Bulgaria & Romania: The Black Sea Coast to Transylvania
+ BELGRADE EXTENSION
$2,149 PER PERSON IF BOOKED BY JULY 31, 2015 *FLIGHT PACKAGE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

See why this region is becoming a favorite for savvy travelers.

Romania and Bulgaria harbor some of Europe’s best-kept secrets, from culturally rich Sibiu to the Black Sea coast’s golden beaches. Uncover Romania’s eclectic capital and “Dracula’s Castle,” travel through forested hills and quaint Saxon villages, then soak up the sun in Bulgaria’s under-the-radar resort towns and charming capital city of Sofia.
Your tour includes

- 11 nights in handpicked hotels
- Breakfast daily, 6 three-course dinners with beer or wine
- Multilingual Tour Director
- Private deluxe motor coach
- Guided sightseeing and select entrance fees

Your tour highlights

- Bucharest’s tangible communist legacy
- Sibiu, a European Union “Capital of Culture”
- Bran Castle, also known as “Dracula’s Castle”
- Seaside luxury in the resort town of Varna
- Old World Saxon villages and medieval churches
- St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Sofia

Where you’ll go

OVERNIGHT STAYS
2 nights • Bucharest
2 nights • Sibiu
1 night • Brașov
1 night • Bucharest
2 nights • Varna
1 night • Veliko Tarnovo
2 nights • Sofia

MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE FOR THIS TOUR
35
With our Right Size Advantage, your group will never get in the way of your experience. Learn more at goaheadtours.com/rightsize

ABOUT YOUR HOTELS
Our 3- and 4-diamond accommodations are handpicked to ensure quality and comfort. See sample hotels for this tour at goaheadtours.com/rbg

Overnight flight | 1 night

Day 1: Travel day
Board your overnight flight to Bucharest today.

Bucharest | 2 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Bucharest
Included meals: welcome dinner
Welcome to Romania! Meet your fellow travelers at tonight’s welcome dinner.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Bucharest
Included meals: breakfast
Explore Romania’s eclectic capital, discovering a range of architecture from the Art Deco to Bauhaus to neoclassical eras.
- See classical buildings on Victory Street, the city’s oldest boulevard
- Admire the ornate Triumphal Arc and Savings Bank
- Step inside Ceaușescu’s palace, constructed under the communist regime
- Wander through historic and distinctive squares
Enjoy a free afternoon in Bucharest or add an excursion.
+ Historic Bucharest: Village Museum & Lake Cruise

Sibiu | 2 nights

Day 4: Sightseeing tour of Sibiu
Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Travel into the heart of Transylvania to Sibiu, recently designated a European Union “Capital of Culture.”
- Tour the Old Town, taking in the gates and walls that partially enclose the city
- Enter the Gothic Lutheran Evangelical Cathedral
- Cross the cast-iron Liar’s Bridge and Gothic bridges of Huet Square
- Gaze at European art from the 15th through 18th centuries at the Brukenthal National Museum

Day 5: Free day in Sibiu
Included meals: breakfast
Spend the day exploring Sibiu on your own or add an excursion.
+ Medieval Transylvania

Brașov | 1 night

Day 6: Brașov & Bran Castle
Included meals: breakfast
With the Carpathian Mountains as your backdrop, make your way toward medieval Brașov, where you will enjoy guided tours of the Black Church and First Romanian School.
- Stop in Bran for a guided walking tour of “Dracula’s Castle”
- Continue on a guided walking tour of Brașov’s historic center and enter the Gothic St. Nicholas Church

Bucharest | 1 night

Day 7: Bucharest via Sinaia
Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Before journeying to Bucharest, visit the Black Church and the First Romanian School in Brașov, then make a stop in Sinaia to explore the well-preserved Peles Castle.
Itinerary

**Varna | 2 nights**

**Day 8: Travel to Varna**  
*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*  
Travel to Călărași and then cross the Danube to arrive in Bulgaria. Visit either the village of Silistra or historic Rousse for free time to explore before ending the day in Varna.

**Day 9: Free day in Varna**  
*Included meals: breakfast*  
Spend the day exploring Varna on your own or add an excursion.

+ **Coastal Beauty: Balchik & Kap Kaliakra**

**Veliko Tarnovo | 1 night**

**Day 10: Travel to Veliko Tarnovo**  
*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*  
Make your way to Veliko Tarnovo, a forested city that ranks highly among Bulgarian weekend getaways, and admire a few landmarks along the way.
- Stop to see the Madara Rider stone carving, a UNESCO World Heritage site
- Explore the city of Schumen and the remnants of its fortress
- Visit the Church of St. Demetrius of Thessaloniki

**Sofia | 2 nights**

**Day 11: Sightseeing tour of Veliko Tarnovo**  
*Included meals: breakfast*  
Take some time to soak in the local sights on a walking tour of Veliko Tarnovo before continuing on to Sofia.
- Meander among the Samovodska Charshia district’s cobbled streets
- Explore the Veliko Tarnovo Tsarevets Fortress, once a citadel

**Day 12: Sightseeing tour of Sofia**  
*Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner*  
Discover Sofia, one of the European Union’s newest and most walkable capitals.
- Pass the parliament building, Viennese-style royal palace and national theater
- Admire the golden Ottoman domes that distinguish Sofia’s skyline
- Step into the city’s oldest structure, the St. George Botunda
- See religious icons at the St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, a large Eastern Orthodox cathedral
- Continue to the Hagia Sophia, a Byzantine cathedral

Celebrate your trip with fellow travelers at a farewell dinner in Sofia.

**Day 13: Departure**  
*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*  
Transfer to the airport for your flight home or continue on to Belgrade, Serbia.

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**Post-tour extension**

**Belgrade | 3 nights**

**Day 13: Travel to Belgrade**  
*Included meals: breakfast*  
Make your way to Serbia, stopping en route in the historic city of Niš, long a gateway between East and West.

**Day 14: Sightseeing tour of Belgrade**  
*Included meals: breakfast*  
Experience the sights of Belgrade, from the panorama of Republic Square to the shops and cafes of Knez Mihajlova street, on a guided walking tour.
- Enter the Kalemegdan Fortress
- View the Cathedral of Saint Sava and Tito’s Memorial

Enjoy a free afternoon in Belgrade or add an excursion.

+ **Traditional Serbian Dinner**

**Day 15: Free day in Belgrade**  
*Included meals: breakfast*  
Take time to explore the city on your own or add an excursion.

+ **A Day in Navi Sad: Sightseeing & Wine Tasting**

**Day 16: Departure**  
*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*  
Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Extension is available on select departure dates. Space is limited. Minimum of 10 travelers is required.
Customize your experience

Create a more personal journey by adding optional excursions that speak to your interests. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose—you're free to do as much or as little as you'd like. Save $10* when you book your excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs. Please note: Excursions that require advance reservation will only have this discounted price listed. Call or go online to start customizing your tour: 1.800.206.9871 | goaheadtours.com/rbg

Day 3: Historic Bucharest: Village Museum & Lake Cruise | $55/$65* (2.5 hours, departs in the afternoon)
One of the first of its kind in the world, Bucharest’s open-air Village Museum gives visitors a look into traditional Romanian village life. Here, follow your guide through the museum’s collection of original houses, relocated from all corners of the country. Discover thatched cottages, traditional farmhouses and charming windmills before you depart for a short cruise on Lake Herastrau to end your day.

Day 5: Medieval Transylvania | $99/$109* (9 hours, departs in the morning)
Want to see where Dracula was born? Travel deep inside the heart of Transylvania and discover the medieval town made famous by Vlad Tepes. First, you’ll stop in the village of Axente Sever to see the 14th century fortified church built by the Saxons. Then, in the citadel town of Sighisoara, explore the old city, which has remained largely unchanged since the 17th century. Continue your explorations through the village streets, stopping at the City Council Square, the City Museum and Clock Tower before heading back to Sibiu.

Day 9: Coastal Beauty: Balchik & Kap Kaliakra | $99/$109* (8 hours, departs in the morning)
Further your exploration of the Bulgarian Black Sea coast, discovering what makes this region one of the most sought-after by Europeans. On your way to the coastal village of Balchik, you’ll encounter stunning seascapes. Cliffside views, sprawling beaches and an amazing diversity of sea birds will mark your journey to the small harbor town. Once there, you’ll visit the summer villa and botanical gardens of the Romanian Queen Maria, built in the early 20th century. After Balchik, continue on to Kap Kaliakra, a rocky peninsula jutting out into the Black Sea. From there, you’ll visit the museum and see the remnants of a medieval fortress. Then, end the day with a scenic drive, traveling back along the coast to Varna.

Day 15: A Day in Navi Sad: Sightseeing & Wine Tasting | $109/$119* (7.5 hours, departs in the morning)
Start your day with a visit to Fruška Gora National Park, taking in the incredible landscapes and sweeping green countryside. Then, tour one of the ancient Serbian Orthodox monasteries in Fruška Gora. Take some time to relax with a stop in the wine region of Sremski Karlovci, where you’ll learn about the wine and honey production of the Zivanovic family. Once you’ve had your fill of wine and honey, enter the impressive Petrovaradin Fortress on the way to Navi Sad, the second-largest city in Serbia. Enjoy free time in Navi Sad for lunch, followed by a sightseeing tour of this culturally rich city.

Extension optional excursions

Day 14: Traditional Serbian Dinner | $65/$75* (4 hours, evening with dinner)
Experience a traditional Serbian dinner in the heart of Belgrade. Sample Serbia’s signature dishes, such as grilled meats, a cheese plate and bread-and-cheese pie while being serenaded by guitar players performing the local Tamburasi-style folk music.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to 3 days prior to departure or while on tour. Some select optional excursions require advance booking. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be cancelled within 3 days prior to departure or while on tour. Go Ahead accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Please note: If you have received an optional excursion as a promotional offer and it was canceled during your tour, you will not be eligible for a refund, as promotional offers are not redeemable for cash.
Group Travel reservation form

Group Coordinator/organization name: Rice Alumni Traveling Owls
Group reference number: 64321575

TOUR SELECTION

Name of tour: Bulgaria & Romania: The Black Sea Coast to Transylvania
Tour Dates: 04/13/2016 – 04/25/2016  Departure gateway: Houston George Bush Airport Intercontinental Airport (IAH)

Would you like to purchase the optional post-tour extension in Belgrade, 04/25/2016 – 04/28/2016?  ○ Yes  ○ No
Please list any optional excursions you would like to purchase:

TRAVELER INFORMATION

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[PRINT NAME EXACTLY AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR PASSPORT]
Address: ________________________________
City: __________________________________
State: _______ Zip: _______
Email address: __________________________
Tel: (_____ ) ____________ Alt. tel: (_____ ) ____________
Special dietary needs/conditions: ________________________________
Emergency contact person: ____________________________ Relation: ____________________________
Tel: (_____ ) ____________ Alt. tel: (_____ ) ____________

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Special dietary needs/conditions: ________________________________
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Tel: (_____ ) ____________ Alt. tel: (_____ ) ____________

ACCOMMODATIONS

○ 2 Twin beds  ○ 1 Double bed (Sleeps two)  ○ Single room (Private accommodations; single supplement charges apply.)
Roommate name: ____________________________ Note: If your roommate is not yet reserved, you will be booked in a single room temporarily.

TRAVEL PROTECTION

The Rice Alumni Traveling Owls provides information about optional travel insurance via email upon receipt of your reservation.
For questions, please email travelingowls@rice.edu or call 713-34-TRIPS (87477)

TERMS & CONDITIONS

I/we understand and accept that the information above is accurate and that any flight requests or changes must be made at least 120 days prior to departure. Any changes made after this date will result in additional fees.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Reservation fee: $300

○ I have enclosed a check or money order for the total fee of $ ______________
   Please include the names of all travelers on your check or money order, to be made out to Go Ahead Tours.

○ I authorize you to charge my credit card for the total fee of $ ______________
   ○ MasterCard  ○ Visa   Card number: ____________________________ CVN: _______ Exp. date: ___/__/_______

You can submit your reservation form and payment one of the following ways:
Mail your reservation form and payment to: Rice Alumni Traveling Owls - MS5, PO BOX 1982, Houston, TX 77251
Fax your reservation form to: Rice Alumni Traveling Owls 713.348.5210
Call Rice Alumni Association: 713.34.87477 (TRIPS) w/ group reference #: 64321575
Terms & Conditions

For complete Terms & Conditions, please visit goaheadtours.com/terms or call 1.800.438.7672.

Go Ahead Vacations
The tour operator for your trip is EF Cultural Travel Ltd. Haldenstrasse 4, CH-6006, Lucerne, SWITZERLAND, organization number: CH-100.3.026.585-3, VAT number 596 344. Go Ahead Vacations, Inc. is an affiliate of EF Cultural Travel, Ltd., and acts only as a marketing service provider for that company. Go Ahead Vacations, Inc. does not provide any goods or services for your trip. Invoices pertaining to such tours are issued by Go Ahead Vacations, Inc. on behalf of EF Cultural Travel Ltd. The services provided are tax-exempt with credit in accordance with Swiss Federal Law with regard to Value-Added Tax Art. #19.

In the event of any claim, dispute or proceeding arising out of this Agreement, or any claim which in contract, tort, or otherwise at law or in equity arises between the parties, whether or not related to this Agreement, the parties submit and consent to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the courts of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.