

## Romania With Bulgaria



### **DAY 1: Bucharest :**

Arrival at Bucharest. Transfer from the airport and accommodation in the chosen hotel. overnight at Bucharest

### **DAY 2: Bucharest – Sinaia – Bran – Brasov:**

After breakfast drive to Sinaia. visit the the Peles Castle, constructed in 1873 as a summer residence of the Romanian royal family. You can see a rich collection of old furniture, carpets, weapons and armors. After this we will visit the famous Dracula Castle in Bran. It is the most curious part of the trip in Romania, which attracts thousands of tourists from all over the world. In the afternoon visit Brasov a medieval city, founded in 12th century. Sightseeing tour of the really good preserved historical city center with the big square, the old city-hall and the Black Church, the main Gothic style monument in the country. overnight in Brasov.

### **DAY 3: Brasov – Prejmer – Sighisoara – Biertan – Sibiu:**

In the morning drive to Prejmer, and visit the best preserved church-castle in Transylvania and also visit the 'Organ of Death'. Then we drive to Sighisoara, the UNESCO-city in Romania. Here visit the Citadel, a 12th century Saxon edifice located in the historic center of the city. Still occupied, the citadel is listed as a World Heritage Site. From the Clock Tower we have a nice view over the city and we will also climb to the Church on the Hill, that was build here in 12 century. Then drive to Biertan, where visit the church-castle, that was for over 300 years the Bishop church in Transylvania. This church-castle is today also an UNESCO Heritage. In the late afternoon arrive in Sibiu. The city was voted as 'European Capital of Culture' for 2007. overnight in Sibiu.

### **DAY 4: Sibiu – Bucharest:**

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After breakfast visit the medieval city of Sibiu with the Clock Tower, Brukenthal Museum, Liars Brigde, etc. Then we drive to Valahia over the Carpathians. In the afternoon we will reach Bucharest. A city tour of the Romanian capital follows: the Palce of Parliament (the second largest building in the world after the Pentagon in USA), the Royal Palace, the University's Library, the City-Hall and other interesting sights of the city also called 'the little Paris' because of the similar architecture style of the buildings. overnight in Bucharest.

**DAY 5: Bucharest – Pleven – Sofia:**

After breakfast then departure to Bulgaria. Crossing the Danube River to reach Pleven, a historical city which changed the course of Russo-Turkish War in 1877-1878 year. Visit Kayalaka natural park and enjoy the beautiful panorama over the nearby lake. Late in the afternoon, arrival in Sofia. overnight in Sofia.

**DAY 6: Sofia – Rila Monastery – Sandanski:**

After breakfast, city tour around the Bulgarian capital, a 8500 years old city called 'My Rome' by the Emperor Constantine the Great. Visit to the most interesting historical sights, the Ancient Serdica, the rotunda church St. George (dated IV century AC), the mineral springs, the antique Roman theatre dated III-IV-th century (the time of the Emperor Constantine the Great) and the 'Alexander Nevski' cathedral (the biggest Orthodox temple on the Balkan peninsula). Take off to the Rila monastery. Founded in 10th c., it was the biggest Bulgarian medieval spiritual centre with rich collection of icons, wall-paintings, old-printed books, some 15 000 volumes. The monastery is a monument on the UNESCO list of world heritage and is situated in the highest mountain on the Balkans, Rila Mountain, with peak 'Moussala' as high as 2925 m. In the late afternoon arrive in Sandanski, one of the biggest SPA resorts in Bulgaria. The mountain air and the mineral water are also very good for the health, the town is in the outskirts of Pirin, the second highest mountain in Bulgaria. The mountain has about 100 peaks at an altitude more than 2000 m and is an UNESCO-protected site! Sandanski is also the birthplace of the famous in ancient times hero-Spartacus. overnight in the Sandanski.

**DAY 7: Sandanski – Thessaloniki (Greece) – Sandanski:**

After breakfast, departure to Thessaloniki, the second important Greek city and harbor on the Aegean sea. City tour of Thessaloniki with visit of the White Tower, symbol of the city, the extensive Byzantine walls of the Upper City, the Triumph Arc, the famous St. Dimiti?r church (patron saint of the city) and other sights of the city. Free time for shopping on the main commercial street Egnatia. Return back to Sandanski. overnight in Sandanski.

**DAY 8: Sandanski – Bansko – Plovdiv:**

After breakfast, departure to Bansko, the most renowned Bulgarian ski resort, famous also with its tradition in woodcarving art. Next is visit of unique carpet factory, located in the heard of Rhodopoes mountain. It produces giant carpets (up to 100 m<sup>2</sup>). The clients of this factory are world celebrities as Queen Elizabeth II, Mick Jagger, etc. In the late afternoon we will reach Plovdiv, the city of the seven hills founded by Philip of Macedonia, the father of Alexander the Great. Overnight in Plovdiv.

**DAY 9: Plovdiv – Kazanlak – Etara – Veliko Tarnovo:**

After breakfast, visit to the old part of the town with the Ethnographical Museum, one of the museum-houses in the old city, the St. Constantine and Elena church, the Antique Theatre and the Roman Stadium. Set off to Kazanlak, the capital of the valley of Roses and Thracian kings. First we will pass thorough Skobelevo village where we will visit the Ethnographical Complex 'Damascene', where you can see how the famous Bulgarian rose oil (used in the perfumery) is produced. Next is the Thracian Kazanlak Tomb, dating back to the 4th c.B.C. It is listed in the world natural and historical heritage of UNESCO. Departure for Etara, a unique open air museum, recreating the way of life of the Bulgarians

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in the 19th c. It is a great attraction for tourists, one of the most visited places in the country. In the afternoon, departure for the old capital of Bulgaria, Veliko Tarnovo. overnight at Veliko Tarnovo

**DAY 10: Veliko Tarnovo – Ruse – Bucharest:**

After breakfast, city tour of Veliko Tarnovo with visit to Tsarevets Castle,, the Patriarchal church and the Emperor Baldwin's Tower. Free time to walk along the Samovodene market street. Departure to Romania through Danube River to reach Ruse ,the main Bulgarian river port. Panoramic tour of Ruse. Arrival in Bucharest in the afternoon. overnight at Bucharest

**DAY 11: DEPARTURE:**

Transfer to the airport and flight back home.



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