

Useful information

Time zone: Eastern Standard Time (GMT+2)

Population: 20 Mil. People

Official Language: Romanian

Currency: Romanian Leu (Ron) (1 EUR = 4,5 RON). Euro currency is not accepted, so make sure to change your money. Downtown, near your hotel, there are many authorized exchange offices, ATMs, bank offices. Also, make sure to exchange RON in advance when travelling to remote areas or villages.

Climate: Temperate continental with four distinct seasons. Weather in October can be unpredictable. There might be warm days with temperatures above 20° C, as well as cold and rainy days when you will certainly need a coat to keep you warm. Evenings are usually cold.

Tipping: in restaurants, bars, taxis, tipping is usually expected – around 10% of the bill.

Health: no particular health risks.

International code: +40

Electricity: Romania's voltage is 230 V with a 50 Hz

frequency, sockets take the standard continental European dual round-pronged plugs. Check before leaving if you need a plug adaptor.

Romania is the 9th largest wine producer in the world.

Safety: Bucharest is a safe city, but usually visitors should take customary steps to safeguard their valuables. Leave your passport in the hotel's safety deposit box and carry a copy of it with you. Be aware of pickpockets and scam artists.

General emergency number: 112

Business hours: banks are usually open from 9 AM to 5 PM, Monday – Friday. Most shops in malls and in the city center are usually open until 10 PM and most restaurants and bars until late at night, during the weekend even until the last customer.



Public transport

You will be staying in the city center so you might not even need the public transport. In case you do:

The tube

The tube network has four lines (M1, M2, M3, M4) and covers the city quite extensively, is usually a cheap (5 lei for 2 trips, 20 lei for 10 trips) fast and easy way to get around even though there are surprisingly few stops in the city center, since the system was originally built to transport workers and commuters from outlying neighborhoods through the city to peripheral industrial areas. The closest metro station to the hotel is Piata Romana.

Buses, trams and trolleybuses

There are hundreds of routes and the vehicles are usually very frequent, although they can also get terribly crowded at peak hours. All stations for the public transport are signaled with a small white plate and red writing with the station's name and the number of all the other buses that stop there. They include the night-buses, which contain an "N" before their number.

Where to eat

Caru' cu Bere, a true living legend and one of the oldest breweries in Bucharest, was opened for the first time in 1879 in the old inn of Zlatari and 20 years later it moved to Stavropoleos Street where it dwells even today. Upstairs, in the brewery, the unique recipe of the house's beer together with a menu of traditional dishes revive the memory of old tastes.



Lacrimi si Sfinti (in translation Tears and Saints) is an atypical Romanian restaurant with a contemporary modern kitchen. 100 year old recipes are reinterpreted and put back together, lost flavors and aromas are being reinvented, all in one place. Every item on the menu is prepared with local organic ingredients only: fish, poultry and pork and calves, it all comes from small individual farms .



Where to eat

Red Angus Steakhouse

Enjoy a different kind of dining experience, where you will be served with the best American dishes. You will find a unique setting, the appearance of a barn built from recycled materials, enriched with classic American symbols.



Distrikt 42

Is located in the old city center and it's the first gastropub in Bucharest that has a steampunk design – industrial meets imagination. You will find here delicious international dishes, from burgers to pasta, tasty cocktails accompanied by great music and hospitable staff.



Where to eat

NOMAD Skybar

EAT – Specialties from all around the world, always fresh and delicious.

DRINK – Cocktails, wines and other drinks brought from distant lands.

DANCE – DJs and live projects. The best soundtrack for your nights.

All under the open sky!



Nor Sky Bar

NOR becomes a reference point for Bucharest because it is the highest restaurant in the city! The view that opens in front of your eyes from 136 meters high is amazing. NOR menu draws its inspiration from the most famous kitchens in the world but it is linked to local preferences. The recipes are built in a relaxed tone but they also challenge the guests imagination through original plating and bold combinations of flavors



Where to eat

Cherhanau Ancora

Ancora is one of the best seafood restaurants, located in the north of the city, on the shore of lake Herastrau. The chillout atmosphere, tasty and fresh fish, great wine are waiting for you if you are a seafood lover.



the ARTIST

Paul Oppenkamp, a Dutch Chef will greet you with a modern cooking approach that combines classical techniques with modern cuisine and Romanian cuisine influences, resulting in surprising combinations of textures and flavors that revolutionize the dining experience. With an elegant ambiance in an establishment where modern design blends in with the historical elements of the property, “the Artist” restaurant creates a perfect setting for a unique experience.



Where to eat

Lugo Restaurant & Lounge

Is a Mediterranean Restaurant located right near your hotel. Experienced Chefs will delight your taste buds with the best Mediterranean dishes you will ever have tasted, all in a great setting. The restaurant has a terrace that can be used when the weather is favorable.



Joseph by Joseph Hadad

A restaurant that combines the cult for gourmet cuisine and the need of collecting memories in a comfortable, welcoming and refined space. Chef Joseph Hadad, one of the most famous chefs in Romania and internationally recognized for his talent and innovation in the kitchen, is waiting for you every day, with his unique dishes, which can only be explored here. At Joseph, every meal is like a culinary tour around the world, a gastronomic ritual, customized for each preference.



Shopping

Shopping in Bucharest is an experience not to be missed out. There are plenty of shopping centers, supermarkets, open-air markets, fashion boutiques and stores, antique, art and souvenir stores, malls and bookstores which cater for a large range of shopping tastes and needs.

The malls and shopping centers of Bucharest stand out as, perhaps, the most rewarding and complete shopping opportunities, guaranteeing clients that nothing between famed designers clothes and foodstuff is missing. You can try **Unirea Shopping Center** which is located right in the city center, you have direct access from the Unirii Metro station. **AFI Palace Cotroceni** is the city's biggest and nicest mall, with lots of top-end shops and brands, plus indoor skating, children's playground and IMAX cinema.

In the old city center you can find many clothing stores, antiques and souvenir shops. For book lovers you can't miss **Carturesti Carusel**, an impressive branch of the Cărturești chain of books and gifts, located in an opulent, restored early-20th-century shopping emporium in the Historic Centre. Books are on several levels and there's a decent selection of English-language titles.

