

Third COST Action 1403 POSITIVE Meeting  
Bucharest 15-17 march 2016

University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest

General information for participants

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## GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE ROMANIAN NATIONAL CURRENCY AND EXCHANGE RATES

The nation currency is Leu (plural: Lei). It is also named Ron (new Romanian Leu). The two denominations are perfectly similar. The denomination “ Ron“ for the Romanian currency is used mainly by the banking system and sometimes by the general public.

The list of the active banks in Romania can be found at <https://thebanks.eu/banks-by-country/Romania>. You can check at any of these banks the exchange rate EURO-Lei (Ron).

The credit/debit card can be used to exchange money (Euro to Lei) to any ATM of banks such as: BCR, BRD, BANKPOST, Banca Transilvania, CEC Bank, Credit Agricole Bank, etc. You can withdraw cash at the ATMs in the Airport to be sure you have the necessary money for public transportation or taxi.

The costs for food and drinks in the restaurants and goods and foods from supermarkets are similar with the costs in Spain (transformed in lei). Prices in shops belonging to multinational/international companies might be higher than in Spain.

Payments in **Euros are NOT accepted in restaurants, shops, etc.**

The payment for accommodation at Hotel Parliament CAN BE MADE IN EURO by credit/debit card or cash.

Exchange rates Euro-Ron depends on the bank you are using but the differences between banks are irrelevant for less than 500 Euros. The banks might have special exchange rates if using a card.

There are several ATMs in PIATA UNIRII – at UNIREA SHOPING CENTER.

ATMs ca be found also at the entrance of the Faculty Campus from Splaiul Independentei street and the entrance of the main university campus on Boulevard Marasti no 59.

Bank	Exchange rate website
RAIFFEISEN Bank	<a href="http://www.raiffeisen.ro/en/exchange-rate">http://www.raiffeisen.ro/en/exchange-rate</a>
Banca Transilvania (BT)	<a href="https://www.bancatransilvania.ro/en/curs-valutar-spot/">https://www.bancatransilvania.ro/en/curs-valutar-spot/</a>
Banca Romana de Dezvoltare (BRD)	<a href="https://www.brd.ro/en/useful-tools/exchange-rates">https://www.brd.ro/en/useful-tools/exchange-rates</a>
CEC Bank	<a href="https://www.cec.ro/en/exchange">https://www.cec.ro/en/exchange</a>
Banca Comerciala Romana (BCR)	<a href="https://www.bcr.ro/en/exchange-rates">https://www.bcr.ro/en/exchange-rates</a>

It is **highly improbable** to find someone that might still calculate prices in the **Old Romanian Leu (ROL) which is now obsolete**. It was replaced with the New Romanian Leu (RON) on July 1 2005 (<http://coinmill.com/ROL RON.html> ). EX: 10000 ROL = 1 RON. However if there is anyone that do speak in ROL ask him /her to recalculate in Ron and then see how much it will do in Euro. Coins and bills in ROL are NOT on the market anymore.

Remember: prices for all commodities and foods (calculated in Euro) are very close or similar to the ones in Spain.

## BUCHAREST'S PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Bucharest has a complex public transportation system of buses, trolleybuses, trams and the METRO

The name of the Bucharest's public transportation company (buses, trolleybuses, trams) is RATB (website in English <http://ratb.ro/eng/index.php> )

Public transportation is crowded during peak hours (6:00 AM to 8:30 AM and 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM).



To travel by public transportation in Bucharest (except the Express lines) you must have a valid **Activ® Electronic Card** before boarding.

The **Activ® Electronic Card** can be bought only from the RATB booths, that can be found near some of the RATB stations. You have to tell the seller how much money you want to load on your card (ex: 20lei). The card itself will cost 2.50 lei.

ATM reloading of **Activ® Electronic Card** is available through BCR ATMs in Bucharest which allow reloading the cards for public transport. Reloading the journey card at an ATM can be made with any debit or credit card, no matter the issuing bank, zero fee. [http://ratb.ro/eng/atm\\_bcr\\_eng.php](http://ratb.ro/eng/atm_bcr_eng.php)

**There are no ticket machines in the buses, trolleybuses and trams** or at public transportation stops.



RATB booth for cards selling

**The Activ® Electronic Card can be filled ONLY at RATB booths (NOT in METRO stations)**

The booths are opened during working days from 5:30 AM to 8:30PM and generally closed during Saturday and Sunday.

**The price of a single trip on ALL URBAN ROUTES**(buses, trolleybuses, trams) is 1.30 Lei and 1.50 lei for a METRO trip.

ATM Reloading is available through BCR ATMs in Bucharest which allow reloading the cards for public transport. Reloading the journey card at an ATM can be made with any debit or credit card, no matter the issuing bank, zero fee.

This way, all types of RATB subscriptions, that are not reduced, can be reloaded as well as the monthly Metrorex full price subscription and the electronic wallet.

### Bucharest METRO



The company running the METRO in Bucharest is named METROREX

A METRO map (<http://www.metrorex.ro/Resurse/Harta/harta.png>) can be also bought from any METRO station.

The dashed line on the METRO map are lines which are under construction and are not functional for the moment.

**Trains run between 5:00 AM and 11:00 PM;** during peak hours they run at about 5-8 minutes while off-peak they run every 10-12 minutes.



At each METRO station you can buy a two trips card or a 10 trips card, however it is cheaper to use your **Activ<sup>®</sup> Electronic Card** and validate it at the METRO station entrance.

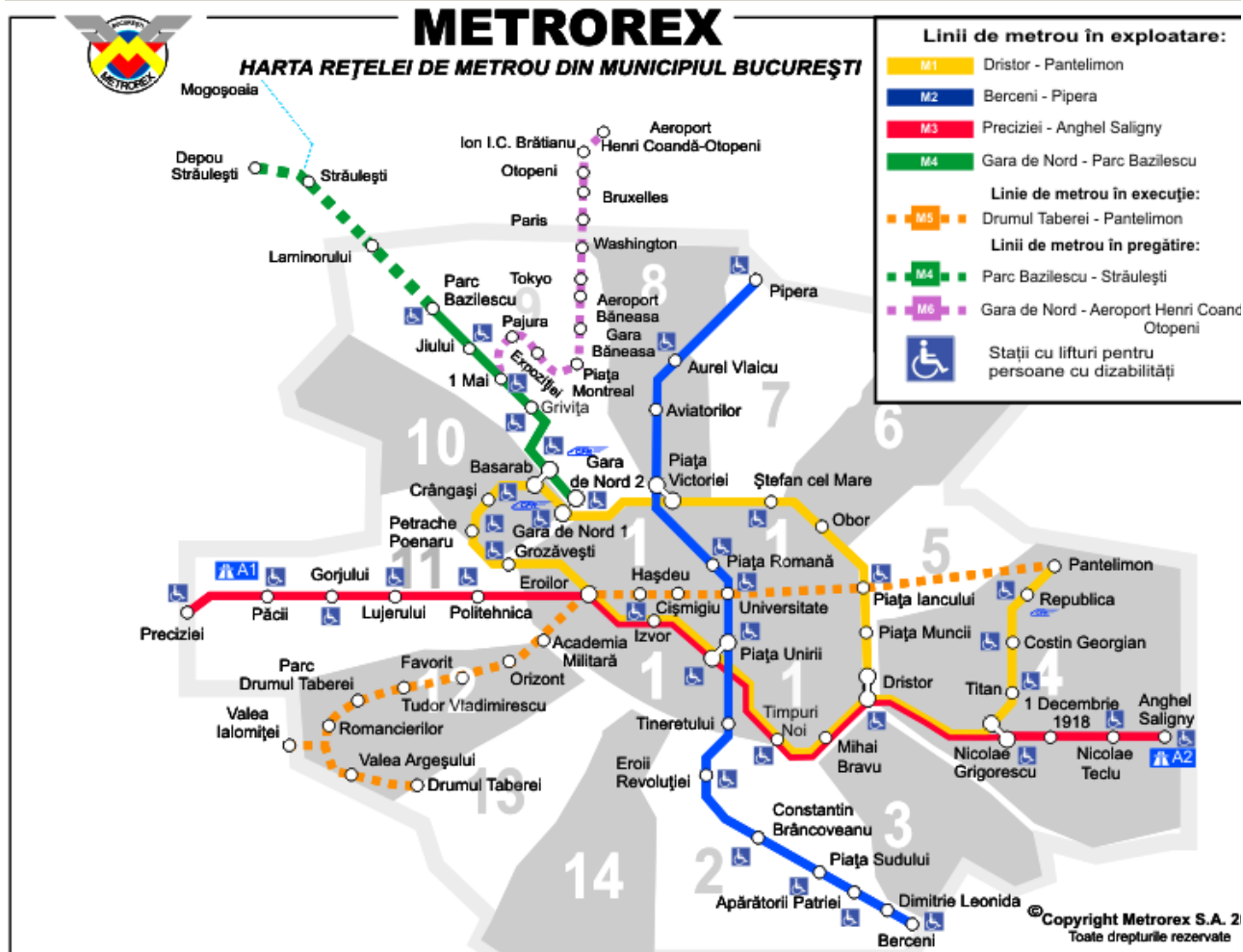
*[There is no one trip card for the METRO! The minimum nr of trips on a METRO card is 2. A METRO card for 1 day unlimited nr of trips = 8 Ron (~1.9 Euro) and can be bought from inside the METRO stations.*

A ride remains valid for any change from a line to another as long as you stay inside the checking area.

The metro can be crowded in the morning and in the afternoon hours (rush hours from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM)

Metro stations are not very well signposted, but with the help of a map it will be easy to get around. Also there is an audio announcement of the following stop, after the doors closing. All trains have METRO maps on the wagons walls.

Finally, if you choose to buy a one day unlimited trips Active card for RATB and a one day unlimited trips card for METRO, than, on that particular day, you can have as many trips as you want by all public transportation vehicles and trains in Bucharest.



The Splaiul Independenței Campus of the Veterinary Medicine Faculty is near the METRO stations named EROILOR (3 minutes walk to the campus)

### Busses, Trolleybuses and Trams in Bucharest

For information about trams, trolleybuses and busses routes in Bucharest you can access the link :

[http://www.ratb.ro/v\\_trasee.php](http://www.ratb.ro/v_trasee.php)

The passengers must have a valid Activ<sup>®</sup> electronic card before boarding. The card validation is compulsory when boarding the vehicle. Any transfer to other vehicle implies a new validation of the card..

You can buy from RATB booths an Activ<sup>®</sup> Electronic card for 1 day unlimited nr of trips for all the busses, trolleybuses and trams, (METRO excluded) for 8 Ron (1.9 Euro).

### Taxis in the City of Bucharest

Taxis in Bucharest are a cheap and safe way of transportation. The cars are yellow with the name of the company usually inscribed very clearly on the taxi together with the price per kilometer. The price is the same in Bucharest as well as to the airports.

**Almost all companies use the same price i.e. 1.39 lei/km and a starting price of 1.39 lei.** The price is shown on the front part of the front doors of the cab.

All taxi companies in Bucharest can be found at: <http://www.taximetre.ro/taxi/bucuresti/> . Pay attention to the Ron /Km prices.

There are several very good (and cheap) taxi companies such as:

Name of the company	Telephone
COBALCESCU	0040219451
CRISTAXI	0040219466
SPEED TAXI	0040219477

If you hail a taxi from the street, than, before starting the ride, make sure that the name of the company and price/km is clearly written on the car. *Individual taxis may apply a price even higher of 3.5 lei/km!*

It might be a good idea to have your destination address written on a piece of paper to hand it to the taxi driver.

## ARRIVING TO THE AIRPORT HENRY COANDA BUCHAREST (OTOPENI AIRPORT)

<http://www.bucharestairports.ro/en/>

Bucharest has a single airport, the Henry Coanda Airport (access roads: The National Road DN 1), at 16.5 km North of the Bucharest City Center.

Henri Coanda International Airport is the largest Romanian airport, serving 67 external destinations and 9 domestic destinations.

Currently the airport has several terminals: International Departures Terminal, International Arrivals Terminal and the Domestic Flights terminal. The airport also serves as a base of operations for charter or low-cost airlines such as [Blue Air](#) , [Wizz Air](#), etc.

### [From the Airport to you accommodation in Bucharest, the Parliament Hotel](#)

Your accommodation in Bucharest is at Parliament Hotel.

Taxi from the airport to the Parliament Hotel (19 km) may cost 28 lei to 35 lei (can go up to 38 lei, depending on the traffic).and it will take about 25-35 minutes.

It is recommended to take a taxi from the airport.

Using public transportation it will take about 2 - 3 hours to reach the Parliament hotel (depending on the traffic).

### **Public transportation from the airport to the Hotel Parliament**

**The 783 Express BUS** links Bucharest Henri Coandă International Airport to Bucharest city center. The **783 Express BUS** runs day and night. At night, the between busses time is 40 minutes.

Airport BUS stops: in front of the Arrivals Terminal and Departures Terminal

The magnetic card for two trips: 7 ron.

The desks/points for buying buss cards are in front of the **International** Arrivals Terminal.

**There are no ticket/card machines in the buses!**

The **783 bus travels regularly** from the Henry Coanda International Airport (Otopeni) to the City Centre), via Victoriei Square, Romana Square, Universitate and finally Unirii Square 1 (PIATA UNIRII 1). Approximate travel time 90-120 minutes, depending on traffic.

To reach your hotel you have to :

- 1) Buy a card for express lines in front of the International Arrivals Terminal (7 ron).

- 2) Take the 783 Express BUS and stop to **PIATA UNIRII 1** - see the map below (60 – 90 minutes according to traffic).

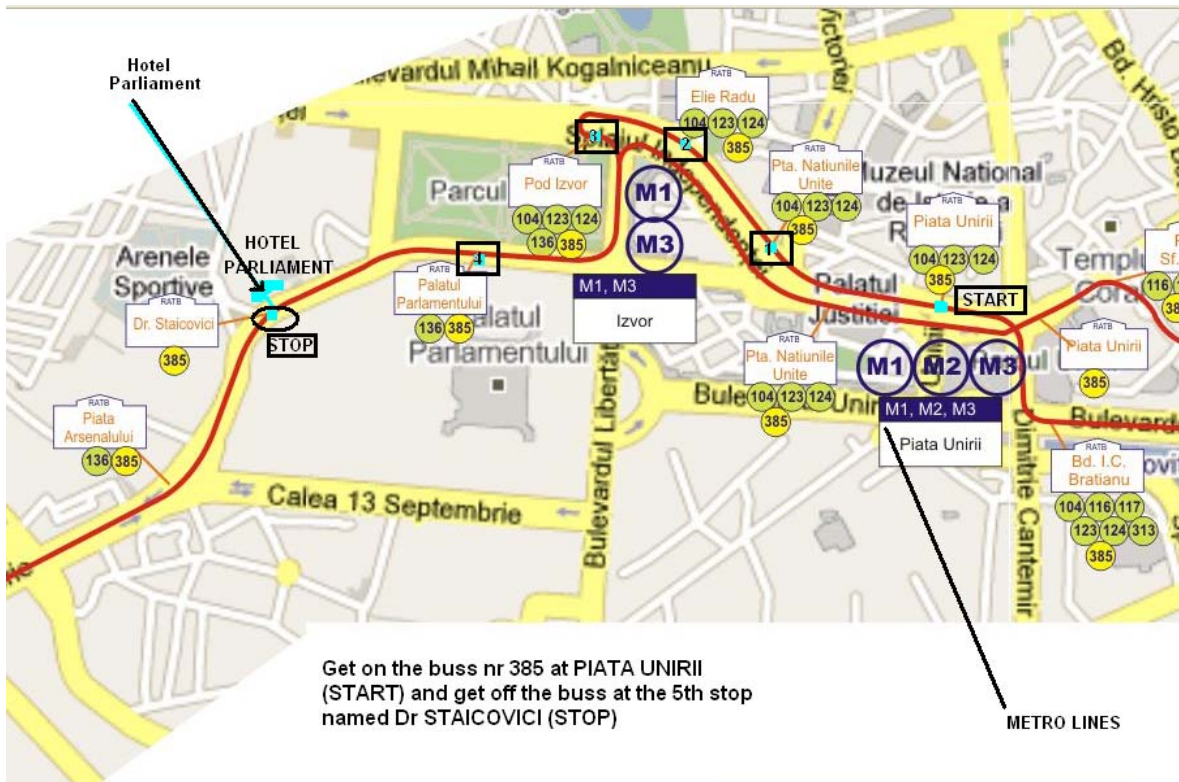


- 3) Identify a RATB booth near the buss stop in PIATA UNIRII, and buy a **ACTIV<sup>®</sup>** Electronic Card. You can load it with as much money as you want ( 1 trip = 1.30 lei).The carr itself costs 2.5 lei
- 4) Cross the Splaiul Independentei street(4 minutes walk) and take buss 385 (towards Palatul Parlamentului – Parliament Palace ) and stop at Dr Staicovici (total duration 30-40 minutes depending on the traffic). The route is :

	Name of the buss stop	Busses stopping at the same buss stop	Name of the street
Start	PIATA UNIRII	<u>104,123,124,385,</u>	STR. HALELOR
2	PIATA NATIUNILE UNITE	<u>104,123,124,385,</u>	SPL. INDEPENDENTEI
3	ELIE RADU	<u>104,123,124,385,</u>	SPL. INDEPENDENTEI



4	POD IZVOR	<a href="#">104,123,124,136,385,</a>	SPL. INDEPENDENTEI
5	PALATUL PARLAMENTULUI	<a href="#">136,385,</a>	BD. NATIUNILOR UNITE
6 - STOP	<b>DR. STAICOVICI</b>	<a href="#">385,</a>	<b>STR. IZVOR</b>



5) From the Buss stop Dr Staicovici you are almost in front of your Hotel.

The total duration of the trip from the airport to the hotel is anything between 2.5 to 3 hours.

### **Taxi transportation from the airport to the Hotel Parliament**

In the airport there are taxi ordering machines with several language options. A member of the welcome team will be with you at your arrival to guide you to the taxi car.

If you choose to come by taxi the total duration of the trip from the Arrivals terminal to the PARLIAMENT Hotel is around 20 -35 minutes.

Maybe it is a good idea to share a taxi with one or two other persons.

A member of the organizing committee will meet you at the airport and show you to your cab.



## YOUR ACCOMMODATION – HOTEL PARLIAMENT IN BUCHAREST

Your Hotel is the four stars *Parliament Hotel*, on Street Izvor 106, București 050564 Phone:+4021 411 9990

The reservation form is sent to you separately. Please fill it and send it by e-mail to [a.matei@parliament-hotel.ro](mailto:a.matei@parliament-hotel.ro) or [sales@parliament-hotel.ro](mailto:sales@parliament-hotel.ro) until **20.02.2016**.

The *Parliament Hotel* is situated opposite to *Bucharest's Parliament Palace* and just at 20-30 - minute walk from the Old Historical Centre of *Bucharest (OLD TOWN)* , a 3 minutes walk from the *Bucharest's Parliament Palace* entrance and at 5 minutes walk from the second campus of the University of Agronomical Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, the Campus of the Veterinary Medicine Faculty (Campus Splaiul Independentei) were the conference rooms are situated.

Payment in **Euro** is accepted for accommodation at **Hotel PARLIAMENT**.



Hotel PARLIAMENT



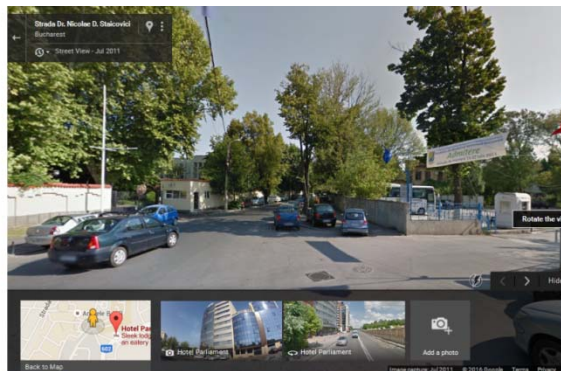
The Bucharest's Parliament Palace

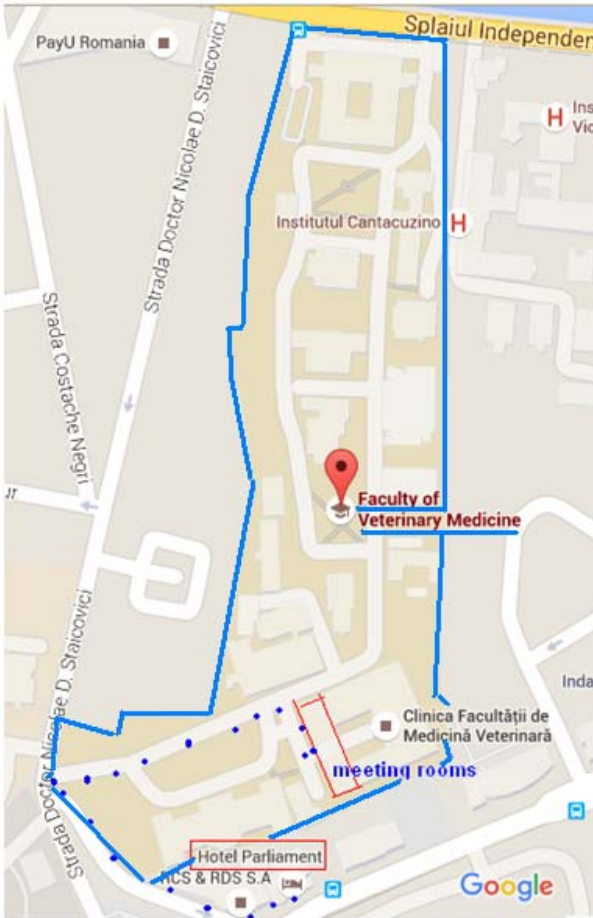
Enjoy a street view at the address :

[https://www.google.ro/maps/@44.4293668,26.0812215,3a,75y,257h,90t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1szP\\_njVx5oqgnA\\_EMH3-oDQ!2e0!7i13312!8i6656!6m1!1e1](https://www.google.ro/maps/@44.4293668,26.0812215,3a,75y,257h,90t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1szP_njVx5oqgnA_EMH3-oDQ!2e0!7i13312!8i6656!6m1!1e1)

Using the street view from the address above, turn first street right and follow the street. In about 50m on the right it is the entrance to the faculty campus (with a large banner above the gate) .

Welcome! ...





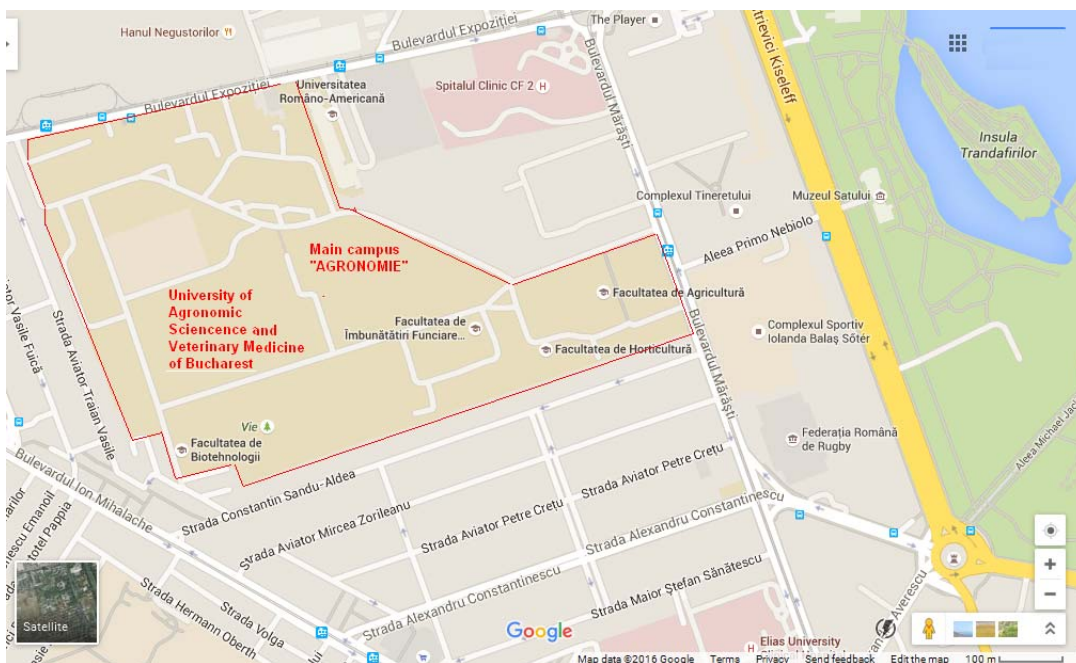
## WHERE THE POSITIVE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE?

The University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest has two campuses:

- 1) The campus of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine – address: Splaiul Independenței nr 105
- 2) The main campus named AGRONOMIE – address: Bulevard Marasti 59

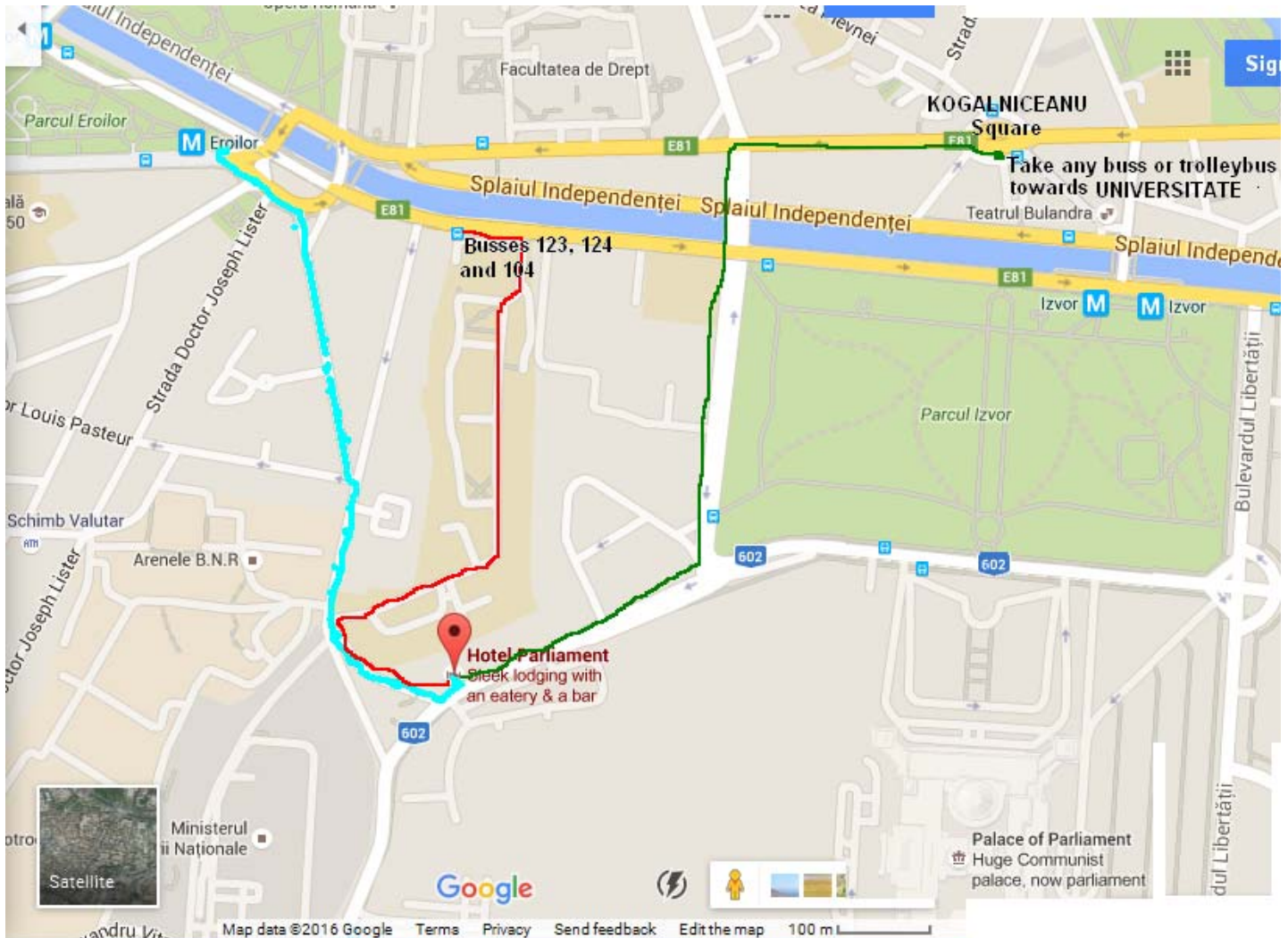
The POSITIVE meeting will take place at the University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Campus, at 5 minutes walk from your hotel (the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine’s campus is actually in the backside of the hotel)

For the POSITIVE meeting participants, the transportation between campuses, will be provided by the university, if necessary.



## THE CITY CENTER AND THE OLD TOWN

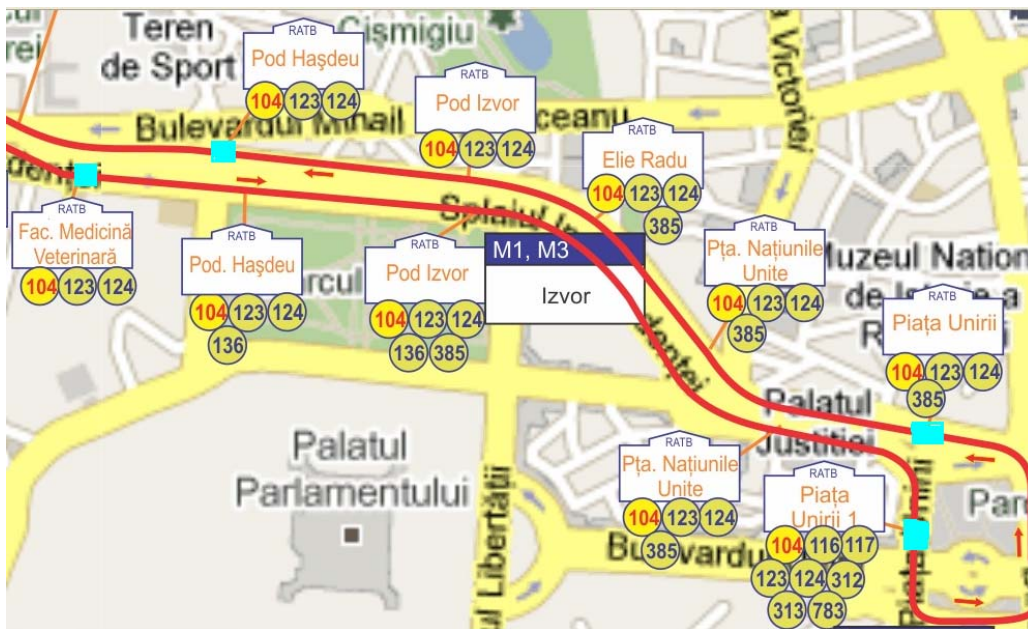
### From your accommodation to the OLD TOWN (CENTRUL VECHI)



From the Parliament Hotel there are 3 ways to reach the OLD TOWN:

- 1) ( blue line on the map above) Take the METRO from the METRO STATION EROILOR towards PIATA UNIRII and get out the second stop - PIATA UNIRII. You are at the “ south-east corner” of the OLD CITY! (6 minutes walk to the METRO station EROILOR)
- 2) ( red line on the map above) Cross the Faculty campus and take buss 123, 124 or 104 towards PIATA UNIRII and get off the buss at PIATA UNIRII (6 minutes walk to the buss stop “Facultatea de Medicina Vterinara”)

	Name of the buss stop ( towards PIATA UNIRII)	Busses stopping at the buss stop	Name of the street
start	FACULTATEA MEDICINA VETERINARA	104,123,124,	SPL. INDEPENDENTEI
1	POD HASDEU	104,123,124,,136,	SPL. INDEPENDENTEI
2	POD IZVOR	104,123,124,,136,385,	SPL. INDEPENDENTEI
4	PIATA NATIUNILE UNITE	104,123,124,,385,	SPL. INDEPENDENTEI
5 stop	PIATA UNIRII 1	104,123,124,116,117, 312,313,783,	ALEEA III



Maybe it would be useful to see some images on GOOGLE Maps -street view and see how to “pursue the conquest” of the OLD TOWN starting at UNIRII Square:

[https://www.google.ro/maps/@44.4281653,26.1010853,3a,75y,212.27h,90t/data=!3m7!1e1!3m5!1sYCuNTmNowDfXNh6TPa31w!2e0!6s%2F%2Fgeo3.ggpht.com%2Fcbk%3Fpanoid%3DYCuNTmNowDfXNh6TPa31w%26output%3Dthumbnail%26cb\\_client%3Dmaps\\_sv.tactile.gps%26thumb%3D2%26w%3D203%26h%3D100%26yaw%3D292.97546%26pitch%3D0!7i13312!8i6656!6m1!1e1](https://www.google.ro/maps/@44.4281653,26.1010853,3a,75y,212.27h,90t/data=!3m7!1e1!3m5!1sYCuNTmNowDfXNh6TPa31w!2e0!6s%2F%2Fgeo3.ggpht.com%2Fcbk%3Fpanoid%3DYCuNTmNowDfXNh6TPa31w%26output%3Dthumbnail%26cb_client%3Dmaps_sv.tactile.gps%26thumb%3D2%26w%3D203%26h%3D100%26yaw%3D292.97546%26pitch%3D0!7i13312!8i6656!6m1!1e1)

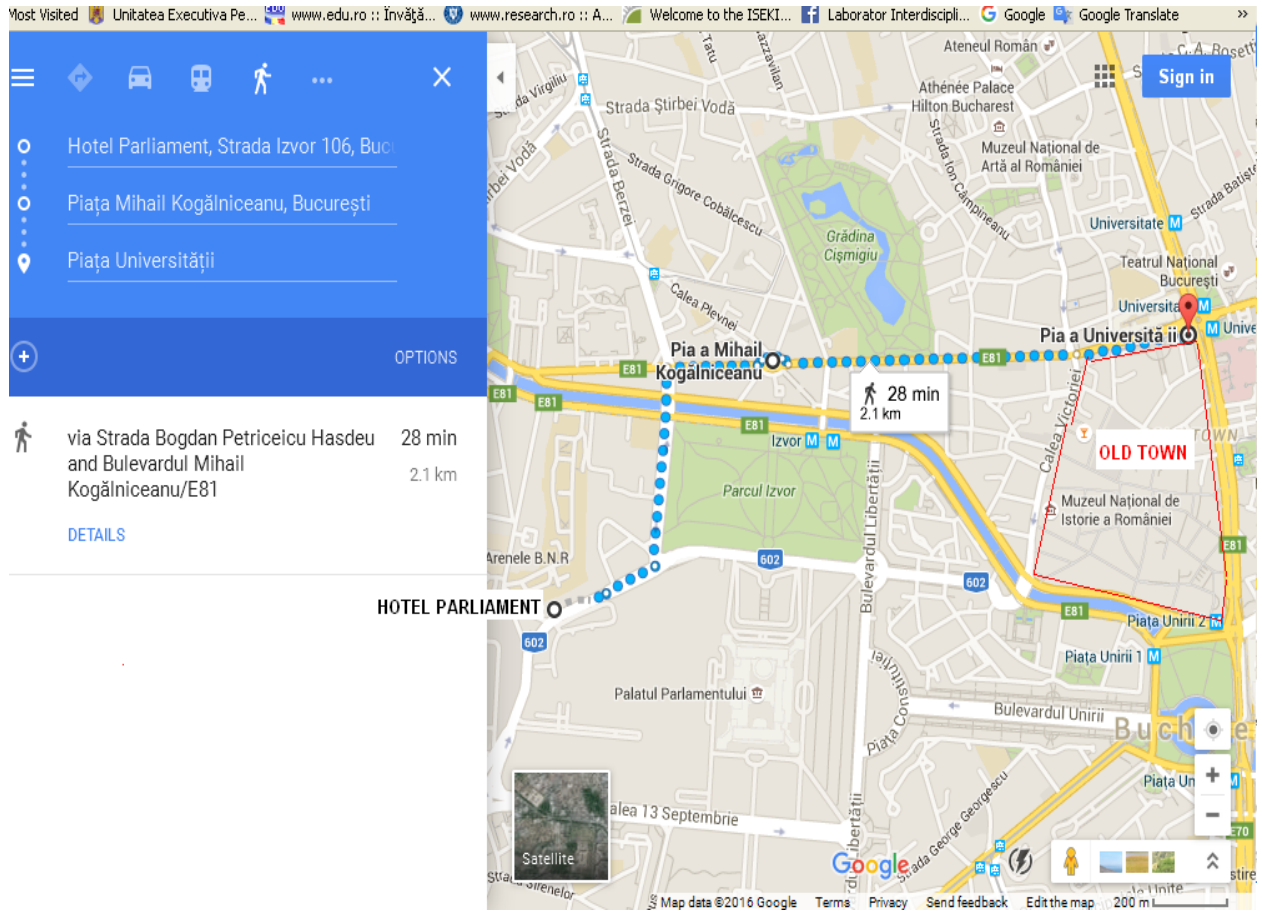
3)

- walk 10 minutes from your hotel to PIATA MIHAIL KOGALNICEANU (MIHAIL KOGALNICEANU SQUARE),
- take **any trolleybus** towards PIATA UNIVERSITATII (UNIVERSITY SQUARE)
- and get off the vehicle at PIATA UNIVERSITATII ( UNIVERSITY SQUARE). **You are in the Old Town!** Enjoy!

	Name of the buss/trolleybus stop	Trolleybuses and busses stopping at the buss stop	Name of the street
start	PIATA MIHAIL KOGALNICEANU	61, 66, 69, 70, 85, 90, 91, Busses: 336,601,	PTA. M.KOGALNICEANU
	GRADINA CISMIGIU	61, 66, 69, 70, 85, 90, 91, Busses: 336,601,	BD. REGINA ELISABETA
stop	UNIVERSITATE (UNIVERSITY SQUARE)	61, 66, 69, 70, 85, 90, 91 Busses no not stop	BD. REGINA ELISABETA



...or you can walk for 28-30 minutes from your hotel to the University Square (see map below)



People are friendly and almost everyone is speaking English and sometimes French, especially the students. If you need direction, just ask!

Use the reverse way of the same routes for returning from the OLD CITY to your hotel

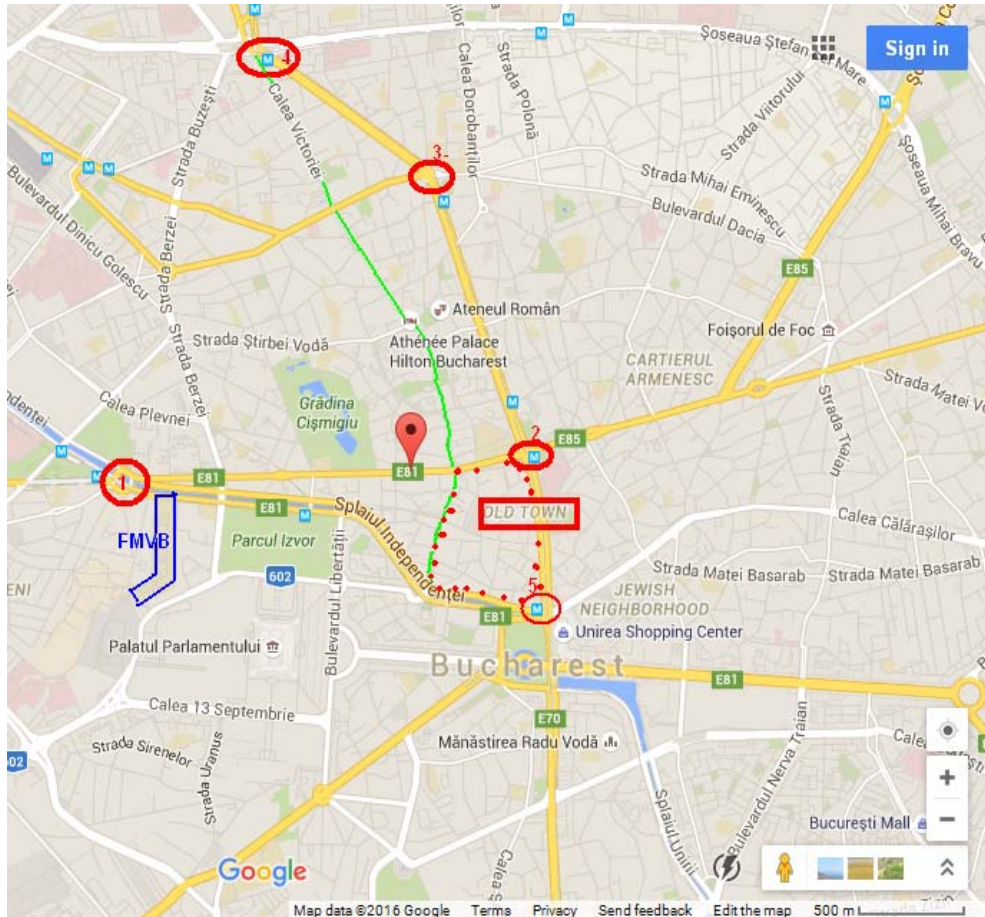
### [The City Center](#)

The City Center stretches between PIATA OPEREI (OPERA SQUARE), PIATA VICTORIEI (VICTORIEI SQUARE), PIATA ROMANA (ROMANA SQUARE), PIATA UNIVERSITATII (UNIVERSITY SQUARE) and PIATA UNIRII (UNIRII SQUARE)

You can reach all the squares by METRO and then walk on the main avenues (switch between METRO lines if necessary to reach your destination- see METRO map)



The best way to visit the CITY CENTER is to take the METRO from EROILOR (OPERA SQUARE) and reach one of the above mentioned squares. Than you can have a pleasant walk. Do not miss the pleasant 30-40 minutes walk on Calea Victoriei (see below), a walk “through” Bucharest’s history!



FMVB = Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Bucharest

- 1 - PIATA OPEREI
- 2 - PIATA UNIVERSITATII
- 3 - PIATA ROMANA
- 4 - PIATA VICTORIEI
- 5 - PIATA UNIRII

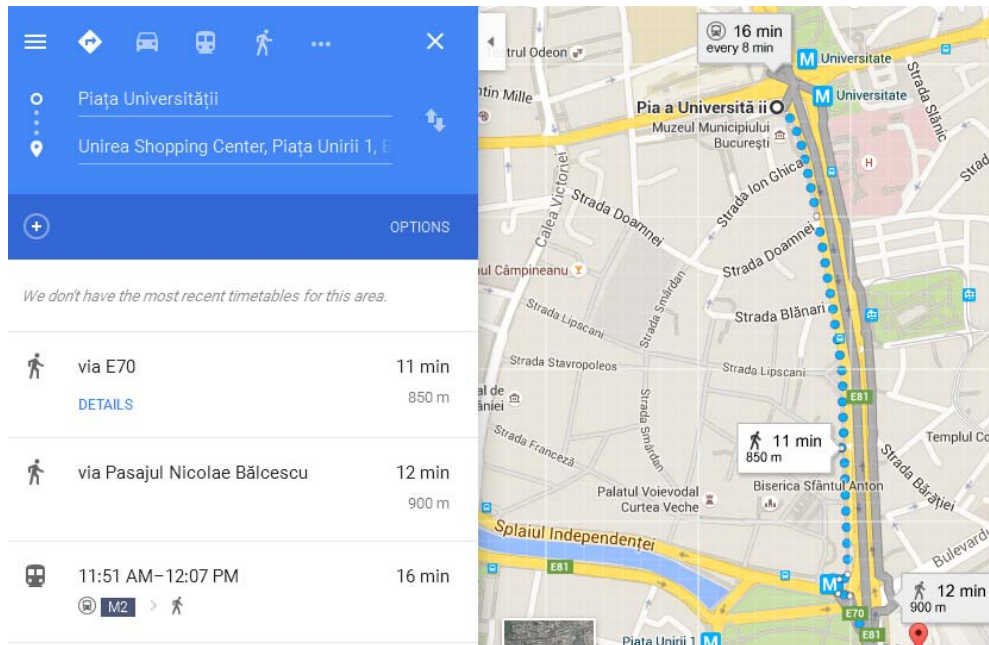
1) From PIATA VICTORIEI (VICTORIEI SQUARE) to PIATA UNIVERSITATII (UNIVERSITY SQUARE). A pleasant 30-40 minutes walk on Calea Victoriei. A walk “through” Bucharest’s history!

The screenshot displays the Google Maps interface for a walking route in Bucharest. The search bar at the top shows the start point as 'Piața Victoriei, București' and the end point as 'Universitate, Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta'. Two route options are listed:

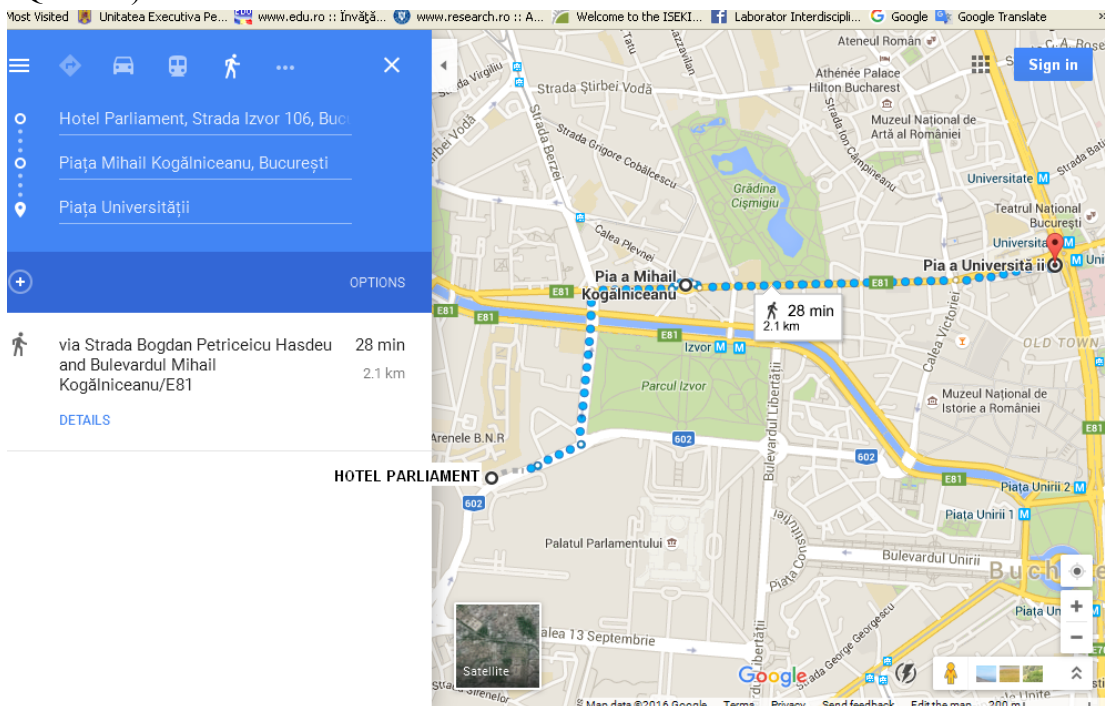
- via Bulevardul Lascăr Catargiu/DN1/E60 and DN1/DN7/E60**: 32 min, 2.5 km
- via Calea Victoriei**: 33 min, 2.6 km

The second route is highlighted in blue on the map. A callout box for this route indicates a 33-minute walk of 2.6 km. Another callout box shows a 32-minute walk of 2.5 km for the first route. The map shows the path along Calea Victoriei, passing through the Old Town and Jewish Neighborhood areas. A 'Sign in' button is visible in the top right corner of the map area.

2) FROM PIATA UNIVERSITATII (UNIVERSITY SQUARE) to PIATA UNIRII (UNIRII SQUARE) - commercial avenue

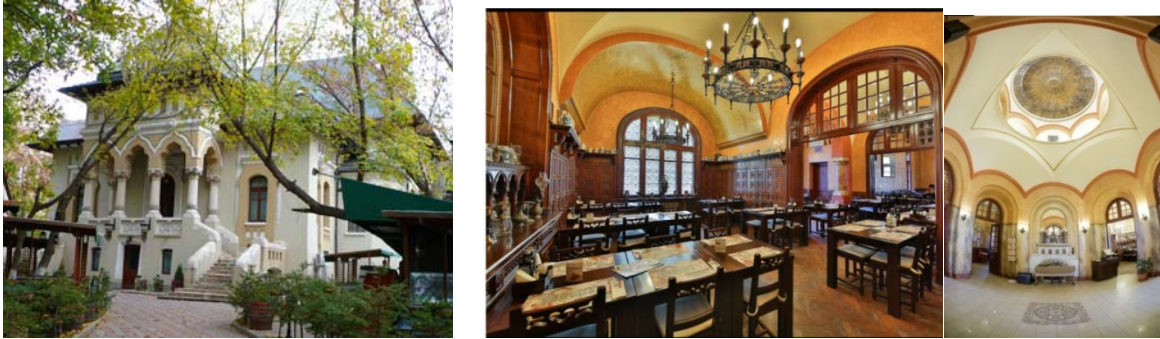


3) FROM THE PARLIAMENT HOTEL TO PIATA UNIVERSITATII (UNIVERSITY SQUARE) - commercial and historical avenue.



## OFFICIAL DINNER

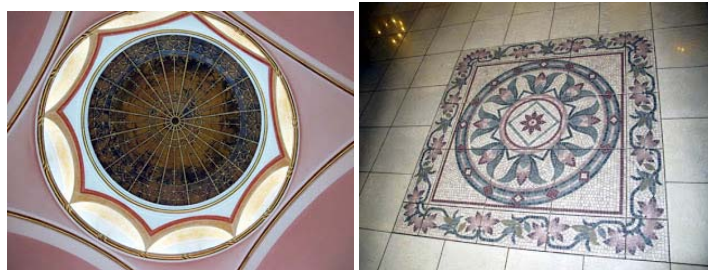
The official dinner will be held in Casa Oprea Soare, one of the beautiful historical buildings of Bucharest located on Str. Poenaru Bordea, nr. 2 .



The Oprea Soare House was built in 1914 by the Romanian architect Petre Antonescu. The house owner, Dumitru Oprea Soare was one of the wealthiest timber merchants in Bucharest from late XIXth century and the beginning of the XXth century. The building has a neo-Romanian style and it is one of the most representative work of the architect Petre Antonescu.

Oprea Soare House architecture was inspired by the Cantacuzino residences in Prahova Valley (Măgureni, Mărgineni), which in 1890-1910 were rediscovered by a group of Romanian architects.

The interior design of the house was influenced by the tendencies in interior design style in early XXth century in Bucharest, by the Ottoman interior architecture as well as by Byzantine decorations.



Stefan Soare and his wife (the daughter of Mott, the great champagne producer) inherited the house, but in 1950 the house was confiscated by the communist authorities and in 1970 was transformed into a wine cellar restaurant.

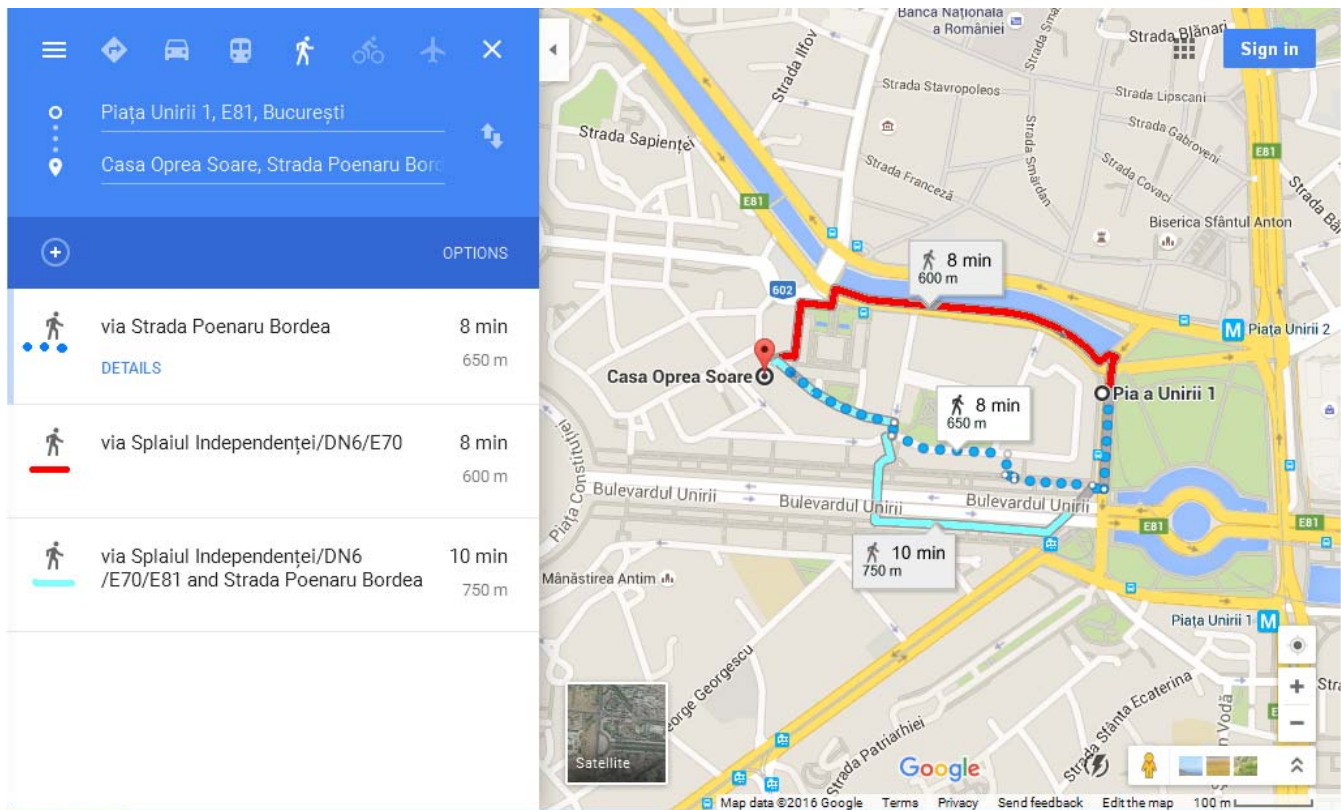
After 1989, it was sold to a private company who have used it as a casino-hotel-restaurant. Unfortunately the new owners did interior design modifications which led to some degradation of the original interior architecture. The roof (made by the famous whitesmith Alexandru Dimitriu from Bucharest, was the most modified: the original dormers were replaced by skylights and the

beautifully carved roof fascia, a truly wooden lace, was removed. Following hard lawsuits, the house was returned to the lawful heir and owner in 2006. Now the Oprea Soare House, as a protected architectural monument, has a new life. It is now one of the most appreciated restaurants in Bucharest.

If you are interested to see how neo-Romanian architecture looks like, see other buildings from Bucharest and Romania copy the link below into your browser.

<https://www.google.ro/search?q=neo+romanian+style&biw=1024&bih=615&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjmsWs5pnKAhXCmHIKHXMDDBoQ7AkIMQ>

## How to reach the Restaurant



### **Via Splaiul Independentei /DN6/E70 (red line)**

Piața Unirii 1 E81, București

Head north on Splaiul Independenței/DN6/E70/E81

*Continue to follow Splaiul Independenței/DN6/E70*

49 m

Take the crosswalk

25 m

Turn right

350 m

Take the crosswalk

64 m

Turn left toward Strada Poenaru Bordea

71 m

Turn right toward Strada Poenaru Bordea

27 m

Turn left onto Strada Poenaru Bordea

*Destination will be on the right - Casa Oprea Soare, Strada Poenaru Bordea*

<https://www.google.ro/maps/dir/Pia%C5%A3a+Unirii+1/Casa+Oprea+Soare,+Strada+Poenaru+Bordea,+Bucharest/@44.4281143,26.0939462,16z/data=!4m15!4m14!1m5!1m1!1s0x40b1ff15beac5707:0x5b583b5dc8a939d7!2m2!1d26.1009889!2d44.4283096!1m5!1m1!1s0x40b1ff6b2995ac21:0xd1b15d7ae9a381ef!2m2!1d26.0954328!2d44.4285079!3e2!5i1>

## A VERY BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE HISTORY OF BUCHAREST

The first historical reference to the town under the name of Bucharest dates from 1459, and was issued by Prince Vlad. However the legend says that Bucharest was founded several centuries earlier, by Bucur the shepherd and it is said that the name of the city comes from his name.

It was during Prince Vlad reign in the province of Wallachia (1448, 1456-1462 and 1476) that Bucharest started to grow as an important economic and political center. Prince Vlad is also known as Vlad the Impeller and his cruelty inspired the creation of the world renowned character of Dracula. The Old Royal Court of Bucharest is the most important historical architectural complex which dates of those times.

For several centuries after the reign of Prince Vlad, Bucharest did undergo the Ottoman rule, Russian occupation, as well as short periods of Hapsburg domination. It was also the capital of the Principality of Wallachia

In 1881 Bucharest became the capital of the Principality of Romania, after the unification of Moldavia and Wallachia. Much of the medieval architectural heritage of the town was destroyed in a fire in 1847, but the modern era brought a new period of prosperity.

In the XIX-th the and early XX-th century Bucharest became a modern city, and its architecture and urban development brought to this city the surname of “ The Little Paris”, and the “Calea Victoriei” street, was often compared with Champs Elysees those days. At present the street recovers its beauty

([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calea\\_Victoriei#/media/File:Palatul\\_Telefoanelor\\_Telephone\\_Palace\\_Victory\\_Avenue\\_Calea\\_Victoriei\\_Bucharest\\_Bucuresti\\_Romania.JPG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calea_Victoriei#/media/File:Palatul_Telefoanelor_Telephone_Palace_Victory_Avenue_Calea_Victoriei_Bucharest_Bucuresti_Romania.JPG))

Since 1918, when Transylvania and the Principality of Romania were unified, Bucharest became the capital of the entire country.

The period between the first and second World War was exceptionally favorable to Bucharest and the city experienced its best cultural and economic period of the XXth century.

After World War Two, once the Communist regime took over the political scene, much of the historical Bucharest was lost and many representative historical buildings were demolished by megalomaniac projects. Nowadays the Parliament Palace (known as the People’s House, *Casa Poporului* in Romanian) is the best example which illustrates the artistic vision of the communist regime, as well as the dull block of flats which can be seen almost all over the city.

After the Revolution from 1989, Bucharest slowly undergoes a constant and deep urban planning renewal and rediscovers its historical and modern era inheritances, becoming day after day a truly cosmopolitan city.

An interesting and useful map (in English) of the historical monuments of Bucharest can be found at <http://www.apmnir.ro/map.php?lang=en>



The Old Royal Court (first left) and three images of the Street Calea Victoriei)

## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF AGRONOMIC SCIENCES AND VETERINARY MEDICINE OF BUCHAREST**

[\(http://en.usamv.ro/\)](http://en.usamv.ro/)

The University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine in Bucharest (UASVMB) is one of the oldest education institutions in Romania. It was established upon the initiative of Barbu Dimitrie Stirbei, Prince of Walachia, who, in 1852, decides to establish “The Agricultural Institute in Pantelimon”

On the school seal there was an eagle holding a sheaf of ears. This old school symbol was the basis for the current UASVMB logo. Only three years later, in 1855, “The School for Veterinary Education”, the precursor of the current Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, was established. Along the 157 years of its existence, “The Agricultural Institute in Pantelimon” underwent multiple transformations, changes in headquarters and names, but, more important than these changes, a constant feature of the activity was the focus on high-performance education, “adapted to the needs of the population, aiming at directing the students towards specializations that are useful to society.” - as it was mentioned in the Princely Decree establishing “The Agricultural Institute in Pantelimon”.

Nowadays, The University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine in Bucharest is a modern education institution with all the forms of higher education, ranging from BSc, to MSc and PhD studies.

The UASVM Bucharest includes seven faculties in its structure:

- Faculty of Agriculture.
- Faculty of Horticulture.
- Faculty of Animal Science.
- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.
- Faculty of Land Reclamation and Environmental Engineering.
- Faculty of Biotechnologies (the only one of this type in the country).
- Faculty of Management, Economic Engineering in Agriculture and Rural Development.

The quality of the education provided in the faculties' auditoriums, laboratories and work experience centers has made the UASVMB the most representative and prestigious institution in the field of agronomic and veterinary education in Romania, many of its graduates having become outstanding personalities both in the domain of agricultural practice, and in that of education, research and administration.

With an outstanding material basis and patrimony, which include two campuses - the "Agronomie - Herăstrău" Campus and the "Veterinary Medicine - Cotroceni" Campus - the UASVM is a modern education institution, complying with European requirements.

The UASVM has three branches in its patrimony, which operate as veritable research, production and work experience centres - "Pietroasa" Viticulture and Enology Research and Development Station, "Istrița" Fruit-growing Farm and "Moara Domneasca" Didactic Farm.

Yet, for the current and future students, maybe the most important fact is that, regardless of the UASVMB faculties they go to, they are certain to be training in a specialization that the Romanian society really needs, which gives them the guarantee of finding important and well-paid jobs.