



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## Romania - Maramures

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Bucharest
- ✓ **Language:** Romanian
- ✓ **Population:** ± 516,600
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 6304
- ✓ **Currency:** Leu (RON - L)
- ✓ **Country code:** +40 (262/362)
- ✓ **Visa:** For some nationalities, [info here!](#)
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 112
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** None



### History Recap Over 1 Drink

3000BC: Thracian tribes. 2000BC: Dacians. 700BC: Greeks. 106-271AD: Romans colonize Dacia. 4<sup>th</sup> century: Christianity. 4-9<sup>th</sup>: Goths/Visigoths/Huns/Slavs. 896-1100s: Hungarians (*Magyars*). 12<sup>th</sup>: Saxons (*Germans*) in Transylvania. 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>: Resistance to Ottomans→1526: Conquered anyway. 1600-'01: Transylvania/Moldova/Wallachia (T/M/W) under Michael the Brave. 1821: Russia administers M/W, native Romanian rulers. '56: Russia's defeat in Crimean War: Control in Romania ends. '66: German Prince Karl succeeds him (*invited by parliament*). '77-78: Independence of Ottomans, by siding with Russia in Russo-Turkish War + acquires coastline. '81: Kingdom. 1904: Oil industry. '16: WWI with Allies. '18: End war→population ↑. '30s: fascist Iron Guard movement. '40: Gen. Antonescu seizes power→ unites with Nazi Germany. '44: Switch to Soviet. Soviet-style people rep. '65: Ceausescu: Comm. Leader: repressive / personality cult. '77: Earthquake kills 1500. '85-'86: Foreign debt program: food shortages/power cuts. '89: Bloody national uprising→Ceausescu killed. Democratic. '90: ec/pol reforms. First free multi-party elections. '04: NATO. EU reforms. '07: Enters EU. '08: EUR warning: corruption. '09: Financial Crisis, 20bn rescue. '17: Protests against government watering down corruption measures. '18: Referendum against gay marriage fails: low turn-up.

### Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget	Winter	high	season	for	skiing,	summer	and	spring	for	hiking		

Altitude: 55.8-91.5m. Climate: Humid Continental Climate (Dfb).

### Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Interesting towns:** Sighet, Baia Mare, Borsa, Breb.
- ☺ **Sights:** Barsana Monastery (*Wooden Churches of Maramures - Barsana*), Moisei Massacre Memorial (*Viseu de Sus*), Stephen's Tower (*Baia Mare*),
- ☺ **Nature:** [Muntii Rodnei NP](#), [Muntii Maramuresului NP](#), Horses Waterfall / Cascada Cailor(*Borsa*), Creasta Cocosului (*Breb*), Tibles Mountains, Blue Lake (*Baia Mare*), Lapus Mountains, Mlastina Lezerul Mare, Pestera din Dealul Solovan.

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Steam Train:** [Mocanita](#) (*Viseu de Sus*).
- 👍 **Museums & sights:** [Memorial of the Victims of Communism and the Resistance](#) (*Sighet*), Village Museum (*Sighet*), Merry Cemetery (*Sapanta*), Sapanta-Peri Monastery, [Mineralogy Museum](#) (*Baia Mare*), [Ethnography and Folk Art Museum](#) (*Baia Mare*), [Art Museum](#) (*Baia Mare*).
- 👍 **Skiing & Snowboarding:** [Cavnic](#), Borsa (*Prislop*), Suior, Rarau, Malina, Mogosa.

## Budget Bites

⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Penny Market, Profi, Unicarm, Carrefour.

⌘ **Local food:** Sarmale (*cabbage rolls*), Mamaliga (*polenta*), Zacusca (*vegetable dip*), Ciorba (*soup – many kinds*), Balmos (*corn-flour-cheese-dish*), Jumari (*smoked bacon*), Mici (*BBQ meat*), Cighir (*organ meat balls*), Drob (*meat loaf / organ haggis*), Salata de Vinete (*baba ganoush*), Placinta (*savory pie*), Cascaval Pane (*deep-fried breaded cheese*), Toba (*pig-organ-head-stew*), Tochitura (*pig stew*), Chiftele (*meat balls*), Frigarui (*shish kebab*), Limba cu Masline (*cow tongue*), Snitel (*schnitzel*), Stufat (*stew*), Papanasi (*desert*).

⌘ **Go vegan:** Being vegan is ridiculously easy in Europe and especially in Romania, where religious ‘fasting food’ (*mancare depost*) is entirely vegan and available everywhere. Local vegan dishes: Zacusca, Sarmale Depost, Mamaliga, Salata de Vinete, Lahnia de Fasole / Fasole Batuta (*beans mash*), Tocana (*vegetable stew*), Pilaf de Orez (*rice with vegetables*), Ardei Umpluti (*stuffed bell peppers*), Ghiveci (*veggie stew*), Mancare de Mazare / Praz (*pea / leek stew*), Chiftelute / Snitel de Ciuperci (*mushroom fried stuff*). Every bigger supermarket has a big supply of ‘depost’ products and there are several full-vegan restaurants. Check them here: [Happy Cow – Romania](#).

## Mama Said

☠ Europe in general, and also Romania, is very safe... but use your common sense like everywhere.

☠ Tap water isn’t drinkable everywhere in Maramures.

## Sleep Cheap

❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are very affordable in Romania. (*Wild*) Camping is a good option in summer only. Book hostels with \$15 discount via this [Booking.com link!](#)

❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or Housesitting ([20% discount for Trusted Housesitters via this link!](#)) Also check [WorkAway](#) or [HelpX](#) for work-exchanges.

## Festivals

☼ Tanjaua de pe Mara: Culture, May.

☼ Long Road to the Merry Cemetery: Culture, Aug (*Sapanta*)

☼ Chestnut Festival: Food, Sep (*Baia Mare*).

## Free-Riding?

■ Walking is an excellent option to see the more subtle details of the towns of Maramures.

■ Biking is possible, but there are no separate bicycle lanes, so be careful of other traffic.

■ Maramures doesn’t have much of a public transport network. Renting a car or hitchhiking are the best ways to get from place to place.

■ Bucharest’s fastest and most efficient way of public transport (*because of the insane traffic*) is by metro / subway

■ Airport: Baia Mare Airport (BAY).

## Next?

➔ **In Romania:** Cluj Napoca, Sighasoara, Oradea.

➔ **International destinations close by:** Ukraine, Hungary, Bulgaria, Serbia, Moldova, Slovakia.

The Earth Becomes My Throne