

Romania

Romania is a country in eastern Europe bordered by Moldova, Ukraine, Hungary, Serbia, and Bulgaria. Part of the country also borders the Black Sea. The Southern Carpathians cross through the country, but they are not terribly high mountains. Forests cover much of the land, and there are many rivers. The major river in Romania is the Danube River, the second longest river in Europe. About 900 miles (1,400 kilometers) of it flow through Romania on its way to empty into the Black Sea.

Romania gets its name from the Roman Empire, who ruled over and settled in the area during the A.D. 100s and 200s. Its name meant "land of the Romans." The Dacians lived there before the Romans, and the Goths, Huns, and Slavs lived there after the Roman Empire left the region. The country is made of several principalities, including Moldavia, Walachia, Transylvania, and others, which have been ruled by various kingdoms at different times in history. The Ottoman Empire ruled part of Romania for over 300 years, beginning in the late 1400s. Ottoman rule eventually gave way to Russian rule in the 1800s. The Communist Party of Romania, with the help of Soviet troops, took control of Romania in 1947. The Communist Party was overthrown in 1989, and free elections were held in 1990.



Bucharest is the largest city in Romania and serves as the nation's capital. It was settled in the 1400s and became the capital of Walachia in 1659. It lies along a tributary of the Danube River. A major earthquake struck the city in 1977.

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I hope you've enjoyed visiting four of the many amazing places in Romania! Before you leave to go home, could I ask you to do something special for the people here? Many people in Romania believe in Jesus, and the church is growing. But there are still people who haven't understood yet that Jesus loves them. There are also many people who struggle to live the way Jesus taught us to live.

Will you remember to pray for the people of Romania? Here are a few things you can pray for. You can add more prayer requests to the list as you think of them!

- Pray that people will have Bibles to read in whatever language they speak.
- Pray for the people living in Bucharest, Timisoara, Rasnov, and Sinaia, plus every city and town to believe in Jesus.