



Our Transylvania Journey

Castles, Wine, and *a Blood Moon*

Bucharest · Sinaia · Braşov · Bran · and a thermal spa to finish

Oct 26 - 29	Oct 29 - 30	Oct 30 - Nov 2	Oct 31	Nov 2
Bucharest	Sinaia	Braşov	Bran	Therme
3 nights · Old Town	1 night · Peleş Castle	3 nights · mountain views	Halloween night	spa, then home

HIGHLIGHTS

Mon 26	Curated welcome day wine & cheese tasting
Tue 27	Dinner & folk dances at Caru' cu Bere
Wed 28	The National Cathedral
Thu 29	Peleş Castle, Sinaia
Sat 31	Blood Moon Halloween party, Bran Castle
Mon 2	Therme Bucureşti thermal spa

FLIGHTS

Atlanta → Paris	AF 31
Sun Oct 25, 6:40 PM · arrives Mon 8:00 AM	
Paris → Bucharest	AF 1888
Mon Oct 26, 10:15 AM · arrives 2:10 PM	
Bucharest → Amsterdam	RO 361
Tue Nov 3, 8:35 AM · arrives 10:40 AM	

These are the flights most of us share. Some of you connect into Atlanta on other flights or fly in and out through other gateways, so check your own confirmation.

MON OCT 26 - THU OCT 29

Bucharest

Our Bucharest apartment

53A Calea Călărași, Sector 3
030167 București · 3 nights



National Cathedral



The mosaics



Caru' cu Bere

Monday 26 · *Arrival*

Land 2:10 PM. Check-in from 3:00 PM. Nap freely.

TOGETHER

Curated welcome day wine & cheese tasting

A curated welcome flight of Romanian wines and cheeses back at the apartment. Stay cozy after, or stroll the Old Town.

Wednesday 28 · *Gold & mosaics*

TOGETHER

People's Salvation Cathedral · morning

The world's largest Orthodox church. Free; cover shoulders and knees. Go early, as the pilgrimage winds down today.

Afternoon free. The Village Museum is open today.

Tuesday 27 · *Old Town day*

It's the feast of St. Dimitrie, Bucharest's patron saint, and pilgrim crowds fill Patriarchal Hill. Wander the Old Town and pick from the next page.

TOGETHER

Dinner at Caru' cu Bere · 7:30 PM dances

Hearty Romanian food under stained glass in an 1879 beer hall, with folk dancers at 7:30 PM.

Thursday 29 · *To the mountains*

Check out by 11:00 AM. Train from Gara de Nord to Sinaia, about 1.5 hours; departures at least twice an hour.



About 4.6 lei to \$1 · prices checked Sept 2026

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Bucharest at Your Pace



Palace of Parliament

Palace of Parliament

60-85 lei

One of the world's largest buildings, seen by guided tour only. Bring your physical passport; copies are refused.

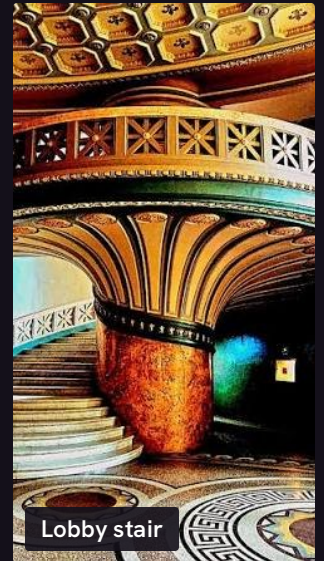


Concert hall

Romanian Athenaeum

15 lei

The city's jewel-box concert hall. Cash only, with short visiting windows between rehearsals.



Lobby stair



CEC Palace

Calea Victoriei

free

The grand old boulevard: the domed CEC Palace, Revolution Square and the Athenaeum, all a short walk from the Old Town.

ALSO FREE

Old Town (Lipscani)

Cobbled lanes, best after dark

Stavropoleos Monastery

A jewel-box church across from Caru' cu Bere

Cărturești Carusel

The white spiral bookstore

Macca-Vilacrosse Passage

Glass-roofed arcade of cafés

Cișmigiu Gardens

The city's oldest park

Village Museum 40 lei

Historic farmhouses by the lake; open Wed to Sun



Sinaia

into the mountains



Peleş Castle

Thursday 29 · *Sinaia*

Arrive by train around midday.

TOGETHER

Peleş Castle · 100 lei

The royal summer palace, all carved wood and stained glass in an autumn forest. Timed-slot entry, last entry 4:00 PM. Pelişor next door is closed.



Our Sinaia house

Strada Sportului 3b, 106100 Sinaia

Check-in from 3:00 PM · 1 night

Friday 30 · *Onward*

Check out by 11:00 AM. The train to Braşov takes about an hour, with departures at least twice an hour.



FRI OCT 30 - MON NOV 2

Braşov

Our Airbnb

Strada Pe Tocile 34, Braşov

House with mountain-view terrace · 3 nights



Council Square at dusk

Friday 30 · *Arrival*

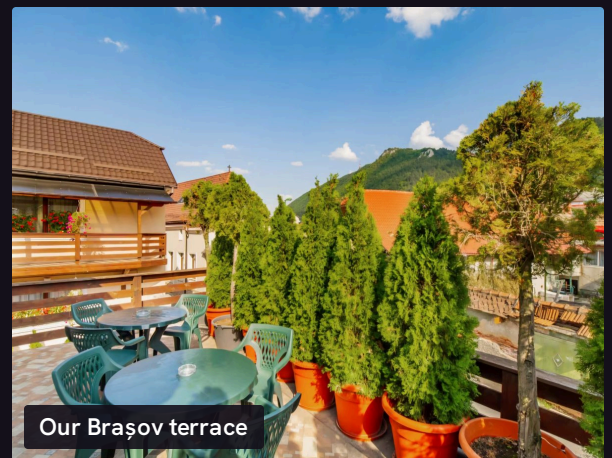
Check-in from 3:00 PM at our Airbnb, Strada Pe Tocile 34, then a lamplit stroll around Council Square.



Black Church



Old Town



Our Braşov terrace

YOUR PICK IN BRAŞOV

Rope Street

Among Europe's narrowest lanes

Catherine's Gate

Turrets from 1559

Black & White Towers

Wall walk, city views

Hike Mount Tâmpa

40 to 60 min to the sign

Black Church 20-30 lei

Opens noon Sun & Mon

Tâmpa cable car 30 lei

Ride up, walk down

Prejmer church 30 lei

UNESCO, short train

Şchei district

Painted houses, free

For any free hours through Nov 2



Braşov sits at the foot of Mount Tâmpa

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SAT OCT 31 - SUN NOV 1

Halloween in Bran



The Blood Moon

TOGETHER SATURDAY 31

6-8 PM

Evening Halloween tour of the castle at your timed slot

Getting there

Our booked van, round trip from Braşov. Meet at the tent exit for the ride home.

9 PM - 4 AM

Party in the Royal Park's heated gala tent, live DJ, costumed crowd

Bring

Costume, ticket, a warm layer, cash or card for the bar

Keep the day light: a slow Braşov morning, then costumes and getting ready together.

Sunday Nov 1 · *Sleep in*

No plans before noon. Late brunch in Council Square, then the Black Church (open from noon) or the Tâmpa cable car. Early night; tomorrow is a travel day.

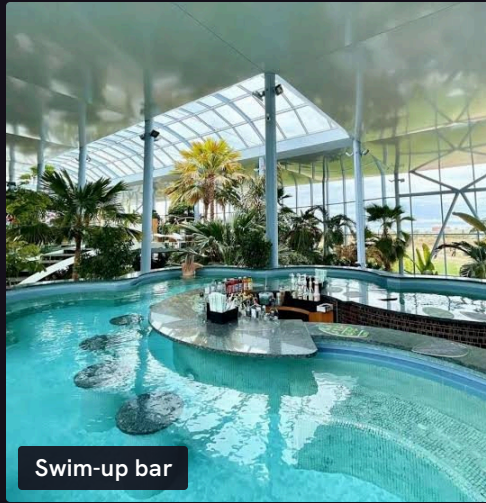
It gets near freezing by 4 AM: bring that warm layer

MON NOV 2 - TUE NOV 3

Therme & Homeward



Therme by night



Swim-up bar



La Bohème, last night

Monday 2 · *Therme spa day*

Check out by 11:00 AM and take the train to Bucharest. Therme sits near the airport: warm mineral pools, saunas and palms under glass, open until 11:00 PM, with suitcase storage.

Our Elysium ticket includes

Themed saunas (Himalaya, Alhambra, Hollywood and more) with Aufguss sauna rituals, the selenium and zinc mineral pool, panoramic lounges, plus all of The Palm and Galaxy. Adults only. Admission is included in the trip.

Treatments must be booked at the treatment desk; most run about \$30 to \$100.

Bring swimsuit, cover-up, flip-flops, and an optional towel or robe. Onsite: towel 31 lei, robe 39 lei, flip-flops 35 lei.



Scan for the
treatments menu

MONDAY NIGHT

La Bohème Corbeanca

Strada Primăverii 23, 077066 Ostratu

A short taxi from Therme and the airport

Tuesday 3 · *La revedere*

Taxi to the airport around 6:00 AM. Most of us fly Tarom RO 361, departing 8:35 AM for Amsterdam, landing 10:40 AM.



La revedere means "until we meet again"

The Extras Menu

Guided tours for anyone who wants to wander off.

FROM BUCHAREST · TUE 27 OR WED 28

Bulgaria for a Day

\$57 · shared · 10 hrs

The least expensive: "Explore Bulgaria Full Day Trip" to Veliko Tarnovo. Passport needed.

The Real Tour of Communism

\$25 · walking · 3 hrs

Revolution Square to the Palace of Parliament.

Bucharest Highlights Walk

\$22 · walking · 2.5 hrs

Stavropoleos, Manuc's Inn and the Royal Palace.

Slănic Salt Mine

\$30 · day trip · 7 hrs

Vast salt chambers 200 meters underground.

Snagov & Mogoșoaia

\$70 · private · 4 hrs

Dracula's reputed grave, plus a lakeside palace.

Food Lovers Tour

\$98 · small group · 5 hrs

Markets and tastings in the Belle Époque quarters.

FROM BRAȘOV · SAT 31 MORNING OR SUN NOV 1

Sighișoara, Viscri & Rupea

\$107 · small group · 8-9 hrs

Vlad's birthplace, a Saxon church, a hilltop fort.

Bear Sanctuary

\$59 · small group · 4-7 hrs

100+ rescued bears at Liberty. Closed Mondays.

Wild Bear Watching

\$87 · small group · 3-5 hrs

Wild brown bears, watched from a forest hide.

Starting prices per person, checked Sept 25, 2026. Private tours get cheaper per person as more of us join.

Good to know

Weather. Bucharest: highs near 60°F, lows in the low 40s. Sinaia and Brașov run colder, with nights near freezing. Pack a rain layer.

Money. About 4.6 lei to \$1. Cards work widely; carry some cash.

Churches. Cover shoulders and knees; a candle donation is customary.

Time. Romania is 6 hours ahead of US Eastern through Oct 31, then 7 hours ahead once US clocks fall back on Nov 1.

Getting around. Trains between cities; walk or use Bolt in town.

Packing. Walking shoes, warm layers for 4 AM at Bran, costume. For Therme: swimsuit, cover-up, flip-flops, and an optional towel or robe.

Outlets. Type C/F (two round pins), 230V. Bring adapters. Phone and laptop chargers are fine; hair tools must be dual voltage.

Passports. Needed for Parliament and Bulgaria. No copies.

Emergencies. Dial 112 for police, ambulance or fire.

Speak a Little Romanian

Noroc!

Everyday essentials

Da. dah	Yes.
Nu. noo	No.
Bună ziua. BOO-nuh ZEE-wah	Good day / Hello.
Mulțumesc. mool-tsoo-MESK	Thank you.
Vă rog. vuh rog	Please / You're welcome
La revedere. lah reh-veh-DEH-reh	Goodbye.
Scuzați-mă. skoo-ZAHTS muh	Excuse me.
Nu înțeleg. noo un-tseh-LEG	I don't understand.
Vorbiți engleză? vor-BEETS en-GLEH-zuh	Do you speak English?
Îmi pare bine. um PAH-reh BEE-neh	Nice to meet you.

Money and shopping

Cât costă? kuht KOS-tuh	How much does it cost?
Cât costă asta? kuht KOS-tuh AS-tah	How much is this?
Aș dori aceasta, vă rog. ash dor-EE ah-CHES-tah, vuh rog	I'd like this, please.
Aveți...? ah-VEHTS	Do you have...?

High-use help phrases

Puteți să mă ajutați? poo-TEHTS suh muh ah-zhoo-TAHTS	Can you help me?
M-ați putea ajuta, vă rog? mahts poo-TEH-ah ah-zhoo-TAH, vuh rog	Could you help me, please?
Puteți vorbi mai încet, vă rog? poo-TEHTS vor-BEE my un-CHET, vuh rog	Can you speak more slowly?
Nu știu. noo shtyoo	I don't know.
Unde este...? OON-deh EH-steh	Where is...?
Unde este toaleta? OON-deh EH-steh twah-LEH-tah	Where is the bathroom?

Restaurant and café

Aș dori un meniu, vă rog. ash dor-EE oon MEH-nyoo, vuh rog	I'd like a menu, please.
Aș dori apă, vă rog. ash dor-EE AH-puh, vuh rog	I'd like water, please.
Nota, vă rog. NOH-tah, vuh rog	The check, please.

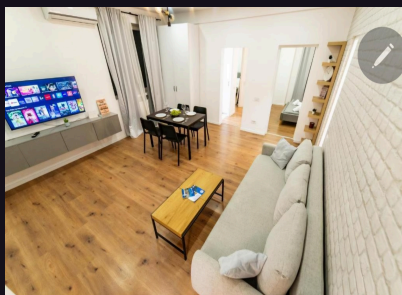
Mix and match. Aș dori... (I'd like) · Unde este...? (Where is) · Cât costă...? (How much) · Aveți...? (Do you have) · ...vă rog (please)

Pronunciation. ț sounds like "ts" in cats; ș like "sh"; r is lightly rolled. Capitals mark the stressed syllable.



Where We Sleep

four beds, one journey



Mon Oct 26 - Thu Oct 29 · 3 nights

Our Bucharest apartment

53A Calea Călărași, Sector 3, 030167 București

Check-in from 3:00 PM · check-out by 11:00 AM



Thu Oct 29 - Fri Oct 30 · 1 night

Sinaia house

Strada Sportului 3b, 106100 Sinaia

Check-in from 3:00 PM · check-out by 11:00 AM



Fri Oct 30 - Mon Nov 2 · 3 nights

Brașov Airbnb

Strada Pe Tocile 34, Brașov

Check-in from 3:00 PM · check-out by 11:00 AM



Mon Nov 2 - Tue Nov 3 · 1 night

La Bohème Corbeanca

Strada Primăverii 23, 077066 Ostratu

Near Therme and the airport · taxi to OTP around 6:00 AM

Emergencies. Dial 112 for police, ambulance or fire.

Rides. Bolt app, or ask your host to call a taxi.

COMING SOON TO YOUR CAMERA ROLL

Postcards from Romania





La revedere

until we meet again



Get our trip app

Scan with your phone camera to
download our trip app.

CASTLES, WINE, AND A BLOOD MOON · ROMANIA · 26 OCT - 3 NOV 2026