

Cornell University

Bulgaria & Romania Discovery

October 16-November 1, 2025

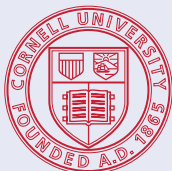
17 days from \$5,592 total price from Boston, New York

(\$4,895 air & land inclusive plus \$697 airline taxes and fees)



This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
seven-time honoree
Travel & Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.

An Exclusive Small Group Tour for
Alumni & Friends of Cornell Alumni Travel



Dear Alumni, Parents, and Friends,

Join us on an exclusive 17-day journey to Bulgaria and Romania – lands filled with rich history, captivating medieval towns, and treasured UNESCO sites.

Begin in Sofia with a tour of Bulgaria’s beautiful capital. Step into Boyana Church, a medieval Bulgarian Orthodox and UNESCO site. Next, we visit the Rila Monastery, founded in the 10th century and rebuilt in the mid-19th century after a fire. Visit Plovdiv and its charming Old Town, which sits on three of the city’s seven hills, and features remnants of its Roman past. Travel to Varna, which includes a visit to the Archaeological Museum. Then continue onto Bucharest, Romania’s capital which includes a city tour. See Brasov and experience the Bran Castle. The tour concludes back in Bucharest, touring the famed Snagov Monastery where rumored the famed Vlad the Impaler is laid to rest.

Space on this exciting program is limited and will fill quickly. Book today!

Warmly,

Cornell Alumni Travel

CORNELL RESERVATION FORM: BULGARIA & ROMANIA DISCOVERY

To reserve your place on tour, **please call Odysseys Unlimited at (toll-free) 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to Odysseys Unlimited’s office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

BULGARIA AND ROMANIA • OCTOBER 16-NOVEMBER 1, 2025

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request a Business Class upgrade

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)

Bulgaria & Romania Discovery

17 days from \$5,592 total price from Boston, New York

(\$4,895 air & land inclusive plus \$697 airline taxes and fees)

Two fascinating Balkan countries, one uncommon, and exceptional, small group journey. We discover Bulgaria, with its mix of East and West, rugged mountains and Black Sea coast, and treasured UNESCO sites. Then on to historic Romania, home of medieval walled towns, crenellated castles, and fabled Transylvania.



Day 1: Depart U.S. for Sofia, Bulgaria

Day 2: Arrive Sofia We arrive in Bulgaria's capital and largest city today and transfer to our hotel. As guests' arrival times may vary greatly, we have no group activities or meals planned. Dinner tonight is on our own.

Day 3: Sofia We meet our fellow travelers and Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director at this morning's briefing about the journey ahead. Then we set out on a tour of this historic city, beginning with visits to the huge neo-Byzantine Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and the medieval Bulgarian Orthodox Boyana Church, a UNESCO site. After lunch at a local restaurant, we return to our hotel, where a historian will discuss the impact of Thracian-Roman culture on the region. Tonight, we enjoy a welcome dinner. *B,L,D*

Day 4: Sofia/Rila Today's excursion features the Rila Monastery, founded in the 10th century and rebuilt in the mid-19th century after a fire. A symbol of Slavic cultural identity, the monastery is now a UNESCO site. We return to Sofia late this afternoon. Tonight's dinner at a local restaurant features traditional folkloric music and dancing. *B,L,D*

Day 5: Sofia/Plovdiv En route today to Plovdiv, we stop along the way for a cooking demonstration and lunch of Bulgarian specialties, including the local pastry-like bread *banitsa*. Then we continue on to Plovdiv, Bulgaria's cultural capital in the historical region of Thrace. Late afternoon, we reach our hotel and dine together tonight. *B,L,D*

Day 6: Plovdiv We set out this morning on a walking tour of Plovdiv's charming Old Town, with its cobbled streets and beautifully restored houses. Set on three of the city's seven hills, the Old Town features remnants of its Roman past, including the well-preserved theater (ca. 1st century CE), which can hold as many as 7,000 spectators and is still in use today. Following our tour and lunch in Old Town, the remainder of the day is free for independent exploration and dinner on our own. *B,L*

Physical Activity Level

4 **Moderate/Challenging**

Walk up to 4-6 miles per day, often on uneven terrain and on poorly maintained cobblestones; many stairs throughout tour, often 100+ at one time (Madara rock horseman, Biertan, Sighisoara, Bram Castle); some hotels do not have elevators

Your Tour at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Sofia		
2-4	Sofia	Grand Hotel Sofia	Sup. First Class
5-6	Plovdiv	Grand Hotel Plovdiv	Sup. First Class
7-8	Varna	Rosslyn Dimyat Hotel Varna	Sup. First Class
9-11	Bucharest	InterContinental Athénée Palace Bucharest	Deluxe
12-13	Sighisoara	Hotel Sighisoara	First Class
14-15	Brasov	QOSMO Hotel	Sup. First Class
16	Bucharest	InterContinental Athénée Palace Bucharest	Deluxe
17	Depart Bucharest for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



On Day 13, we visit Biertan's elaborate hilltop forfeited church.

Day 7: Plovdiv/Nessebar/Varna (Black Sea) Today we travel to the Black Sea resort of Varna, stopping en route in Nessebar, “Pearl of the Black Sea” whose ancient city is a UNESCO site. While the site retains traces of its occupation by a variety of civilizations over the millennia, most of the ruins that we explore today date from the Hellenistic period. After time for lunch on our own here, we continue on to Varna and our hotel. We dine together tonight. *B,D*

Day 8: Varna At the same time modern and historic, Varna offers visitors a laid-back respite, as we see on this morning’s tour. Highlights include a visit to the Archaeological Museum, with more than 100,000 artifacts from Northern Bulgaria’s multicultural past. Then the remainder of the day is at leisure in this seaside resort, perhaps to stroll the landscaped grounds of the waterfront Sea Garden; visit Varna Cathedral, modeled after grand Peterhof palace in St. Petersburg; or simply to relax on the beach. *B,D*

Day 9: Varna/Bucharest, Romania Along the way to Romania today, we visit two Bulgarian UNESCO sites: the late 7th-century rock relief carving of a horseman on the Madara Plateau; and the Thracian Tomb of Sveshtari, with its unique architectural style dating to the 3rd century BCE. We continue on to Bucharest, arriving late afternoon and dining together tonight. *B,L,D*

Day 10: Bucharest We see the highlights of the Romanian capital on our city tour that features a visit to the Soviet-era 1,100-room Palace of Parliament, the world’s most expensive government building and the heaviest in the world. We also tour the National Village Museum, with Romanian monuments, buildings, and artifacts dating from the 17th to early 20th centuries. Dinner tonight is on our own in this lively city. *B,L*

Day 11: Bucharest Today we encounter two vibrant vestiges of Bucharest’s once-thriving Jewish community: the Coral Temple, a copy of Vienna’s Great Synagogue; and Bucharest’s Great (or Polish) Synagogue, built in 1847 and now the city’s oldest remaining temple after most were destroyed during the communist era. Following an afternoon free for independent exploration, tonight we enjoy dinner and a wine tasting at a local restaurant. *B,D*

Day 12: Bucharest/Sighisoara This morning we journey to the medieval walled town of Sighisoara in Romania’s forested – and storied – Transylvania region. Upon arrival we take a walking tour of the Historic Centre, the best preserved in eastern Europe and a UNESCO site. Then we check in at our hotel, where we dine together tonight. *B,L,D*

Day 13: Sighisoara/Malancrav In nearby Biertan today, we visit the elaborate fortified church (ca. 15th century) then continue on to the early 14th-century storybook village of Malancrav, where we enjoy a traditional lunch cooked over an open fire. Back in Sighisoara, we have free time to enjoy this lovely town as we wish before tonight’s private organ concert. Dinner is on our own. *B,L*

Day 14: Sighisoara/Brasov We depart this morning for the stunning medieval town of Brasov, ringed by mountain peaks and dense forests. Our city tour here includes the First Romanian School, a museum housing rare books and Romania’s first printing press; and the famed Black Church, southeastern Europe’s largest Gothic church. We check in at our hotel mid-afternoon and dine together tonight. *B,D*

Day 15: Brasov Legend comes to life today as we visit towered and turreted Bran Castle, built in the



THERE ARE MYSTERIES
WHICH MEN CAN ONLY
GUESS AT...

– BRAM STOKER

14th century atop a 200-foot high rock and once believed to be the lair of Bram Stoker's fictional Count Dracula. We tour the castle, now a museum, then continue on to the fortified church of Prejmer. Along with the church and village we saw on Day 13, Prejmer is part of UNESCO's Transylvania historic site. After returning to Brasov late this afternoon, we're free for dinner on our own. *B,L*

Day 16: Brasov/Sinaia/Snagov/Bucharest Returning to Bucharest today, we stop in the mountain resort of Sinaia, "Pearl of the Carpathians," where we visit exquisite Peles Castle, former summer home of Romanian royalty. Then we head to Snagov Monastery, perched on a tiny island on a lake near Bucharest and, legend has it, burial site of infamous Vlad the Impaler,



Sighisoara's medieval Old Town

said to be the inspiration for fictional Count Dracula. We continue on to Bucharest, where tonight we toast our Balkans adventure at a farewell dinner. *B,L,D*

Day 17: Depart for U.S. We transfer to the Bucharest airport for our return flights to the U.S. *B*



Sighisoara's medieval Old Town

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 15 nights' accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class and First Class hotels
- 35 meals: 15 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 10 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Tour Departs: October 16, 2025

Prices include int'l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Boston, New York	\$5,592
Chicago, Washington, DC	\$5,892
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Philadelphia	\$5,992
Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa	\$6,092
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$4,595

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$697, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

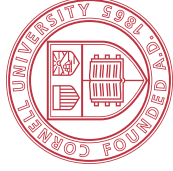
Single travelers please add \$995. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades (subject to availability; pricing subject to change) on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class – \$3,995 per person; Premium Economy – \$1,795 per person

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at

888-370-6765

Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time



Cornell University

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GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you reserve this tour. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on the secure on-line portal, My Odyssey.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; immunizations and inoculations; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure.**

Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

Responsibility: The liability of Cornell Alumni Travel, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrong, full, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. Cornell Alumni Travel and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own as well as keep pace with the tour group. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, Cornell Alumni Travel and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**

Please Note: While Cornell is pleased to facilitate travel opportunities for its alumni and friends with tour operators that specialize in high-quality educational travel, please be aware that Cornell does not conduct, manage or operate these travel experiences, or act as an agent for travelers interested in tours. Tour operators and travelers are responsible for making their own safety decisions concerning this travel, and, as a facilitator between travelers and the tour operators with whom travelers make arrangements for completing travel, Cornell's role and liability are strictly limited. Specific tour operator and national health and safety protocols apply to each trip, and travelers should review all protocols and trip terms and conditions, including health and conditions regarding cancellations, refunds, health and safety, and insurance prior to making a reservation. Cornell is not responsible for changes to trips or travel arrangements or for losses, expenses, damages, or injuries resulting from travel.

Cornell Alumni Travel
Office of Alumni Affairs
130 East Seneca Street, Suite 400
Ithaca, NY 14850-4353



JOIN US FOR AN EXCLUSIVE
CORNELL ALUMNI TOUR TO
BULGARIA AND ROMANIA!

*Guaranteed Small Group:
Limited to 24 Guests*