

Pirin National Park, Bulgaria

Key facts

- IUCN recommended that this existing World Heritage Site, inscribed on the List in 1983, be extended at the World Heritage Committee in Brasilia, Brazil.
- A mountain area of exceptional beauty, the site is also of important scientific value as a mix of forest and meadow ecosystems with a number of important endemic and relict species.
- The diverse mountain landscapes of Pirin National Park include over 70 glacial lakes, as well as many waterfalls, rocky screes and caves.
- The glacial geomorphology of the landscape, composed of cirques, deep valleys and lakes, allows for the study of the evolution of landforms.
- Pirin National Park as extended hosts 121 endemic plants such as the Macedonian Pine and the Bosnian Pine, representing one third of Bulgaria's flora, as well as 45 mammal species, including the brown bear, wolf and pine marten, and 159 bird species.

Key quote

- *"Pirin is a wonderful example of a diverse mountain landscape," says **Tilman Jaeger, IUCN's World Heritage Project Management Officer.** "There is a need to balance tourism and conservation and our advice is a clear message that there are ways to achieve this balance but also that some forms of tourism development are incompatible with World Heritage status."*

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Photos

For photos of Pirin national Park, please visit http://www.iucn.org/knowledge/news/focus/2010_worldheritage/ Please note the images are copyright protected and can only be used to illustrate press releases in relation to IUCN's recommendations to the World Heritage Committee.



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