

## **B. City tour**

**Cost: 30 EURO / person**

Costs are available for minimum 15 pax groups.

### **Costs inclusive of:**

- Bus with air conditioning and audio-video equipment
- English/French speaking guide for the entire trip
- Entrance tickets

Including visits to:

**The National Museum of Art of Romania and The National Village Museum "Dimitrie Gusti"**

**08:45**

Meeting with the guide at The Palace of the Parliament

**09:00**

Departure for the City Tour; on the route you can admire several palaces and monuments in Bucharest, described below: Carol Park, Sutu Palace, National Theatre, the Romanian Airmen Heroes Memorial, Arch of Triumph, The Romanian Peasant Museum, the National Geology Museum, Victoria Palace, Cantacuzino Palace, the Romanian Athenaeum, The Royal Palace, The Palace of National Military Circle, The Palace of the deposits, CEC and Economics, the Palace of the Post and the Palace of Justice.

**13:00-13:30**

Arrival at the Palace of The Parliament

## The Carol Park

The park was designed by French landscape artist Édouard Redont in 1900 on Filaret Hill, under the supervision of Constantin Istrati, then president of the Romanian Academy. It was inaugurated in 1906, on the 40th anniversary of the coronation of King Carol I.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, inaugurated in 1923 in memory of Romanian soldiers fallen in World War I, was dismantled and moved in 1958 to Mărășești, being replaced by a Mausoleum of the Communist Heroes. In 1991 it was returned to the park, to be moved again in 2007, closer to its original location

Aside from its beautiful vegetation and panoramic views, the park also includes several monuments, such as a Mausoleum, the Cantacuzino Fountain (built in 1870), another fountain *Fântâna Minelor și Carierelor* (1906), the Giants' Statues, the Zodiac Fountain (1934), the Technical Museum (first opened in 1909), a monument in the shape of a small mosque built in 1923 as a sign of reconciliation. Also in the park are the open-air Roman Arena, and the Astronomical Institute of the Romanian Academy.



**Sutu Palace** is a building in Bucharest, located in the University, built between 1833-1835, after the Viennese architect Schwink Conrad and Johann Veit. Building is neo-Gothic style. Today the palace houses the Museum of Bucharest.

## The University

Since its foundation by Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza, ruler of the United Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia (1859-66), as the successor to higher education structures dating back to the Princely Academy founded in 1694, the University of Bucharest has contributed to the development and modernisation of Romanian education, science and culture. The following are some of the more important episodes in its history:

**1694:** Constantin Brâncoveanu, ruler of Wallachia, founds the Princely Academy of *Saint Sava* in Bucharest on the advice of Constantin Cantacuzino, a brilliant scholar and humanist educated at Padua. Lectures are delivered in Greek

**1776:** Alexandru Ipsilanti, ruler of Wallachia, reforms the curriculum of the *Saint Sava* Academy, where courses of French, Italian and Latin are now taught. New buildings for the Academy are erected between 1776 and 1779

**1855:** Carol Davila creates the National School of Medicine and Pharmacy

**1859:** Establishment of the Faculty of Law

**1863:** Establishment of the Faculties of Sciences and Letters

**1864:** Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza creates the University of Bucharest, bringing together the Faculties of Law, Sciences and Letters as one single body (decree no. 756 of 4/16 July 1864)





## The National Theatre

20 Decembrie 1973 - The new building of the National Theatre is inaugurated together with its three halls: The Great Hall, The Small Hall and The Black Box. The initial project (1964-1973) was signed by the architects Horia Maicu, Romeo Belea and Nicolae Cucu and the resistance structure was projected by the engineer Alexandru Cișmigiu. The building's architecture subscribed to the 60's modernism movement, but the façade was left unfinished. The "hat" shape that became the building's symbol turned out to be fatidic. The fact that the structure didn't resemble a "house" at all but looked more like a hat, determined Ceaușescu to ask, in 1978, after a fire at The Great Hall, *to reshape the theatre both on the exterior as*

*well as in the interior.* After the changes, a new hall appeared: The Amphitheater Hall.

The **Romanian Airmen Heroes Memorial** was built between 1930 and 1935 by the architect and sculptress Lidia Kotzebuie (1885–1944), and by Iosif Fekete. The structure, 20 m (65.6 ft) high, is made up of bronze sculptures resting on an obelisk-shaped stone pedestal, which in turn stands atop four trapezoidal prisms linked to each other by arcs. Beneath this entire complex is a circular stone base.

Attached to the top of the obelisk, which reaches 15 m, is a 5-meter, 5-ton statue depicting a flying man, his wings outstretched. The folds of a shawl fall from his waist onto the obelisk. Three aviators, each in a different stage of flight attempt, are depicted around the base of the obelisk. On the pedestal are the aviators' insignia, helmet and equipment, as well as engraved plaques with the names of Romanian airmen who had crashed to their deaths by the time the monument was built. These men died pursuing various goals: skill development, performance, adventure and fighting in World War I. The first name is that of Gheorghe Caranda, killed on 20 April 1912 on an airfield during a training flight; the last is that of Sava Rotaru, killed on 29 May 1934 in thick fog in the hills around Cernavodă. After the official dedication, 99 additional names have been posted on the North bottom side of the pedestal.



**The Arch of Triumph** is a triumphal arch located in the northern part of Bucharest, on the Kiseleff Road.

The first, wooden, triumphal arch was built hurriedly, after Romania gained its independence (1878), so that the victorious troops could march under it. Another temporary arch was built on the same site, in 1922, after World War I, which was demolished in 1935 to make way for the current triumphal arch, which was inaugurated in September 1936.

The current arch has a height of 27 metres and was built after the plans of the architect Petre Antonescu. It has as its foundation a 25 x 11.50 metres rectangle. The sculptures with which the facades are decorated were created by famous Romanian sculptors such as Ion Jalea and Dimitrie Paciurea. Nowadays, military parades are held beneath the arch each 1 December, with the occasion of Romania's national day.



**The House of the Free Press** is a building in northern Bucharest, Romania, the tallest in the city between 1956 and 2007.

A horse race track was built in 1905 on the future site of Casa Presei Libere. A third of the track was removed in 1950 to make way for a wing of the building, and the race track was finally closed and demolished in 1960, after a decision by Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej.

Construction began in 1952 and was completed in 1956. The building was named *Combinatul Poligrafic Casa Scînteii "I.V.Stalin"* and later *Casa Scînteii* (*Scînteia* was the name of the Romanian Communist Party's official newspaper). It was designed by the architect Horia Maicu, in the pure (albeit

comparatively small-scale) style of Soviet Socialist realism, resembling the main building of the Moscow State University, and was intended to house all of Bucharest's printing presses, the newsrooms and their staff.

It has a foundation with an area of 280x260m, the total constructed surface is 32,000 m<sup>2</sup> (344,445 sq ft) and it has a volume of 735,000 m<sup>3</sup>. Its height is 91.6 m (301 ft) without the television antenna, which measures an additional 12.4 m (41 ft), bringing the total height to 104 m (341 ft).

Between 1952 and 1966, Casa Scînteii was featured on the reverse of the 100 lei banknote.

On 21 April 1960, a giant statue of Vladimir Lenin, made by Romanian sculptor Boris Caragea, was placed in front of the building. However, this statue was removed on 3 March 1990, following the Romanian Revolution of 1989. The statue's pedestal is still there.

It has basically the same role nowadays, with many of today's newspapers having their headquarters in the same building, now renamed *Casa Presei Libere* ("The House of the Free Press"). The Bucharest Stock Exchange (*Bursa de Valori București*, BVB - in Romanian) was located in the southern wing at one point.



**The Museum of the Romanian Peasant** is a museum with a collection of textiles (especially costumes), icons, ceramics, and other artifacts of Romanian peasant life. One of Europe's leading museums of popular arts and traditions, it was designated "European Museum of the Year" for 1996. Located on Șoseaua Kiseleff, near Piața Victoriei, the museum falls under the patronage of the Romanian Ministry of Culture. Its collection includes over 100,000 objects. First founded in the 1930s by and originally managed by Alexandru Tzigara-Samurcaș, the museum was reopened February 5, 1990, a mere six weeks after the downfall and execution of Nicolae Ceaușescu. During the Communist era, the building housed a museum representing the country's Communist party; the museum's basement still contains a room devoted to an ironic display of some artifacts from that earlier museum. The building, which uses traditional Romanian architectural features, was built on the former site of the State Mint

(*Monetăria Statului*). The museum was devastated during the June 1990 Mineriad, due to being confused with the headquarters of the National Peasants' Party.

One of the museum's most famous exhibits—originally the work of Tzigara-Samurcaș—is "the house in the house". The house, which originally belonged to peasant Antonie Mogos of Ceauru village in Gorj County. From the first, the house was displayed in a non-naturalistic way: objects that would normally be in the interior were displayed in various manners outside; outbuildings were suggested by fragments. The Communist regime displayed the house much more conventionally, outdoors at the Village Museum; it returned to the Peasant Museum in 2002. The current display at the Peasant Museum revives the original non-naturalistic approach. For example, from a platform, museum visitors may peer into the attic, part of whose wall is stripped away; various objects are arranged inside.

In 2002, the museum's exhibit space was greatly expanded as the museum store and offices moved into a new building behind the old one, freeing up a considerable amount of floor space in the museum proper.



**National Geology Museum** was opened to the public in 1990, the Geological Institute of Romania building, built in 1906, by architect Victor G. Stăbanescu.

The permanent exhibition consists of 14 exhibition basic and contains about 7,700 exhibits from the total of 70,000 specimens in scientific collections of the museum.



**Victoria Palace** was begun in 1937 and finished in 1944. Due to damage caused by bombing in 1944, work was resumed and completed in 1952. Originally designed for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Victoria Palace was during the communist period the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Council of Ministers and became, in 1990, the seat of the first post-communist government of Romania. In 2004, Victoria Palace was included in the list of historical monuments.

As Mark said Duiliu both interiors and facades Victoria Palace illustrate "the concern to preserve the foundation of classical and pops in conception and in detail study the idea of modern simplicity." Initially, the main facade was, as side facades, covered with Carrara marble and the two fill ups have side carved decorative panels of the same material, as a result of damage caused by bombing in 1944, the two panels were removed and the facade Main was rebuilt with travertine tiles.



**Cantacuzino Palace**, located on one of the oldest streets of the capital, Victoria, was built in the early twentieth century by architect I. Berindey, in a style combining French academicism memories of rococo decorative accents Art Nouveau.

In 1956, Cantacuzino Palace devernit Memorial Museum "George Enescu" dedicated to the great Romanian composer. The museum displays documents and personal objects musician. Here they are, with whom Enescu Violin received a gift at the age of 4 years, scores of his works, diplomas and medals that have been conferred, including the French Legion of Honor. In December 1939, Maruca Cantacuzino, ex-wife of Nawab eldest son, married George Enescu.

The **Romanian Athenaeum** is a concert hall in the center of Bucharest and a landmark of the Romanian capital city. Opened in 1888, the ornate, domed, circular building is the city's main concert hall and home of the "George Enescu" Philharmonic and of the George Enescu annual international music festival.

1865, cultural and scientific personalities such as Constantin Esarcu, V. A. Urechia, and Nicolae Crețulescu founded the Romanian Athenaeum Cultural Society. To serve its purposes, the Romanian Athenaeum, a building dedicated to art and science, would be erected in Bucharest.

The building was designed by the French architect Albert Galleron, built on a property that had belonged to the Văcărescu family and inaugurated in 1888, although work continued until 1897. A portion of the construction funds was raised by public subscription in a 28-year long effort, of which the slogan is still remembered today: "Donate one *leu* for the *Ateneu!*"

On December 29, 1919, the Athenaeum was the site of the conference of leading Romanians who voted to ratify the unification of Bessarabia, Transylvania, and Bukovina with the Romanian Old Kingdom to constitute Greater Romania.



**Palace of National Military Circle** is a building Bucharest central institution hosting the Romanian Army culture, cultural-educational profile, artistic, recreational fun and image, representation and protocol.

Construction works for the National Military Club started in 1911, although the land where the building would stand was assigned by the Ministry Domains since 1898.

Principal designer of the monumental Palace of National Military Circle was Romanian architect Dimitrie Maimarolu , in collaboration with V. Stefanescu and E. Doneaud.

The client was *Military officers of the garrison Bucharest*, Romanian officers organization founded in December 15, 1876.

The necessary funds were collected from donations, subscriptions and contributions of officers (80%) and state subsidies and repayable loans.



**Palace of the deposits, CEC and Economics** (commonly known as *CEC Palace* after subsequent name of institution), is a building in Bucharest , located in Victoria , opposite the Post Office Palace , built in the same period.

CEC Palace cornerstone was laid on 8 July 1897 , in the presence of King Carol I of Romania and Queen Elizabeth.

By 1875, it had found that place inn monastery "St. John the Great". Dating from the sixteenth century , settlements were restored by Constantin Brancoveanu in the years 1702 - 1703 for, then degradându is to be demolished in 1875 . The current building was built after the demolition of the first seat of the House of Deposits (high to turn instead monastery).

Made by architect Paul Gottereau specific elements of French architecture from the late nineteenth century, the CEC Palace was completed in 1900.



Today, the palace houses the headquarters CEC Bank , successor old CEC (*Savings House*)

The palace, built in eclectic style ends with a glass dome and metal. The entrance is crowned by a pediment supported semicircular a pair of composite style columns. The four volumes corner, decorated with gables and stem are covered by domes Renaissance. A much larger dome covering the central hall of the building, in which the various counters of the institution. Judicious decoration of facades, balance its component volumes make this palace an interesting architectural monument of the city.

CEC as an institution was established in 1864 by an act initiated by Alexandru Ioan Cuza. At first he worked in different buildings, then in 1875 began construction of its headquarters. Place in which the CEC today is found then the church of St. John the Great, which was demolished to make way for the first building. CEC is developing rapidly, so that the old location is too small. The act of demolition and construction was begun on the same site current premises after French architect Paul Gottereau . Early work was marked by a ceremony held on June 8, 1897. Participants include the royal family, government officials, members of the CEC board and architect Paul Gottereau. Construction was completed in 1900 and since then CEC worked in this building without making other notable changes.

In 1892 the law was drafted to build **Postal Palace**. At that time, the post held by the Interior Ministry , which was responsible to allocate a substantial amount. The law specifies: *"The Interior Ministry opened the account a credit of £ 3,000,000 gold, will cover through the issuance of rent or any other means will find the most appropriate government"*.

At the same time, the architect Alexandru Savulescu , designed to make the plans of the new building, was sent to visit several European capitals and study buildings post there, along with director postmaster then, Ernest Sturza. They Sudi Postal palaces of Paris, Vienna, Turin, Milan, Venice, Budapest, Zurich and Geneva. To return to a plan that was submitted to the Ministry of Interior. This was the inspiration and model building post Geneva . Of Bucharest city fathers decided to build the Palace of the Post on a land that, in the eighteenth century, the great houses were



Constantine Balaceanu Aga, which place the ruler Constantin Brancoveanu built a large inn and had the name ("Constantin Voda Inn "). Fire in 1847, which included a large part of the city, destroyed the inn, whose ruins were demolished by 1862. The land is on the other side of the street, opposite to the one that was built, the same time, CEC Palace .

Actual construction of the palace began in 1894, the cornerstone to being present during the ceremony, King Carol I of Romania , Prime Minister Lascar Catargiu , cabinet ministers, police prefect and mayor.

Palace of Post and Telegraph plans were made by architect Alexandru Savulescu style neoclassical , reminiscent of palace architecture in Geneva Post Office. The main façade has speed throughout its length and a portico supported by 10 columns Doric . Extremities of two prominent volumes are erected and covered by a dome.

The palace was inaugurated in 1900 to its original recipient, the Romanian Post .

Downtown Post Office operated in this palace until 1970, when they started renovating the building and decoration of the National Museum of History, which opened in 1972.

## Palace of Justice



**Courthouse** was built between 1890 - one thousand eight hundred ninety-five by architect Albert Ballu (same architect who designed the Palace of Justice in Charleroi , Belgium ) and Ion Mincu who led the construction and decoration drawing and sketches , internal ceilings, floors, railings, stairs, furniture.

The building's cornerstone was laid by King Carol I of Romania staff on October 7th 1890 . Event Witnesses reported that the ceremony was held after the typical time: King signed the foundation act on parchment , sealed with the seal of royal after the king, wearing a white apron with gold tassels, filed parchment in foundation and laid the first brick .

The building was erected on the site in the days of the Organic Regulation , function *Judicial Court*, built on Crețulești nobles

estates and empty, on the right bank of the Dâmbovița, ie the land located in the Garden "Little Palace" of Brancoveanu.

The works was provided by engineer Nicolae Cuțarida company. Inside the palace there is a room of lost steps, like the University of Iasi Palace. The stately "Hall lost steps" called "Meeting the Clock" occupies a quarter of the nearly 13,000 square meters as building area is ground. The name 'the Clock Room "comes from the fact that this space was fitted clock designed to measure "the process".

Exterior of the building has urban influences and the central body is built in the French Renaissance style. The central part of the façade is less marked unhooked and six pilasters strong. Under construction vaults above the main entrance are located six statues allegorical , signifying (from left to right): *Attention, force, law, justice, eloquence* and *truth*, sculpted by Carol Storck , Frederic Storck , Wladimir Hegel and George Vasilescu .

Another two statues flanking the clock on the roof , signifies *strength* and *prudence*.

Palace of Justice building has basement, ground, mezzanine and first floor part with a variable height of about 20 m above ground level, covering an area of approximately 8500 m<sup>2</sup> built and developed area of approximately 27,700 m<sup>2</sup>, with the plan as a quadrilateral irregular with overall dimensions of 140 x 90 m