

ROMANIA

Fast Facts:

- ✓ Official Name: Romania;
- ✓ Location: Southeastern Europe;
- ✓ Time zone: 7 hours ahead of U.S.A.
- ✓ Eastern Standard Time (GMT + 2);
- ✓ Area: 91,725 sq. miles (237,502 sq. Km);
- ✓ Population: 21,800,000 (2005), 22,500,000 (2010 - forecast);
- ✓ Official language: Romanian. German and Hungarian are spoken in some counties;

Form of government: Republic with two legislative bodies (Senate and Chamber of Deputies)

To know more

The former north-eastern frontier of the Roman Empire, Romania is bordered to the north and east by Moldavia and Ukraine, to the southeast by the Black Sea, to the south by Bulgaria, to the southwest by Serbia and to the west by Hungary.



The country is divided into four geographical areas: Transylvania, Moldavia, Walachia and Dobrudja. Transylvania (a belt of alpine massifs and forests) and Moldavia compose the northern half of the country, which is divided down the middle by the north-south chain of the Carpathian Mountains. South of the east-west line



of the Carpathians lies the flat Danube plain of Walachia, its border with Bulgaria being defined by the course of the Danube.

Romania's coastline is along the Black Sea, incorporating the port of Constanța and the Danube Delta. The region between the Black Sea and the Danube (after it veers north), is also known as Dobrudja.

Bucharest, the capital city of Romania, is altitudinally aligned approximately with the cities of Portland, Oregon, USA; Montreal, Canada; Venice, Italy; and Bordeaux, France.



Romania's territory features splendid mountains, beautiful rolling hills, fertile plains and numerous rivers and lakes. The Carpathian Mountains traverse the centre of the country, bordered on both sides by foothills and then by the great plains of the outer rim. Forests cover over one quarter of the country and the fauna is one of the richest in Europe, including bears, deer, lynx, chamois and wolves. The legendary Danube River ends its journey through eight European countries at the Black Sea by forming one of the biggest and most interesting wetlands in the world, the Danube Delta.



Romania has a temperate climate, similar to the northeastern United States, with four distinct seasons. There are significant regional differences in climate between different regions of Romania. The warmest month is July and the coldest month is January. Average annual rainfall is 26 inches.



Foreign visitors consider Romanians among the friendliest and most hospitable people.

Romania is associated with big names in the arts and sports:



Constantin Brâncuși

— one of the most
acclaimed modern
sculptors



Angela Gheorghiu — one of the world's greatest opera sopranos; Ilie Năstase — U.S. Open and Roland Garros winner, is still one of crowd's favorites at the U.S. Open; Nadia Comăneci — the Olympic champion gymnast, saluted by people everywhere.

Other world renowned Romanian artists include the writer Eugen Ionesco, pan flute virtuoso Gheorghe Zamfir, piano player Radu Lupu and musician George Enescu.

Google Doodle George Enescu's 130th Birthday, 2012

