



TRANSYLVANIA & BUKOVINA

7 - 18 JUNE 2018

Ottoman Carpets, Post-Byzantine Textiles, Romanian Folk Kilims, Tuducs

www.transylvanianrugs.com

Day 1 - Thurs, June 7 (d)

Arrival in Bucharest

Arrival at international Otopeni airport (BUH) by individual flights.

Transfer to the Boutique Hotel Amzei, located in the centre of the town; Suggested walk to the nearby Amzei market;

4.30 pm - from the hotel: walking tour with Stefano: Romanian Atheneum and King Carol Square where the Revolution of 1989 took place, Kretulescu Church;

7:30 pm - Presentation meeting in the bar of the hotel with a glass of Italian Prosecco; every participant will receive the brochure of the tour with the itinerary in Transylvania and Bukovina; Dinner with Turkish specialities.



The Romanian Atheneum

Day 2 - Fri, June 8 (b,l,d)

Bucharest

9:30 am - Depart for the Armenian Church and visit the parish museum; coffee.

Visit Antique Art Gallery run by one of the most experienced art dealers in Bucharest;

1.30 pm - lunch at Manuc's inn, a restaurant with Romanian specialities;

3:30 pm - National Art Museum (open 11 am - 7 pm), Medieval Gallery: religious art, post Byzantine art, Ottoman textiles and costumes, ecc. Highlights of the European Art Gallery (not to miss the three paintings by El Greco).

Continue the city tour: Stop at the famous beer-house 'Carul cu Bere', founded in 1879. Visit Stavropoleos Church with the small museum;

8:00 pm - Dinner to be announced.



Stavropoleos
Greek-Orthodox Church

Day 3 - Sat, June 9 (b,l,d)

Bucharest - Mogoșoia (50 km)

9:30 am - Depart for the Village Museum, which holds a collection of Romanian flatweaves. Stefano will present the museum and the main textile production areas:

Oltenia, Transylvania, Moldavia and Bessarabia. Excellent museum shop; Craftsmen's fair with items (textiles, wood works, painted eggs, ceramics) from different regions.

12:30 pm - Depart for Mogoșoia Palace in the outskirts of Bucharest.

1:30 pm - Open air lunch in the garden of the Palace.

2:30 pm - Guided tour of Mogoșoia Palace, finished in 1702 by Prince Brâncoveanu, which houses about 300 items donated by the top Romanian art-collectors Liana and Dan Nasta including Kula, Gördes, Kirshehir rugs, Senneh and Erzurum kilims and an excellent collection of Romanian and Bessarabian *scoartze*.

5:30 pm - Tea at Buhara Gallery with passionate carpet collector Norbert Hauser and a few other friends, followed by some meze. Dinner with traditional food, *mititei*.



An Oltenian kilim (*scoartza*)
Romanian Peasant Museum



The House of the Republic, Bucharest



The Mogoșoia Palace



Triumphal Arch

Day 4 - Sun, June 10 (b,d)**Buch. - Sinaia - Bran - Braşov (210 km)**

9:00 am - Depart for Sinaia. Short presentation of the historical and religious background of the three regions of Romania: Walachia, Moldavia and Transylvania.

11:30 am - Guided visit of the Peleş Castle, former residence of the Royal family, which has retained original furnishing, including 18th. cent. Persian carpets.

1:00 pm - Open air snack at the coffee-shop of the Peleş Castle.



2:30 pm - Depart for Bran, home of the so-called 'Dracula' Castle, nestled in an idyllic valley. We'll view the Castle from the outside and stroll in the nearby market, sampling local grappa, delicious sheep's cheeses in fir tree bark, and Hungarian *Kurtos Colak* (twisty sweet bread thingy).

5:00 pm - Visit the Lutheran Church in Rosenau and learn about the history of this Saxon village founded by the Teutonic Knights, including the reason why Ottoman rugs survived in the Lutheran Churches.

7:00 pm - Accommodation at the four-star Hotel Ambient**** (fitness center & spa).

8:00 pm - Dinner followed by a short walk to the medieval town-centre to admire the great Market Square, the City Hall and the Black Church by night.



The 'Dracula' Castle in Bran



The Peleş Castle in Sinaia



Peleş Castle: Oriental Room



Landscape near Bran

Day 5 - Mon, June 11 (b,d)**Braşov / Kronstadt****(70 km)**

9:00 am - Depart by bus to visit the Hungarian Lutheran Church of Braşov (4 rugs).

10:30 am - Private visit to the Black Church where almost 60 antique Ottoman rugs are displayed. Stephen Schlandt will present the historical organ of the Black Church and play a short concert. Stefano will deal with the history of the Church and outline some important examples of the carpet collection, including so called 'Transylvanian' rugs.

13:00 pm - Pastries, fresh fruit at Aldus Bookshop close to the Black Church.

3:00 pm - From the hotel, 5 min. walk to the charming Blumenau Church (13 rugs).

4:00 pm - Depart for the Saxon fortified Churches of Honigberg/Härman (7 rugs) and Petersberg/Sânpetru (5 rugs), in the outskirts of Braşov. Return to the hotel by 7 pm.

7:30 pm - Depart for Poiana Braşov the nicest mountain resort in Romania (1.020 m).

8:00 pm - Dinner party at the 'Shepherd's House': local food (sheep cheese and lamb) and folk music. Return to Braşov and stop to admire the town by night.



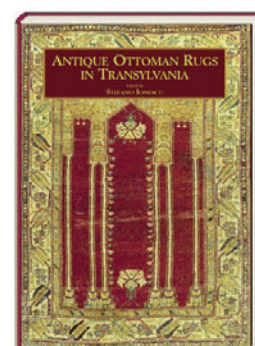
The Black Church in Braşov



The Hungarian Church in Braşov



Ottoman prayer rugs in the Black Church



Stefano Ionescu's book

Day 6 - Tue, June 12 (b,l,d)**Braşov - Agapia - Bukovina (350 km)**

8:30 am - Depart from the hotel. Stop at Sf Gheorghe and visit the National Seckler Museum. Open air lunch by the Red Lake. Drive across the spectacular Bicz gorges.

3:30 pm - Visit Agapia Orthodox Monastery, including the small museum displaying kilims and religious items. Meeting sister Eufrosina at the weving workshop.

7:00 pm - Accommodation in Voroneţ. Optional walk. Dinner at the hotel restaurant.



Nuns weaving kilims
at Agapia Monastery

Day 7 - Wed, June 13 (b,l,d)**Bukovina****(130 km)**

9:00 am - After a rich breakfast, in the tradition of the region, we will first visit the charming Humor Monastery (founded in 1530); we will continue with the Folk Museum in Radauţi (25km). Then we will reach Suceviţa Monastery, built 1583 where Sister Mariami will present the 16th c. frescos of the 'Scale of Virtues' and the calendary inside the church. Not to miss the south wall showing Moses and the 'burning bush'; Our visit will end with the small Museum showing some outstanding early 17th c. emboided tomb covers and icons.

1:00 pm - Lunch with wild mushrooms and polenta at the nearby Popasul Bukovina;

In the afternoon we will visit Arbore monastery (1503) and finally the wonderful Voroneţ painted church, with the famous Last Judgement (1547); in the nearby market we can find some locally made textiles. Traditional dinner at the hotel restaurant.



Landscape in Bukovina



Suceviţa Monastery



Embroidered tomb cover of
Prince Ieremia Movila,
Suceviţa Monastery Museum

Day 8, 9 - Thur, Fri June 14, 15 (b,l,d) Bukovina - Sighişoara - Mediaş

Thursd: 8:30 am - Today we will leave early as we have a long but enchanting drive, about 300 km. Stop at Pasul Tihuţa (alt 1,200 m) between Transylvania and Bukovina;

11:30 am - Visit the Lutheran Church in Bistritza, with the highest tower in Transylvania and learn about the 50 rugs of the Parish, which are now in Nuremberg; Lunch;

Stop in Gorneşti and meet a local collector.

7:30 pm - check in at Binder Buby Hotel**** Sighişoara; dinner at the hotel restaurant.

Friday: 9:00 pm - Sighişoara/Schässburg: walk to the Monastery Church, displaying about 30 rugs: a Star Ushak, several Lottos, a Bird rug dated 1646 and several double-niche Transylvanians. Then we will explore the citadel with the medieval walls and towers; 12.30 - Depart for Malâncrav to have lunch in a private Saxon home. In the afternoon we will first visit the wonderful Church with 15th c. frescoes and then we will drive to Biertan, former seat of the Saxon Lutheran Church (5 rugs). Overnight in Mediaş.



Malâncrav Church



The Monastery Church in Sighişoara



The Lutheran Church in Biertan



St. Margaret Church in Mediaş

Day 10 - Sat, June 16 (b,l,d)

Mediaș - Călnic - Sibiu (180)

9:30 am - Visit St. Margaret Church in Mediaș, probably the most beautiful Lutheran Church in Transylvania; the collection, about 40 rugs and fragments includes 4 Holbeins, 8 Lottos, 3 Țintamani, 10 Bird rugs and a rare Scorpion rug.

11:30 pm - Drive to Călnic, a Saxon fortified church recently restored. Time allowing we will drive to nearby Sebeș and visit of the beautiful Ev. Church, which displays 5 rugs.

6:30 pm - Depart for Sibiu; accommodation at Hotel Golden Tulip****. Dinner t.b.a.

Day 11, 12 - Sun, Mon June 17, 18

Sibiu - Bucharest (280m)

Sunday: breakfast on the roof top restaurant;

9:30 am - Depart for a walk along the medieval walls followed by the visit the Brukenthal Museum, the most important art museum in Transylvania. Visit of the European painting section, identifying rugs in paintings. Viewing some of the best Ottoman rugs and textiles of the collection, incl. a 15th c. brocade from Lucca.

1:00 pm - Lunch; free time for shopping and for discovering the medieval centre of Sibiu, European Cultural Capital 2007: the great square, the 'Liers' bridge.

4:30 pm - Visit the open-air Museum of Folk Civilization ASTRA.

8:00 pm - Farewell Dinner at the roof restaurant of the hotel with stunning;

Monday: 8.30 am - Depart for Bucharest. Journey across the spectacular Olt Valley.

10:00 am - Visit the 14th century Orthodox Monastery of Cozia. Lunch on the road.

14:30 pm - Arrival at Bucharest Otopeni airport in time to catch the return flights.

Check in for who is leaving the next day (extra night in Bucharest to be booked).

End of the Tour



Landscape in Sibiu



Schwab von Wertinger
(about 1465-1533)



Double-niche 'Transylvanian'



Cozia Monastery, 14th cent.

Day 13 - Tue, June 21 (b)

Breakfast and individual transfer to Otopeni airport in connection to the return flight.

Tour fee

Price per person: in double room: please ask.

Single room supplement: please ask.

Accommodation with breakfast in 4 star hotels, full meals as specified including drinks (mineral water, local wine or beer and slibovitz), individual transfers from the airport, private van with ac, entrance tickets, expert English guiding.

No insurance and no flights are provided as part of the fee.

This programme may be slightly changed according to traffic conditions or other unforeseen factors.

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The itinerary in Romania 2018

