

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Ancient City of Nessebar

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- Bulgaria

Type of Property

cultural

Identification Number

217


Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

1983

1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates (latitude/longitude)	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Ancient City of Nessebar	42.656 / 27.73	27.1	1245.6	1272.7	1983
Total (ha)		27.1	1245.6	1272.7	

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Ancient City of Nessebar, scale 1:20000	21/12/2007	

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

- Vezhdi Rashidov
Ministry of Culture
Minister of Culture

Comment

The name of the Minister of Culture is Peter Stoyanovich. With the adoption of the Cultural Heritage Act in 2009 in the Ministry of Culture a General directorate inspectorate with a regional inspectors was established, and it has supervision and control features at on site. The National Institute of Immovable Cultural Heritage is a government institute that supports the Minister of culture in protection activities of immovable cultural properties.

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Dimitrov Nikolay
Municipality of Nessebar
Mayor

Comment

In 2005, the management "Ancient Nessebar" was transformed into a museum "Ancient Nessebar" with main activities "exploration, study, collection, acquisition, storage, documentation, restoration and promotion of cultural monuments". In 2009 at the Nessebar municipality a chief architect of the reserve "Ancient Nessebar" was appointed and department "Nessebar - World Heritage" with five employees was established. With the appointment of Ch. Architect of the "Ancient Nessebar" reserve and the creation of the municipal structures the site management and interaction between institutions was improved.

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

Comment

<http://www.ancient-nessebar.com/>
www.worldheritagesite.org/sites/nessebar.html
<http://www.bulgaria.domino.bg/nessebar/>
http://bulgariatravel.org/en/object/3/Nesebyr_arhitekturen_rezervat
<http://nessebarinfo.com/>

1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)

Comment

- UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage - European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Revised) /1992/ - Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe /1985/

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief synthesis

The Ancient city of Nessebar is a unique example of a synthesis of the centuries-old human activities in the sphere of culture; it is a location where numerous civilizations have left tangible traces in single homogeneous whole, which harmoniously fit in with nature. The different stages of development of its residential vernacular architecture reflect the stages of development of the architectural style on the Balkans and in the entire East Mediterranean region. The urban structure contains elements from the second millennium BC, from Ancient Times and the Medieval period. The medieval religious architecture, modified by the imposition of the traditional Byzantine forms, illustrates ornamental ceramics art, the characteristic painted decoration for this age. The town has served for over thousands of years as remarkable spiritual hearth of Christian culture.

Criterion (iii): The Ancient City of Nessebar is an outstanding testimony of multilayered cultural and historical heritage. It is a place where many civilizations left their tangible traces: archaeological structures from the Second millennium BC, a Greek Black Sea colony with surviving remains of fortifications, a Hellenistic villa and religious buildings from the Antiquity, preserved churches (in some of them preserved only parts of archaeological structures) from the Middle Ages. Nessebar has demonstrated its historical importance as a frontier city on numerous occasions. Having been a remarkable spiritual centre of Christianity for a thousand years, today it is a developing and vibrant urban organism.

Criterion (iv): The Ancient City of Nessebar is a unique example of an architectural ensemble with preserved Bulgarian Renaissance structure, and forms a harmonious homogenous entity with the outstanding natural configuration of the rocky peninsular, linked with the continent by a long narrow stretch of land. Its nature and existence is a result of synthesis of long-term human activity, which has witnessed significant historic periods - an urban structure with elements from 2nd millennium BC, classical antiquity, and the Middle Ages; the development of medieval religious architecture with rich plastic and polychrome decoration on its facades in the form of ceramic ornamentation typical for the period; the different stages in the development of the characteristic residential vernacular architecture, which testify to the supreme mastery of the architecture of the Balkans as well as the East Mediterranean region. The vernacular architecture of

the urban ensemble, dominated by medieval churches and archaeology, together with the unique coastal relief, combine to produce an urban fabric of the high quality.

Integrity

Within the boundaries that encompass the small rocky peninsula, are all the evidence of the numerous cultural layers - from the 2nd millennium BC until the present time. Although the main elements have generally remained unchanged, since 1986 some exceptions have occurred with a number of illegal interventions on 19th century structures, and some new buildings executed in violation of the Cultural Heritage Law.

In addition, and in violation of the Law on Monuments and Museums, negative influences have also emerged with the emergency stabilization of the peninsula shoreline. All of these changes have the potential to threaten the extraordinary coherence of the urban fabric and the overall visual integrity of the property.

Authenticity

Only conservation and stabilization work is carried out on the Medieval Churches, and all the investigated archaeological sites are exposed and preserved. Some Medieval Churches now require repair. The unauthorized changes to some of the vernacular buildings, and persistent and increasing pressures from tourism, public and residential functions, and investment interests, combined with the introduction of mobile retail units, are beginning to threaten the traditional urban structure of the city, its architectural appearance, and its atmosphere.

Protection and management requirements

Management is implemented by virtue of:

- 1) Cultural Heritage Law (Official Gazette No.19 of 2009) and subdelegated legislation. This law regulates the research, studying, protection and promotion of the immovable cultural heritage in Bulgaria, and the development of Conservation and Management plans for its inscribed World Heritage List of immovable cultural properties.
- 2) Ordinance No.8 of the Culture Committee and the Committee on Architecture and Public Works of the architectural historical reserves Sozopol and Nessebar /SG 9/1981; covers the issues of general and detailed spatial planning; projects; carrying out conservation and restoration works; and new building. It also determines the borders and contact zones of the site, the main principles involved, and sets out the rules for protection and implementation.
- 3) Developed by the National Institute for Monuments of Culture /in 2009 renamed as National Institute for Immoveable Cultural Heritage/, the Directive Plan is a Concept paper on the preservation and development of the cultural-historic heritage of the town of Nessebar. The Plan offers an integrated professional analysis and prognosis of urban development over a wide range of activities. Ostensibly contributing to the protection, promotion and sustainable development of the property, the document, unfortunately, does not fully reflect current conditions, and requires updating.
- 4) The current Construction and regulatory plan of the Ancient city of Nessebar, adopted in 1981, and the preliminary construction and regulatory plan (adopted on 30.07.1991 by the Ministry of construction and urban planning) regulates land use, types of building, parks and gardens etc.
- 5) The Spatial Planning Act - (Official Gazette, No. 1 of 2001 with amendments) and subdelegated legislation relates to spatial and urban planning, investment projects and buildings in Bulgaria. It also determines particular territorial and spatial protection, and the territories of cultural heritage.
In order to provide adequate response to the threats from unauthorized development, pressure from tourism and new uses, there is a need to put in place an overall Management

Plan for the property that provides a collaborative framework for all stakeholders.

2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed

(iii)(iv)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

The Ancient City of Nessebar is an outstanding testimony of multilayered cultural and historical heritage. It is a place where many civilizations left their tangible traces: archaeological structures from the Second millennium BC, a Greek Black Sea colony with surviving remains of fortifications, a Hellenistic villa and religious buildings from the Antiquity, preserved churches from the Middle Ages. The site is a unique example of an architectural ensemble with preserved Bulgarian Renaissance structure, and forms a harmonious homogenous entity with the outstanding natural configuration of the rocky peninsular, linked with the continent by a long narrow stretch of land. The vernacular architecture of the urban ensemble, dominated by medieval churches and archaeology, together with the unique coastal relief, combine to produce an urban fabric of the high quality.

2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised

We do not find any need to change the SOUV.

2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

We consider that the current Statement of OUV reflects the outstanding universal value of the Property.

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

- the effect of the salty aerosol saturated air of increased humidity, penetrating the churches;

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

	Name	Impact						Origin	
3.1	Buildings and Development								
3.1.1	Housing								
3.1.4	Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure								
3.1.5	Interpretative and visitation facilities								
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure								
3.2.3	Marine transport infrastructure								
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure								
3.3	Services Infrastructures								
3.3.1	Water infrastructure								
3.3.4	Localised utilities								
3.4	Pollution								
3.4.1	Pollution of marine waters								
3.5	Biological resource use/modification								
3.5.1	Fishing/collecting aquatic resources								
3.5.2	Aquaculture								
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric								
3.7.1	Wind								
3.7.2	Relative humidity								
3.7.7	Pests								
3.7.8	Micro-organisms								
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage								
3.8.1	Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses								
3.8.2	Society's valuing of heritage								
3.8.4	Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system								
3.8.5	Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community								
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation								
3.9	Other human activities								
3.9.1	Illegal activities								
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events								
3.10.1	Storms								
3.10.5	Changes to oceanic waters								
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events								
3.11.2	Earthquake								
3.11.3	Tsunami/tidal wave								
3.11.4	Avalanche/ landslide								
3.11.5	Erosion and siltation/ deposition								
3.11.6	Fire (wildfires)								
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species								
3.12.4	Invasive / alien marine species								
3.13	Management and institutional factors								
3.13.1	Low impact research / monitoring activities								
3.13.3	Management activities								
Legend	Current	Potential	Negative	Positive	Inside	Outside			

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend
3.1 Buildings and Development					
3.1.4 Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	insignificant	high capacity	decreasing
3.2 Transportation Infrastructure					
3.2.4 Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure	restricted	one off or rare	insignificant	high capacity	decreasing
3.7 Local conditions affecting physical fabric					
3.7.1 Wind	localised	intermittent or sporadic	insignificant	high capacity	static
3.7.2 Relative humidity	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	insignificant	high capacity	decreasing
3.8 Social/cultural uses of heritage					
3.8.6 Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	localised	intermittent or sporadic	insignificant	high capacity	decreasing

3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

3.17.1 - Comments

Saturation of the territory with a large number of visitors during the summer period loads it with commercial and service activities, some of which are exported outside the buildings and impact negatively on the historic environment. The municipality has taken measures to curb that practice / ban on the deployment of kiosks in public spaces / and with the MP project an organization is offered outside the core territory of the property for temporary commercial spaces. There has been a periodic instrumental monitoring of the microclimate in the medieval churches.

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is a buffer zone

4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property **do not limit** the ability to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value **but they could be improved**

4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property **are known** by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

The defined buffer zone in the aquatoria /two-kilometer long lane surrounding the peninsula/ is too large and not motivated with detailed underwater archaeological research. It is necessary to perform extensive underwater archaeological research that would justify a proposal for an altered buffer zone.

4.2. Protective Measures

4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

The LAW ON THE CULTURAL HERITAGE (in force from 10.04.2009) "regulates the research, studying, protection and promotion of the immovable cultural heritage in Bulgaria, and the development of Conservation and Management plans for its inscribed World Heritage List of immovable cultural properties".

This Law specifies in its Article 50 (1) the category of properties of "world significance" – those, included on the List of World Heritage.

The LAW ON SPATIAL PLANNING (amend. SG. 15/23 Feb 2010) "relates to spatial and urban planning, investment projects and buildings in Bulgaria. It also determines particular territorial and spatial protection, and the territories of cultural heritage."

The land use and types of buildings, parks and gardens are still being regulated by the construction and regulatory plan of the Ancient city of Nessebar, adopted in 1981, and the preliminary construction and regulatory plan (adopted on 30.07.1991 by the Ministry of construction and urban planning).

The Ordinance No.8 SG 9/1981 of the Culture Committee and the Committee on Architecture and Public Works of the architectural historical reserves Sozopol and Nessebar, "...covers the issues of general and detailed spatial planning; projects; carrying out conservation and restoration works; and new building. It also determines the borders and contact zones of the site, the main principles involved, and sets out the rules for protection and implementation."

Regulations (No. 10, No. 2 and Decisions (No. 735/30.09.2009 of Protocol No. 21, Decision No. 519 /Protocol No. 17/16 December 2005, in force since 23 December.12.2005) regarding movable facilities and components of urban infrastructure, advertising activity and open-air commercial activity on the territory of the Municipality of Nessebar.

The *Black Sea Coastline Spatial Planning Act* has been in force since 1 January 2008.

Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 (2001-2006) Section 2

Source: [Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 \(2001-2006\)](#)

Submitted on Thursday, December 1, 2005

• Question 6.02

The management is performed pursuant to the provisions of the following legislation:

1) Law on the Monuments of Culture and Museums /SG No.29 dated 1969 with the subsequent amendments and supplements;/

The Law on Monuments of Culture and Museums Regulates the research, studying, protection and promotion of the cultural monuments at the territory of Bulgaria. According to this Law towns and settlements with particular historic, archaeological and museum significance are declared reserves. The Ministry of Culture performs supreme supervision on them through its bodies; local self government and other public and state bodies – e.g. the municipal councils and mayors – also supervise at local level.

2) Ordinance No.8 of the Culture Committee and the Committee on Architecture and Public Works for the architectural historical reserves Sozopol and Nessebar /SG 9/1981.;

Ordinance No.8 arranges the issues on elaboration of general and detailed spatial planning, projects and carrying out of

conservation and restoration works and new building. . It also determines the borders and contact zones of the reserve; the main principles in the studying, protection and development, urbanization, conservation, restoration and the rules for carrying out of protection and implementation.

3) The Directive Plan – Concept paper on preservation and development of the cultural-historic heritage of the town of Nessebar (developed by the National Institute on Monuments of Culture – NICM);
The Directive Plan-concept makes a professional analysis and prognosis of the urban development at all levels, in one system. It consists of the directions and requirements for large scope of activities that contribute to the unanimous purpose of the protection, promotion and sustainable development of the reserve as cultural and historic centre with outstanding value. Unfortunately this document do not fully correspond to the contemporary conditions and needs up-dating, namely in the chapter concerning the protection regimes for different zones.

4) The current Construction and regulatory plan of the town, adopted in 1981 and the preliminary construction and regulatory plan (adopted on 30.07.1991 by the Ministry of construction and urban planning);
The plan regulates the particular purpose of the land properties, the way an the type pf building, the public administration service, parks an gardens etc. in the reserve.

5) The Spatial Planning Act – (SG, No. 1/2001 r, with amendments), in the chapter on spatial planning.
This law arranges the relations of the spatial and urban planning, the investment projects and buildings in Bulgaria; determines the territories with particular territorial and spatial protection, the territories of cultural and historic heritage, for which specific regulations and norms are elaborated; it regulates the procedure for the procedure of conformity of the spatial planning and schemes of such territories.

Comment

6.02. The Cultural Monuments and Museums Act is canceled. The Cultural Heritage Act (in force since 10.04.2009) and subdelegated legislation regulate the research, studying, protection and promotion of the immovable cultural heritage and the development of Conservation and Management plans for its inscribed World Heritage List of immovable cultural properties. The Spatial Planning Act – (SG, No. 1/2001) A Management plan is developed, which is in the process of reconciliation and adoption.

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

An adequate legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property exists but there are **some deficiencies in implementation**

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

An **adequate** legal framework exists for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone, but **there are some deficiencies in its implementation** which undermine the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the property

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is **acceptable** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies remain

4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

The current rules, restraints and regulations for the protection of the world heritage property are too general, complicated and not-ewll understood from the townspeople, and therefor their application is difficult. The National Institut for Immoveable Cultural Heritage has prepaired a current, effective and comprehensive system of rules, restraints and regulations for the protection of the value and its buffer zone, which are in the process of discussion and adoption.

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

The management of the property and its buffer zones is supported among numerous stakeholders. A very large territory surrounding the different components of the property, its buffer zone and sea coastline is under control of the City Municipality.

- the Inspectorate for conservation of the cultural heritage has the power to ensure control and coordination of conservation activities
- the National Institute for Conservation of the Immoveable Cultural Valuables (NICICV) established under the Minister of Culture is a state cultural institute of national significance in the area of *conservation of the immovable cultural heritage*.
- City Municipality

Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 (2001-2006) Section 2

Source: [Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 \(2001-2006\)](#)

Submitted on Wednesday, November 30, 2005

- **Question 5.04** Plans in place to set up a "steering group":
Yes, In terms of legislation amendments are anticipated related to the development of management plans for the world heritage sites and the determination of a special body responsible for the management and coordination of the conservation works on the sites. At National level – the Ministry of Culture performs the supreme supervision over the reserve; the NICM gives statements on the acceptability of demands for intervention on the territory of the reserve, as well as on the project documentation for new building in the buffer zone. NICM gives prescription for protection of the site. At local level – the site is under the general administration and control by the Nessebar Municipality and the Directorate "Old Nessebar" (a not-for-profit municipal entity).
- **Question 5.05**
Overall management system of the site

- o Management by the State Party
- o Management under protective legislation

Comment

The site is managed by the Municipality of Nessebar and the State Party. Management is conducted under national protective legislation: - Cultural Heritage Act (in force since 10.04.2009) and subdelegated legislation - Spatial Planning Act (in force since 31.03.2001 with amendments) - Ordinance on terms and conditions for presenting cultural properties (in force since 28.03.2014) The Inspectorate for conservation of the cultural heritage has the power to ensure control and coordination.

4.3.2 - Management Documents

Comment

- Cultural Heritage Act (in force since 10.04.2009) and subdelegated legislation - Spatial Planning Act (in force since 31.03.2001 with amendments) - Ordinance on terms and conditions for presenting cultural properties (in force since 28.03.2014)

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local / municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is coordination between the range of administrative bodies / levels involved in the management of the property but it could be improved

4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system/plan is only **partially adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is **only partially** being implemented

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **many activities** are being implemented

4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

Local communities / residents	Fair
Local / Municipal authorities	Good
Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Landowners	Not applicable
Visitors	Good
Researchers	Good
Tourism industry	Good
Industry	Fair

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities have **some input** into discussions relating to management but no direct role in management

4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

No indigenous peoples are resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone

4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is contact but only **some cooperation** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone

4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

With the appointment in 2009 of Chief Architect of the Ancient Nessebar and the creation of the municipal structures the site management and interaction between institutions was improved. A Management plan is developed, which is in the process of accordance and adoption. Some of the provisional management plan activities have already been carried out.

4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective measures and management arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report



A Management plan is developed, which is in the process of accordance and adoption.

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc)	0%
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	1%
Governmental (National / Federal)	24%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	0%
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	30%
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	45%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	0%
Other grants	0%

4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

Title	Year	Amount	Link to source
Mission to identify works necessary for the restoration of St Stephen Church in Nessebar and the Madara Rider	1991	4000.00	
Restoration of the frescoes of St-Stephen Church in Nessebar	1992	15000.00	
Total		19000	

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **acceptable** but could be further improved to fully meet the management needs

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding **are secure** in the medium-term and planning is underway to secure funding in the long-term

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

There is **some flow** of economic benefits to local communities

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **some** adequate equipment and facilities, but deficiencies in at least one key area **constrain** management at the World Heritage property

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

Equipment and facilities are **well maintained**

4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

A Management plan is developed, which is in the process of accordance and adoption. In the project of the Management plan within one year and five-year programs is listed the funding required for protection activities during these periods.

4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Full-time	80%
Part-time	20%

4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Permanent	60%
Seasonal	40%

4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Paid	90%
Volunteer	10%

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

Human resources are **adequate** for management needs

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Good
Promotion	Good
Community outreach	Good
Interpretation	Good
Education	Fair
Visitor management	Good

Conservation	Good
Administration	Good
Risk preparedness	Fair
Tourism	Good
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Good

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Not available
Promotion	Not available
Community outreach	Low
Interpretation	Not available
Education	Low
Visitor management	Not available
Conservation	Not available
Administration	Low
Risk preparedness	Low
Tourism	Not available
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Low

4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is **in place and fully implemented**; all technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally, who are assuming leadership in management

4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

The predominant part of the real estate properties on the territory of the Ancient City represent a great number of private ownerships, namely residential houses. It is difficult therefore to obtain reliable data about the percentage of private funding of the site. There is no special capacity development plan or program developed, but in the management plan such activities, aimed at capacity building, are foreseen. In 2009 at the Nessebar municipality a chief architect of the reserve "Ancient Nessebar" was appointed and department "Nessebar - World Heritage" with five employees was established. The Archaeological Museum "Ancient Nessebar" periodically conducts forums on research programs and studies of the archaeological heritage of Nessebar. Voluntaries: The Archaeological museum "Ancient Nessebar" uses the help of the voluntaries on behalf of the universities – students.

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient**

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs

and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme of research**, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared widely** with the local, national and international audiences

4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

A Guide to the collections of the Archaeological museum of Nessebar. Petya Kiyashkina, Anelia Bozkova, Todor Marvakov. Published for the Archaeological Museum of Nessebar by Vessela Publisher, Nessebar, 2012, 192 p.; Bulgaria Pontica Medii Aevi, IV-V2 and VI-VII, Mesemvria Pontica Vasil Guzelev, 2006, 464p.; Rashenov, Architect Dr Alexander. Churches of Messambria. Phototype edition - bilingual, Bulgarian and French. Editor Ivan Karayotov, PH "Ritam-3" LTD, Nessebar 2006, 216 p. "Ancient Nessebar collection" serial edition

4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

On the territory of the property and its buffer zone NAIM, BAS and the Archaeological Museum "Ancient Nessebar" conduct regular archaeological researches. In the period 2005-2013 were found archaeological structures and movable archaeological properties with high scientific and artistic value. The results of the studies are published in the annual reports of the AIM, BAS and are promoted in the annual reports of the NAIM, BAS and are promoted in scientific journals and in the media. There have been carried out studies for the protection of the site's value, including scientific developments, analyses for the protection of the landscape, the structure characteristics and the single monuments

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

Local communities / residents	Average
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Excellent
Local Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Local landowners	Not applicable
Visitors	Excellent
Tourism industry	Excellent
Local businesses and industries	Average

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is a planned education and awareness programme but it only **partly meets the needs** and could be improved

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has influenced education, information and awareness building activities, **but it could be improved**

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

The Outstanding Universal Value of the property is adequately presented and interpreted **but improvements could be made**

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

Visitor centre	Not provided but needed
Site museum	Excellent
Information booths	Not provided but needed
Guided tours	Excellent
Trails / routes	Excellent
Information materials	Adequate
Transportation facilities	Adequate
Other	Not needed

4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

Activities related to education, information and awareness-raising are carried mostly by the Archaeological Museum "Ancient Nessebar". Nessebar Municipality organizes meetings with mayors of World Heritage towns. The municipality has a program "I live in Nessebar" that takes place among young people in order to create respect and commitment to the issues of protection of the property. Involved are mostly the young people in the city who voluntarily participate in the activities of the museum for the promotion of the site.

4.7. Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

Last year	Minor Increase
Two years ago	Minor Increase
Three years ago	Decreasing
Four years ago	Minor Increase
Five years ago	Decreasing

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

Entry tickets and registries
Tourism industry

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

Museum "Ancient Nessebar" provides guide services in Bulgarian, Russian, English and German language for group and individual visits, as well as scenic tours: "Mesambria - Messemvria - Nessebar" / covers all the periods of the history of the city / and "Faith in Nessebar" / presents the development of Nessebar as a church center / and also an

audio guide at the Archaeological Museum - Gaydport / Russian, German, English, French /. Each year the "Ancient Nessebar" Museum submits statistic data to the Ministry of Culture and the Statistical Institute.

NGOs	Average
Industry	Not applicable
Local indigenous peoples	Not applicable

4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is managed but **improvements could be made**

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is **excellent co-operation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

The fee is collected and makes a **substantial contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

The world heritage site as a tourist destination benefits from its proximity to the largest resort on the Bulgarian Black Sea coast - "Sunny Beach". In the period 2005-2010 it has almost doubled the number of tourists compared to previous years. In the last five years this high growth was maintained by a strong asymmetry in the annual plan - peak load of tourists ranging from May to September and extremely reduced in the remaining period. In the period 2010- 2013 with the financial support of the operational programs of the EU the project "Spiritual route in the ancient town of Nessebar" was realized- including a tour of the archaeological excavations and medieval churches.

4.8. Monitoring

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme** of monitoring, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient** for defining and monitoring key indicators for measuring its state of conservation

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff	Average
Local / Municipal authorities	Average
Local communities	Average
Researchers	Excellent

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

Implementation is **underway**

4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee

In pursuance of the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee concrete actions were taken: demolition of illegally constructed buildings, upgrades of buildings, development of a MP, implementation of major restoration works on medieval churches and project for cultural tourist route, and others.

4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring

A monitoring is carried out by the control state authority in the Ministry of Culture in order to prevent illegal violations in the urban fabric. As a result of the control and coordination with local authorities across the territory of the property and its buffer zone there are no illegal activities seen. There is also a monitoring conducted by experts from NIICH for tracking the state of conservation of the single properties. It was found that there is no tendency for deterioration of the integrity of the sites. There has been a multiyear monitoring of the microclimate in the medieval churches

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 managements needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

	World Heritage criteria and attributes affected	Actions	Monitoring	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment	
3.1	Buildings and Development						
3.1.4	Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure	So far, no criteria has been affected	Because of the absence of regulations for the protection of the buffer zone in the part of the new town, there are hotels constructed of 3-4 floors. At the moment in a procedure for discussion are proposals from the National Institute of immovable cultural heritage protection regimes of the buffer zone of the property.	With the adoption of the regimes for conservation the allowed interventions in the area will be regulated. A discussion is also possible on minor modifications of the buffer zone.	2015 - 2016	Municipality of Nessebar; Ministry of Culture; National Institute for Immovable Cultural Heritage	Within the site boundaries there are hotels and restaurants that that do not have large dimensions.
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure						
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure	So far, no criteria has been affected	There is a seasonal restrictive regime of road access in Old Nessebar - only for cars of the residents of the Old City. A stay for up to 24 hours is allowed inside the city. For the rest of the time are provided preferential terms for use of parking spaces in municipal parking lots.	The Management plan project provides a removal of the parking areas from the Ancient City and the establishment of buffer parkings with adequate emplacement in the new town.	2015-2017	Municipality of Nessebar	The municipal parking areas are equipped with automatic barriers which are operated by magnetic cards and service all foreign tourist visits.
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
3.7.1	Wind	So far, no criteria has been affected	On the basis of the survey, the technical requirements on the microclimate control equipment have been elaborated and conservation measures in specialized technologies are being taken.	Efficient monitoring is being carried out on the state of conservation of the most valuable single cultural monuments.	Permanently	Archaeological Museum "Ancient Nessebar"; Municipality of Nessebar	The effect of the salty aerosol saturated air of increased humidity, penetrating the churches and the abrasive effect of the wind, carrying the aerosols. Conservation measures in specialized technologies are being taken.
3.7.2	Relative humidity	So far, no criteria has been affected	There has been installed a system for emergency control of the humidity in the medieval churches. In the church "St. Stefan" there has been made and currently functions an air channel against the penetrating of capillary moisture.	There has been a periodic instrumental monitoring of the microclimate in the medieval churches. Reporting of data is performed by an authorized employee of the Archaeological Museum "Ancient Nessebar". A monitoring is being carried out of the physical condition of all immovable cultural properties within the territory of the site, that take into account the changes in the physical substance due to moisture, weathering, erosion and salt, contamination with lichens and vegetation.	Permanently	Archaeological Museum "Ancient Nessebar"	Moisture enters the pores / cavities / of the stone and helps the development of destructive processes. Measures are being taken to remove / close the caverns. Results of the monitoring are applied in the monitoring cards made 2011 and 2012. The results are that no significant changes in the state of the objects in comparison to previous years. Efficient monitoring is being carried out on the state of conservation of the most va
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage						

		World Heritage criteria and attributes affected	Actions	Monitoring	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	So far, no criteria has been affected	The municipality has taken measures to curb that practice / ban on the deployment of kiosks in public spaces /	With the Mmanagement plan project an organization is offered outside the core territory of the property for temporary commercial spaces. For better organization of tourism and the establishment of sustainable cultural tourism product POU plans the creation of "Organization for marketing destination management" (Destination management organization, DMO) and thus the development of a coordinated marketing and promotional strategy of property	2014 - 2017	Municipality of Nessebar	Saturation of the territory with a large number of visitors during the summer period loads it with commercial and service activities, some of which are exported outside the buildings and impact negatively on the historic environment.

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

Answers provided have not outlined any serious management need.

Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff

5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

The authenticity of the World Heritage property has been **preserved**

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property is **intact**

5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values and the state of conservation of the World Heritage property are **predominantly intact**

5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.4.1 - Comments

With programs financed by the EU have been restored and socialized churches: "St. Paraskeva" and " St. John the Baptist "and their surrounding space as well as the surrounding area of the church "St. Spas". There is an 320-meter road from the planned "Spiritual path" and it starts from the church "St. John the Baptist" to "St. Paraskeva" and "St. Archangels Michael and Gabriel."

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

Conservation	Positive
Research and monitoring	Positive
Management effectiveness	Positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Positive
Recognition	Positive
Education	Positive
Infrastructure development	Positive
Funding for the property	No impact
International cooperation	Positive
Political support for conservation	No impact
Legal / Policy framework	Positive
Lobbying	Not applicable
Institutional coordination	Positive
Security	Positive
Other (please specify)	Not applicable

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

Governmental institution responsible for the property

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

yes

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

The space dedicated for answers and comments is quite insufficient. The provided answers do not always allow an opportunity for establishing an accordance with an existing situation.

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

UNESCO	Good
State Party Representative	Good
Advisory Body	Fair

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

Not all of the required information was accessible

6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

The World Heritage Convention
The concept of Outstanding Universal Value
The property's Outstanding Universal Value
The concept of Integrity and / or Authenticity
The property's Integrity and / or Authenticity
Managing the property to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value
Monitoring and reporting
Management effectiveness

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

UNESCO	Excellent
State Party	Excellent
Site Managers	Excellent
Advisory Bodies	Excellent

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

Automatically generated in online version

6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise

The questionnaire will assist the state-parties of the Convention to find the gaps in the management of the World heritage sites. It will furthermore ascertain the respective site's specific needs of better financing and of necessary conservation, restoration and maintenance activities.