



"Break barriers-No prejudices"

Strategic Partnership between schools 2016-2018 Joint work



TRAVEL GUIDE

Why Romania?

We invite all those who wish to explore "unwalked paths" with unspoiled and wild nature, and off-thebeaten track destinations to experience our country.

Explore Romania

allows the traveler to "discover the last wild corner of Europe... which gives you a sense of timelessness" (Prince Charles).

It tells the story of a country which delivers a unique mix of Latin,
Byzantine and Balkan cultures and traditions in the heart of Europe.

Our cultural
treasures, many of
which are UNESCO
World Heritage Sites,
such as the famous
painted monasteries
of Moldavia, are
testament to a unique
history, with a Latin
heritage mixed with
other great cultures of
the continent.

Romania

represents a less
explored destination
with preserved
traditions, wich are
kept alive by our
warm and generous





rural communities.
Look forward to
greeting you on the
trails of the
Carpathian Garden!

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This outcome reflects the view only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Danube Delta

Danube Delta, with an area of 5800 square kilometers, is the se-cond largest and best preserved of the European deltas and is mostly locates in Romania.

It was included in the UNESCO World Heritage in 1991.

The Danube Delta Biosphere Reservation is the third-richest biosphere reservation in the world in terms of biodiversity, after Australia's Great Barrier Reef and Ecuador's Galapagos Islands.

It is home to more than 7,000 known species of plants and animals known and, scientists believe, still more as yet unknown.

-The climate of the Danube Delta is continental, with strong influences from the vicinity of the Black Sea and its prevalent amphibian environment. It is the driest and sunniest region of Romania. The mean annual temperature is 11 °C (-1 °C in January and 22 °C in July), with mean precipitation between 400 mm/year and 300 mm/year, decreasing from west to east. Evaporation is around 1,000 mm/year, amplified by strong and frequent winds, resulting in long periods of drought in the summer. The northwest winds cause frequent storms in spring and autumn. In the interior of the delta, the continental character of the climate is very pronounced.





This feature of the Danube River is the only delta in the world with biosphere reservation status. Its area accounts for 2,5% of Romania surface, and is the third largest delta in Europe, after those of the Volga and the Kuban, and it is the 22nd largest in the world.

It shelters the largest compact area of reed beds on the planet and supports 30 types of ecosystem. Thanks to all these factors, the Danube Delta is a unique treasure of the planet's natural heritage.

Besides the actual delta's 3510 km², the Danube Delta Biosphere Reservation's other remarkable features include the Razim-Sinoe complex of lakes(1145 km²), the Black Sea beach strip (1030 km²), the Danube riverbank between Cotul Pisicii and Isaccea(13 km²) and the Danube flood-mea-dow between Isaccea and Tulcea(102 km²).



In our opinion:

-Magnificent view, old ships delivering goods sailing slowly on the river, it's a part of life there, people fishing their meals in the morning, night trips on the river, natural bird reserve.

-There is a lot of wild nature, as beautiful as God left it. A lot of animals and birds. nice people and very good food, in particular fish

-Even though we were late in the season we rented a boat with a "driver", who took is on a 4 hour trip through the delta, looking for birds and nature in general. well worth the money. Travel Guide—Romania Page 4

Bran Castle

Thirty kilometers from Brasov, Bran Castle is known to tourists as 'Dracula's Castle', for the resemblance it bears to the castle described in Bram Stoker's novel.

Started in 1378, its construction used both wood and stone. The castle had both a protective and a commercial role, as the Bran Pass has been for the centuries one of the most important in the Transcarpathian area.



In 1212, Teutonic Knights built the wooden castle of Dietrichstein as a fortified position in the Burzenland at the entrance to a mountain pass through which traders had travelled for more than a millennium, but in 1242 it was destroyed by the Mongols. The first documented mentioning of Bran Castle is the act issued by Louis I of Hungary on 19 November 1377, giving the Saxons of Kronstadt (Braşov) the privilege to build the stone castle on their own expense and labor force; the settlement of Bran began to develop nearby. In 1438–1442, the castle was used in defense against the Ottoman Empire, and later became a customs post on the mountain pass between Transylvania and Wallachia. It is believed the castle was briefly held by Mircea the Elder of Wallachia (r. 1386–1395, 1397–1418) during whose period the customs point was established. The Wallachian ruler Vlad Ţepeş (Vlad the Impeller; 1448–1476) does not seem to have had a significant role in the history of the fortress, although he passed several times through the Bran Gorge. Bran Castle belonged to the Hungarian Kings but due to the failure of King Vladislas II (r. 1471–1516) to repay loans, the city of Brasov regained possession of the fortress in 1533. Bran played a militarily strategic role up to the mid-18th century

In our opinion:

-This was the best day of my life, to have the opportunity to visit this beautiful castle with wonderful histories. I really recommend people to go there if ever you go to Romania. I loved the small stairs that's help you to get inside. Its just <WOW>. I loved it.

-One of the most beautiful castles I have seen. Hidden passages. Amazing rooms and rich history. And the story that stands behind it ... makes it one of the top attractions that must be seen in Romania .

-The thing to go to Romania for, a graet ride great winter resorts along the way dont forget to visit this magnificent site with so much history and story, an great experience.

-Dracula's castle was amazing. It's well worth the visit, and is a must see sight for any visit to Eastern Europe. The castle is very best and clean, a little crowded, but full of history. There are plenty of references to Vlad Tepes, and the market below the castle offers an ample supply of souvenirs, as well as the shops inside the castle.

Peles Castle

Rich in historic and artistic significance, Peleş Castle is one of Romania's most visited tourist attractions and one of the most important monuments of its kind in Europe.

The former summer residence of King Karol I and Queen Elisabeth, Peles became "the origin of the national dynasty", a place for political decisions, important European cultural-artistically centre at that time.



By form and function, Peleş is a palace, but it is consistently called a castle. Its architectural style is a romantically inspired blend Neo-Renaissance and Gothic Revival similar to Schloss Neuschwanstein in Bavaria. A Saxon influence can be observed in the interior courtyard facades, which have allegorical hand-painted murals and ornate fachwerk similar to that seen in northern European alpine architecture. Interior decoration is mostly Baroque influenced, with heavy carved woods and exquisite fabrics.

In our opinion:

-A very beautiful and amazing castle located in Sinaia in Pradhova region, just beneath the lovely mountains. You find a lot of history and intresting things to discover and to see inside. It's a must even though you have to cope with all the others tourists.

-This castle is well worth touring. It is one of the most beautiful castles I have ever seen and going on tour through it leaves you in awe at the furniture, decorations, lighting, etc. It is a must see when traveling in Romania.

-I was really impressed with Peles. I wish I had read some reviews beforehand because I would have paid to take pictures inside if I knew how pretty it was. The woodwork and detail are really special and different than other castles and fortresses I have visited. It's worth a visit!

-Small (former) royal castle. Could fit nicely in the Swiss Alps or Loire regions. Very well kept. Kinda crowded during tourist season, though. Travel Guide—Romania Page 6

Râșnov Fortress

Rasnov Fortress (*Rosenau* in German), is located on a rocky hilltop in the Carpathian Mountains, 650 ft. above the town of Rasnov. First mentioned in an official document in 1331, the fortress was built by Teutonic Knights as protection against in-



vading Tartars and was later enlarged by the local Saxon population.

Village fortresses represent a defense measure typical of the Transylvania region. The best preserved of all, Râşnov Fortress was the first fortress encountered by armies invading Transylvania through Bran Pass on the roads leading through Bârsei County.

Local villagers built Râşnov to defend themselves from Turkish and Tartar invaders-it was truly their only chance for survival. When the alarm was sounded, the people took refuge here, bringing with them the animals from their fields, and keeping them in the castle's outdoor courtyard. The walls are five meters tall and up to one and a half meters thick. According to local legend, two Turkish prisoners were put to the task of digging a well through solid rock in the center of the fortress. They were promised their freedom once the well was finished.

Work on the 470-foot-deep well began in 1623 and took 17 years to complete. The well provided extra security as it meant the people didn't have to go outside the gates at all during a siege. It was in use until 1850 when the wheel broke.

In the fortress' Feudal Art Museum, armour, weapons, furniture, and the region's traditional clothes are displayed.

Inside the fortress there's a small restaurant, where you can taste traditional fare. You can also try your hand at archery or plant a rose in the courtyard.

Transfagarasan Highway

This amazing road called the Transfagarasan highway passes over the Fagaras mountains in Transylvania, Romania at 2000 metres. It is a paved mountain road crossing the southern section of the Carpathian Mountains of Romania. It has national-road ranking and is the second-highest paved road in the country after the Transalpina. It starts near the village of Bascov, near Pitești, and stretches 90 kilometres (56 mi) to the highest peaks in the country, Moldoveanu and Negoiu. The road, built in the early 1970s as a strategic military route, connects the historic regions of Transylvania and Wallachia.

The Transfăgărășan has more tunnels (a total of 5) and viaducts than any other road in Romania. Near the highest point, at Bâlea Lake, the road passes through Bâlea Tunnel, the longest road tunnel in Romania at 884 m (2,900 ft).

Along the southern section of the road, near the village of Arefu, is Poenari Castle. The castle was the residence of Vlad the Impaler, the inspiration for Bram Stoker's Count Dracula.



