

RELIGION AND SOCIETY IN MOLDAVIA – A CULTURAL TOUR

Day 1

Departure from Iasi at 7.30

Route: Iasi – Tg. Frumos - Gura Humorului – Voronet Monastery – Moldovita Monastery – Sucevita Monastery - Neamt

Bucovina with the monasteries, unique in the world for their beautiful exterior frescoes, still preserved after 450 years.

- **Voronet Monastery**, also called '*Eastern Europe's Sistine Chapel*' because of the unique 'Voronet blue' colour, famous for the *Last Judgment* scene. The church was built in 1488 during the reign of Saint Stephen the Great, painted in 1547. It is an UNESCO monument.
- **Moldovita Monastery**, UNESCO monument. Built and painted during the reign of King Petru Rares (1532-1537). It boasts the best-preserved frescoes, the most remarkable being *The Siege of Constantinople*. The *Golden Apple*, an award of the International Federation of Journalists and Writers from Tourism, is museum of the monastery.
- **Sucevita Monastery** – the last monastery with exterior frescoes (1582-1584) and often called the masterpiece among them. Predominant colour: green. (Lunch)

Accommodation and dinner at Neamt Monastery

Day 2

Route: Neamt Monastery – Tg. Neamt – 'Ion Creanga' Memorial House -Neamt Fortress- Agapia Monastery (lunch) – Varatic Monastery – Iasi

Neamt Region - history and traditions

- **Neamt Monastery** – 7 km from Târgu Neamț. It was the main culture and art centre in mediaeval Moldavia. It houses an important museum and a large library. The church was built during the reign of Saint Stephen the Great (1497).
- **Târgu Neamț** - a small town from the 15th century. Main sights: Neamt Fortress, built in the 14th century during the reign of Petru Musat and 'Ion Creanga' Memorial House.
- **Agapia Monastery** – 17th century. The great Rumanian artist, Nicolae Grigorescu, painted the frescoes in 1858. The nunnery at Agapia has around 450 nuns. A visit that could be enriching to experience another way of living ones life in 21st century.
- **Varatec Monastery** - 18th century. The monastic community at Varatec has a tradition to look after the elderly people. They erected an impressive home for elderly, which is almost to complete, then host the people in need of the surrounding area.

Drive back to Iasi

Prices for groups

	Transport	Accommodation	Meals	Others	Prices
min. 7 pers.	Minibus AC	Single or 1 place in double rooms	1 breakfast, 2 lunches, 1 dinner	Entrance fees, tour guiding	178 Euro/pers in DBL 190 Euro/pers in SGL
min. 30 pers.	Bus ***AC	Single or 1 place in double room	1 breakfast, 2 lunches, 1 dinner	Entrance fees, tour guiding	135 Euro/pers in DBL 150 Euro/pers in SGL

Contact: Dan Sandu jecumster@gmail.com