

PLOIESTI IN ROMANIA

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GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION

Ploiești lies in the center of Muntenia, in the central-northern part of the Romanian Plain. It lies close to the capital city Bucharest and it had close connections with the capital city throughout the centuries. Ploiești lies at the 25°E meridian and the 44°55'N parallel (north). The city occupies a total surface of around 60 km², out of which 35 km² is suburban settlements. There exist two rivers in the proximity of the city: Prahova river, on the south-west, briefly passes through the city through the Brazi settlement and Teleajen river passes through the Blejoi, Bucov, Berceni villages. The city lies on Damu river, which springs from the hills around the Baicoi town. Nowadays the Dambu river doesn't have a high flow rate.



CLIMATE


Month	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Aver. High °C	1	4	10	18	23	27	28	28	24	18	10	3
Aver. Low °C	-6	-3	0	6	10	14	16	15	11	6	2	-3

LANDSCAPE AND FLORA

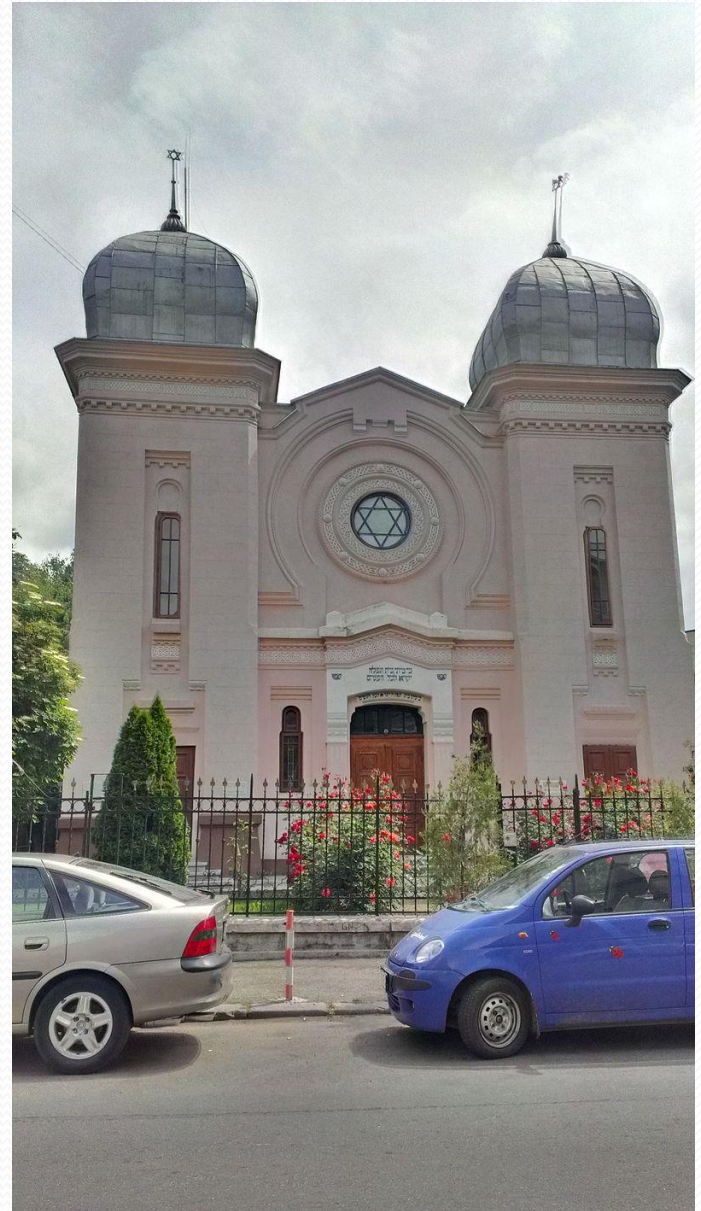
- The city lies on the Romanian Plain, having an average altitude of 150m. The surrounding landscape is influenced by its position around the Prahova river, whose stream bed lies 25 km west. The Teleajen River passes through the city while the Dâmbu River passes through the north-eastern neighborhoods.
- The vegetation of Ploiești used to be characterised by a plain forest, made up predominantly of pedunculate oak trees (*Quercus robur*). Other varieties of oak trees such as the sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*) also existed. Remnants of the old forest still exist and some trees are currently protected, such as two old oak trees in Ghighiu, on the southern periphery of the city.

LANDSCAPE AND FLORA

- In current times the vegetation is typical of urban settlements, made up of ornamental plants, plantations of chestnuts, aspen and black locust. Parks and other green areas are limited: the main boulevard area, the park next to the Sala Sporturilor, the park from the northern part of the city, the "Mihai Viteazul" park and another park next to the Bucov barrier. These occupy only around 85.5 ha, resulting in 3.2 m² of green space per inhabitant.
- Around the city one can also observe several endangered trees, which are protected by law. These include the giant redwood from the garden of the "Paul Constantinescu" museum. There also exist trees that have adapted to the local climate, such as figs. In some neighborhoods more fruit trees and flowers are currently being planted.

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- LANDMARKS
 - MONUMENTS
 - MUSEUMS
 - IMPORTANT SIGHTS
 - TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

Synagogue



School of Arts and Crafts



Museum of History and Archaeology



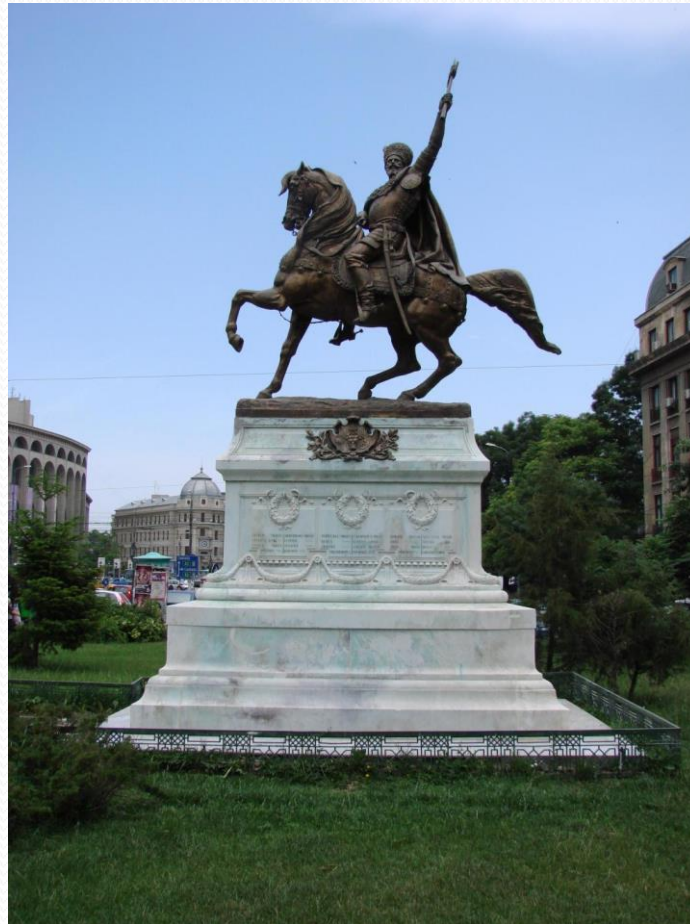
Nicolae Simache Clock Museum



Peleş Castle



Statue of Mihai Viteazul




Mihai Viteazul Park



CULTURE

- Ploiești is home to the Ploiești Philharmonic Orchestra - one of the top-rated philharmonic orchestras in Romania, a prominent football club, FC Petrolul Ploiești, women handball club CSM Ploiești from Liga Națională and basketball team CSU Asesoft.
- There are many cultural and architectural monuments, including the Cultural Palace; the Clock Museum, featuring a collection of clocks and watches gathered by Nicolae Simache; the Oil Museum; the Art Museum of Ploiești, donated by the Quintus family; and the Hagi Prodan Museum, dating to 1785: the property of a merchant named Ivan Hagi Prodan, it contains elements of old Romanian architecture and for a short time after World War I it hosted the first museum in Ploiești, "Prahova's Museum". In August 2011, Ploiești hosted the Golden Carpathian European Film & Fair and Goran Bregovic concert.



Several prominent writers have been affiliated with the city, including Ion Luca Caragiale, Constantin Dobrogeanu-Gherea, Ioan A. Bassarabescu, Nichita Stănescu, Geo Bogza, Radu Tudoran, composer Paul Constantinescu and philosopher Petre P. Negulescu. Three graduates of the "Sfinții Petru și Pavel" High school were presidents of the Romanian Academy: Andrei Rădulescu, Mihai Drăgănescu and Eugen Simion.

CUSTOMS

Romanian traditional customs have as means of expression: music, choreography, gesture and mimic. These are complex cultural actions, meant above all to organize their life, to mark important moments of their transition through the world, and to shape their behavior and attitude.

There are two essential categories of customs: The first one marks different moments during the year (religious holidays, customs connected to agricultural labor or environmental factors), noting that these customs were aimed at the community life of the village, and were public and recurrent in nature.

The latter refers to those customs which attest different important moments in the man's life, their unfolding being linked to well-defined moments, which are not recurrent.



CUISINE

- **Romanian cuisine** is a diverse blend of different dishes from several traditions with which it has come into contact, but it also maintains its own character. It has been significantly influenced by the Ottoman Empire, yet it also includes culinary elements stemming from the cuisines of other fellow Balkan neighbor countries, especially Serbian and Bulgarian as well as Ukrainian.
- There are quite a few different types of dishes, which are sometimes included under a generic term; for example, the category *ciorbă* includes a wide range of soups with a characteristic sour taste. These may be meat and vegetable soups, tripe (*ciorbă de burtă*) and calf foot soups, or fish soups, all of which are soured by lemon juice, sauerkraut juice, vinegar, or *borș* (traditionally made from bran). The category *țuică* (plum brandy) is a generic name for a strong alcoholic spirit in Romania, while in other countries, every flavour has a different name.

TRADITIONAL DISHES

Sarmale is a dish made of rolled minced meat (pork usually) mixed with rice and herbs and covered in cabbage leaves



Beef salad

This is a salad made of diced boiled vegetables (potatoes, carrots, parsnips, peas), as well as some pickled cucumbers and red peppers and diced beef. The vegetables and beef mix together with mayonnaise and mustard.



Zacusca

This is a traditional Vegetarian cooked meal, usually prepared in early autumn and bottled in jars, Romanians serving it spread on a slice of bread during Advent, in the fasting period before Christmas. The tastiest is cooked from grilled eggplants and red peppers using an outdoor barbecue.



Grilled Meat Rolls (Mici, Mititei)

Spicy minced meat, rolled (the legend says the first *Mici* were in fact sausage fillings without skin), grilled on the barbecue – the smoke is a must for the final taste! You have to eat them with mustard and fresh bread roll.



Tripe Soup (Ciorba de burta)

Yellowish, spicy (pepper and chili), sour (vinegar dressing), you'll love or hate the **Tripe soup**. Certainly you won't forget it. Highly recommended early in the morning (or late at night), after a white night in town and lots of booze.



ENTERTAINMENT

Romania has many things to offer and you will not be lacking in good food and wine or nightlife entertainment. The capital, Bucharest, has many international restaurants and cafes as well as nightclubs, but outside of the major cities the food tends to be more traditional. Shopping buffs won't be bored in all of the large cities where you can buy a range of designer goods alongside many traditional handcrafted goods. There's also a wide range of sporting activities on offer; from skiing in Poiana Brasov and Sinaia, through hiking in the Carpathian Mountains, to playing golf at the Diplomat Club in Bucharest. There is also a diverse range of cultural celebrations, which take place throughout the year.

Sources

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ploie%C8%99ti#Education>
- <https://travelguideromania.com/customs-traditions-romania/>
- <http://www.bucharest-tips.com/articles/51-restaurants-10-romanian-traditional-dishes-eating-habits-and-secrets-you-didn-t-know>

THE END