

Medieval Transylvania: first time visit! Sibiu, Brasov, Sighisoara, Peles, Bran.

If you are for the first time in Romania and have not enough time to visit more from our beautiful country, then this is the best opportunity to visit Transylvania, the central part of Romania full of history, outstanding food, different customs, medieval towns, the most beautiful and important castles, Transfagarasan Road – the most spectacular landscape on the highest road of Transylvania (2042 m), beautiful people ... and all these with a comfortable car/van for transportation and a knowledgeable, friendly and passionate guide and not at all, special accommodation centrally located.

Day 1: Bucharest – Sinaia – Peles Castle - Bran Castle – Brasov

Today we start in the morning. The guide will pick you up from your hotel in Bucharest at 09.00 am. We will leave Bucharest and drive to Sinaia, a beautiful mountain resort where we will find Peles Castle for an inside visit.

[Did you know: Peles Castle was the first European castle entirely lit by the electrical current?](#)

Peles Castle is, without doubt, one of the most beautiful castles in Europe. This castle was used as a summer residence by the kings of Romania. Built at the wish of the first Romanian king, Carol I, the German architect Johannes Schultz created a grand, sumptuous alpine castle combining different features of classic European styles, mostly following Italian elegance and German aesthetics along Renaissance lines.

Besides its beauty and unique construction, the castle had very modern facilities for the time. Due to the electrical plant in the Peles Valley, Peles Castle was the first European castle entirely lit by electrical current. The castle has 160 rooms each one with its own identity and theme, several entrances and staircases. The construction took 10 years, but by the end of it, the summer palace was equipped with everything from a movie theater to a concert hall. Actually, the theater room of the castle is where the first movie projection in Romania took place.

In the afternoon we go to Bran Village. Here, of course, we will visit the most talked Castle in the world ... **Dracula's Castle!**

"We invite you to experience the history, the myth, the intrigue and the magic of this wonderful place and its Queen. We hope that you will carry the spirit that makes us love Bran Castle with you, always."
Dominic Habsburg

Bran Castle was built between 1377 and 1388 atop a strategic site overlooking a heavily trafficked mountain pass between Transylvania and Wallachia, the land over which Vlad the Impaler ruled in the 15th century. Also known as Vlad III Dracula, the ruler is widely believed to be the inspiration for Count Dracula due to his historic bloodlust. He liked to torture people and would impale his enemies on the battlefield to deter his other enemies.

Between 1920 and 1927, Bran Castle was restored and transformed into a beautiful summer residence, surrounded by a park, fountains, a lake, walking alleys, halt terraces and the "Tea House" of Queen Maria. Since 1956 the Castle was opened as a museum of history and feudal art.

In the evening, we reach Brasov medieval town and we will have a walking city tour.

Our accommodation is in the old town, very centrally located.

Brasov is one of the most beautiful cities in Romania. The main attraction is the medieval part of the city with: **The Black Church** that houses a priceless collection of Oriental rugs as well as a 4000-pipe organ, The Town Hall Square, the Franciscan Monastery, The Central Park, The Black Tower, The White Tower, Ecaterina's Gate, Schei Gate and the **Rope Street – the narrowest street in Europe.**

Accommodation in Brasov old town, 3* very centrally located, very good breakfast!

Day 2: Brasov - Viscri – Sighisoara

Breakfast in the morning. Then pack and continue our tour through the Transylvanian experience.

We will drive to **Viscri**, where we will visit the fortified church, the oldest fortified church in Transylvania and we will admire the beautiful typical village with its colorfully and nice decorated houses.

Viscri is the soul town of Prince Charles of Great Britain where he owns a traditional house and where he spends summer days in Romania.

Then, we will continue to Sighisoara, **Europe's best-preserved medieval town!**

Sighisoara is one of the most beautiful towns in the heart of Transylvania. The whole medieval citadel is a part of **UNESCO World Heritage**. German architectural influences are visible throughout the entire city. One of its most famous attractions is the Clock Tower (Council Tower), built in the 14th Century. The tower has seven foot thick walls and was used to store ammunition, food reserves, archives and the city's treasures.

Sighisoara is the birthplace of Vlad the Impaler (Dracula) and we visit the house where he was born in 1431.

We will be accommodating in the citadel, right "in the middle of medieval times" to a 3* good hotel with a nice breakfast.

Day 3: Sighisoara – Biertan Fortified Church - Sibiu

Today we will leave Sighisoara and we will go to Sibiu, another medieval town in Transylvania with its beauties.

On the way to Sibiu, we will have a stop to **Biertan Fortified Church**, one of the most majestic and valuable fortified churches in Transylvania. In 1995, the fortified church of Biertan was included in the list of the world architectural patrimony under UNESCO patronage.

The rest of the day is dedicated to Sibiu town, 2007 European Capital of Culture and European Region of Gastronomy awarded 2019!

Sibiu/Hermannstadt is perceived as a city of art and culture. A great number of cultural monuments, a diversity of museums, and various artistic and cultural events make up the pillars of a complex cultural profile.

Using this simple premise, an attractive and stimulating atmosphere has been created for residents and visitors who take the opportunity to experience cultural life in this Transylvanian city.

Sightseeing tour in Sibiu, visit Piata Mare (The Big Square), Piata Mica (The Little Square), Piata Huet (Huet Square), Iron Bridge, Biserica Evangelica (The Evangelical Church) and Metropolia (The Orthodox Church).

Accommodation in the city center to a 4* hotel.

Day 4: Sibiu – Transfagarasan Road – Bucharest

Transfagarasan: Probably the Best Road in the World.

The Transfagarasan Highway, named the world's best road by Top Gear presenter Jeremy Clarkson, is the most fascinating road in Transylvania, due to its landscape, that it's the highest road in Transylvania (2042m), but also due to its interesting story!

A visit to Romania wouldn't be complete without a trip on the Transfagarasan Road! Without a doubt, it's a breathtaking road!

The road is open from the 1st of July until the end of October. So, if you would like to try this experience, then you have to choose your departure date in the summertime.

We will visit **Curtea de Arges Monastery**, one of the oldest Romanian settlement and the most valuable medieval art and church architecture building. It is the expression of elegance, liveness and attracts through the lines and lights games and the ingenious stone sculptures.

The architecture style is the Byzantine one but the exterior decorative elements belong to Armenian, Persian, Georgian and Arabic art. However, here it makes up a perfect and harmonious unit.

Since 1914, the church is a royal necropolis because here are buried the king and queens of Romania: King Carol I and Queen Elisabeta, King Ferdinand and Queen Maria and King Carol II.

When the road is closed, the tour will take the way to Bucharest by Olt Valley which is spectacular, wonderful mountain landscape. We will visit **Cozia Monastery**, erected by Mircea cel Bătrân in 1388 and boasting his tomb, one of the most valuable monuments of national medieval art and architecture in Romania.

Arrive in Bucharest in the afternoon/evening.

Cost:

Prices:

2 persons traveling together minimum	570	euro/person
4 persons traveling together minimum	475	euro/ person
6 persons traveling together minimum	355	euro/ person
8 persons traveling together minimum	290	euro/ person

Included in the cost:

- 3 nights' accommodation in Brasov, centrally located.
- Round-trip transport by air-conditioned car or minivan.
- Professional and friendly English speaking driver-guide for the entire tour – escorted tour.

Not included:

- entrance fees to the attractions
- meals, except breakfast