

PROGRAMME

Black Sea International Literary Festival 2026, 5-8 June 2026.



DAY 1

09:30 Meeting in the hotel lobby and walk to the port

10:00 Departure to St. Anastasiya Island

11:00 Panel – Black Sea Book Markets, a Year of Turbulence – Gvantsa Jobava, Liviana Tane, Svetlozar Zhelev, Olena Odinoka, Nermin Molaoglu – moderator: Alex Popescu
participants / Alex Popescu, Gvantsa Jobava, Liviana TANE

12:00 Lecture of Koukla Maclehose – Literature as a treasure hunt –
finding diamonds into unknown territories

13:00 Lunch

15:00 Leave the island

18:00 Official opening. Discussion and reading in the Library – Elena Vladareanu, Eka Kevanishvili, Firat Sunel, Roman Budanov, Vladimir Poleganov, Rene Karabash
participants / Elena Vlădăreanu, Eka Kevanishvili, Vladimir Poleganov, Rene Karabash

DAY 2

09:30 Meeting in the hotel lobby and walk to the library

10:00 - 11:15 Building Bridges and Sharing Experience
moderator: Niki Théron

10:00 - 10:45 International Festivals and Programmes:
How to create networks?
– Oleksandra Boiko (Book Arsenal, IBAF Fellowship, Ukraine)
– Ivana Hitkova (Literary Talks Sofia, Bulgaria)
– Luka Grigolia (Publisher, Sulakauri Publishing & Polynomial Publishing, Georgia)
– Stilyan Deyanov (translator, Alumnus of Professional Programme in Bucharest, Romania)
participants / Luka Grigolia, Stilian Deyanov

10:45 - 11:30	International Literature Promotion: How to make our authors more visible? - Anhelina Trofymchuk (Literary Agent, Ukraine) - Alican Saygi Ortanca (Publisher, Tersine Publishing, Turkey) - Lora Nenkovska (translator, Alumna of Professional Programmes in CEE, Bulgaria) - Svetlozar Zhelev - National Book Center, National Palace of Culture, Bulgaria <i>participants / Lora Nenkovska</i>
11:30 - 11:45	Q & A with the audience
11:45 - 12:00	Break
12:00	Lecture of Katharina Raabe - Surkamp and the South East and Eastern Literatures
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch break
14:00	The other life of books - From Book to Screen, Stage and Audio <i>moderator - Nermin Mollaoglu</i> Focus on Book-to-Screen Adaptations - Niki Théron (Senior Manager International Projects & Film, Frankfurter Buchmesse, Germany) - Teodora Dimova (Writer, Bulgaria / Film Adaptation) - Tarik Tufan (Writer, Turkey / Film Adaptation) Focus on Stage & Audio - Marjana Savka (Publisher, Old Lion, Ukraine) - Maria Kassimova-Moasse (Writer, Bulgaria /Stage and Audio Adaptation) - Dan Coman (Writer, Romania /Stage and Audio Adaptation) <i>participants / Dan Coman</i>
14:00 - 18:00	Meet the author:
14:00	Galin Nikiforov, <i>moderator: Svetlozar Zhelev</i> <i>participants / Galin Nikiforov</i>
15:00	Nikolay Terziyski, <i>moderator: Svetlozar Zhelev</i> <i>participants / Nikolay Terziyski</i>
16:00	Rene Karabash, <i>moderator: Svetlozar Zhelev</i> <i>participants / Rene Karabash</i>
17:00	Andrei Kourkov, <i>moderator: Olena Odínoka</i>
19:00	Discussion and reading - the Library - Writers special readings for the Burgas audience: Dan Coman, Ekaterine Togonidze, Salome Benidze, Tarik Tufan, Marjana Savka, Maria Kassimova-Moasse, Makvala Kharebava. <i>participants / Dan Coman, Ekaterina Togonidze, Salome Benidze, Makvala Kharebava</i>

DAY 3

10:00	Black Sea Speaks Freedom – Freedom of Expression, Freedom to Publish – Jessica Sanger, Nata Dzvelishvili, Nevena Panova, Nermin Molaoglu, Livia Stoia, Ostap Ukrainets, Oksana Hmelyovska <i>moderator: Gvantsa Jobava</i> <i>participants / Jessica Sanger, Nata Dzvelishvili, Livia Stoia, Gvantsa Jobava, Nevena Panova</i>
11:00	How to succeed on the big markets – Koukla Maclehose, Katharina Raabe, Elizabeth Kostova, Ekaterine Togonidze, Andrei Kourkov, Teodora Dimova, <i>moderator: Svetlozar Zhelev</i> <i>participants / Elizabeth Kostova, Ekaterina Togonidze</i>
12:00	Lunch
14:00 - 18:00	Meet the author:
14:00	Teodora Dimova, <i>moderator: Svetlozar Zhelev</i>
15:00	Elena Vladareanu, <i>moderator: Lora Nenkovska</i> <i>participants / Elena Vlădăreanu</i>
16:00	Ahmet Umit, <i>moderator: Nermin Molaoglu</i>
17:00	Elizabeth Kostova, <i>moderator: Svetlozar Zhelev</i> <i>participants / Elizabeth Kostova</i>
19:00	Final ceremony. Discussion and reading – on the boat in the Burgas bay – Fatih Erdogan, Elza Gurgenidze, Dumitru Crudu, Ostap Ukrainets, Teodora Dimova , Beka Kurkhuli <i>participants / Dumitru Crudu, Beka Kurkhuli</i>