



Tour of Transylvania

Culture, traditions and beautiful nature

Adriana and friends

May 16 - May 21, 2019,

Offer created by: Via Transylvania Tours

Tour operator from Romania

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Suggested ITINERARY:

Thursday, May 16, 2019, Day 1

Arrival day

Upon your arrival in Cluj Napoca **you will be picked up from the airport** and transferred to the hotel in the heart of the city.

Recommended flight from the Netherlands: WizzAir flight EIN-CLJ 16:25-19:45.

- Overnight in Cluj Napoca
- Transfer time: 30'



Friday, May 17, 2019, Day 2

Explore Cluj-Napoca, Turda Salt Mine and Alba Iulia fortress

Your guide will take you in the morning for a **guided tour of Cluj-Napoca**, a lively city with historic buildings and a beautiful old center. You will walk through the old center, visit Unirii Square and King Matthias Corvinus' birth house.

The next stop will be **Turda salt mine**, an impressive, alien-looking place. Inside there is a lake where you can row a boat, an amphitheater and even a Ferris wheel. While you breathe the healthy salt air you can enjoy playing soft sports such as mini golf, table tennis or bowling.

Last on your itinerary is a **guided walking tour of Alba Iulia**. Having a Vauban-style star shape, **Alba Iulia fortress** has a special historical importance for Romanians, as it was here in 1918 that Transylvania was united with the rest of Romania to form the current territory. Here you will visit the Union Hall and Unification Cathedral, along with one of the oldest Catholic churches in Romania, and some majestic baroque entrance gates

- Overnight in Banpotoc
- Drive time: 3h



Saturday, May 18, 2019, Day 3

Relax in nature and visit a Gothic castle

Start the day with a walk in **the village of Alun**, known as **the marble village**. The Alun marble was used in building the Palace of the Parliament in Bucharest and also the church in the village, the only one in the country made entirely of this material. You can stroll along the roads and enjoy the calmness of the almost-abandoned village, while taking in the beautiful rural architecture. There is even a marble road leading to the village.



You will then **have lunch at Cincis Lake**, at a restaurant built right on the banks of the lake in a splendid location. Lunch will be followed by a visit to **Densus Church**. Featuring an interesting mix of architecture, Densus church is a controversial place keeping the mystery regarding its age. What is surely known is that it is **the oldest church in Romania in which religious service is still officiated**.

In the evening you will get the chance to explore **Corvin Castle in an unusual setting**, during the Museums Night event. Apart from visiting Transylvania's most important Gothic architectural monument and finding out the interesting legends written among its walls, you will immerse yourself in a medieval atmosphere brought to life by the light shows, music concerts, craft workshops organized throughout the night.

- Overnight in Banpotoc
- Drive time: 5h 30'



Sunday, May 19, 2019, Day 4

Discover Sarmizegetusa, Calnic Fortified Church and Sibiu

You will continue your guided tour with a history lesson on Romanian's ancestors. You will visit **Sarmizegetusa Regia**, the capital of the pre-Roman Dacia, a complex of sanctuaries, amongst which the most remarkable ones are the Big Rounded Sanctuary and the Andesito Sun. The first one is a representation in stone of the Dacian calendar and known as the Dacian Stonehenge and the second one, a solar disc reflecting the solar character of the Dacian religion.



You will then stop in **Calnic village**, a German-Saxon village which holds a beautiful **fortified church**. Here you will learn about the rich German heritage and the noticeable impact Germans had in Transylvania.

In the afternoon you will arrive in Sibiu. Elected Europe's Cultural Capital in 2007, **Sibiu** is a charming medieval town located in the heart of the country. You will have a **guided walking tour** through the Old Town and discover its medieval squares, towers and buildings. You will also take part in the last night of **Jazz Festival** taking place in town.



- Overnight in Sibiu
- Drive time: 3h 30'

Monday, May 20, 2019, Day 5

Explore more of Sibiu and its surroundings

To gain a wider perspective of Transylvania's and Romania's cultural heritage **you will visit Sibiu's Open Air Village Museum**, a place where you will discover the traditional rural architecture and traditional occupations which are still practiced in many places.



You will then have lunch at a rural guesthouse in Orlat and enjoy a traditional home-made Romanian meal with locally sourced products.

In the second part of the day you will **visit Fantanele, one of the traditional villages from Marginimea Sibiului** where you will be introduced to the rural part of Romania. You will walk around the village and later go to a sheepfold and learn about this traditional occupation still practiced like centuries ago, the life of the shepherds, how they milk the sheep and how they make cheese.

- Overnight in Sibiu
- Drive time: 1h



Tuesday, May 21, 2019, Day 6

Departure day

In the morning **you will be transferred from Sibiu to the airport in Cluj-Napoca**, from where you will take your flight back home.

Recommended flight from the Netherlands: WizzAir flight CLJ-EIN 14:25-15:55

- Drive time: 2h 30'

The drive time is calculated without stops but there will be opportunities to stop along the way and visit touristic sights or have a break.

INCLUDED SERVICES

- Trip planning and assistance
- Tour guide services of English speaking licensed local guide throughout the itinerary
- Accommodation for 5 nights with breakfast included in shared double room:
 - 1 night in Cluj-Napoca at Hotel Beyfin, 4* (<http://www.hotelbeyfin.com/>)
 - 2 nights in Banpotoc at Castel Maria, 4* (<http://www.castelulmaria.ro/>), no elevator
 - 2 nights in Sibiu at Maison Elysee, 4* (<https://maison-elysee.wintega.ro/>), no elevator
 - Rooms will be booked after you will confirm the tour by making an advance payment. If by that time there are no available rooms at the suggested hotels we will book a similar hotel in terms of value and comfort.
- Transfer along the itinerary by minivan (Renault Traffic or similar) for 4-7 people or 19+1 van (Mercedes Sprinter, VW Crafter or similar) for more than 8 people on the itinerary mentioned above, including parking fees, road taxes, accommodation and meals for the driver
- Private transfer from/to the airport on arrival and departure
- 1 lunch: in Orlat

EXCLUDED SERVICES

- Entrance tickets to tourist sites (you might spend around 40 EUR/person)



- Meals except the ones included (you will probably spend on average 10-12 EUR/meal, in some places it will be more and in others less.)
- Flights
- Other services not mentioned in the above sections

Price:

- **590 EUR/person for a group of 12**
- **620 EUR/person for a group of 10**
- **680 EUR/person for a group of 8**
- **680 EUR/person for a group of 6**
- **800 EUR/person for a group of 4**
- **Single room supplement: 200 EUR (if you prefer to stay in a single room instead of sharing a room)**
- The price is calculated for payment done through bank transfer
- Payment is also possible through credit card or PayPal, in this case an additional 5% will be added to cover the transaction fees.
- If the final number of people in the group will vary or if changes are made to the itinerary, the price will vary as well.

Next steps

- Please let us know by January 13th 2019 if you are interested to participate in this tour. Please write us an email at tours@viatransylvania.com and inform us how many of you would like to participate, if the suggested flights are ok with you or you will travel to Cluj-Napoca (Romania) and back differently, your citizenship and if you need visa to travel to Romania. Also, ask us any questions you may have. During the Christmas and New Year period we may not respond as we will on holidays ☺ .
- After January 13, once we know how big the group will be, we will ask you to make a down payment of 250 EUR/person to secure your spot and you can also book your flight (if you are sure you will come, you can book flights even earlier).
- Due amount should be paid by April 15th
- Cancellation policy. If, after making the down payment you will cancel the following penalties will be applied
 - 80 EUR if you cancel by April 1st 2019
 - 200 EUR if you cancel between April 1st and 15th 2019
 - 50% of the total amount paid if you cancel between April 16th and 30th 2019
 - 100% of the total amount paid if you cancel after May 1st 2019

In case all or one of the tourists needs to apply for a visa and you need us to provide documents, the advance payment will be 50% of the total amount. We can provide documents for visa application for all citizens except those coming from countries who require invitation endorsed by the Inspectorate General for Immigration from the Ministry of Internal Affairs (please consult the list of countries here <http://mae.ro/en/node/2040>).

According to Romanian legislation we will need to sign a contract for selling this tour package, you can read the general terms and conditions of our travel agency on our website www.viatransylvania.com/terms-and-conditions.html. Rooms will be booked once the tour is confirmed by signing a contract and making an advance payment. If by that time, there are no available rooms at those hotels, we will suggest something of similar comfort, quality and price.

About Via Transylvania Tours

Our tour operator company from Romania promotes a type of tourism that benefits the local economy while trying to preserve the local heritage and environment. Our tours usually involve:

- Staying in typical boutique hotels and traditional guesthouses



- Eating at local restaurants and farms
- Attending traditional events meant for locals
- Traveling in small groups so we are not intrusive
- Trying local produce such as wine, brandy, jams and cheese
- Learning how traditional crafts are practiced
- Going to the most quaint places in the country

When established in 2011, the geographic focus was on Transylvania region, the tourism license was provided by the Romanian Tourism Ministry under the name Via Transylvania Tours while the legal name is SC Via Dar SRL.

With time, our tours expanded to all regions of Romania so this website was created to promote all of our tours of Romania.

The founder of the company, Daniel Rosca previously worked for Microsoft on Corporate Social Responsibility so when he established the company he wanted to promote the concept of responsible travel.