



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Romania - Sinaia

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Bucharest
- ✓ **Language:** Romanian
- ✓ **Population:** ± 10,500
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 89,27
- ✓ **Currency:** Leu (RON - L)
- ✓ **Country code:** +40 (244)
- ✓ **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: 767-860m. Climate: Warm Humid Continental Climate (Dfb).

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Sights (can be discovered by Geocaching):** [Sinaia Monastery](#), [Casino Sinaia](#), [Sinaia Town Hall](#), Enescu school gate, Foişor Castle, Dimitrie Ghica Park, Sinaia Museum.
- ☺ **Hikes:** [Bucegi Natural Park](#): 39 trails (see hiking / hut map in blog), Prahova Valley.

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Skiing / Snowboarding:** [Sinaia Gondola](#). Further up north: [Predeal](#), [Azuga](#).
- 👍 **Sights:** [Peleş Castle](#) (full tour recommended), Ialomicioara Monastery & Cave, [George Enescu Memorial House](#).
- 👍 **Wine tastings:** [Cramele Halewood](#) (Azuga).
- 👍 **Outdoors:** [Escapade Adventure Park](#).

The Earth Becomes My Throne

Budget Bites

⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Mega Image, Carrefour, Penny Market, Profi, Lidl.

⌘ **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 restaurants with vegan options. Check them here: [Happy Cow – Sinaia](#).

Mama Said

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

☠ Tap water is drinkable.

☠ Plan your hikes well. Inform people about your route and planned return time and wear a safety beacon and GPS receiver, as in the mountains your phone won't have signal. In the winter avalanche risk can be serious. Brown bears encounters are frequent: do not approach or feed them. Yes, they're special; they can also kill you. Don't take safety too lightly, many people have died in the Romanian mountains.

Sleep Cheap

❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are very affordable in Romania. (*Wild*) Camping is a good option in summer only. Book accommodation 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

☼ Winter Air Sports: Feb.

☼ Bike Fest: July.

☼ Sinaia Forever Festival: Sept.

Nights Best Spent

◆ **Nightlife areas:** Main Street.

◆ **Theatres:** Casino Sinaia.

Free-Riding?

■ Walking is the easiest way to get around in Sinaia.

■ In summer Sinaia is being marketed as bike city. So grab or rent a bike and explore the mountains!

■ Buses serve the centre, suburbs and higher areas of Sinaia. Tickets can be bought from bus drivers and are very cheap. Find routes [here](#). The main bus stop is next to Sinaia Train Station. Budget intercity bus lines are [Eurolines](#) and [Flixbus](#).

■ Sinaia has 2 train stations: Sinaia (*central*) and Sinaia Sud. Trains don't go very frequent, so check the times first at [CFR](#). Tickets are cheap and can be bought at the (*central*) station or in the train from the conductor.

■ Airport (*Bucharest*): Henri Coandă International Airport (OTP).

■ Hitchhiking is relatively safe and quite common.

Next?

➔ **In Romania:** Ploiești, Bucharest, Brașov.

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