

*Transylvania really exists*, but we cannot guarantee you the same about Dracula. Romania has always been beautiful, and our tour takes you to the historical and the legendary places of interest.

Explore the countryside around Bucharest with a visit first to the Sinaia Monastery and then to Peles Castle, the former summer residence of King Carol II. We take you on to the unspoilt town of Poiana Brasov in the Prahova Valley.

It is in Sighisoara that you will learn about the confusions of the Dracula myth. The well-preserved mediaeval fortress town is the birthplace of Vlad Tepes (son of Vlad the Impaler, the figure behind Dracula's legend). In his six-year reign (1456–1462) he is estimated to



have killed 100,000 people, mainly by using his favourite method of impaling them on a sharp pole. Despite his methods, Vlad is revered as a folk hero by Romanians for driving off the invading Ottomans.

The mediaeval city of Brasov was founded in the thirteenth century by the Teutonic Knights, and much of it is still preserved. In the afternoon we take you to Bran village and the castle where Bram Stoker's Dracula lived.