



Transylvania Unearthed – Halloween Edition

9 days, Bucharest to Bucharest

Trip code EQHR

What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Ruins of Dracula's Poenari Castle visit

- Sibiu orientation walk
- Halloween party at haunted Hunyad Castle
- Sighisoara orientation walk and free time
- Prejmer Fortress visit
- Brasov orientation walk and free time
- Bran Castle evening visit with wine tasting and show
- Peles Castle visit
- Bucharest orientation walk
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing January 1st, 2015 and onwards

Itinerary



NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

Bucharest

Arrive at any time.

There are no activities planned until the evening welcome meeting.



Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Visit the ruins of Dracula's Poenari Castle en route to Sibiu. Enjoy an orientation walk upon arrival. Opt to visit the art-focused Brukenthal Museum.

With time, opt to head out of town and visit the open air museum of Traditional Folk Civilization.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Bucharest – Sibiu

3h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Poenari Castle Visit

Poenari

The ruins of the Poenari Castle was once one of Vlad the Impaler's main fortresses. Vlad III, now often known as Dracula, was known for being particularly cruel, impaling his enemies. He is estimated to have killed over 10,000 people.

The only way to reach the castle is to walk up over 1,400 steps. A third of the castle collapsed down the mountainside in 1888, but the walls and two towers still remain, one of which is said to be where Vlad's first wife threw herself from in order to avoid being captured by the Turks.

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.



Optional Activities - Day 2

Brukenthal Museum Visit

Sibiu

The Brukenthal Museum is the country's oldest, and it houses the art collection of Baron Samuel von Brukenthal, once governor of Transylvania. The museum displays 15th and 16th century Transylvanian wooden religious sculptures and 18th century Romanian icons.

Traditional Folk Civilization Museum

Sibiu

15RON

Set against a mountain backdrop, this folk museum includes authentic wooden houses and churches, offering great insight into Romanian rural life.

Day 3

Sibiu/Hunedoara

Enjoy more time in Sibiu before attending a Halloween party at the haunted Hunyad Castle – don't forget your costume!

Come in costume to a party at Hunyad's Castle, rumoured to be one of the most haunted places in Europe. Watch Count Dracula's wedding at midnight and continue the festivities well into the night.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Sibiu – Hunedoara

2h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Hunyad's Castle Halloween Costume Party

Hunedoara

2h-5h

Head to Hunyad's Castle for a Halloween party you will not soon forget. Come in costume (or else!) and the guest with the best costume is awarded a special prize. Attend Dracula's wedding before continuing the party well into the night. Hunyad's Castle, the venue of the party, is rumoured to be one of the most haunted places in Europe. Do you dare to celebrate this macabre fest with the spirits that roam its halls?

Continue on to Sighisoara with an orientation walk upon arrival. Enjoy some free time to explore the birthplace of Vlad 'The Impaler' Tepes.

Take a slow morning to rid yourself of all of the Halloween demons you may have picked up at the haunted Hunyad Castle.

Then continue on to Sighisoara, a small town with a fortified medieval centre.

Opt to sample some Romanian cuisine—the Casa Dracula (original home of Vlad) is now a restaurant specializing in hearty meat and game dishes of the region.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Hunedoara - Sighișoara

3h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Free Time

Sighișoara

Explore this charming town.



Optional Activities - Day 4

Museum of Medieval Weapons

Sighișoara

If you're interested in the town's past, visit the history museum. There are a number of old churches scattered throughout the historic centre as well, along with a Saxon cemetery. The ground floor of the birthplace of Vlad "The Impaler" has been converted into a restaurant, and the upper floor is home to a museum of medieval weapons.

Day 5

Sighișoara

Enjoy more of the city and the surrounding countryside before an exclusive event in the evening at Bran Castle. Enjoy a wine tasting and show in this creepy setting.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Free Time

Sighișoara

With so much to see and do, get going.

Visit the Prejmer Fortress en route to Brasov. Enjoy an orientation walk upon arrival and visit Bran Castle.

En route to the city of Brasov, stop off to visit the Prejmer Fortress, a fortified church from the 13th century.

Get to know the city on an orientation walk and check out Bran Castle, impressively situated on a rock outcrop.

Use some free time in Brasov to explore the baroque architecture and beautiful squares.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Sighișoara - Brașov

2h

Stop at the Prejmer Fortress en route.

Prejmer Fortress Visit

Prejmer

Enjoy a visit to this fortified church built by the Teutonic knights church dating back to the 13th century and containing double walls and dungeons. Each family in the village had its own room in the fortress in case of an attack.

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Bran Castle Visit

Bran

2h-3h

Visit the picturesque Bran Castle, impressively situated on a rock outcrop and dominating the valley. This 14th century castle is steeped in history and folklore and is an unmissable highlight. Sometimes called "Dracula's Castle", it served as a defense point to protect the border between Transylvania and Wallachia. Rumours abound regarding Dracula's interaction with the castle. You'll have to visit to find out the truth.



Optional Activities - Day 6

Black Church (Biserica Neagră) Visit

Braşov

8RON

The Black Church is the biggest church between Vienna and Istanbul. It's a famous landmark of the town of Brasov, is Romania's leading Gothic church, and has the largest church bell in the country, weighing a hefty 7 tons (6,350 kg)! Explore its beautiful interior, including stained glass windows and its collection of 119 Turkish carpets, the largest in Europe.

Day 7

Braşov

Enjoy a full free day to explore this quaint city.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Free Time

Braşov

Get out and explore.

Visit the famous Neo-Renaissance Peleş Castle en route to Bucharest, then enjoy an orientation walk upon arrival.

Enjoy free time to explore Bucharest's many attractions, including one of its best museums, the Museum of the Romanian Peasant.

Opt to explore the Soviet-esque architecture, the beautiful cathedral, or indulge in the city's international cuisine.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Braşov – Bucharest

5h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Peleş Castle Visit

Peleş

Visit Peleş Castle, a Neo-Renaissance fortress. Sometimes called the most beautiful castle in all of Romania, with its fairytale turrets and expansive surrounding green lawns, it was built in the late 19th century and is exquisitely decorated with statues, ceramics, porcelain, and stained glass windows.

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Free Time

Bucharest

Explore this capital city.



Optional Activities - Day 8

Museum of the Romanian Peasant

Bucharest

Visit the Museum of the Romanian Peasant for a interesting look inside the rural culture of Romania. The museum displays a collection of costumes, artifacts of Romanian peasant life, and religious icons.

Day 9

Bucharest

Depart at any time.



Meals included

Breakfast

What's included

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What are the main highlights of this trip?

Attend a special Halloween costume party in an authentic Gothic castle, take a peek into the ruins of Dracula's castle, explore medieval towns like Brasov and Sighisoara with a little extra time, learn the true story of the infamous "Vlad the Impaler"

What are the main highlights of this trip?

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Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

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Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?

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Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

What is the maximum and typical number of participants on this tour?

Max 16, avg 12

What meals are included in this trip?

8 breakfasts, 1 dinner

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Train, private bus, public bus.

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotels (8 nts).

What should I pack for this trip?

Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

Where can I do my laundry on this trip?

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. That said, keep in mind that as a fast-paced trip, there may not be adequate time for laundry service to be completed. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

What emergency funds do I need access to on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

What are the tipping guidelines for this trip?

It is customary in Europe to leave a small tip for service providers, such as waiters, if you are pleased with the service (€1-2).

Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program, and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping local guides would range from €3-5 per day, depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline €30-40 per person, per week can be used.

What activities are optional on this trip?

Sibiu

- Brukenthal Museum Visit
- Traditional Folk Civilization Museum (15RON per person)

Sighișoara

- Museum of Medieval Weapons

Brașov

- Black Church (Biserica Neagră) Visit (8RON per person)

Bucharest

- Museum of the Romanian Peasant

What general safety tips and free-time guidelines should I follow?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/

What are the mandatory group rules regarding laws and behaviour?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

What are the mandatory travel insurance requirements for this trip?

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

What are the age restrictions for this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

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