to create a Register of natural and cultural places, objects and events, which are significant for Macedonia and Macedonians and are located in countries in the immediate neighborhood and more widely around the world.

1. Tourist places, facilities and events in RN Macedonia that Macedonians should visit

The first part mentions tourist places, facilities and events that occur on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia. We are talking about a large number of locations that reflect the uniqueness of Macedonia and the Macedonians from the most ancient past to the present day. The selection of tourist locations - places, objects are grouped according to the time period of creation, type (natural and anthropogenic) and geographical location - location.

According to the Spatial Plan of the Republic of Macedonia 2002-2020, 10 tourist areas, 54 tourist zones and 195 tourist sites are distinguished in the regionalization of tourist areas. So, out of about 200 tourist sites, 80 sites are for activities in natural and historical settings, 47 are for water activities, 34 for snow activities, 29 (34) urban, 4 main interstate connections. (SPRM, 2004)

From the large number of locations, we single out the most important tourist places, facilities and events in the RN Macedonia, which Macedonians should visit in large numbers in their lifetime.

Table 1. Part of natural - geographic tourist places and facilities in RN Macedonia that Macedonians should visit

PLACES	<p><u>Mountains</u> (26 mountain massifs with about 80 mountains and 5 mountains as separate spatial units); High mountains with over 2500 masl are 5 mountains (Korab, Shar Planina, Baba, Mokra, Nidze), 9 mountains from 2000-2500 masl; 50 mountains from 1000-2000 masl and 17 mountains from 500-1000 masl.). Mountain passes (Straza, Preseka, Bukovo, Djavato, Pletvar, etc.).</p> <p>Caves: 346, the most famous are: Slatinski Izvor, Ramnishte, Gjonovica, Dona Duka, Puralo, Bela Voda, Jaorec, Peshna, Sharkova Dupka, Matka 1, 2, 3, Vrelo, Veligidenska, Bozguni, Makaroec and others.</p> <p><u>Volcanic and post-volcanic forms</u> (volcanic mound "Pilav Tepe", volcanic mounds of Kozhuf, "Kostoperska karpa" - basalt mound near Mlado Nagoricane, Kratovo, Lesново, solfatara "Duvalo" near Kosel, etc.); Denudation forms (Stone pillars "Doll", Bošava - "Dolls", Kozhuf "Earth pyramids", Konopiste - "Stone pillars", Markovi Towers - Stone figures, "Saint or "Elephant" / "Stork", "Devil's Wall", Selechka Mountain - "Moma" rock, Mariovo - "Stone Mushrooms", Treskavec - "Golden Apple" and others.</p> <p><u>Over 14 larger gorges and canyons</u> (Dervenska, Taorska, Veleshka, Demirkapiska, Skochivirska, Šishevska, Istibanjska, Baderska, Brodska, Pesti, Barić, Matka, etc.);</p> <p><u>Large springs</u>: the spring "Ostrovo" on Crn Drim, Vevchan springs, Biljanini springs, the spring of Vardar in the village of Vrutok, the spring of</p>
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	<p>the Treska river in the village of Izvor, the spring of Crna Reka in the village of Zhelezniec, the spring of the Babuna river, etc.</p> <p><u>Rivers:</u> In RNM there are about 1600 watercourses (rivers, creeks, streams, occasional watercourses - drylands, ravines, etc.) with a total length of 11,640 km. However, only 82 rivers are longer than 20 km. Of these, only 4 are longer than 100 km (Vardar, Bregalnica, Crna Reka and Tresca), 6 are between 50 and 100 km long (Pčinja, Kriva Reka, Strumica, Babuna, Radika and Zletovska Reka) and 72 rivers are 20 up to 50 km (Topolka, Bosava, Doshnica, Turija, Kriva Lakavitsa, Shemnica, Markova Reka, Pena, Daragor, etc.). The remaining 810 watercourses are longer than 5 to 20 km, and about 700 are less than 5 km in length.</p> <p>There are several <u>waterfalls</u> in RNM, of which over 20 are more significant: Korabski (with a height of 136 meters), Belovishki (80-100 m.), Smolarski (39.5 m), Koleshinski, Gabrovski, Gjavolski, Brnicki waterfall, etc.</p> <p>There are over 180 <u>lakes</u> in RnM, of which 3 are natural tectonic (Ohrid, Prespa and Dojran), 42 natural glacial and post-glacial lakes, 19 other natural lakes (swamp, denudation, cave, Urvin, etc.), 17 larger artificial and smaller about a hundred lakes.</p> <p><u>National parks</u> 4 (Pelister, Mavrovo, Galichica and Shar Planina), nature reserves (4), areas with exceptional natural features (3), natural monuments (33), other forms of protection (14).</p>
FACILITIES	<p><u>Thermal mineral waters</u> (65 springs), of which 8 thermal baths (Bansko, Kežovica, Negorska, Katlanovska, Banjiste, Kosovraskri, etc.). <u>Hunting grounds and hunting reserves:</u> 255, of which 142 are hunting grounds for small game and 113 hunting grounds for big game.</p>

Source: Dimitrov, V. N., and Koteski, C., (2015); Dimitrov, V. N., (2021); Dimitrov, V. N., (2020); Koteski, C. and Dimitrov, V. N., (2019); Markoski, B., (1996); Markoski, B., (2004); Vasilevski, D., (1995); Petrusovski, I. and Karkoski, B., (2014); Milevski, I., (2014); Dimitrov, V. N., (2024); Dimitrov, V. N., (2023)

Table 2. Part of anthropogenic tourist places, facilities and events in RN Macedonia that Macedonians should visit

PLACES	<p><u>Archaeological sites</u> (700) from the Paleolithic, Neolithic and Eneolithic periods amount to 222 sites, over 300 sites are sites from the Bronze and Iron Age. Only a few are arranged for a tourist visit ("Bay of Bones", "Magari" mound, "Govrlevo", "Kokino", "Tsocev Kamen"). <u>Ancient deposits</u> are 177 localities (cities: Lychnid, Heracleia, Stobi, Skupi, Pelagonia, Knežje, Persida, Idomenae, Gordinia, Isar, Vardarski Rid, Brazda, Stibera, Bargala, etc.). <u>From the Roman period</u> (settlements, fortifications, roads - 700 sites). <u>Early Christian period</u> (1139 settlements, fortifications and mines). <u>Medieval monuments of culture</u> 399 in the form of medieval settlements, fortresses, towers, roads, etc.).</p> <p>Today, there are 1767 settlements in the Republic of Moldova, of which 34 are urban and 1733 are rural settlements. About 30 rural settlements are engaged in rural tourism (Brajchino, Ljubojno, Dihovo, Magarevo, Trnovo, Lazaropole, Galicnik, Janche, Gari, Vevcani, Vishni, Gorna Belica, Velestovo, Samokov, Nezhilovo, Bogomila, Smolare, Koleshino, Lesново, Zrnovci and others.).</p>
	<p>Anthropogenic objects: archaeological objects, churches, monasteries, graves, architectural bridges, clock towers, fortresses, monuments, museums, events, etc.</p> <p>Cultural and historical monuments - objects from different periods.</p> <p><u>Ancient Macedonia:</u> early ancient necropolises, tombs in the village of Bonche, Kanda geoglyph, etc. <u>Roman period</u> (430 sacred objects -</p>

FACILITIES

monuments, sanctuaries and individual objects). Early Christian period (414 necropolises, sacral objects and individual finds). Medieval objects (704 necropolises, sacral objects and individual finds). Bridges (about 20), aqueducts (2). Wineries (over 60 commercial ones), Old bazaars (about 15 - Skopje, Bitola, Ohrid, Prilep, Veleska, Kratovo, Struska, Strumica, Kumanovo, Tetovo, Gostivar, Debar, Krushev, etc.). Ambient city cores and old town architecture and old houses ("Shirok Sokak" - Bitola, Krushevo, Kratovo, Ohrid, Struga, Tetovo, Galicnik, etc.). Clock towers (in Skopje, Bitola, Prilep, Veles, Gostivar, Shtip, Kochani, Kratovo and Sveti Nikole). Old fountains and fountains (in Skopje, Bitola, Prilep, Shtip, Ohrid, Tetovo, Debar, etc.).

There are over 3,000 religious buildings in RNM (over 2,200 churches, chapels, monasteries, crosses, then about 700 mosques, mosques, about 100 cathedrals, synagogues and other religious buildings). Out of about 300 monasteries, 40 are active with lodgings and monasticism, about 130 with lodgings without monasticism and over 130 with monastery churches without lodgings.

Famous monasteries that should be visited: "St. Naum Ohridski", "St. John the Baptist" - Bigorski, "St. Joakim Osogovski", "St. Gavril Lesnovski", "Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary" - Marka, "Markov Monastery" - St. Demetrius, "St. Leontius" - Vodocha, "Introduction of the Blessed Virgin Mary" - Veljusa, "Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary" - Treskavec, "St. Jovan Pretecha" - Slepce, "St. George the Victorious" - Rajchica, "St. Archangel Michael" - Varosh, "St. Transfiguration" - Zrze, "Holy Mother of God - Pechista" and others.

Crosses: The highest Christian-Orthodox cross in the Republic of Macedonia is the "Millennium Orthodox Cross" on Mount Vodno, 66 meters high, located on the top of Krstovar, 1066 meters above sea level. Other high crosses are: "Dracevski cross" 63.5 meters high in Drachevo, then "Krushevski cross" 33 meters high is located on Busheva Mountain at the peak of Vrsnik (1595 masl), "Orthodox cross" in Aerodrom 33 meters high, "Prespanski cross" 30 meters high above the village of Podmochani, a cross on the Isar in Shtip, a cross in the village of Gari, a cross in the village of Lazaropole, a cross on the hills of Bair in Bitola, an "Orthodox cross" on Markovi Kuli in Prilep, a cross over Radovish and others.

Famous mosques and other religious buildings that should be visited: "Colorful Mosque" in Tetovo, mosques in Skopje, Bitola and other places, as well as Catholic churches in Skopje, Bitola, Ohrid, Strumica, Gevgelija, Bogdanci and other places.

In RNS Macedonia there are over 25 national cultural institutions (houses of culture, theaters, opera, ballet, philharmonic) over 30 museums located in several cities and villages (Archaeological Museum - Skopje, Natural Science Museum - Skopje, Museum of the City of Skopje, Museum of Macedonia - Ethnological Museum - Skopje, Museum of the Macedonian Struggle - Skopje, Museum of Contemporary Art - Skopje, Museum of Mother Teresa - Skopje, Museum of the Holocaust - Skopje, Museum in Bitola, National Museum in Ohrid, Museum of the Ilinden Uprising - Krusevo, National Museum - Prilep, Museum of Southwest Macedonia - Kicevo, Museum of Kratovo, Museum of ASNOM - Pelince, folk museums in Veles, Shtip, Gevgelija, Kumanovo, Strumica, Struga, Tetovo, Negotino, Sveti Nikole, Kriva Palanka, Kavadarci, Negotino, Demir Kapija, Berovo, Delchevo, Smilevo, Razlovci, etc.).

	<p>From <u>state buildings</u>, it is desirable to visit: the Assembly of the RSM, the Parliament. <u>Other buildings</u> that should be visited are: The Cathedral Church "St. Kliment Ohridski", Skopje Kale, the monuments of the "Macedonia" square, the "Macedonia" triumphal gate, "Filip II" square, "Karpošovo vostanie" and others in the capital Skopje.</p> <p>In Ohrid "Circular Tourist Route" Square, monuments of St. Cyril and Methodius and St. Kliment and Naum, Dolni saraj, Gorni saraj, the church of St. Sofia, St. Jovan Caneo, St. Kliment Ohridski on Plaoshnik, Samuel's fortress, the Ancient Theater, St. Bogorodica Perivlepta, the Old Bazaar, other churches, etc.</p>
<p>EVENTS</p>	<p>Over 150 <u>different manifestations</u>, festivals, fairs, fairs, carnivals, religious holidays, religious liturgies, open business days, etc., of which about 50 are held in a rural environment. A large number of sports, economic, cultural, scientific, religious and other events are regularly organized throughout the year in cities and rural settlements. The most famous cultural summers and festivals are: "Ohrid Cultural Summer", "Skopje Summer", "White Nights", "Beatfest", "Strushki Poetry Evenings", "Manaki Brothers", "D" Festival, "Pivofest", " Skopje Jazz Festival", "Strumica Carnival", "Vevčanski Carnival", "Ilin days", "Ten days of the Krushev Republic", "Tikvesh vintage", "Stip pastramilada", "Veleshka pitiya", "Stobi fest of ancient drama", "Racin meetings", "Galic wedding", etc.</p>

Source: Dimitrov, V. N., and Koteski, C., 2015); Dimitrov, V. N., 2021); Dimitrov, V. N., 2020); Koteski, C. and Dimitrov, V. N., 2019); Markoski, B., 1996); Markoski, B., 2004); Vasilevski, D., 1995); Petrusovski, I. and Karkoski, B., 2014); Milevski, I., 2014); Markoski, B., 2002); Dimitrov, V. N. and Metodijeski, D. and Koteski, C. and Angelkova, Petkova, T., 2027); Mikulcic, I., 1999); Strategy, 2021); Dimitrov, V. N., 2024); Dimitrov, V. N., 2023).



Figures 1. Tourist map of Republic Northen Macedonia (<https://macedonia-timeless.com/eng>)



Figures 2. Part of important natural - geographical places and objects in RN Macedonia



Figures 3. Part of important anthropogenic tourist places, facilities and events in RN Macedonia



Figures 4. Part of important anthropogenic tourist places, facilities and events in RN Macedonia

2. Tourist places, facilities and events that are in neighboring countries, in other countries of the Balkan Peninsula and countries in Europe that Macedonians should visit

The second part mentions tourist places, facilities and events in neighboring countries, as well as in other countries on the Balkan Peninsula and countries in Europe, which should be visited by Macedonians, because they are important for Macedonian identity and cosmopolitanism.

The selection of tourist locations - places, objects and events are grouped by time period of creation, type (natural and anthropogenic) and geographical location.

Table 3. Part of natural - geographical tourist places and facilities in neighboring countries, other countries of the Balkan Peninsula and countries in Europe that Macedonians should visit

PLACES	<p><u>Mountains</u>: in Bulgaria - Rila (Musala peak 2925 m, Rila lakes and other places), Pirin (Vihren 2915 m); in Greece: Olympus (Mitikas 2918 m), Gramoshta (Gramos 2530 m), Pindus (Smolika 2637 m), on the peninsula of Sveta Gora (mountain and peak Athos 2033 m). <u>Caves</u>: in Greece - "Petralona". <u>Rivers</u>: in Greece - Vardar and Bistrica; in Bulgaria - Struma; in Albania - Drim river; <u>Lakes</u>: in Greece - Kostursko, Ostrovsko, Malo Prespa Lake, etc.; <u>In Albania</u> - Mala Prespa, part of the Great Prespa Lake.</p>
FACILITIES	<p>In Greece: - Voden, "Voden waterfalls", thermal waters and waterfalls in "Požarsko", denudation forms "Meteors"; "Gavola Varosh" in Serbia and others.</p>

Source: Dimitrov, V. N., and Koteski, C., 2022); Dimitrov, V. N., and Koteski, C., 2015); Dimitrov, V. N., 2021); Dimitrov, V. N., 2020); Koteski, C. and Dimitrov, V. N., 2019).



Figures 5. Part of important natural-geographic tourist places and facilities in neighboring countries that Macedonians should visit

Table 4. Part of anthropogenic tourist places, facilities and events in neighboring countries, other countries of the Balkan Peninsula and in Europe that Macedonians should visit

PLACES	<p><u>In Greece:</u> cities of Thessaloniki, Lerin, Voden, Kostur, Kozani, Kukush, Negush, Ber, Enidze Vardar, Kaylari, Greben, Metsovo, Postol, Katerina, Serez, Drama, Neurokop, Dolna Jumaya, Kavala. Visit to archaeological sites and ancient cities of Pella, Ayga or Kutlesh (Vergina), Dion, Olympia, Pydna, Stagira, Neapolis, Philippi, etc. As well as the Halkidiki peninsula and the island of Thassos.</p> <p><u>In Bulgaria:</u> Sofia, Gorna Jumaya - Blagoevgrad, Razlog, Bansko, Sandanski - Sveti Vrach, Gose Delchev - Nevrokop, Melnik, Petrich, Varna, Plovdiv and others. <u>In Albania:</u> Podgradec, Korca, Kruja, Elbasan, Berat, Durres, Tirana. <u>In Kosovo:</u> Prizren, Prishtina. <u>In Serbia:</u> Trgoviste, Vranje, Belgrade, Novi Sad, Nis, Vrsac and others. <u>In Croatia:</u> Zagreb, Split, Rijeka, Dubrovnik, etc. <u>In Slovenia:</u> Ljubljana, Maribor. <u>In Bosnia and Herzegovina:</u> Sarajevo, Mostar. <u>In Montenegro:</u> Podgorica, Budva.</p> <p><u>Visiting European cities</u> with touristic value and inhabited by Macedonians. In Italy: Rome, Venice, Naples, Milan, Turin, Bari, etc. In Austria: Vienna. In Germany: Munich, Keln, Berlin, etc. In France: Paris, Marseille, Epinal, etc. In Norway: Oslo. In Sweden: Stockholm and Malmö. In Finland: Helsinki. In the Netherlands: Amsterdam and The Hague, etc. In Denmark: Copenhagen In Belgium: Brussels. In Great Britain: London, Manchester, Liverpool, etc. In Spain: Madrid, Barcelona, Palma de Mallorca.</p>
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	<p><u>Visit to small towns and villages in neighboring countries where Macedonians live.</u> In Greece: Ovcharani, Golno Vrbeni or Ekshi Su, German, Verbeni, Armenovo, Buf, Banitsa, etc.; in Bulgaria: Bansko, Razlog, Kresna, Belica, Simitli, Strumjani, etc.; in Albania: Pustec, Tuminec, Globochani, Shulin, Cerje, Gorica, Shishtavec, Borje, Krosharishta, etc., in Serbia: Jabuka, Kacharevo, Pladniste, Glogolj, etc.; in Kosovo: Restelica, Krushevo, Brod, Dragash, and others.</p>
<p>FACILITIES</p>	<p><u>Archaeological objects:</u> In Greece: Old Macedonian ancient tombs (of Philip II in the village of Kutlesh), palaces, monuments (monument near Heronea, Philippion in Olympia, etc.). Visit to the baptismal font in Philippi, Rachce village near Kavala, where Apostle Paul baptized St. Lidija Macedonian. Visit to the fortresses of Thessaloniki and Zandan Kule, then the fortress of Kavala, the island of St. Achilles and the tomb of King Samuel, the church of St. Dimitria in Thessaloniki, the church of St. Nicholas in Kavala, the monasteries of Meteori, Sveta Gora and other buildings. <u>In Italy:</u> Tomb of Perseus (the last Macedonian king, the tomb of Perseus is located near Megliano del Marsi. (Tomb of Perseus of Macedon - Maqliano de` Marsi. Colosseum in Rome and the Vatican. Church of St. Clemente, where in the cellars - catacombs is the tomb of Saint Cyril of Thessaloniki from Macedonia). <u>In Albania:</u> a visit to the medieval fortress of Gjorgji Kastriot or Skender Beg in the city of Kruja, and the memorial house - Sterjo Spase museum in the village of Globochani.</p> <p><u>Visiting the monuments of St. Cyril and Methodius in several European countries and places:</u> in Greece - Thessaloniki; in Bulgaria - Sofia and a visit to the Rila Monastery and a visit to the grave of Jane Sandanski in Melnik. In the Czech Republic - Prague, Velhgrad, Mikulčič, Olomouc and Trebič. In Ukraine - Kyiv and Donetsk. In Russia - Saratov, Khanto - Mansiysk, where a procession is held. In Serbia, visit to the monastery of St. Prokhor Pchinsky. In Belgrade, a visit to the Museum of Nikola Tesla - distant family roots from Macedonia, settled in Lika at the end of the 17th century), a visit to the monastery of St. Prokhor Pchinsky. Visit to Idvor in Southern Banat - the birthplace of Mihaljo Pupin - family roots from Macedonia (from the village of Vevcani). In Croatia - the Koco Racin monument in Samobor and the Orthodox church in Zagreb. City Museum of Zagreb - memorial room of Miroslav Krleža (distant family roots from Macedonia, from the end of the 17th century), in Gospić, Lika - visit to Nikola Tesla memorial center. In Montenegro, a visit to Saint Vasilij Ostroski. Visit in Romania to the Church of St. Petka in the city of Iasi. Visit in Germany, the city of Elwangen, memorial plaques of St. Methodius, who spent part of his life in captivity in prison. <u>Visiting churches of the Macedonian Orthodox Church</u> - Ohrid Archdiocese in Malmo - Sweden, in Zagreb - Croatia, in Berlin, Mainz and Sindfelingen - Germany, in Tringen - Switzerland and other places. In France - Paris visit to Mont Martyr, Alphen Tower, Arc de Triomphe, Louvre, etc. In Great Britain - London, etc. Visit to Moscow and Saint Petersburg in Russia. Visit to Kyiv, Odessa in Ukraine.</p>
<p>EVENTS</p>	<p>Visiting various events - festivals and other manifestations in Greece, Bulgaria, Serbia, Albania, Kosovo, Turkey, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, and others in European countries in which Macedonians also participate ("Ilinden" in Ovcharani and fig.). Visit to various events in neighboring countries and in other European countries, organized by Macedonians.</p>

Source: Dimitrov, V. N., and Koteski, C., 2022); Dimitrov, V. N., and Koteski, C., 2015); Dimitrov, V. N., 2021); Dimitrov, V. N., 2020); Koteski, C. and Dimitrov, V. N., 2019); Dimitrov, V. N. and Metodijeski,

D. and Koteski, C, and Angelkova, Petkova, T., 2027); Mikulcic, I., 1999); Strategy, 2021); Dimitrov, V. N., 2023); Perseus (212 - 165 BC) - the last king of ancient Macedonia., Bitola, 2009); Dobrushevski, K., 2009); Todorovski, D., 2009).



Figures 6. Part of important anthropogenic tourist places, facilities and events in neighboring countries, other countries of the Balkan Peninsula, in Europe and World that Macedonians should visit

3. Tourist places, facilities and events that are in other countries on other continents that Macedonians should visit

In the third part, there are listed tourist locations in countries on other continents that are significant for Macedonians and should be visited for the purpose of strengthening Macedonian self-affirmation, identity and cosmopolitanism.

The selection of tourist locations - places, objects and events are grouped by time period of creation, type (natural and anthropogenic) and geographical location.

In this section we are talking about a large number of settlements - cities and states where many Macedonians live and work.

Table 5. Part of natural-geographical tourist places and facilities located in other countries outside the European continents that Macedonians should visit

PLACES	<p><u>Mountains and peaks:</u> Himalayas - peak Mount Everest (Nepal), Karakoram - peak K2 (Pakistan), Pamir peak Ismail Sanani (Tajikistan), Caucasus peak Elbrus (Russia), Erciyes, Ararat (Turkey), Albros - peak Damavan (Iran), Kilimanjaro (Kenya), Andes - Acongagwa (Argentina), McKinley Peak Denali (USA), Atlas (Morocco), etc.</p> <p><u>Rivers:</u> Volga (Russia), Nile (Egypt), Mississippi (USA), Amazon (Brazil), etc. <u>Lakes:</u> Great Lakes of the United States and Canada. <u>Waterfalls:</u> Niagara (USA - Canada), Iguazu (Brazil - Argentina), Victoria (Zambia -</p>
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	Zimbabwe), etc. <u>Denudation forms</u> : Cappadocia (Turkey), Pamuk Kale (Turkey) and others. National parks, etc.
FACILITIES	Various landforms - deserts, volcanoes, caves, etc.

Source: Dimitrov, V. N., and Koteski, C., 2022); Dimitrov, V. N., and Koteski, C., 2015); Dimitrov, V. N., 2021); Dimitrov, V. N., 2020).

Table 6. Part of anthropogenic tourist places, objects and events that are in other countries outside the European continents that Macedonians should visit

PLACES	<u>Visiting cities of millions</u> in America, Asia, Africa, Australia where Macedonians live. Tourist places: Pyramids of Giza, Hurghada and Shar Mel Sheikh (Egypt) and many others. <u>Visiting cities</u> : in the USA - Chicago, Detroit, Miami, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Visiting cities in Canada - Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Ottawa. Visit to the cities of Tashkent (Uzbekistan), Doha (Qatar). Beijing, Shanghai (China), Tokyo and Osaka (Japan), Brasilia, Rio De Janeiro (Brazil), Tashkent (Uzbekistan) and other cities.
FACILITIES	<u>In Asia</u> : visiting Pyramids of Giza (Egypt), visiting Israel and Palestine - Jerusalem, Nazareth, and the tomb of Jesus Christ. In Turkey - visit to the house of St. Maria - Virgin Mary in Ephesus, in Istanbul - St. Sofia, then Izmir, Ankara and other cities and tourist spots. Visit to the ancient city of Persepolis in Iran. Visit to Babylon - Baghdad in Iraq, etc. In Nepal - Himalayas, a visit to the memorial of Dimitar Ilievski Murat. In Afghanistan, a visit to a church - chapel of St. Nicholas in Kabul. <u>In America</u> : Visiting Orthodox churches of the MOC Ohrid Archdiocese in the USA: Gary - Indiana, Columbus - Ohio, Syracuse - New York and other places. Visit to the Nikola Tesla Monument in Niagara Falls. Churches in Toronto and Hamilton in Canada. <u>In Australia</u> : visiting churches in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide, Wollongong, Canberra, Brisbane, Sutherland in Australia. Church in Wellington - New Zealand. <u>In Africa</u> , in Egypt: visiting the pyramids of Giza, the museums of Alexandria and Cairo. Visit to embassies of the Republic of Macedonia around the world..
EVENTS	Visiting various events in the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and other countries, especially those organized by Macedonians.

Source: Dimitrov, V. N., and Koteski, C., 2022); Dimitrov, V. N., and Koteski, C., 2015); Dimitrov, V. N., 2021); Dimitrov, V. N., 2020).

CONCLUDING

The text we present may have contradictions, but it is still the first attempt to present an alternative view in one place, how through a physical or virtual tourist visit to places, objects and events, Macedonians can get more information to promote themselves and thereby also promotes his homeland Macedonia.

In addition to the conclusion, an overview of the Macedonian cities that are twinned with about 300 cities from 40 countries in the world has also been moved. The largest number of cities and countries are from Europe (over 200 cities from 30 European countries), and the remaining cities and countries are from other continents. In general, the twin cities can significantly influence the increased tourist movements and promotion of Macedonia and Macedonians.

Table 7. Overview of cities from RS Macedonia that are twinned with cities from countries in the world that Macedonians should visit

Town	Twin cities (countires)
City of Skopje with the city monucipalities	<p><u>City of Skopje</u>: Bratford - England (Great Britain), Schlef (Algeria), Dijon and Roubaix (France), Dresden and Nuremberg (Germany), Ankara, Istanbul, Izmir and Manisa (Turkey), Ljubljana (Slovenia), Nanchang (China) , Tempe - Arizona and Pittsburgh - Pennsylvania (USA), Podgorica (Montenegro), Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Suez (Egypt), Tirana (Albania), Varem (Belgium), Belgrade and Nis (Serbia), Zagreb and Pula (Croatia), Zaragoza (Spain), Lecce (Italy), Craiova (Romania), Tashkent (Uzbekistan), Sofia and Pernik (Bulgaria), East York - Ontario (Canada), Wroclaw (Poland), Tashkent (Uzbekistan), Tirana (Albania).</p> <p><u>Skopje - Airport</u>: Pazardzhik (Bulgaria);</p> <p><u>Skopje - Center</u>: Stari Grad - Belgrade (Serbia), Beyoglu (Turkey);</p> <p><u>Skopje - Gjorce Petrov</u>: Kraljevo (Serbia), Krasna Poljana - Sofia (Bulgaria), Kusadasi (Turkey), Povazhka Bistrica (Slovakia)</p> <p><u>Skopje - Karpoš</u>: New Belgrade - Belgrade, Sremski Karlovci and Vrljačka Banja (Serbia), Stari Grad - Sarajevo and Travnik (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Triadica - Sofia (Bulgaria).</p>
Bitola	<p>Epinal (France), Center - Vienna (Austria), Bursa (Turkey), Kremenchuk (Ukraine), Pushkin and Nizhny Novgorod (Russia), Trelleborg (Sweden), Rockdale, New South Wales (Australia), Pleven and Veliko Tarnovo (Bulgaria)), Pozarevac and Stari Grad - Belgrade (Serbia), Kranj (Slovenia), Herceg Novi (Montenegro), Rijeka (Croatia), Ningbo (China), Voden and Kozani (Greece), Kaisersautern (Germany), Gorica (Albania).</p>
Prilep	<p>Asenovgrad and Ruse (Bulgaria), Dayang (China), Radom (Poland), Garfield - New Jersey (USA), Topolčany (Slovakia), Vincent (Australia), Tire - Izmir (Turkey), Chernihiv (Ukraine), Koper (Slovenia)), Verona (Italy), Zadar (Croatia).</p>
Ohrid	<p>Wollongong (Australia), Vinkovci (Croatia), Kragujevac and Zemun (Serbia), Piran (Slovenia), Windsor (Canada), Budva (Montenegro), Pogradec and Tirana (Albania), Cannes - Normandy (France), Jalova and Safranbolu (Turkey), Plovdiv and Veliko Trnovo (Bulgaria), Podolsk (Russia), Yalta (Ukraine), Sengnam (South Korea), Patras (Greece), Dalyan (China), Katwijk (Netherlands).</p>
Veles	<p>Pernik and Svishtov (Bulgaria), Slobozia (Romania), Sombor and Užice (Serbia), Samobor and Pula (Croatia), Nowogard (Poland), Can, Karslariaka and Princes Ostrov (Turkey), Celje (Slovenia), Thermaikos (Greece) , Zenica (Bosnia and Herzegovina).</p>
Kumanovo	<p>Prozor, Banja Luka and Bijeljinja (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Varaždin (Croatia), Gorni Milanovac, Leskovac, Novi Sad, Pancevo, Obrenovac, Vranje and Čukarica - Belgrade (Serbia), Kosovska Mitrovica, Gniljanje (Kosovo), Nikšić (Montenegro), Chorlu (Turkey), Plovdiv and Gabrovo (Bulgaria), Campina (Romania), Nicosia (Cyprus).</p>
Strumica	<p>Reykjavik (Iceland), Piacenza (Italy), Koper (Slovenia), Grujec (Poland), Elektrostal (Russia), Bijelo Polje (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Chopceac (Moldova).</p>
Tetovo	<p>Sterling Heights, Michigan (USA), Konya (Turkey), Kukush (Albania).</p>

Krushevo	Foca (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Kotor (Montenegro), Užice (Serbia), Bansko, Koprivishtica and Kavarna (Bulgaria), Belgrade - Berat (Albania), Tijan (Croatia).
Struga	Golemo Cekmedze (Turkey), Mangalia (Romania), Famagusta (Northern Cyprus), Waterbury, Connecticut (USA), Labin (Croatia).
Kavadarci	Boljevan, Gorni Milanovac and Kovin (Serbia), Ugljevik (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Izmail (Ukraine), Kemappasha (Turkey), Makarska (Croatia), Nasud (Romania), Dobrich, Panagjurishte, Pernik and Pleven (Bulgaria).
Negotino	Minervino di Lecce (Italy), Nadjakata (Hungary), Gradishka (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Črnomelj (Slovenia).
Gostivar	Akshisar and Kilis (Turkey), Smolyan (Bulgaria), Stari Grad - Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina).
Kicevo	Vratsa (Bulgaria).
Valandovo	Sivrihisar (Turkey).
Bogdanci	Kyustendil (Bulgaria), Kalinovac (Croatia).
Gevgelia	Indžija (Serbia), Karac (Turkey), Kotka (Finland), Sevlievo (Bulgaria), Sezana and Nova Gorica (Slovenia), Jablanica (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Pazin (Croatia).
Radovish	Velika Plana (Serbia), Seljuk, Aliaga, Tashkopru, Jalova, Cinarcik and Egrene - Tekidrag (Turkey), Kaminates - Podilski (Ukraine), Drajanovo and Teteven (Bulgaria), Belishke (Croatia), Kontursi Terme (Italy), Vaslui (Romania), Zaprudnyaya (Russia).
Berovo	Bruce (Serbia), Livaro (France).
Delcevo	Simitli, Mladost - Varna and Blagoevgrad - Gorna Jumaya (Bulgaria), Gorazde (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Jagodina (Serbia), Bornova (Turkey), Żirardów (Poland), Vyshgorod (Ukraine).
Vinica	Виница (Україна), Тревна (Бугарія).
Kochani	Kazanlak (Bulgaria), Sighetsentmiklos (Hungary), Yenifoca (Turkey), Križevci (Croatia), Perejaslav (Ukraine), Novi Kneževac (Serbia), Kranj (Slovenia).
Shtip	Balikesir, and Kirklareli (Turkey), Kvarna, Gotse Delchev or Nevrokop, Strazhi and Kyustendil (Bulgaria), Split (Croatia), Gyongosh (Hungary), Leža (Albania), Ploiesti (Romania), Murska Sobota (Slovenia).
Kriva Palanka	Samberville (Belgium), Dupnica and Bansko (Bulgaria), Mlava (Poland), Lugozh (Romania), Perescun (Ukraine), Svidik (Slovakia), Vrsac (Serbia), Žunanja (Croatia).
Kratovo	Kolomyia (Ukraine).
Probishtip	Aleksinac (Serbia).
Debar	Lom (Bulgaria), Gjakovica (Kosovo), Kapakli (Turkey).
Resen	Bar (Montenegro).
Demir Hisar	Prijedor (Bosnia and Herzegovina).

Source: Websites of cities and municipalities form RN. Macedonia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_twin_towns_and_sister_cities_in_North_Macedonia retrieved 20-26.10.2024 year

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