

ROMANIA: BUCHAREST & TRANSYLVANIA

NEW FOR 2020

8-days / 7-nights two-centre GUIDED walking tour



Tucked away in the eastern corner of Europe, Romania is world of beauty with rocky mountainous landscapes, medieval towns, rolling hills and dense forests. What better way to uncover the beauty and its incredible history than on a multi-centre walking holiday. From the diverse architecture of bustling Bucharest, nicknamed the *'little Paris'* because of its French style buildings, to wonderful walks in the Transylvanian Hills, you'll be amazed at every turn. Visit the home of the fabled Count Dracula and the fairy-tale like Bran Castle. See fascinating medieval towns and wooded mountains, the Romanian countryside are home to a rich variety of flora and fauna.

Holiday highlights include sightseeing with an expert guide in Bucharest and seeing the Palace of Parliament. Visit Bran Castle, take a cable car ride into the Bucegi Mountains for high level scenery and easier walking, and see the medieval town of Brasov.

Departs: 15th May; 4th September; 2nd October, 2020

Cost from: **\$3540** per person (twin share) Single room supplement from \$435 (limited availability)

Tour includes: 7 nights in a comfortable hotel room with ensuite bathroom, 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 7 evening meals, experienced local leader guiding walks on 5 days, local transport to/from the walks and between centres, sightseeing and entrance fees. Transfers from/to Bucharest airport at set times.

Not included: Meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary, personal expenses, transport or excursions on your free day.

Accommodation: In Bucharest we stay the first two nights and final night at the 4-star Moxa Boutique Hotel, located on Calea Victoriei one of Bucharest's oldest and most charming avenues. There is free Wi-Fi, a lovely garden terrace and a spa / fitness centre. In Bra ov we stay 4 nights at the 3-star Hotel Safrano in the heart of the old town. There are 30 spacious rooms with complimentary tea and coffee making facilities. The hotel offers bicycle rental, should you wish to explore further.

Footpath and walking information



Medium Walks: Up to 16km on steep and sometimes rough terrain with up to 750m of ascent. A mixture of part-day city walks and full day walks. Paths can be rough and uneven underfoot and one walk follows a path with steep drops and a ridge traverse.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



Suggested itinerary: *subject to change at the walking guide's discretion*

Day 1: Arrive Bucharest

A set transfer is available from the airport to the hotel in Bucharest – ask for details. After check-in there is free time to relax before our welcome dinner and briefing by the walking guide on the week ahead.

Day 2: Bucharest

Today there is a walking tour of Romania's cosmopolitan capital city, well-known for its wide boulevards and fine pre-World War I buildings. Options could include the Palatul Parlamentului government building, which has 1,100 rooms, the historic Lipscani district is home to an energetic nightlife scene as well as tiny Eastern Orthodox Stavropoleos Church and 15th Century Curtea Veche Palace, where Prince Vlad III (*The Impaler*) once ruled.

Day 3: Carpathian Mountains

After breakfast we travel north across the Carpathians to Brasov, where we spend the next 4 nights. En-route, we stop in Sinaia, where we visit the beautiful Peles Castle. We continue our journey to Bra ov to meet our local guide for a short orientation walk of the town. There is free time before dinner.

Day 4: Meadows from Mesendorf to Viscri

We depart for Mesendorf, to begin today's walk over the hills and through the meadows to Viscri, a beautiful Saxon village with its UNESCO listed fortified church.

Day 5: Pietra Craiului Mountains

We explore the southern Carpathians in the Pietra Craiului National Park, an area protecting many species of flora and fauna, including fungi, lichens and mosses, flowers, herbs, insects and reptiles as well as over 100 species of birds, 15 species of bat and large mammals such as chamois, wolves, brown bears and lynx. We walk through the park to visit Bran Castle, commonly known as Dracula's Castle.

Day 6: Fagaras Mountains

A full day exploring one of the most beautiful and highest mountain ranges in Romania. We travel to Lake Balea, a glacial lake situated 2,000m above sea level, and walk in the surrounding countryside.

Day 7: Bucegi Mountains

Today we explore the Bucegi Mountains. Visit Busteni with its curious rock formations as we walk to Sinaia and the Cota 2000 station with its many trails and spectacular views. In the afternoon we return to our hotel in Bucharest in time for a farewell dinner.

Day 8: Departure day. After breakfast, take transfer to Bucharest airport at set time, where your tour ends.

Outdoor Travel offers guided or self-guided walks in most destinations within Europe, including in Eastern Europe **Croatia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Bulgaria** and **Poland**. Walks are also available in **Cinque Terre** and **Amalfi Coast** in Italy, in **Provence** and the **French Riviera**, in **Norway, Ireland, Crete, Spain** and the **Cyclades Islands** in Greece. In the UK walk the **Coast to Coast** trail, **Yorkshire Moors, Cotswolds, Yorkshire Moors, Scottish Highlands** or **Snowdonia** in Wales. Pilgrimage walks are available on the **Camino de Santiago** from Le Puy to Santiago de Compostela in Spain, or the **Via Francigena**, the 'road to Rome'.

Contact **Outdoor Travel** for more details and reservations:

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