

Romania



Arranged with Travel Editions Group Travel for The Arts Society Dorking

Peles Castle, Sinaia

15-23 October 2025 - 9 days from *£2,495pp

Our tour to Romania takes in the famed Transylvania region, which evokes images of towering Gothic castles, but the region has much more to offer, including fortified churches, monasteries, citadels, ancient, atmospheric towns and cities and spectacular scenery. We start with a brief visit to Bucharest, an eclectic mix of architectural styles including the Palace of Parliament which is the world's heaviest building and a testament to Ceaucescu's egomania. From there we fly into Romania for a variety of visits including UNESCO World Heritage Site monasteries with their medieval architecture, murals and frescoes, a fascinating salt mine with underground lake, and a wine-tasting with lunch in the region of Jidvei.



Sighisoara



Palace of Parliament, Bucharest

This holiday is operated by Travel Editions Group Travel

For further information please contact: Jenny Perks Tel: 07977 589310 / 01306-881845 or email: jenny@peterperksltd.com

*Based on shared occupancy of a twin/double room and minimum 25 passengers.

An initial deposit of £400 per person, due by 31st March 2025, is required to secure your place.



Itinerary

Day 1: Wednesday 15th October 2025

London to Bucharest to Suceava.

Pick up from Dorking Railway Station and transfer to London Heathrow Airport for flight to Bucharest. On arrival we take a panoramic tour of Bucharest. A city of contrasts, Bucharest offers a wealth of architectural styles – from the ancient monastery at Stavropoleos Monastery, to Parisian-style boulevards, elegant fin-de-siecle buildings, a smattering of Art Nouveau and Art Deco buildings, the unlovely concrete creations of the Communist era, not forgetting Ceausescu's megalithic Palace of Parliament, a testament to his colossal authority and ego and one of the largest buildings in the world. After dinner in a local restaurant, we transfer back to the airport for a domestic flight to Suceava departing at 21:50 and landing at 23:00. Transfer from Suceava airport to hotel for overnight.

Day 2: Thursday 16th October 2025

Probota and Gura Humorului.

Morning departure to Probota to visit the UNESCO listed monastery which features a mix of Gothic and Byzantine architectural styles and interior medieval frescoes. We have lunch with the nuns here, then continue to Gura Humorului to visit the monastery of Humor and Voronet, which also feature beautiful medieval art and architecture including the renowned exterior frescoes depicting various scenes including the 'Last Judgment'. We enjoy a group dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Day 3: Friday 17th October 2025

Bistrita.

Today we travel to Bistrita, known for its well-preserved medieval architecture including remnants of its 13th century fortress walls and defensive towers. The town was a flourishing medieval trading post due to its strategic location on several trade routes, and became one of Transylvania's most important Saxon citadels. We have free time to explore this charming town, then continue on to Cluj-Napoca. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Day 4: Saturday 18th October 2025

Turda Salt Mine and wine tasting.

This morning we drive to atmospheric Sighisoara, overlooking the River Tarnava Mara. Dating from Saxon times, it boasts one of the best-preserved medieval citadels in Europe. On the way we visit Turda Salt Mine, a fascinating underground attraction with vast chambers and a subterranean lake, and stop for lunch with wine tasting in the famous wine region of Jidvei. Dinner and overnight at hotel in Sighisoara.

Day 5: Sunday 19th October 2025

Biertan and Sibiu.

Today's touring retains us firmly in a time capsule with a visit to Biertan, a veritable Saxon village with a commanding fortified church set within three sets of imposing city walls atop a picturesque old town, where locals still work the land in horse-drawn carts and livestock can be seen along its narrow streets. We also visit Sibiu's Orthodox Cathedral and the open-air Astra Ethnographic Museum. This evening we have dinner in a local restaurant at Astra Ethnographic Museum. Overnight in Sighisoara.

Day 6: Monday 20th October 2025

Sighisoara.

Birthplace of Vlad the Impaler, who inspired the Dracula legend, and the epitome of a fairytale town, Sighisoara boasts a picturesque old town huddled within its fortified walls, entirely worthy of its UNESCO-listed status. We enjoy a guided tour of the town this morning with its cobblestone streets, colourful houses, and Clock Tower, then the afternoon is free to explore further independently. Dinner in a local restaurant and overnight in Sighisoara.

Day 7: Tuesday 21st October 2025

Viscri and Brasov.

Today we depart for Brasov, with a stop on the way in Viscri to visit the fortified church and have a traditional lunch. We then continue to Brasov for a guided walking tour to include the lovely square of Piata Sfatului, Black Church, St Nicholas Church and Romania's first school. A jumble of medieval watchtowers, and church spires with a backdrop of forested mountains, Brasov has grown into Romania's second largest city, but the old, Baroque centre retains a small-town feel. Dinner and overnight in hotel in Brasov.



Day 8: Wednesday 22nd October 2025

Bran.

This morning we head out of town to Bran to visit its 14th century castle, said to have inspired Bram Stoker's Dracula. Though the connections to either Dracula or Vlad Tepes are tenuous, the castle, perched on a 200-foot jagged outcrop, is a magnificent sight that stirs the imagination. Return to Brasov for the rest of the day at leisure before a farewell dinner in a local restaurant to finish the tour.

Day 9: Thursday 23rd October 2025

Departure.

Today we coach back to Bucharest for our return flight to London Heathrow. On arrival we transfer by coach back to Dorking railway station for arrival around 19.30.

Provisional Flights

BA0886	LHR/OTP	1015/1525
BA0887	OTP/LHR	1540/1710

Where you stay

Sonnenhof Hotel, Suceava	2 nights
Courtyard Hotel, Cluj-Napoca	1 night
Korona Hotel, Sighisoara	3 nights
Aro Palace, Brasov	2 nights

Included in the price

- Eight nights' accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis at well located four-star hotels throughout based in twin or double room occupancy
- Eight dinners and three lunches
- Coach as per itinerary
- Return airfare and Romanian domestic air fare
- Entrances and admissions as per the itinerary
- Local Tour Manager throughout
- All tipping

Not included

- Double room for sole use supplement: £325
- Porterage

