

WALKING IN BULGARIA'S NATIONAL PARKS

Pirin, Rila and Central Balkans National Parks

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Author: **Julian Perry**

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For walkers and naturalists, Bulgaria is an unexpected paradise, boasting an amazing variety of landscapes and an outstandingly rich biodiversity. The three wildest and most majestic regions of this mountainous country are protected within the Pirin, Rila and Central Balkan national parks. As well as providing a vital refuge for rare wildlife, these parks also offer some of the finest mountain walking in Bulgaria.

The 12 routes described in *Walking in Bulgaria's National Parks* thread their way through these parks, taking in ancient forests, shimmering glacial lakes, panoramic ridges and the two highest peaks in the country, Musala and Vihren. All great mountain walks, they have also been selected to provide the best chance of encountering the rarest plants and animals.

- 2 to 3-day walks for fit and experienced mountain walkers and one full-day ascent of Mount Vihren
- with comprehensive background information about the wildlife to be seen

Key marketing points

- ? 12 routes described in Bulgaria's three National Parks
- ? Unspoiled mountain scenery
- ? Inexpensive and accessible

About the author

Julian Perry grew up in England, but for the last 20 years has spent most of his time in the Bulgarian mountains where he now runs a specialist eco-tourism company Balkan Trek organising walking and wildlife watching holidays. He is one of the leading authorities on the region and author of *The Mountains of Bulgaria: A Walker's Companion*, the first English-language guidebook to long-distance hiking trails in Bulgaria.

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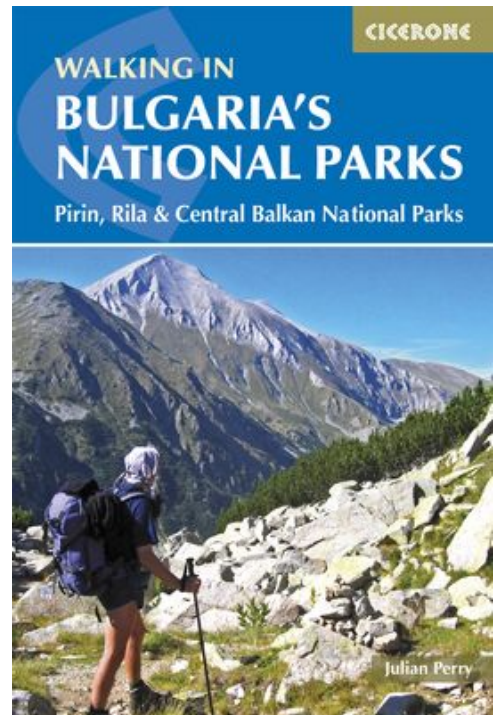
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