



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Romania - Sibiu & Region

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Bucharest
- ✓ **Language:** Romanian
- ✓ **Population:** ± 426,000
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 121
- ✓ **Currency:** Leu (RON - L)
- ✓ **Country code:** +40 (269)
- ✓ **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. 4th century: Christianity. 4-9th: Goths/Visigoths/Huns/Slavs. 896-1100s: Hungarians (*Magyars*). 12th: Saxons (*Germans*) in Transylvania. 14th-15th: 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 Sibiu: 415m. Climate: Humid Continental Climate (Dfb).

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Sights:** Old Town, Bridge of Lies, Cathedral, Piata Mare, Piata Mica, Passage of Stairs, Orasul de Jos (*lower town*), Citadel Park, Sub Arini Park, Fortress Walls, Synagoge, Casa Calfelor, Huet Tunnel & many towers.
- ☺ **Museums – Free:** Museum of Steam Locomotives.
- ☺ **Nature:** [Dumbrava Sibiului Natural Park](#), Balea Lake, [Gradistea Muncelului Natural Park](#), [Defileul Jiului National Park](#), [Buila-Vanturarita National Park](#), Cozia National Park, Apuseni National Park.

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Skiing / Snowboarding:** [Arena Platos Paltinis](#), [Partia Oncesti](#), (*far: Sureanu, Transalpinia*).
- 👍 **Outdoor experiences:** [Hotel of Ice](#), Transfăgărășan highway (*summer only*).
- 👍 **Museums (*paid – student discounts apply*):** [Pharmacy Museum](#), [Brukenthal National Museum](#), [Turnul Sfatului](#), Museum of History, Franz Binder World Ethnographic Museum, [Astra Museum](#).

Budget Bites

⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Lidl, Profi, Kaufland, Premium, Penny Market, Carrefour, Simpa.

⌘ **Markets:** Cibin, Huet Square, Transilvania Hall.

⌘ **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 – Sibiu](#).

Mama Said

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

☠ Boycott zoos or aquariums like Sibiu Zoological Garden, where animals are held in captivity.

☠ Tap water is drinkable.

☠ If you decide to take the cable car up to the Balea Lake, leave extremely early... you might wait up to 4 hours if you don't.

Festivals

☼ Sibiu Jazz Festival: May.

☼ International Theatre Festival: June.

☼ Artmania: July.

More festivals [here](#).

Nights Best Spent

◆ **Nightlife areas:** Historical Centre.

◆ **Theatres:** Radu Stanca National Theatre.

Free-Riding?

■ Walking is an excellent option to see the more subtle details of Sibiu. To reach the national parks and surrounding mountains alternative transport is necessary.

■ Renting a bike is possible at most hostels. It's a good way to discover Sibiu and its surroundings.

■ Sibiu is connected by a bus system. The ticket system is rather inefficient as they can't be bought on the bus, and only a few main bus stops have a vending machine. It's best to buy a few tickets in advance, whenever you spot a vending machine. The central bus terminal is located at Piața 1 Decembrie 1918. Budget bus lines are [Eurolines](#) and [Flixbus](#).

■ Sibiu's train station (Gara Centrală) is located at Piața 1 Decembrie 1918, as well as the bus station.

■ Airport: Cluj International Airport (CLJ), Brasov Airport (BRV).

■ Hitchhiking is relatively safe and quite common. You can also use apps like [Blablacar](#) for a cheap ride.

Next?

➔ **In Romania:** Cluj Napoca, Brașov, Sinaia, Sighasoara.

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