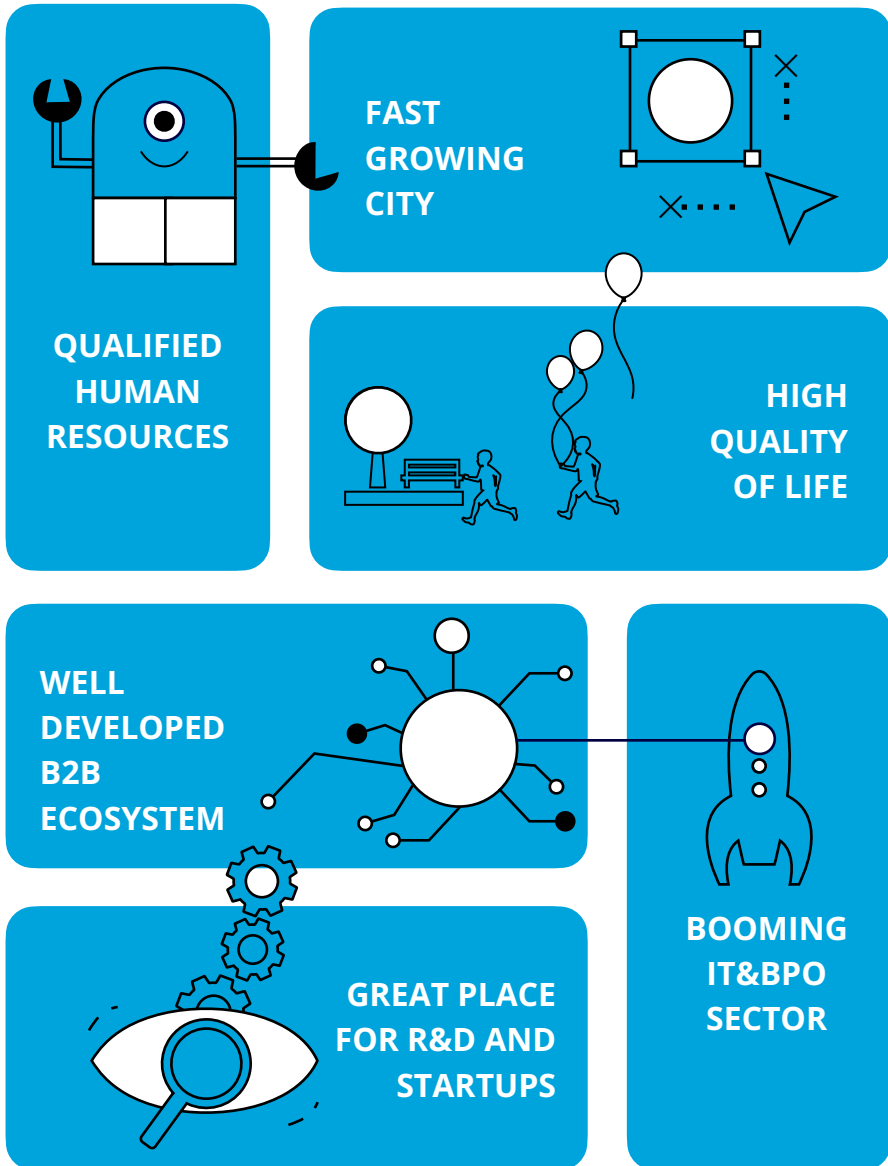


PLOVDIV

TECHNOLOGY DESTINATION



TECHNOLOGY DESTINATION
PLOVDIV

R&D, STARTUPS, OUTSOURCING

PUBLISHED BY PLOVDIV MUNICIPALITY

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WELCOME TO PLOVDIV



As the mayor of Plovdiv, I am proud to introduce the latest report on the technological industry in the second largest center for IT&BPO in Bulgaria.

KOSTADIN DIMITROV
Mayor of Plovdiv

Plovdiv's population is one of the fastest growing among the big cities in Bulgaria. The Metropolitan area is currently home to 505 000 people who live less than 30 minutes away from the city center, most of them between 20-64 years of age.

The city is also an attractive destination for expatriates and has experienced positive net migration vis-à-vis other countries since 2017. The local expat community grows with over 10% per year and reached 32 000 in 2022.

As the second largest university center in Bulgaria, Plovdiv attracts future talent from all over the country and abroad. There are over 33 700 university students currently enrolled in the city's 8 universities - 8200 of them in technical studies.

The influx of qualified human resources and the strong educational system in the city have contributed to the rapid growth of the IT and BPO sector, whose labor productivity increases by almost 10% on an annual basis. The sector's 200+ companies employ over 8500 people. It is also one of the fastest growing and most important elements in the local economy.

If this is the first source of information about the economy of the region that you come across, we strongly suggest looking at the **Investment Destination Plovdiv 2023-2024** research booklet.

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PLOVDIV AIRPORT



25 minutes from the Plovdiv city center



Regular passenger flights with Wizz Air, Ryanair and Arkia to:

4 times a week:

LONDON STANSTED, UK: 3 h 10 min

LONDON LUTON, UK: 3 h 45 min

Twice a week:

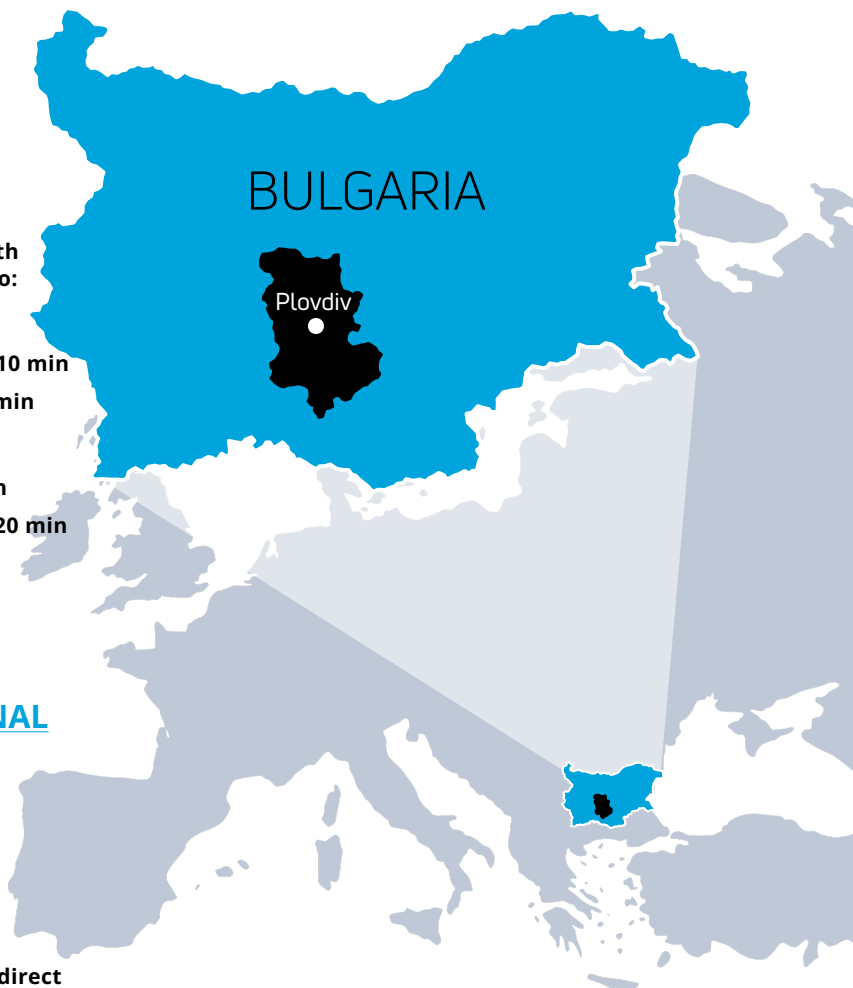
ISTANBUL, Turkey: 1 h 10 min

MEMMINGEN, Germany: 2 h 20 min

TEL AVIV, Israel: 3h 10 min

Once a week:

MANCHESTER, UK: 3 h 40 min



SOFIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

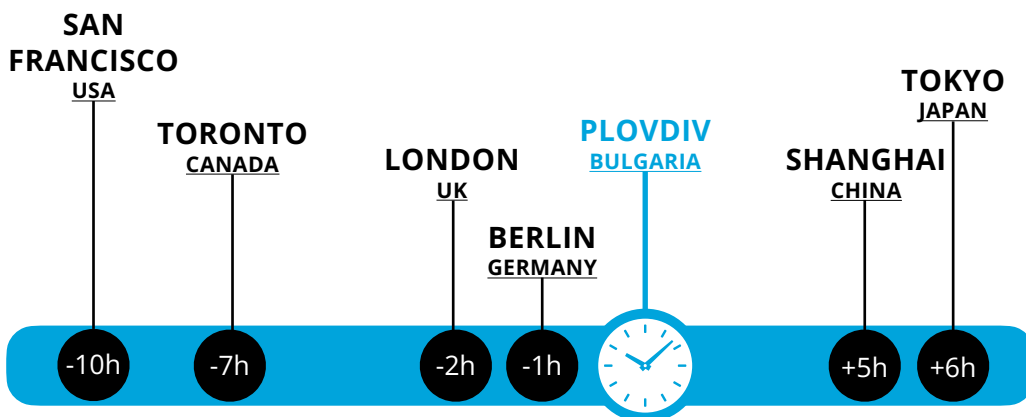


75 minutes from the Plovdiv city center



Main Bulgarian airport with direct flights to over 90 destinations

TIME ZONE DIFFERENCE



International recognition

3rd

**MOST
INNOVATIVE
UPPER MIDDLE-
INCOME COUNTRY
IN THE WORLD**

Global Innovation Index,
Cornell, 2023

Bulgaria is transitioning away from customer support services and **moving towards more knowledge-intensive activities**, such as financial consulting and reporting, R&D, technical data analysis and interpretation

1st

**MOST GOLD
MEDALS IN
INTERNATIONAL
LINGUISTIC
OLYMPIAD**

ILO

4th

**MOST MEDALS IN
INTERNATIONAL
MATHEMATICAL
OLYMPIAD**

IMO

5th

**MOST MEDALS IN
INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIAD IN
INFORTMATICS**

IOI

Plovdiv presents ideal environment for the establishment of product development companies, fintech and blockchain startups, global business service hubs, and companies specializing in financial outsourcing

Finalist

**In the "PROSPERITY"
category for its
digitalisation of education
in municipal schools**

Emerging Europe Summit and Awards,
2023

4th

**Best cost-effectiveness
among small European
cities**

Financial Times, fDi Intelligence,
2022/23

3rd

**Best FDI strategy among
small European cities**

Financial Times, fDi Intelligence,
2022/23

1st

**SMART 50 international
award for the successful
digitalization of the local
education system**

Smart Cities Connect, 2021

Why Plovdiv?

OVER 200 IT COMPANIES, SHARED SERVICE CENTERS AND TECH STARTUPS HAVE CHOSEN PLOVDIV AS THEIR INVESTMENT DESTINATION

LEADING UNIVERSITY CENTER WITH 8 UNIVERSITIES AND OVER 33 700 STUDENTS

MORE THAN 8500 JOBS IN THE BOOMING IT&BPO SECTOR

A VIBRANT EXPAT COMMUNITY IN THE CITY, THAT CONSISTS OF 32 000 FOREIGNERS

THE IT&BPO SECTOR MORE THAN DOUBLED ITS SHARE IN THE TOTAL VALUE ADDED IN THE LAST 7 YEARS

19 000 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN ADVANCED OR INTERMEDIATE STUDY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

STRONG GROWTH POTENTIAL OF ABOUT 5000 JOBS IN THE IT&BPO SECTOR IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS

TIME PROXIMITY AND CULTURAL SIMILARITIES WITH TARGET MARKETS

DIRECT ACCESS TO A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT AND AN ALL-IN SERVICE PACKAGE FOR INVESTORS

EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2019 AND EUROPEAN BEST CULTURAL DESTINATION 2022, PLOVDIV IS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, STUDY AND WORK

HUMAN CAPITAL

ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING POPULATIONS IN BULGARIA

~ Plovdiv has a **strategic location and good transport connectivity** that create great opportunities for everyday commuting. A total of **505 000 people live within a 30 minutes distance of downtown**

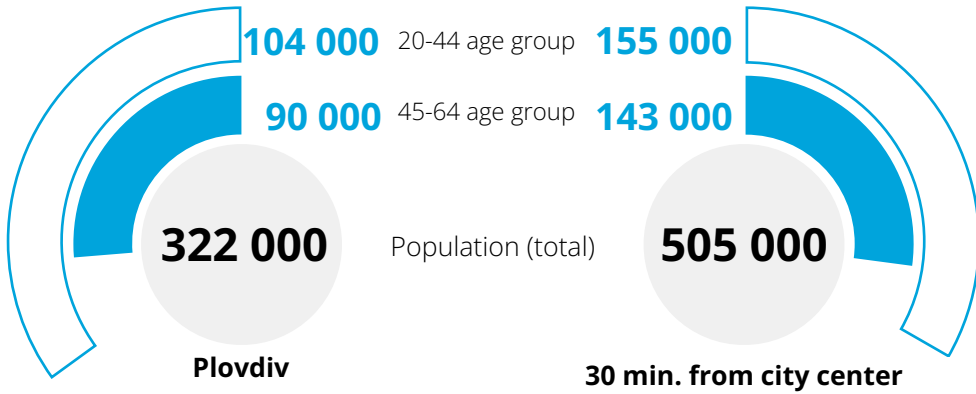
~ Plovdiv and its nearby settlements offer a **significant pool for young and well-educated professionals**. Downtown Plovdiv and its office parks are accessible in less than 30 minutes by **155 000 people between the ages of 20 and 44**

~ **Plovdiv is particularly appealing to university students, young professionals and families with kids**. The net migration rate in the 20-29 years age group is the second highest in the country

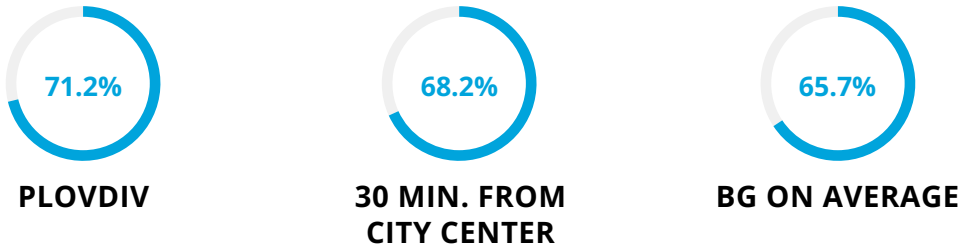
~ Plovdiv is known for its **cosmopolitan atmosphere and openness** towards people from various countries, cultures, ethnic backgrounds and religions. It is no surprise that the city's **unique vibe, high quality of life and tranquility have attracted over 32 000 foreigners** who chose Plovdiv as their new home and place of work

~ The great work-life balance and vibrant local economy constantly attract new citizens. Plovdiv has experienced a **positive net migration vis-à-vis other countries since 2017**, and an overall positive net migration since 2013

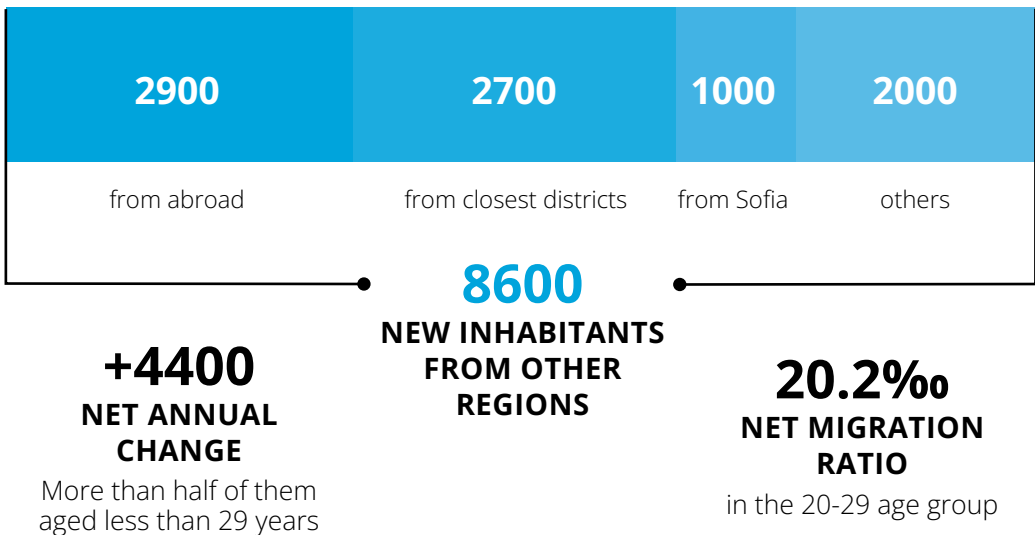
Large labor pool in wider Plovdiv region



Plovdiv has higher demographic replacement rate than the the country average



Migration trends at district level



NURTURING TALENT

LEADER IN INNOVATIVE EDUCATION AND DIGITALIZATION OF SCHOOL PROCESSES

- More than **15 300 students are in advanced or intermediate study of English language**, followed by 1900 in German, 900 in French, 500 in Spanish and 400 in Italian and other languages
- The first municipality in Europe to partner with Intel Corporation on the implementation of Intel's STEM program "Skills for Innovation". **The lessons include learning through AI, machine learning, 3D modeling** and creating computer simulations
- Plovdiv is **recognized by Google as a role model** for its digitalization of the educational process. There are 7 Google reference schools in Plovdiv, as well as 360 Google certified teachers
- Over **215 teachers work daily with 2300 children in Montessori groups** in preschool and primary education
- 11 600 students** are enrolled in **STEM** programs, with more than 2/3 of them just in the city of Plovdiv
- All 52 municipal schools have **fully integrated cloud platforms**, where all learning content is readily available through any device
- Over 100 classes use the 1:1 technology in the classroom, where **every student has their own personal device**
- 26 schools** in the city and 17 other schools in the district are part of the **Innovative Schools Program** of the Ministry of Education
- Plovdiv is one of the pioneers in dual education in Bulgaria and Southeast Europe. **1200 students are enrolled in 57 dual education classes** in the city

High school network in Plovdiv district

19 000 Students
in advanced or
intermediate study
of foreign
languages

37
**GENERAL HIGH
SCHOOLS**

28
**VOCATIONAL HIGH
SCHOOLS**

7
**FOREIGN LANGUAGE
& MATH SCHOOLS**

26 100
STUDENTS

5600
students

students with
software engineering
& math profiles

2800
students

with finance,
accounting & business
administration
profiles

Leading schools in Plovdiv

High School	Major fields	Number of students
Language School „Plovdiv“	English, German	1300
Language School „Ivan Vazov“	English, Spanish, Italian, German, French	1200
Vocational High School of Electrotechnics and Electronics	Electrical Engineering, Software Engineering	1100
Math High School „Acad. Kiril Popov“	Mathematics, Software Engineering	1000
National High School of Commerce	Accounting, Banking, Business Management	900

Source: Ministry of Education (data on district level for 2022/2023)

Number of vocational training centers offering courses in:

47

Business &
Marketing

32

Finance &
Accounting

25

Electrical
Engineering

21

Software
Engineering

Source: NAVET, 2023

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

A REPUTABLE CENTER FOR THE TRAINING OF IT&BPO PROFESSIONALS

- Plovdiv stands as the second-largest university hub in Bulgaria, home to 8 universities and a **student population exceeding 33 700**
- The city is known for the training of **specialists in information technology, finance, accounting**, legal and language studies. The number of students in IT&BPO related fields exceeded 11 000 during the 2022/23 academic year
- The high-quality training is a result of the collaboration between universities and businesses already operating in the **outsourcing sector**, as well as the **fast pace of its development in the region**
- The city hosts **12 applied science institutes and labs**, working in close cooperation with the local universities
- Plovdiv is an attractive education destination for foreign students. Almost **10% of all students in the city are foreigners**
- In 2022 alone the local universities brought **over 7600 university graduates** to the labor market
- There are close to **95 000 people** in the district, aged 25-64 years, **with university education**
- Plovdiv actively supports the practice of lifelong learning and is the **only Bulgarian city in the UNESCO global network of learning cities**

8
UNIVERSITIES

33 700
STUDENTS

11 000 students in
IT&BPO related
fields for
2023/2024

3300
FOREIGN STUDENTS

7600
GRADUATES

Economics & Accounting	Business Administration	Electrical Engineering	Software Engineering	Language Studies	Legal Studies	Maths & Physics
2470	2270	1870	1760	1660	740	300

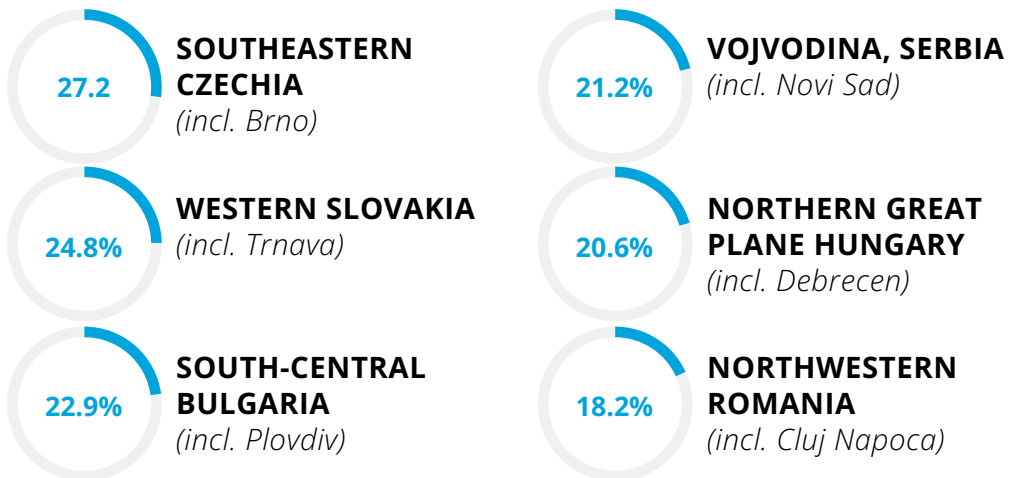
Source: Plovdiv universities (data for 2023/2024), NSI

Population aged 25-64 with university degree



Source: NSI, 2021

Population aged 25-64 with university degree in selected outsourcing regions



Source: Eurostat, 2022

LABOR COSTS

ATTRACTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR HIGHLY SKILLED PROFESSIONALS

- Plovdiv provides a skilled workforce for **more than 200 IT&BPO companies**, that have selected the city as their investment destination
- Bulgarian ICT labor remains **cost-effective by international standards**. In 2022, labor costs in the sector are 38% lower than those in Czechia and 13% lower than those in Poland
- The IT&BPO sector provides **attractive wages for local talent and highly skilled workers** from other regions, surpassing labor costs in other business services sectors. Hiring labor for the outsourcing sector imposes close to 3 times higher labor costs than the average for the rest of the business services in the region
- Labor costs in the local IT&BPO sector grow with 12% annually on average for the past 7 years, accompanied by a **steady growth of labor productivity**
- Despite a high wage growth rate, wages in absolute terms in the sector are with close to **10% lower than the country average for the sector**
- Many of the companies operating here provide training and career development **opportunities to employees in the early stages of their higher education**, whose wages are below the indicated average

Gross wages in IT&BPO in Plovdiv, €/month

IT COMPANIES	Min	Max	SHARED-SERVICES CENTERS	Min	Max
DevOps			Reporting		
• Junior Level	1300	2600	• Junior Level	600	1500
• Experienced	1900	4600	• Experienced	800	1900
Full Stack			Payroll Specialists		
• Junior Level	1300	2300	• Junior Level	700	900
• Experienced	1900	4600	• Experienced	900	1600
Back-End			General Ledger Accountants		
• Junior Level	1000	2000	• Junior Level	600	1200
• Experienced	1900	4100	• Experienced	800	1900
Front-End			Accounts Payable/Receivable		
• Junior Level	1000	2000	• Junior Level	700	1200
• Experienced	1900	3900	• Experienced	900	1500
QA			Customer Support Representa		
• Junior Level	800	1800	• Junior Level	700	1200
• Experienced	1800	3100	• Experienced	1000	1500
Technical Support			Sales Specialists		
• Junior Level	1000	1600	• Junior Level	800	1000
• Experienced	1600	2500	• Experienced	1100	1400

For wages up to €1740 total labor cost includes gross wage plus 18.9% mandatory social security contributions paid by employer.

For wages over €1740 total labor cost includes gross wage plus lump sum €329

IT&BPO ZOOM

A PLACE FOR INNOVATIVE COMPANIES TO SCALE AND THRIVE

With **over 8500 employees** spread across IT companies, tech startups, customer support centers and shared service centers, Plovdiv has solidified its position as the largest IT&BPO centre in the country, next only to the capital Sofia

Modern business services have been enjoying rapid expansion over the past few years, as **Plovdiv has become an IT&BPO centre** preferred by domestic and foreign investors alike

Experiencing a substantial **annual average growth in value added at 21.7%** over the past 7 years, the IT&BPO sector in Plovdiv has more than doubled its contribution to the total value added in the local economy

With its universities, large number of students, R&D capacities and infrastructure, Plovdiv has gradually developed into a **real knowledge economy, that attracts innovative IT companies and startups**

Due to its success in attracting investors, in 2022 the city was ranked **3rd best European small city in terms of FDI strategy and cost-effectiveness by Financial Times.**

The 7-hour time difference from New York and the 6-hour time difference from Tokyo enable outsourcing companies to **provide services to the East and West simultaneously**

IT&BPO in Plovdiv: A strong growth story

VALUE ADDED  **+21.7%**

SALES REVENUES  **+20.6%**

EMPLOYMENT  **+11.3%**

PRODUCTIVITY  **+9.5%**

Source: TEZ with NSI and Commercial register data
for a 7-year period

HR & RECRUITMENT COMPANIES

Adecco Bulgaria
adeccobulgaria.com

Easy Consult
easyconsult.eu

HRS Bulgaria
hrs-bg.com

Latest developments

Nemetschek Bulgaria is a software development company, that provides broad expertise in development, distribution and implementation of smart solutions. The company opened its office in Plovdiv in March 2023.

Merkle Bulgaria inaugurated its Plovdiv office in June 2023. Merkle is a data-driven customer experience company with a team of experts in technical architecture, systems integration, machine learning/AI, and more.

Liebherr is expanding its R&D team with embedded system developers, user interface designers, software testers and electronic engineers. The team will work on more complex software solutions and electronics for the group's household products.

Digital Lights opened its Plovdiv office in September 2023, near two universities. The company plans to develop innovative solutions in the field of applied sciences by collaborating with the academic community in the city.

The European Digital Innovation Hub "Trakia" was officially opened in April 2023. It provides a free range of services for cyber security, access to finance, education and networking for SMEs and municipal structures.

International Work Group is set to launch 3 new co-working spaces in late 2023. The expansion signals the growing demand for flexible workspace solutions and the increasing recognition of Plovdiv as a thriving IT hub.

Major companies

Software Support and Consultancy

The IT sector has been one of the fastest growing in the local economy. Plovdiv is a preferred investment destination by many service-based Bulgarian and foreign IT companies, **providing software support, consultancy, and software systems integration**, among others. They serve clients all over the globe, including many Fortune 500 companies.

Financial Services Outsourcing

More than **2800 high school students and 4700 university students study finances, accounting and business administration**. With its well-developed educational network, the city provides a good supply of high-skilled professionals, readily available for **companies specializing in more complex financial activities** as credit management, financial reporting, forecasting and budgeting.

Product Development

With its high quality of life and work-life balance, Plovdiv has attracted 32 000 expats, as well as many digital nomads and small **startup teams, that develop niche solutions** in areas such as fintech, blockchain, AI and data analytics. The number of product-based companies is rapidly increasing and the portfolio of their activities is becoming more complex and advanced.

Knowledge-Based Process Outsourcing

The city already hosts companies that have outsourced their R&D, analytics and insight activities. Plovdiv Municipality, in close cooperation with the private sector and educational and science institutions, is creating a **suitable environment for knowledge-based process outsourcing**.

Global Business Services

The sector is transitioning from predominantly managing transactional processes to engaging in more intricate operations, **characterized by higher value-added services** and an increased emphasis on service quality.

Smart Factory & Industry 4.0 Solutions

With **16% of all manufacturing jobs in Bulgaria and many high-tech mechatronics & automotive companies**, Plovdiv has a significant potential for process innovations and implementation of the latest Industry 4.0 solutions.

Accenture Bulgaria	BGO Software	Delasport	Eksivat Technologies
Adastra Bulgaria	Broadcom Bulgaria	Delta Group - 2012	Elders
Adecco Bulgaria	Brosix	Delta Source	Endava
Admin Corporation	Business Inside	Design Connected	Enigma Software Group
Advance	Cloudtech	Devcloud	Enterprise Security Solutions
Advise Tech	Coda Consult	Devhost	Euroweb (Viscomp)
Akkodis	Code Coda	DiaDraw	EVN Service Center
Altscale Bulgaria	Code Nest	Dgistore24	Evolink
Amexis	ConsultCommerce	DIGITALL	Execuse
App Factory	CoreTech Bulgaria	Digital Lights	FFW
Arcade Retail	CRA Services	Dilago	Football Radar Bulgaria
Arivasoft	Cream BG	Donatix	For Creations
Arkieva	Cryptosphere Systems	DraftKings (SBTech)	Gamaflow
Ascent Services	Data Network International	dWare	Gec BG
Banksoft	Data+	eDynamix	Got It
BDC Bulgaria	Daylight Project Solutions	Effortel	GPS Systems Bulgaria

Graystone Capital	ITC Consult	Move Digital	Prime Holding (Programista)
Haycad Infotech	JT Soft	Nemetschek	Proxiad Bulgaria
Heisenberg Online Marketing	Kodar	Niset	Quality House
Hemisphere Commerce	Konversa	Nitro Bite	Real Time Games Development
Hosting Solutions	LA Bite - Bulgaria	Novarto	Repulse
Hosting Well Done	Language Bear	Orak Engineering	ResultsCX
Hype Purified	Laptop Media	ORM	Retail Direct
IBS Bulgaria	Lead Consult	Outcons	Revauxy
ICYGEN	Limacon Marketing	Oworkers	Reward Gateway (UK) - Bulgaria Branch
IKOM	M+w MediaNetworks	Page Rules	Rewe Digital
Ilievsoft	Marketing Pragmatic	Paraflow	RUBBER DUCK
Infinite Lambda	Media IT Services Bulgaria	Pasha Trading Consultancy	Saga Tek
Intech Group	Membyte	Pastel Studios	Scale Focus
InterConsult Bulgaria	MentorMate Bulgaria	Pentagon Interactive	Sciant
Ioio.Tv	Merkle	Plutus BG	Seeburger Informatik
IT Factory	MM Solutions	Podix	SelMatic

Serpact	Speed	TIMIFY	VPA
SFB (Speedflow)	SQA Service	Totemo Solutions	VSG Bulgaria
Sibiz Bulgaria	SSMN	Triera Soft	Web Dreams Group
Simvoly Applications	Staello	TSD Services	Web Interactive
Sirma Business Consulting	Strypes	TTEC Eastern Europe	Web X Software
SIS Technology	Sutherland Global Services Bulgaria	Ulpia Tech	Websa
SiteGround Hosting	Swimcloud	Unicons	Wecraft Media
Smart Tech Systems	Synergy Global Financial Solutions	UNIQA Software - Service Bulgaria	Westernacher Consulting
SmartIT	T D Consulting	Updata One	Wisdom
Smule	Technology Solutions 2018	Vato Soft	Wogi
Social Cloud	Tedisoft	Vereign Labs	Wool Premium
Social Ecommerce Bulgaria	Telelink City	Vertinity	WOW Corporation
Social Freaks	Telus International	Viking Lifesaving Equipment GBS	You Plus We
Soft to Run	Tendrik (Seomax)	Vision Print	Zebrinex
Softart BG	Terminep Bulgaria	Visrez	Zingasoft
SoftServe	Think Tank BH	VKA Solutions	etc.

EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS

ALL LABOR RELATED LEGAL ACTS OF THE EU ARE INTEGRAL PART OF THE LEGISLATION

~ The employment relationships of **foreign nationals working in the country** is regulated by the Bulgarian Labor Code, insofar as not provided otherwise in a law or a treaty to which Bulgaria is a party

~ **Remote work** as well as all special working conditions in connection with the special place of work are to be determined in the labor contract, whereby the imperative provisions of the Labor Code are to be adhered to

~ **The Bulgarian labor law is based on some general principles** such as freedom and protection of labor, a ban on discrimination, fixed working hours, guaranteed rests and leaves, equal pay between men and women, limitation on overtime work, preservation of the labor relation in case of change of the employer, collective arrangements, etc.

~ **EU citizens do not need a visa** to stay and work in Bulgaria and can obtain long-term residence permit in less than 24 hours

~ **Non-EU citizens, who perform highly skilled labor, can apply for the EU Blue Card.** It can be obtained on the basis of acquired higher education in the relevant field or proven professional experience. **The EU Blue Card holders can also work remotely and travel on business trips** in other EU member states

~ **Non-EU entrepreneurs, willing to develop high-tech and/or innovative projects,** can submit a fast-track online application for a long-term residence permit called "Startup Visa"

Types of Contract

- Indefinite period of time
- Limited period of time

Regular Working Hours

- 8 hours per day
- 40 hours per week

Night Work

- Work performed between 10.00 p.m. and 6.00 a.m.
- 7 hours per night
- 35 hours per week

Rests

- 30 minutes minimum lunch break
- 12 hours daily rest

Paid Leave

- Minimum of 20 work days per calendar year
- 4 months minimum employment service as a condition for claiming a paid annual leave

Unpaid Leave

- Up to 30 days unpaid leave per one calendar year is recognized as a period of service

Trial Period

- 6 months maximum trial period can be stipulated in the employment contract

Maternity Leave

- 410 days, 45 of which are used before the birth

Notice Period

- 30 days for an indefinite period employment contract
- 3 months for a fixed term employment contract

Source: Bulgarian Labor Code

PERKS & BENEFITS PROVIDED BY COMPANIES IN PLOVDIV

- Upskilling, Reskilling & Educational Assistance
- Flexible Working Time & Remote Work
- Private Healthcare Plan & Pension Fund
- Employee Assistance & Wellness Programs
- Sport Cards & Healthy Lifestyle Incentives
- Relax Zones & Sabbaticals
- Travel Perks & Vacation Reimbursement
- Discount Vouchers
- Employee Referral Programs
- Team Activities

STARTING A BUSINESS

FOREIGN INVESTORS FOLLOW THE SAME REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES AS LOCAL ONES

➤ The limited liability company (LLC) is a preferred form of business entity because of the **limited liability of the shareholders**, the minimum capital requirement of €1 and the simplified corporate governance structure

➤ Joint-stock (JSC) companies have a **minimum capital requirement of €25 565**. The shares of JSC are tradable instruments, verified by interim share certificates or printed shares issued by the JSC

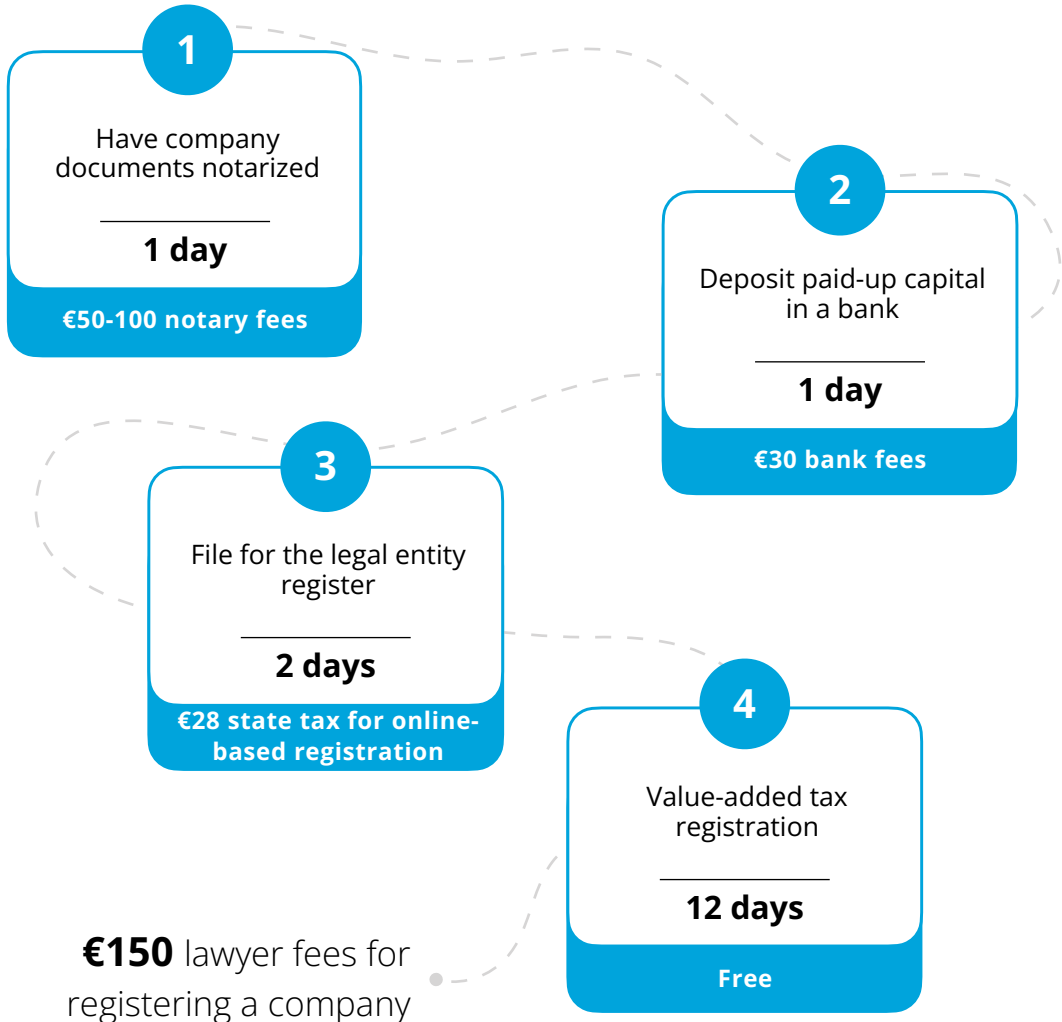
➤ Individuals who wish to develop **innovative and fast-growing businesses can setup a Variable capital company (VCC)**. The VCC was introduced in 2023 and aims to eliminate barriers such as pre-incorporation bank account opening and capital deposit requirements

➤ **Foreign investors can open a business** in Bulgaria just like any other local investor. Up to 100% of the registered capital may be held by one or more foreign persons

➤ **Foreign legal entities can also register branches and trade representative offices**, which are not considered separate legal entities and don't have capital requirements. Their assets and liabilities are considered such of the parent company

➤ Investors benefit from a **single point of contact in Plovdiv Municipality** & an all-in service package, including administrative aid, preliminary researches and consultations, staff recruitment support, local media promotion, coordination and assistance in the organization of meetings, etc.

Easy workflow of registering a company



SIMPLE TAX SYSTEM OF FLAT RATES:

10% Personal income

10% Corporate tax

20% VAT

Dividends distributed by Bulgarian companies to legal entities resident in EU or EEA are not subject to withholding tax. In the rest of the cases, a 5% withholding tax on dividends is due

R&D ECOSYSTEM

A HUB FOR DEVELOPING NEW PRODUCTS AND SOLUTIONS

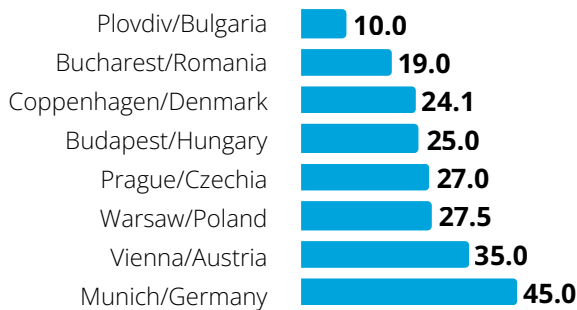
- Plovdiv has a well-developed network of modern research centers, laboratories and science institutes in mechatronics, food-tech, and biotech among others. Large pool of **high-skilled professionals with great knowledge of the industry** is available at reasonable cost
- A growing trend in the city is the outsourcing and establishment of **R&D centers by both local and international manufacturing companies**, providing innovative solutions that benefit all plants within the respective parent companies
- The Bulgarian Academy of Science, the business sector, the universities and Plovdiv Municipality work in **close cooperation for the development of the local ecosystem**
- The newly established Center of Plant Systems Biology and Biotechnology (CPSBB) stands at the **forefront of plant sciences in Bulgaria and Eastern Europe** by integrating molecular biology, functional genomics, metabolomics, bioinformatics, bioprocessing, and long-standing expertise in practical plant genetics and breeding
- Plovdiv will become the home of the **first regional innovation valley in Bulgaria**, which will operate in the field of bioeconomy and food. The purpose of the initiative is to help especially small and medium-sized enterprises to make the contact between research, innovation and business and thus to promote entrepreneurship

Scientific infrastructure in Plovdiv

Name	Activities	Website
Center of Plant Systems Biology and Biotechnology - CPSBB	Molecular Biology, Functional Genomics, Metabolomics, Bioinformatics, Plant Genetics	cpsbb.eu
Central Laboratory of Applied Physics & Research Center in Mechatronics and Nanotechnologies	Nanostructured and Nanosized Coatings and Thin Layers, Semiconductor Materials and Structures, Energy-Saving and Ecological LED Systems	clap-bas.com
Fruit Growing Institute	In Vitro Propagation of Planting Material, Chemical And Technological Research	fruitgrowinginstitute.com
Center of Competence "Smart Mechatronics, Eco- and Energy Saving Systems and Technologies"	Intelligent Mechatronic Systems and Technologies, Energy Saving and Clean Technologies	tu-plovdiv.bg
Center of Competence "Personalized Innovative Medicine"	Molecular Genetic Analysis; Drug Delivery Systems	mu-plovdiv.bg
Center of Technologies at Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"	Bioengineering Technologies; Sustainable Bioeconomy/Biobusiness Growth	pu-technocentre.eu
Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture	Scientific and Research Activities in the Field of Aquacultures	ira-plovdiv.bg
Institute of Robotics - Plovdiv Branch	Industrial and Service Robotics; 3D Design and Printing, Sensors, Hall Elements	ir.bas.bg
Laboratory of Bioactive Substances	Isolation, Purification, Structure Modification of Polysaccharides, Food Chemistry	orgchm.bas.bg
Laboratory Complex for Chemical And Instrumental Analysis	Analysis of Water, Soil, Seeds, Fruits and Vegetable	au-plovdiv.bg
National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology - Branch Plovdiv	Full Monitoring of the Meteorological and Agrometeorological Elements	plovdiv.meteo.bg
Food Research and Technology Transfer Center	Food & Beverages Analysis and Testing, Machinery Evaluation	uft-plovdiv.bg

Growing supply of class A modern office buildings

Rent of prime office space



9-12 €/m²
MONTHLY RENT
FOR OFFICE CLASS A

4-6 €/m²
MONTHLY RENT
FOR OFFICE CLASS B

Source: TEZ, Colliers, 2023

Getting business space in the city remains very affordable

MAJOR OFFICE CENTERS

Business Centre Angelov

businesscentreangelov.com

Capital City Center

capitalcitycenter.bg

Capital Trade Center

capitaltradecenter.bg

Flavia Business Park

flaviabp.com

Kamenitza Office Park

kamenitzapark.bg

Office Park Plovdiv

officeparkplovdiv.com

PIMK Office Center

pimkbuild.bg

Plovdiv Plaza

plovdivplaza.bg

Regus

regus.bg

Rilon Center

rilon-center.business.site

Royal City Business Park

galaxy-bg.com

Via Offices

offices.viapark.bg

MAJOR CO-WORKING PLACES

Cat & Mouse Coworking

catandmouse.bg

Colorking

colorking.com

IMD 24/7

imdepartment.com

Ji4ka

ji4ka.com

Networking Premium

networking.space

Regus

regus.bg

Abundant opportunities for indoors & outdoors recreational activities

82	STADIUMS & SPORTS FACILITIES	€7.7	Lunch menu
52 km	BIKE LANES	€0.5	Public transport (one-way ticket)
2200 m	REGATTA VENUE	€25.6	Public transport (monthly pass)
300	SUNNY DAYS	€3.8	Taxi journey of 5 km (3 miles)
76	PARKS & GARDENS	€3.3	E-scooter (15 min. ride)
2190 acres	PUBLIC GREEN SPACES	€30.7	E-car (per day)
89	PUBLIC KINDERGARTENS & NURSERIES	€1.0	Parking in city center (per hour)
49	SCHOOLS PROVIDING PRIMARY EDUCATION	€26.9	Gym membership (monthly fee)
700+	CULTURAL SIGHTS	€7.7	Cinema ticket
50+	MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES	€383.3	Private kindergarten (per month)
3	OPEN AIR THEATRES	€317.8	1-bedroom apartment in city center (rent perm month)
7	CINEMAS	€ 80.2	Internet (1 Gbps connection)
21	4* & 5* HOTELS	€ 80.2	Average basic utilities

Source: Plovdiv Municipality

Source: Numbeo, 2023

To do list



TAKE A WALK IN THE OLD TOWN

part of the UNESCO world heritage tentative list



VISIT THE BISHOP'S BASILICA

one of the largest late antique Early-Christian churches on the Balkans



ATTEND A PLOVDIV OPERA EVENT

at the Ancient Theatre of Philippopolis



GET TO KNOW PLOVDIV'S RICH ROMAN HERITAGE

including well-preserved stadium built in the II century



RELAX AT THE SINGING FOUNTAINS

situated in Tsar Simeon's Garden



FEEL THE PLOVDIV VIBE

in the creative-industry district Kapana (the Trap)



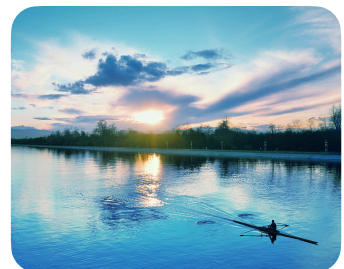
TAKE A PHOTO

at the Plovdiv Together monument



STROLL DOWN THE MAIN STREET

the longest pedestrian street in Europe



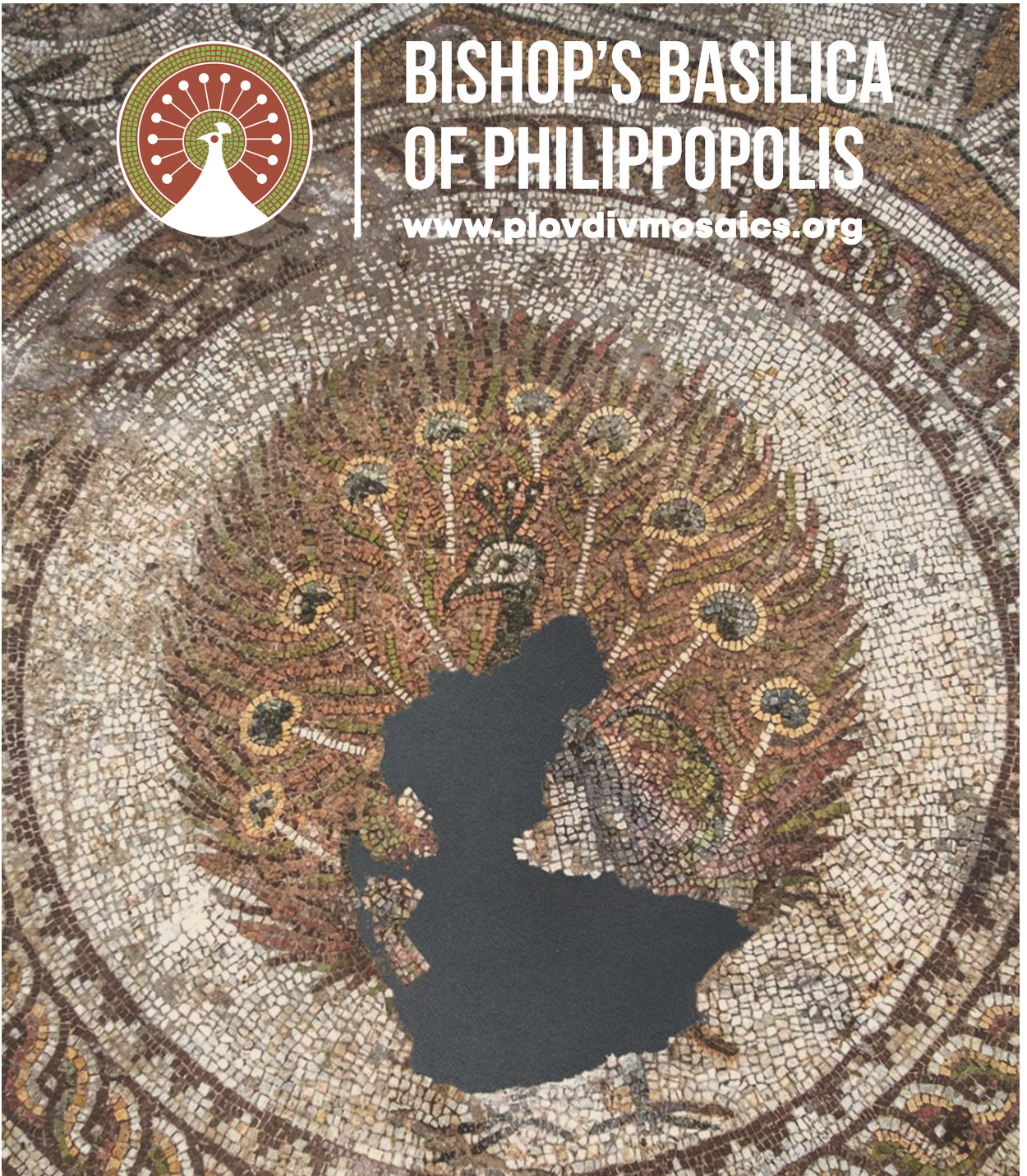
VISIT A SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP

at the multi-sport complex at Regatta venue



BISHOP'S BASILICA OF PHILIPPOLIS

www.plovdivmosaics.org



The Bishop's Basilica of Philippopolis is the newest tourist site of Plovdiv. It was opened for visitors on April 18th, 2021. ***The Bishop's Basilica and Late-Antique Mosaics of Philippopolis, Roman Province of Thrace*** is included in UNESCO's Tentative List of Republic of Bulgaria.

CREATING A BUSINESS-FRIENDLY CITY



PLOVDIV MUNICIPALITY

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Plovdiv, Bulgaria

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In partnership with

