



Bran Castle

Romania in Depth

Privately escorted tour - 10 days/9 nights

On this comprehensive tour you will see and experience all that this fascinating country has to offer - the highlights of Bucharest, Transylvania, Maramures and Bukovina.

Inclusions

- 9 nights accommodation with breakfast in 3 & 4-star guesthouses and hotels
- Transportation by modern A/C car including arrival transfer
- **English speaking** driver/guide throughout
- Sightseeing and entrances as indicated

Your hotels

- **BUCHAREST** - Europa Royale ★★★★★
- **SIBIU** - Imparatul Romanilor ★★★★★
- **SIGHISOARA** - Casa Wagner ★★★★★
- **CLUJ-NAPOCA** - Siago ★★★★★
- **SIGHETU MARMATIEI** - Gradina Morii ★★★★★
- **SUCEVITA** - Sofia ★★★★★
- **MAXUT** - Polizu Manor ★★★★★
- **BRASOV** - Bella Muzica ★★★★★

Hotels or guesthouses of a similar standard may be substituted.



Day 1 Bucharest

Arrive Bucharest and transfer by private car to your stylish 4-star hotel, the Europa Royale. Overnight Bucharest.

Day 2 Bucharest - Paris of the East

First your driver/guide will take you for a 'French and modern Bucharest' tour starting with a view from Mitropoly Hill followed by the Romanian Athenaeum and Royal Palace/National Art Museum. Next you'll visit the Cotroceni Palace presently the residence of the Romanian president, and then the Palace of Parliament-the second largest building in the world. Later you travel out of Bucharest to Mogosoaia, to visit a palace transformed into a summer residence by Martha Bibescu. Overnight Bucharest. **B**

Day 3 Bucharest to Sibiu

Leave Bucharest and drive first to Cozia Monastery built 600 years ago by Mircea the Old - the grandfather of Vlad the Impaler. In Sibiu, Europe's cultural capital in 2007, take a leisurely walking tour of the Old Town where you will stay overnight. Overnight Sibiu. **B**

Day 4 Sibiu to Sighisoara

Travel to Alba Iulia site of Apulum founded by the Romans in 2nd century and visit both the Roman Catholic and Orthodox Cathedrals where ancient Romanian Kings were crowned. Later walk the fascinating Route of Three Fortifications. Afterwards drive to Biertan to visit a fortified Saxon church, something totally unique to Transylvania. Arrive in Sighisoara late afternoon to settle into your traditional hotel in the centre of the medieval walled citadel. Tonight explore the old town at your leisure and perhaps dine

in the house where Vlad the Impaler was born! Overnight Sighisoara. **B**

Day 5 Sighisoara to Cluj-Napoca

This morning you'll visit the Clock Tower Museum, Weapons Museum, the Torture Chamber, the Wooden Staircase and the Church on the Hill. Then drive to historic 17th century Castle Haller for lunch (optional) and later continue to Cluj-Napoca for a city tour including a visit to St. Michael Cathedral. Tonight your accommodation is in a popular boutique guesthouse - Siago. Overnight Cluj-Napoca. **B**

Day 6 Cluj to Sighetu Marmatiei

Today you will travel to the Maramures region with its beautiful villages, traditional houses and wooden carved gates. At Sapanta visit the 'Merry Cemetery' with its brightly painted carved wooden crosses and humorous illustrations. Stop for lunch (optional) in a traditional trout house in Mara village and later visit beautiful Barsana Monastery. Overnight Sighetu Marmatiei. **B**

Day 7 Sighetu to Sucevita

Depart early for a unique and unforgettable steam train trip on the 'Mocanita' used from 1932 to transport forest workers. You'll enjoy the splendors of the unspoiled forest and rivers of Vaser Valley, in the Maramures Mountains Nature Park. Mid afternoon drive to Bukovina via Borgo Pass where the Irish novelist Bram Stoker located Castle Dracula. Overnight Sucevita. **B**

Day 8 Sucevita to Maxut

Today you spend visiting the famous 15th century painted monasteries of Bukovina and the black pottery centre

of Marginea. The vivid colours of these UNESCO-listed monasteries of Sucevita, Moldovita and Voronet have been well preserved up to this day. Later drive to the village of Maxut and your accommodation - Polizu Manor built in neoclassical style in 1878 by Prince Ghica. Tonight if you wish enjoy a memorable dinner (optional) at the manor. Overnight Maxut. **B**

Day 9 Maxut to Brasov

Head south this morning through the dramatic Bicz Gorges and see the spectacular Red Lake on your way to Transylvania and Brasov. Your sightseeing of this picturesque 14th century city includes the Black Church, St Nicholas Church and the museum of the first school in Romania. Overnight Brasov. **B**

Day 10 Brasov to Bucharest

This morning you take a short drive to Bran Castle, often referred to as 'Dracula's Castle'. Built in 1378 as a toll station it has a dramatic fairy tale appearance, but little connection with Vlad Tepes (Dracula). Continue to the mountain resort of Sinaia to visit the monastery and Peles Castle, the summer residence of Romania's royal family. Late afternoon arrival in Bucharest. **B**

Note: Days 7 and 8 are quite long days with lots to see and do. If you would like to add an extra night in picturesque Sucevita please advise us when you book.

Tour price & departures

Prices shown per person in AUD. Applicable Jan-Dec 2017.

Departures	Twn	Sgl
1 Jan-31 Dec	2992	3510
If only one person on tour		5638

■ **Itinerary order changes may occur depending on day of departure.**