ABOUT ROMANIA

What Travelers Say About Romania

"Are there any travel surprises left in Europe? Put Romania on that list. You’ve heard of it, of course. It’s somewhere in the gray background of Eastern Europe, one of the former Soviet realms, home of the cruel dictator Nicolae Ceausescu and the fictional bloodsucker Dracula. That’s about it for common knowledge. It has a fascinating mosaic of history, stunning mountain and pastoral scenery, cityscapes that echo Prague and Paris, imposing citadels, jewel-box churches and tiny villages that make you feel as if you’ve stumbled into the 14th century. Romania’s name reflects its roots as a Roman province. Its history is a litany of invaders — Germany, Hungary, Ottoman Turkey, Habsburg Austria, Soviet Russia — and rebellions against them. Its ethnic heritage is Latin, unlike its Slavic neighbors. That’s reflected in the cuisine and language." (Chicago Tribune, 2016)

How to get to Bucharest

Bucharest is serviced by the country’s largest airport Henri Coandă International Airport (Code: OTP), through which approximately 14 million passengers travelled in 2018. OTP is connected with more than 70 international destinations, ensuring connections with flights from all over the world. About 30 airlines service more than 130 arrival flights per day. OTP is located about 17 km from the Congress venues and is accessible through public transportation (express lines to city center, available 24 hours) or taxi (fares of about 0.5–1 EUR/KM).
About Bucharest
The first official documentation of Bucharest was in the 15th Century records of the Wallachian Prince Vlad Țepeș, who eventually became the alleged inspiration for Bram Stoker's Count Dracula. Since then, Bucharest would be the site of many important events including becoming the first capital city in the world to be lit with gas lamps in 1857.

The Romanian Athenaeum
Nowadays Bucharest is Romania’s largest city, serves as the nation’s capital and home to approximately two million people. The city is made up of numerous architectural styles and is a juxtaposition of influences belonging to various epochs and cultures. Nicknamed “Little Paris of the East”, Bucharest is now a city of paradoxes and contrasts, with Byzantine palaces, cubist buildings, glorious Belle Époque mansions and blocks of high-rise flats coexisting together. Busy wide streets and tall office buildings complement a mixture of small old churches, interior courts and huts covered in wisteria flowers.

The most surprising and intriguing building is the Palace of the Parliament, impressing visitors by its gigantic dimensions (the second largest administrative building in the world). The place was imagined by the communist dictator Nicolae Ceaușescu as a symbol of power, but also as a display of Romania’s beauty and richness. Nearly all the decorations and materials are of Romanian origin.

About the Venues
The Congress will take place at two 5 star-hotels located in the center of Bucharest – Athénée Palace Hilton Bucharest and Radisson Blu. The two hotels are across the street from each other and together reflect the architectural diversity of Bucharest – the centennial Art Nouveau building of the Athénée Palace Hilton is perfectly complemented by the Radisson Blu’s modern glass building. Both hotels offer high-class accommodations, conference and relaxation facilities.

About the Host University (ASE)
Founded in 1913, the Bucharest University of Economic Studies (ASE) is the first Romanian institution of higher education in economic sciences and public administration and remains the leader in these areas. Currently, ASE enrolls about 20,000 students in 12 schools offering a wide range of programs in economics, business, public administration, sociology, applied modern languages and business law. ASE delivers undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees in the Romanian, English, French and German languages.