

Qr 41 Cave Christian monastery near the watershed of Cherni and Beli Lom

The Christian monastery is the last among the rocks along the ancient riverbed of the Cherni Lom River. It is part of the largest concentration of rock monasteries in Bulgaria - the Lom Rock Holy Mountain. Human processing is evident, which led to the design of its components. The greatest attention was paid to the church and especially to its altar space. The upper part of the steps cut into the rock, leading to a rock platform, has been preserved. Most of the rooms are developed around it, in tiers, with the presence of half-storeys. A narrow path and steps lead to the temple. It is elongated and relatively low, with a well-leveled ceiling and floor. The desire to resemble the temple design of brick churches is visible, but to the extent that the presence of a monolithic rock allows this. To the south it is open to the river valley, but there are cutouts in the floor for a wooden structure. There is a rock bench next to the north wall. The place where the altar screen was placed is visible. A shallow arched niche is carefully carved in the east wall. It performs the function of the vaulted niches in brick temples – apses.