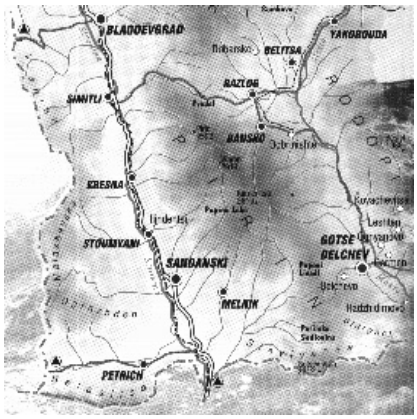
Bulgaria

Pirin National Park

Pirin Mountain represents a NW-SE trending high mountain ridge with abrupt slopes and a spectacular alpine landscape on its summit. Its higher point - Vihren Peak is the third in high on the Balkan Peninsula. From geological point of view Pirin is a horst structure surrounded by Miocene - Quaternary grabens. The rock composition of the area consists mainly of diverse gneisses and marbles intruded by magmatic bodies (granites-granodiorites) of Paleozoic, Cretaceous and Paleogene ages. On the slopes of the mountain and into the river valleys are deposited coarse alluvial, delluvial and glacial materials.

The main geological hazards are related to the avalanches, ice-falls, landslides, screes, creep. Typical for the mountain are the karst processes as well as the high rate of erosion, related to the intensive tectonical uplifting. The area belongs to a zone of seismic intensity of IX degree (MSK - 64).

The area is under permanent control and protection. In case on necessity special measures for the preservation and protection of some precise sites are taken. In case of necessity the antropogenic changes are made after an ecological expertise.



This is the largest national park of Bulgaria. It is rich in natural monuments as high peaks, old glacier valleys, lakes, karst forms, etc. Some very rare flora and fauna species are also found. Across the mountain go several European hiking trails. The montain is a very atractive resort area during all seasons.

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