

# ROMANIA



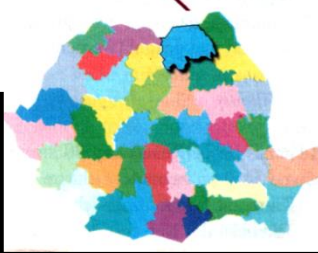
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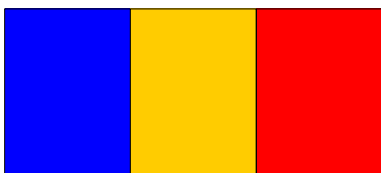
# Romania in brief

Romania, republic, in Central Europe, bordered in the north by Ukraine; in the east by Moldova; in the south-east by the Black Sea; in the south by Bulgaria; in the south-west by Serbia (part of the federation of Serbia and Montenegro); and in the west by Hungary. The total area of Romania is about 237,500 sq km (91,700-sq mi). Bucharest is Romania's capital and largest city.



# National Symbols

The national flag: three equal vertical strips: red, yellow, blue (next to the pole); dimensions: the width equal to 2/3 of the length.



The national anthem:  
“Deșteaptă-te române”  
(Awake, Ye Romanian),  
lyrics by Andrei  
Muresanu, music by  
Anton Pann, in force since  
the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 1990.



The coat of arms: it is composed of two overlapped shields. The big shield, on blue, has a golden eagle, its head turned on the right, its beak and claws red, its wings unfolded, keeping a golden orthodox cross in its beak, a sword in the right claw and mace in the left one. On the chest of the eagle there is a small quartered shield: in the first quarter there is the coat on arms of Wallachia, in the second quarter that of Moldavia, in the third quarter that of Banat an Oltenia, in the last one that of Transylvania with Maramures an Crisana. In the insert there are represented the regions of the Black Sea: on blue there are two golden face-to-face dolphins, their tails upright.



*Chiar în inima  
Europei...*

**Right in  
the heart  
of Europe...**





# History facts



**Trajan's Column** one of the most distinctive monumental sculptures to have survived the fall of Rome, represents a visual history of the wars between the Romans and the Dacians, with Trajan as the hero and Decebalus, the Dacian king, as his worthy opponent.

Completed in 113, the column has stood for more than 1,900 years. Trajan's war on the Dacians, a civilization in what is now Romania, was the defining event of his 19-year rule.



# About our language

Romanian is a Romance language spoken by around 24 million people as a native language, primarily in Romania and Moldova, and by another 4 million people as a second language. It has one of the official languages of the European Union and the Latin Union.

Romania is a part of the Balkan-Romance group that evolved from several dialects of Vulgar Latin separated from the Western Romance during the V-VIII centuries. To distinguish it within that group in comparative linguistics it is called Daco-Romanian as opposed to its closest relatives, Aromanian, Megleno-Romanian, and Istro-Romanian.

Romanian speakers are scattered across many other countries, notably Australia, Italy, Spain, Ukraine, Bulgaria, the United States, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Greece, Turkey, Israel, Russia, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Cyprus, France and Germany.

## Romanian language layers



# Geography facts

The Carpathian Mountains are home to one of the largest forests in Europe. 400 unique species of mammals, including the Carpathian chamois, call the Carpathian Mountains home. 60% of European brown bear population lives in the Carpathian Mountains.

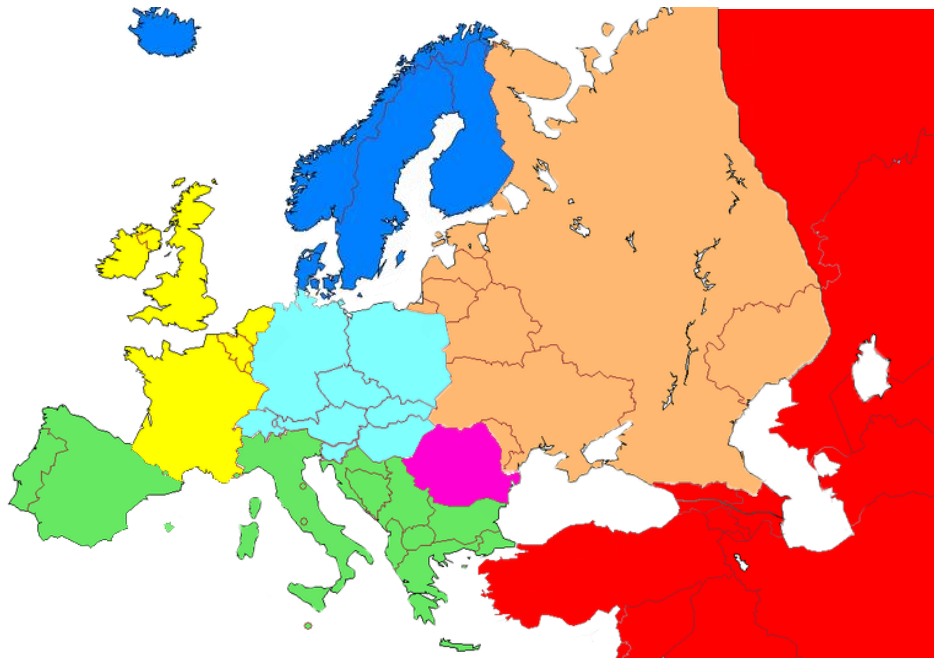


About 1,350 floral species have been recorded in Romania's Carpathian Mountains, including the yellow poppy, Transylvanian columbine, saxifrage and edelweiss.





# Our culture



Romanian culture is an ensemble of material and spiritual values produced on the territory of Romania. Romania is a unique culture, which is the result of its distinct geography and its historical evolution. It is fundamentally defined as the meeting point of three regions: Central Europe, East Europe and South-East Europe, but it can't be included in one of these regions. Romanian identity was formed on a sub layer from the mixture of dacian and romance elements, and many other influences.



# Bukovina Monasteries

The proofs of glorious past of Romanians and the proofs of its creative sensitivity are inscribed in the stones of the old monasteries, in the graceful lines of the churches or they are carefully kept in museum.

**Humor Monastery** (the settlement of the monastery, is one of the renowned churches with exterior frescoes - 1530).

**Vornet Monastery** was built by Stephan the Great in 1488. It is the most valuable painted church of Bucovina. It is called “The Sistine Chapel of the East” and it has an unusual freshness due to the famous “Blue of Vornet”. It is worth mentioned “the Doomsday”, “the Ieseu’s Tree” and “The Philosophers’ Suite”, the original painting (the 15th century) found inside the monastery and the founder’s portrait.

**Moldovita Monastery** in the settlement Vatra Moldovitei, it is one of the gems of the old Moldavian art, built by Petru Rares in 1532. It is remarkable for its valuable exterior frescoes. It is worth mentioning “The Seige of Constantinople”.



# Bukovina Monasteries

**Sucevita Monastery** (on the national road DN 17A, at 20 km distance from Radauti). It is the last one of the five monasteries covered with frescoes. It was built by the Movila family which gave many rulers to Moldavia. It is a fortified monastery. It was built between 1582 and 1584.

**Dragomirna Monastery** (in Mitocul Dragomirnei, on the national road DN 29A, at 12 km distance from Suceava). It was built by the Metropolitan Bishop Atanasie Crimca in 1609. The church is unusually high and narrow, while the spire has decorations carved in stone. The collection of old miniatures belonging to Atanasie Crimca is very important.

Suceava County has other important monastic places as well. They date back to the medieval era: **Probota**-in Dolhasca, 64 km distance from Suceava, built by Petru Rares in 1530; **Rasca**-built by Petru Rares in 1530; **Slatina**-built by Alexandru Iapuzeanu in 1561. There are some other important churches as well: The Putna Wooden Church (built by Drtagos Voda in 1346), the St. Ilie Church (built by Stephan the Great), the Church in Reseni (Stephan the Great, 1503), the Baia Roman-Catholic Church (built in 1410 by lady Margareta, the wife of Alexander the Good), the Cell of the recluse Daniil (at 1.5 km distance from Putna, built in the 15th century).



## Children still wear proudly the traditional costumes of Bucovina



**and carry on the cultural values from the ancestors**



## RURAL SETTLEMENTS AND TRADITIONAL CRAFTS

