

A Taste of Transylvania

Independent tour

The evocative region of Transylvania is a beautiful, unexplored area of Romania. The rich and tasty Romanian cuisine is a diverse blend of many traditions which has resulted in its own unique character. It has been greatly influenced by Turkish, as well as German, Serbian and Hungarian cuisine. Following are just some of the local specialties. *Ciorbă*, a popular sour soup, can be made with various meats, vegetables or fish. *Mosaic snitel* is a dish of two thin layers of different meats with vegetable filling. *Tocăniță vânătoarească* is a venison stew. The popular *Amandine* dessert features traditional chocolate sponge cake with almond cream. A common Romanian saying "appetite comes whilst eating" provides an insight into the locals' passion for food.



Bucharest, Palace of Parliament



Bran Castle



Vlad Tepes



ROMANIA Bucharest

8 days / 7 nights

Day 1: Bucharest

Arrive Bucharest. You will be met at the rail station or airport and transferred by private car to your hotel. Dinner at your hotel. Overnight Bucharest. **D**

Day 2: Bucharest

Morning sightseeing tour of Bucharest by car with your own guide. Highlights include Manuc's Inn and the fascinating Palace of the Parliament, the world's second largest building. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before visiting a local market – Piata Dorobanti, Targul Taranului or similar – to see how the locals shop. Tonight you'll be taken by car to a newly opened, stylish restaurant with a "Show kitchen" where you can watch your meal being prepared. Overnight Bucharest. **BLD**

Day 3: Bucharest to Sibiu

Depart Bucharest at 08:30 hrs travelling through the Olt River valley and stopping to visit the 14th century Cozia Monastery, burial place of Dracula's father. Continue to the 15th century town of Sibiu, built as a stronghold by Saxon merchants. Your sightseeing includes a visit to the unusual Evangelical Cathedral. Overnight Sibiu. **B**

Day 4: Sibiu to Crit/Viscri region

Today you have the opportunity to experience life in a Saxon village in Transylvania. After breakfast, travel north to the village of Malancrav to visit an organic apple and plum orchard, and enjoy a relaxing lunch with a family of village farmers sampling some traditional dishes. Then explore this self-sustaining family farm before travelling to the fascinating UNESCO listed fortified church at Biertan. Late afternoon arrival at your accommodation for the next two nights – a traditional Saxon guesthouse in the

ancient village of Crit or Viscri. Dinner at the guesthouse. Overnight Crit/Viscri. **BLD**

Day 5: Crit/Viscri

Morning drive to 15th century Sighisoara, one of the best-preserved citadels in Europe and the only one inhabited. After a guided sightseeing tour, enjoy lunch (not included) and some free time. Then travel to Viscri to visit the dramatic fortified church with its 700-year-old fortifications. Tonight you have a wine tasting of Romanian wines and "culinary experience" dinner. Overnight Crit/Viscri. **BD**

Day 6: Brasov

After breakfast, drive to Brasov to see the famous Black Church and afterwards the first Romanian school. Enjoy lunch (not included) and some free time before visiting famous Bran Castle, also known as Dracula's Castle! This evening enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight Brasov. **BD**

Day 7: Brasov to Bucharest

After breakfast, drive to the mountain resort of Sinaia to visit Peles Castle, built as a summer residence for the royal family. The castle is considered by many to be one of the most beautiful castles in Europe. It was the final resting place for several Romanian monarchs including King Carol I, who died there in 1914. Travel on to the scenically located Urlateanu vineyard for lunch and wine tasting of Romanian wines including Merlot, Pinot Grigio, Pinot Noir and Cabernet Sauvignon. Late afternoon arrival at your hotel in Bucharest. Tonight you will enjoy a farewell dinner with wine and music at the popular Caru cu Bere restaurant including return transfers. Overnight Bucharest. **BLD**

Day 8: Bucharest

Tour services end after breakfast when you will be transferred by private car to the rail station or airport. **B**

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Viscri, fortified church

Inclusions

- ① 3 nights accommodation at the 5-star Athenee Palace Hilton in Bucharest with breakfast daily
- ① 1 night accommodation at the 3-star Imparatul Romanilor hotel in Sibiu with breakfast
- ① 2 nights accommodation in a traditional Saxon guesthouse (with private facilities) in a Transylvanian village with breakfast daily
- ① 1 night accommodation at the 3-star Casa Wagner hotel in Brasov with breakfast
- ① Arrival/departure transfers & return transfers to/from restaurants by private car
- ① 3 lunches & 6 dinners
- ① Highlight dinner at a newly opened, stylish restaurant in Bucharest with a "Show kitchen"
- ① Highlight dinner with wine and musical entertainment at the famous traditional restaurant Caru cu Bere in Bucharest
- ① 2 wine tastings
- ① Comprehensive sightseeing as specified
- ① English speaking tour guide in Bucharest
- ① English speaking tour guide/driver from day 3 to day 7
- ① Transportation by private air-conditioned car or minibus

Your hotels

- ★ ★ ★ ★
① CRIT/VISCRI – Saxon Guesthouse
 Recently renovated, traditional farmhouse with private facilities.
- ★ ★ ★ ★
① SIBIU – Imparatul Romanilor Hotel
 Popular, traditional hotel with character in the very heart of the old town.
- ★ ★ ★ ★
① BRASOV – Casa Wagner Hotel
 Highly regarded, traditional hotel right on the old town square.
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
① BUCHAREST – Athenee Palace Hilton
 Elegant, historic 5-star hotel with all modern facilities in the heart of the city.

Tour price & departures

Prices shown per person in AUD. Daily departures 1 Apr-31 Oct 2011.
 Higher prices may apply during trade fairs, special events and overlapping seasons.

Season	Twn	Sgl*
1 Apr-31 Oct with driver/guide	2617	3173
1 Apr-31 Oct with driver and guide	2998	3564

*Single price when travelling with at least one other passenger



Bucharest Restaurant

Sample Menu

Appetizers

Fieschi salad

Grilled capsicum, tomatoes, rocket, onion, basil, anchovies

or

Grizete's (concubine) salad

Mixed salads, shrimp skewers with lime

Main Course

Chopped goose breast rolled in pickled cabbage leaves
 "Moldova's Emblem"

or

Pork tenderloin "Brancusi's delight"

Pork tenderloin stuffed with garlic and bacon, trundled in corn flour

or

Grilled salmon and Dorada with mustard sauce
 "Marital Triangle"

Dessert

Fruit of the forest cake

or

Chocolate cake with mascarpone



Sighisoara