



# The Danube Delta & Black Sea Coast

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## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Ivan Pescar (p216)
- ➔ Sandalanda (p228)
- ➔ Irish Pub (p224)
- ➔ Chevalet (p226)
- ➔ Pizzico (p224)

## Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Hotel Cherica (p223)
- ➔ Pura Vida (p227)
- ➔ Vila Petru & Marcela Stefanov (p219)
- ➔ Vila Caviar (p217)
- ➔ Hotel Europa (p227)

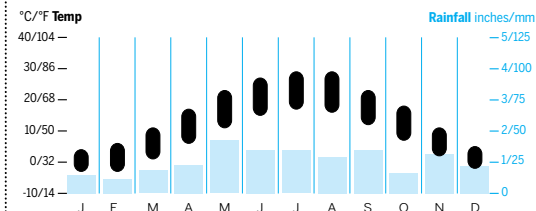
## Why Go?

Romania's 194km Black Sea coastline is remarkably diverse, from both an environmental and a cultural standpoint. In the north, the mighty Danube River (Râul Dunărea) empties into the sea after completing its 2800km-long journey across the continent. The river's mouth, the Danube Delta, is a largely unspoiled wetland that draws bird lovers and seekers of solitude alike. It's a fantastic, tangled network of ever-eroding canals, riverbeds and marshlands with remote fishing villages and stretches of deserted coast.

Further south, around Constanța, a string of lively beach resorts draws a different kind of wildlife altogether. Everywhere you go you'll find evidence of Romania's long historical connections to ancient Greece and Rome, as well as surviving pockets of more recent Turkish, Tatar and Lippovani/Old Believer cultures.

## When to Go

### Tulcea



**May & Jun** Cool, fresh mornings are ideal for boating the Danube Delta wetlands.

**Jul & Aug** Black Sea resorts Mamaia and Vama Veche in peak season; book hotels far in advance.

**Sep & Oct** Beach towns seasonally close; culture and clubbing action shifts to Constanța.



## The Danube Delta & Black Sea Coast Highlights

### 1 Sfântu Gheorghe

**Beach** (p219) Enjoying one of Romania's most beautiful, unspoiled beaches with fine white sand, clear water and few visitors.

### 2 Crush Beach

(p225) Testing the limits of sun and of your modesty at one of Mamaia's trendy beaches.

### 3 Mud Baths

(p227) Disregarding prudence and wallowing in the stinky, black (healthful?) mud at Eforie Nord.

### 4 Histria Archaeological

**Complex & Museum** (p224) Reliving a piece of ancient Greece where you'd least expect it.

### 5 Plaja de Cartă

(p227) Soaking up some counter-culture and a glass of wine on the beach at Vama Veche.

### 6 Statue of Ovid

(p220) Paying your respects to an unhappy Ovid as you stroll Constanta's rejuvenating old port area.