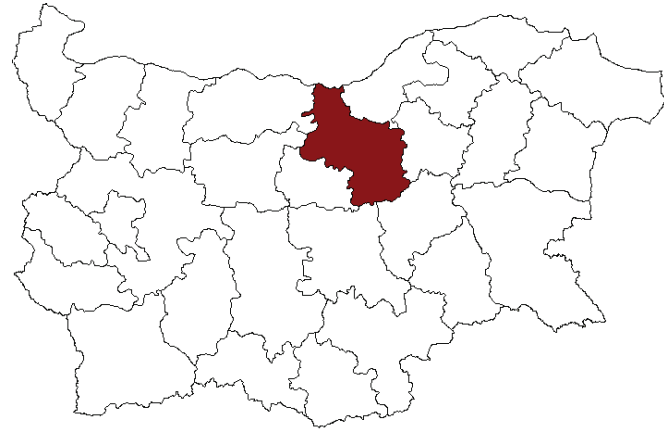




Veliko Tarnovo Region

Regional Fact Sheet

- Area:** 4,661.6 km²
Population: 278,764 people
Population density: 59.80 people per km²
Location: North- Central Bulgaria
Major cities: Veliko Tarnovo, Gorna Oriahovitsa, Svishtov, Pavlikeni
Municipalities: 10 (Veliko Tarnovo, Gorna Oriahovitsa, Elena, Zlatitsa, Liaskovets, Pavlikeni, Polski Trambesh, Svishtov, Strajitsa, Suhindol)



The region in numbers

	2007
Population (number)	278.764
Unemployment rate (%)	6.5
Average market prices of apartments(EURO/sq.m)	495.40
Housing (number, end of year)	142 733
Universities	3
Foreign language training (Numbers)	
English	9600
German	3642
French	1034
Russian	4278
	2006
Average annual wage (EUR)	1,822

Sources: National Statistics Institute, Employment Agency, Bulgarian National Bank

Labour force

Breakdown of labour force	2007
Labour force	
Total ('000)	117.8
Employed ('000)	110.2
Unemployed ('000)	7.6
Person not in labour force ('000)	129.4
Activity rate (%)	47.7
Employment rate (%)	44.6
Unemployment rate (%)	6.5
Educational level of Employed people ('000)	2006
Total	101.9
Higher education	24.4
Upper Secondary	
Total	65.5
Technical and Vocational	44.9
Lower Secondary or lower	12.0

Leading sectors

- ✓ Trade,repairs,technical and public services
- ✓ Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- ✓ Construction
- ✓ Transport and communications
- ✓ Tourism and hospitality business , etc.
- ✓ Real Estate services and operations
- ✓ Chemical Industry

Leading companies

Company	Activity
Boliarka	Beer production
Agrokom	Agriculture,forestry and fishing
Svilozha	Chemical Industry
Meat Plant - Svishtov	Production of meat products and sausages
Vinprom Svishtov	Wine production
Loviko Suhindol	Wine Production
Arcus JSC- Lyaskovetz	Manufacture of machinery

Regional economy in numbers

GDP by economic sectors	2005
GDP (EUR m)	608.86
GDP per capita (EUR)	2,146
GVA (EUR m)	501,05
GVA breakdown (EUR m)	
Services	313,97
Industry	133,40
Agriculture and forestry	53,68
Main features of companies in the region	2006
Employed persons (number)	66,304
Net sales (EUR m)	1,538
No. of companies	8852
Tangible fixed assets (EUR m)	603,82
Sales effectiveness (%)	1.88
Operational effectiveness (%)	2.63

Infrastructure

Owing to its location, Veliko Tarnovo region provides opportunities for all types of transport. There is an International Airport in Gorna Oriahovitsa and a Danube based river port in Svishtov.

The main transport routes in the Veliko Tarnovo region include the first-class road I-4 (Sofia-Yablanitsa-Sevlievo-Veliko Tarnovo-Targovishte-Shumen-Varna), and the first-class road I-3 (Sofia-Pleven-Biala-Russe).There are two second-class routes II-52 and II-54, connecting Veliko Tarnovo to Russe.

Gorna Oriahovitsa is the main railway station in North Bulgaria. There are two functioning railways crossing the region.

Road network, 2006

	Length (km)
Total (km)T	938
Motorways	-
1-class roads	153
2-class roads	142
3-class roads	643



Agricultural Plot for Development Svishtov

Fast facts

Location: Svishtov Town, Svishtov

Municipality

Area: 127,930 sq.m

Land status: Agricultural

Ownership: Public private

Owner: Svishtov Municipality



Svishtov Municipality Photo of the Plot

About the plot

The plot is situated about 60 km from Rousse city - one of the most important transport locations in North Bulgaria, offering road, railway and river transport. In addition there is a relatively close access to Gorna Oriahovitsa airport, which is 85 km away.

Svishtov is a traditional cultural and educational center in Bulgaria. The facilities of Sviloza Enterprise are located in Svishtov. That is one of the biggest factories in Bulgarian chemical industry.

Advantages of the zone

Apart from the well developed infrastructure the plot can offer some other advantages to investors:

- ✓ Convenient location – proximity to the E-772 Sofia-Varna
- ✓ Free, available qualified labour force
- ✓ Low investment and manufacturing costs
- ✓ The central location of Svishtov zone in North Bulgaria, with proximity to the big consuming centers like Veliko Tarnovo, Lovech, Gorna Oriahovitsa and Pleven is favourable for the future economic expansion of the region.

Special incentives offered by the authorities to certified investment projects under Investment Encouragement Act (IEA):

- ✓ Speeded-up administrative procedures and issuing of permits;
- ✓ State subsidy for infrastructure up to the border for class A investments;
- ✓ Individual administrative services for class A;
- ✓ State subsidy for training and qualification of staff for class A and B investment projects.

Infrastructure of the zone

Element	Availability (Distance from site)
Utilities	
✓ Water	Yes
✓ Electricity	Yes (on-site)
✓ Gas	No
✓ Sewage	Yes
✓ Telecommunications	Yes
Logistics	
Closest city (population >30,000)	Pleven
Closest highway	Sofia - Varna
Distance to airports	
✓ Gorna Oriahovitsa Airport	85 km
✓ Sofia Airport	330 km
Distance to sea & river ports	
✓ Rousse (river port)	60 km
✓ Burgas (sea port)	250 km
Distance to railway	
✓ Svishtov station	1 km

Contact information

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