



Wallachia

Includes ➔

Ploiești	62
Târgoviște	65
Pitești	66
Curtea de Argeș	68
Craiova	70
Drobeta-Turnu Severin	73

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Epoca (p73)
- ➔ Domnesc (p70)
- ➔ Hanul Domnesc (p72)
- ➔ Taverna Dionysos (p64)
- ➔ La Tuciuri (p68)

Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Pensiunea Ruxi (p69)
- ➔ Hotel Corona (p75)
- ➔ Pensiunea Casa Simoni (p63)
- ➔ La Strada (p67)
- ➔ Hotel Europa (p72)

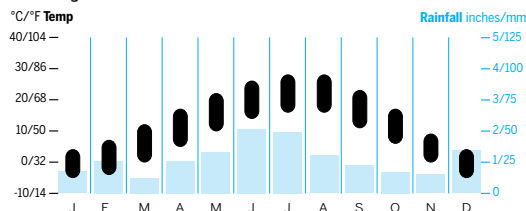
Why Go?

Wallachia (Țara Românească), the region between the Carpathians and the Danube River, admittedly lacks the must-sees of Transylvania and Moldavia. Nevertheless, it's rich in early Romanian history, particularly at the historic seats of the Wallachian princes in Curtea de Argeș and Târgoviște. This was Wallachian prince Vlad Țepeș' old stomping ground, and north of Curtea de Argeș stands the ruins of what many consider to be the real 'Dracula's castle'. Lovers of modern sculpture will want to see Constantin Brâncuși's work on open-air display in Târgu Jiu, close to the region of his birth.

The Danube flows along the southern edge of Wallachia and is best seen west of Drobeta-Turnu Severin, where it breaks through the Carpathians at the legendary Iron Gates. Drobeta-Turnu Severin was once a thriving Roman colony, and you can still see the remains of Emperor Trajan's mighty bridge (AD 103) that once traversed the Danube.

When to Go

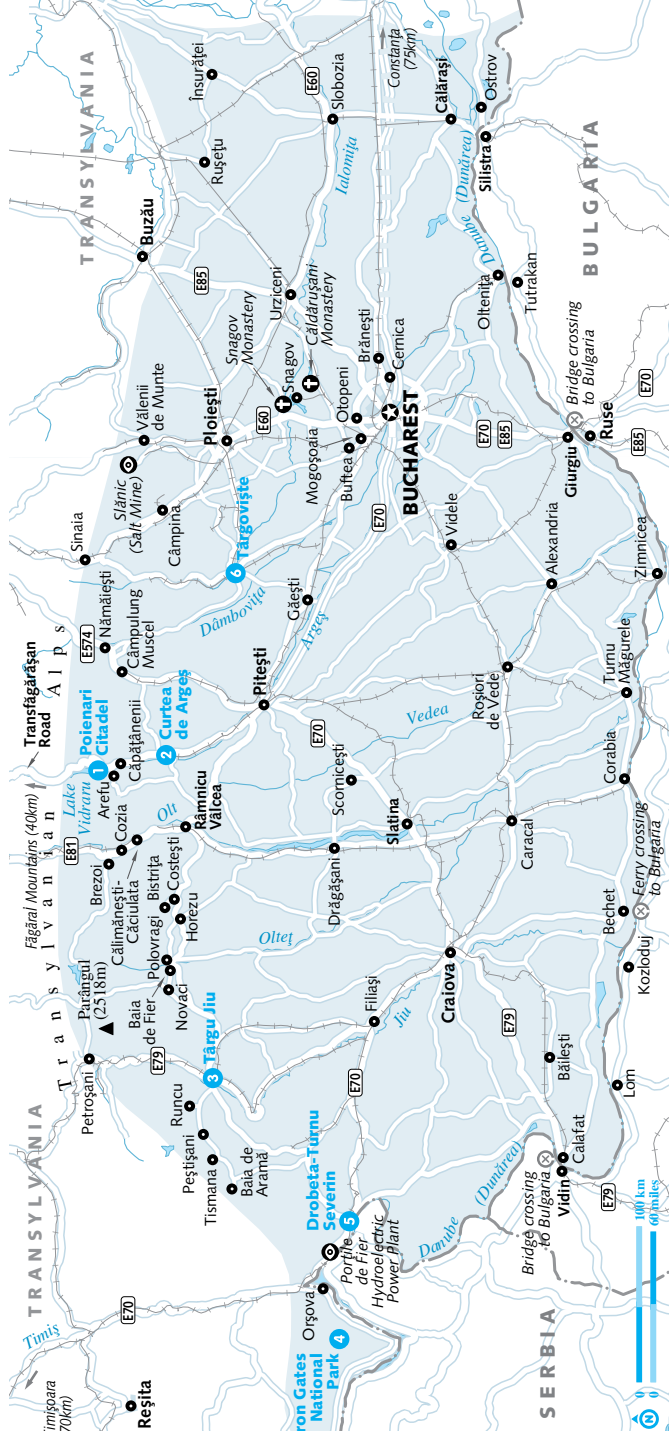
Ploiești



May Spring flowers cover the mountain highlands north of Curtea de Argeș.

Jun–Aug Warm afternoons are ideal for cruising the Danube near Iron Gates National Park.

Sep & Oct Regional cultural hubs like Craiova reawaken after a long summer slumber.



Wallachia Highlights

- 1 Poenari Citadel (p69)**
Gasping up the 1480 steps to Vlad Ţepeş' 'Dracula's Castle':
- 2 Princely Court (p69)**
Gaping at 14th-century frescoes at the court's St Nicholas Church in Curtea de Argeş.
- 3 Endless Column (p72)**
Enjoying the simple perfection of Constantin Brâncuşi's sculptures, including this structure in Târgu Jiu, near the place of his birth.
- 4 Iron Gates National Park (p74)**
Admiring the dramatic beauty of the Danube as it breaks through the Carpathians west of Drobeta-Turnu Severin.
- 5 Iron Gates Museum (p74)**
Wondering at the ruins of a Roman bridge that spanned the Danube here almost 2000 years ago.
- 6 Târgovişte (p65)**
Reliving contemporary history at the modest army base in Târgovişte, where Nicolae Ceauşescu and his wife met their bloody ends.