

## 123 YEARS ROSE FESTIVAL – KAZANLAK

### EVENT PROGRAM

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| <b>May 15<sup>th</sup> /Friday/</b>   |   |
| 19:00<br><i>Arsenal Community Center</i>                                    | “Queen Rose 2026 Selection” – Contest-performance *<br>58th Edition”  |
| 19:00<br><i>Ahinora Museum</i>  | “Ahinora” Walking Tour – a themed walk through Kazanlak, revealing the story of the iconic painting between legend and historical fact  |
| <b>May 18<sup>th</sup> /Monday/</b>   |   |
| 17:30<br><i>Iskra Municipal Library</i>                                     | “Dances and Music of Friendship” – a photo story by participants from twin cities in the International Folklore Festival  |
| <b>May 19<sup>th</sup> /Tuesday/</b>  |   |
| 11:00<br><i>Iskra Municipal Library</i>                                     | “Rose Magic” – an inspiring creative workshop for children, where imagination comes to life through art, games, and beauty  |
| <b>May 20<sup>th</sup> /Wednesday/</b>                                      |   |
| 10:30<br><i>Iskra Municipal Library</i>                                     | “With the Scent of Roses”– an inspiring creative workshop for children, where imagination comes to life through art, games, and beauty”   |
| <b>May 20<sup>th</sup> /Wednesday/ - June 7<sup>th</sup> /Sunday/</b>       |   |
| 09:00-17:30<br><i>Kulata Ethnographic Complex</i>                           | Open-air photo shoot – presentation of original interpretations of traditional early 20th-century women’s fashion from the region. Souvenir photo.<br>Authors: Prof. Dr. Mariela Gemisheva and Alexandra Petrova. |
| <b>May 21<sup>st</sup> /Thursday/</b>                                       |   |
| 16:00<br><i>Iskra Municipal Library<br/>Kulata Branch, 38 Mirska Street</i> | “The Name of the Rose” – an inspiring creative workshop for children, where imagination comes to life through art, games, and beauty”   |
| 19:00<br><i>Iskra – 1860 Community Center</i>                               | 70 Years of the Emanuil Manolov School of Arts – Gala Concert   |
| <b>May 23<sup>rd</sup> /Saturday/</b>                                       |   |
| 09:30<br><i>Rose gardens near Ovoshnik Village</i>                          | Rose-picking Ritual *   |

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| <i>11:00</i><br><i>Kulata Ethnographic Complex</i>                                       | Rose-boiling Ritual *   |
| <i>11:00</i><br><i>Rose Museum</i>   | Rose-boiling Ritual *   |
| <i>10:00-24:00</i><br><i>All Municipal Cultural Institutions</i>                         | <b>EUROPEAN NIGHT OF MUSEUMS</b><br><i>According to a program</i>   |
| <b>May 24<sup>th</sup> /Sunday/</b>  |   |
| <i>9:30</i><br><i>Rose gardens near Cherganovo Village</i>                               | Rose-picking Ritual *   |
| <i>10:30</i><br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>  | May 24 – Day of Saints Cyril and Methodius, the Bulgarian Alphabet, Education, Culture, and Slavic Literature<br>Festive palette of songs and dances – concert featuring ensembles from Kazanlak schools  |
| <i>11:00</i><br><i>Kulata Ethnographic Complex</i>                                       | Rose-boiling Ritual *   |
| <i>11:00</i><br><i>Rose Museum</i>   | Rose-boiling Ritual *   |
| <i>19:00</i><br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>  | “On the Path of Dreams“ – ceremonial send-off for the Class of 2026   |
| <i>20:30</i><br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>  | Concert by <b>IRINA FLORIN</b>  |
| <b>May 25<sup>th</sup> /Monday/</b>  |   |
| <i>18:00</i><br><i>Ivan Milev Hall</i>   | “Our Woven Rug – Bridges of Culture” – a large-scale joint project between Kazanlak Municipality and the sister city of Lomza (Poland). Creation of a 100-meter-long colorful rug made of recycled textiles – a symbol of community, sustainability, and friendship.<br>Guest: Ivayla Zhivkova-Roshak, Lomza (Poland) – initiator and author of the project |
| <b>May 26<sup>th</sup> /Tuesday/</b>   |   |
| <i>10:00</i><br><i>Iskra Municipal Library</i><br><i>Kulata Branch, 38 Mirska Street</i> | “Perceptions of the Rose”– plein air painting session with students from the National School of Applied Arts “Academician Dechko Uzunov”.   |
| <b>May 27<sup>th</sup> /Wednesday/</b>   |   |
| <i>17:00</i><br><i>Iskra Municipal Library</i>   | “Perceptions of the Rose” – exhibition of students from the National School of Applied Arts “Academician Dechko Uzunov”, participants in the plein air session /Tlaka Lab project/  |

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| <b>May 29<sup>th</sup> / Friday/</b>                      |   |
| 19:00<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>                        | Concert-performance featuring the “Palavnitsi” Folklore Ensemble at the “Zhar-2002” Community Center; guest ensembles and students from the music classes of “Exarch Antim I” Secondary School, Kazanlak. |
| 20.00<br><i>near Seuthopolis Stadium</i>                  | “KAZANLAK MEZI” – Festival of Balkan Culture and Cuisine<br>Concert by ANELIA   |
| <b>May 30<sup>th</sup> /Saturday/</b>                     |   |
| 9:30<br><i>Rose gardens near Kanchevo Village</i>         | Rose-picking Ritual *   |
| 11:00<br><i>Kulata Ethnographic Complex</i>               | Rose-boiling Ritual *   |
| 11:00<br><i>Rose Museum</i>                               | Rose-boiling Ritual *   |
| 11:00<br><i>Iskra – 1860 Community Center</i>             | XXXVI National Children’s Song Competition “Iskrichka”  |
| 11:00<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>                        | “Holding Hands” – National Children’s Dance Competition   |
| 11:00-17:00<br><i>Iskra Photoclub House</i>               | Official opening of the “Iskra Photoclub” House<br>Author photography market (photo bazaar)   |
| 15:45<br><i>along Knyaz Alexander Batenberg Boulevard</i> | Parade of participants in the "The drum beats, horo winds" – national folklore dance competition  |
| 16:00<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>                        | "The drum beats, horo winds" – national folklore dance competition  |
| 20.00<br><i>near Seuthopolis Stadium</i>                  | “KAZANLAK MEZI” – Festival of Balkan Culture and Cuisine<br>Concert by SIGNAL BAND  |
| <b>May 31<sup>st</sup> /Sunday/</b>                       |   |
| 9:30<br><i>Rose gardens near Rozovo Village</i>           | Rose-picking Ritual *   |
| 11:00<br><i>Kulata Ethnographic Complex</i>               | Rose-boiling Ritual *   |
| 11:00<br><i>Rose Museum</i>                               | Rose-boiling Ritual *   |

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|  | 20.00<br><i>near Seuthopolis Stadium</i>         | “KAZANLAK MEZI” – Festival of Balkan Culture and Cuisine<br>Concert by LIDIYA  |
| <b>June 1<sup>st</sup> /Monday/</b>    |  |  |
|  | 10:30<br><i>Rosarium Park</i>                    | DAY OF SMILES – children’s show featuring pop singer Svetla Ivanova  |
|  | 11:00<br><i>Nenko Balkanski House-Museum</i>     | Exhibition-action by the “Art Line” School, Kazanlak   |
|  | 19:00<br><i>Arsenal Community Center</i>         | "Princesses of the Rose" – Children's Show *   |
|  | 20.00<br><i>near Seuthopolis Stadium</i>         | “KAZANLAK MEZI” – Festival of Balkan Culture and Cuisine<br>Concert by KRISKO  |
| <b>June 2<sup>nd</sup> /Tuesday/</b>   |  |  |
|  | 10:00<br><i>Rosarium Park</i>                    | 150th Anniversary of the Death of Hristo Botev – Day of Botev and of those who died for the freedom and independence of Bulgaria<br>Flower Laying Ceremony at the Monument of Hristo Botev |
|  | 20:00<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>               | Retreat ceremony in memory of Hristo Botev and those, who died for Bulgaria’s freedom  |
|  | 21:00<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>               | Concert-performance of <b>DIANA DAFOVA</b>   |
|  | 21.30<br><i>near Seuthopolis Stadium</i>         | “KAZANLAK MEZI” – Festival of Balkan Culture and Cuisine<br>Concert by TORINO AND PASHATA  |
| <b>June 3<sup>rd</sup> /Wednesday/</b> |  |  |
|  | 17:30<br><i>Chudomir Literary and Art Museum</i> | “Roses in the Garden” – public lecture, workshop, and decorative rose market<br>Lecturer: Sofia Deskova  |
|  | 20.00<br><i>near Seuthopolis Stadium</i>         | “KAZANLAK MEZI” – Festival of Balkan Culture and Cuisine<br>PARTY WITH DJ DAMYAN   |
| <b>June 4<sup>th</sup> /Thursday/</b>  |  |  |
|  | 18:00<br><i>Rose Museum</i>                      | “Rose Festivals in Bulgaria” – book premiere by Dr. Kossyo Zarev   |
|  | 20.00<br><i>near Seuthopolis Stadium</i>         | “KAZANLAK MEZI” – Festival of Balkan Culture and Cuisine<br>Concert by SELINA  |
| <b>June 5<sup>th</sup> /Friday/</b>    |  |  |

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| 10:30<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>   | “Kazanlak Celebrates – Rhythm, Traditions, and Smiles in One” – Kazanlak City Day<br>Orthodox ceremony for prosperity and Kazanlak’s flag hoisting official ceremony |
| 14:00<br><i>Archeological Complex “Valley of the Thracian Kings”</i>         | “LIVING TRADITION” – First Festival of Bulgarian Crafts – Official Opening   |
| 16:00<br><i>Museum of Photography</i>  | Festive opening of a demonstration laboratory on the occasion of the anniversary of the Museum of Photography  |
| 17:00<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>   | DANCE OF THE ROSE – A BRIDGE OF CULTURAL UNITY – International Folklore Festival 2026  |
| 20:30<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>   | BEAUTY AND MAJESTY - 3D MAPPING AND THE CROWNING OF QUEEN ROSE 2026 PERFORMANCE*   |
| 21:00<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>   | „DANCING ROSES – A BRIDGE BETWEEN CULTURES“ – show-performance featuring <b>PAMBOS AGAPIOU</b>   |
| 21.30<br><i>near Seuthopolis Stadium</i>                                     | “KAZANLAK MEZI” – Festival of Balkan Culture and Cuisine<br>CONCERT  |
| <b>June 6<sup>th</sup> /Saturday/</b>  |  |
| 9.30<br><i>Rose gardens near Yasenovo Village</i>                            | Rose-picking Ritual * with Queen Rose  |
| 10:00<br><i>Archeological Complex “Valley of the Thracian Kings”</i>         | “LIVING TRADITION” – First Festival of Bulgarian Crafts – demonstrations and workshops   |
| 10:00<br><i>Iskra Photoclub</i>  | „Selected works from the national photo plain-air “Rose Valley” – exhibition   |
| 10:00<br><i>Rosarium Park</i>  | „Dance with Us“ – Zumba for everyone   |
| 11:00 – 16:00<br><i>Archeological Complex “Valley of the Thracian Kings”</i> | „The edge of trial“ – knife cutting tournament   |
| 11:00<br><i>Kulata Ethnographic Complex</i>                                  | Rose-boiling Ritual *  |
| 11:00<br><i>Rose Museum</i>  | Rose-boiling Ritual *  |

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| 11:00<br><i>Iskra – 1860 Community Center</i>            | Rose Wine Expo XV edition – official opening<br>„Golden kylix“ – National Rose Wine Competition – award ceremony                          |
| 12:00<br><i>Chudomir Literary and Art Museum</i>         | „The Sound of Roses“ – Saturday matinee in the museum courtyard performed by: Alexander Murashko Myрашко – oboe and Oksana Zoshiy - bayan |
| 13:00<br><i>Museum of Photography</i>                    | „Rose and Saffron. The Tasty Dishes of Bulgaria“ – culinary festival  |
| 14:00<br><i>Rosarium Park</i>                            | The Bread of the Bulgarians<br>Exhibition and Competition of Bulgarian Bread and Traditional Dishes                                       |
| 18:00<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>                       | Latin Fiesta featuring PAMBOS AGAPIOU   |
| 19:00<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>                       | THE DANCE OF THE ROSE – A BRIDGE OF CULTURAL UNITY – international folklore festival 2026   |
| 21:00<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>                       | <b>ISHTAR ALABINA &amp; THE GYPSIES</b> – Megaspectacle “30 years on stage” featuring the greatest hits of ISHTAR and GIPSY KINGS         |
| 21.30<br><i>near Seuthopolis Stadium</i>                 | „KAZANLAK MEZI“ – Festival of Balkan Culture and Cuisine<br>CONCERT BY GLORYA   |
| <b>June 7<sup>th</sup> /Sunday/</b>                      |   |
| 10:00<br><i>Rose gardens near Kazanlak</i>               | Rose-picking Ritual * with Queen Rose   |
| 10:00 – 17:00<br><i>Chudomir Literary and Art Museum</i> | Craft Bazaar  |
| 09:00 – 17:00<br><i>Iskra – 1860 Community Center</i>    | Rose Wine Expo KAZANLAK 2026 – trade exhibition   |
| 12:00<br><i>City Center</i>                              | QUEEN ROSE – THE SYMBOL COMES TO LIFE – COLORS, MUSIC, FESTIVE SPIRIT*<br>FESTIVE PARADE  |
| 13:30<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>                       | “Guest Talents“ stage - Open stage with the participation of guest performers and international ensembles                                 |
| 14:30<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>                       | THE DANCE OF THE ROSE – A BRIDGE OF CULTURAL UNITY – international folklore festival 2026   |
| 16:00<br><i>Seuthopolis Square</i>                       | Concert by folk singer Yanko Nedelchev – Closing of the Rose Festival 2026 with a folk celebration.                                       |
| 20:00  | „KAZANLAK MEZI“ – Festival of Balkan Culture and Cuisine  |

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| <i>near Seuthopolis Stadium</i> | Concert by 100 KILA |
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**\* Paid events**

**\*\* The organizer reserves the right to make changes to the event program.**