



We visited a "fortified house" which documented the reality of life when citizens had to defend themselves again invaders.



This family lived very well, at least in times of peace.



The local people were very welcoming to us as we toured their country. In fact, many of them waved to us as we drove by. Could they really be that glad to see us? Then the guide pointed out that we had rented the official bus of the local soccer team which had their logo painted on the side.



I wonder if anyone got a good look through the windows. We certainly weren't new recruits. LOL

Once back at the ship, we were greeted by a band playing American music, including the "Stars and Stripes Forever." They definitely want to encourage tourism. Our cruise line was one of the few that go all the way to the Black Sea and visit Bulgaria.



After my experience yesterday, I was glad to be able to run on land again until I met some not so friendly locals – 3 loose dogs that seemed to know I didn't belong there. They began to bark and stood across the path as if defending their territory. I walked away backwards very slowly. Fortunately, in the other direction from the ship I only met fishermen.

Later I learned that when the Communists moved people from the countryside into apartment houses in the cities (buildings described as "Stalin Gothic"), their dogs followed them, but weren't allowed in the apartments. They ran loose and these are their descendants. Wow, there's history everywhere.

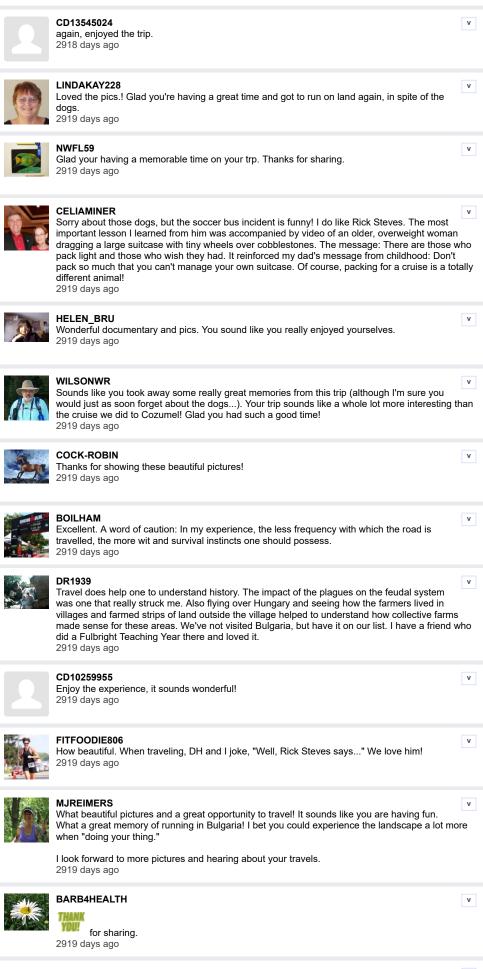
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I— I took the one less traveled by, And that has made all the difference. (Robert Frost – "The Road Not Taken)

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Member Comments About This Blog Post PICKIE98 v I have seen every single Rick Steves show. Your pics look like his!!!!!! 2915 days ago **O** Year CD13629552 ۷ Ha! A couple of the pictures reminded me of a movie I saw when I was a child - Chitty Chitty Bang Bang! And now I will have songs from it stuck in my head for the rest of the night! Cute that they thought you were a soccer team. But then you really did get the treatment you deserved when you received that welcome back aboard! Do you carry pepper spray for the dogs? I hesitate to use it (because of suing owners) but it's better than being torn limb from limb so I carry it when I go out alone. Then again, maybe customs would be a problem. 2918 days ago MERRYMARY42 v great pictures again, Thanks 2918 days ago ONEKIDSMOM Glad there was another way to go... getting between a dog and what it wants to protect is NOT a good thing! Once again gorgeous photos. Spark on! 2918 days ago



	GINIEMIE Beautiful pictures. I like watching Rick Steve's he does have some good plans. It's sad about the dogs. They probably did know it was a tour bus, and were being friendly. The soccer team insignia did hurt.	in't
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