

BUCHAREST – A FRIENDLY EUROPEAN CAPITAL

Situated in the South-East of Romania, a EU Member State, Bucharest is just a few hours' flight away from renowned European capital cities such as Berlin, Brussels, Paris, Rome or Vienna.

The city was first documented in 1459, when it was the residence of the Wallachian Prince Vlad III the Impaler, mostly known as *Dracula*. Since 1862, Bucharest has been the state capital of Romania and it enchants residents and tourists alike through its rich historic and cultural sights and events, its pubs, restaurants and parks.

Among the city's historical places, you can visit: the Old Town, the Arch of Triumph, the Village Museum, palaces and inns, etc. Recent history has left its mark upon the architectural style of certain impressive buildings, such as the second largest building in the world after the US Pentagon Building, the Palace of the Parliament, which BBC journalists have included among the new seven architectural wonders. Pedestrian, bike or open-top double decker bus tours are frequently organized for those who would like to get familiarized with the city.

If you want to experience Bucharest's cultural life, you can visit the numerous museums, or attend a performance in one of the theater halls, classical or modern music establishments. Many famous contemporary music superstars have chosen to organize a concert in Bucharest: André Rieu, Enrique Iglesias, Madonna, Marc Anthony, Metallica, Pink Martini, Robbie Williams, to name but a few. You can also enjoy Jazz Festivals, the "Europafest" Festival, the "George Enescu" Festival or other classical music events and performances at the Opera, Operetta, and the Atheneum concert halls, famous for their outstanding acoustics. International film festivals also enjoy a large international audience: the Bucharest International Film Festival/ B-EST IFF, the Bucharest Music Film Festival, KINOdiseea, the French Film Festival etc.

Outdoor activities are also very popular. You can watch a football match on one of the five stadiums, or an amazing Air Show at the "Henri Coandă" International Airport. Sports and nature fans can discover the city's parks, gardens and leisure areas, as well as the surrounding woodlands and lakes, some of which are suitable for water sports and adventure parks.

Numerous clubs, pubs and restaurants that serve traditional food from all over the world are scattered from the Old Town to the outskirts of Bucharest. Beer festivals are a good occasion to try the best local and international beer brands in a lively setting. Last but not least, the city has a very busy, colourful and entertaining night life.

Today, according to the latest census, Bucharest has 1.9 million inhabitants and is the tenth European Union city function of population density, attracting tourists from all over the world on a daily basis.

Situated in the heart of Europe, Bucharest's life pulsates with it.

How to get to Bucharest

You can reach us by car, by train, by air or – if you come from a place in Europe – by bus.

"Henri Coanda" International Airport – OTP is Romania's busiest international airport, with flights from/ to all major cities around the globe. The airport is connected to the city by express bus services and by railway.

Palace of the Parliament



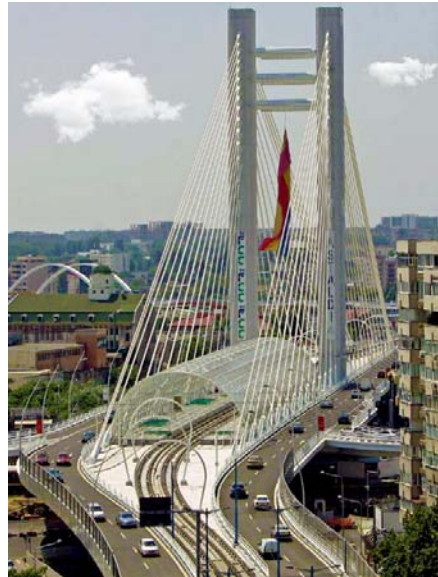
Arch of Triumph



CEC Palace



Basarab Bridge



Sky Tower



The Atheneum

