

## holidays in **Neam**ț

itineraries • activities • events



#### **NEAMT COUNTY COUNCIL**

27 Str. Alexandru cel Bun, Piatra Neamţ **Tourism Department** Phone: 0233 212 890, ext. 216

Fax: 0233 230 383 E-mail: cjneamt.turism@yahoo.com Travellers' Website: www.viziteazaneamt.ro

#### **Emergency services**

Phone: 112 from everywhere in the country

#### Salvamont Neamț Public Service

Durău Intervention Base – Operator Phone: 0372 780 106 Dochia Intervention Base

Phone: 0372 780 105



### Holidays in NEAMŢ

Wherever you come from, Traveller, you are invited to visit this blessed land of Neamt where you can have experiences unknown so far. You can rise to the heights of the Holy Mount Ceahlău, or rule for a moment over the land stretching at your feet far to the horizon and recharge with the force and spell contained in each and every rock. You can also listen to the murmur of the rapids carrying the legends of the Bistrita River through mountains and hills, down to the plains. Furthermore, you can knock on the gates of the Neamt Stronghold for the descendants of Stefan's border guards to open or find out the secrets of history carved in the memory of the earth, of documents, and of the locals. In addition, you can find your peace in the monasteries and churches shrouded in the aura of faith and the ringing of bells and you can sit around the table with us and treat yourself with Moldavian dishes we have prepared for you, or drink a carafe of wine and spin stories by the fireside.

Whatever the number of places you have been to and people you have met, if you stay for a while in the Neamţ area, you will see it was worth the effort.

Neamt County Council

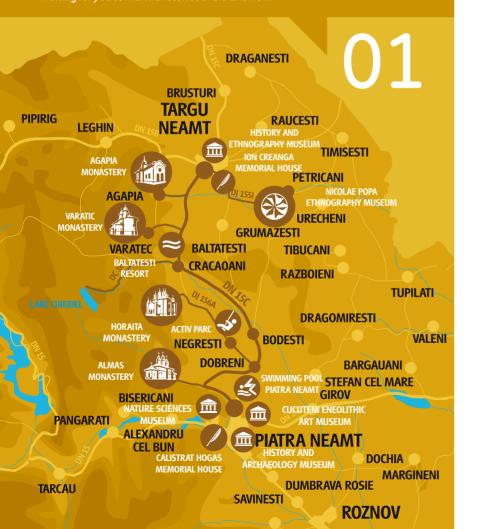
# Itineraries Activities Events Information

04-09 | Piatra Neamț - Bălțătești - Târgu Neamț 10-15 | Târgu Neamț - Pipirig - Poiana Largului 16-21 | Piatra Neamț - Bicaz - Borca 22-27 | Cheile Bicazului - Bicaz - Durău



# Piatra Neamț - Bălțătești - Târgu Neamț

After stopping in the town guarded by the solitary silhouette of Mount Pietricica, Piatra Neamt, and seeing all those things, places and people that delight your eyes, traveller, you set out to Târgu Neamt, on a winding road, through hills and valleys, from which you turn away, onto the left and right, to enter monastic strongholds, to discover pools well hidden in the woods, to walk into Moldavian houses and folk art museums and to admire their treasures. At the end of the road, there is Ozana the beautifully flowing river waiting for you to murmur stories of old and new.



#### Duration: 4 - 5 days

#### Length:

43 km; you can travel by car, motorcycle, or bicycle

#### How you get to Piatra Neamt:

from Bucharest on DN2 (E85) to Bacău, then take DN15; from the West of the country on DN17B, DN15, DN12C; from Suceava on DN 15C; from laşi on E85 to Roman, then take DN15D; by train; by plane to the airports in laşi, Bacău, Suceava and from the airport by car/coach.

#### Where is it?

Almaş Monastery – drive 4 km on DN15C, then turn left; Horaiţa Monastery – drive 14 km on DN15, then turn left; Văratec Nunnery – drive 4 km on DN15, the turn left; Agapia Nunnery – drive 7 km on DN15C, then turn left; Nicolae Popa Museum in Târpeşti – drive 10 km from entering Târgu Neamţ, turn right.

- Cucuteni Eneolithic Art Museum Piatra Neamţ
- Nature Sciences Museum Piatra Neamt
- History and Archaeology Museum Piatra Neamt
- . Calistrat Hogaş Memorial House Piatra Neamţ
- Almaş Monastery
- Horaita Monastery
- Lake Cuejdel
- Văratec Nunnery
- Agapia Nunnery
- "Nicolae Popa" Ethnography Museum in Târpești
- Ion Creangă Memorial House in Humulești
- History and Ethnography Museum Târgu Neamt



### 01 Cucuteni Eneolithic Art Museum Piatra Neamt

On display, the widest and richest collection in Romania and in Europe of artefacts belonging to Precucuteni-Cucuteni Culture developed between 3600-2600 B.C. The collection includes some 800 items, most of them tanking in the hoard category. Here, you can admire priceless exhibits such as the Small Columns Vessel, Frumuşica Hora, Horatype Vessel, statuettes in the group the Goddesses' Synaxis, The Thinker of Târpeşti. The smallest statuette in the museum measures only 1 cm by 2 mm high and belongs to the statuette group called the Holy Family. Info Phone: 0233 226 471

#### 02 Nature Sciences Museum Piatra Neamț

It is only here that you can see a collection of Oligocene fossil fish, which is unique the world over. It has over 600 items, of which 31 are new species. The scientific assets of the museum consist of 45,000 items and the basic collection represents various aspects in the entire Neamt territory – geological, paleontological, floristic, faunistic, and ecological. Info Phone: 0233 224 211

#### 03 History and Archaeology Museum Piatra Neamt

Strolling through the 24 rooms of this building, you encounter testimonies of the development of human settlement in the Neamt area from the upper Palaeolithic (Stone Age) down to our present, the room dedicated to Constantin Matasă, as well as temporary exhibitions from the country and abroad. Info Phone: 0233 217 496, 0233 218 108

#### 04 Calistrat Hogas Memorial House Piatra Neamt

waits for you the enter the writer's familiar atmosphere in his last years and his study, which will urge you to head for the Mountain Trails and In the Neamt Mountains. Info Phone: 0233 225 997

#### 05 Almas Monastery

Commissioned by Vasile and Maria Almaş, in 1659, and then restored by Ecaterina Cantacuzino, the wife of Iordache, the sword bearer, housed a hermitage until 1821, when it was destroyed by Eteria members. The current church was commissioned in 1821 by the family of chancellor Bals and houses the Saint Ana's icon ever since the monastery was founded. The icon is reputedly miraculous. Info Phone: 0744694789

#### 06 Horaiţa Monastery

Commissioned in 1822, the roots of the monastery go back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Within the walls of the monastery, a Byzantine church – painted in a Neo-Byzantine style – finds its shelter together with a collection of valuable objects, silvery, old icons and books. Every year, on the Life-giving Spring feast (i.e., on Bright Friday), pilgrims carry the Icon of the Virgin Mary in a procession believed to "protect from drought." Info Phone: 0233 246 210

#### 07 Lake Cuejdel

The largest (12.2 ha) natural dam lake in the country developed following landslides between 1978 and 1991 offers a spectacular as well as unusual scenery as the mirror of the water is pierced by tree trunks in the flooded valley. You can get close to the lake by car through commune Crăcăoani, on a forestry road, either through commune Gârcina, 25 km from Piatra Neamț by car, and then 3 km on foot, on a wide path, crossing pastures and deciduous and coniferous forests.

#### 08 Văratec Nunnery

The largest nunnery in Romania, built between 1808 and 1812, on the location of the former commission of Mother Superior Olimpia in 1785, opens its gates to offer the visitor not only the sight of its unusual architecture but also valuable cultural, artistic, and historical assets. Nearby, in the former graveyard of the nunnery, the poetess Veronica Micle lies to rest. Info Phone: 0233 244 616



#### 09 Agapia Nunnery

The second largest nunnery in Romania and the only monastic settlement to bear the name "Christian love" (from the Greek agape), was commissioned by Gavril, the minister of war, brother of Prince Vasile Lupu, in 1644. Here visitors can admire the painting of the young Nicolae Grigorescu, painted between 1858 and 1860 in a neoclassical style, with many innovating elements. Info Phone: 0233 244 736

### 10 "Nicolae Popa" Ethnography Museum in Târpești

On a green slope, the gate opens onto a large yard, with many fruit trees. Among the trees, you will see many fairy-tale characters – carved in wood or stone by the famous artisan Nicolae Popa – which bring to life the entire atmosphere. The layout of the yard, between the old house and the much recent one, is that of an open-air museum whose nature – naive art harmony enchants the visitors. You will be charmed inside the house, too – it is filled like a beehive with rich collections of authentic art, gathered from among the villages around Târpeşti. Info Phone: 0233 785 111

#### 11 Ion Creangă Memorial House in Humulești

An entire rural universe dating from mid-nineteenth century with its the picturesque fragrance of the era surrounds the visitor from their very steps on the trodden path to the house. The exhibits of this memorial house – one of the most visited in the country – are filled with the aura of Creangă's recollections. He was one of the most renowned sons of this land soaked with history and spirituality. The whitewashed stove shelf, the famous tassels – the cats' would play with all day, the entrance hall of the house and the yard where Nică would start from on to his childhood adventures are waiting for you. Info Phone: 0233 790 620

#### Museums open:

April-September: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; October - March: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

#### We recommend:

- swimming, tennis, basketball, volleyball, handball, roller-skating, skateboard, skating, playing grounds for children, terraces, restaurants, open-air barbecue facilities at the Municipal Openair Swimming pool Piatra Neamt; Info Phone: 0233 217 167, 0749 166 640
- treatment for a wide range of conditions such as rheumatism, post-trauma, peripheral neurological, gynaecological, and associated, accommodation and board, diet menus included, in Băltătești resort; Info Phone: 0233 244 018, fax: 0233 244 077, statiuneabaltatești@mapn.ro
- tree climbing, paintball, archery, relaxation and time for a snack at Activ Parc in the commune Negreşti, 15 km from Piatra Neamţ; Info Phone: 0754 542 644, activ.parc@gmail.com, www.activparc.ro

#### Events you are invited to:

March: The Annunciation – Horaiţa Monastery Dedication Day, 25 March April: Almaş Monastery Dedication Day, the first Sunday after Easter May: "Dowry Chest" Folk Art Festival

**June:** The Days of the Town – event organised at the Princely Court Square in Piatra Neamt,

**July:** Hard as a Rock Festival (skateboard, downhill and streetball) at the Municipal Open-air Swimming pool, Piatra Neamt and Cozla Mount; *Medieval Art Festival*, Târgu Neamt

August: "International Folklore Festival", a six-day event which gathers European folk dance groups; The Assumption of Mary – Văratec Nunnery Dedication Day, 15 August; Metamorphosis – Agapia Nunnery Dedication Day, 6 August December: Winter Festivities – a series of performances and events organised in Piatra Neamt and Tārau Neamt

#### **Accommodation:**

Piatra Neamt: Hotel CENTRAL PLAZA\*\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 216 230, office@centralplazahotel.ro; Pensionen: CASA MOLDOVEANA\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 224 679; BACHUS\*\*\*, tel. 0233 226 402, fax 0233 221 760, rezervari@pensiuneabachus.ro; CORNELIUS\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 211 511, pensiuneacornelius@yahoo.com.

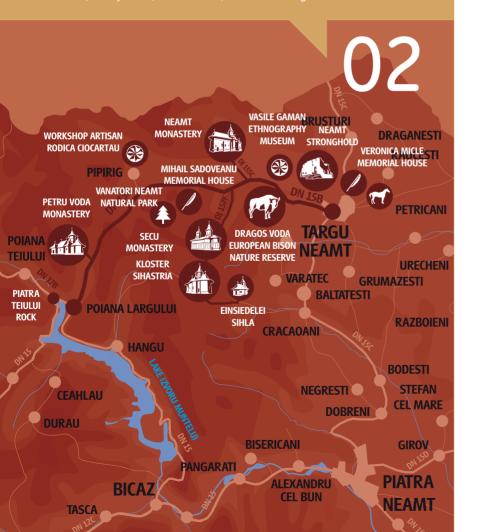
Bălțătești: Hoteluri: BĂLȚĂTEȘTI\*\*, tel. 0233 244 017, NARCISA\*\*, tel. 0233 244 017, fax 0233 244 077; OZANA\*\*, tel. 0233 244 017, fax 0233 244 077; TOPOLITA, tel. 0233 244 017.

Agapia: Pensionen: VÄRATEC\*\*\*\*,tel/fax. 0233 245 113, rezervari@pensiuneavaratec.ro; AGAPIA\*\*\*, tel. 0742 633 265; CASA DINTRE PINI\*\*\*, tel. 0740 245 985; CODRII DE ARAMÄ\*\*\*, tel. 0233 244 900, fax 0233 244 999; COMPLEX TURISTIC PĂDUREA DE SMARALD\*\*\*, tel. 0744 560 938, fax 0233 245 142; EDEN\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 247 217, office@edentur.ro; EULOR\*\*\*, tel. 0744 648 907, www.pensiuneagapia.ro; MARIA\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 245 004, contact@pensiuni-agapia.ro; PUNGUTA CU DOI BANI\*\*\*, tel. 0741 746 835.

Târgu Neam: Hotel DOINA\*\*\*, tel. 0233 790 270, fax 0233 790 843; Pensionen: ARISTOCRATIS\*\*\*\*, tel. 0233 791 986, office@aristocratis.ro; BELLA\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 790 291, mona\_atomei@yahoo.com; CASA ARCAŞULUI\*\*\*, tel. 0233 790 699, casaarcasului@yahoo.com; LA CETATE\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 660 249; REMEMBER\*\*\*, tel. 0737 023 206, www.pensiunearemember.ro.

# Târgu Neamț - Pipirig - Poiana Largului

First, you knock at the gates of the Neamt Stronghold and go back in time, among boyars, princesses, and frontier guards. Next, you go downtown and head straight to old churches, as thriving in the past as they are now, and enjoy the fresh air and monastic silence. Then, you remember how a European bison looks like or you see it now for the first time, you drive through mountain villages with houses old and new, you make a detour to see where Father lustin served at Petru Voda Monastery, and then you head to Poiana Largului – the crossroads of Moldavia, Transylvania, and Bucovina, to find out the legend of Piatra Teiului.



#### **Duration: 4-5 days**

#### Length:

46 km; you can travel by car, motorcycle, or bicycle

#### How you get to Târgu Neamt:

from Bucharest on DN2 (E85) to Bacău, then take DN15 and DN15C; from the West of the country on DN17B and DN15B; from Suceava on DN 15C; from Iaşi on DN15B; by train; by plane to the airports in Iaşi, Bacău, Suceava and from the airport by car/coach.

#### Where is it?

The Neamţ Stronghold is in Târgu Neamţ (from the town centre turn left in front of the Polyclinic); Vasile Găman Ethnography Museum – 1 km to the right from DN15B; the Neamţ Monastery - 4 km to the right from DN15B; you will find Dragoş Vodă European Bison Reserve and Mihail Sadoveanu Memorial House on the road to the Neamţ Monastery; Secu and Sihăstria Monasteries are at 4 and 7 km, respectively, on the left from DN15; some 5 km further still is the Sihla Hermitage.

- Neamt Stronghold, Târqu Neamt
- Veronica Micle Memorial House Târgu Neamţ
- "Vasile Găman" Ethnography Museum
- Dragoş Vodă European Bison Nature Reserve
- Mihail Sadoveanu Memorial House
- Neamt Monastery
- Secu Monastery
- Sihăstria Monastery
- Sihla Hermitage
- Petru Vodă Monastery
- Piatra Teiului Rock



#### 01 Neamt Stronghold, Tärgu Neamt

How the Neamt Stronghold looks and how it survived the centuries are strongly connected to the history of the area dating back to more then seven century. The Stronghold was commissioned by Petru I Muşat and then extended and consolidated under the rule of Ştefan cel Mare. It falls under the category of extraordinarily valuable medieval monuments in Romania. Important pages of heroism were written here such as the eight-day opposition to the furious Ottoman siege led by none other than the fearsome Sultan Mohammed II following the battle of Razboieni (1476) or the glorious episode written in their own blood by 19 frontier guards facing the Polish army led by Jan Sobieski, in 1691. Info Phone: 0733 981

#### 02 Veronica Micle Memorial House, Târgu Neamț

In the old centre of the town Târgu Neamt, Veronica Micle Memorial House stands as a precious relic of the nineteenth century weaving the images of the old settlement with the living memory of the poetess who carved her name for eternity – through love and sorrow – next to Mihai Eminescu's name. Info Phone: 0233 790 594

#### 03 "Vasile Găman" Ethnography Museum

Wherever you set your eyes in house hold of the artisan Vasile Găman you may find proof of his talent and craftsmanship. Beginning with the high gate onto which, as he puts it, "I wrote the history of my people with the chisel, to know all passers-by". His love for the traditions of the people on the Ozana Valley materialised in his collecting tools and household objects, pottery and coffee tables, old folk dress, fur vests and long woollen coats, all kind and sizes of pots, musical instruments, and old coins, icons, books and maps and many other valuables. Hospitable people are waiting for you to visit their home. Info Phone: 0233 244 458

#### 04 Dragos Vodă European Bison Nature Reserve

After having disappeared from this habitat since the eighteen hundreds, the European bison – the largest dry land mammal in Europe – lives again in this nature reserve. Now there are 31 animals of this species here – both bulls and cows – of which 25 are integrated in species conservation programme to help them live in semi-wilderness. The nature reserve includes all species specific to the Carpathian fauna as well as equally representative plant life. Info Phone: 0233 206 002, 0233 206 001, 0233 251 061, www.vanatoripark.ro

#### 05 Mihail Sadoveanu Memorial House

The hunting and angling objects, which illustrate both the life and the work of the writer, are of a special interest. A closer look will notice the Venetian furniture in the sitting room or an over a hundred-year-old chest of drawers as well as an impressive Viennese grand piano whose keys preserve the touch of George Enescu, Dinu Lipatti, or Maria Tănase. Besides the 1,823 objects that belonged to the writer, 21 manuscripts are also on display. Info Phone: 0233 251 889

#### 06 Neamt Monastery

First certified in documents in 1210, it is acknowledged as one of the oldest and most significant monastic settlements in Moldova, and was successively under the auspices of benefactors such as Petru Muşat, Alexandru cel Bun şi Ştefan cel Mare. You will find here the largest and the oldest monastic library, an invaluable religious art museum and a museum of print. The scholarly and spiritual traditions of this monastery go back to the fourteenth century. They are also connected to the brilliant activity of a renowned school for calligraphers and miniaturists, trained under the guidance of Gavriil Uric and a printing press organised soon after the 1500, which enhanced the fame of orthodoxy. In the great church, the most beautiful of the churches commissioned by Ştefan cel Mare, there is also a miraculous icon of Our Lady, painted in Israel in 665. Info Phone: 0233 251 580.0745 823 179

#### **07 Secu Monastery**

The beginnings of this old monastic settlement are related to a hermitage founded here in 1530, by the hermit Zosima. The small church of the hermitage was commissioned by Prince Petru Rareş (1527-1546), later on, the Great minister of internal affairs, Nestor Ureche, father of the chronicler Grigore Ureche, commissioned here, in 1602, a new church and part of the outbuildings necessary to the monastic life. The entire complex, with visible Wallachian influences, was then renovated through the effort of the monks. Its stronghold-like aspect impresses the visitor as well as the beauty of some religious regalia and art works, of which the gilded iconostasis, in lime-tree wood, carved in the Baroque style. Info Phone: 0233 251 862



#### 08 Sihästria Monasterv

You will discover here one of the most blessed hermitages of the place where secluded hermits from afar humbled here in prayer. Here, in Atanase's Clearing, the bishop Ghedeon of Huşi commissioned a hermitage in 1655, which was rebuilt in 1824-1826, of river stone and brick, with the endeavour of the Metropolitan Bishop Veniamin Costache. The then new church was built in the Classical Moldavian style, and the iconostasis, carved in lime-tree wood, is gilded. Info Phone: 0233 251 896, 0233 251 897

#### 09 Sihla Hermitage

On the forestry road between the village Agapia and Sihăstria and Secu Monasteries, the Sihla Monastery is an important religious pilgrimage site, mainly due to the Saint Pious Teodora's Cave, which you can reach on the northern side of Mount Sihla, on a secret path. This is the place where, through rivers of tars, fast, and prayer, the Pious humbled for many years. The story goes that the Sihla hermitage was erected in homage of her life in 1725. Info Phone: 0744 513 879, 0743 961 818

#### 10 Petru Vodă Monastery

Located in a clearing, 5 km from DN 15B which connects the Poiana Largului extensive crossroads to Târgu Neamţ. Although recently built (1991), the monastery displays many elements of the medieval style and is the only one to have exterior painting in the Neamţ County. It has become soon a much sought after pilgrimage site. Info Phone: 0737 121 100, email: manastirea@petru-voda.ro

#### 11 Fels Piatra Teiului

"Forty-feet tall, set on a round foundation, cut to size, many travellers like me upon their first journey will take it, from afar, for a daring building that has been here for ages. But when you look at its location in the flat area, 500 steps far for any height, with its cracks filled with yellowish moss by the elements, you find yourself speechless and small in front of the majestic giant; it seems that your eyes set on one of the rock the titans dropped. Thirty feet form the ground, a protuberant edge of the rock makes something like a porch and above it the crest, slightly crooked and adorned with lime-tree shoots, which gave its name to the rock to forget another terrible name that the shepherds merely whisper and cross themselves as any good Christian would do." Alecu Russo

#### Museums open:

April-September: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; October-March: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

#### We recommend:

- Horse-riding courses, dressage and training, equestrian performances and competitions, equestrian entertainment and tourism at the Dumbrava Stallion Stables, some10 km from Târgu Neamţ; Info. Phone: 0233 787 077
- In the parking area at the foot of the Neamţ Stornghold you can watch lonela Lungu, an artisan, modelling folklore characters in clay under your very eyes; Info Phone: 0748 974 650
- Hiking on marked trails in the Vânători Neamţ Natural Park, subscriptions to programmes offered by the Vânători Neamţ Natural Park Management Direction; Info Phone: 0233 251061, www.vanatoripark.ro
- You can learn how to weave under the guidance of the artisan Rodica Ciocârtău, at the workshop open in Pipiria; Info Phone: 0740 671 831

#### **Events you are invited to:**

May: Our Lord's Ascension – Neamţ Monastery Dedication Day

June: Birth of St John the Baptist – Sihla Hermitage Dedication Day, 24 June

July: Days of the Neamt Stronghold, Târqu Neamt

August: Beheading of St John the Baptist – Secu Monastery Dedication Day, 29 August; Metamorphosis – Sihla Hermitage Dedication Day, 6 August

**September:** Birth of Virgin Mary – Sihăstria Monastery Dedication Day, 8 September

**December:** Winter Celebrations – a series of performances and events organized in Târgu Neamţ and communes Vânători Neamţ and Pipirig

#### **Unterkunft:**

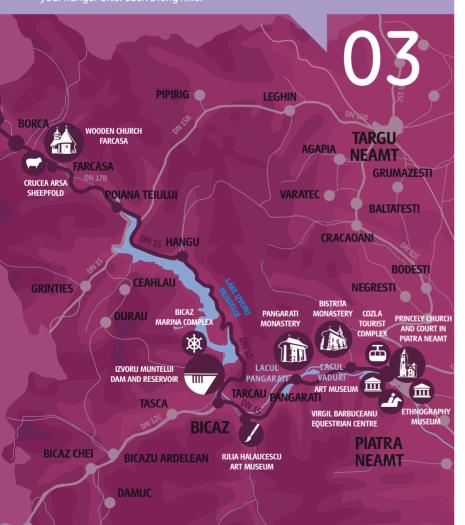
Târgu Neamt: Pensionen: EDERA\*\*\*\*, tel. 0233 251 901; STEAUA NORDULUI\*\*\*, tel. 0233 790 995, www.steauanordului.bleu.ro; Hotel OZANA\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 791 807, hotelozana@gmail.com; Bungalow LA CETATE\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 660 249.

Pipirig: Pensionen: CASA AFETELOR\*\*\*, tel. 0233 252 066, casaafetelor@casaafetelor.ro; STÂNCA\*\*\*, tel. 0745 455 699.

Poiana Teiulu: Pensionen: DOCHIA\*\*\*, tel. 0744 697 045; TEIUL\*\*\*, tel. 0746 709 494; ELVI\*\*tel. 0233 257 295; elvi@yahoo.com.



When you think you saw, heard, and felt all that the *sweet town of Piatra* has to offer, you start going upstream the Bistriţa River, towards the mountains, through settlements commissioned by princes and high priests, artists, or local people, you see households, pastures and scattered sheep, hills with thick forests, you reach the great wall hiding the *mountain sea*, and you go on its shores, in a breath-taking scenery, and then cross the long bridge at Poiana Largului and quicken your steps to see log work, icons and altars, blackened by time and the elements. Do not forget to climb up to the sheepfold, to appease your hunger after such a long hike



#### **Duration: 4-5 days**

#### Length:

90 km; vou can travel by car, motorcycle, or bicycle

#### How you get to Piatra Neamt:

from Bucharest on DN2 (E85) to Bacău, then take DN15; from the West of the country on DN17B, DN15, DN12C; from Suceava on DN 15C; from laşi on E85 to Roman, then take DN15D; by train; by plane to the airports in lasi, Bacău, Suceava and from the airport by car/coach.

#### Where is it?

The Bistriţa Monastery is 2 km on the right from DN15; Pângăraţi Monastery – 3 km on the right from DN15; the Wooden Church in Fărcaşa – 1 km on the right from DN15.

- · Princely Church and Court in Piatra Neamt
- Ethnography Museum in Piatra Neamt
- Art Museum Piatra Neamț
- Bistrita Monastery
- Vaduri Reservoir
- · Pângărati Reservoir
- Pângărati Monastery
- "Iulia Hălăucescu" Art Muzeum, Tarcău
- Izvoru Muntelui Dam and Reservoir
- Cuvioasa Parascheva's Wooden Church Farcasa



#### 01 Princely Church and Court in Piatra Neamt

Inherited from Prince Ştefan cel Mare, built between 1468 and 1475, it represents a genuine effigy of nobility. The harmony of shapes and exterior decorations, the inconspicuous monumentality, the complex fully illustrates the beauty of the Moldavian architecture during Ştefan cel Mare's rule. The 19 m-high belfry was erected in 1499 and has become iconic for the town. From up there, visitors can enjoy almost a bird's-eye view of Piatra Neamţ and the Bistrita Valley. Info Phone: 0233 216 808

#### 02 Ethnography Museum Piatra Neamt

With its picturesque architecture, the museum displays since 1960 aspects of a peasant's house on the Bistrita Valley, the folk dress, the main occupations and crafts in the sub-Carpathian region of Moldova, and details related to farming. Info Phone: 0233 216 808

#### 03 Art Museum Piatra Neamț

Pursuing the national specificity and its interference with European values, the gallery displays the work of artists who developed their roots in or who entertained emotional ties with the Neamt, such as C.D. Stahi, Aurel Băieşu, Lascăr Vorel, N. Milord, Clement Pompiliu, Iulia Hălăucescu, and shelters important selections of their work. Info Phone: 0233 216 808

#### 04 Bistrița Monastery

Commissioned successively by four great princes of the house of Muşat, i.e., Alexandru cel Bun, Ştefan cel Mare, Petru Rareş, and Alexandru Lăpuşneanu, the monastery's most valuable regalia is Saint Ana's miraculous icon, presented as a gift by the Byzantine Emperor Manuel II Palaiologos and his wife Ana in 1407. At the beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the monk Chiril carried out here a genuine work of art by copying and decorating with miniatures the Tetraevanghel (the Four Gospels). Between the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, a renowned school of copyists, chancellery clerks and secretaries was opened here as well. Info Phone: 0233 241 091

#### 05 Vaduri and Pângărați Reservoirs

Located on either side of DN 15, these are two of the nine reservoirs on the Bistriţa River, areas under special avifaunistic protection. The area offers favourable food and shelter conditions for many migrating bird species, mainly swans and wild ducks, to winter.

#### 06 Pângărați Monastery

Beyond the gates of the monastery, you will find a church built in stone with a unique Father Superior Macarius turns the recess under in the basement of church commissioned by Lăpuşneanu into a small church. This makes Pângărați Monastery unique as it has two churches, one on top of the other, with different entrances and patron saints. The two churches communication, inside, by a very narrow and steep spiral staircase made in stone. Quite remarkable is the imposing silhouette of the new church on the hill nearby, which increases the value of monastic complex – an important Christian Orthodox spiritual and cultural abode. Info Phone: 0233 240 337

#### 07 Iulia Hălăucescu Art Gallery and Museum, Tarcău

The exhibits in the gallery please both your eyes and your mind. An exhibition resembling a fairy-tale realm, with landscapes and portraits designed to reveal the charm of the long-lost Tarcău. Founded in November 2003, the gallery houses 120 watercolour and oil paintings of the Lady of Romanian watercolour – Iulia Hălăucescu, 25 pieces of furniture from the artist's studio, and 178 exhibits of ceramics and craft tools in the commune Tarcau area, consisting of 178 exhibits . Info Phone: 0233 240 951





#### 08 Izvoru Muntelui Dam and Reservoir

Also known as the "sea in the mountains", it is the largest reservoir on interior rivers in Romania and the only "lake" to celebrate "Romanian Navy's Day". The reservoir stretches its mirror on 35 km, at the foot of Ceahlău Massif, the volume of water contained behind the impressive dam, built between 1950 and 1960, can reach up to 1,250 million cubic metres. The dam was built according to the design conducted by Eng. Dimitrie Leonida as a "weight" dam, the largest of its kind on interior rivers in Romania and with its 127-m height it ranks third. It also ranks ninth as gravity dam in terms of height in Europe. When put to service, in 1961, the dam was the fourth weight dam in Europe in terms of height.

#### 09 Cuvioasa Parascheva's Wooden Church, Farcasa

Commissioned in 1774, it is considered the most "adorned" wooden church in the country. To its architectural and artistic value a rich collection of icons is added, of which some on glass. Here you can also find a manuscript of David Creangă, the most famous maternal grandfather of the great storywriter, on a Psalm book. Info Phone: 0747 376 482

#### Museums open:

April-September: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; October-March: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

#### We recommend:

- Horse-riding courses, horse-riding for fun, carriage rides at the "Virgil Bărbuceanu" Equestrian Centre in Piatra Neamt; Info Phone: 0233 217 167
- A ride in the cable car in Piatra Neamt; Info Cable Car: 0233 218 008
- Ski, tubing, chairlift, at the Cozla Tourist Complex, Info Phone: 0233 218 008
- Boating, cruises, dinner on board, hydro cycles, rides in motorboats, kayak at the Port Bicaz Marina Complex – Moldoturism; Info Phone: 0233 253 848, 0748 110 400, 0744 588 824, 0748 110 401, office@bicazlac.ro
- A halt at Crucea Arsă Sheepfold in the commune Farcaşa; Info Phone: 0233 256 502, 0745 009 603

#### Events you are invited to:

**June:** *Birth of St John the Baptist (Sânzienele)* – Dedication Day of the Church in the Princely Court in Piatra Neamt, 24 June

August: Romanian Navy Day, event organised in Bicaz Port and on the Izvoru Muntelui Reservoir, 15 August; the Assumption of the Virgin – Bistrita Monastery Dedication Day. 15 August

October: St Demetrius - Pângărați Monastery Dedication Day, 26 October

**November:** The Synaxis of Archangels Michael and Gabriel –

Pângărați Monastery Dedication Day, 8 November

**December:** Winter Festivities – a series of performances and events

organised in Piatra Neamt and Bicaz

#### **Unterkunft:**

Piatra Neamt: Hotel CEAHLĂU\*\*\*, tel. 0233 219 990, fax 0233 215 540, office@hotelceahlau.ro; Pensiuni: VERDE\*\*\*\*, tel/fax 0232 234 401, www.pensiuneaverde.ro; DOMNIȚA\*\*\*, tel. 0233 228 267, www.pensiuneadomnita.ro; LIDO\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 226 349, contact@pensiune-lido.com; Hostel TORENT\*\*\*, tel. 0233 227 771.

Alexandru Cel Bun: Pensionen: CALUL TROIAN\*\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 241 689, office@calultroian.ro; ADELINA\*\*\*, tel. 0746 809 183, fax 0733 935 921; ALEXIA\*\*\*, tel. 0731 521 755; AMBIANCE\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 231 431, www.ambiance.ro; BOEMA\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 241 797; BRADU, tel. 0744 400 224; FLORA\*\*\*, tel. 0233 241 045, www.pensiuneaflora.piatra-neamt.info; MIHAELA\*\*\*, tel. 0722 403 550 MOLDOVA\*\*\*, tel. 0333 408 064; OANA II\*\*\*, tel. 0233 241 362; ROUA\*\*\*, tel. 0753 053 260; SMÄRÄNDITA\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 241 730, pensiuneasmarandita@yahoo.com; \$TEFAN\*\*\*, tel. 0744 871 429; TROIAN\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 235 407, office@troian.aix.ro; URSULEŢ\*\*\*, tel. 0233 261 441, pensiuneaursulet\_nt@yahoo.com. Hotel BELVEDERE\*\*\*, tel. 0233 261 470.

Pângărați: Pensionen: BALAD`OR\*\*\*\*, tel. 0727 736 685, office@balador.ro.

Bicaz: Hotel ADORA\*\*\*, tel. 0741 793 079, www.hoteladora.ro; Pensionen: CEAHLĂU CORP 1\*\*\*, tel. 0745 460 327; CEAHLĂU CORP 2\*\*\*, tel. 0745 460 327; MONTANA\*\*\*, tel. 0745 028 910.

# Cheile Bicazului – Bicaz – Durău Whan you rogeb the Bicaz Garges, you wander whather you gra dragming or gwale

When you reach the Bicaz Gorges, you wonder whether you are dreaming or awake and you can barely grasp the big rocks thrown on the road, which, should you climb them, you would reach the skies. Then, immediately after descending along the creek, towards Neamt, you find other gorges, other stone giants, with caves and other tales, other stories. Should you think there is nothing else that could charm you after all you have just seen, you should know that only the excitement is just beginning: now, when the path the Carpathian Olympus opens in front of your eyes, the Holy Mountain of the Dacians and the Romanians, i.e., Ceahlău, whatever you may call it. Whatever the trail you may chose to climb and may set your eyes on, tens of hundreds of rocks varying in size and shape pop up in your way. Each of them is shrouded in its legend, and up there on the horizon of Ceahlău, under the gentle warmth of the sun, you feel the majesty of heaven and earth, and on you feel you are a proud descendant of the ancestor gods.



#### **Duration: 4-5 days**

#### Length:

80 km; you can travel by car, motorcycle, or bicycle

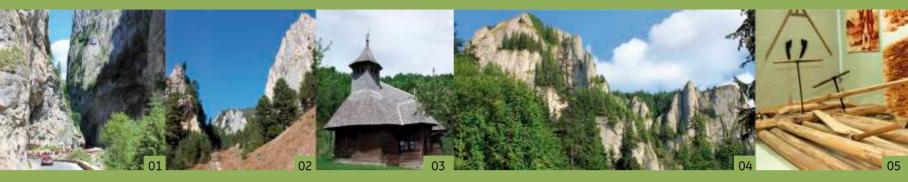
#### How you get to Bicaz:

from Bucharest on DN2 (E85) to Bacău, then take DN15; from the West of the country on DN 12C, DN 15 and DN 17B; from Suceava on DN 15C, and then take DN15; from Iaşi on E85, then take DN 15D and DN15; by train; by plane to the airports in Iaşi, Bacău, Suceava and from the airport by car/coach.

#### Where is it?

The Bicaz Gorges – on DN12C, when entering the Neamt County; the Wooden Church in Bicazu Ardelean, 2 km on the right on DN12C; the Village Museum in Ceahlău, Ruins of the Princes' Palace, and Durău Monastery – on DJ 155F (12 km from DN15, turn left in Bistricioara).

- Bicaz Gorges
- Şugău Gorges
- Wooden Church, Bicazu Ardelean
- Ceahlău Nature Reserve
- History and Ethnography Museum Bicaz
- Ruins of the Princes' Palace
- Village Museum in Ceahlău
- Durău Monastery



#### 01 Bicaz Gorges

Coming to the Neamt County from Gheorghieni, you'll enjoy crossing the rocky kingdom of the Bicaz Gorges, Romania's most famous ones. Particularly picturesque and amazing due to the majestic scenery they offer, they are part of Bicaz Gorges – Hasmas Nature Reserve. You enter through the *Rocky Gate*, guarded by the Clearing's Rock – the most impressive massif of the Gorges, then you go down gradually on the *Small Serpentines* – a short tunnel and then the Large Serpentines until you reach the site called the *Hell's Gate*, where the Clearing's Rock and the Bardos Mount are only a few metres apart. At this spot, you will set your eyes on the most impressive, almost apocalyptic view. Now you reach the Hell's Throat, and after catching your breath for a while, you'll see on your right, the confluence of Bicaz River with the Bicajel, a creek which has been carving three sets of wild gorges Gorge, with small but noisy waterfalls.

#### 02 Şugău Gorges

We catch sight of them even at speed after you pass the Bicaz Gorges, on the left of the road. They form a wild rocky area, which is actually one of the most valuable protected areas in the Carpathians and in Europe due to the uniqueness of the scenery, geology, karst, flora and fauna. If you are a true lover of nature, if you have reached the area only to admire these beautiful treasure in their natural environment and not just sprinkled on the sides of the road, all you have to do is think of a halt for a few hours in the midst of these so little known and deciphered wonders of endless series of geological evolution.

#### 03 Wooden Church, Bicazu Ardelean

Built between 1823 and 1829 on the site of a former church certified in document as back as 1692, the small wooden church enchants not only with its architecture but also with its splendid painting directly on the interior wooden beams. It is the second fully painted wooden church in the Neamt region to be preserved after the one in Răpciuni – Ceahlău that was relocated to the Village Museum in Bucharest. Info Phone: 0722 295 574

#### 04 Ceahlău Nature Reserve

None of the Romanian mountains have ever charmed the eves or has ever inspired greatly the imagination hikers as Ceahlau ... This majestic dome of the Eastern Carpathians and the entire Moldavian area, haloed the ancestral geological turmoil which has majestically and proudly lifted from the bottom of the seas has then been blessed with millennia of people's patience in the clearings, caves and pastures, chasing the game, praying, and sheepherding. Ever since the beginning of time, from the surroundings or from the mountain peaks, the beholders' eyes - under the gentle sunrays - sought to rejoice and find the ever vivid and overwhelming eternal miracle of nature... Once you are on Ceahlău Mount, you always have to choose between the infinite horizon – at times reaching the seashore and the awe-inspiring overwhelming lace of the cliffs, rocky towers, shelves, and walls. You will as of in a huge and impressive open-air museum displaying exhibits unique in their diverse shapes and their story they most often carry along, as legends or simply in their name: Dochia, Panagia, Togca, Dorobantul, Monks, The Rock in Tears, Butu's Tower. Shelves with lilies. Detunatele – and many, many others ... they are truly impressive formations, exquisitely crafted by the elements, displayed boldly and generously as a sign of the force that one can still feel coming from the deep down the earth as well as from the so gentle and high of the crystal clear days...

#### 05 History and Ethnography Museum Bicaz

The former Royal Theatre in Bicaz opens is doors for you to see testimonies of the history of the Bistriţa Valley, documents regarding the construction works of the Bicaz Dam, ethnographic elements of the area, and finally yet importantly, fine art works showing the area as it used to be. Info Phone: 0233 254 201

#### Museums open:

April-September: 10 a.m. -6 p.m.; October-March: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



#### 06 Ruins of the Princes Palace

To testify of the past and of prosperous times are only the ruins of what was the imposing Palaces of the Princes, dating back to 1639. In the entire complex, you can set your eyes and find your peace near the small church built in stone and brick in the 17th century style. The more recent iconostasis was made of gilded lime-tree wood in the Baroque style. Info Phone: 0233 258 594, 0233 258 059

#### 07 Village Museum Ceahlău

Close to the Princes Palace, in the building of the first public school in the village Ceahlău, you will discover in the tranquillity to be found only at the foot of the mountain, a small village museum housing a collection of ethnographic objects specific to the area, but mostly an impressive collection of faunistic elements specific to Ceahlău Massif such as bear, wolf, capercaillie, deer, fox, trout, Danube salmon, many species of mountain birds, all in a pristine shape. Info Phone: 0233 258 594, 0233 258 059

#### 08 Durău Monastery

Built on the site of a former 1600 hermitage, first documented in 1779, the holy settlement hides behind the walls of the church a special iconostasis made of lime-tree wood, gilded and painted in Constantinople in 1835. A work of great size encompassing characters and elements inspired from the local landscape, the local folk dress and human diversity, though seemingly no longer observing the old iconographic canons, Nicholas Tonitza and his apprentices left their mark here to be admired by visitors. Here still, you will find a coffer with relics of St Pantelimon and St Simeon bought from Mount Athos. Info Phone: 0233 256 674

#### We recommend:

- hiking on marked trails in the Bicaz Gorges Hăşmaş Nature Reserve; for info refer to the Park Management Direction: Phone/Fax 0266 336 540, pnbicaz@mciuc.rosilva.ro, pncbh@yahoo.com
- hiking on marked trails in the Ceahlău Nature Reserve (access on trails start from Bicazu Ardelean, Neagra, then Izvorul Muntelui and Durău); refer for info to the Nature Reserve Management Direction: Phone / Fax 0233 256 600, e-mail: pnc@ceahlaupark.ro
- stop at Bistra Trout Fishery in Bicazu Ardelean; Info Phone: 0744 702 953, www.pastravaribistra.ro
- by car, motorcycle, or on bicycle you can divert from DN 15 some 8 km to the left before reaching the Bicaz Dam, to admire a breathtaking scenery – the Ceahlău Massif in its majestic splendour – and to stop at the Izvoru Muntelui Chalet: Phone: 0723 589 661.

#### Events you are invited to:

January: Snow Festivities – event organised in Durău Resort, at the foot of Ceahlău Mount

March: The Annunciation – Durău Monastery Dedication Day, 25 March May: "Armindeni" – herding sheep to the mountains – event organised in the commune Bicaz Chei;

August: Festivities of Mount Ceahlău – an event organised in the Durău Resort, at the foot of Mount Ceahlău

**December:** Winter Festivities – a series of performances and events organised in most of the communes in the mountains on your route.

#### **Unterkunft:**

Bicazu Ardelean: Pensionen: Rustică PALEU\*\*\* tel. 0233 255 393.

Bicaz: Pensiune Turistică PESCARUŞ\*\*\*, tel. 0748 110 401; Navă Fluvială LEBADA\*\*\*, tel. 0748 110 401; Cabană Turistică BARAJ\*\*\*, tel. 0233 254 960.

Izvoru Muntelui: Cabană Turistică IZVORUL MUNTELUI\*\*\*, tel. 0744 597 141; Bungalowuri IZVORUL MUNTELUI\*\*\*, tel. 0744 597 141; Camping IZVORUL MUNTELUI\*\*\*, tel. 0744 771 709.

Ceahlău: Vila ECOTUR\*\*\*\*, tel. 0233 258 571, reservations@ecotur.ro; ŞOIMUL\*\*\*\*, tel. 0233 256 616, www.soimulsicorbul.ro; ARTED\*\*\*, tel. 0720 550 767, www.complex.arted.ro; CASA KAROL\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 258 154, casakarol@yahoo.com; CORBUL\*\*\*, tel. 0233 256 616, corbul@soimulsicorbul.ro; LAVINIA\*\*\*, tel. 0745 624 773; PERLA\*\*\*, tel. 0751 840 252.

Durău: Hoteluri: BISTRIȚA\*\*\*\*, tel. 0233 256 578, fax 0233 256 590, Pensionen: office@bistrita-romania.ro; CASA PELERINUL\*\*\*, tel. 0233 256 583; BRADUL\*\*\*, tel. 0233 256 634, fax 0233 256 501; Hostel CASCADA\*\*\*, tel/fax 0233 256 668, office@hotelcascada.ro; Vila CRISTINA 2\*\*\*, tel. 0233 256 673; Pensiuni: GOLD\*\*\*, tel. 0752 243 924, office@pensiuneagold.ro; MARIA\*\*\*, tel. 0233 256 653; RAPSODIA\*\*\*, tel. 0745 570 757.



Coming from Bacau, along the Bistriṭa River, when you reach Roznov, we advise you to turn left towards the century-old forests in the Tazlǎu Valley. You will find here a village with houses with carved porches and pillars. In the centre of the village, the Tazlǎu Monastery – commissioned by Ştefan cel Mare – stands white. Then, head for Rǎzboieni Monastery also commissioned by the Prince, erected on the site of the bloody battle in the White Valley. Then drive among the gently sloping hills, down to the plain, to the crossroads, at Ancuta's Inn. The hosts will receive you as happy as the former famous innkeeper, Ancuta, in Sadoveanu's equally famous stories, and will provide accommodation and entertainment at they have always done. Once you tasted traditional dishes and refreshed, try a visit to the museums and churches in Roman, a place where culture had its fair share of troubled history.



#### **Duration: 4-5 days**

#### Length:

53 km; you can travel by car, motorcycle, or bicycle

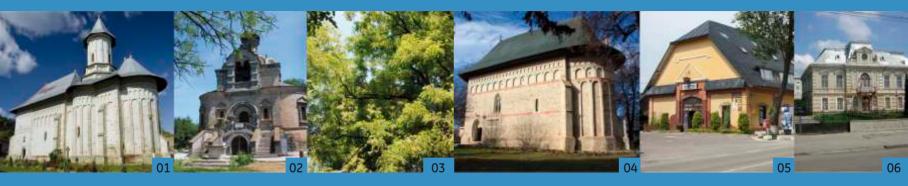
#### How you get to Roznov:

coming from Bucharest on DN2(E85) to Bacău, then take DN15 to Roznov; from the West of the country on DN15 and DN12C; from Suceava on DN15C then take DN15; from Iaşi on E85 to Roman; by train; by train; by plane to the airports in Iasi, Bacău, Suceava and from the airport by car/coach.

#### Where is it?

Tazlău Monastery - 36 km south of Piatra Neamţ, when coming from Bacău on DN 15, in Roznov, turn left, then drive/ride on DJ 156A and DJ 156C; St Nicholas' Church Roznov and the Arboretum Park Roznov are immediately near the roundabout in Roznov; Războieni Monastery – 31 km from Piatra Neamţ on DN 15D, as you head to Roman, in the village Girov turn left on DJ 208G to Războieni.

- Tazlău Monastery
- St Nicholas' Church in Roznov
- Arboretum Park Roznov
- Războieni Monastery
- Ancuta's Inn
- History Museum Roman
- Art Gallery Roman
- Nature Sciences Museum Roman
- Municipal Park Roman
- Archbishopric Cathedral in Roman
- White Church Roman
- The Great "Our Lady's" Church Roman



#### 01 Tazlău Monastery

Having its roots at the beginning of the fifteenth century, the monastic settlement became significant between 1496 and 1497, when Ştefan cel Mare commissioned here a church in brick, "The Birth of Virgin Mary" - one of the most imposing churches commissioned by the great Prince. For nearly three centuries, the monastery flourished from the spiritual and economical point of view. A school for deacons and copyists – who transcribed manuscript of the time – was opened here. The decline began when the monasteries in Moldova were surrendered under the patronage of Patriarchate of Constantinople and Jerusalem. The fire in 1879 marked the end of this stage of monastic life here. The monastery was then converted into a parish church and has been so 1990, when it resumed its monastic destination at the foot of Măgura Tazlău. Info Phone: 0233 298298

#### 02 St Nicholas' Church Roznov

A famous politician of his time, Colonel George Ruset Roznovanu, commissioned this building at the end of the nineteenth century in memory of his son, Alexander, passed away at the age of 20. Surrounded by the Arboretum Park Roznov, the church impresses by its unusual architecture in the area. Having special ties with Russia and Russian nobility, the Roznovanus commissioned this church similar to the Russian ones – with stone walls, the layout as a cross with equal arms on top of which there is the onion-shaped dome. Inside the church, the gilded bronze iconostasis, made in Moscow between 1890 and 1892, impresses with its size and rich decorations. The harmonious painting was done by Costin Petrescu who also painted the Romanian Athenaeum. Info Phone: 0233 667126

#### 03 Arboretum Park Roznov

The Arboretum Park Roznov located on your way on DN 15 occupies a 3-ha-area where you can relax in the shadow of century-old trees – oaks, beeches, chestnuts, and rare species of silver fir, white pine, Japanese acacia, yellow acacia, Japanese maple, elm, and pine – welcomes you to enjoy the colourful foliage and the fresh air.

#### 04 Războieni Monastery

Located in the middle of the village with the same name, the monastery was commissioned by Stefan cel Mare, in 1496, to pay homage to soldiers fallen in the White Valley battle of against the Turks (1476). The foundation plaque placed on the south wall of the "Holy Archangels Michael and Gabriel's" Church describes the defeat of Moldova in the war for country and faith, and the reason behind the commission was to cherish the memory of soldiers who followed the Prince in battle. Hence, the monastery is unique in the series of churches founded of Stefan cel Mare as it is also a mausoleum – the resting place of the remains of soldiers killed in battle, where under the altar and the narthex slabs. Info Phone: 0233 292912

#### 05 Ancuta's Inn

Once a halt for travellers or "carriers in the Highland", located at the crossroads, built like a stronghold in an isolated area and livened by people whose stories were "either terrible or intriguing", it preserves even today the atmosphere of the past offering traditional dishes and chef's specialities developed in Anita's larder. Info Phone: 0233 781400

#### **06 History Museum Roman**

Here you will discover an impressive collection of over 170,000 items, with rare and valuable pieces such as the Neolithic – Cucuteni A hoard, the inventory of Văleni Dacian necropolis, the Cucuteni A-B Culture adornments hoard which contains metal and bone jewellery, the over 220-piece deer fang necklace, the largest of its kind in southeast Europe, artefacts dating back to the free Dacians' era, the medieval Roman Fortress as well as the Roman coin hoard discovered in the Roman area. In the Negruzzi Mansion which houses the museum, you will be enchanted in particular by the mural painting and decoration of the ceiling Ludwig Brenner made in 1884 and by the architecture specific to the late nineteenth-century Baroque. Info Phone: 0233 727726



#### 07 Art Museum Roman

contains collections pf painting, sculpture, drawing, and decorations of the artists in Roman or of other artists that stopped in Roman in the path of their career with the national art. Temporary exhibitions are often added to the basic one. They focus on various styles and techniques of contemporary art. Info Phone: 0233 744011

#### 08 Nature Sciences Museum Roman

Located in the Municipal Park, in a modern building, that matches harmoniously the surrounding area, the museum stands for an important and pleasant possibility to be acquainted with nature due both to its permanent exhibition and to the temporary ones. The basic exhibition contains species of plants and animals specific to the ecosystems in the forests, pastures, and meadows in the Roman area. The exhibits were collected during research conducted in the confluence area of Moldova and Siret Rivers. Info Phone: 0233 742528

#### 09 Municipal Park Roman

Unique in Europe for the diversity of the dendrological species which developed around the lake area, the park awaits for you to offer rest and contemplation; along the quiet lanes you will discover the "Writers' Rotunda" which displays the busts of Creanga, Eminescu, Sadoveanu, Alecsandri, Caragiale, Vlahuṭā, Kogālniceanu, Miron Costin, Enescu, and the monument of lon lonescu de la Brad.

### 10 "Saint Parascheva's" Archbishopric Church Roman

Commissioned by Petru Rareş and his son Ilaş, the Cathedral complex is enlisted as a monument of religious architecture. In its five-century-old history is has been established as an important cultural centre of the area. The unique icon of Moldova' patron saint, Parascheva the Pious, and the extremely beautiful interior mural painting are among its main attractions. The belfry is also monumental and expressive – its five storeys house an equally impressive library. Info Phone: 0233 731683

#### 11 The White Church Roman

Commissioned in 1615 by Prince Ştefan Tomşa II, and then rebuilt in 1695 by the sword bearer Vasile Cantacuzino, the White Church will interest you with its foundation plaque of 1695 which contains the Cantacuzinos' coat of arms and monogram, the expressive painting in vivid colours, and the iconostasis which, despite lacking a historical value as it was built in 1922, presents rich and varied sculptural elements. Info Phone: 0726 335696,0722 347507

#### 12 The Great "Our Lady's" Church Roman

Commissioned in 1569 by Lady Ruxandra Lăpuşneanu, the church stood the test of troubled time and of the elements. It still preserved the belfry, the Holy Table, the foundation plaque, and many religious regalia. Located near the Archbishopric Complex in Roman, you can easily notice the elegance and the sobriety of the exterior as well as the accurate sculpture of the iconostasis and the interior mural painting worked in the Neo-Byzantine fresco technique. Info Phone: 0722 915 623

#### Museums open:

April-September: 10 a.m. -6 p.m.; October-March: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

#### We recommend:

- Lake angling: Budeşti, commune Făurei; Complex Dănăilă, Roman; Caritas Farm, commune Săbăoani; "La Moldovean", commune Dragomireşti; Simioneşti, commune Cordun; Trifeşti, commune Trifeşti, and in the pool Unghi, commune Dragomireşti, Info Phone: 0233 292 876
- Spa Velvet & Beauty at Hotel Roman;

#### Events you are invited to:

**June:** Midsummer Celebrations (Sânziene), 24 June – Days of the commune Tupilati; the annual Fair, folklore events are organised;

July: The Roznov Celebration – the third Sunday in July; the Războieni Celebration – last Sunday in July – a folklore event gathering amateur bands and dance groups in the area; the event celebrates the great battle of Valea Albă (1476) when Ştefan cel Mare's army defeated the Turks; exhibitions, sports competitions; August: Metamorphosis – Nechit Monastery Dedication Day – 6 August; September: "The Birth of Virgin Mary" – Tazläu Monastery Dedication Day –

8 September; The Inns' Festival – Tupilați;

**October:** "Cuvioasa Parascheva" – Dedication Day of the Archbishopric Cathedral Roman – 14 October;

**November:** "Saint Archangels Michael and Gabriel"- Dedication Day of Războieni Monastery and the White Church in Roman – 8 November; "Sadoveniana" Literary Soiree at Ancuta's Inn;

**December:** "St Nicholas' "– Dedication Day of the Church in Roznov, 6 December; "Festival of Traditions" Tazlău:

#### Cazare:

Tazlău: Das Pension CASA BUNICII \*\*\*, tel. 0745 244 770, 0747 281 650;

Roznov: Das Pension AKIRA \*\*, tel. 0233 665 727;

Săvinesti: Das Pension CASA DRUMETULUI \*\*\*, tel.0233 281 147,

www.casadrumetului.ro;

Dumbrava Roșie: Motel BALCOST \*\*\*, tel. 0233 282 240,

www.motelbalcost.ro; Pensionen: OCTOGON\*\*\*, tel. 0233 282 292;

BYBLOS \*\*\*, tel. 0233 280 993, www.pensiuneabyblos.ro; CASA

EDELWEISS \*\*\*, tel. 0233 217 502; ANDRA \*\*\*, tel. 0233 282 559;

CLASSIC \*\*\*, tel.0233 282 290, www.pensiuneaclassic.ro; RUSTIC \*\*\*,

tel. 0233 280 393, www.pensiunea-rustic.ro;

Girov: Motel ANA\*\*\*, tel. 0233 290 221, www.motelana.ro; Das Pension

ELENA \*\*\*, tel. 0233 290 770;

Dulcesti: Motel CONDOR \*\*\*, tel. 0233 761 001;

Tupilati: HANU ANCUTEI \*\*\*, tel. 0233 781 400; HANUL RĂZEŞILOR \*\*\*,

tel. 0730 608 141, www.hanulrazesilor.ro;

Secuieni: Das Pension RALUCA \*\*\*\*, tel. 0233 743 731;

Trifești: Das Pension IOANA \*\*\*, tel. 0745 073 418;

Roman: Hotels: ROMAN \*\*\*, tel. 0233 742 600, www.hotel-roman.ro; MARIKO INN \*\*\*, tel. 0233 742 525, www.mariko.ro; ZARA \*\*\*, tel. 0233

733 731, www.hotelzara.ro;

Horia - Cotu Vames: Motel IMPERIAL \*\*\*, tel. 0233 747 111.

Notes:		