

Discover Transylvania 2011

Ottoman Carpets and Romanian kilims

www.transylvanianrugs.com

Friday (20 May) - 1st day

Arrival in Bucharest

Arrival at the international airport of Otopeni (or Băneasa).
Meet and greet service at the airport.
Transfer to the boutique Hotel Amzei**** in the centre of Bucharest.

- ★ 7:30 p.m. - Welcome drink at the hotel;
Presentation meeting: every participant will receive a set of maps and brochures. Discussion of the itinerary in Transylvania;
- ★ 8:30 p.m. - Buffet dinner at the hotel restaurant with a selection of delicious Turkish and Balkan specialities and with Romanian Chateau Bolovan wine.



Stavropoleos
Greek-Orthodox Church

Saturday (21 May) - 2nd day

Bucharest

- ★ 10:00 a.m. - Visit the MUSEUM OF THE ROMANIAN PEASANT (MRP) holding the largest collection of Romanian flatweaves (Dr. Geta Roşu, director of the textile department, will introduce the collection).
 - ★ Souvenirs and handicrafts from the Museum's shop.
 - ★ 12:00 a.m. - Departure for Mogoşoia Palace.
 - ★ 1:00 p.m. - Open air lunch in the garden restaurant of the palace.
 - ★ 2:00 p.m. - Guided tour of the MOGOŞOIA PALACE, which houses about 300 items donated by the top Romanian art-collectors Liana and Dan Nasta including *Kula*, *Ghiordes*, *Kirshehir*, *Senneh* rugs and Romanian *scoartze*.
- Return to Bucharest. Stop at the Peasant Fair at the Village Museum.
City tour and return to the Hotel.
- ★ 7:30 p.m. - Departure for *Caru' cu Bere* a very famous restaurant and bier-house in the old town. Romanian cuisine, music and entertainment.
After dinner walk or short city tour by night.



An Oltenian kilim (*scoartza*)
MRP, Bucharest



The House of the Parliament, Bucharest



The Mogoşoia Palace



The Romanian Atheneum

Sunday (22 May) - 3rd day Buch. - Sinaia - Braşov (180 km)

- ★ 9:30 a.m. - Departure for Sinaia. Presentation of the historical and religious background of the region.
 - ★ 11:30 a.m. - Stop at Sinaia, a famous resort in the Carpathian mountains. Visit to PELEŞ CASTLE, former residence of the royal family. 18th century Persian carpets as well as some locally made Caucasian rugs.
 - ★ 2:00 p.m. - Open air snack at the coffee shop of the Peleş Castle.
 - ★ 4:00 p.m. - Departure for Braşov through one of the most spectacular valleys of the Carpathians.
 - ★ 6:00 p.m. - Accommodation at the Hotel Ambient**** (fitness center & spa)
 - ★ 8:00 p.m. - Dinner at the *Saxon Tavern* in the old section of Braşov.
 - ★ 9:30 p.m. - Walking tour through the medieval centre of Braşov.
- (other info about Braşov on the site www.welcometoromania.ro/Brasov)



Kula prayer rug - formerly in the Lutheran Church of Rosenau



The Orthodox Monastery in Sinaia



Landscape in the Carpathians



The Peleş Castle in Sinaia

Monday (23 May) - 4th day Burzenland (Braşov county)

- ★ 9:00 a.m. - Visit the HUNGARIAN LUTHERAN CHURCH (6 rugs) and meeting with Mr Erwin Hellmann who will be our guide in Burzenland.
- ★ 10:00 a.m. - Short visit to the ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM. Together with Dr. Ligia Fulga, Director of the Museum we will discuss Turkish influences on the Romanian and Saxon textile folk art.
- ★ 12:00 a.m. - Departure for Bran; outside view of the 'Dracula' Castle.
- ★ 1:30 p.m. - Open air lunch at a local shepherd, producer of cheese.
- ★ 3:30 p.m. - Trip to Moeciu through a fairytale-like landscape.
- ★ 4:30 p.m. - Visit the LUTHERAN CHURCH IN ROSENAU (3 Ottoman rugs).
- ★ 5:30 p.m. - Visit the LUTHERAN CHURCH IN ZEIDEN (4 Ottoman rugs).
- ★ 8:00 p.m. - Dinner at the hotel restaurant.



Moeciu seen from the Rucăr Pass



The Hungarian Lutheran Church in Braşov



The 'Dracula' Castle in Bran

Tuesday (24 May) - 5th day Braşov - Kronstadt

★ 10:00 a.m. - Visit the BLACK CHURCH where 104 antique Ottoman rugs are displayed. Stephen Schlandt will play for us a short concert on the historical organ of the Black Church. Some highly important examples of Anatolian carpets from the Black Church collection will be discussed more closely.

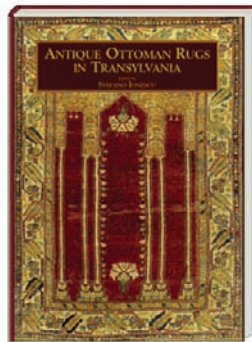
- ★ 1:00 p.m. - Free lunch, souvenir shops, or return to the Black Church.
- ★ 3:00 p.m. - From the hotel: visit to the BLUMENAU CHURCH (13 rugs).
- ★ 4:00 p.m. - Visit the St. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH.
- ★ 7:00 p.m. - Departure for Poiana Braşov the nicest mountain resort of the area (alt. 1.100 mt). Visit the peasant market in Poiana.
- ★ 8:30 p.m. - Dinner at the *Shepherd's House* with lamb barbeque and music.



The Black Church in Braşov



Study of a *Ghirlandaio* rug



Stefano Ionescu's book showing over 300 rugs from Transylvania



Ottoman prayer rugs in the Black Church

Wednesday (25 May) - 6th day Braşov - Sighişoara - Mediaş (170 km)

★ 9:00 a.m. - Departure for Sighişoara (120 km). On the road Stefano Ionescu will discuss about Tuduc and the rug collection of the Lutheran Parish of Rupea (Reps).

The participants will be offered the brochure *The Lutheran Parishes and their rugs: Whereabouts Unknown*.

- ★ 11:30 a.m. - Sighişoara: guided visit the historical centre and to the MONASTERY CHURCH (40 rugs). Viewing of the unique late 15th century Star-lattice rug. Short discussion on *Lotto* carpets.
- ★ 1:00 p.m. - Lunch in a typical restaurant called *Wagner House*.
- ★ 3:00 p.m. - Departure for Biertan (25 km), a picturesque old village which was the Episcopal Seat of the Saxon Lutheran Church in Transylvania (5 rugs).
- ★ 6:30 p.m. - Departure for Mediaş (22 km).
- ★ 7:00 p.m. - Accommodation at the Binder Buby Hotel**** (swimming pool).
- ★ 8:30 p.m. - Dinner with local wine tasting in the hotel restaurant.



Clock-tower in Sighişoara



The Monastery Church in Sighişoara



The Lutheran Church in Biertan



Star-lattice rug, late 15th century, in Sighişoara

Thursday (26 May) - 7th day Mediaş - Sibiu (60 km)

- ★ 9:00 a.m. - Visit the ST. MARGARET CHURCH which is probably the most beautiful Lutheran Church in Transylvania displaying about 40 rugs, including 4 *Holbeins*, *Lotto*, *Bird* and *Chintamani* rugs; (this collection has the larger number of 16th century examples).
- ★ 12:00 a.m. - Departure for Sibiu.
- ★ 2:00 p.m. - Visit the TEUTSCH HOUSE which houses a collection of Saxon works and also 2 Ottoman rugs. Free time for shopping.
- ★ 7:30 p.m. - Accommodation at the Parc Hotel***. Dinner.



St. Margaret Church in Mediaş

Friday (27 May) - 8th day Sibiu

- ★ 10:00 a.m. - Visit the NATIONAL BRUKENTHAL MUSEUM. Private viewing of 5 rugs including an exceptionally well preserved *Small Pattern Holbein*. Visit the great LUTHERAN CHURCH IN SIBIU.
- ★ 1:30 p.m. - Lunch and free time for shopping in the centre of Sibiu.
- ★ 3:30 p.m. - Short tour in the neighbours of Sibiu: Heltau, Astra Museum.
- ★ 8:30 p.m. - Farewell dinner at the *Golden Barrel Tavern* at Sibiu.



The great Lutheran Church in Sibiu

Saturday (28 May) - 9th day Departure

- ★ Departure from Sibiu which has good flight connections with Munich, Stuttgart, Köln or Wien. Alternatively there are cheap flights to Budapest.

Useful advice for the Journey

for further information please visit
www.transylvanianrugs.com

This study tour attempts to further improve the preservation and the study of the Transylvanian rug heritage. The participants are warmly invited to donate rug-books to the library of the Brukenthal Museum or to inform the organisers of any other possibility of helping, stimulating or enhancing local rug scholarship.

The Romanian visa (not necessary for EU and US citizens) can be obtained at the airport. The local currency is called Ron; the prices in Romania are lower than in western Europe, so for pocket money 100 euro should be enough.

Spring is the best season to visit Transylvania. In May and June the weather is usually fine but it may rain in Braşov. In the evening it is certainly cool. We advise the usual clothing for this season but also a raincoat and a wool sweater.

Your meals will be freshly prepared, the ingredients invariably organically grown or produced, without the use of chemical fertilisers or pesticides, often in the hosts' garden. Experience balkan specialities, including 'sarmale' - rolls of soured cabbage or vine leaves stuffed with rice and minced pork flavoured with herbs such as dill, lovage and savory, 'mititei' - charcoal-grilled meat rolls served with mustard, 'ciorbă' - soured soups, or 'tocănite' - meat stews, and 'mamaligă' - polenta.

Cost per person

Double room: 1.200€

Single room suppl.: 200€

Accommodation with breakfast in 4 star hotels, full meals including drinks (mineral water, wine and slivovitz), transfer from/to the airports in Bucharest and Sibiu, private bus with wc, entrance tickets and German and English speaking guide. This programme may be slightly changed according to traffic conditions or other. No insurance is provided as part of this fee.

Air Costs: not included.

To register please contact:

Stefano Ionescu - 00393476703724

info@transylvanianrugs.com



THE ITINERARY IN TRANSYLVANIA