



Welcome to Bucharest!

Your information guide for Bucharest

We are glad to welcome you on behalf of the University “Politehnica” of Bucharest. To make your stay in Bucharest as pleasant as possible, we have compiled some practical information and tips. If you need more information or have any other queries, do not hesitate to contact us.





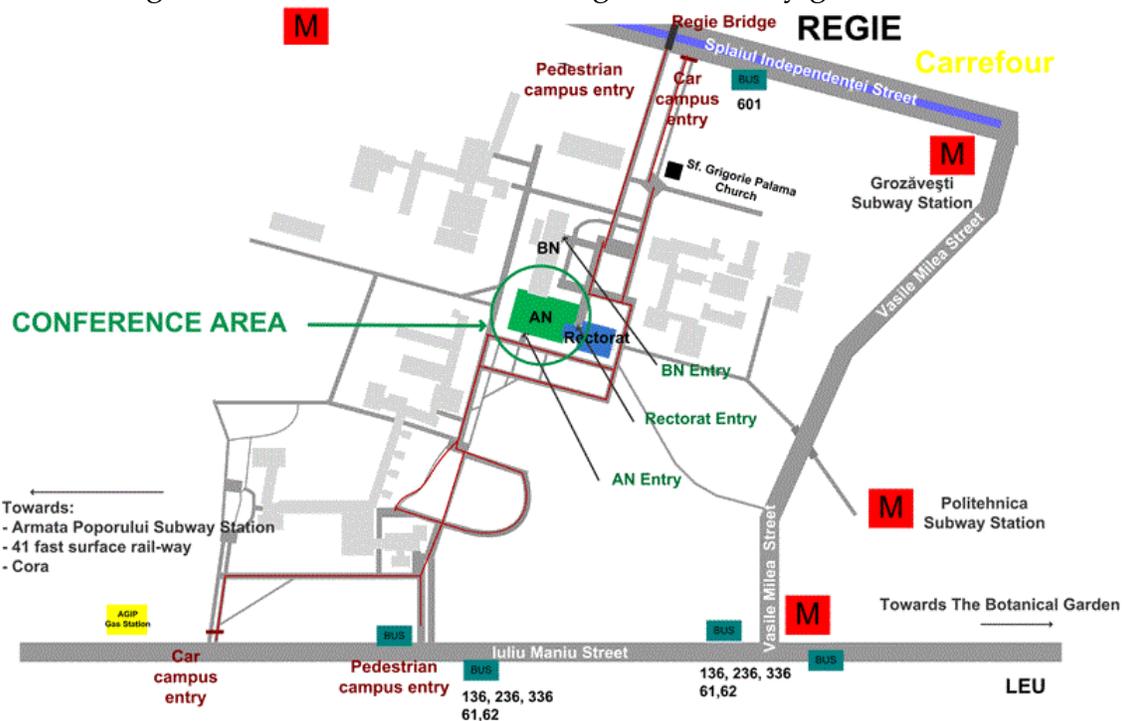
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1. How to get to the Venue

The easiest way is to take a taxi. However, the map shown below can help you to get there.



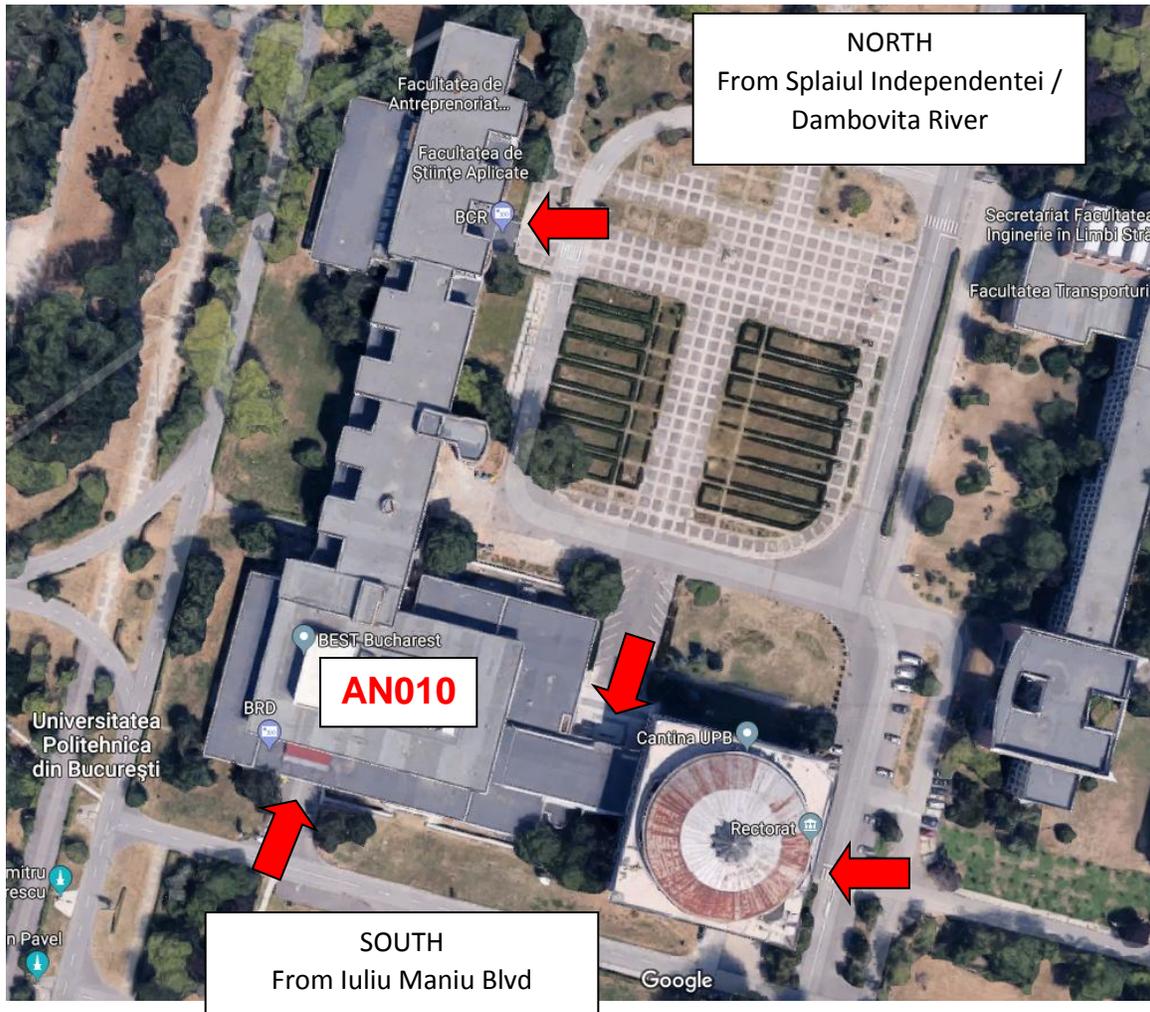
The meeting room is located in AN building, indicated by green box.





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The meeting room is AN010 “Radu Voinea” as indicates in the photo below. All access ways are also indicated by red arrows.



For detailed information, you may want to use the [GOOGLE MAP](#).

Bank offices and ATMs are available at two access doors: BRD / Group Societe Generale and BCR / Erste Bank. Currency exchange service is available to both banks.



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2. Weather in September in Bucharest

Bucharest has a four-season climate. In the spring, the weather can quickly alternate between rain and sunshine. June, July and August are the hottest months. As the leaves begin to change color, you can still enjoy warm and sunny days while taking a stroll in the city's many parks or down Calea Victoriei. Winters can be quite cold with moderate snowfall.

We expect good weather conditions during the symposium, with temperatures ranging from 16°C to 30°C.

Rains are also possible. Evening rains are sometimes strong, with duration less than 30 minutes; so, in this case we advise you to stay inside.

For accurate information about the weather, please check

<https://weather.com/weather/tenday/1/ROXX0003:1:RO>

3. Currency and Exchange Rates

For exchange rates you may want to have a look on the website of the National Bank of Romania at <http://www.bnro.ro/Home.aspx>

The Leu (RON is the international version) is the official currency in Romania, which is divided into 100 bani. All Romanian bank notes use polymer (not paper). Money may be exchanged at banks, international airports, hotels or authorized exchange offices called “casa de schimb” or “birou de schimb valutar”. ATMs are available at banks, airports and shopping centers. American Express, MasterCard and Visa are accepted. It is recommended to travel with some Euro or USD in cash in case of difficulty using credit cards.

Only Romanian currency is accepted when paying in cash, except for the taxis.

All banknotes and coins are shown below

You can exchange money at the airport, at an exchange office, but the exchange rate is not convenient. We advise you to exchange 100 lei (two banknotes of 50) only, for your taxi ride.

Alternatively, you can exchange a larger amount of money at an ATM located in the arrivals terminal.



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4. Electricity

Supply voltage is 230 Volts, 50Hz. Two-pin European-style plugs are standard. In hotels' rooms you can find sockets with or without protective contact for 230 V, 50 Hz and currents up to 10 A or 16 A.



Type C plug (Europlug) The plug is non-earthed and has two round 4 mm (0.16 in) pins, which usually converge slightly towards their free ends. It can be inserted into any socket that accepts 4 mm round contacts spaced 19 mm (0.75 in) apart.



The type F plug, commonly called a "Schuko plug", has two earthing clips on the sides of the plug instead of a female earth contact. The Schuko connection system is symmetrical and unpolarised by design, allowing live and neutral to be reversed. The socket also accepts type E plugs and Europlugs. It supplies up to 16 A.



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5. Public transport

5.1. Generalities

The public transport works every day between 5 am – 23 pm. It tends to be crowded during peak hours (7:00 AM to 8:30 AM and 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM). Taxis are available non-stop.

Taxi

Taxi is quite cheap in Bucharest, with fares between 1.69 Lei/km and 1.99 Lei/km, and 3.5 Lei/km in some cases. All taxis are yellow and information from fare to company name, car number, and phone number are visible on the exterior of the car. **Make sure you have cash.**

You can take a taxi directly from the street or you can call the company: Cristaxi (+4)0219466 and (+4)0219455; Meridian (+4)0219444 and (+4)0219888; Leone (+4)0219425 and (+4)0219426; Total (+4)0219424; Dartex (+4)0219595.

[Clever Taxi app](#) is widely used in Bucharest. It is available for both Android and iPhone.

UBER is also available in Bucharest at similar prices or higher.

Bus, Trolley and Tramway

Website: www.ratb.ro

The passengers must have a valid ACTIV electronic card before boarding. The cards can be bought only in the RATB booths, that can be found near the RATB stations. The booths are opened during working days from 5:30 AM to 8:30 PM and generally closed during Saturday and Sunday. The price of a single ticket on ALL URBAN ROUTES is 1.30 Lei. When you ask for an electronic card, besides the credit that you buy for traveling (min: 2.6 Lei - max: 50 Lei), you will have to pay also the card.

The passengers are obliged to validate the card without delay when boarding the vehicle. Any transfer to other vehicle implies the validation of a new ticket. You can use the ACTIV card to travel with the subway system.

The routes you may need are from **Bus 336**, **Bus 136** or **Bus 601**.



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Metro

The metro system is the fastest way to travel in Bucharest. The center of the city is covered by several stations, who are set around 1-2 km from each other: Piata Unirii, Universitate, Piata Romana, Piata Victoriei. There are multiple types of **tickets** you can buy:

- 2 fares that costs 5 Lei (2.5 Lei/1 fare)
- 10 fares that costs 20 Lei (2 Lei/1 fare)
- the day pass for 10 Lei- the weekly pass for 25 Lei.

One fare means that you can go to any station in Bucharest no matter how far and the color of the line. There are no zones marked on the metro map, so the price of one fare is the same.



look out for this sign





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5.2. From/to the airport

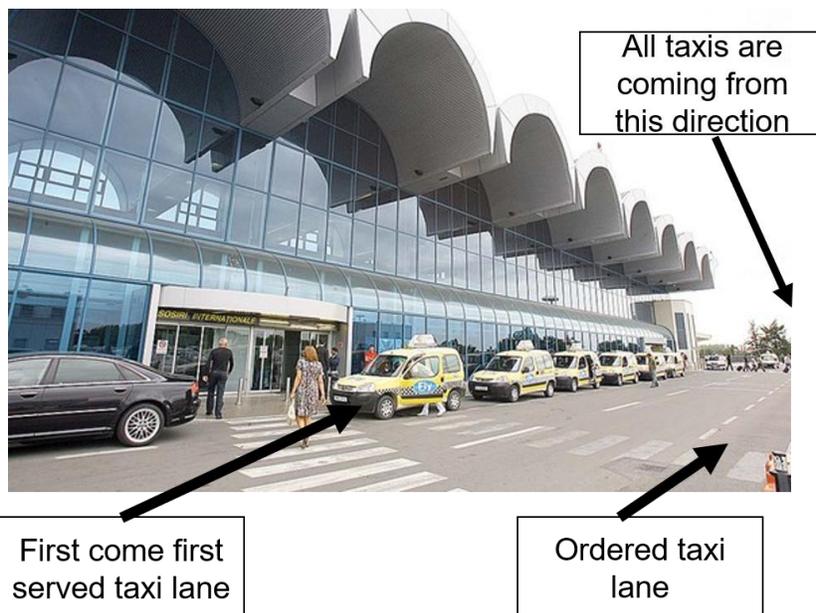
The *Henri Coanda* airport (OTP is the international code) is located north of Bucharest, 26 km from the city center.

By taxi

Depending on the tariff, a ride between the airport and the city center costs between 35 lei and 50 lei. Taxis can be ordered at the airport using the electronic booths right at the exist area of the arrivals terminal, and the taxi area is just outside; all prices ranges are available. You will get a ticket with the taxi details, including the car nameplate, company logo, company car number and tariff.



There is also a lane with first come first serve taxis, where taxis are not ordered from the booth, but the prices are a little higher.





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By bus

The 783 bus travels regularly from the Henry Coanda International Airport (Otopeni) to the City Centre (approximate travel time 40 minutes). Here is the route for bus **783**

If you want to take the bus from the **Airport Otopeni Henri Coanda** to the city, the **bus stop** is **downstairs, in front of Arrivals** Entrance (from International Arrivals, take the stairs, follow the signs to get to “Arrivals” and then exit) or follow the yellow “Bus signs”. There is a kiosk/ machine where you can **buy tickets**, the **driver doesn't sell tickets**. The price is 7 lei for 2 rides.

At **Victory Square** (Piata Victoriei), **Romana Square** (Piata Romana), **21 December Square** (Piata 21 Decembrie), **Unirii Square 1** (Piata Unirii 1) and **Unirii Square 2** you have access to **Subway (Metrou)**.

5.3. From/to the Politehnica University Campus

By taxi

A ride between the Bucharest city center and the UPB campus is around 15 lei (it includes the tip).

By Metro or Bus

From Piata Universitatii (University Square):

- bus 601 or bus 336 (see the routes above)
- Metro: 1 station till Piata Unirii 2, walk to Piata Unirii 1 to change from M2 to M3 take direction Preciziei, 3 stations, till station Politehnica

From Piata Unirii 1, Metro M3, direction Preciziei, 3 stations, till the Politehnica station.

While attending the symposium, we advise you to visit the Politehnica station. You will discover here the marble used on the floor extracted from Romanian Carpathian Mountains. The marble incorporates 80 million years old fossils. In fact, such marble is used in all subway stations, but the fossils are less visible than in the Politehnica station.



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6. Emergency medical care

In case of emergency you should call 112. If possible, you should ask a Romanian person to do this for you, because the operator might not speak fluent English. Basic emergency medical care is provided for free. However, you are advised to carry a European health insurance card or to contract a travel medical insurance.

7. GSM and Internet connection

The telecom companies with good coverage in Romania are Vodafone, Orange, and Telekom. Prepaid SIM cards are available starting from 5 Euro. They can be bought at the airport (in a newspaper shop) or in the city at various providers. The prepaid sims include several GBs of internet data and international minutes. Please, ask the seller to help you to activate the SIM.

8. Pharmacies

Pharmacies are available everywhere in Bucharest. You can buy pharmaceutical drugs without a doctor's prescription, including for stomach, flu, headache, and others. All pharmacies operate under the EU regulations.

9. Tipping

Tipping is not compulsory in Romania. However, good restaurant or taxi services may be rewarded by 5 to 10% of the bill.



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10. Discover Bucharest

If you have some time and want to discover Bucharest, we scheduled some few suggestions for you.

10.1. Romanian Food

- **Sarmale** (cabbage rolls): these round cabbage leaves stuffed with minced meat (and some rice) are a favorite among 99% of Romanians. Most say this is the best traditional food and the main festive dish cooked on all special occasions.
- **Mici or mititei**: small rolls of grilled minced meat that comes in various combinations with pork, sheep or beef. It's every meat lover's dream come true.
- **Mamaliga**: it is basically boiled corn flour, the Romanian version of 'polenta', and this was basically the substitute for bread decades ago. It's best served alongside sarmale or in the vegetarian version with cottage cheese and cream.
- **Slanina, caltabosi, lebar, toba** also known as 'porcarii' (products made of pork meat), there are best served in the cold winter season. Order a cold platter and you will them invariably together with various types of cheese. 'Slanina' is smoked fat; 'caltabosi' is a sausage made of the pig's internal organs, minced meat and spices (pepper and thyme); 'lebar' is a sausage made mostly of pork liver; 'toba' is made of the pig's head, tongue, kidneys, heart and muscle. Probably all this does not sound very tasty, but trust us, if it's made right, you will be licking your fingers at the end of the meal.
- **Carnati de Plescoi**: sausages from the region of Buzau (North-East of Bucharest) made from a mix of sheep and beef meat seasoned with paprika.
- **Salata de vinete** or aubergine salad with mayonnaise and a bit of onion.
- **Zacusca** is a salad of reddish color made with aubergines, red bell peppers, onions and tomato sauce.
- **Ciorba** which is basically sour soup and since Romanians are crazy about this, it comes in many varieties. What we recommend is the 'ciorba de fasole si afumatura' (bean soup with smoked bacon) served from a bread bowl and, if you are fond of sour cream, try the pork, chicken or beef ciorba cooked with cream. If you are in the mood for something different, then try the ciorba de burta (tripe sour soup with cream) – it's one of the most loved Romanian dishes.
- **Papanasi** is a hearty delicious dessert with two doughnuts covered by cream and Jam.
- **Placinta cu branza dulce** is a pie with sweet cheese, a dessert that can be found everywhere: restaurants, cafes, bakeries and homes.



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- **Cozonac** is a sweet bread dough with nuts and Turkish delight. It is a treat cooked on all special occasions (Christmas, Easter, and other religious holidays).
- **Covrigi** or the Romanian pretzel is a thinner version of the famous German counterpart and it comes in various combinations: with salt, with sesame, poppy or fillings (chocolate, cheese, jam or a sausage). The covrig is the Romanian breakfast if you had no time to eat something at home and you will often see queues of people waiting in front of bakeries to buy these treats in the early hours of the morning.

10.2. Restaurants/Bistros in the City

The old city center is the best to take a meal. You should not miss “Caru’ cu Bere” restaurant.

For other restaurants, just go on Google and search for “restaurants near me”.

11. Guide city tour Bucharest

- Free walking tours of Bucharest:
<https://bucharest.walkaboutfreetours.com/>

- Explore Bucharest with
<https://www.triptobucharest.com/>

but, don't miss the Parliament Palace

<http://cic.cdep.ro/en/visiting/opening-hours-and-tariffs>

- Bucharest seen from the eye of a traveller.
<https://fullsuitcase.com/highlights-bucharest/>

- Hopon-hopoff sightseeing bus tour :
<http://romaniatourism.com/romania-maps/bucharest/bucharest-hopon-hopoff-sightseeing-bus-tours.html>

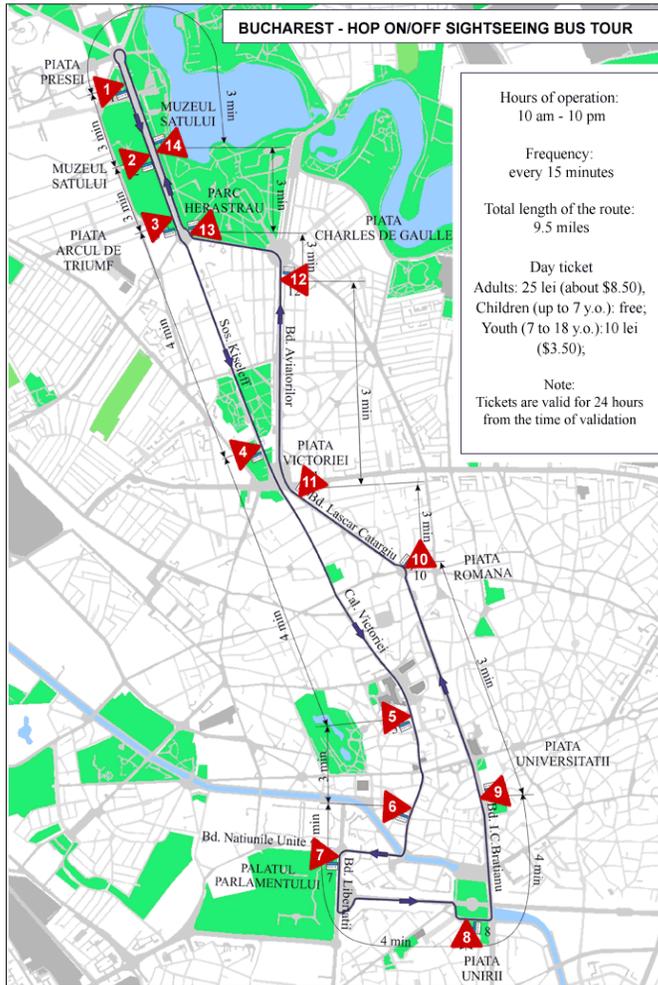
Other useful links

<https://www.inyourpocket.com/bucharest/sightseeing>

<http://romaniatourism.com/bucharest.html>



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Stop #	Stop Name	Main Attractions
1	PIATA PRESEI	Herastrau Park
2	MUZEUL SATULUI	Village Museum (<i>Muzeul Satului</i>)
3	ARCUL DE TRIUMF	Arch of Triumph (<i>Arcul de Triumf</i>)
4	PIATA VICTORIEI	Natural History Museum (<i>Muzeul Antipa</i>), Geology Museum (<i>Muzeul de Geologie</i>), Museum of the Romanian Peasant (<i>Muzeul Taranului Roman</i>), Headquarters of the Romanian Government (<i>Palatul Victoria</i>)
5	PIATA REVOLUTIEI	National Museum of Art (<i>Muzeul National de Arta</i>), Church Cretulescu (<i>Biserica Cretulescu</i>), The Romanian Athenaeum (<i>Ateneul Roman</i>)
6	CEC	The Savings Bank (<i>Palatul CEC</i>), National History Museum (<i>Muzeul National de Istorie</i>)
7	PALATUL PARLAMENTULUI	Parliament's Palace (<i>Palatul Parlamentului</i>)
8	PIATA UNIRII	Romanian Patriarchate (<i>Patriarhia Romana</i>), Manuc's Inn (<i>Hanul lui Manuc</i>)
9	UNIVERSITATE	Bucharest University (<i>Universitatea</i>), Museum of the City of Bucharest (<i>Muzeul Municipiului Bucuresti</i>), National Theatre (<i>Teatrul National</i>)
10	PIATA ROMANA	Academy of Economic Studies (<i>Academia de Studii Economice</i>)
11	PIATA VICTORIEI	Natural History Museum (<i>Muzeul Antipa</i>), Geology Museum (<i>Muzeul de Geologie</i>), Museum of the Romanian Peasant (<i>Muzeul Taranului Roman</i>), Headquarters of the Romanian Government (<i>Palatul Victoria</i>)
12	PIATA CHARLES DE GAULLE	Herastrau Park
13	PARC HERASTRAU	Arch of Triumph (<i>Arcul de Triumf</i>), Herastrau Park
14	MUZEUL SATULUI	Village Museum (<i>Muzeul Satului</i>)
1	PIATA PRESEI	Herastrau Park

We wish you a pleasant stay in Bucharest!