



wood, wool, fur, etc.

The Etar hosts for display a unique collection of old-times water-driven machinery in Bulgaria. The ensemble is made up of ten facilities and is one of the richest and best-organized technical collections among the European open-air museums. This is the reason why the water wheel has become the logo of the Etar. An added value is that all workshops are operational, as in the past, thanks to the existing original mill-stream system



The Etar Architectural-Ethnographic Theme Park Museum is the first museum of this kind in Bulgaria. It first opened doors on 7 Sep 1964. The museum is located 8 km south of the town of Gabrovo.

The craftsmen's street features 16 models of Balkan architecture revealing the distinctive talent of the Renaissance builders. The house opens into the street, so that the workshops comes into immediate contact with the customers.

Like in ancient times, the craftsmen in the Etar make and sell their products on their own. In this way, the visitors can observe the ancient technology and the genuine instruments, can converse with the masters, and take home a hand-made memento of metal, leather, clay,



The upper level caters for the braid-making room, the „dolapkinia“ water-mill, the wood-turning lathe for wine vessels, the saw-mill and the nap-raising equipment from the village of Stockite. Presented in their natural settings and size and put into operation, the water-powered machinery in the Etar shows rational technical and design solutions born by the ingenious brains of the mountain people who have handed down their traditions through the centuries in using water as a driving force. This is why it has always provoked the visitors' interest. A place of special attraction to the kids in the Etar is the bakery where home-made buns, called „simid“, are made, while the candy shop with hand-made lollipops never leaves them indifferent.



implemented at two levels. The lower level supplies water to the mechanical grind stone, the fulling mill, the „karadjeika“ water-mill, the nap-raising equipment and the wood-turning lathe for wooden bowls.

