

## Architectural Treasures of Northern Romania Maramures & Bucovina

### **Sweet Bucovina.**

*Situated in the North of Moldavia, Bucovina, a region blessed with a luxurious nature, wrapped in a diffuse light which tones down colors and blends them with the blue of the sky, presents itself to you like an art album with its frescoed monasteries, written on it.*

*Here history lies asleep in monasteries and citadels, in churches containing treasures of old Romanian civilization, traditions and beliefs sprung from the rich Romanian folklore.*

*The exterior frescoes of the churches represent one of the most astonishing treasures of Moldavian art, which has been preserved for almost 5 centuries. They are a genuine illustrated Bible, unique of their kind in the world whose unparalleled artistic value was confirmed and reconfirmed.*

### **The Unparalleled Folk Culture of Maramures.**

*The Land of Maramures, here the history and legends are so alive that the modern civilization could not spoil its genuine culture. The folk culture is present in every day life as it used to be in the old times.*

### **Day 1 – Flight to Baia Mare – capital of Maramures**

Be met at 17:30 at your residence (hotel) in Bucharest and transferred to Otopeni airport for a domestic flight to Baia Mare leaving at 20:45.

Upon checking-out from the flight, you will be met and transferred to Baia Mare city.

- o Transfer from your Bucharest residence to Otopeni airport ;
- o Flight Bucharest – Baia Mare
- o Transfer Baia Mare airport to Baia Mare hotel
- o Dinner and overnight in a 3\* centrally located hotel (Mara or similar)

### **Day 2 – The heart of Maramures**

Near the border with Ukraine, stands the village of Sapinta, which lies on the Tisa riverbank. What made the fame of Sapinta is its original 'Merry Cemetery', founded by Ioan Stan Patras in 1935. It is a unique sight. And it is 'merry', because the carved and colored crosses caricature the qualities and defects of the deceased.

We are then on the Iza Valley. You'll visit Barsana village with its old church made of big logs in 1364.

- o Visit the 'Merry Cemetery" at Sapinta
- o Lunch in Sighetu Marmatiei
- o Visit the wooden church in Barsana
- o Visit the woolen carpets weaving workshop and the plum brandy distillery in Botiza
- o Dinner and overnight in a local farmhouse in Botiza

### **Day 3 – From Maramures to Bucovina**

Not far from Botiza, Ieud village treasures the oldest wooden church of Maramures (1364). We shall also visit the whirlpool, the wood carving workshop and the water mill along our local area trip by rural cart. After having lunch on traditional dishes we shall head toward Bucovina, to Suceava - former capital of Moldavia in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

- o Visit the wooden churches in Ieud
- o Trip by rural cart to the whirlpool, wood carving workshop and water mill in Ieud
- o Drive to Bucovina via Prislop Pass
- o Dinner and overnight in a 3\* hotel in Suceava (Arcasul or similar)

**Day 4 – A Bible in Frescoes**

A short drive will take you to Voronet and Humor monasteries. Called “The Sistine Chapel of the Orient”, Voronet is a fairyland painted on a patch of sky, which thrills even the great lovers of Quattrocento art.

The tour continues with the visit of “Humor” Monastery (1530). Painted on the outside from the eaves down to the foundation Humor Monastery looks like a page of a manuscript covered with miniatures, left lying on the lawn.

Later on you'll visit Marginea black pottery workshop and the monasteries of Sucevita and Moldovita.

- o Visit Voronet and Humor monasteries
- o Drive to Marginea Black pottery center for a short visit
- o In the afternoon visit Sucevita and Moldovita monasteries
- o Dinner and overnight in a 3\* hotel in Suceava (Arcasul or similar)

**Day 5 - Flight back to Bucharest**

- o At 04:00 a.m. be transferred to Suceava airport
- o Flight Suceava – Bucharest (06:00 a.m. – 07:40 a.m.)
- o Arrive in Henri Coanda airport
- o Transfer from Henri Coanda airport to you residence in Bucharest or remain in the airport for taking another flight

<b>Public package prices</b>	<b>2 – 3</b>	<b>4 - 5</b>	<b>6 - 7</b>	<b>Single supplement</b>
EURO / person sharing a double	<b>570</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>55</b>

**Services included :**

4 nights accommodation BB as per program, 3 lunches, 4 dinners, local transportation by car/minibus/bus with driver, entrance fees to museums, English speaking guide. *(French, Spanish, Italian or other languages speaking guides – upon request)*

**Not included :**

flights; health insurance; personal expenses of any kind, hotel services like phone calls, laundry, mini bar, room service; soft and alcoholic drinks with the main meals unless otherwise specified.

**Departure dates 2008 :**

Every Tuesday during April 22 - October 21, 2008