

# Rose Festival Tour Bulgaria + Romania



**TOUR DURATION: 4 DAYS/ 3 NIGHTS**  
**AVAILABLE: END OF MAY/ BEGINNING OF JUNE**

## **Day 1: Welcome to Sofia – a 7 000 years old city**

Arriving at Sofia – airport. Transfer to your hotel. Overnight and dinner in the hotel.

## **Day 2: Sofia - Rila Monastery /UNESCO site/ - Boyana church - Sofia**

Breakfast.

Depart to the Rila Monastery, founded in the 10th century. It is the largest and most famous Eastern Orthodox monastery in Bulgaria. The monastery complex houses a rich collection of icons, wall paintings, old-printed books – some 15 000 volumes, etc. The monastery became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983. You will take a guided tour of the monastery complex. You will see the gold-plated iconostasis in the main church; the monastery museum, famous for housing Rafail's Cross; the tower of Hrelyu and the residential part of the complex that consists of chambers, four chapels, an abbot's room and a kitchen (noted for its uncommonly large vessels). Lunch in a local restaurant.



Return to Sofia to visit the Boyana Church - the frescoes of the church date back to the 13th century. They have high artistic value and is a vital contribution to the European art culture. The church was included in the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural heritage list in 1979.

Dinner in a local restaurant in Sofia. Overnight.

## **Day 3: Sofia – Plovdiv**

Breakfast.

Morning sightseeing tour of Sofia - the Byzantine church of St. Sofia, Alexander Nevski cathedral, the Archaeological Museum, the Roman Gate and the ruins of the Roman fortification system, "St. George" Rotunda from early Christian times.

Lunch in a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, depart to Plovdiv – the second largest city in Bulgaria, famous for its ancient and diverse culture and millennial history. You will take a city tour of the Old Town of Plovdiv - you will see well-preserved houses of the National Revival Period /18-19 century/ and visit the Roman theatre.



Dinner and overnight in a comfortable hotel in Plovdiv.

#### **Day 4: Plovdiv – ROSE FESTIVAL in Kazanlak – Veliko Tarnovo**

Early departure to the famous Rose valley. Take part in the harvesting rituals in the rose gardens. Visit the Rose museum and the Thracian tomb dating back to the 4th century BC and included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. Learn more about the process of making rose oil. Then, enjoy barbecue lunch with traditional Bulgarian cuisine. In the afternoon depart to Veliko Tarnovo - famous as the historical capital of the Second Bulgarian Empire. Sightseeing tour, including visit to Tsarevets hill. Dinner. Overnight.



#### **Day 5: Veliko Tarnovo - Bucharest**

After breakfast, depart to Romania. City tour of Bucharest – Romania's largest city and capital, known for its wide boulevards and glorious Belle Époque buildings. The city was once nicknamed "Little Paris". During the tour you will visit the Parliament Palace, the Metropolitan Church, The Triumphal Arch. Dinner and overnight in Bucharest.



#### **Day 6: Bucharest – Bran – Brasov - Bucharest**

In the morning, you will depart to Bran for a visit to Bran Castle, erroneously claimed by some to be that of Count Dracula, the world's most famous vampire. Perched atop a rocky outcrop, this strategically located castle was built in 1377 to protect nearby Brasov from invaders. It also served as a customs station. The castle's rooms and towers surround an inner courtyard. Some rooms are connected through underground passages to the inner court. Bran is home to a rich collection of Romanian and foreign furniture and art items from the 14th-19th centuries.



Continue to Brasov – the second city of Romania as an economical importance. Sightseeing tour of the medieval centre of Brasov, including visit to the Black Church. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon departure to Sighisoara – a visit to the Medieval citadel (included in the UNESCO World Heritage list).

Return to Bucharest in the evening.

#### **Day 7: Bucharest**

Transfer to the Bucharest airport for your flight back home.

**PRICE IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.**