

BULGARIA



Source: esri

General

Bulgaria - officially the Republic of Bulgaria - is bordered by Romania in the North, Serbia and Macedonia in the West, Greece and Turkey in the South, and the Black Sea in the East. The country has an area of 11,1 Mha (million hectares) with, in 2022, a population of 6.78 million, or 0.61 persons per ha (Wikipedia and United Nations, 2022).

Climate and geography

Bulgaria has a changeable climate, which results from being positioned at the meeting point of the Mediterranean and Continental air masses combined with the barrier effect of the mountains. Northern Bulgaria averages 1 °C cooler, and registers 200 mm more precipitation, than the regions south of the Balkan Mountains. Temperature amplitudes vary significantly in different areas. The lowest recorded temperature is -38.3 °C, while the highest is 45.2 °C. Precipitation averages about 630 mm per year and varies from 500 mm in Dobruja to more than 2,500 mm in the mountains. Continental air masses bring significant amounts of snowfall during winter (Source: Wikipedia).

The most notable topographical features are the Danube Plain, the Balkan Mountains, the Thracian Plain, and the Rhodope Mountains. The southern edge of the Danube Plain slopes upward into the foothills of the Balkans, while the Danube River defines the border with Romania. The Thracian Plain is roughly triangular, beginning southeast of Sofia and broadening as it reaches the Black Sea coast.

Plains occupy about one-third of the territory. Most rivers are short, with low water levels. The longest river located solely at the Bulgarian territory, the Iskar, has a length of 368 km. Other major rivers include the Struma and the Maritsa in the South.

Existing polders

The Group Polder Development (1982) states that there is a chain of small and larger polders along the Danube River with a total area of about 75,000 ha.

General characteristics of the polder in Bulgaria are shown in Table I.

Proposed polders

No proposed polders have been identified.

Location of the polder in Bulgaria as shown on the World polder map

The location of the polder in Bulgaria is shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Location of the polder in Bulgaria (source: esri – Batavialand)

References

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Table I. General characteristics of existing polders in Bulgaria

Name	Reclamation	Area in ha	Type *)	Latitudes	Longitudes	Elevation in m+MSL	Land use
Polders along Danube River		75,000	RLL	43° 39' N	25° 03' E		Agriculture
Total		75,000					

*) RLL = reclaimed low-lying land; LGS = land gained on the sea; DL = drained lake