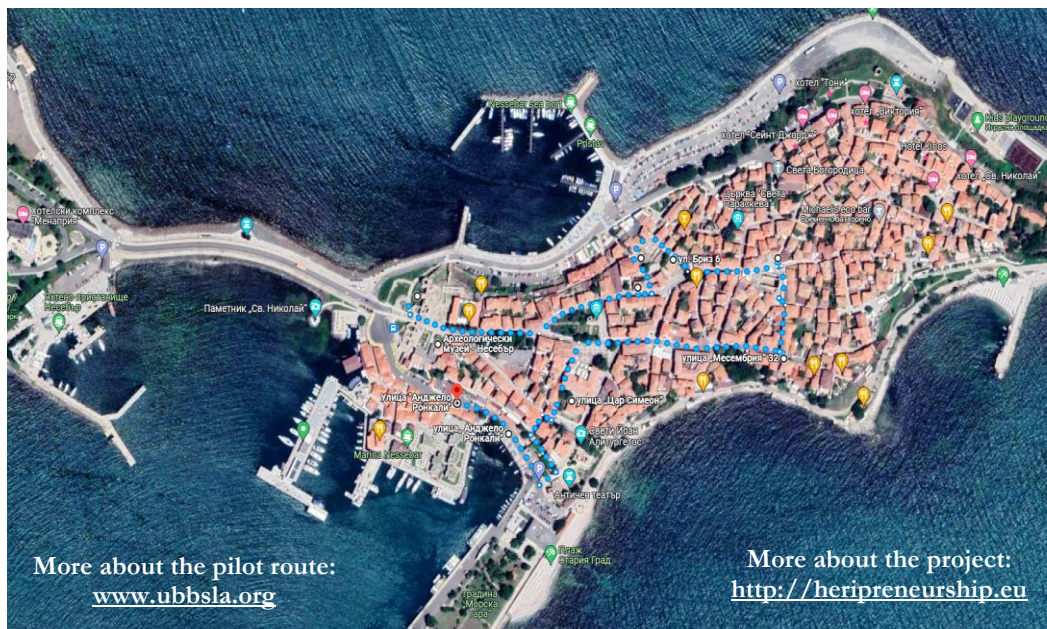


## ABOUT THE OLD NESSEBAR

- ❖ Situated on a beautiful peninsula in the South Eastern part of Bulgaria on the Black Sea, an UNESCO protected area since 1983
- ❖ Dated back to antiquity with presentation of many civilizations through the ages and one of the first places where the coins were made
- ❖ It is the city with the most churches in the world per capita, where the first Christian temples in Bulgaria were found on the land



## SPIRITUAL VIRTUE OF NESSEBAR

A pilot tourist route of 10 geolocations of tangible and intangible heritage accumulating the spirit of authenticity, history and living heritage. All of these assets refer to the cultural and historic progress of significance turning Nessebar into a lively town with modern appearance.



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“Establishing long-lasting partnerships to upgrade heritage-based offers and create new investment opportunities in tourism and the cultural and creative industries”



A pilot route

## THE SPIRITUAL VIRTUE OF NESSEBAR



### 1. THE FORTIFICATION WALL

The first foundation dated back to 8<sup>th</sup> century BC. Due to the rapid development of the ancient city and evolving interest of the foreigners, the wall was continuously built and rebuilt to defend and protect the living societies.



### 2. THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Initially created in 1965, the museum has been collecting exhibits and artefacts from different ages and civilizations since Antiquity until present. The expositions trace the times of the Thracians, the Romans, the Byzantine empire and the Bulgarian state. All of them testify a lively and commercial state.



### 3. THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

The importance of the church in Nessebar is influenced by the appearance of Christianity on these lands 50 years after the birth of Christ. Due to the many and well-preserved churches, especially from the period of XIII - XIV century ACE, the city is named "The Bulgarian Ravenna".

### 4. THE EARLY BYZANTINE BATHS

The Baths are supposed to be built in 6<sup>th</sup> century and initially served as a place for meeting people, having a rest, social interactions and entertainments. Later, they were reconstructed to serve for housing and agricultural needs of the locals through the water supply system located in tunnels.



### 5. THE CHURCH OF ST. SPAS

It is the only Christian temple built during the Ottoman presence in 1609 on the foundations of Early Byzantine Basilica dating from 6<sup>th</sup> century. The temple was painted with inspiration and passion by the Nesebar painters but the murals which are restored and preserved to date are breathtaking! This is the smallest church in the peninsula.



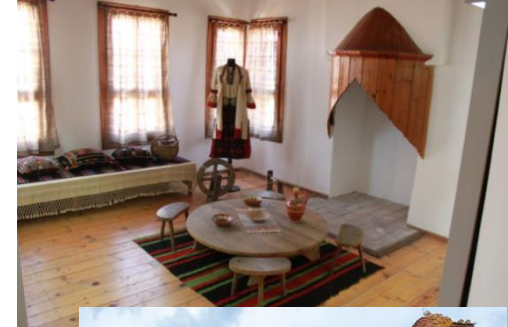
### 6. THE CHURCH OF ST SOPHIA

Known as The Old Bishopric, it is situated on the place supposed to be the old Centrum of the settlement and built in 5<sup>th</sup> C.AD. St Sophia is perceived as a symbol of the city, a spiritual center and a place for celebrations and entertainments.



### 7. THE ETHNOGRAPHICAL MUSEUM

Exhibits are disposed in a typical Renaissance two-store house /the Moskoyani house/, built by a wealthy local merchant in 1840. Besides the tangible cultural heritage, the museum preserves knowledge about traditions, beliefs, myths and legends, including the story of celebration of the Virgin Mary's Day, the patron of Nessebar.



### 8. THE CHURCH OF ST STEPHEN

It's a medieval church, known as the "New Bishopric", located at the southern end of the Old Nessebar and built in the period 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> C. It was initially dedicated to the Holly Mother and more than 258 mural paintings and 1000 figures represent scenes of her life.



### 9. THE FISHING ROUTINE

Fishing is old as people live here and is a living power for their cultural development. It is a source of legends, myths and reality of the past and a hope of a wisdom for future of the city. A tale of faith and hope on a peninsula surrounded by endless blue sky and sea, immersed in greenery and gentle shade, with an amazing aroma of flowers, bushes and trees



### 10. THE MISSION OF POPE JOHN XXIII IN BULGARIA

Nessebar is proud to be the first place of the active social mission of Pope John XXIII. For his active work, charity actions to the refugees to Bulgaria, support to the first canteen opened in Nessebar, he was called by the locals "The Bulgarian Pope" and "The Good Pope".

