









## Parliament House & Old Town Walking Tour

### **BOOK NOW**

Monday, 2nd of June or Tuesday, 3rd of June

#### Package Includes:

- English Speaking Tour Guide
- Transportation to and from the hotel and between attractions
- Duration: 4-5 hours
- Excursions: Guided city tour and cultural experiences
- Entrance fee at the attractions

#### FOR BOOKINGS AND MORE INFORMATION:

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# Parliament house & Old Town Walking Tour

**The Palace of the Parliament** is the seat of the Parliament of Romania. Located on Dealul Arsenalului in central Bucharest, it is the second largest administrative building in the world.

The building was designed and supervised by chief architect Anca Petrescu, with a team of approximately 700 architects, and constructed over a period of 13 years in Socialist realist and modernist Neoclassical architectural forms and styles, with socialist realism in mind. The Palace was ordered by Nicolae Ceauşescu, the dictator of Communist Romania and the second of two longtime autocrats in power in the country since World War II, during a period in which the personality cult of political worship and adoration was noticeably increased for him and his family.

A colossal parliament building known for its ornate interior, it houses the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, three museums (The National Museum of Contemporary Art, the Museum of Communist Totalitarianism (established in 2015) and the Museum of the Palace) and an international conference center. As of 2008, the Palace of the Parliament is valued at €3 billion, making it also the most expensive administrative building in the

world. The cost of heating and electric use and lighting alone exceeds \$6 million per year, comparable to the total cost for

powering a medium-sized city.

Known to most locals as **Centru' Vechi** (the Old Centre), **Bucharest's Old Town** is defined by the area bordered by the Dambovita river to the south, Calea Victoriei to the west, Bulevardul Brătianu to the east and Regina Elisabeta to the north. The area is more or less all that's left of pre-World War II Bucharest. What the war didn't destroy (and it destroyed a fair bit: allied bombing was fierce during the early part of 1944) communism did, most notably in the form of the grandiose Civic Centre project that saw almost a fifth of the total area of the city flattened to make way for Bulevardul Unirii and Casa Poporului. Indeed, that anything survives at all is little short of a miracle

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