

# ROMANIA and BULGARIA

8 days – Bucharest to Sofia



## Itinerary

### Day 1: Bucharest - Sibiu

Pick-up from your hotel in Bucharest and cross the Carpathians into Transylvania, the legendary "Land beyond the forests". Following the Olt river Valley, you will first discover the Curtea de Arges Church, with its exquisite Byzantine style architecture and its sad legend, and Cozia Monastery, where one of Romania's most important historical figures, Voivode Mircea cel Batran, is buried. Arrival in Sibiu, a charming old town of Saxon heritage. **Accommodation in Sibiu. (D)**

### Day 2: Sibiu - Sibiel - Sighisoara

The whole morning is scheduled for a comprehensive city tour in Sibiu, which includes entrances to the Orthodox Church, the Evangelic Cathedral - which hosts the largest pipe organ in Romania, and to Samuel Brukental Art Museum - the oldest Art Museum in our country. Near Sibiu, take the time to visit Sibiel Village, where you can admire the richest glass icon collection in all Romania. In the afternoon, drive to Sighisoara. **Accommodation in Sighisoara, within the old citadel walls. (B, L)**

### Day 3: Sighisoara - Biertan - Sighisoara

In the morning, take a walking city tour of Sighisoara, including entrance to the Clock Tower - which now doubles as the local history museum and to the Church on the Hill. Then feel free to explore the citadel on your own. Sighisoara is, in its entirety, part of the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites, as being the best preserved and continuously inhabited medieval city in Europe. In the afternoon, drive to Biertan and visit the fortress church, which has been declared part of the UNESCO World cultural heritage. As an optional tour, you can visit the wine cellars and taste a few samples of the prized local wines of Jidvei. **Accommodation in Sighisoara. (B, D)**

### Day 4: Sighisoara - Brasov - Bran - Sinaia

In the morning, depart to Brasov and have a comprehensive city tour: enter the Black Church - the largest gothic construction in southeastern Europe, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and the First Romanian school. Drive to Bran and visit the castle built in the 14th century by the merchants from Brasov in order to protect the borders between Transylvania and Wallachia - the castle is better known as the residence of the gruesome vampire Dracula! Then drive to Sinaia, a well-known mountain resort. Enter Sinaia monastery - a beautiful example of the Valahian-Byzantine style, and the first building in Sinaia. **Accommodation in Sinaia. (B, D)**

### Day 5: Sinaia - Veliko Tirnovo

After breakfast, take your time to discover all the treasures Sinaia holds for the tourists. Visit Peles Castle, an exquisite piece of architecture, which has served as the summer residence for King Carl I. of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen. Drive southwards and make a short stop in Bucharest for a panoramic city tour of Romania's capital. Then cross the border into Bulgaria at Giurgiu and continue to Veliko Tirnovo, the medieval capital of Bulgaria. **Overnight in Veliko Tirnovo. (B)**

### Day 6: Veliko Tirnovo - Arbanassi - Veliko Tirnovo

Sightseeing of Tirnovo. See the medieval quarter of the town and the historical "Tsarevets" hill, where remains from the former capital's glory can still be seen. Visit Ivanovo Rock Monastery, then proceed to Arbanassi, a small Bulgarian village interesting for its architecture. Visit Nativity Church, the richest decorated church in Bulgaria. **Overnight in Veliko Tirnovo. (B)**

### Day 7: Veliko Tirnovo - Kazanlik - Plovdiv

Morning depart for Kazanlik. Visit on the way Etara open-air museum, representative for its architecture, the life style and the economic past of Gabrovo region during the Revival period. Cross the Balkan mountains through the Shipka Pass. Short stop in Kazanlik to see the UNESCO listed Thracian Tomb with its Hellenistic frescoes from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC. Proceed through the famous Valley of Roses, where the world prominent Bulgarian rose oil is being produced and visit the Rose Museum. Arrive in Plovdiv, the second largest city in Bulgaria. **Overnight in Plovdiv. (B)**

### Day 8: Plovdiv - Sofia

Start the morning tour with visit to the old part of the town in Plovdiv. From Plovdiv, drive towards Sofia where end the tour with a panoramic city tour. **(B)**

Information and rates based on information as at December 2004.  
NZD Rates (where given) are a guide only, and are subject to tariff and exchange variance.

	<p align="center"><b>Eurolynx Travel Limited</b>  <i>Specialising in wholesale travel for Europe</i>          P O Box 68637, Newton, Auckland 1032, New Zealand          DX: CP29517          Tel.: 64-9-361 3661 Fax.: 64-9-361 3664          Email: info@eurolynx.co.nz          Web: eurolynx.co.nz</p>	<p>Agent Stamp:</p>
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Price per Person / EURO	01.01-31.12.2005
Twin/Double occupancy	1,300
Single supplement	125

**Departure:** Sunday

Transportation with modern A/C cars, minibuses or coaches.  
 English speaking guide included. Other languages speaking guides on request (price subject to change).  
 Entrance fees included to all the objectives mentioned above.

Selected Hotels*	Sibiu	Continental***
	Sighisoara	Sighisoara***
	Sinaia	Sinaia***
	Veliko Tirnovo	Alegro***
	Plovdiv	Trimonzium****

\*Similar category hotel may be used depending on availability

**Highlights:** As per itinerary. Entrance fees included to all the objectives mentioned above.

**Meals:** 7 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 three-course dinners.

**NB - Children between 5 and 12 years of age are entitled to 50% discount if sharing a room with 2 adults.**

**PRICE IN EURO, PER PERSON, AVAILABLE FOR MINIMUM 2 FULL PAYING PERSONS**

