

ONE WAY AMERICA

Your Guide to Romania

TELEPHONE: Country code (+40). Romanian landline and mobile numbers use different area/operator prefixes. When calling Romania from the United States, dial 011 + 40 followed by the Romanian number without the initial 0.

STANDARD TIME: GMT/UTC +2 hours. Romania observes daylight saving time, moving to GMT/UTC +3 during the summer months.

WEIGHTS & MEASURES: Metric.

ELECTRICITY: 230v AC, 50Hz. Romania uses European-style Type C and Type F electrical sockets. U.S. appliances designed solely for 110–120v will generally require a suitable voltage converter or transformer as well as a plug adapter. Dual-voltage appliances labelled 100–240v can normally be used with an appropriate plug adapter.

INOCULATIONS/VACCINATIONS: No special vaccinations are generally required for travellers arriving from the United States. Routine vaccinations should be up to date. Additional vaccinations may be recommended depending on individual circumstances, travel history and activities. U.S. Department of State guidance currently states that no vaccinations are required for entry into Romania. U.S. Travel Information

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: New Year's Day January 1st and 2nd, Unification/United Principalities Day January 24th, Orthodox Easter holidays, Labour Day May 1st, Orthodox Pentecost/Whitsun, Children's Day June 1st, Assumption of the Virgin Mary August 15th, St. Andrew's Day November 30th, National Day December 1st, and Christmas Day and December 26th. Easter and Pentecost dates vary each year according to the Orthodox calendar. Public holidays and dates should be checked for the relevant year. EEURAXESS

OFFICE HOURS: Traditionally around 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday, although working hours vary by employer and industry. The normal working week is generally 40 hours.

BANK HOURS: Generally Monday to Friday during normal business hours. Branch opening hours vary between banks and locations, with some branches offering extended or Saturday opening.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS: 112 – Police, Ambulance and Fire. The 112 emergency number operates throughout Romania. EEURAXESS

U.S. EMBASSY IN ROMANIA:

U.S. Embassy Bucharest 4–6 Dr. Liviu Librescu Boulevard District 1 Bucharest 015118 Romania
Telephone: +40 21 200 3300 Emergency after-hours: +40 21 270 6000 Website: U.S. Embassy Bucharest

The U.S. Embassy provides consular services and assistance to U.S. citizens in Romania, as well as U.S. visa and other U.S. government services. U.S. Travel Information

ROMANIAN EMBASSY IN THE UNITED STATES:

Embassy of Romania 1607 23rd Street NW Washington, DC 20008USA Telephone: +1 202 332 2392 / +1 202 332 2935 / +1 202 332 4858 Website: Embassy of Romania in Washington, D.C.

Romania also maintains Consulates General in Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami and New York, providing consular services to Romanian citizens in the United States. CConsular Protection+1

Part 1 – Background Information on Romania

Background

Romania is a country in southeastern Europe and has been a member of the European Union since January 1st 2007. It is a semi-presidential republic with Bucharest as its capital and largest city.

Romania has a long and diverse history influenced by Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman, Hungarian, Austrian and other European cultures. Modern Romania was formed through the union of historic Romanian territories during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Romania joined NATO in 2004 and the European Union in 2007. It became part of the Schengen Area in 2024. EEuropean Union

Today, Romania has a developing and increasingly diversified economy and is an important regional centre for manufacturing, technology, services, energy, agriculture and business.

Geography

Romania covers approximately 238,398 square kilometres and is situated in southeastern Europe.

It borders Hungary to the west, Serbia to the southwest, Bulgaria to the south, Ukraine to the north and northeast, and Moldova to the east. Romania also has a coastline on the Black Sea.

The Carpathian Mountains run through the centre of the country, while the Transylvanian Plateau lies within the Carpathian arc.

Other major geographical areas include the fertile plains of southern and western Romania, the Moldavian region in the east and the Danube Delta in the northeast.

Romania's major cities include Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Timișoara, Iași, Constanța, Brașov and Craiova.

Population

Romania has a population of approximately 19 million people. EEuropean Union

The population is concentrated primarily in urban areas, with Bucharest being the country's largest metropolitan area.

Romania also has established minority communities, including Hungarians, Roma and other ethnic groups.

Climate

Romania has a temperate continental climate with four distinct seasons.

Summers can be warm or hot, particularly in southern and eastern areas, while winters can be cold with snowfall, particularly in mountainous and northern regions.

Spring and autumn generally bring milder temperatures, although weather can vary considerably across the country.

Natural hazards can include severe winter weather, flooding, drought, storms and occasional earthquakes.

Economy

Romania has a mixed, market-oriented economy and is increasingly integrated into the European and global economies.

Important sectors include manufacturing, automotive production, information technology, software development, telecommunications, financial services, agriculture, energy, construction, retail and tourism.

Romania has developed a particularly strong technology and business-services sector, with cities such as Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Timișoara and Iași becoming important centres for technology and professional services.

Romania's membership of the European Union provides access to the EU Single Market and has supported significant investment in infrastructure, industry and services. EEuropean Union

Language

The official language is Romanian.

English is widely spoken, particularly among younger people and in major cities, business, tourism and international companies.

Hungarian is also widely spoken in parts of Transylvania, while other minority languages are spoken in specific communities.

Religion

Romania is religiously diverse, although the majority of the population identifies with Christian denominations, particularly Romanian Orthodox Christianity.

Roman Catholic, Greek Catholic, Protestant, Muslim, Jewish and other religious communities are also present.

Freedom of religion is protected by Romanian law.

Education

Romania has a national education system comprising early childhood education, primary and secondary education, vocational education and higher education.

Public education is generally state funded, while private and international schools are also available.

Romanian is the principal language of public education, although schools and universities offering instruction in other languages are available.

International schools in Bucharest and other major cities may offer American, British, International Baccalaureate and other international curricula.

Families relocating from the United States should investigate school admissions well in advance, particularly where an international curriculum is required.

Romania has a significant higher-education sector, with universities in Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Iași, Timișoara and other cities. The European Commission continues to identify education reform, skills development and participation as important areas for Romania. PPublications Office of the EU

Healthcare

Romania operates a national public healthcare system alongside a growing private healthcare sector.

The public system provides healthcare services to eligible residents through the national health insurance system. Private hospitals, clinics and medical practices are widely available, particularly in Bucharest and other major cities.

The quality and availability of services can vary between urban and rural areas.

U.S. citizens relocating to Romania should ensure they have appropriate health insurance and should understand how they will access the Romanian healthcare system based on their residency and employment status.

Romania's healthcare system continues to undergo reforms and investment, with accessibility, infrastructure, workforce and service quality among the areas being addressed. PPublic Health+1

Currency

The currency is the Romanian leu (RON), plural lei.

The leu is divided into 100 bani.

Banknotes are issued in denominations including 1, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500 lei.

Coins are issued in denominations including 1, 5, 10 and 50 bani.

Major credit and debit cards are widely accepted in cities and tourist areas, although cash can still be useful in smaller businesses and rural areas.

Romania is an EU member but has not yet adopted the euro as its national currency. EEuropean Union

Utilities

Romania uses 230v AC, 50Hz electricity and European-style Type C and Type F sockets.

U.S. appliances designed solely for 110–120v will normally require a step-up transformer or appropriate voltage converter.

A plug adapter alone only changes the shape of the electrical connection and does not change voltage.

Modern devices labelled "100–240v, 50/60Hz" are generally dual-voltage and can normally be used with an appropriate plug adapter.

Water, electricity, gas, heating and telecommunications services are available throughout most urban areas. Utility arrangements and providers vary by property and municipality.

Television and Electronics

U.S. televisions and other electrical equipment should be checked for both voltage and compatibility before being shipped to Romania.

Modern computers, phones, tablets and streaming equipment are generally easier to use internationally, although television broadcasting standards, regional subscriptions and streaming services can differ.

Part 2 – Romania Import Customs Regulations

The following information provides general guidance for U.S. residents relocating to Romania with household goods and personal effects.

Because Romania is a member of the European Union, household goods arriving from the United States are being imported from a non-EU country and are subject to EU customs rules as implemented in Romania.

Regulations can change, and requirements may vary according to the importer's immigration/residency status, the goods being imported and whether the shipment qualifies for a customs exemption.

Professional customs advice should be obtained before shipping.

Household Goods and Personal Effects

Individuals transferring their normal residence from a non-EU country to Romania may qualify for relief from import duties on eligible personal property.

The Romanian Customs Authority states that personal property imported by individuals transferring their normal residence from a third country into the EU customs territory may be admitted without import duties when the relevant conditions are satisfied.

Generally, the goods must have been in the person's possession and, for non-consumable goods, used at their previous residence for at least six months before the change of residence.

The person must generally have had their normal residence outside the EU customs territory for at least 12 continuous months.

The goods must be intended for the same purpose at the new residence. CCustoms

Documentation

A relocation shipment will normally require appropriate customs and shipping documentation.

Documents may include:

- Passport or other identification.
- Proof of residence outside the EU.
- Evidence of the transfer of residence to Romania.
- Residence permit or immigration documentation, where applicable.
- Detailed packing inventory.
- Valued inventory where required.
- Shipping documentation.
- Evidence of ownership and previous use where required.
- Customs declaration.
- Supporting documents for restricted or controlled items.

The exact documentation should be confirmed with the customs broker handling the shipment before departure.

Duty-Free Transfer of Residence

Eligible personal belongings may qualify for duty relief when an individual transfers their normal residence from outside the EU to Romania.

Romanian Customs specifies that the exemption can cover eligible personal property imported within 12 months of establishing the person's residence in the EU customs territory, and goods may be released in several separate shipments during this period. CCustoms

The exemption does not generally cover:

- Alcoholic products.
- Tobacco and tobacco products.
- Commercial means of transport.
- Professional equipment other than certain portable instruments used in the practice of an occupation or profession.

Goods admitted under the exemption may also be subject to restrictions on sale, lending, rental or transfer during the applicable period. CCustoms

Goods Arriving Before Permanent Residence

In certain circumstances, personal goods may be imported before the individual has established permanent residence in Romania.

Romanian Customs indicates that relief may be available where the person undertakes to establish residence within the relevant period and provides any required guarantee.

This should be arranged with the customs authority or customs broker before shipment. CCustoms

Wedding Trousseaux and Gifts

Special customs relief may apply to household goods and personal effects imported in connection with marriage.

Eligible wedding gifts from people resident in a third country may also qualify for customs relief subject to the applicable requirements.

Documentation proving the marriage and the nature of the goods may be required. CCustoms

Diplomatic Shipments

Diplomatic personnel and eligible diplomatic missions may benefit from customs privileges and exemptions.

The applicable treatment depends on diplomatic status and the relevant Romanian and international arrangements.

Diplomatic shipments should be coordinated with the relevant embassy, Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and customs authorities before shipping.

Motor Vehicles

Motor vehicles imported from the United States are subject to EU and Romanian customs, taxation, vehicle approval and registration requirements.

A U.S.-specification vehicle may require technical modifications or individual approval before it can be registered in Romania.

Import duties and VAT may apply unless the vehicle qualifies for an applicable exemption.

U.S. residents considering shipping a vehicle should obtain a detailed assessment before shipment covering:

- Customs duties.
- VAT.
- Vehicle conformity/approval.
- Registration requirements.
- Emissions requirements.
- Technical modifications.
- Insurance.
- Registration taxes and fees, where applicable.

It is often worth comparing the cost of importing a U.S. vehicle with purchasing a vehicle locally or elsewhere within the EU.

Alcohol

Alcoholic products are generally excluded from the normal duty-free transfer-of-residence exemption for personal belongings. Customs

Alcohol imported from the United States may therefore be subject to applicable customs duties, VAT and excise requirements.

Do not include wine, spirits or other alcoholic beverages in a household shipment without confirming the applicable requirements beforehand.

Tobacco

Tobacco and tobacco products are also excluded from the normal transfer-of-residence duty exemption.

Cigarettes, cigars, tobacco and related products are subject to specific EU and Romanian customs and excise rules.

They should not be included in a household shipment without specialist advice.

Food Items

Food imported from the United States into Romania is subject to EU and Romanian food-safety and veterinary requirements.

Meat, dairy products and certain products of animal origin can be subject to strict restrictions or prohibitions.

For household removals, it is generally advisable not to include food unless the import requirements for the specific product have been checked in advance.

Plants and Plant Products

Plants, seeds, soil and plant products may be subject to phytosanitary controls when entering the EU from the United States.

Certain plants and plant products require phytosanitary certificates, permits or inspections, while others may be prohibited.

Do not include plants, soil or seeds in a household shipment without confirming the current requirements.

Pets

Dogs, cats and ferrets entering Romania from the United States are subject to EU animal-health requirements.

Requirements can include:

- Microchip identification.
- Valid rabies vaccination.
- Appropriate veterinary documentation.
- An animal health certificate.
- Entry through an appropriate point of entry.
- Additional requirements depending on the country of origin and circumstances.

Pet owners should begin preparations well before departure because rabies vaccination and documentation requirements can affect the timing of travel.

Romanian Customs notes that pets entering from third countries must enter through designated border points where veterinary controls are available. CCustoms

Firearms and Weapons

Firearms, ammunition and weapons are subject to strict Romanian and EU controls.

U.S. residents should not include firearms, ammunition, spent cartridges or other controlled weapons in a household shipment without obtaining specialist advice and all required permits in

advance.

Romanian Customs specifically requires written declaration of firearms and ammunition entering the country. CCustoms

Drugs and Medication

Prescription medicines should be carried in their original packaging and accompanied by appropriate prescriptions or supporting medical documentation.

Medicines containing narcotic or psychotropic substances are subject to additional controls.

Romanian Customs specifically identifies narcotic and psychotropic substances and medicines containing such substances among goods that must be declared in writing. CCustoms

Travellers should confirm the current Romanian and EU rules before transporting controlled medication.

Cash and Monetary Instruments

Cash and certain monetary instruments equivalent to **€10,000 or more per person** must be declared when entering Romania from a non-EU country.

Romanian Customs requires written declaration of such amounts. CCustoms

This applies to the equivalent value in foreign currencies as well as euro-denominated cash and certain negotiable monetary instruments.

Works of Art, Antiques and Cultural Goods

Works of art, antiques and other cultural goods may be subject to special requirements when imported into Romania.

Items of significant cultural, historical or artistic value should be accurately described and documented.

Romanian Customs advises that cultural, historical or artistic goods may be declared when entering the country, including where documentation may be required for subsequent export. CCustoms

Endangered Species and CITES

The importation of endangered species and products derived from protected animals and plants is regulated under CITES and EU legislation.

Items such as ivory, certain furs, skins, feathers, coral and other wildlife products may require permits or may be prohibited.

Old pianos, antiques and other household items can sometimes contain ivory, so specialist advice should be obtained before shipping.

Romanian Customs confirms that CITES certificates or permits may be required for protected species and products. CCustoms

Counterfeit Goods

Counterfeit and pirated goods may be detained by customs.

The importation of goods infringing intellectual-property rights is prohibited, particularly where the quantity or nature of the goods indicates a commercial purpose. CCustoms

Do not include counterfeit branded products in a household goods shipment.

Other Restricted or Prohibited Items

Additional restrictions may apply to:

- Firearms and ammunition.
- Explosives.
- Narcotics and controlled substances.
- Certain medicines.
- Weapons and ammunition.
- Plants, seeds and soil.
- Meat and animal products.
- Protected wildlife and CITES items.
- Counterfeit goods.
- Certain chemicals and hazardous materials.
- Commercial quantities of goods.
- Cultural and archaeological objects.

A product that is legal to own in the United States is not necessarily permitted to be imported into Romania.

Wooden Packing Materials

Wooden packing materials used for international shipments entering the EU are subject to phytosanitary requirements.

Wooden crates, pallets, dunnage and similar non-manufactured wood packaging may need to comply with ISPM 15 requirements, including appropriate treatment and marking.

The packing company should ensure that all wooden packaging used for a U.S.-to-Romania shipment complies with the current EU and Romanian requirements before shipment.

Disclaimer

Although every care is taken to ensure that the information in this Relocation Guide is accurate and up to date, One Way America cannot accept liability for any inaccuracies, omissions or changes in Romanian, EU or international regulations.

Customs, immigration, health, vehicle, pet, food, plant and import requirements can change. Readers should confirm current requirements with the relevant Romanian authorities, EU authorities or their customs representative before making travel arrangements or shipping household goods.

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More info on our website: <https://onewayamerica.com>.