



Romanian cultures

15 Days / 14 Nights

This journey consists of visits to different traditional Romanian regions. We will discover different landscapes, different ways of life, different architecture and different traditions.

We will cross four historical regions, where the past had provided a different and rich patrimony. In Wallachia, we will visit the ancient medieval capital mainly influenced by the Ottoman period. In Transylvania, it is the Saxon and Hungarian heritage that will overwhelm us by the presence of the fortified churches and castles. In Bucovina, we will be immersed in a rural life turned towards nature that hides, between its hills, painted monasteries listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. In Maramures, near the Ukrainian border, we will explore an area of wide forests, where woodworking has become an art which is handed down from one generation to the next one. This knowledge has given birth to the famous wooden churches with their characteristic tall, slim bell towers, which are also part of the UNESCO World Heritage. You will thus discover a surprising Romania!

YOUR PROGRAM

Day 1 - Reception in Bucharest

The guide will greet you at the airport. Then you'll travel to Curtea de Arges, our gate for Transylvania, the day after. According to available time, we will visit the ancient royal medieval palace and St. Nicholas Church, one of the most ancient churches of Wallachia.

Day 2 - The medieval city of Sibiu

Private transfer to Sibiu on one of the mythical roads that crosses the Carpathian mountains, on the Olt Valley. Visit of the most beautiful city of Transylvania. Its architectural style and the unique atmosphere from this city that was the European Cultural capital in 2007 will definitely seduce you.

Day 3 - Saxon villages

A nice walk around Marginimea Sibiului will be waiting for us today. We will visit Saxon villages with their impressive fortifications. Up from the hills we will have great views over these typical villages.

Day 4 - Valea Viilor

Today we leave Marginimea Sibiului and proceed towards Sighisoara. We will have the opportunity to hike on the plateau of Transylvania between Saxon villages and fortresses. A visit that you should not miss is the village of Valea Viilor. This small village founded in the 13th century has a church surrounded by 1.5m wide walls, which is an UNESCO World Heritage site.

Day 5 - The citadel of Sighisoara

Today we will visit the citadel of Sighisoara. One of the best preserved in Europe, this town will give you the feeling of travelling back in time, while you will walk through the narrow cobbled streets. Tailor's tower is a real wonder of the medieval architecture. Transfer to our guesthouse, in Szekler Land.

Day 6 - The Szekler Land



The Szeklers are an ethnic group speaking a Hungarian dialect. They were brought here in order to protect the Austro-Hungarian Empire borders. We will walk in the beautiful countryside and visit the ruins of a castle from 15th century in Lazarea village.

Day 7 - Princess's Rocks

Private transfer from Szeckler Land to Bucovina. We will walk in the Rarau Mountains, from the beautiful "Princess's Rocks" to Campulung Moldovenesc, our gate to Bucovina.

Day 8 - The Moldovita monastery

Transfer to Moldovita. Visit of the village of Moldovita and its magnificent monastery listed as an UNESCO world heritage site. We will also meet inhabitants and craftsmen: we will attend a demonstration of eggs painting by a Houtsoule craftsman, an ethnic minority from Ukraine. (~3-4 hours of walk). Additional hike is possible.

Day 9 - The valley of Sucevita

Hike through the beautiful pastures and the bucolic plains of Bucovina, between various villages. Transfer to the valley of Sucevita, where we shall visit the monastery with the same name. (~4 hours of walk).

Day 10 - Polish village

Today we will discover another face of Bucovina: we go through beautiful forests of fir trees and beeches. We will cross hills, forests and meadows to reach a small typical Polish village. The locals' ancestors were brought here approximately 200 years ago for the exploitation of the salt mines. We will reach afterwards Gura Humorului, spending the end of the route in cart. (~4 hours of walk).

Day 11 - Welcome to Maramures

Today we leave Bucovina to discover Maramures, a rural region well-known for its still alive ancestral traditions. Transfer to the village of Ieud and visit of its small wooden church. Then, our itinerary will bring us to the village of Botiza. (~4 hours of walk)

Day 12 - The charming village of Breb

Today we will hike on the paths of the hidden and charming village of Breb. We will attend, during our walking, the fieldworks which animate in every season the villages of the region. (~4-5h of walk).

Day 13 - Wooden churches

Our last hike in Maramures will let us discover the typical villages and the wooden churches (listed as UNESCO world heritage sites), but nature will also be present: spectacular crests, mountain lakes and carnivorous plants will amaze you. (~5 hours of walk).

Day 14 - The "Happy Cemetery" and the "Memorial of Communism Victims"

Private transfer towards Sapânta to discover its famous "Happy Cemetery", a real ethnographic museum. On the wooden steles are painted poems and everyday life scenes dedicated to the deceased. While in Sighetu Marmatiei we'll visit the "Memorial of the communism victims" created in the prison where were detained the main opponents of the regime. Night train for Bucharest (first-class sleeping wagon, 2 beds/cabin).



Day 15 - End of journey

Morning arrival in Bucharest. Depending on the flight schedule you can visit this surprising city with its 19th century buildings, socialist "blocks" and modern buildings. Transfer to the airport.

Additional information

TARIFFS

1170 euros per person.

Single supplement : 79 euros per person.

Supplement for a group from 4 to 5 people : 160 euros per person.

Supplement for a group from 6 to 10 people : 60 euros per person.

INCLUDED

English-speaking guide, nights, meals (14 breakfasts, 13 picnics and 14 dinners. Dinner day 14 is a picnic in the train), transfers, transfer of luggage.

NOT INCLUDED

Transfer to the meeting point and from the drop off point, the insurances, the drinks, entry fees into monuments, the personal expenses.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Easy to medium level of walking with a maximum of 5 hours walking a day. Some walks could change depending on the group level or the weather conditions or be interrupted by small transfers.

CARRYING

Luggage will be transferred by car or cart during the treks.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation in guesthouses in double occupancy, exceptionally triple with shared facilities (1 for 2 or three rooms). Depending on the size of the group, the accommodation can be done in several pensions. Meals will be taken together.

SIZE OF GROUP

Minimum of 6 people.

DEPARTURES

From April to the end of October.

DEPARTURE

Bucharest train station.

DISPERSION

Bucharest train station.