

PEOPLE . PLACES

THE BLACK SEA COAST

5 x 52' (ENG, GER, FRE), 5 x 45' (GER, FRE)

People have always been fascinated with the Black Sea and the numerous legends surrounding the region speak to that fact.

It possesses beautiful landscapes and some settlements on its coast hold histories, which stretch back to over 3000 years. The region is characterized by contrasts; contrasts which emerged from its tumultuous history, old traditions and euphoric atmosphere. Along the notorious coast - European in the North, Asian in the South- lie six neighbouring countries that couldn't be more different from each other: Turkey, Russia, Georgia, Ukraine, Romania and Bulgaria.

The film carefully examines these fascinating regions, discovers their beauty and takes stock of the values, challenges and hopes that shape the lives of the people from this largely unknown corner of the earth.

Original Title: Die Schwarzmeerküste

Year: 2018

Produced by: Vincent Productions

Partners: ZDF, arte









1. Bulgaria and Romania

This coast offers everything: golden sandy beaches in the south, a spectacular water labyrinth in the north. Romania and Bulgaria on the Black Sea: that is a mixture of centuries-old traditions, Eastern Bloc charm and modern Europe. Meet the people who give the region an unique face: horse rescuers, castle owners, shellfish breeders.

2. Ukraine

The Black Sea of Ukraine is diverse: swampy landscape in the Danube Delta, beach and party life around Odessa and lonely islands and huge salt lakes in the east. As different as the landscapes are the people - Old Believers who live as they did 300 years ago, young women who can be brokered through marriage agencies into a new life and children who learn German today to later connect to Western Europe.

3. Russia

Russia's sunny south, a journey from the Taman peninsula to Sochi, the most famous seaside resort on the Russian Black Sea coast. Cliffs, endless beaches, Mediterranean climate - the Russian Riviera can compete with the French Riviera. The largest sparkling wine cellar in Russia, the world's northernmost tea plantation - a historic coastline with many discoveries.

4. Georgia

Green oases on the Black Sea, mountain chains on the coast and a dazzling metropolis. Georgia is unique. The country has only 3.7 million inhabitants. But they have traditions and customs that are not found anywhere else in the world. We show family celebrations, brave cable car guides and dancing triplets.

5. Turkey

As wild and unpredictable as the Black Sea are the people who live on its coast - at least that is what they say in Turkey. In the fifth part of our journey, we meet young female footballers, passionate musicians in small fishing villages and up-and-coming cities and accompany a pilot through the difficult ship passage on the Bosporus to the Black Sea. In addition, the fertile coast lures with many discoveries: fishing is only one pillar of economic prosperity. In the mountainous hinterland you'll find tea, hazelnuts and tobacco.