

BUCHAREST, love you

ART ARCHITECTURE OTHER

This is a personal 15 day trip map to Bucharest by Virginia Duran. It is in conjunction to Google maps directions. Oriented towards architecture, it shows what to visit, why, where and when. Prices and other helpful tips about this city. Importance is marked with (*) being (****) the must see. See end for useful links.

	WHAT	Architect	WHERE	Notes
	Zone 1: Centrul Vechi			
*****	Curtea Veche Church		Strada Franceză 23	The Old Court Church (1554) was part of the adjacent Princely Court, to which it was connected by a vaulted passage, and served for coronation ceremonies as well as worship place for Wallachian Princes for two hundred years. The church is among the few remaining examples of the old Wallachian ecclesiastical architecture of Byzantine origin whose essential features, specific to the Balkan region, are small dimensions, three-apsed plan, tall and slender towers, simple exterior contrasting with the rich fresco decorations, stone carved window frames.
*****	Palatul Voievodal Curtea Veche		Strada Franceză 25	The Old Princely Court Museum (Curtea Veche) houses the oldest historical testimonies of Bucharest, dating from the 13th century. The Old Princely Court is the oldest medieval monument found in Bucharest. Between the years 1459 and 1660, Bucharest was where Wallachian rulers dwelled, along with the country's old capital city, Târgovişte. After 1660 Bucharest became the sole capital city. After 1798 a large part of the Court's terrain was auctioned off and gradually populated with modern streets and neighborhoods. The museum was arranged and polished between 1969 and 1974. Mon-Sun (10am-6pm)
**	Blocul Adriatica-Trieste	Petre Antonescu	Calea Victoriei 2	Built in 1926 in the United Nations Square (formerly the Senate or the Operetta) as the headquarters for two insurance companies, Adriatica and Agricola Fonciera. This couple of buildings built by the prolific architect (you've also seen the City Mayoral Chambers by him) astounds the viewer by their sheer size, by the intricacies of the facades (tributary to Parisian architecture still-column lined windows at the double piano nobile) but also because they're built to follow the line of the street. The building is quite damaged but it has something special and majestic that makes it worth a visit.
*****	National Museum of Romanian History	Alexandru Săvulescu	Calea Victoriei 12	The beautiful, monumental and simply superb Neo-Classical building that houses Romania's National History Museum was constructed from 1894-1900 to the designs of local architect Alexandru Săvulescu. It originally served as the headquarters of Poşta Română, the Romanian postal service. Collection includes a full-scale replica of Trajan's Column and jewellery from the time of the Geto-Dacians, as well as the current Romanian Crown Jewels. Admission 25 lei. Wed-Sun (10am-5pm)
*****	CEC Palace	Paul Gottereau	Calea Victoriei 13	The C.E.C. Palace was built between 1897 and 1900, in order to accommodate the operations carried out by the historical savings bank of Romania. The work of Paul Gottereau was complemented by the contribution of Ion Socolescu, a Romanian architect in charge with the execution of the works. The palace is, beyond all doubts, a jewel, which complements the architectural patrimony on Calea Victoriei. The interior of the palace is embellished with pictorial works by Mihail Simonide.
*****	Caru' cu Bere	Siegfrid Kofczinsky	Strada Stavropoleos 5	The Caru' cu Bere (aka Carul cu Bere; "the beer wagon") is a bar and restaurant opened in 1879 and moved to the current location, a gothic revival building designed by Austrian architect Siegfrid Kofczinsky, in 1899. It is noted for its interior decoration, in art nouveau style. Romanian writer Mateiu Caragiale's frame story, Sub pecetea tainei, is set in Caru' cu Bere. Following the changes in 1989, the descendants of the founder Nicolae MIRCEA succeeded to retake the possession and management of the Caru' cu Bere building in 1999. In 2006, following restorations works to recreate the former characteristics of the establishment, the Beerhouse was reopened in collaboration with City Grill. Sun-Thu (8am-12am), Fri-Sat (8am-2am)

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*****	Stavropoleos Monastery	Ion Mincu	Strada Stavropoleos	Built in 1724 as an Eastern Orthodox monastery for nuns. Its church is built in Brâncovenesc style. The name Stavropoleos is a Romanian rendition of a Greek word, Stauropolis, meaning "The city of the Cross". One of the monastery's constant interests is Byzantine music, expressed through its choir and the largest collection of Byzantine music books in Romania. The inn and the monastery's annexes were demolished at the end of 19th century. Over time the church suffered from earthquakes, which caused the dome to fall. All that remains from the original monastery is the church, alongside a building from the beginning of the 20th century that shelters a library, a conference room and a collection of old (early 18th century) icons and ecclesiastical objects. Mon-Sun (8am-6pm)
*****	Lipscani Street		Lipscani Street	Lipscani is a street and a district, which from middle age to early 19th century was the most important commercial area of the city and the whole Wallachia. The word lipscan (singular of lipscani) meant trader who brought his wares from Western Europe. During the Communist period, the whole area was scheduled to be demolished, but this never came to fruition. Don't miss Hanul cu tea (in Lipscani), it's more like a bar but they serve quite amazing mitten (spiced meat).
*****	Cărturești Carusel bookshop		Strada Lipscani 55	Cărturești Carusel, also called “The Carousel of Light”, is a monumental XIX century edifice that was transformed into a wonderful architectural jewel. The platforms have a railing composed of equally spaced metal rods that follows the form and is both opaque and transparent, depending on the angle of view and the curvature of the shape. The bookstore has 6 floors, where you can find over 10,000 books, 5,000 albums and DVDs. There is a bistro on the top floor, a multimedia space in the basement and a gallery dedicated to modern art on the first floor. This space will also host numerous cultural events and concerts. Mon-Thu (10am-10pm), Fri-Sun (10am-12am)
**	Biserica Rusă	Preobrazhenski	Strada Blănari 16	Russian Ambassador Mihail Nikolaevich de Giers built a Russian church in Bucharest, merely for the use of the embassy staff and for the Russians living in the city in 1905. The church was designed by Architect Preobrazhenski and the Russian Imperial Court paid for the building. The church was built of compressed bricks and stone, the Russian style being obvious especially in the 7 steeples initially covered in gold. During WW1 it was closed, its valuables being transferred to Iași and then to Sankt Petersburg, where they disappeared during the Russian Revolution.
*****	National Bank of Romania	Cassien Bernard and Albert Galleron	Strada Lipscani 25	The head office of the National Bank of Romania with the view of Lipscani Street is one of the most imposing and massive bank edifices in Romania, nowadays a historic, art monument, and protected as such. It was erected on the former site of the inn built by Șerban Cantacuzino. The construction of the building in the eclectic style of the late 19th century, with some neoclassical elements finished in 1890. The building is emblematic of the neo-classical style with rationalist influences that prevailed in the interwar period. It impresses by the monumental granite stairs, the huge Corinthian columns forming the façade, and the large, white marble-coated halls inside the building. Tours start daily at 10am, 1pm, 2pm and 4pm. Mon-Fri (10am-6pm)
***	Dacia Palace (Palatul Dacia)		Calea Victoriei 14	Richly decorated in Renaissance style, this building hosts a fine, quiet inner garden. There is a fountain hosted in a niche of the building; in the same spot there is a bronze statue depicting an antic deity. The palace used to belong to Dacia Insurance Company and it was raised on the place of the former Filipescu Inn. During his time as an employee of “Timpul” newspaper, Poet Mihai Eminescu worked here for 2 years (1877-1879). It is easy to pass by the entrance (through a narrow passage) of this building and not notice it. As one comes from Calea Victoriei along the Lipscani towards the East, it is the first passage to your left after Cofetăria Tip Top.
*	Bucharest Financial Plaza	Galmard Architectes	Calea Victoriei	Bucharest Financial Plaza was built in 1997 as one of the tallest office buildings in Bucharest, standing at a height 83 meters. It was initially the headquarters of Bancorex, which went bankrupt two years later. The previous building on this site was Hotel de France, later called Hotel Victoria (1890-1977). Mon-Fri (7am-5.30pm)
***	Palatul Vama Poştei	Statie Ciortan	Lipscani nr.1	Palatul Vama Poștei was built between 1914 and 1926 originally to host the Post Office, the architect being Statie Ciortan (1876 - 1940), who also built several houses in Bucharest. It is similar to the Capital City Hall, located nearby, where the style was brought by the architect Petre Antonescu. The palace was declared a historical monument in 1913. In 2009, the Holocaust Memorial was erected in front of the building. The building is currently the headquarters of the Romanian General Police Inspectorate. The building has a non-Russian specific.
***	Casa Memoriala Gheorghe Tatarascu		Strada Domnița Anastasia 7	The only surviving private residence in the shape of an inn, a building that dates from the early 19th century. This was the home of painter

				Gheorghe Tattarescu. It includes a rich patrimony formed by paintings, graphics, decorative arts, documents, and furniture, which belonged to the artist and his family: Georgeta Werthaimer, Micaela Eleutheriade, Florance Wertheimer. Gheorghe Tattarescu was the founder of the National School of Fine Arts (1864) and his works are featured in numerous museums and collections in country and around the world. Tattarescu was also a noted religious painter in Romania. He painted 58 churches, of which we note those in Bucharest: Colţea, Zlătari, St. Spiridon, Creţulescu, Enei.
***	Bucharest City Hall (Primaria Bucuresti)	Petre Antonescu	Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta	Originally built in 1918 as the Ministry of Public Works. During the WW1 German occupation of 1916-1918, it hosted the General Headquarters of the German Army. Back in use by the Romanian Government in the interwar period, the building was damaged by the WW2 bombings and it was restored in 1948, hosting afterwards the City Hall, which still had no suitable headquarters. This is a fine sample of Neo-Romanian style, very frequent in Bucharest at the beginning of the 20th century and that was to highly contrast with the simple, lighter Art Deco projects of the interwar period. Observe the interesting columns and window frame decorations, as well as the side and back facades.
***	Pasajul Macca-Vilacrosse	Xavier Vilacrosse	Pasajul Macca	Pasajul Macca-Vilacrosse is a fork-shaped, yellow glass covered arcaded street. Pasajul Macca-Vilacrosse hosted the first Stock Exchange House of Bucharest, before a larger and more appropriate structure was built. Between 1950 and 1990 the passage was called Pasajul Bijuteria ("Jewelry Store Passage"), but the initial name was restored afterwards. Today it hosts several indoor/outdoor eating establishments, including an Egyptian-themed bar/restaurant, the Blues Cafe, a bistro, a Chinese restaurant and a wine bar.
***	Marmorosch Blank Palace	Petre Antonescu	Strada Doamnei 4	Palatul Băncii Marmorosch Blank, built in the interwar period between 1915-1923 is constructed in a neo-Romanian style that consists of several styles: Byzantine, Gothic, Moldovan. Inside, the palace is decorated in Art Nouveau and Art Deco style by Cecilia Cuţescu-Storck. In 1993, after a design by architect Tiberiu Boitan, the building was extended to the town center.
*****	Muzeul Municipiului Bucureşti	Conrad Schwink and Johann Veit	Bulevardul Ion C. Brătianu 2	Suţu Palace is one of the oldest aristocratic residences in Bucharest, as well as one of the very few buildings, which have remained unchanged for over 150 years. It was built between 1833 and 1835 by Costache Suţu, according to the designs of architects Conrad Schwink and Johann Veit. The Palace was a private residence until the 20th century, and in 1956, it became the Municipality Museum of Bucharest's new headquarters, opening to the general public later during the same year. Ever since its inauguration, the museum has housed numerous collections and exhibitions related to the history of Bucharest, as well as to aspects of life in the city, displaying valuable heritage items from archaeological sites, donations and acquisitions, thanks to the funds ensured yearly by the City hall. Wed-Sun (10am-6pm)
	Zone 2: Centru			
*****	Cişmigiu Gardens	Carl Meyer	Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta	The most central of the city's public gardens, Cismigiu is a haven of lawns, trees, flowers and lakes. Often mistakenly referred to as a park, Cismigiu is actually a large garden, first designed and laid out in 1845 by the German landscape architect Carl Meyer, but not completed until 1860. Highlights of the 17-hectare garden include the Roman Garden, laid out in the style of ancient Rome, and including busts of Romania's most famous writers, the lake, which can be explored by rowing boat in summer or skated upon during the winter, and Ion Jalea's French Memorial in Carrara marble, which commemorates those French troops killed on Romanian territory during World War I.
*****	Calea Victoriei		Calea Victoriei	Calea Victoriei (Victory Avenue) is a major avenue. Initially, the road was known as Ulița Mare (Large Street) being part of the trade route between Bucharest and the city of Brașov, in Transylvania. In 1692, ruler Constantin Brâncoveanu paved the road with wood and partly regularized it as most roads in the Balkans at that time became muddy in the spring and autumn, and the wood prevented this. The road was renamed "Calea Victoriei" on October 12, 1878, following the Romanian victory in the Independence War of 1877-1878. Today, the avenue is lined with new fashion shops, art boutiques, coffee shops and restaurants, making it an upmarket shopping strip in Bucharest.
***	Palace of the National Military Circle	Dimitrie Maimarolu	Strada Constantin Mille 1-3	From its opening in 1923 until now, the Palace of the National Military Circle has been the headquarters of the National Military Circle, which is the most important cultural institution of the Romanian army. In fact, the palace was built to this purpose precisely. It is also home to the National Military Library. On the outside, the building materializes an eclectic style with glaring touches, which call forth the monumentality of the French architecture, the facade being bordered by a raw of

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				columns. However, what is truly spectacular about the Palace of the National Military Circle is the inside.
*****	Casa Capșa		Calea Victoriei 36	Casa Capșa is a historic restaurant first established in 1852. Anton and Vasile Capșa founded the first confectionery shop on Calea Victoriei, somewhat north of the present Casa Capșa, which was founded by their younger brother Grigore Capșa in 1868. In December 1916, during World War I, following the Battle of Bucharest and the occupation of the city by the Central Powers, the restaurant was requisitioned by troops of the Kingdom of Bulgaria's army. Reportedly, these left the place in a deplorable condition for an extended period of time. Casa Capșa invented the all-chocolate Joffre cake in honor of a visit to Romania by Joseph Joffre after the war, and they were the first to introduce ice cream to the country. When the Romanian Communist Party took power in 1948, they closed Casa Capșa. The restaurant operated during most of the communist era as the "Bucharest Restaurant", regaining the Capșa name in 1984.
****	Odeon Theatre	Grigore Cerchez	Cal. Victoriei, 40-42	The Odeon Theatre (Teatrul Odeon), built in 1911, is one of the best-known performing arts venues in Bucharest. As an institution, it descends from the Teatrul Muncitoresc CFR Giuleşti, founded 1946; it moved to its current location, the Sala Majestic, in 1974. In 1990, after the Romanian Revolution of 1989, the theatre changed its name from Giuleşti to Odeon. In 1993, it won the Romanian Theatre of the Year Award. The theatre previously housed the Comedy Theatre of the Romanian National Theatre. It is part of a complex that includes a building with apartments and stores (to its north) and the Majestic Hotel (to its south). Tickets http://www.teatrul-odeon.ro/?lang=en
*****	The Ion Mincu University of Architecture	Grigore Cerchez	Strada Biserica Enei	The Great Romanian General Exhibition held in Bucharest in 1906 consecrated the national style in architecture. From that moment on, the Neo-Romanian style began to be used for public programs almost exclusively. The new School of Architecture was meant to be a manifesto of the newly emerged national architectural style. The edifice was designed by the architect Grigore Cerchez in a monumental form, on a layout of classical symmetry. The loggia replicates that of the famous medieval Mogosoaia Palace, and the façade boasts a lavishly sculpted decoration. Since 1953 The University of Architecture and Urbanism bears the name of the Romanian architect Ion Mincu, in recognition for his exceptional contribution to the development of the national school of architecture.
**	Bucharest Telephone Palace	Edmond Van Saanen Algi	Calea Victoriei 37	Built in 1934 as an office building in an art deco style and until 1956, was the tallest building in Bucharest at 52.5 meters. It accommodates the headquarters of Romtelecom (one of the most important and oldest communications company in Romania). With the advent of the Communist era, the building passed into the hands of the Romanian government, along with SART itself, which was nationalized as a division of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. The 1989 Revolution resulted in the establishment of the independent ROM-POST-TELECOM.
*****	Old Grand Theater	A. Hefft	Hotel Novotel, Calea Victoriei 37B	The Grand Theater, built in 1852 on the current site of the Novotel Hotel (whose portico-shaped entrance evokes the now missing theater) was an iconic institution, where performances and glamorous balls were held. Until being destroyed in WWII, the area around the theater was the city hub for fashionable venues, entertaining halls, restaurants and cafés. Victory Avenue became a place of promenade and elegant outfit displays. The bohemian society, actors, writers and journalists, met in the famous beer houses and terraces scattered around the area. It was destroyed during the Luftwaffe bombardment of Bucharest on August 24, 1944 and this is a replica.
***	Grand Hotel Continental Bucharest		Calea Victoriei 56	Grand Hotel Continental is a 5-star boutique hotel in Bucharest built in the late 19th century. The hotel's name is associated with key moments in Romanian history: the arrest of Osman Pasha, the ruler of the Ottoman army, in apartment 104 in 1877, and King Michael's speech from the balcony of apartment 105 in 1992. Grand Hotel Continental has unique pieces of furniture: the centerpiece is a desk purchased from a noble residence of Bergamo and chandeliers, massive furniture, mirrors are original pieces created in the nineteenth century brought from auction houses from Vienna, Parma and Turin.
**	Union Building	Arghir Culina	Strada Ion Câmpineanu 11	The property was built in 1931 as a hotel, the Union, as it was preceded by an inn of the same name. Note the ziggurat shape of the building. The two wings have subsequent receding upper floors with loggias, while the alternating of concave and convex shapes on the facade create the illusion that the building is higher than it actually is: 9 floors of which 2 are only for decoration purposes. Across the Ion Câmpineanu from the Union there is the building of the former Stănescu Hotel (built in 1928-1929 and following the plans of the same

				architect), later renamed as the Negoiu. Both buildings were turned into office buildings after 1990.
****	Socomet building	Rudolf Fraenkel, Teller and Dem. Savulescu	Calea Victoriei 39	Adriatica Building (also known as Socomet Building) was built in 1937 as an office building for Adriatic (insurance company), Socomet (metallurgical) which later moved to other locations. The building features two wings springing from a corner tower bearing a big clock. It hosted at the time the offices of the insurance company Adriatica and of the Socomet steel plant. What makes the building remarkable is the clock in the "tower" - built in the shape of L at the intersection of Victory Avenue and Ion Campineanu Street. It has on a corner tower with 2-3 floors higher than the last level of the building.
**	Kretzulescu Church		Calea Victoriei 45	Kretzulescu Church was built in 1722 as an Eastern Orthodox church. The church was commissioned in 1720–1722 by the boyar Iordache Crețulescu and his wife Safta, a daughter of prince Constantin Brâncoveanu. Originally, the exterior was painted, but since the restoration work done in 1935–1936 (under the supervision of architect Ștefan Balș), the facade is made of brick. The frescoes on the porch date from the original structure, while the interior frescoes were painted by Gheorghe Tattarescu in 1859–1860. The church, damaged during the November, 1940 earthquake, was repaired in 1942–1943. In the early days of the communist regime, Kretzulescu Church was slated for demolition, but was saved due to efforts of architects such as Henriette Delavrancea-Gibory. More renovations took place after the Bucharest earthquake of 1977 and the Revolution of 1989. To the side of the church now stands now a memorial bust of Corneliu Coposu.
*	State Government Office		Piața Revoluției 1A	Originally built as the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party (from where Nicolae Ceaușescu and his wife fled by helicopter on December 22, 1989). In 1990, the building became the seat of the Senate and since 2006 it houses the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform. The Ministry of Internal Affairs of Romania is one of the sixteen ministries of the Government of Romania.
**	Piata Revolutiei		Piata Revolutiei	Known as Piața Palatului (Palace Square) until 1989, it was later renamed after the 1989 Romanian Revolution. Prior to 1948, an equestrian statue of King Carol I of Romania stood there. In August 1968 and December 1989, the square was the site of a two mass meetings, which represented the apogee, and the nadir of Ceaușescu's regime. Ceaușescu's final speech, 1989 was meant to emulate the 1968 assembly and presented by the official media as a "spontaneous movement of support for Ceaușescu", erupting in the popular revolt which led to the end of the regime. Don't miss Excalibur, good copious dishes but not as good as Caru cu Bere.
*****	Union of Romanian Architects HQ	Zeno Bogdanescu and Dan Marin	Strada Demetru I. Dobrescu 5	The building of the Union of Romanian Architects, built in the French Renaissance architectural style was destroyed in 1989 by fire and now in a landmark of the city because of its difference and the controversial situation that created since it was built. This project designed by the architects Dan Marin and Zeno Bogdanescu in 2003. They follow the modern style; in accordance with the general architecture manner of the neighbourhood and they accused result neglects a historical monument and the rules of reservation.
*****	Muzeul Theodor Aman	Theodor Aman	Strada C. A. Rosetti 8	The Theodor Aman Museum is one of the most beautiful private residences in Bucharest, built in the year 1868 following Theodor Aman's own designs. It is also one of the few buildings which has remained unchanged during its existence, and is the first workshop-residence in Romania. From the architectural plans of the house and exterior decorations (done in collaboration with sculptor Karl Storck) to the interior design (mural paintings, stained glass, stucco ceilings, wooden paneling in the workshop, and the house's furniture), the house reflects Theodor Aman's vision. The Theodor Aman Museum was opened in 1908 and is one of the oldest memorial museums in Romania. General admission 5 lei. Filming fee: 15 lei. Wed-Sun (10am-6pm)
**	National Library	Paul Gottereau	Strada Boteanu 1	The present Central University Library was founded in 1895 as the Carol I Library of the University Foundation. It was built on land bought by King Carol I of Romania for the "Carol I University Foundation". During the Romanian Revolution of 1989, a fire was started in the building and over 500,000 books, along with 3,700 manuscripts, were burnt. Starting in April 1990, the building was repaired and modernized. Mon-Fri (8.30am-8pm), Sat (8.30am-4pm)
*****	National Museum of Art of Romania		Calea Victoriei 49-53	Originally built in 1837 as a royal palace in Revolution Square. It features collections of medieval and modern Romanian art, as well as the international collection assembled by the Romanian royal family. The museum was damaged during the 1989 Romanian Revolution that led to the downfall of Nicolae Ceaușescu. In 2000, part of the museum reopened to the public, housing the modern Romanian

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				collection and the international collection; the comprehensive Medieval art collection, which now features works salvaged from monasteries destroyed during the Ceaușescu era, reopened in spring 2002. There are also two halls that house temporary exhibits. General admission 15 lei. Wed-Sun (11am-6pm)
***	Sala Palatului		Strada Ion Câmpineanu 28	Sala Palatului (Palace Hall) was built between 1959 and 1960, during the communist era as a conference center. It has been the site of conferences such as the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the World Congress on Population, the World Congress on Energy, and the World Congress of the Red Cross. The main hall can accommodate 4,060 spectators. It is now also used as a general conference and convention center and as a concert venue for events such as the George Enescu Festival. The main hall has a capacity of above 4,000 people. Check events http://www.salapalatului.ro
****	Crețulescu Palace		Strada Știrbei Vodă	Coming from a family of rich boyars, Elena Crețulescu inherited a couple of houses from her father and she turned them in the actual palace in 1902. Perfectly adapted to the nature that surrounds it, the palace is set in Romantic style with decorative elements belonging to the French Renaissance style. The facade to the back, towards the park, is remarkable through its tower and the monumental exterior stairs. A great nature lover, Elena Crețulescu built a garden full of statues and fountains around the palace, garden which was incorporated in the Cișmigiu later on. The owner also built a greenhouse in the right wing of the palace. The palace was sold to the City Hall before 1930 and it hosted the Museum of Religious Art until 1948. Nowadays it hosts the UNESCO European Centre for Higher Studies. And the guards are not so keen of people taking pictures of it.
***	National University of Music Bucharest	LTFB Studio	Strada Știrbei Vodă 33	The idea of a school of music and arts in Bucharest came from the need to gather all the teachers and gifted children from the district and from other areas in a single dedicated place in order to study and communicate. The site that the town-hall chose for this school is between a primary school, a small park and a small wooden church, in a district full of monotonous block of flats built entirely during the communist era. The lack of identity of the dwellings district (very common issue for the communist era) and the vicinity of the small social places around the site made us conceive the school like an identity element of the district that exceeds the basic technical needs of the wanted disciplines.
****	Athenee Palace Hilton	Duiliu Marcu and Théophile Bradeau	Strada Episcopiei 1-3	Athenee Palace Hilton Bucharest is a historic luxury hotel built between 1912–1914 in the Art Nouveau style. It was arguably Europe's most notorious den of spies in the years leading up to World War II, and only slightly less so during the Cold War. It was the first building in Bucharest to use reinforced concrete construction. It was completely modernized 1935–1937 by Duiliu Marcu, with the exterior redesigned in the Art Deco style. A new wing was built behind the original hotel in 1965. The hotel's interiors were again remodeled in 1983. Again damaged in the Romanian Revolution of 1989 (some of whose worst violence occurred in the square immediately in front of the hotel), it was remodeled again by Hilton International in 1995–1997. The hotel was sold to Ana Hotels SA in 2005, but continues to be managed by Hilton. The hotel is a primary setting in Olivia Manning's Balkan Trilogy.
*****	Romanian Athenaeum	Albert Galleron	Strada Benjamin Franklin 1-3	Built in 1888 as a concert hall with money collected publicly, following a national lottery (500.000 tickets were issued, costing one Leu each). The overall style is neoclassical, with some more romantic touches. In front of the building there is a small park and a statue of Romanian poet Mihai Eminescu. A temple of Romanian art and culture, at its 120th anniversary, the Romanian Atheneum remains not just a building of universal value, architecturally representative for Romania and the Balkans, but also a symbol of the spiritual tradition of a whole nation. Check events http://fge.org.ro/ro/ateneul-roman.html
***	Palatul Știrbei	Michel Sanjouand	Calea Victoriei 107	The palace was raised by Voyevode Barbu Știrbei and it has a façade featuring many classical Greek elements. It was raised between 1833-1835, following the plans designed by Architect Michel Sanjouand. It was restored and a new wind was added in 1881; a tower was also added during the process. The building used to host the Museum of Porcelain and Glass (until 1990). There is a project to restore it, but at the price of adding a tall glass covered, concrete block to its back.
***	The Museum of Art Collections		Calea Victoriei 111	The Museum of Art Collections is hosted in the Romanit Palace and was erected at the early 19th-century. After Romanit died in 1834, the building was rented 1834-1842 by Prince (domnitor) Alexandru II Ghica, who established a chancery there, where people could come to register complaints. In 1836, the building was purchased by the State, used first as an administrative office for the Court but in the second half of the 19th century as the seat of the Ministry of Finance. As the Ministry

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				came to need more space, the two wings were added, leading to the 'U' shape of the building today. Sat-Wed (10am-6pm)
**	St Nicolaie-Tabacu Church		Calea Victoriei	St Nicolaie-Tabacu was built in 1864 as a church. A simply humble white church free access and not so crowded at the time of my visit. It is worth mentioning that, with a few exceptions, Bucharest's churches are the only surviving edifices older than 18th century.
*****	Muzeul Doctor George Severeanu		Strada Henri Coandă 26	The George Severeanu Museum was the residence of The Bucharest Municiplaity Museum's first Director, and represents an architectural style typical of Bucharest during the second half of the 19th century. Radiologist George Severeanu was a passionate antiques collector who gathered valuable artifacts in the course of his lifetime. The archaeological objects within the Maria and Dr. George Severeanu Collection comprise ancient Greek pottery, clay statuettes, bronze and marble objects, Roman glassware, ancient gems and cameos, pottery belonging to the Cucuteni, Vădastra, Wietenberg and Boian cultures. The Maria and Dr. George Severeanu Collection was donated to the Bucharest Municipality Museum in 1939 with the inauguration of the residence as a museum taking place in 1956. general admission 5 lei, students 2 lei. Tue-Sun (10am-6pm)
**	Constantin Bebe Brătianu Palace	Ion Socolescu	Visarion Street	Built as a family residence in 1896 and later owned by the Creditul Urban, a local banking business. Together with his sister, Constantin Bebe Brătianu bought the building in 1924. He was coming from a family of local politicians, ministers and founders of the National Liberal Party. The palace saw the typical saga of the early days of Communist Romania: while two of the Brătianus died in the new regime's political prisons. It nowadays hosts Ion I. Brătianu Foundation, with cultural events being held there and a permanent exhibition of the paintings.
*	Observatorul Astronomic "Amiral Vasile Urseanu"		Bulevardul Lascăr Catargiu 21	Founded in 1910, the Admiral Vasile Urseanu Astronomical Observatory is, chronologically speaking, the first public observatory of Romania. The institution bears the name of Vasile Urseanu, a figure who made a lifetime carrier in the Romanian marine forces. After retiring, Vasile Urseanu cultivated his lifelong passion, astronomy, and combined the coordinates of his carrier and of his interests into an invaluable scientific and museological landmark in Bucharest: the astronomical observatory set up in a ship-like Wed (10am-6pm), Thu-Sat (10am-9.30pm), Sun (10am-6pm)
**	Casa Dissescu	N. Cerchez Alexandru Clavel	Calea Victoriei + Strada General Gheorghe Manu	The house was built in two stages - the first stage in 1860, the body of the Calea Victoriei, and then the second stage and was added body Manu Street. After acquiring the property, lawyer Constantin G. Dissescu (1854 - 1932), professor, author of the first Romanian course in constitutional law and also - briefly - Minister of Justice , asked the architects N. Cerchez Alexandru Clavel to turn the building without altering its structure. The work was conducted in 1910 - 1912. Currently, it works as the Institute of History of Art.
*****	Muzeul Național George Enescu	Ioan D. Berindei	Calea Victoriei 141	The National Museum "George Enescu" was opened in the Cantacuzino Palace, one of the most beautiful buildings in Bucharest. The sumptuous entrance, in Art Nouveau style, announces the luxury and the refinement of the époque, reunited in one of the most imposing palaces in Bucharest. For the decoration of the building, the architect collaborated with several recognized artists of the time. Since 2007, the Cantacuzino Palace is a European Heritage Label monument. The permanent exhibition of the museum is organized in three of the palace's rooms and displays, chronologically, objects that bear witness of an impressive biography: photographs, manuscripts, musical instruments, documents and objects related to the life and work of the musician. Tue-Sun (10am-5pm)
***	Casa Filipescu Cesianu	Leonida Negrescu	Calea Victoriei 151	Cesianu House (1892) is an example of the reconditioning of an older residence, from the period of 1846-1850 and is one of the few aristocratic residences of inter-bellum Bucharest which remains faithful to its original design. For a large period of time, after 1990, Cesianu House was used to store the patrimony of the Bucharest Municipality Museum. Today, the building has been consolidated and reconditioned, a process which included the restoration of the garden and the addition of a Lapidarium. The Filipescu-Cesianu House is the host of a modern museum whose exhibition project presents 300 years of history, focusing on family, childhood and private life. General admission 10 lei, students 5 lei. Wed-Sun (10am-6pm)
	Zone 3: Dacia-Armeneasca			
*****	Muzeul de Artă Storck		Strada Vasile Alecsandri 16	The house – an architectural monument – was built by the two artists between 1911 and 1913, and preserves the creations of an entire family of artists. Karl Storck (1826-1887), a sculptor, was the first sculpting professor at the School of Fine Arts, founded by Theodor

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				Aman. He is the author of the first monumental sculpture of Bucharest, which still exists today, and portrays Mihail Cantacuzino. Carol Storck (1854-1926), sculptor, Karl Storck's son, is the author of three of the allegories decorating the Bucharest Palace of Justice, and of the monument "General Dr. Carol Davila", located in front of the Bucharest University of Medicine. The Frederic Storck and Cecilia Cuțescu Storck collection encompasses sculptures, paintings, drawings in ink and charcoal, pastels, watercolors, and gouache works. Additionally there are a series of plates and bronze medals, as well as other collectibles, such as ancient coins, and icons. Wed-Sun (10am-6pm)
*	Metropolis Centre	Bureau XII + 100P	Bulevardul Iancu de Hunedoara 60	Metropolis Center Bucharest is a building complex, completed in 2010, which combines an office building, an apartment hotel and retail space in the ground floor. The plot is distinguished by print house complex, including the owner's residence, erected at the end of the 19th c. The historical façade of the printing house and the owner's residence are protected as monument, which fact forms certainly the design approach. The space between the boulevard and the building is designed as a public space, a kind of piazza inviting the walker to pause and break, offering opportunities for open-air events and happenings.
*	Muzeul Memorial C.I. Şi C.C. Nottara		Bulevardul Dacia 105	The C.I. and C.C. Nottara Memorial Museum is relocating from its original headquarters at No. 105 Dacia Boulevard. The measure is necessary as the building no longer corresponds to the heritage preservation norms, and the collection cannot remain open to the public in this location. The building was administered by the Bucharest Municipality Museum in basis of a loan contract, without owning the building, which remains in the possession of Ana Nottara's descendants. General admission 10 lei, 5 lei students. Tue-Sun (10am-6pm)
****	Lahovari House (Casa Lahovari)	Ion Mincu		Lahovari house is a house Bucharest, Ion Mincu built in 1886, at the request of General James Lahovary. The building is retained by the history of architecture in Romania as the first significant building built in Neo-Romanian style with distinctive Art Nouveau elements. Also by this construction, Ion Mincu formulate their style in architecture, style that will be found in most of his subsequent projects. The house was used as housing for a long time, and since 2003 belongs to the Department of Maternity Hospital Cantacuzino. Construction is classified as an architectural monument. Strada I Movilă 5-7
**	POINT	Tudor Ciocanescu Arhitect + Lama Arhitectura	Strada General Eremia Grigorescu 10	Housed in a restored heritage building, Point is a three-floor cultural hub fostering contemporary arts through exhibitions, screenings, artist residencies and theatre productions, with a lovely garden in use during summer. Private parties and fairs are also held inside this multi-disciplinary venue. There's a gourmet kitchen as well as a bar with mixologists. Additionally, the property holds a long and narrow yard that develops along two sides of the building. Wed (6-11pm), Thu-Sun (11am-11pm)
*	Central School (Şcoala Centrală)	Ion Mincu	Strada Icoanei 3-5	Presently known as "The Central School for Girls", this building completed between 1890-1892 was conceived at the time for the "Princely Boarding School for Girls", an elitist educational institution for young girls belonging to upper class society. The building has a shape of a rectangular body enclosing a courtyard, similar to a monastery cloister, conveying classical harmony and equilibrium in a perfect balance between aesthetics and functionality. A most remarkable component of the edifice is the glazed arched gallery running around the courtyard. The glazed structure in fine metal frame and the accolade-shaped arches are references to the Bucharest's 18th century architecture of Ottoman-Oriental influence.
**	Icoanei Park area		1 Icoanei	Situated not far away from Romana Sq. and Magheru Blvd., Gradina Icoanei (Icon's Garden) is a green part of a Bucharest area left untouched by Ceusecu's urban planners. If you want to take a break, from the chaotic center of Bucharest, Gradina Icoanei Park is the perfect place for relax and travel trough time, discovering what it used to be called the "Little Paris of the East".
****	Casa Universitarilor		Strada Dionisie Lupu 46	The building was raised in the 1860s for Cezar Librecht, Director of the Post Company during the rule of Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza. When the prince stepped down in 1866, Librecht left the country and the house was bought over by Marshal Gheorghe Filipescu's Family. Confiscated by the Communist government, it was granted to the professor guild in town, with a few reading rooms, conference halls, a cinema and a restaurant being set in. For a visit one should get permission from the University of Bucharest headquarters down the Mihail Kogălniceanu Avenue. Mon-Sun (8am-6pm)
*****	Cărturești		Strada Pictor Arthur Verona 13-15	In a large house (an historic monument, built in 1883) set back from the bustle of Bulevardul Magheru, Carturesti is Bucharest's best attempt at a bookshop (we have commented on the poverty that is the bookshop

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				scene in Romania elsewhere). Books are arranged – by and large – in the correct way, and are everywhere: on the stairs, on the floors, on the windowsills; like all good bookshops you get the feeling that they simply do not have enough space (compare with branches of the dreaded Diverta). Don't miss Café Verona inside. Mon-Sun (10am-10pm)
*	Patria Cinema		Bulevardul General Gheorghe Magheru 12-14	Located in the center of Bucharest, the Patria Cinema is fronted by the very tall ARO office building which was built in 1931. The Patria Cinema was an addition, that was built and opened in 1934 in a modernist style. It has been described as one of the most beautiful cinemas in the city with Western standards of luxury, with vast marble halls and air conditioning, etc. Closed.
*	Muzeul Theodor Pallady		Strada Spătarului 22	The museum is hosted in the Melik House. A traditional merchant house, built in the second half of the 18th century, it is one of the earliest surviving examples of vernacular Bucharest architecture and the only one open to the public. The house is named after its most important owner, Iacob Melik, a strong supporter of the 1848 revolutionary movement, author of L'Orient devant L'Occident. While refurbishing the house, he keenly maintained traditional elements such as the first-floor verandah, the staircase and the wide eaves. The museum brings centre stage a core selection of paintings by T. Pallady. Sun-Wed (10am-6pm)
**	Casa Maura		Strada Corbeni 3	Casa Maura is reminiscent of a Dutch house due to the Flemish silhouette of the facade, and it is one of the most unstable places in Bucharest. Details about who and why or when exactly it was built are not known (unfortunately), but urban stories say that during a period it housed a synagogue. Casa Maura houses corporate offices inside.
*****	Kane World Food Studio	Bogdan Ciocodeică	Strada Dianei 9	Located in an upcoming neighborhood of the city, the restaurant aims to be a landmark for the regeneration of the old distressed urban tissue. It's approach is simple and clear, using natural materials and mixing them with the abundant greenery. Both architect and client agreed upon using design as a tool for reaching a particular atmosphere rather than aiming to enhance a certain type of image. Wed-Sun (6.30am-11pm)
*	Burebista Restaurant		Strada Batiștei 14	Housed in a beautiful Art Deco building less than a block from the Intercontentinental Hotel, the Restaurant Burebista is the easiest way to visit this building. Mon-Sun (10-12)
****	Intercontinental Hotel			Intercontinental Hotel is the first skyscraper to be built in Bucharest (from 1968-71), and still the tallest hotel in the city (complete with a swimming pool and – during the summer, sun terrace - on the top floor). The InterContinental was the first major five-star hotel to open in Romania, built at a time when the country was starting to look west: the first guests - American tourists - were brought to the city on the first PanAm flight to land in Bucharest. Fully renovated a number of times since then, today it is one of the city's most recognisable buildings, and something of a legend and icon. Don't miss Club Lounge on the 21st floor offers great views of Bucharest.
***	National Theatre Bucharest	Horia Maicu, Romeo Belea and Nicolae Cucu	Bulevardul Nicolae Bălcescu 2	The original National Theatre was built between 1967 and 1970 to the design of three Romanian architects, Horia Maicu, Romeo Belea and Nicolae Cucu, and was rather abstractly styled to honour the architecture of Moldova's famous monasteries. Unfortunately, the building was then ruined in 1984-5 when a grey, concrete, vaguely neo-classical casing was placed over the earlier structure. That ugly casing, however, was removed in 2011 when the theatre began to take on its current shape. As such, the colourful red and white theatre once again looks much like the construction the original architects envisaged, although there are major differences inside the building. Tickets http://www.tnb.ro/en
**	Colţea Church (Biserica Colţea)		Bulevardul Ion C. Brătianu 1	To the left (face on) of the Colţea hospital, the church of the same name was built from 1701-2 on the site of an older, wooden construction. Recent renovation has restored much of the rich ornamentation of the interior, most of which was painted in 1876 by Gheorghe Tattarescu. Look out for the Cantacuzino family crest above the vaguely Italian baroque portal. The church (like the hospital which surrounds it) was founded by courtier Mihai Cantacuzino. A statue of Cantacuzino stands just inside the entrance to the hospital courtyard.
*	Colţea Hospital	Conrad Schwink and Faiser	Bulevardul Ion C. Brătianu 1	The oldest hospital in Bucharest, dating from 1704, the Coltea was built on land belonging to the Vacaresti family, who at the time owned great swathes of the capital. The original building was destroyed by an earthquake in 1802, and the neo-classical building we see today in fact dates from 1888. Recently renovated (the facade, at least), it has seldom looked better. The hospital remains a functioning municipal health centre, and you may enter only if you have official business.

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*	Kilometer Zero Monument	Constantin Baraski	Bulevardul Ion C. Brătianu	It marks the centre of the city and all distances to other cities and towns in the country are measured from here. It is a sphere-like forged iron monument; it was made by Constantin Baraski in 1938 and it bears the zodiac symbols, as well as the Romanian (at the time) provinces, including Basarabia (nowadays Republic of Moldova) and Northern Bukovina (nowadays in Ukraine), with cities like Cernăuți (Chernivcy) and Chișinău being marked there. As a slice of Romania was given (or rather taken by) the U.S.S.R. in 1940, the Communist authorities decided to cut off the monument and hide it away; it was reinstalled after 1990, but it had to be taken off for restoration works a few times, because it was damaged.
**	Sfântul Gheorghe Nou Church		Strada Lipscani	In 1705-1706 on the site where a smaller church had existed. Near the church there used to be the oldest and largest inn in Bucharest: Sfântul Gheorghe Inn. The actual church, raised by King Constantin Brâncoveanu, was surrounded by palaces which were meant for patriarchs and priests, as well as by the buildings of the former inn. Both the inn and the church burnt during the 1847 fire. The inn perished, while the church could be restored. The best part of the church is the veranda with 12 columns bearing the typical decorations for Brâncoveanu style.
	Zone 4: Jewish quarter			
*****	The Choral Temple		Strada Sfânta Vineri 9	The most impressive synagogue in Romania – the Choral Temple – is the surviving testimony of what was once the strong Jewish community of Bucharest. The construction of the Choral Temple started in 1864 in a complicated political context. Inspired by the model of major European cities where Jewish communities were actively promoting their cultural identity through imposing synagogues, the Choral Temple was also destined to become the highlight of all Judaic monuments in Romania. It was rebuilt in 1866 following its destruction in a pogrom. The red-brick Choral Temple has a memorial in front of it (visible from the street) that commemorates the Romanian Jews sent to their deaths during the Holocaust. It is a copy of Vienna's Leopoldstadt-Tempelgasse Great Synagogue. It was rededicated in December 2014 following an eight-year renovation of the fabulous, colourful interior. General admission 10 lei. Mon-Thu (9am-3pm), Fri, Sun (9am-1pm)
*****	Sfântul Ioan Nou Church		Bulevardul Ion C. Brătianu 39	It was built in 1766 and it was seriously damaged by the 1847 fire, so, during Gheorghe Bibescu's rule, it was greatly restored. Between 1985 and 1986 it escaped Ceaușescu's demolition like through a miracle (almost the whole quarter behind and in front of it, churches, synagogues and historic monuments included were razed off). It was translated from its original setting over 23 meters, under a 37 degree angle and on a 2.8 grade slope, a solution found by the Church Patriarch and two engineers, as otherwise it would have been demolished in no time to make place for the grand avenue in front of it and to disappear from public sight. As if this was not enough, they built two tall concrete buildings in front of it, so as to hide it away (the communists did so with other churches and synagogues as well).
***	The Great Polish Synagogue		Strada Vasile Adamache 11	Bucharest's Great Synagogue, often called the Great Polish Synagogue, was built from 1845 -1846 by the Ashkenazi Polish-Jewish community. Rather plain on the outside the interior is an impressive. colourful mixture of baroque and rococo styles, and the Great Synagogue is perhaps today the most important Jewish building in the country. The synagogue hosts an excellent exhibition dedicated to Jewish martyrs, and to Moses Rosen, who served as Romania's Chief Rabbi for 30 years until his death in 1994. Guided tours are available (phone ahead). The building also continues to serve as an active place of worship. Sun-Fri (10am-2pm)
****	The History Museum of the Romanian Jews		Intrarea Mămulari 3	The former Temple of the Holy Union, built in 1836 as a place of worship for the local tailors' craft union. The edifice was restored and underwent substantial architectural modifications in 1910, but it finally lost its original function in 1968. Since 1978, it has been sheltering the Museum of the History of the Romanian Jews. By studying the displayed exhibits, visitors have the opportunity to learn about the history of the Jewish community in Romania. Mon-Thu (9am-3pm), Fri & Sun (9am-1pm)
	Zone 5: Dimitrie Cantemir			
***	Bulevardul Decebal		Bulevardul Unirii	Though intended as a grand statement of ambition and as a showpiece of socialism (the original name of B-dul Unirii was Bulevardul Victoria Socialismului - Victory of Socialism Boulevard) shabby workmanship and use of poor quality materials mean that the monumental apartment blocks that line B-dul Unirii, Decebal and Calarasilor are -

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				despite being just over 20 years old - looking somewhat worse for wear. Nicolae Ceausescu's largest legacy has not weathered well.
****	National Library of Romania	Cezar Lăzărescu	Bulevardul Unirii 22	The initial lead architect was Cezar Lăzărescu, who died in 1986 before the building was finished. Shortly after 1989, although some parts of the building were finished or in an advanced state, due to lack of funding, the construction had stalled for several years. In 2009 the project was reassigned to the Ministry of Culture, which completed the construction in 2011 and set the official opening date to take place in 2012. The National Library is a cultural institution under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture. Its goal is to administer the national patrimony of publications, by purchasing and preserving documents and making them available to the public, for research or personal study. Mon-Fri (8am-6pm), Tue,Thu (8am-8pm), Sat (9am-5pm)
***	Bucur Church		Str. Radu Voda 33	First built perhaps as early as 1416, this could well be the site of the oldest church in Bucharest. Nobody is exactly sure how long there has been a church here, but we do know that it predates the Radu Voda monastery opposite, which was first constructed in 1506. Today, the Bucur Church is often ignored, hidden as it is on a hill above the street and hemmed in by two blocks. The current church was built around 1720 (thoroughly renovated in 1909-10) to serve as a chapel for the cemetery of the Radu Voda monastery. The church - and the hill on which it stands - were recently consolidated in order to prevent them falling further towards the Dambovita river, just a few metres to the rear. The church is named for Bucur the Shepherd, the legendary founder of Bucharest.
***	Radu Voda Church		Strada Radu Vodă 24A	Radu Voda is a Princely foundation, one of the earliest in Bucharest. The first church founded here dates back to 1568 as part of a large complex which included thick defensive walls and a Princely Palace. In those turbulent times the monastery has been soon occupied by Sinan Pasha's Turkish armies which set up here their headquarters turning the church into a mosque (1595). The remains of the former palace have been uncovered by archaeological works in the 1950s. The tomb of the founder, Prince Radu Mihnea, with a beautiful tombstone, has been preserved inside the church.
**	Saint Spyridon the New Church		Calea Șerban Vodă 29	The Saint Spyridon the New Church is a Romanian Orthodox church in Bucharest, Romania on Calea Șerban Vodă, no. 29. Originally built with gothic influences in 1860, it was strongly modified by Patriarch Justinian. Yet, what is differentiating this church from others is the interior decorations, with the marvelous paitings by the Romanian master Gheorghe Tattarescu in Renaissance style, superb stained glasses and one of a kind iconostasis.
**	Bell tower		Aleea Dealul Mitropoliei 19	In 1698, Constantin Brâncoveanu ordered the construction of a traditional entrance-gate, that is, in the form of a bell tower. The edifice was restored in 1956-58. It was beneath this bell tower that Barbu Catargiu, the first Prime Minister of Romania, was assassinated at five o'clock in the evening on June 20, 1862. He had arrived on the hill to give a speech before the Assembly of Deputies, in session in the nearby Palace of the Chamber of Deputies. If the tower is closed, ask someone at the Cucuteni museum to let you in. General admission 1€. Mon-Sun (9am-5pm)
****	Romanian Patriarchal Cathedral		Aleea Dealul Mitropoliei 2	The Romanian Orthodox Patriarchal Cathedral (also known as the Metropolitan Church) was built in 1658 as a religious and civic landmark. Since it is a working cathedral, it is the site of many religious holidays and observances that take place for those who follow the Orthodox Christian faith in Bucharest, including a Palm Sunday pilgrimage. The facade is in the Brâncovenesc style. In 1862, the Romanian prime minister, Barbu Catargiu, was assassinated as his open carriage passed in front of the cathedral. The structure was begun in 1655 and completed in 1659 under the orders of the Wallachian prince, Serban Basarb. The facade is in the Brâncovenesc style. All of the original frescoes and sculptures were destroyed, except for the icon of Constantine and Helen, who are the patron saints of the cathedral. Mon-Sun (7am-8pm)
*****	Palace of the Patriarchate	Dimitrie Maimarolu		The Patriarchal Palace is the residence of Daniel Ciobotea, the Patriarch of the Romanian Orthodox Church. It was built in 1708, and was - for a brief period in the immediate aftermath of the 1989 revolution - where the new, vaguely democratic Romanian parliament met. The building served as the seat of successive Romanian legislatures: of the Assembly of Deputies during the Kingdom of Romania, then of the Communist-era Great National Assembly, and after the Romanian Revolution of 1989, of the Chamber of Deputies. Parliamentarians vacated the building in 1997, when it passed to the Patriarchate of the Romanian Orthodox Church. The façade, done in a neo-classical style, is 80 m long. The imposing ground floor is dominated by the centre of the façade,

				the entrance area, detached and having a peristyle featuring six Ionic columns, the four in the centre grouped as pairs. The cupola, similar to that of the Romanian Athenaeum and located above the assembly hall, is raised, fitted with windows, and topped by an eagle; it forms the palace's central axis.
*****	Colectia de Arta Ligia si Pompiliu Macovei		Strada 11 Iunie 36	The Ligia and Pompiliu Macovei Art Collection is located in the donors' private residence, a building built at the beginning of the 20th century, in a French eclectic style. Pompiliu Macovei (1911-2009) was a diplomat for the Ion Mincu Institute of Architecture of Bucharest in 1939, and, after 1960, held numerous governmental and diplomatic functions. Ligia Macovei (1916-1998), Pompiliu Macovei's wife, attended classes at the Bucharest School of Fine Art's Decorative Arts Department. The Ligia and Pompiliu Macovei Art Collection is an original cultural incursion in different times and places. Wed-Sun (10am-6pm)
***	Antim Monastery		Str. Antim 29	The splendid Antim Monastery, with its elegant dome and gold finish was constructed between 1708 and 1715 on the orders of polymath Antim Ivireanul, patriarch of the Orthodox Church in Wallachia at the time. Antim originally intended the monastery to be a refuge for fallen women and refugees, as well as a seat of learning. The bell tower through which we today enter the monastery was added in 1857. The monastery church is particularly worth admiring, for its sumptuous icons featuring scenes from the Nativity and Revelations, painted in 1812 by Petre Alexandrescu. The sculptures on the wooden double doors of the church were executed by Patriarch Antim himself.
	Zone 6: Splaiul Independentei			
**	Domnita Balasa Church		Strada Sfinții Apostoli 60	Domnita Balasa Church located in Bucharest is a neo-romantic and neo-Byzantine style building, large, showing a cross-shaped plan, plus a polygonal apse of the altar. The first church built on these places, between 1743 and 1744, was founded by Lady Balasa and her husband Manolache Rangabe also known as Lambrino. It was destroyed in 1871, and in 1883, on the place of the altar, there was placed a memorial stone. In 1838 an earthquake occurs, which severely affects the church. But until 1842 another one is built in neo-Gothic style, with the support of Safta Brancoveanu, founder of the Brâncovenesc Hospital. Being degraded because of the flooding, in 1881, this new building was demolished. The present church was built during the reign of King Carol I and Queen Elizabeth; the construction lasted 4 years (1881-1885).
***	Palace of Justice	Ion Mincu and Albert Ballu	Splaiul Independenței 5	The Palace of Justice in Bucharest was built between 1890 and 1895 marked by Neo-Renaissance influences. The facade of the Palace of Justice is guarded by a number of decorative elements, of which the 6 allegorical marble statues, each of them symbolizing a certain justice-related principle, are the most notable.
****	Biserica Mihai Vodă		Strada Sapienței 4	Mihai Voda Church bears the name of its founder, the Wallachian Prince Michael the Brave (1558-1601). The monastic complex, richly endowed by the founder and the following princes, was often praised by the visitors from abroad for its beauty. Along the centuries the monastery served as a refuge place for more than a few princes, witnessed Turkish assaults as well as dramatic moments. Mihai Voda is acknowledged not only for the historical value, but as important architectural patrimony being a rare example of Wallachian medieval ecclesiastical architecture. The exceptional value of Mihai Voda monastery as part of the city's history and memory did not spare it from the woes of the last years of the totalitarian regime. Mihai Voda church is one of the churches which have been relocated during the demolitions of the 1980s. The church and its Belfry were moved away from the hill where they had been sitting for almost 400 years, and transported over 289m.
	Zone 7: Parliament + Cotroceni			
*****	Palace of the Parliament	Anca Petrescu	Strada Izvor 2-4	The Palace of the Parliament is the seat of the Parliament of Romania and was built in 1997 as the world's second-largest building (after the Pentagon). It became former dictator Nicolae Ceauşescu's most infamous creation. The construction of The Palace of the Parliament began in 1984 (and still unfinished), the building has more than 3000 rooms and covers 330,000 sq metres. 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 (1984–97). Today, the building houses the country's parliament and associated offices – though much of it stands unused. Entry is by guided tour only (book in advance). Bring your passport

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				since they check IDs. Today it houses the parliament. General admission 45 lei, 23 students. Mon-Sun (9am-5pm)
*****	National Museum of Contemporary Art	Anca Petrescu	Izvor 2-4 street, Palatul Parlamentului, wing E4	The Palace of Parliament houses a superb art gallery, which displays temporary, ever-changing exhibitions of eclectic installations and video art. Check the website in advance to make sure something is on during your visit to spare yourself a long walk. The museum is located on the southwestern side of the building (at the opposite end of the Palace of Parliament to the tour entrance); look for entry E4. Every Thursday the exhibition program is extended until 21h00, while the caffetteria on the 4th floor remains open until 23h00. General admission 16 lei, 4 lei students. Wed-Sun (10am-6pm), Thu (10am-8pm)
*****	Catedrala Mântuirii Neamului	John Augustine	Calla 13 Septembrie	The People's Salvation Cathedral is a future Romanian Orthodox cathedral, currently under construction in Bucharest. It will be the patriarchal cathedral of the Romanian Orthodox Church, and the tallest Orthodox Christian church in the world when completed. The new cathedral will be dedicated to the Ascension of Christ and to Saint Andrew. The historic area of Arsenal Hill once contained two monasteries: the Mihai Vodă monastery and the Hermitage convent. The idea of a national cathedral first emerged following the Romanian War of Independence (1877–1878), which was mainly fought between the Russian and Ottoman Empires. The church was to symbolise the victory of Orthodox Christians over the Ottoman Muslims. The idea was shelved for lack of consensus on design, location and funding. In 1925, after the Romanian Orthodox Church became an independent patriarchate, Patriarch Miron Cristea suggested Carol Park as a site but his idea was defeated in favour of Bibescu Vodă Square (Unirii Square). On 16 February 2005, the Bucharest City Hall proposed to the Patriarchate "as the most suitable place to be available" for the construction, which is the Arsenal Hill, considered the highest place in Bucharest. Following the Patriarchate's approval, the Government of Romania promoted the Ordinance no.19/17 March 2005 for the realization of the People's Salvation Cathedral.
***	Palatul Bragadiru	Anton Shuckerl	Calea Rahovei	Construction started in 1905 and ended in 1911, with owner Dumitru Marinescu meaning the building to host a Palace of Culture for the employees of his beer brewery (Bragadiru Brewery). As he had grown up in poverty, he wanted to provide entertainment and fun for his employees. The palace consists of a wide, elegant ballroom (largely overdone, a bit kitschy and dusty, if not all the way grotesque though), a library, shops on the ground floor, as well as a fine backyard. In 1948, the communist regime confiscated the property, and renamed it Lenin Culture House. The descendants of Marinescu got the building back in 2003. The building lies to the back of a still unfinished building which was meant for the Romanian Academy in 1989. It is not open for visitors, it is usually rented for weddings, parties and corporate events. Mon-Sun (11am-7pm)
**	The Ark		Strada Uranus 150	The Ark was erected in 1898 as main building of the Commodities Trade ensemble. Used as the Customs' Postal Office after 1945, it survived the massive demolitions of the 1980s that erased the Uranus neighbourhood of the city's map. After a fire in 1990, it stayed in ruins over the next 16 years; 7 meter tall trees grew through the derelict floors. Ranked a historical monument, marked with "danger of collapse", this 19th century industrial architecture treasure was bought and renovated by private investors in 2006. Since then it's called 'The Ark'. Its ground floor, with access to the terrace, hosts business & cultural events; the lower floor is used for exhibitions, conferences and different courses, from ballet to sailing and from cross fit to sewing. The top floors were transformed into office spaces and accommodate different companies involved in advertising and consulting. Mon-Fri (9am-5pm)
***	Romanian Military Academy	Duiliu Marcu	68-72 Soseaua Pandurilor	The Academy, built in 1937, was one of the few places in Bucharest that saw live action during the relatively peaceful handover of power from Marshall Antonescu to King Mihai in August 1944. A small plaque in the courtyard commemorates the soldiers killed while successfully attacking the building, which played host to German military 'advisors' during World War II and which served as a last bastion of Nazism in Romania. It is closed to the public as it is still used as an officer's training facility. One of the few times you can gain access is on December 1st, Romania's National Day, when a small ceremony takes place in the parade ground.
**	Cotroceni Neighborhood		Bulevardul Eroilor	Cotroceni is a neighbourhood in western Bucharest. The Hill of Cotroceni was once covered by the forest of Vlăsia, which covered most of today's Bucharest. Here, in 1679 a monastery was built by

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				Şerban Cantacuzino, later to be transformed into a palace in 1888 by Carol I. Houses were built in the area near the palace by the royal servants and by high-ranking military personnel. Carol I also build a royal train station named Gara Cotroceni near the palace. The train station was relocated by the communist regime and was later used for transporting materials for the construction of Casa Poporului.
*****	Muzeul Cotroceni	Paul Gottereau	Bulevardul Geniului 1	The Cotroceni Palace, former residence of the Romanian Royal family and today an outstanding museum, is located in the western part of Bucharest, in an area rich in gardens and greenery. Old domain of Romanian princes since the 17th century, the Palace was used by Carol I, the first King of Romania, as residence of diplomatic representation and protocol of the highest level. This is where the King received numerous high-ranking guests and personalities, among them the Austrian emperor Franz Joseph. At King Carol's request, Cotroceni Palace was renovated for the use of his successors to the Romanian throne, Ferdinand and Marie, the second royal couple. Along with the celebrated Peles Castle in Sinaia, Cotroceni palace provides a revealing picture of the status of the Romanian Royals and on what monarchy meant in the history of Romania. Tue-Sun (9.30am-5.30pm)
***	Muzeul Botanic	Ulrich Hoffmann	Şoseaua Cotroceni 32	Bucharest's fabulous Botanical Gardens were founded in 1860 with the significant financial backing of Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza, at the time the leader of the nascent Romanian state. Completed in 1866 to the designs and instructions of Ulrich Hoffmann, they were originally in the grounds of the Cotroceni Monastery, moving to their present location in 1884. The recently renovated glasshouses are fabulous. General admission 5 lei, 2 lei students. Admission to the museum and greenhouses costs extra, 2 lei adults, 1 leu children. Mon-Fri (10am-3pm), Sat-Sun (9am-1pm)
	Zone 8: Eroilor			
***	Casa Radio		Calea Plevnei 97	The Dâmbovița Center (also named Casa Radio) is an unfinished building erected during the late 1980s by the Communist regime intended to serve as a museum of the Romanian Communist Party. The balcony (which no longer exists) of the unfinished building facing Ştirbei Vodă Street was used by the Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceaușescu on 23 August 1989 to watch the festivities marking Romania's National Day. It was the last Communist-style parade in Romania. The development of Casa Radio comprises approximately 467,000 square metres of built area, including a 90,000-square metre GLA shopping mall and indoor leisure center, approximately 127,000 square metres GBA of offices, hotel complex with conference center and underground car parking spaces.
****	Opera Română	Octav Doicescu and Paraschiva Iubu	Bulevardul Mihail Kogălniceanu 70-72	The Romanian National Opera was built in 1953 as the national opera and ballet. The first opera performed there was Tchaikovsky's Queen of Spades on 9 January 1954; the first ballet was Coppélia, the following night. It shows a heraldic symbol on its frontispiece created by Tudor-Radu Tiron and a motto in Latin language: ARS GRATIA ARTIS (art for the sake of art or, ad litteram, art for reward's sake). Vaguely neoclassical in design the building is elegant on the outside, with a richly decorated main auditorium. Their annual season runs September–June. Tickets http://operanb.ro
***	National Military Museum		Strada Mircea Vulcănescu 125-127	Founded on December 18, 1923, National Military Museum became one of the most important museum institutions in Romania. Since 1865, during the reign of Alexandru Ioan Cuza, when the first initiative to set up a military museum by depositing the Army Arsenal in Bucharest flags, uniforms and weapons outgoing supplied. In this place in 1893 creates Artillery Museum, which in 1914 became the National Museum of Antiquities department. Wed-Sat (9am-5pm), Sun (9am-7pm)
	Zone 9: Kiseleff			
****	The buffet in Kiseleff	Ion Mincu	Şoseaua Pavel Dimitrievici Kiseleff 4	The buffet in Kiseleff (buffet original name) is a house in Bucharest, neo- Romanian style built as a project for the exhibition in Paris in 1889, built by the architect Ion Mincu. It was built in 1892 on the initiative of Petre P. Carp, then Minister of Public Works, was put into use as a restaurant. In the years that followed, the building was extended by adding elements in the spirit of the original elements. 2003 building houses a luxurious restaurant, Doina restaurant. Construction is classified as an architectural monument. Mon-Sun (11am-11pm)

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**	Middle School	Giulio Magni	Şoseaua Pavel Dimitrievici Kiseleff 5-7	It was built in 1895-1896 after the plans drawn by Giulio Magni. Magni used the Mincu-founded project while designing this building. There are striking resemblances with Mincu's Bufetul de la Şosea (nowadays Casa Doina Restaurant) or with Şcoala Centrală, with the terra cotta tile covered facade (especially above the window frames). The building is surrounded by a beautiful fence built of decorated brick structure, covered with ceramics. It lies just off Kiseleff Park.
*****	Muzeul Taranului Roman	Nicolae Ghica-Budeşti	Şoseaua Pavel Dimitrievici Kiseleff 3	The National Museum of the Romanian Peasant, built between 1912 and 1941, is a museum with a collection of textiles (especially costumes), icons, ceramics, and other artifacts of Romanian peasant life. One of Europe's leading museums of popular arts and traditions, it was designated "European Museum of the Year" for 1996. During the Communist era, the building housed a museum representing the country's Communist party; the museum's basement still contains a room devoted to an ironic display of some artifacts from that earlier museum. The building, which uses traditional Romanian architectural features, was built on the former site of the State Mint (Monetăria Statului). Tue-Sun (10am-6pm)
*****	Geology Museum	Victor G. Stephănescu	Şoseaua Pavel Dimitrievici Kiseleff 2	Originally built in 1906 as the Geological Institute of Romania, is now home to the National Geological Museum. The permanent exhibition is formed by 14 base exhibits containing about 7,700 of the total 70,000 exhibits in the collections of scientific samples of the museum. A highly worthwhile museum, this one features Romania's varied geological formations, with enough English signage on hand to give you the general idea of what's on display. General admission 8 lei adults, 4 lei students. Mon-Sun (10am-6pm)
****	Oromolu Office	DSBA	Bulevardul Aviatorilor 8	Oromolu Office, completed in 2017, is a dialogue between old and new, between heritage and new technologies, a reflection on the glass of the history who yearns to be contemporary. Oromolu Villa was built for the former Governor of the National Bank Mihai Oromolu in the interwar period by the architect Petre Antonescu. The three-story building in the L planimetric conformation embrace the old renown villa and outlines a public space –an urban porch reserved for Victory Square (the most important plaza in Bucharest associated with the Romanian government building). The action was carried out on two levels: in the first instance, the rehabilitation of the villa which was in an advanced stage of degradation and then a glass object to stay with reflective modesty behind, being united in the basement. The innovation factor is defined by the 16m-long canopy and double-ventilated façade with triple-laminated double-curved glass.
***	Muzeul National de Istorie Naturala Grigore Antipa		Şoseaua Pavel Dimitrievici Kiseleff 1	The Grigore Antipa National Museum of Natural History was established on 3 November 1834. It was renamed in 1933 after Grigore Antipa, who administered the museum for 51 years. The heritage of the museum consists of more than 2 million pieces grouped into different zoological, paleontological, minerals and rocks and ethnographic. General admission 20 lei, 5 lei students. Mon-Fri (10am-6pm), Sat-Sun (10am-7pm)
	Zone 10: Dorobanti + Pimaverii			
****	Victoria Palace	Duiliu Marcu	Piaţa Victoriei 1	Works at Victoria Palace started in 1937 and finished in 1944. Owing to the damage brought by 1944 bombing, the works started again and were finalized in 1952. Initially designed to be headquarters of the Foreign Ministry, Victoria Palace was the headquarters of Foreign Ministry and Council of Ministers during the Communist period and became in 1990, headquarters of the first Government of post - communist Romania. Currently the offices of Prime Minister of Romania and its affiliates are located there. Mon-Fri (8.30am-4.30pm)
***	National Museum of Maps and Old Books		Strada Londra 39	The National Museum of Maps and Old Books was set up, at least in part, by grace of its two main contributors, Adrian and Daniela Năstase, who donated most of the exhibits presently displayed in the 16 rooms of the museums. The collections amount to some 800 items, which are always worth exploring by people interested in the field. Wed-Sun (10am-6pm)
***	Muzeul Victor Babeş		No. 14A Andrei Muresanu Street	The Victor Babeş Museum was founded in 1955 documents in depth his life and activity, by means of exhibits which range from scientific works and manuscripts to diplomas and certificates. Victor Babeş was one of the most important and worldwide renowned Romanian scientists specialized in the field of bacteriology, microbiology and morphs-pathology. General admission 5 lei, photo/Filming fee: 15 lei. Wed-Sun (10am-6pm)

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***	Zambaccian Museum		21A Strada Zambacian	Zambaccian Museum consists exclusively of the private collections gathered by Krikor H. Zambaccian, a wealthy businessman in the early and mid 20th century who, given its passion for art, came closest to the idea of embodiment of an autochthonous Mecenas. The house was built in the 1930s and it was expanded in 1957. The museum was founded in the Dorobanți neighbourhood in 1947, closed by the Ceaușescu regime in 1977, and re-opened in 1992. It is now a branch of The National Museum of Art of Romania. Its collection includes works by Romanian artists—including a masterful portrait of Zambaccian himself by Corneliu Baba—and works by several French impressionists. The courtyard features a large sculpture by Romanian sculptor Oscar Han. Wed-Sun (10am-6pm)
*****	Primăverii Palace		50 Primăverii Boulevard	Primăverii Palace (Palatul Primăverii) is located in Primăverii neighborhood, one of the richest and most exclusive districts of Bucharest. Built in the '60s and modified in the '70s, the palace has 80 rooms, a large swimming pool, a winter garden, a large courtyard, many luxurious bathrooms, a cinema, and of course, a wine cellar. Each and every room received lavish attention to detail, with expensive furniture, fine porcelain, silk wallpapers, and valuable paintings. In this way, Ceaușescu was finally able to forget his humble past. He was now able to receive the most important leaders of the world such as Richard Nixon, who had the pleasure of drinking a cup of tea with Ceaușescu in 1969. The palace, which was always the private residence of the Ceaușescu family, is a good opportunity to reveal the true face of Communism, i.e. of those who were speaking in the name of the poor while enjoying an extravagant life, full of luxuries and without any worries. Wed-Sun (10am-6pm)
*	Unicredit Ţiriac Bank HQ	Westfourth Architecture	Piaţa Charles de Gaulle 15	Unicredit Ţiriac was built in 2012 as the bank HQ. Any large corporation will want a representative headquarters building that will enhance in the city its image as an important institution in the society. As notions of corporate image and representation are closer to marketing and real estate than architecture, translating the bank's wishes for representation in architectural terms was one of the major challenges of the project. The building attempts to avoid the bank's identity requirements through a simple formal gesture and engages a more complex architectural approach.
	Zone 11: Herăstrău Park			
**	Arcul de Triumf	Petre Antonescu	Piaţa Arcul de Triumf	First, wooden, triumphal arch was built hurriedly, after Romania gained independence (1878), so that it the victorious troops could march under it. Another temporary arch was built on the same site in 1922, after World War I, Which was demolished in 1935 to make way for the current triumphal arch, Which was inaugurated in September 1936. The current arch has a height of 27 meters and the facades are decorated by sculptures created by famous Romanian sculptors such as Ion Jalea and Dimitrie Paciurea. Nowadays, Military Parades has held beneath the arch each 1 Dec., with the occasion of Romania's national holiday.
*****	Dimitrie Gusti National Village Museum		Şoseaua Pavel Dimitrievici Kiseleff 30	This outdoor museum fills a surface of some 10 hectares, a park populated with examples of Romanian rural architecture. The park aims to provide a comprehensive picture of the architectural styles used in building the traditional rural homes throughout Romania, in sundry regions of the country (Moldavia, Oltenia, Transylvania, Banat, and Dobrogea, for instance). The houses aside, the patrimony of the museum is complemented by churches, outhouses and mills, such as to offer visitors a thorough picture of the Romanian traditional village life. The structures (depending on their type) are furnished with authentic items (old furniture, tapestries, tools and the like), such as to render as closely as possible the atmosphere of the rural life. General admission 15 LEI. Mon-Sun (9am-5pm)
*****	City Gate Towers	Westfourth Architecture	Piaţa Presei Libere 3	City Gate Towers (Turnurile "Porţile Oraşului") are two class A office buildings of 18-story that stand at a height of 72 meters. Located at the entry in Bucharest, in "Piaţa Presei Libere" and in the axis of the Exhibition Pavilion, the Citygate complex is being constructed on one of the most prominent locations in the city. The towers are located across from each other and creating an entry plaza to the Exhibition Complex in between. A common three level garage connects the towers under the plaza.
***	Casa Presei Libere	Horia Maicu	Piaţa Presei Libere 1	The House of the Free Press (Casa Presei Libere), formerly called Casa Scânteii, is one of the landmarks of Bucharest reminiscent of the communist regime. The edifice was built during the regime (between 1952 and 1957) and served as headquarters of the party's publication (Scânteia) being, thus, by design, an institution completely subject to the communist authorities. In reaction to this juncture, subsequently

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				to the 1989 Revolution, the name of the building was changed into the House of the Free Press. The building combines elements promoted by the Russian Soviet architecture with details typical of the religious architecture cultivated in Wallachia and Moldavia.
*****	Dumitru Minovici House		Strada Nicolae Minovici 3	This amazing red brick, Tudor style house holds the small yet stunning art collection of Dumitru Furnica Minovici, who made his fortune in the oil business in the 1930s. Visitors will be delighted to find inside some fine collections of Dutch furniture, stained glass windows, a complete library and Italian paintings from the 16th/17th centuries. Dumitru Minovici House lies next to the aforementioned Nicolae Minovici House. It was built in English Gothic style in 1939, as Dumitru Minovici, its owner, inherited a vast piece of land from his uncle and bought many pieces of old Western art (stained glass windows, a chimney, statues, a whole library, old tables and chairs, paintings); the interesting thing is that he had the house built to fit these items and hence the harmonious display. Wed-Sun (9am-5pm)
*****	Muzeul Nicolae Minovici	Cristofi Cerchez	Strada Doctor Nicolae Minovici	The Dr. Nicolae Minovici Museum was the first museum dedicated to folk art in Bucharest. Inaugurated in 1906, "the national art museum" first functioned as a private institution. Nicolae Minovici gained the support of architect Cristofi Cerkez in building this unique construction on the northern side of Bucharest. The Dr. Nicolae Minovici villa is one of the first neo-Romanian constructions in Bucharest, built between 1905 and 1906. The villa was surrounded by a splendid 1900s style garden, to the arrangement of which contributed decorative sculptor Wilhelm August von Becker. Nicolae Minovici founded the Salvarea Society (1906), the first emergency hospital in Romania (1937), and was the Principal of the Forensic Medicine Institute between 1933 and 1940. The museum's collection of folkloric art was gradually put together through Minovici's own acquisitions, between the years 1900 and 1941. A large part of the collection is formed by traditional garbs from Suceava, Ilfov-Vlaşca and Argeş, and woven fabric from Oltenia. The collection also includes glass-painted icons from Ardeal, clothing and accessories, traditionally dyed eggs gathered from all over the country, as well as inter-war artworks. General admission 5 lei, students 2 lei. Wed-Sun (10am-6pm)
*	Fântâna Mioriţa	Milita Petrascu	Şoseaua Bucureşti-Ploieşti	One of the most remarkable art monuments in Bucharest is the "Miorita fountain", which greets the visitor at the northern entrance to the city. The mosaics set in stone evoke the beautiful Romanian popular ballad "Miorita" ("The little ewe"). The graceful black and white mosaics, work of the Romanian avant-garde artist Milita Petrascu, are also a wonderful example of the Art Deco style.
*****	Herăstrău Park	Ernest Pinard, Rebhun. Fr. Rebhun and Octav Doicescu	Sos. Kiseleff 32, Herăstrău Park	Spread over 187 hectares around Herastrau lake is one of the jewels in Bucharest's crown, which might explain why half of the city chooses to spend its summer Sunday afternoons here. Herastrau was laid out from 1930-36 on what had until then been mainly marshland around the (natural) lake. The park's open-air Teatrul de Vara (summer theatre) was recently renovated after years of neglect and now hosts performances put on by a number of Bucharest theatre companies (in season). There are boat trips on the lake during summer, as well as a shuttle that links one side to the other.

	Zone 11: Outskirts			
*	Promenada Mall	B23T International	Calea Floreasca 246B	The Shopping center has 6 levels: 3 basement levels, a ground floor level and 2 upper levels, which encompasses 140 shops and a roof terrace – which houses a green garden in the summer and an ice-rink in the winter. The 3-dimensional bended steel structure follows the architectural joints of the façade. Great views from rooftop. Mon-Sun (10am-10pm)
*	Circus Globus	icolae Porumbescu, Nicolae Pruncu and Constantin Ruleahe	Aleea Circului 2	The Bucharest Metropolitan Circus was built in 1960-1961 as a circus. An enormous, permanent big-top with seating for more than 3,500 spectators, Bucharest's circus continues to host excellent performances, put on by both local and touring circuses.
***	Futura Office	Tecon	Episcopul Radu 20	Built in 2007 as an office building. A discontinued urban tissue, chaotic constructions and a very narrow plot as a context. As the law required windowless façade on both sides of the building, the use of the metallic mesh (low cost, but convincing) makes a "false" blind wall. This material strengthens the "light" appearance of the metal structure, a very rare thing in a city with a powerful seismic activity. All these qualities helped this project win the "Best Architecture Project of 2007" from the Architects Order of Bucharest.
*	Hanu' Berarilor Casa Elena Lupescu		Bulevardul Pache Protopopescu 51	Offering much the same as the other Hanul Berarilor closer to the city centre this place (run by the same group, who also look after Caru' cu

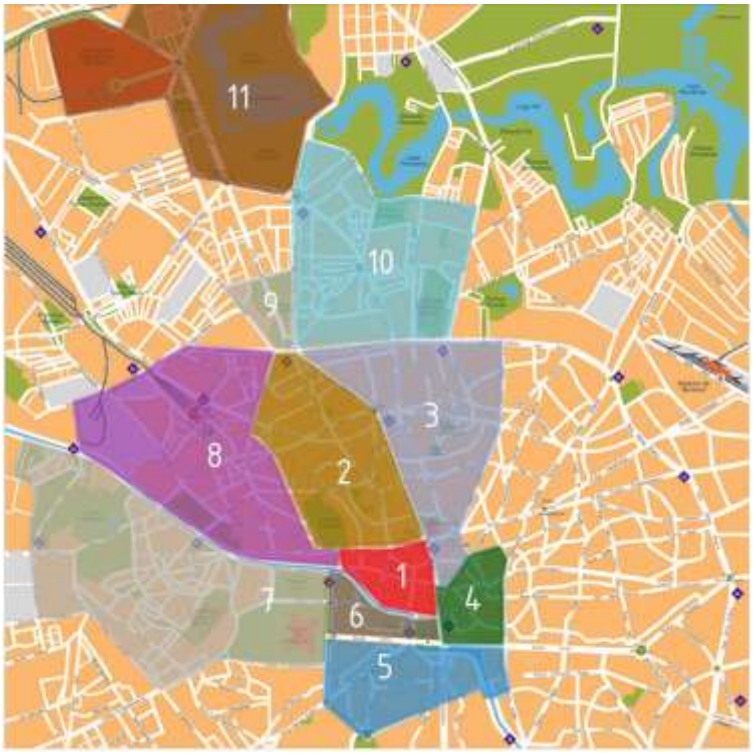
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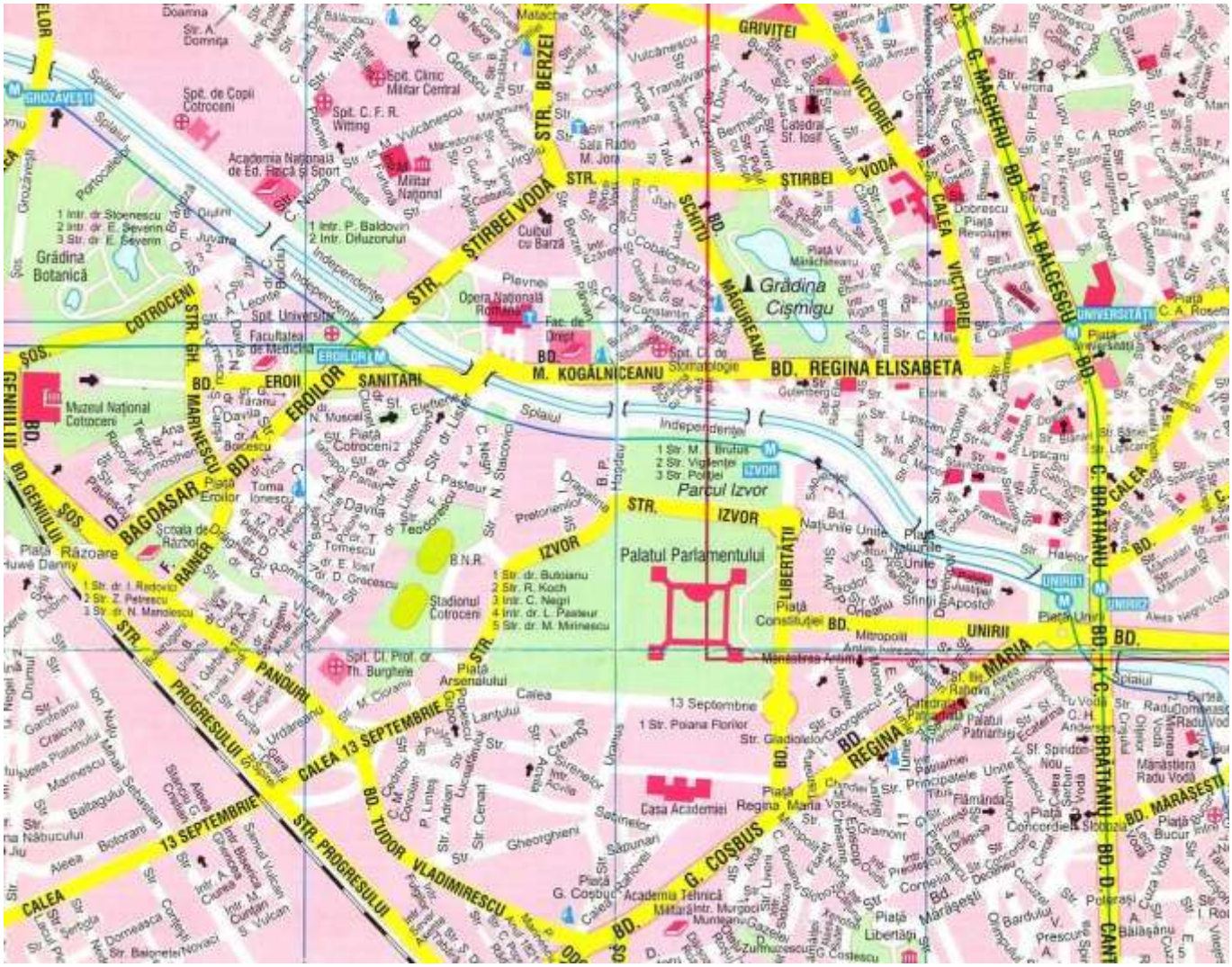
				bere) is located in a house that was once the property of Elena Lupescu, mistress of Romania's controversial King Carol II. Huge, set over two levels, the house is surrounded by a large courtyard and garden, which is superb in the right weather. Pick of the serviceable menu is unquestionably the Ciolan la protap: an enormous, slowly roasted pork knuckle served with sauerkraut and mamaliga; it's big enough for two to share. They serve their own beer, which is highly drinkable and a bargain at 7.90 lei per pint. Mon-Sun (8am-12am)
**	Foișorul de Foc	George Mandrea	Bulevardul Ferdinand I nr. 33	Foișorul de Foc, a 42-metre high building, was originally built in 1890 as an observation tower by the firemen, two years after the previous watchtower, Turnul Colței (built in 1715) was demolished. Foișorul de Foc had a double role, as it was also designed to be a water tower, too. However, after the building was finished, the local water utility company (Uzina de Apă Grozăvești) had no pumps powerful enough to fill it with water. Foișorul de Foc was used by the firefighters until 1935, when it became ineffective, as more and more high buildings were built in Bucharest, and introduction of the telephone reduced the need for a watchtower. In 1963, it was turned into a Firefighters' Museum. General admission 3 lei. Mon-Fri (8am-4pm)
***	The Greek Church		Bulevardul Ferdinand I 6	Evanghelismos Society bought a plot of land from the City Hall and began the construction works in 1899. Until the building of this church, the Greek community in Bucharest had used Lazaris Kalenderoglu Church on Doamnei Street (nowadays the Bulgarian Church). The land where they built the church was close to the old Greek cemetery (which used to stretch all the way to the actual Foișorul de Foc, see my special tip on it). The monumental church has the shape of an antic temple, and it bears on its Western and Eastern facades 6 canelled columns with Ionic capitals. The church was reinforced with steel bars. It is surrounded by a forged iron fence and the Greek Embassy lies behind it.
**	Mantuleasa Church		Strada Mântuleasa 20	A beautiful Brancovan style monument, restored in 1924 – '30, in the reign of King Ferdinand and his descendant, King Carol II. Since ancient times Bucharest grew and developed around its churches. The town's old neighborhoods, called 'mahala' or 'parish', were actually named after the church to which they belonged. For example, 'Mahalaua Negustori' named after Negustori Church.
****	Simbio	SYAA	trada Negustori 26, București 030167	The building is situated on 26 Negustori Str. in a traditional residential urban tissue. It is a villa build by a former sturgeon fish trader at the beginning of the XXth century. Simbio is a place where you can spend pleasant moments at brunch, taking dinner with friends or just working. Therefore, the arrangement, carried out in 2015, had to be primarily welcoming to guests. Moreover, the space had two roles to play: to be perfectly functional for the restaurant, but also to be representative for the centenary house. The brief proposed three distinct areas, influenced by the configuration of the building: bar, restaurant and business hub. Mon-Sun (10am-12am)
*****	Hala Traian	Giulio Magni	Calea Călărași 133	Hala Traian was built in 1896, and it was initially called a 'Market Hall for Trade and a Lamb Slaughter House'. It was later known simply as Traian Market Hall. It was built to cater for the district that developed around it and which reached its peak in the 1900-1940 period. The brick and metal edifice designed by Italian architect Giulio Magni, the man behind Bucharest's old Stock Exchange, was modelled after a Parisian market hall. It nowadays hosts a Mega Image Supermarket which is well worth a visit, as one can still see the architectural details inside. The market proper however was moved across the street from the main entrance, in a tin structure.
***	National Arena Stadium	Louis Berger	37-39, Bulevardul Basarabia	The Lia Manoliu National Stadium was part of an athletic complex that opened in 1953 and hosted football games, concerts and other events. The stadium had become outdated, however, and in 2007 it was demolished to make way for a new facility. Opened in 2011, the new 23-meter-high National Arena seats approximately 55,000 people.
**	Parcul Natural Văcărești		Splaiul Unirii 168	Having 190 hectares, the area where the park stands was part of a large swampy area on the outskirts of Bucharest. To its west was the area known as the "valley of weeping" that was the rubbish dump of interbellum Bucharest. Much of the swampy area surrounding the park was drained by Socialist Romania, building a neighbourhood of apartment blocks, while the "valley of weeping" became Tineretului Park.
*****	Mogoşoaia Palace		Strada Valea Parcului 1	Built over the four year period between 1698 and 1702 by Constantin Bracoveanu, Mogoasoaia Palace is famous as an architectural monument because its facade is dominated by traditional staircase balconies, columns with capitals, and arcades that have come to be known as the Brancovan style or Romanian Renaissance style, which is a combination of Ottoman and Venetian elements. All in all, it was

				the Bibescu family who continued the works of the Brâncoveanus, who either renovated or enriched the complex with new structures. Unsurprisingly, the domain was confiscated during the communist regime. At present, the complex is opened to the visiting public. Inside the castle there is also a Museum of Brâncoveanu Style Art which can be visited. Thu-Sun (12pm-12am)
*****	Bellu Cemetery	Alexandru Orescu	Șoseaua Olteniței 3-5	Șerban Vodă cemetery (commonly known as Bellu cemetery) is the largest and most famous cemetery in Bucharest. It has been in use since 1858. The city's most prestigious burial ground houses the tombs of many notable Romanian writers – a map inside the gate points out locations. Many Romanians pay their respects to national poet Mihai Eminescu (1850–89) and comic playwright and humorist Ion Luca Caragiale (1852–1912), who are separated only by a bloke named Traian Savulescu; go to Figura 9 (to the right after you enter). The Poroineanu family's grave is easily recognizable after the statue made by Raffaello Romanelli that brings to life a scene of a Shakespearean tragedy, with a very old man sitting next to a dead young woman lying on a bed. They were a family of landowners in Caracal, and it is supposed that the statue would represent two brothers from the Poroineanu family who fell in love with each other but found out only afterward that they were related. Because they could not be together, they committed suicide, and after them, their father, Constantin Poroineanu, committed suicide. The monument is a reminder of their tragic love story which could have been avoided if their father wouldn't have committed adultery. Mon-Fri (8.30-4pm), Thu (8.30am-6.30pm), Fri (8.30am-2pm), Sat (9am-2pm)

- ULR map: http://goo.gl/aUybNZ
- Metro map: http://www.metrorex.ro/
- Note: Directions are given in order of neighborhoods following this diagram.

1. Centrul Vechi
2. Centru
3. Dacia-Armeneasca
4. Jewish Quarter
5. Dimitrie Cantemir
6. Splaiul Independentei
7. Parliament + Cotroceni
8. Eroilor
9. Kiseleff
10. Dorobanți + Pimaverii
11. Herăstrău Park
12. Outskirts




GROZĂVEȘTI
Spl. Unirii
Doamna
Str. A. Domnița
Spit. de Copii Cotroceni
Spit. Clinic Militar Central
Spit. C. F. R. Witing
Academia Națională de Ed. Fizică și Sport
Muzeul Militar Național
Sala Radio M. Jora
Catedral Sf. Iosif
Biserica Amzei
Grădina Botanică
Cultul cu Barză
Grădina Cișmigiu
Opera Națională Română
Spit. Universitar
Facultatea de Medicină
Fac. de Drept
Spit. Cl. de Stomatologie
Muzeul Național Cotroceni
Piața Eroilor
Școala de Război
Piața Răzoare
Stadionul Cotroceni
B.N.R.
Parcul Izvor
Palatul Parlamentului
Piața Constituției
Mănăstirea Antim
Piața Arsenalului
Spit. Cl. Prof. dr. Th. Burghele
Piața Regina Maria
Casa Academiei
Academia Tehnică Militară
Piața G. Coșbuc
Piața Libertății
Piața Unirii
Piața Concordiei
Piața Bucur
Piața Mărășești
Piața Slobozia
Piața Revoluției
Piața V. Mănăilescu
Piața Universității
Piața C. A. Rosetti
Piața Natiunile Unite
Mitropolia
Palatul Patriarhiei
Mănăstirea Radu Vodă
Biserica Sf. Spiridon Nou
Biserica Sf. Apostoli
Biserica Sf. Ecaterina
Biserica Sf. Andrei
Biserica Sf. Nicolae
Biserica Sf. Gheorghe
Biserica Sf. Vineri
Biserica Sf. Elefterie
Biserica Sf. Ioan Nou
Biserica Sf. Ioan Vechi
Biserica Sf. Dumitru
Biserica Sf. Pantelimon
Biserica Sf. Ioan Gură de Aur
Biserica Sf. Ioan Botezătorul
Biserica Sf. Ioan Evanghelistul
Biserica Sf. Ioan Teologul