

This journey is a cooperation scheme



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Music journey Romania

Gypsy music live

A musical tour through Romania

- nine-days guided tour through Romania
- four nights with live music of four different types of Romanian gypsy music
- paying a visit to the music villages Clejani and Zece Prăjini
- sightseeing tour in Bucharest and Sighișoara (UNESCO)
- paying a visit to a Transylvanian villages with medieval fortified church (UNESCO)



Veterans and young brass-band musicians in the northeastern Romanian village Zece Prăjini – home of Fanfare Ciocărlia (picture: Lars Barthel)

Romania has a rich and traditional environment of music, which style was handed down, among other things, by gypsies for centuries. The country is diverse and has gone through an eventful history between the Orient and the Occident, which can be seen in the gypsy music of the different regions. Especially after the fall of the Iron Curtain 1989/90, this kind of music has become popular even outside the country.

Romanian gypsy music found more and more its way on the stages of the western world.

What will be expecting you?

The nine-days-tour through the four important centres of the Romanian gypsy music is highly recommended for travellers that look for special experiences during their holidays and for people who are in favour of the east European music. During the tour you will get to know four different styles of Romanian gypsy music for instance, brass-band music, from Zece Prăjini, Moldova, Walachian lăutari music from Clejani, urban gypsy music in Bucharest and Hungarian influenced lăutari music from Transylvania. After the arrival in Bucharest, we will take a ship through the Moldau region on the next day in order to reach Zece Prăjini. The gypsy village is popular for its tradition of music and well known through the success "Fanfare Ciocărlia". During music's night, we will get to know some of the musicians of the village and their music. At one night, we will get the chance to listen to the gypsy music of the Transylvanian village Ceuaș. The following day we will reach Clejani, which is close to Bucharest. Over centuries, the Walachian village has developed into an important centre of south Romanian lăutari music. The "Tara de Haidouks" have made the village and its music very popular in the world. At this place, we will spend two days and an awesome night with some local musicians. Finally, a very last music's night with the urban gypsy music in Bucharest rounds off the whole programme. Apart from the music, we will also get to know the country with its culture and history, for instance, worth seeing medieval cities Mediaș and Sighișoara, an ancient village with its centuries-old fortified church and Bucharest – one of the most exciting capitals of Europe with an eventful history.

Live music's nights

One characteristic of the journey are the four live music's nights with the different styles of music. A group of musicians will introduce us to each type of gypsy music of the region. Before and after their performance, there is the possibility to talk to the artists. It is not about listening to a classical concert, it is more about experiencing a relaxed musical night, drinks and food are included.

The music's nights will be open for local residents as well. In that way, we will get an unadulterated impression of the local awareness of life



Virtuosos Geigenspiel in Clejani

Lodging and board

At the day of arrival, we will spend one night in an elegant four-star hotel in Bucharest. At the hotel in Bucharest, we booked double rooms for you. In Zece Prăjini the families of the musicians will be our hosts for two days. The rooms are furnished simply, the toilet and the shower are on the floor, or rather, you can find the out-house in the backyard.

In Mediaş, we will be for two days in a good three-star hotel in the old town. Also in Clejani the families of the musicians will be our hosts for two days. Here and in Zece Prăjini it is only possible to book a limited number of single rooms. Please do not hesitate to ask us. Towards the end of our journey, we will come back to the hotel in Bucharest for one night, which you already know from the beginning of our journey.

Board: During the journey, you will have half-board and each one day in Zece Prăjini and Clejani you will have full board. At the day of the arrival, we will eat in a restaurant with traditional Romanian kitchen. During the tour, we will eat in well-chosen restaurants and with the families of the musicians.

Journey here/Travel on-location

Journey to Romania is not included in price. Bucharest is daily destination of flights from many cities of Western Europe and all over the world. There are as well direct trains from Munich, Vienna and Prag to Bucharest. When planning your journey we would appreciate helping you. On site, we will travel with a customary minibuss. In Bucharest, we will use additionally all means of public transport.

Requirements

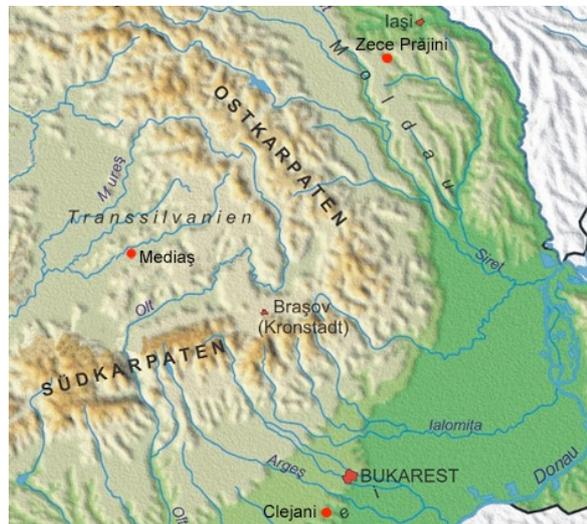
Many gypsy musicians live here and now. Tomorrow or the next year are far away and play only rarely an important role in the lives of the musicians. Even though we planned the journey well, there might be some last-minute changes. Especially for the nights with live music, we will be endeavoured to find appropriate substitute in order not to change the character of the journey. In case such things happen, we apologize for any inconvenience. There is no touristic infrastructure in Zece Prăjini and Clejani, therefore, please adapt to less comfort. Moreover, the sanitary facilities in the villages do not meet western European standards.

Date

1st until 9th September 2018 (english guided)

travel code

302



Process of journey (subject to alterations)

(Board: B= Breakfast, L = Lunch, D= Dinner)

1st day: Arrival in Romania

During the day, you will arrive in Bucharest, which is the capital of Romania. We will spend the night in an elegant four-star hotel. We will enjoy the evening with typical Romanian food served with local wine and traditional music; moreover, we will get to know our group. (D)

2nd day: Continuation of journey to Zece Prajini

In the morning, we will continue our journey to the eastern parts of the country, the Moldau region. In the afternoon, we will reach the gypsy village Zece Prăjini. It is hidden in a valley surrounded by meadows and deciduous forests. Many villagers are musicians. The brass-band music has a long tradition in this part of the country. We will live in the families of the musicians for two days. The guest rooms are furnished plainly, however they are comfortable. The toilets and the showers are on the corridor or in the backyard. (B/D), Transfer about 350km

3rd day: The Moldavian gypsy village Zece Prăjini and its brass-band musicians/music

In the morning, we will take a walk in the town and in its surroundings. Until afternoon, you will have some leisure, which you can organize by yourself. We will meet some musicians later and we will have the opportunity to get to know more about them, their brass-band music and their traditions. After having had some delicious food, the musicians will play some traditional pieces of music for about two hours. The night will finish off in a friendly get-together. (B/L/D)

4th day: Over the Carpathian mountains to Transylvania

We will reach Transylvania by leaving behind a wonderful mountain landscape, an impressive ravine and a 1200meters-long Carpathian mountain pass. In the late afternoon, we will reach Mediaş. We will be staying in a good three-star hotel in the old town. (B/D), Transfer about 380km

5th day: Sighişoara and the lăutari from Ceuaş

Sighişoara is not far away from Mediaş. This city, which was built on top of a Roman castle by Transylvania Saxony, is well preserved and transfers one back to the Middle Ages. Apart from numerous sights of the city, we will visit the impressive "Stundturm" (tower with the clock) and the museum; moreover, we will stroll along narrow alleys in order to reach the

"Schuelertreppe" (pupils stairs) to then keep walking to the "Bergkirche" (church on a mountain). In the evening, we will get to the village Ceuaş. Here, the musicians cultivate their style of music who is closely connected to the Hungarian musical culture. Most important instruments are the double bass, the violin/viola, accordion and clarinet or saxophone. (B/D)

6th day: Through Transylvania and over the Carpathian mountains to Clejani

We will travel south through the Transylvanian hills. Along the route we will visit a picturesque Transylvanian-Saxon village. One of the most impressive medieval fortified churches in the area is located here (UNESCO World Heritage Site).

Once over the Carpathian Mountains we arrive in the Wallachian Plain and will reach the musicians' village Clejani by nightfall. The place has become known worldwide through the "Taraful de Haïdouks" group. (B/L/D), transfer about 380 km.

7th day: Clejani and its lăutari

This day is dedicated to the village of Clejani: In the morning we will have an opportunity to get to know the village and its residents, which includes spontaneous items in our programme...

In the early evening, we will meet the musicians and will learn about the long musical tradition of the area. The accordion, cimbalom, double bass, and violin will be among the important instruments played during the musical evening there. (B/L/D)

8th day: Bucharest and the urban Romani music.

In the morning we will journey to the capital city of Bucharest. After checking into the hotel we will visit the highlights of the city. Elegant boulevards, narrow alleys in the old town, lively squares, a rich architecture reflecting different eras...

The afternoon is free for you to relax. You can explore the city as the fancy takes you. Remarkable museums, quiet corners of the old town, hidden churches and much more are waiting for you.

The evening will be musical one last time: During the evening of music we will get to know the urban style of Bucharest's Romani musicians. (B/D)

9th day: departure

Today is the day of saying goodbye to everyone. Depending on departure time, there is the possibility to take a last walk through the city. (B)

Possibilities of extending the journey or of combining the journey with other trips in Romania are probable on request.

guiding

18 years ago, **Sven Panthoefer** got to know his wife Anda. Ever since, they made many trips through her native country Romania. He studied history, politics and cultural studies and works as an historian. He dedicates his private interests to music of east Europe and the Romanian gypsy music. Due to this, the idea awoke in order to do such journeys.

asphalt tango production, Henry Ernst & Helmut Neumann are known as specialists for the music scene of Romania. Since 1996, they are established as management and record label of groups such as the Fanfare Ciocarlia and they have numerous contacts to gypsy musicians in East Europe. Helmut Neumann will accompany the tour as well.

Find more information under:
<http://www.asphalt-tango.de>

9 days Romania

Round-trip gypsy music in Romania

date and price:

(per person in double room):

- 1st until 9th September 2018 1,360 £
(english guided)

single and double rooms:

- surcharge for single rooms (not many rooms available): 150 £
- half double room: total surcharge for a single room, when you do not have appropriate company

entry number:

- at least 10, maximum 15 persons

services:

- all in all eight nights in a double room, two of those nights will be spent in a four-star hotel in Bucharest, two nights in a three-star hotel in Mediaş and each two nights in a simple guest room in Zece Prăjini and Clejani
- 5 days half-board
- three days full board
- all transfers in the country according to plan
- four nights with live music (Bucharest, Zece Prăjini, Clejani, Ceuaş)
- guided journey through Romania
- English and Romanian-speaking guides from/until Bucharest
- all entries and visits according to programme
- eating at a restaurant with live music at the first night
- information material

not included in price:

travelling to and from Bucharest, lunch or dinner 4 days, flight transfer Bucharest, travel insurance and health insurance

journey to Romania:

Journey to Romania is not included in price. Bucharest is daily destination of flights from many cities of Western Europe and all over the world. There are as well direct trains from Munich, Vienna and Prag to Bucharest. When planning your journey we would appreciate helping you.

Requests:

Theme of the journey and country can lead to last minute changes in programme. Please understand those circumstances in case they occur. There is no infrastructure in Zece Prajini and Clejani, therefore you need to adapt to less comfort. In addition, sanitary facilities in the village do not meet western European standards.

tour operator/booking:

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