

## Visit to the town of Haskovo, Saint Mary monument

Saint Mary is a monument and an orthodox chapel in Haskovo. The monument represents Saint Mary which is considered to be the patroness of the city, rising above it with her baby - Jesus.

At the entrance of the chapel you can see a „Guinness" certificate. The sculpture is long 14 meters and it weights 80 tones, it's built on top of a pedestal, which is a chapel on the inside. With this statue the city joins the Guinness book under the section - „religion" as the tallest Saint Mary statue.

The idea to build this statue came from the mayor of the city.

Because of how large the statue is, it can be seen from the entire city even at night.

The grand opening of the statue was held on 8th september of 2003 which was also the holiday - the Feast of the Nativity of Mary and ever since then, 8th september is also the holiday of the city. During the holiday of the city there are a lot of cultural and sports events.

Close to the monument there is also the bell tower of Haskovo which is 30 meters long which makes it one of the tallest bell towers in the Balkan region.