

Conference Guide

Conference Venue

Conference Location:

27th and 28th June: Aula Magna Building, Transylvania University of Brasov
Str. Iuliu Maniu nr. 41A, Brasov
(Opening Hall and Conference Rooms A' and B' at 1st Floor)

29th June: V Building of Transylvania University of Brasov
Str. Mihai Viteazu nr.5, 500174 Brasov
(Conference Rooms VPA and VP1 at Ground Floor)

Transilvania University (UTBv) is a state institution of higher education located in Brasov, Romania, and by its "educational offer, scientific research and number of students represents one of Romania's large universities, being the representative university for Region 7 - Centre." The University includes 18 faculties with a total of about 20 000 de students and 800 teaching staff. The University offers 100 FT, PT and distance learning bachelor's study programmes and 66 advanced studies or scientific reasearch master's programmes, also FT, PT and distance learning. At present doctoral studies are available in 17 fields.



History of Brasov

The origins of Brasov as a medieval town are lost in the dark times. Archaeological discoveries mention life on this land since the Bronze Age, 60,000 years ago. The most impressive monument of the Antiquity is the Dacian Sanctuary of Racos, though, hardly accessible to tourists. Another testimony of life on this land is the Roman camp discovered in Rasnov, the former Northeastern border of the Roman empire. An inscription in stone reveals the ancient Dacian name of the land: Cumidava. The Dacian-Roman settlements (Brasov, Harman, Cristian, Feldioara) in this area stand proof that after the Romans retreat (the year 271) the inhabitants (Daco-Roman population) remained on this land. Brasov was first mentioned as "Corona" (which means, crown, hence the coat of arms of the city which is a crown with oak roots) in 1235, when the Saxon population settled here. Later on the town was known as Brasco, Brasso, Kronstadt, Brassovia Citadel and Stalin. For centuries, the city was (and still is) Transylvania's gateway towards the South and East. As the renowned Harvard professor Samuel Huntington shows in his work "The Clash of Civilizations", this is where (ideologically) Europe ends. The fault line between the western and the eastern civilization runs indeed through Brasov, separating Transylvania from the rest of Romania. On March, 1600, Mihai Viteazu visited Brasov and summoned "The Diet of Transylvania" recognizing the rights of Tara Birsei's inhabitants.



In 1688 when the Austrian army conquered Transylvania, Brasov was the last Bastion standing. 1689 was a one of the toughest years in the history of Brasov. On April, 21, a big fire destroyed most of the town and killed 3,000 people. Most of the houses were destroyed and Saint Maria Church, smoked by the fire, would become "The Black Church". The citizens rapidly rebuild the city. In 1838 George Baritiu edited the first Romanian publications in Brasov: "Gazeta de Transilvania" and the "Paper for Mind, Heart and Literature". It was also issued a literary review that was promoting the Romanian writers and poets in Transylvania. In the period following the 1st World War, Brasov became a strong economical center in Europe, but the town was partly destroyed during the 2nd World War. It was rebuilt and the historical buildings were restored. During the second half of the 20th century, the communist administration forcefully

industrialized the city, bringing here workers from the rest of Romania, and determining population of German or Jewish origin to leave the city in droves.

Official Web Page of Brasov: <http://www.romaniatourism.com/brasov.html>

Source: <http://www.romaniatourism.com/brasov.html>

<http://www.brasovtravelguide.ro/en/brasov/brasov-history.php>

How to get to Brasov

By Air:

Currently Braşov has no civilian airport. Otopeni airport near Bucharest is three hours away by car south, the same as the Sibiu airport west, or the Târgu Mureş airport north.

To avoid having to go via Bucharest when travelling from Otopeni to Braşov , there is a minibus service operated by Direct Aeroport with 7 daily departures in each direction. Prices are only slightly higher than the combination of city bus and train and the journey is scheduled to take 3 hours (although it can be a little less). The minibuses are 19/20 seaters, have wifi and are modern and reasonably comfortable although not luxurious. Bookings can be made via telephone, email, their website or the company office on str Michael Weiss in central Braşov and payment is generally made directly to the driver at the start of the journey.

Visa: Before you start planning your travel to Romania you should visit the Ministry of foreign affairs' web page to see if you need to get a visa.

For more details: <http://www.mae.ro/en/node/2035>
<http://www.mae.ro/en/node/2040>

Henri Coandă International Airport

Tel.: +40 21 204 1000

Address: Calea Bucureştilor 224E, Otopeni 075150, Romania

URL: <http://www.bucharestairports.ro>

Sibiu International Airport

Tel.: +40 269 253 135

Address: Şoseaua Alba Iulia 73, Sibiu 550052, Romania

URL: <http://www.sibiuairport.ro/>

By Car

By Car: Car is one of the most popular ways of reaching Brasov, due to its fairly good road connections. Road E60 will be the main road to use in and out of Brasov, because this European Road links Brasov to Bucharest in the south, as well as Cluj-Napoca, Oradea and Budapest, Hungary in the west. Road E68 will take you to Sibiu and further onwards to Arad and Timisoara. Road E574 takes you into the north, to the Moldavia region and the Painted Monasteries and Iasi.

For more information: <http://www.brasovtravelguide.ro/en/brasov/getting-to-brasov/by-car.php>

By train

Getting to Brasov is very easy, due to the fact that it is a major Romanian railway hub. Between Bucharest, the capital, and Brasov there are many trains daily, almost one every hour, and there are also frequent trains from other Romanian cities as well as a daily connection to Budapest, Hungary (via Oradea) and a EuroNight (fast night train) connection to Budapest via Arad. Also due to its affordability and comfort, train is the best way of reaching Brasov. Even though all Romanian trains are increasingly comfortable, try to take the InterCity (IC) trains. These are very modern and comfortable, as they are an initiative of the state railways to reinvigorate Romania's transport sector. "Rapid" trains are also comfortable and almost as fast as InterCities. "Accelerat" trains are also a fast alternative, lacking a little in the kind of comfort an InterCity or Rapid train would provide. Do not, however, take trains labeled as Personal (or abbreviated as P before their route number) to Brasov. Besides the fact that some of them are quite low on comfort, they take nearly twice the time to get there, since they stop at every stop. If you really are forced to take them (even though there are Rapid and IC trains at very accessible times all day), at least buy a first-class ticket.

Tickets can be bought one hour before departure at the station or in advance at the CFR booking office (CFR Agency) but not for departure on the same day. Supplements are payable on rapid and express trains for which seats must be reserved in advance.

Duration: approx. 2 hrs.

Brasov Railway Station:

Address: 5, Garii Avenue
Phone: +40-268-410233
interior 3220, 3228

Brasov-Bartolomeu Railway Station:

Address: 2, Calea Fagarasului
Phone: +40-268-410233
int. 3640, 3641

CFR Agency:

Address: 15 Noiembrie 43

Schedule for international trains

Phone: +40-268-470696

Schedule for local trains

Phone: +40-168-477018

Information

Phone: +40-268-952

For more details about the train schedule:

<http://www.cfr.ro>



By Bus:

The Brasov local transport network is well-developed, with around 50 bus and trolleybus lines. There is also a regular bus line serving Poiana Brasov, a nearby winter resort. All are operated by RAT Brasov. Operated by: RATBv (Regia Autonoma de Transport Brasov The Public Transportation Company of Brasov)

Schedule: Weekdays: 05.30am – 12:00am Weekends: 06.30am – 11:00pm; Night: no service.

Tickets/fares:

Line 5: Astra - Centre – Bartolomeu

Line 20: Centre - Poiana Brasov (ski resort/spa)

Tickets valid for all lines, except line 20:

1 trip - ticket/1.5 lei (€0.35);

2 trips - ticket/3 lei (€0.70).

Tickets valid for line 20, to Poiana Brasov: 1 trip - ticket/3.5 lei (€0.80)

Getting around Brasov

By Public Transportation

If you keep to the main tourist area of Brasov (Old Town and Schei), the only bus routes of any interest will be the No. 51 - Gara and the Black Church to Piața Unirii and Pe Tocile (returning via Strada Nicolae Balcescu and the Star Department Store); and the No. 50B - Livada Postei to Solomon's Rocks. Of note too is the No. 20, which serves Poiana Brasov from Livada Postei, and the No. 12 from Livada Postei to Autogara No. 2 (for coaches to Bran).

Tickets (costing 2 lei) for Brasov's buses must be bought from an RAT kiosk before boarding, and stamped in the little machines once on board. There is a fine of 50 lei if you are caught with no ticket, or a unstamped ticket.

By Taxi

Taxis are a faster and more comfortable way to get around town than public transportation. Taxis are also relatively cheap. Most taxis have meters and drivers are usually friendly. There's never a shortage of cabs within city limits at any given hour, but it is a good idea to have one called, rather than going looking for one. By law, all the taxis must have the price/km put in a visible place (usually outside, on the side doors). Anyway, you should ask the approximate fare in advance and always make sure the driver uses the meter from the start, or agree on a fixed amount for the ride. Though rare, there have been cases when foreign tourists have been asked to pay enormous amounts. It is OK and always a good idea to ask for an estimate in advance, even when the cab is using a meter. Taxis are usually parked in designated areas along the curb, which are in the proximity of bus stations or other busy spots. When traveling outside city limits you may be asked to pay double fare per kilometer (it is considered acceptable), or you could agree on a fixed amount in advance. Tipping taxi drivers is not very common, but it's always

PLACES TO VISIT

The Ethnographic Museum

The Ethnographic Museum has three sections, one in Brasov and two others in Brasov county in Sacele and exhibits folk costumes accompanied by black and white photographs illustrating exactly how they were worn and by whom. The museum also shows the evolution of weaving from an old spinning wheel to a mechanized loom which is still operational. Authentic Romanian crafts such as hand carved crosses and embroidered shirts are on sale in the lobby.

Address: 21A, Bd. Eroilor, Brasov

Opening Hours: Tuesday to Sunday, 09:00am - 17:00pm

Tel: +40 (0)268 476 243

Admission Fee: Adult: RON 5

The First Romanian School Museum

At first there was the church mentioned in chronicles in 1292. A Homiliary (text book of religious sermons) of the 11-12th century confirms the existence of an educational place. The papal bull of December 25, 1399 confirms the existence of a place of Orthodox education and worship in Schei. In 1495 "The Holy Church and the School" were built thanks to voivode (a kind of Romanian ruler) Vlad Calugarul. This is the place where most of the first printed books in Romanian language were printed by Deacon Coresi during 1588-1665.

Address: 2-3, Unirii Square, Brasov

Tel: +40-94-495904 (to book a tour)

Admission Fee: To be advised



The Black Church

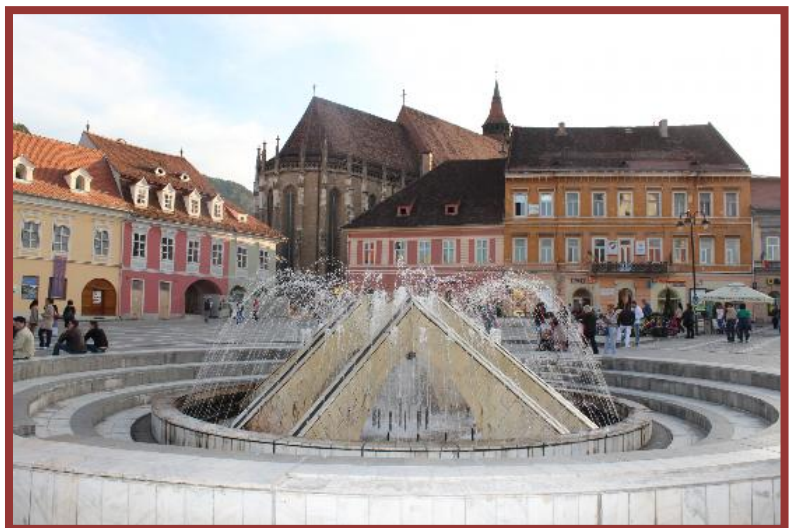
Brasov's most important landmark, the Black Church, the largest Gothic church between Vienna and Istanbul, towers over Piata Sfatului and the old town. Originally dedicated to Virgin Mary the church was Roman-Catholic for more than a century and a half and later with the reformation sweeping across Europe it became a Lutheran one. Service is still held today for the small German community from Brasov on Sundays. The Black Church has a turbulent history: built between 1385 and 1477 on the site of an earlier church (destroyed by Mongol invasions in 1242), the construction of the Marienkirche was hampered by extensive damage caused by Turkish raids in 1421. The church was given its new name after disaster struck again in 1689, when the 'Great Fire, set by Hapsburg invaders, leveled most of the town, heavily damaged the church, blackening its walls. Restoration took almost 100 years. Of the two towers planned, only one (65,6m high) was finished. The year 1477 is written in Gothic letters on the front gate, the only piece made in wood that resisted the fire. The original Gothic interior has suffered under the restorations, and the lofty, light space you see nowadays is mostly Baroque. Most of the objects inside the church date from the reconstruction time except for the baptismal font which was cast in bronze by a local craftsman in 1450.

Address: Court J. Honterus 2, Brasov

Council Square

Piata Sfatului, Romanian for Council Square lies in the center of Brasov and is known for yearly markets and fairs since 1364. As market place it was visited from domestic and foreign merchants. However, Piata Sfatului was also used for public humiliation and punishment. The most prominent building of Piata Sfatului is the Council House (this for Council Square), which is just in the center of the place. The Council house was built in 1420.

Address: Piata Sfatului, Brasov, Romania



Around Brasov

Bran

Situated 25 km from Brasov and 190 km from Bucuresti, Bran is at the same time a place of history and legends. Bran is the connection gate between Transylvania and Valahia protected on one side by the Piatra Craiului massif and on the other side by the Bucegi massif. In Bran can be found one of the most visited castles in Europe- Dracula's Castle- source of inspiration for one of the most fascinating legends, of Count Dracula. The castle was built by the inhabitants of Brasov between the years 1377 - 1382 to protect the pass in face of the Turkish invasions. At the beginning of the XX century it became the favourite residence of Queen Maria of Romania, to whom the inhabitants of Bran are grateful for the appreciation given to them in the years of glory of the monarchy. Although the name of Bran is tied to Bran Castle, the area is extremely rich in tourist attractions: Cheile Moeciului, Bucegi Mountains and Piatra Craiului, Dambovicioara cave, Fortress of Rasnov, but also Brasov, along with the Saxon fortresses of Prejmer and Harman. Poiana Brasov is a traditional ski area, but also an area for spending the summer vacations. The access to Poiana Brasov is easy from Rasnov (9km). Bran is also a place which is in competition with the city due to the villas which were built in the last few years. The area is blessed by nature, with hospitable and hardworking people, the inhabitants of Bran knew how to put to good use the resources they have. Rural tourism is practiced here as a viable alternative to the large hotels on the Prahova Valley. The family atmosphere which surrounds you in the rural pensions, people who know how important is a "thank you" from the heart of the tourist after a good meal, hosts who will show you with pride their houses, decorated with a lot of good taste, are just a few of the arguments which will convince you to prolong your stay in this area.

For more information: Brasov Tourism Centre

Address: Piata Sfatului 30

Opening Hours: Monday - Sunday: 09:00am - 19:00pm

Phone: +268 419.078

URL: <http://www.brasovtourism.eu/>



Muresenilor Memorial Museum

Quirky and charming would well-describe this unusual family museum situated across from Brasov's Council Square. Established in 1968 through family donations, the museum features letters, photographs, newspapers, rare books, paintings, sculptures, 19th century furniture, heirlooms and keepsakes of the musical and literary members and in-laws of the Mureseanus. Jacob Muresan, first in a long line of Mureseanus, was a teacher who married into wealth and in 1838, became the founding editor of the Transylvania Gazette. Its 25,000 documents comprise the largest family archive in Romania. The Mureseanus were the founders and owners of a political newspaper, Gazeta de Transilvania, for more than half a century and corresponded with the most important politicians in Transylvania and other regions of Romania during the second half of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries.

Address: Piata Sfatului 25

Tel.: 0268 477.864

Open: Tue. - Fri. 9:00am - 5:00pm; Sat. - Sun. 10:00am - 5:00pm; Mon. closed

Free admission Lungotevere Castello, 50, 00186 Rome

Web: <http://www.muzeulmuresenilor.ro>

Weavers' Bastion Museum

This small museum, housed inside the bastion, exhibits Middle Age documents, photographs of long-lost bastions, armor, impressive Turkish weapons decorated with Arabic inscriptions, tools used by local artisans, guild flags, a street lamp from the 16th century, pieces from an aqueduct, rare books and much more. Most impressive is the elaborate small-scale model of Brasov circa 1600, made in 1896 for the Millennium Exhibition in Budapest.

Address: Str. George Cosbuc 9

Tel: 0268 472.368

Open: Tue. - Sun. 10:00am - 5:30pm; Mon. closed



Art Museum

The ground and first floors of the museum feature a national gallery of canvases, starting with anonymous Transylvanian painters of the 18th century up to the who's who of Romanian 20th century artists, including Theodor Pallady, Nicolae Grigorescu, Stefan Luchian and Horia Bernea. The museum also displays works by Brasov-born Janos Mattis-Teutsch (1884-1960), one of the most influential Romanian artists, as well as sculptures by Corneliu Medrea, Ion Jalea, Frederic Storck and Dimitrie Paciurea.

Address: Blvd. Eroilor 21 A

Tel: 0268 477.286

URL: <http://www.muzeulartabv.ro>

Open Hours: Tue. - Sun. 10:00am - 6:00pm; Closed Mon.

Romanian Orthodox Cathedral

Located on the east side of the Council Square, opposite the Old Town House, the Romanian Orthodox Cathedral was built in a glaring Byzantine style in 1896 and displays some impressive interior frescoes and decorations. On Saturdays, brides and grooms line outside (being careful to avoid glancing at each other - bad luck) to get married here.

Address: Piata Sfatului 3



DINNING IN BRASOV

Restaurant Belvedere

By common consent, the best restaurant in Brasov. Found in the Belvedere hotel, in an enviable location above the city, the food here is truly exceptional. The inventive menu, featuring treats such as lamb encrusted with caremelized nuts or the duck with shaved almonds, is well priced given how good the food is. Add in a great view, silver service and great wines and you quickly see why it is the best of the best. And yes: the place does have a view, an amazing one.

Address: Str. Stejarisului Nr. 11, Brasov, Romania

Tel: 0268 415 575

Mob: 0735 404 169

Fax: 0268 415 370

Email: h.belvedere@yahoo.com

URL: <http://www.hotelbelvederebv.ro>

Festival '39

Perhaps the most famous bar ever to open in Brasov, now in an improved location on Republicii (it used to be on Strada Muresenilor). What's more it is bigger and better than ever and is no more a mere bar: the usual mix of cocktails and coffee is now accompanied by fine food too (the ciolan de purcelus - piglet knuckle - is terrific). You could spend all day in here in fact, from breakfast to nightcap.

Cuisine: French

Address: 62, Strada Republicii, Brasov, Romania

Open Hours: Everyday 7am–12am

Tel: +40 743 339 909

Email: cafeneaubucurestiului@gmail.com

URL: <http://www.festival39.com>



Casa Hirscher

The food here is in fact brilliantly simple, making use of local, fresh ingredients but doing so with real aplomb. Try the supa de cartofi (potato soup): you will not taste any as good anywhere else in Transylvania. There's live piano music most evenings, and a great shaded terrace in summer, though the interior is worthy of a peek too. Find it at the rear of the Cerbul Carpatin building.

Cuisine: Italian

Address: Cerbu, Piata Sfatului Nr 12-14, Brasov, Romania

Phone: (+4) 0268 41 05 33

Email: rezervari@casahirscher.ro

URL: <http://www.casahirscher.ro>

Keller Steak House

Something a bit different. On a street packed with average pizza/pasta joints this genuine steak house serves big juicy bits of beef, lamb, veal and pork cooked as you like and served with a good choice of grilled veggies. We like the surf and turf (not cheap - in fact quite expensive - but good) while the lamb chops in Dijon mustard went down very well. Even offers two vegetarian dishes. Commendable.

Cuisine: South American, Steakhouse, International

Address: Appollonia Hirscher 2, Brasov, Romania

Email: contact@kellersteakhouse.ro

URL: <http://www.kellersteakhouse.ro>



Fish & Fries

Let's be straight right from the start: this place is not serving fish and chips as Brits would know it, but in all honesty it's not far off it (the fish at least: the chips are less than impressive). Thick pieces of flaky cod in a crispy batter as good as anything we've had anywhere in Romania. There are battered prawns too. A good shout for lunch (take-away only, although there are a couple of tables inside).

Address: Str. Gheorghe Baritiu 8, Brasov, Romania

Phone: (+4) 0741 98 07 82

Open Hours: 09:00-21:00, Mon 12:00-21:00

Gaura Dulce

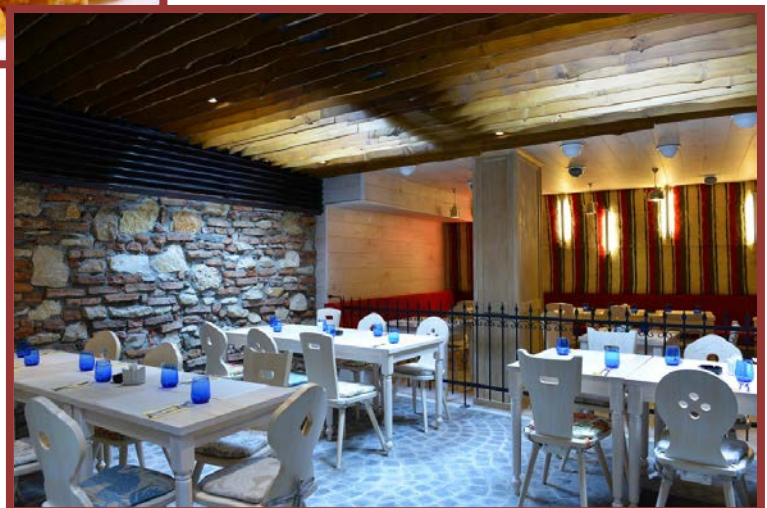
Rather smart place in a cellar behind Piata Sfatului (the entrance is in the alleyway to the left of the Gott Hotel). Serves very good local food (the gulas is always perfect) and the mici are decent. Decor is a bizarre mix of traditional and modern, and yet works. Service can be patchy if the place is busy.

Address: Piata Sfatului 12-14, Brasov, Romania

Phone: +(4) 0786 11 25 26

Open Hours: 10am-12am

URL: <http://www.gauradulce.ro>



More options to dine in Brasov:

<http://www.restaurantbrasovia.ro>

<http://www.bistrodelarte.ro>

<http://www.amasi.ro>

<http://www.prato.ro>

<http://www.restaurant-ambasador.com>

Sources:

<http://www.brasovtravelguide.ro/en/brasov/getting-to-brasov/by-car.php>

<http://www.cfr.ro>

<http://www.mae.ro/en/node/2035>

<http://www.mae.ro/en/node/2040>

<http://www.romaniatourism.com/brasov.html>

<http://www.brasovtravelguide.ro/en/brasov/brasov-history.php>

<http://www.brasovtravelguide.ro/en/brasov/museums/ethnographic-museum.php>

http://www.etnobrasov.ro/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&layout=blog&id=10&Itemid=

76

<http://www.brasovtravelguide.ro/en/brasov/museums/first-romanian-school-museum.php>

<http://www.brasovtourism.eu/>

<http://www.bucharestairports.ro>

<http://www.sibiuairport.ro/>

<http://www.muzeulmuresenilor.ro>

<http://www.muzeulartabv.ro>

<https://www.inyourpocket.com/brasov>