



# Bulgaria, Serbia & Romania

12 days

Eclectic architecture, fascinating history, breathtaking landscapes—Bulgaria, Serbia, and Romania have it all. Set off on an immersive journey to discover these unique destinations, where Old World appeal meshes with the excitement of present-day. Admire Ottoman mosques in Sofia before soaking in Belgrade's storied past. Continue on to the wine region of Novi Sad, the museums of Sibiu, and "Dracula's Castle" in Transylvania. Round out your journey in Bucharest, a dynamic capital that still sings an ode to past empires.



## Your tour package includes

- 10 nights in handpicked hotels
- 10 breakfasts
- 5 dinners with beer or wine
- 8 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach

## Included highlights

- St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral
- Niš Skull Tower
- Belgrade Fortress
- Fruška Gora National Park
- Živanović Wine Cellar
- Transylvania
- Bran Castle
- The People's Palace

## Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2.5 hours daily across uneven terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with many hills and stairs.

## Group size

15–35

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## Overnight Flight → 1 night

### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Sofia today.

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## Sofia → 2 nights

### Day 2: Arrival in Sofia

*Included meals: welcome dinner*

Welcome to Bulgaria! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

### Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Sofia

*Included meals: breakfast*

Discover Sofia, one of the European Union's newest and most walkable capitals.

- Pass the parliament building, Viennese-style royal palace, and national theater
- Admire the golden Ottoman domes that distinguish Sofia's skyline
- Pass by the city's oldest structure, the St. George Rotunda
- See religious icons at the St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, a massive Eastern Orthodox cathedral
- Continue to the Hagia Sophia, a Byzantine cathedral

Enjoy a free afternoon in Sofia or add an excursion.

+ Rila Monastery & Dinner

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## Belgrade → 2 nights

### Day 4: Belgrade via Niš

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Make your way to Belgrade, Serbia, stopping to tour the historic city of Niš with a local guide.

- Visit the chilling Skull Tower, which was built in 1809 from the skulls of defeated Serbian rebels
- Enjoy free time for lunch in the city center

After, continue to Belgrade and sit down for an included dinner.

### Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Belgrade

*Included meals: breakfast*

Experience the sights of Belgrade, from the panorama of Republic Square to the shops of Knez Mihailova Street, on a guided tour.

- View Tito's Memorial, the final resting place of iconic Yugoslavian liberator Josip Broz Tito
- Step inside the Cathedral of Saint Sava, the largest Orthodox church in the city
- Enter the Belgrade Fortress, which has protected the capital for centuries

Enjoy a free evening in Belgrade or add an excursion.

+ River Cruise & Serbian Dinner

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## Timișoara → 1 night

### Day 6: Transfer to Timișoara

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Continue on to Timișoara, Romania, making several stops in Serbia along the way.

- Visit Sremski Karlovci, a small baroque town located on the Danube and surrounded by vineyards
- Walk through the town center with a local guide to see the Karlovci Gymnasium, which opened in 1791 and is the oldest secondary school in Serbia, as well as orthodox and Catholic churches
- Visit the Živanović Wine Cellar in the wine region of Sremski Karlovci, where you'll sample honey and six types of wine produced by the Živanović family
- Make a photo stop at Petrovaradin Fortress
- Head to Novi Sad, Serbia's second-largest city and the country's cultural hub, and enjoy a walk through the riverside city's Old Town

Continue on to Timișoara and sit down for an included dinner.

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## Sibiu → 2 nights

### Day 7: Sightseeing tour of Timișoara & Sibiu

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Join your Tour Director to see Timișoara's Victory Square, orthodox cathedral, and the National Opera House.

Then, travel into the heart of Romania's Transylvania region to Sibiu, where an impressive art scene thrives.

- Tour the Old Town, taking in the gates and walls that partially enclose the city
- Cross the cast-iron Liar's Bridge and see Piața Huet
- Admire the Lutheran Cathedral, a soaring Gothic church

Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

### Day 8: Free day in Sibiu

*Included meals: breakfast*

Enjoy a free day in Sibiu or add an excursion.

+ Medieval Transylvania

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## Brașov → 1 night

### Day 9: Brașov via Bran Castle

*Included meals: breakfast*

Take in the stunning scenery of Transylvania as you make your way to Brașov. Stop en route to explore Bran Castle, also known as "Dracula's Castle," before continuing on for a guided tour of Brașov.

- Enter the Black Church, one of Romania's most imposing Gothic churches
  - Stroll through Brașov's historic center past the Central Square and City Council Square
  - Enjoy free time to explore the area at your own pace
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## Bucharest → 2 nights

### Day 10: Bucharest via Sinaia

*Included meals: breakfast*

Admire views of the Carpathian Mountains as you make your way to Bucharest, stopping en route in the town of Sinaia to explore the well-preserved Peles Castle.

- Explore the first and second floors of the Neo-Renaissance castle with a local guide
- Enjoy free time to walk through the manicured gardens, lawns, and pathways

*Please note: Due to ongoing renovations, the second floor of Peles Castle is closed to visitors.*

**Day 11: Sightseeing tour of Bucharest**

*Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner*

Explore Romania's eclectic capital with a local guide to discover a range of architecture, from Art Deco to Bauhaus.

- See classical buildings on Victory Avenue, the city's oldest boulevard
- Admire the ornate Triumphal Arch and Savings Bank
- Step inside The People's Palace, one of the world's largest government buildings, which was built under the communist regime of Romanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu
- Enter the Romanian Patriarchal Cathedral

Tonight, celebrate your trip with your fellow travelers at a farewell dinner.

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**Flight Home****Day 12: Departure**

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

# Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: [goaheadtours.ca/BSR](http://goaheadtours.ca/BSR) | 1-800-754-5066

## Day 3: Rila Monastery & Dinner

\$145CAD/\$155CAD\* (6.5 hours, departs in the afternoon, dinner included)

Travel through the Rila Mountains' dense pines as you make your way to the Rila Monastery. Founded in the 10th century in honor of Bulgaria's revered hermit, Saint Ivan of Rila, this UNESCO World Heritage Site is the country's largest Eastern Orthodox monastery and still houses monks today. After taking in the beautiful grounds, distinctive frescos, and impressive architecture, travel back to Sofia. En route, stop at a local mountain restaurant to experience the sites (and tastes) of country life in Bulgaria. You'll enjoy an included dinner of local specialties served with beer and wine followed by a tasting of Rakia, the region's famous fruit brandy.

## Day 5: River Cruise & Serbian Dinner

\$155CAD/\$165CAD\* (3, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Head to Belgrade's waterfront, where you'll board a scenic cruise. As you travel down the Sava and Danube rivers, soak in views of Old Belgrade, Belgrade Fortress, and New Belgrade and the historic Zemun neighborhood. You'll also pass Great War Island, a protected nature reserve that's home to almost 200 species of bird. Then, disembark to enjoy a traditional Serbian dinner served with beer or wine at a local restaurant overlooking the Danube River. Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs from April to October.

## Day 8: Medieval Transylvania

\$135CAD/\$145CAD\* (9 hours, departs in the morning)

Want to see where Dracula was born? Travel deep inside the heart of Transylvania and discover the medieval town made famous by Vlad Tepes. First, you'll stop in the village of Axente Sever to see the 14th century fortified church built by the Saxons. Then, in the citadel town of Sighisoara, explore the old city, which has remained largely unchanged since the 17th century. Continue your explorations through the village streets, stopping at the City Council Square, the City Museum, and Clock Tower before heading back to Sibiu.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at [goaheadtours.ca/terms](http://goaheadtours.ca/terms)