

# C O D A ^

## Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova & Ukraine

May 26 – June 10, 2022



Day 1 Depart USA  
Day 2 Arrival in Sofia, Bulgaria  
Day 3 Sofia  
Day 4 Sofia | Plovdiv | Sofia  
Day 5 Sofia | Rila | Sofia  
Day 6 Sofia | Veliko Tarnovo  
Day 7 Veliko Tarnovo | Bucharest  
Day 8 Bucharest  
Day 9 Bucharest | Sinaia | Brasov  
Day 10 Brasov | Bran | Rasnov | Brasov

Day 11 Sighisoara  
Day 12 Praid | Canyon Bicz | Suceava  
Day 13 Painted Churches and Monasteries  
Day 14 Lasi | Chisinau  
Day 15 Chisinau  
Day 16 Kiev  
Day 17 Kiev  
Day 18 Chernobyl | Pripya  
Day 19 Departure to USA

**C O D A I N T E R N A T I O N A L T O U R S , I N C .**

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## Eastern Europe: Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova & Ukraine

### Day 1 – Depart USA

Thu, May 26, 2022

Depart the USA on any regularly scheduled flight to Sofia, Bulgaria.



### Day 2 – Sofia

Fri, May 27

Upon arrival, we transfer to the hotel for check-in.

*Hotel: Sofia Hotel Balkan ★★★★★*

*Room: Guest Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*



### Day 3 – Sofia | Plovdiv | Sofia

Sat, May 28

Plovdiv is called the City of Seven Hills and was built on 7 hills around the Maritsa River, one of the hills was demolished more than a hundred years ago. For a better understanding of Bulgaria, it is enriching to explore the sights of tradition and natural beauty of Plovdiv. Visit the Roman Amphitheater and the Hindian House with the group and in your free time, consider a trip to the Konstantin ethnographic museum and Helena Church, or the Balaban House. After lunch we will return to Sofia for the evening.

Enjoy a city tour of Sofia, one of the oldest cities in Europe. Sofia has embraced many cultures in its history and is rich in museums and galleries. Highlights of the tour are the St. Alexander Nevski Cathedral, the Russian Church, the Royal Palace, the Ivan Vazov National Theater, the Monument to the Liberator of the Tsar, the National Assembly, and the Parlamento.

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*Hotel: Sofia Hotel Balkan ★★★★★*

*Room: Guest Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*



**Day 4 – Sofia | Rila | Sofia**

**Sun, May 29**

A perfect day trip combining spectacular landscapes with history and culture will be our day spent at the Rila Monastery, hidden in the Rila Mountains. After lunch we will head back to Sofia for an afternoon at leisure.

*Hotel Sofia Hotel Balkan ★★★★★*

*Room: Guest Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*



**Day 5 – Sofia | Veliko Tarnovo**

**Mon, May 30**

Today we drive to Veliko Tarnovo for a Tsarevets Tour. Often known as the *City of the Czars*, Veliko Tarnovo is located on the Yantra River and is famous as the historic capital of the Second Bulgarian Empire, attracting many tourists with its unique architecture. After lunch, we visit Arbanassi to see the Nativity Church with nearly every inch of the vaulted interior covered in paintings and frescoes.

*Hotel: Maridian Bolyarski ★★★★★*

*Room: Standard Room*



## Eastern Europe: Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova & Ukraine

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 6 – Veliko Tarnovo | Bucharest Tue, May 31**

Drive to Bucharest tour. This evening, enjoy dinner at the hotel.

*Hotel: JW Marriott Hotel ★★★★★*

*Room: Deluxe Room*

*Meals: Breakfast*

### **Day 7 – Bucharest Wed, Jun 1**

Tour Bucharest today and visit the Palace of the Parliament. Walk through the Old Town to the ruins of the Old Master Court built in the 15<sup>th</sup> c. by Prince Vlad Tepes, better known as Vlad Dracula. Next, see the Church of the Court before lunch and a visit to the *Mansion Ceaușescu*.

*Hotel: JW Marriott Hotel ★★★★★*

*Room: Deluxe Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 8 – Bucharest | Sinaia | Brasov Thu, Jun 2**

Driving through *Valea Prahovei* and crossing the Carpathians Mountains, we enter the mystical and mythical land of Transylvania and explore Peles Castle. After lunch, continue to Brasov, or *Salzburg Romanian*, a medieval town at the foot of a mountain. Enjoy a walking tour before we check-in to the hotel.

*Hotel: Aro Palace Hotel ★★★★★*

*Room: Deluxe Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 9 – Brasov | Bran Castle | Rasnov | Brasov Fri, Jun 3**

Today we visit the famous Bran Castle, Dracula's Castle. Lunch at the footsteps of the castle, then continue to Rasnov and visit Rasnov Citadel, built as part of a defense system for the villages of Transylvania.

*Hotel: Aro Palace Hotel ★★★★★*

*Room: Deluxe Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 10 – Brasov | Sighisoara Sat, Jun 4**

The exquisite medieval town of Sighisoara, an UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a medieval citadel that emerges as a nucleus of colorfully painted houses surrounded by narrow passageways and cobbled streets and encompassed within a defensive wall, towers, burgher houses, and ornate churches. After lunch, visit the Clock Tower from where we can enjoy a spectacular panorama view.

## Eastern Europe: Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova & Ukraine

*Hotel: Mercure Binderbubi Hotel ★★★★★*

*Room: Standard Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 11 – Sighisoara | Praid | Canyon Bicaz | Suceava**

**Sun, Jun 5**

In Praid, we will visit one of the largest Salt Mines in Europe. En route, we pass through the Bicaz Canyon, excavated by the waters of the Bicaz River and serving as a passage between Transylvania and Moldova. The walls of the limestone cliffs hide impressive caves. After lunch, we continue to Suceava, one of the oldest and most important settlements in Romania.

*Hotel: Sonnenhof Hotel ★★★★★*

*Room: Deluxe Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 12 – Painted Churches and Monasteries**

**Mon, Jun 6**

The painted churches and monasteries of Bucovina are the highlight of this trip. This wonderful UNESCO World Heritage Site is a masterpiece of Byzantine Art. We will visit Sucevita Monastery, the Monastery of Moldovita, and the Monastery of Voronet. Return to Suceava and enjoy free time before dinner.

*Hotel: Sonnenhof Hotel ★★★★★*

*Room: Deluxe Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 13 – Suceava | Lasi | Chisinau**

**Tue, Jun 7**

A panoramic drive through the city of Lasi will take us by the most important sites of the city like the Vasile Aecsandri National Theater, the Palace of Culture, and the Central University Library Mihai Eminescu. After lunch, we will cross the border to Moldova and head to the capital city of Chisinau.

*Hotel: Nobil Luxury Boutique Hotel ★★★★★*

*Room: Deluxe Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 14 – Chisinau**

**Wed, Jun 8**

Take a panoramic drive through Chisinau and pass by the Arch of Triumph, the Statue of Stefan the Great, Valea Morilor Park, Dendrariu Park, Water Tower, the Art Museum, the National Museum of Ethnography, and the Natural History of Ciuflea Monastery. Visit Casa Pushkin, then enjoy a wine tasting and lunch at Castle Mimi. The afternoon is at our leisure.

*Hotel: Nobil Luxury Boutique Hotel ★★★★★*

*Room: Deluxe Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

## Eastern Europe: Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova & Ukraine

### Day 15 – Fly Chisnau | Kiev

Thu, Jun 9

We transfer early to the airport for our flight to Kiev, Ukraine. Upon arrival, we drive to the Golden Gate of Kiev. Examine magnificent mosaics and frescoes of St. Sophia Cathedral, and then visit the monument of Prince Vladimir. After lunch, we will transfer to the hotel and check-in. Afternoon is at leisure.

*Hotel: Hotel Opera ★★★★★*

*Room: Standard Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### Day 16 – Kiev

Fri, Jun 10

Today, visit Oleg Antonov Aviation Museum, one of the greatest museums in Ukraine. Enjoy a local lunch before exploring the Kiev Pechersk Lavra, a unique monastery complex and historical-cultural sanctuary.

*Hotel: Hotel Opera ★★★★★*

*Room: Standard Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### Day 17 – Kiev | Chernobyl | Pripya | Kiev

Sat, Jun 11

Chernobyl, famous as the site of the 1986 nuclear disaster, we will learn how the city, while largely abandoned, is still populated with local workers and policemen. See sights such as the museum, St. Elias Church, the Park of Glory, river port, and memorial to the liquidators who rushed to reactor number 4 in the immediate aftermath of the explosion.

We then explore the town of Pripyat and see the abandoned amusement park and the Ferris wheel that no child has ever enjoyed. See abandoned boats and ships in the port and feed the giant catfish in Pripyat River. Lunch at a local restaurant and return to Kiev. Tonight, we meet for a Farewell Dinner.

*\*Note: The tour to Chernobyl & Pripyat is optional. Those not wanting to visit can remain in Kiev for a day at leisure. Only the safest areas are visited on the tour. A complete safety briefing is provided before we set off for the day.*

*Hotel: Hotel Opera ★★★★★*

*Room: Standard Room*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### Day 18 – Kiev | USA

Sun, Jun 10

Departure flight from Kiev to the USA.

*Meals: Breakfast*

## Eastern Europe: Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova & Ukraine

RATES	
Double Occupancy	\$7895
Single Occupancy	\$9695
Intra-tours flight (subject to change until ticketed)	
Economy Class	\$200

### Special Notes:

Single Occupancy rates can be avoided if you wish to be matched with another single traveler who also wishes to share. If no share is available, the single rate will apply.

Rates are based on current rates and currency exchange rates at the time of publishing the tour online.

Rates are subject to change until final payment has been made. Rates are based on a minimum participation and if the minimum participation is not met rates may need to be revised.

## INCLUDED

- All accommodations, as stated in the itinerary and in the room category indicated
- Service charges, room taxes, and baggage handling fees
- All meals
- Sightseeing excursions and entry fees as stated in the itinerary
- English speaking local guides
- Bottled water and cold towels in vehicles during sightseeing
- All land transfers as required by the itinerary; private transfers for arrival & departure if required; private, air-conditioned vehicles
- Coda Tour Manager on minimum participation
- Pre-departure assistance and Information Portfolio from Coda Tours

## NOT INCLUDED

International airfare; Intra-Tour airfare (quoted separately); Trip Cancellation & Interruption insurance (highly recommended); Personal meals, drinks, telephone, gifts, and expenses not outlined in the itinerary; Any optional sightseeing excursions or additional visits not outlined in itinerary; Gratuity for local guides, drivers and Coda Tour Manager

## TRAVEL PREP

### INTERNATIONAL AIRFARE

Delta Airlines, American Airlines, LOT Airways, Turkish Airlines, are among airlines that can be used to book airfare for this tour. We recommend booking at least 7 months in advance if you want to use Frequent Flyer Miles or the American Express Platinum card 2-4-1 program. Coda Tours can assist you with your international air booking in Business or Coach class (First Class is rare nowadays on international flights, but if available, we can quote it.) Please ask us to quote for you. We often have favorable rates. There is a standard \$35 per ticket ticketing for this service.

### INTRA-TOUR AIRFARE

Intra-tour airfare is at an additional cost and are outlined in the chart above. Coda Tours will book this on your behalf. Flight departs on May 30 from Chisinau to Kiev.

### TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

A valid passport is required for international travel and must be valid for 6 months after the return date of travel and must have at least two blank pages. No visas are required for entry into Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova and Ukraine for US and Canadian passport holders.

### HEALTH

No immunizations are required for travel on this tour. However, the Center for Disease Control suggests that all travelers make sure they are up-to-date on routine vaccines before every trip. These vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, and your yearly flu shot.

### MINIMUMS

All departures are guaranteed on a minimum number of participants. A Coda Tour Manager will accompany a tour also based on a minimum number of participants. This tour can be operated as a Private Tour, can be customized and repriced based on a final itinerary. Rates are based on a minimum participation of 10. For fewer than 10 participants, rates may be revised.

### PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION

A complete portfolio of pre-departure information will be mailed to you approximately three weeks prior to departure



## ACCOMMODATIONS



[Hotel Hilton Sofia](#)

★★★★★



[Hotel Maridian Bolyarski](#)

★★★★★



[JW Marriot Bucharest](#)

★★★★★



[Aro Palace Brasov](#)

★★★★★



[Mercure Binderbubi Sighsioara](#)

★★★★★



[Sonnenhof Hotel Suceava](#)

★★★★★

Eastern Europe: Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova & Ukraine



[Nobil Luxury Boutique Chisinau](#)

★★★★★



[Hotel Opera Kiev](#)

★★★★★