

# **Following Count Dracula's heritage**

9 days / 8 nights

Welcome aboard a large discovery of the famous Count Dracula...or of the person who inspired this great story and all the legends: Vlad the Impaler, a medieval ruler from Walachia. This is a great history lesson for those enticed by mystery and for those passionate by the uncanny.

# YOUR PROGRAM

# Day 1 - Bucharest

Arrival in Bucharest and visit of the city depending on your arrival time. Known between the 2 world wars as "the Eastern Paris", Bucharest is a very eclectic city. Here you can see the influences of The Medieval period with its Ottoman occupation, those of the modern period with the influence of neoclassical French architecture as well as the less fortunate communist period touches. Also, the city was first mentioned in documents contemporary with the Count. Night in a central hotel.) (B)



# Day 2 - Targoviste's churches



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#### Day 3 - Sibiu, the European capital

In the morning, you'll start afresh with a drive to the heart of Transylvania. Just in time for lunch, you will reach Sibiu, Transylvania's most beautiful city. Sibiu is an outstandingly well preserved and restored medieval city. Thanks to its unique architectural style and its magical atmosphere, Sibiu got elected to be the European capital of the culture in 2007. This Transylvanian jewel will definitely seduce you. Here you can visit places like: such as the Brukenthal Museum, the "Holy Trinity" Roman Catholic Cathedral and the Astra open-air village museum - an open-air lesson about Romanian traditions and folklore. Night in central 3\* hotel. (B)

# Day 4 - Corvin Castle

Today you'll experience Romania's Unification City: Alba Carolina Citadel. This is the place where modern Romania was unified in December 1918, making this citadel the most meaningful spot for Romanians. It is also the place where our kings and queens were crowned. Later on, we'll proceed to the Corvin Castle, also known as Hunyadi Castle or Hunedoara Castle, one of the largest and very well preserved castles in Europe. It was built in a Renaissance-Gothic style and designed on top of older fortification. A place that doesn't only impressed through its beauty and grandness, but it is also full of mystery. Some say that this is where Vlad III of Wallachia (commonly known as Vlad the Impaler) was held prisoner by John Hunyadi, Hungary's military leader. Today you can choose to spend the night either back in Sibiu or in Alba Iulia. (B)

### Day 5 - Medieval citadel of Sighisoara

While walking through the narrow cobbled streets of this beautiful medieval citadel, appreciated as one of the best of its kind in Europe, you will have the feeling of traveling back in time. This fortified town is surrounded and defended by sentinel towers that were formerly managed by the congregations of artisans. You will notice that the Tailor's tower is a real wonder of the medieval architecture. Sighisoara is also considered the birthplace of Vlad the Impaler. His father's house is still preserved in the citadel. Night in a small hotel in the citadel of Sighisoara. (B)



### Day 6 - Bran Castle

Today you can visit Bran Castle - also known as Dracula's Castle. Bran Castle is an amazing example of 14th-century Gothic architecture, and it's impressive through its positioning as well, on top of a steep cliff. Then you can also discover the Rasnov fortress, which is yet another very well kept medieval wonder. In the evening you can enjoy the beautiful Brasov and even have a hike on the city's own mountain, Tampa. Night in Brasov.

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On your way to Brasov, you can also make a detour to visit authentic Saxon village of Viscri, which is part of the UNESCO world heritage and Prince's Charles favourite romanian village. Here you can visit the village's beautiful fortified church which is considered one of the Transylvanian "pearls". This church was restored with the help of Prince's Charles foundation. You also have the possibility to make a splendid 30 minutes walk on a nearby hill from where you can admire this heavenly scenery and also visit the village's only approved brick-maker. The bricks and tiles he's creating are used to restore the traditional houses of the village. (B)



# Day 7 - The crown's city

Today you'll visit Brasov which is one of the seven cities founded by the Saxons in Transylvania in the 12th century when they were invited to Transylvania to guard the mountain passes. The city has a rich Saxon, Hungarian and Romanian history. All of this heritage is easily spotted all across the city. A few of the most notable places that you must see are The White and Black Towers, the Black Church, the Council place with the Council House, Saint Nichola's Church and the first Romanian school. You will fall in love with the lovely narrow streets and their vividly colored houses which are all very well preserved within the old city's walls and towers. Night in a central but cozy guesthouse. (B)

# Day 8 - Bucharest

After breakfast, you will return to Bucharest. From here on you can go to visit Snagov's monastery. This place is rumored to be Vlad Tepes (the Impaler) burial place. Some legends say that after his death, rival aristocratic families made sure to bury him in a very unorthodox manner. Outraged by this, the monks of Snagov's Monastery stole the prince's body and gave it a proper Christian burial. All of this was deeply covered in secrecy. You will spend today's evening in a lovely hotel in Bucharest. (B)

# Day 9 - End of the trip

After breakfast, your tour comes to an end. Possibility to spend another night here. (B)

# Additional information

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#### **TARIFFS**

650 euros per person.

Single Room Supplement: 245 euros per person.

Single Traveller Supplement: 500 euros per person.

Extra night 2\* Brasov double room: 95 euros per person.

Extra night 2\* Brasov single room: 90 euros per person.

Extra night 3\* central Hotel in Bucharest double room : 88 euros per person. Extra night 3\* central Hotel in Bucharest single room : 83 euros per person.

Extra night 4\* central hotel Bucharest single room: 65 euros per person.

Car rental Economy Class B Ford Fiesta or similar. From Day 2 to Day 8. Included: pick-up and return at the hotel, insurance.

Not included: fuel will be at your expense, warrant. : 550 euros per person.

Car rental Seat Arona type / Class D. From Day 2 to Day 8.

Included: pick-up and return at the hotel, insurance. Not included: fuel will be at your expense, warrant.

: 640 euros per person.

#### **INCLUDED**

8 breakfasts

Accommodation

Roadbook with maps

Transfer from/to the airport

(Technical description of the route, a map with itinerary, contact list, data sheet, and vouchers. Our Road Book includes restaurants, museums, craftsmen, or find a ticket machine ... and a phone number where you can reach us 24/7 in case of emergency)

Assistance available 24 hours a day

#### **NOT INCLUDED**

Travel insurance

Drinks

Meals not indicated

Entrance fees and personal expenses

Car rental type Economy (Renault Logan, Toyota Corolla)

fuel.

### **CARRYING**

No luggage transfers since you are using a vehicle.

# **ACCOMMODATION**

Double occupancy with private facilities in mentioned locations or nearby

# SIZE OF GROUP

From 2 people

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#### **DEPARTURES**

We check the availability of accommodation and you confirm in 48h from Monday to Friday.

#### **STARTING POINT**

At your hotel in Bucharest or at the Bucharest airport.

### **END OF THE TRIP**

At your hotel in Bucharest or at the Bucharest airport.

#### **EQUIPMENT TO TAKE**

Practical information for Romania

#### Weather / climate

Located in the south-east of Europe, Romania has a dynamic climate that differs from one country to another. In September, climatic conditions in Bulgaria make it a good travel destination. In September, the temperatures vary from 10 to 25 ° C, but the maximum temperatures can exceed 30 ° C.

### connectivity

All hotels offer wireless internet connectivity.

# Electricity

Electricity in Romania is 220 volts - two plugs are used.

# Romanian currency

Romanian LEU (lei) is the official currency of Romania and the currency code is (RON). The lei come in 1 - 5 - 10 - 50 - 100 - 200 - 500 banknotes and coins of 1, 5, 10, 50 bani (50 bani x 2 = 1 leu)

# Exchange rate

The leu has a fixed rate with the euro at 1 euro = 4.65 lei Romanian

# Money problems

Lei are the only accepted currency. ATMs are widespread throughout the country and foreign exchange bureaus in Romania operate without commission. Major credit cards are commonly accepted in major cities and towns in Romania, but still provide money for rural villages and small towns. In addition, we advise you not to exchange money as there will be a commission, but to use the ATM to withdraw lei.

Along the way you can use an ATM or currency exchange in Bucharest, Sibiu, Sighisoara and Brasov.

Tax Information of Romania

Romania applies a general rate of Value Added Tax (VAT) of 19%. VAT is included in the indicated price of items.

### Equipment

- Casual clothing for travel and city clothes
- · Casual shoes for travel and leisure
- Day pack (15-25L)

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- Jacket
- Insecticide
- sun block
- Sun hat
- Sun glasses
- Toiletries
- Bottle of water

# **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Extra night possible at each stage.