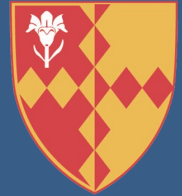


PAINTED MONASTERIES OF ROMANIA

4—13 October 2018

With the Very Revd Andrew Nunn
Dean of Southwark



**SOUTHWARK
CATHEDRAL**



A 10 day pilgrimage including the
Moldavian monasteries & Transylvania



McCabe
PILGRIMAGES



Most Romanians are members of the Eastern Orthodox Church. Our pilgrimage will take us to see the treasures of the Romanian Church which are the painted churches. Deemed masterpieces of Byzantine art, these churches are one-of-a-kind architectural sites in Europe.

Journey with us into a fascinating part of our continent and learn about the rich Christian heritage of the Romanian people.

Andrew.

A PILGRIMAGE TO ROMANIA

With the Very Revd Andrew Nunn

4—13 October 2018

In 2007 the Eastern European country of Romania became a full member of the European Union. Before then the country was perhaps best known as a dictatorship, a country little visited by people from the west. Now we have the opportunity to make a pilgrimage to that fascinating country.

TOUR INFORMATION

The cost of this 10-day tour is £1,390 per person sharing twin-bedded accommodation on a half board basis. We have also included one lunch in a monastery. Lunches are not included to give flexibility on our touring days, but the guide will help locally.

We will be staying at locally graded three and four star hotels, all rooms having private facilities. Our journey is by air with British Airways flights between London Heathrow and Bucharest. Travel through Romania is by air-conditioned coach accompanied by a local guide. All entrance fees are included as well as a contribution to the group gratuity fund.

The travel insurance premium is £49 to age 74 and £74 if older (and no medical screening is required). Travel insurance is essential but you may have other suitable insurance.

Single rooms are available at a supplementary cost of £195 but please read our note 'Travelling Alone' overleaf if you would prefer to share.

Any special requests should be noted on the booking form. A deposit is payable now with the balance payable eight weeks prior to departure. Your final travel documents will be posted to you approximately two weeks before departure.

NB: drives are not long, but travelling is very slow with minor roads, traffic consisting of tractors, trailers loaded with hay and horse-drawn vehicles. All the more time for us to enjoy the picturesque landscape! Please be patient.

Also, please note that the itinerary may be subject to local changes.



TO MAKE A RESERVATION

To reserve your place on this tour please complete the enclosed booking form and send it with a deposit of £200 plus the insurance premium, to the tour organiser. Please make cheques payable to 'McCabe Pilgrimages'.

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DAILY PROGRAMME



Thursday 4 Oct | Travel to Bucharest

Our journey begins as we leave London Heathrow to travel to Bucharest. British Airways flight BA886 departs at 10:55 and arrives in Bucharest at 16:10. **We then transfer to the central Bucharest Berthelot Hotel for a two night stay.**

Friday | Bucharest

A day spent touring Bucharest. We take an orientation tour including Revolution Square, the Palace of Parliament and the Village Museum. We also visit the Orthodox Patriarchal Cathedral, the Old Court Church and the Antim Monastery.

Saturday | In the mountains

We leave Bucharest and drive across the Transylvanian Alps through the scenic Olt river valley. We visit Curtea de Arges, the first capital of Wallachia region. The Metropolitan Orthodox Church of Wallachia was founded here in 1359. We also visit Cozia Monastery built in the 14th century with its fantastic frescoes. **We overnight in Sibiu at the Golden Tulip Ana Tower Hotel** and have dinner in a farmhouse in the village of Sibiul with the opportunity to visit the unique glass-icon collection.

Sunday | Sibiu and Sighisoara

We start the day with a walking tour of Sibiu including a visit to the baroque style Roman Catholic Cathedral. We continue on to the Saxon village of Biertan with its fortified church. We journey via the important town of Alba Iulia, where we also see the Roman Catholic church and imposing Orthodox

Cathedral. This afternoon we visit Sighisoara, the best-preserved medieval fortified town in Romania and the birthplace of the infamous Vlad the Impaler. On arrival, we take a walking tour of the town and a visit to the house in which Vlad was born in 1432. **We overnight at the Binder Bubi Hotel in Sighisoara.**

Monday | Sighisoara to Bucovina

We start the day visiting Tirgu Mures, Bistrita and drive on through the Tihuta Pass (which inspired Bram Stoker to write the Dracula story) to the Bucovina region, famous for its painted monasteries. En route we visit the 'Art of Wood' museum and end the day at Moldavita Monastery where we meet the nuns who show us around. **We stay for two nights at Gerald's Hotel in Radauti.**

Tuesday | Painted Monasteries

We continue our tour today of the Bucovina monasteries visiting Humor, Voronet and Sucevita monasteries with the opportunity to admire the exquisite interior and exterior frescoes.

Wednesday | Neamt Monastery

We drive on to Tirgu Neamt with its medieval stronghold and then on to Neamt, the first monastery built on a huge scale by Stephen the Great and known as the 'Jerusalem' of Romanian Orthodoxy. It is one of the largest churches ever built in the Moldavian Region. **We arrive in Piatra Neamt for an overnight at the Central Plaza Hotel.**

Thursday | Moldavia

Today we will head through the scenic Bicaz Gorges and past the Red Lake, back into Transylvania. Cross the counties of Harghita and Covasna, inhabited mostly by the ethnic Hungarian Szekler people. We also visit the Prejmer Church - the largest Saxon fortified church in the country. **Two nights in Brasov at the ARO Palace Hotel.**

Friday | Brasov

We start the day with a walking tour of this Saxon city, visiting the Black Church and the Church of St Nicholas. We also visit the First Romanian School where we hope that the priest, Olteanu, will explain how the Romanian language was first taught in this part of Transylvania. We leave Brasov and continue to the medieval citadel of Rasnov, the largest rural fortress in the country built as a refuge from sieges over long periods of time. We end the day at 'Dracula's Castle' in Bran.

Saturday 13 Oct | Transylvania

This morning we drive to Sinaia where we visit Peles Castle, a most magnificent castle which was formerly the summer residence of King Carol. In the afternoon we drive to Bucharest airport for our evening return flight. British Airways flight BA887 departs at 17:10 and arrives back into London Heathrow at 18:45.



OUR PILGRIMAGE

Your Invitation

Arrangements are being made by McCabe Pilgrimages who have been arranging pilgrimages for British churches for more than thirty years. This pilgrimage is a journey through Romania with a focus on the variety of Orthodox, Catholic and Lutheran churches and monasteries. There will be some walking involved. This said, we are planning this pilgrimage to be accessible to all reasonably able-bodied travellers. If you are worried about the fitness element, have a word with one of the tour organisers or call the McCabe office.



TRAVELLING ALONE

Many of our passengers travel alone and object to expensive single room supplements. McCabe Pilgrimages will accept individual bookings on a 'guaranteed share' basis. We charge the basic price and accommodate you with a person of the same sex also requesting shared accommodation. If we do not find someone to share with you, you will be accommodated in a single room at only 50% of the usual single room supplement. For single travellers who do require single accommodation this should be requested when booking and, if available, the normal supplement will be payable.

PASSPORTS, VISAS AND HEALTH

Check that your passport is valid beyond the return date of this tour. If you need a new passport apply early as there can be considerable backlogs at the passport offices. There are minimal formalities for British passport holders entering Romania. If you are holding a non-British passport, or require further advice, please consult the McCabe office. No inoculations are required. We do, however, advise you to consult your doctor regarding your own personal requirements.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is arranged by **Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd** for **McCabe Travel Ltd** who are an Appointed Representative of Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Our status can be checked on the FCA Register by visiting www.fca.org.uk/or by contacting the FCA on 0845 606 9966. This Insurance is underwritten by ERV. ERV is authorised by the Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht (BAFIN – www.bafin.de) and the Prudential Regulation Authority and subject to limited regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority. It has been specifically designed so that it covers all McCabe holidays; protecting you in full if you have to cancel and providing you with the very best and most effective protection if you are unfortunate enough to require medical attention whilst away from home.

A unique feature of the policy is that you will not need to call a medical help line to discuss health issues.

Most Pre-existing health conditions are covered as long as your doctor agrees that you are fit to travel.

Standard exclusions apply and are listed on the summary document. Please check that you are not affected by the Main health Exclusions. You will not be covered for any ongoing tests or treatment of an undiagnosed condition, or for any terminal illness, or if you claim as a result of a condition arising within the past twelve months. Note that you will pay an excess of £1,000 on any claim that results directly from a pre-existing medical condition. In our experience a very few claims result from pre-existing medical conditions. With this policy you are covered with no declaration of health required.

A full policy wording will be sent to you with your confirmation of booking, or ask us and we will send you a copy now. Full details are also on our website. If you would like more information or are unsure of any details, please call Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd for further advice on 01903 235042. This insurance is only available to persons who are permanently resident and domiciled in the UK.

AITO Quality Statement

McCabe Pilgrimages is a member of the Association of Independent Tour Operators. The Association represents Britain's leading independent tour operators and encourages high standards of quality and service. McCabe abides by the Association's Code of Conduct and adheres to the AITO Quality Charter which can be viewed on www.aito.co.uk. Visit the website to find out more about the Association or call 020 8744 9280.

This pilgrimage is ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority.
The McCabe ATOL number is 2920.

