

# TRAVEL GUIDE REGION CAHUL

Come and get to know a region with personality  
where care, friendship, local spirit, goodwill, energy  
and the love of life will conquer you



CLUSTERUL TURISTIC  
VIA CAHUL



REGIUNEA  
**Cahul**

# INTRODUCTION

Cahul region is a sunny area with picturesque landscapes, located in the south of the Republic of Moldova, on the border with Romania and Ukraine. It has a rich natural and cultural heritage and a living human treasure. It is home to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Lower Prut Reserve, a wetland and floodplain ecosystem with diverse species of wild flora and fauna. Birds are a special element of the natural setting, and the Lower Prut Lakes area - included in the List of Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention - comprises the largest lakes in Moldova, namely Belevu and Manta.

The Cahul region has a rich touristic potential, combining the resources of the urban area of Cahul Municipality with those of the rural area of the Lower Prut Plain. Here you will discover various guesthouses and traditional houses, authentic customs and traditions, folk crafts and, above all, people who sanctify the places with their spirit, kindness and warmth.

Tourism is one of the development priorities of the Cahul region. To this end, the VIA Cahul Tourism Cluster was created, a cooperation platform made up of 49 key players, including: economic agents, public authorities, research-education-innovation institutions and catalyst structures.

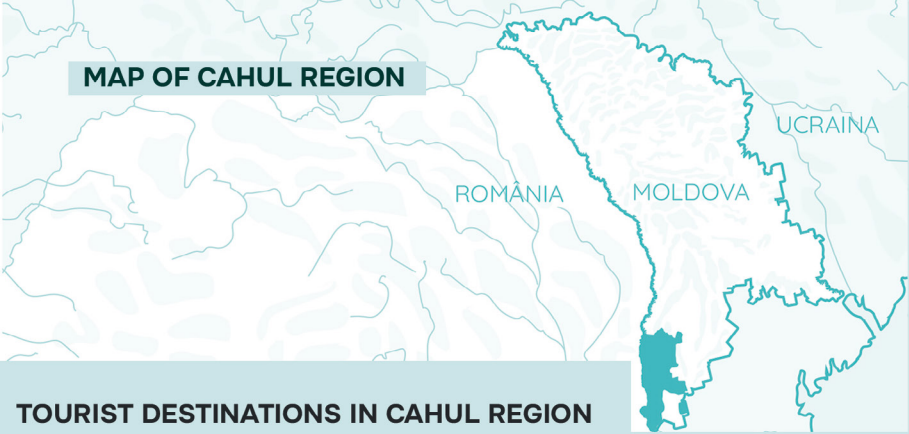
The Tourism Cluster supports the tourism sector representatives to ensure the sector's competitiveness at regional, cross-border, national and international level. The key to the success of the Cahul region is partnership and, in this respect, several structures are joining forces to boost tourism development.

Thus, the VIA Cahul Tourism Cluster collaborates intensively with the Local Action Group "Lunca Prutului de Jos" [Lower Prut Meadow]. As a result of joint activities, several local tour operators have been co-opted into regional tourist routes and circuits.

## COME AND TASTE THE HOSPITALITY OF THE CAHUL REGION!

[www.eu4cahul.md](http://www.eu4cahul.md)

### MAP OF CAHUL REGION



### TOURIST DESTINATIONS IN CAHUL REGION

1. "Nufărul Alb" Sanatorium
2. "B.P. Hasdeu" Republican Musical-Dramatic Theatre
3. Cahul County Museum
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21. "At Grandma Clava" Rural House
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25. "La tanti Masha" [At Auntie Masha] Gastronomic Workshop
26. Lower Prut Nature Reserve
27. "Domeniile Pana" [Pana Domanins] Winery
28. "Potcoava Verde" [Green Horseshoe] Tourist Complex
29. Winery in the Valley
30. "La Mama Catita" [At Mother Catita] House-Museum
31. Creative workshop "Inartiz"
32. Workshop of folkcrafts AR-LINA
33. Slobozia Mare Museum of History and Ethnography
34. "At the Mouth of the Prut" Museum of Culture and Civilization









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# Tourism Cluster "VIA Cahul"

(Values, Innovation, Authenticity)

The "VIA Cahul" tourism cluster, created in April 2022, brings together 49 partners from the Cahul region and the cross-border area, who share a common passion – tourism. This regional partnership is aimed at developing the tourism sector, ensuring the competitiveness of the tourism business in order to promote and exploit the regional tourism potential on a large scale.

To this end, economic operators, public authorities, research-innovation-education institutions and catalyst entities collaborate effectively and carry out actions aimed at developing tourism infrastructure, increasing the visibility of the sector, creating and providing visitors with competitive and innovative tourism products, initiating international partnerships and promoting responsible tourism.

The catalyst of the cluster is the Municipality of Cahul, the Cultural-Creative Capital of the Republic of Moldova, which gathers around it the most valuable resources of the area, including: mineral waters, roads and tourist routes, international festivals and the unparalleled potential of the Lower Prut Plain countryside.

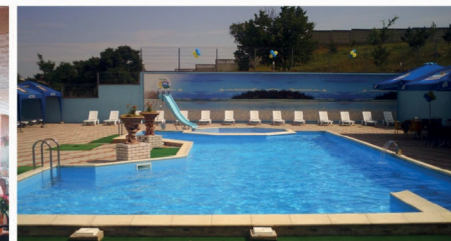
All this so that every tourist who comes to the Cahul region can get to know better our people, traditions, picturesque places, culture and values.

If you are passionate about travelling, we are waiting for you in the Cahul region, an area worth discovering and exploring! The VIA Cahul Tourism Cluster team can help you create unforgettable memories.

## 1 Sanatorium "Nufărul Alb"

Cahul is the first town in the Republic of Moldova to obtain the status of a spa resort thanks to its mineral springs with a unique and extremely valuable composition. Mineral waters rich in sulphur, iodine, bromine and sodium with low mineralization are used to treat locomotor, cardiovascular, dermatological, gynecological, central and peripheral nervous system disorders. The "Nufărul Alb" spa resort started its activity in 1984 and has rest and cure facilities serving tourists all year round. It has a balneological polyclinic, a hotel complex, a restaurant and spaces for cultural and entertainment events.

The spa has a baths section, a swimming pool, hydrotherapy, classic and underwater massage, acupuncture, a physiotherapy section, curative gymnastics and mechanotherapy rooms equipped with high-performance treatment equipment. In 2009 the outdoor swimming pool was put into operation, and since 2016 the saline room has been open. The "Nufărul Alb" Sanatorium salt room is unique in the Republic of Moldova, with the capacity to treat 100 patients at the same time.




The "Nufărul Alb" Sanatorium is located in a quiet area, protected from the city congestion, with clean and ionized air from the Prut Plain, away from the industrial area.

**"White Cloud - the best sanatorium  
in Moldova for treatment and rest!"**


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## "B.P. Hasdeu" Republican Musical-Dramatic Theatre in Cahul

The performances of the "B.P. Hasdeu" Republican Musical-Dramatic Theatre in Cahul help us to escape from everyday life by meeting and interacting with various characters, connecting us with art and beauty. If you are in Cahul, don't miss the opportunity to go to a theatre performance. The acting, the lights and colours, the fascination of the costumes, the sound of music, the thread of the story and the essence of the adventure will all together challenge you to reflect, explore and go beyond your own limits of knowledge.

After three decades of activity the Cahul Theatre has become a puppet theatre for children, young people and adults, a traditional theatre, but also one that takes the risks of experimentation as a theatre of comedy, drama and miniatures. The thematic repertoire is diverse, ranging from historical, classical, children's themes to postmodern theatre pieces, thus satisfying the artistic tastes of audiences of different ages. On the stage you will discover famous actors from the Republic of Moldova, masters of art, eminent artists and dramatic artists.



The theatre company in Cahul has won several awards at UNITEM Galas. Theatre lovers are also invited every year to the International Theatre Festival - "Theatre without Borders", held in October in Cahul.

*"With us you can break the barriers of time, space, mentalities, you can travel to other eras of the past or future, you can discover spiritual universes without censorship, imposed rules, constraints and even without translation, because the artistic language is understood without words"*

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## The Cahul County Museum

The Cahul County Museum was opened in 1958. The museum is a building built in the middle of the 19th century with historical value for the city of Cahul. In 1858, the famous Romanian writer, historian, linguist and scholar Bogdan Petriceicu Hasdeu worked here as a judge. The museum is centered on the study of the native land, and the patrimony consists of over 38.000 pieces. The museum is attractive for the public of different ages, being attended annually by about 17.000 visitors and tourists. The museum's holdings house a rich collection of firearms and weapons, archaeology and numismatics, old books and documents.

The ethnographic collection has a special place, with items from folk costumes, carpets to handkerchiefs. The 'Nature' section includes thematic collections of birds and animals specific to the three southern ecosystems and palaeozoological remains, reflecting the geological history of the Earth. The 'History' section evokes the evolution of human society from the Palaeolithic to the medieval Romanian prestate formations.



Of particular interest is the Ethnographic Complex, opened in 1979 and consisting of a peasant household from the late 19th - early 20th century.

The Cahul County Museum preserves local traditional values and supports visitors in understanding the process of spiritual development of the community. The institution offers a series of activities, which allow the exploration of the museum heritage, the development of creative potential, practical skills and social integration.



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## 4 "El-Cairo" Pension

"El-Cairo" Pension in Cahul Municipality is located in a central area of the city offering the possibility to be close to recreational areas and access areas. At the same time, it is located in a quiet place, isolated from the urban noise, in the vicinity of the "Nufărul Alb" Sanatorium.

It offers accommodation, parking, spa services and access to the common kitchen ensuring a unique comfort and a feeling of full hospitality. The accommodation capacity is 15 rooms with double beds. The rooms are equipped with wooden furniture, carefully finished, internet, TV, air conditioning, private bathroom. In the guesthouse you can relax in a pleasant space decorated in oriental style – the El Cairo Lounge Zone.

In the spa area you will find a sauna with pool, hammam and salt room. The quietness of the area where the guesthouse is located turns it into a small oasis. In the future, the guesthouse plans to open a restaurant and a terrace in traditional style that will serve both tourists staying at the guesthouse and other visitors to the Cahul region.



*"It's important to us that you enjoy yourself!  
Enjoy every day with us!"*

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## 5 "Metropolis" Restaurant

If you are on a trip around Cahul with your family and friends and haven't decided where to dine, then the "Metropolis" Restaurant is the best choice. The restaurant is located in the centre of Cahul, in the immediate vicinity of the Horelor Square. The restaurant has 3 rooms and an outdoor terrace with a total area of about 700 square meters.

The restaurant offers a wide assortment of tasty dishes at reasonable prices, served in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Care and attention to customers is the Voina family's strength, and the products used to prepare the food are grown on their own farm in the village of Roșu. Thus, the menu offered is varied and with an emphasis on always fresh products. Here you can also enjoy a variety of traditionally cooked dishes.

For those who spend time outside Cahul, the restaurant also offers catering services. Corporate events and unforgettable activities can also be organised on the premises.



*"Tasty, traditional and healthy"*

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## Leisure in Cahul

If you are on holiday and looking for fun and recreational activities for children and the whole family, it is good to know the services offered by our company in Cahul. Our activities take place outdoors, stimulating movement and providing children with physical and mental benefits.

Among the recreational services we offer are:

- the rental of go-karts with pedals
- the ride on the train
- the aeroplane flight

Our team is waiting for you every day in the "Grigore Vieru" Park in the center of Cahul. The natural setting of the park stimulates the activity of the little ones, imagination and creativity. The kart and train rides will give children unforgettable experiences, the opportunity to combine speed with fun and enjoy thrills.

While the children have a pleasant and useful occupation, the other members of the family can enjoy walks on a quiet promenade in the park, where they can discover several sights, including the Museum of Cahul County...





...the building of the Republican Musical-Dramatic Theatre "B. P. Hasdeu", portions of the underground galleries of the city, the cathedral "Saints Archangels Michael and Gabriel" or the Horelor Square.

*"We firmly believe that healthy fun and intelligence go hand in hand"*

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## "Hora Inimii" Tour Operator

The "S&I Project" Company has a multi-dimensional spectrum of services, offering tourists opportunities to get to know new places, live unique experiences, explore their own limits and ensure a process of growth and development based on an individual plan.

The main services offered in collaboration with the reserve management are excursions to discover the potential of the Lower Prut Plain with stops and stays in natural areas and tourist attractions and hikes in the villages of Slobozia Mare and Văleni, in the area of the Lower Prut Reserve with low and medium distances and difficulty. The hikes are combined with mobile and adventure activities, visits to the "La Mama Catița" [At Mother Catița] House-Museum in Slobozia Mare and heart-to-heart talks with the owner of the museum - Ecaterina Pană, teambuilding and networking activities personal/professional learning and training activities (experts can support you for training in: problem identification and community organization, project management, fundraising, non-profit organization management, business plan development, etc.) professional tour guide services The company's brand is "Hora Inimii", which reflects the essence of the activity.



In the tourist route local people, traditions and customs, natural potential, history and geography of the area metaphorically get caught in a horde, which gladdens your heart and makes you come back.


Embrace the adventure! Empower growth! Experience the joy! - Join the team of S&I Project SRL Cahul".

*"We promote responsible tourism"*

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## 8 The Hunter's Rest

The Hunter's Inn is a small location bathed in charming sunsets with a small vineyard! Gheorghe and Ecaterina are the ones who have put a lot of heart into making this place look exactly as it does. And we, the children, are making the Huntsman's Village better known and appreciated. The Huntsman's Inn can be closer to your hearts!

It is an area aimed for a family type of rest, in peace and warmth that tries to preserve the atmosphere of "home". It can be a good choice for the tourist who wants to escape from everyday life, to find relaxation, refuge and peace.

What we offer at the Hunter's Inn:

- gazebo rental for 10-30 people
- location for teambuildings, training, brunches
- spaces for corporate and family events
- space for tents (5-10 places)
- bike rides around the lake
- themed photo shoots
- nature dinners
- accommodation 2 double rooms + baby cot
- barbecue area
- we organize Nature ART therapy






*Soul. Passion. Story*

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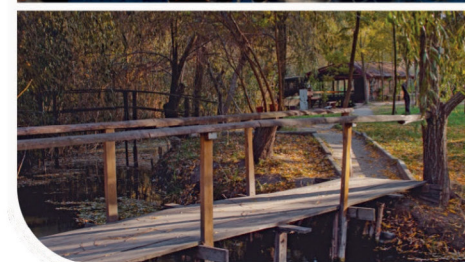
## 9 "La Cotihana" Rest and Recreation Resort

The rest area "La Cotihana" is a green oasis on the outskirts of the village of Cotihana, at 7 km from Cahul Municipality.

The location is situated in a picturesque natural area with many weeping willows, springs and small lakes, an ideal place for rest and relaxation. In June here you can admire the waterlilies, which delight visitors with its flowers.

For a relaxing rest, here you can rent gazebos of different sizes for events and cultural activities, fish and cook your food by the fire, so that it tastes wonderfully 'homey'. In the rest area there are 7 gazebos with a capacity of 15-60 people, where you can organize your rest in the warm season.

The resort also offers a closed gazebo with a capacity of 30 people, which can also be used in the cold season. Taking into account the needs of visitors, 3 cottages have recently been built, where long-term guests can be accommodated at any time around the year. In winter, space and a cottage are offered for rent.






The development of tourism business has been the dream of Nicolae and Ana Căpraru family, which through hard work, love and positive thinking are gradually developing the area. Through their daily activity they bring beauty and joy into the lives of people who visit them.

*"At Cotihana, where you are warmly awaited"*

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## Radu's winery Via Lui Radu

Situated just 6 km from Cahul Municipality, a fairy-tale view opens up, the "Via lui Radu" recreation area, a secluded place surrounded by vineyards and forest. A new location, ideal for escaping in the quiet of nature, far from the hustle and bustle of the city, offering a special view of nature and a charming sunset.

Guests have at their disposal 5 gazebos, which are designed for 20-50 people, equipped with everything necessary: tables, chairs, barbecue, etc. There is also a children's playground on the premises.



When you need a break from your daily routine or you are looking for a place to organize an event in the heart of nature, "Via lui Radu" can be the perfect solution, the perfect place to spend time with family and friends.




*"Via lui Radu" - a place created with a lot of soul and passion, perfect for peace and relaxation!*

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## "Voina" Farm

The "Voina" farm, situated in the village of Roșu, has been operating since the spring of 2020, growing strawberries, vegetables and greens.



This is the only company in the Cahul region that provides "zero kilometer" services. This gives people the opportunity to come to the plantations and harvest the fruit themselves. During the strawberry harvest, the farm is very busy, especially at weekends. Families with children come to enjoy the fragrant taste of strawberries, and the farm turns into a selfie spot. Here you can also discover various curiosities.


For example, the greenhouse is built from glass bottles - some 70.000 of them, which are an environmental hazard because they were not recycled. Thanks to this construction, the company has an advantage over traditional greenhouses - in winter the costs are lower and the vegetables grow faster, ensuring they are on the market 10-12 days earlier than other producers. In winter, the greenhouse is heated using waste oil from local restaurants and car repair shops, another way of reducing pollution.




*"With heart for health"*

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# Prisaca "Bee-Pro"

For the Curjos family from Larga Nova village, Cahul Region, the love for bees has become a tradition that has been handed down from generation to generation for over half a century. In 1970, the first hives with families of bees appeared in the courtyard of the house. Since then, this hobby has been passed on from generation to generation, and is now in its third generation. During this period, in addition to honey as a basic product, other bee products were collected in the hive, such as pollen, propolis, royal jelly, pods, capped beeswax and wax, which have always been in demand in the family's circles of friends and beyond because of their miraculous therapeutic effect. In 2018, the process of moving from beekeeping as a hobby to beekeeping as a business, based both on family traditions and innovation. Thus, at the moment our prisons have more than 200 bee families maintained in multi-storey hives. The company is also equipped with high-performance beekeeping machinery, which ensures high productivity and high quality of harvested bee products.

For us it is very important that bee products reach the final consumer in their natural form, that's why we invite bee lovers to enter the world of bees, to get acquainted with the processes that take place in the hive and to taste the honey that they themselves participated in the extraction.






And for those who want to relax fully, we suggest a course of apitherapy in the bee house. The therapeutic effect resulting from the combination of microclimate, vibrations and aromas of 8 bee families contributes to improving health and recharging energy.



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”*Discover the aromas and secrets  
of beekeeping with Bee Pro*”



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# The Lower Prut Plain

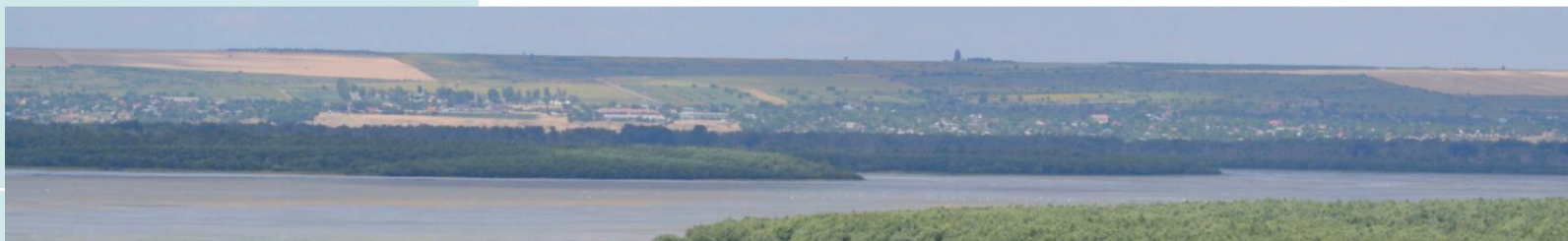
The villages of the Lower Prut Meadow have a rich history and culture. There are many natural monuments in this area, such as the "Valul lui Traian" and the "Golden Hills".

Also here we find the "Lower Prut" Nature Reserve which includes the Beleu and Manta lakes. In the Lower Prut Plain there are many guesthouses, folk craftsmen, wine cellars, museums, ethno-folklore ensembles and beekeepers offering accommodation, food, wine tasting, culinary workshops, ethno-folklore programmes, handicraft workshops, honey tasting, hiking, bicycle, kayak and other equipment rental. In addition, in the Lower Prut Scientific Reserve, guests can enjoy birdwatching, camping and boating.

Some tourist service providers also offer for sale various products such as wine, handicrafts (Romanian blouse, carpets, tchotchkes, sheep's ears, belts, lozier items, sheepskins, beanies, etc.), honey, candles, jams, couscous, paprika and others.

There are several tourist trails in the Lower Prut Plain, including a cycling trail and a hiking trail. At the same time, the team of the Lower Prut Meadow Local Action Group is always ready to help the visitors with the planning of their holidays and the booking of tourist activities in the region.

All lovers of authentic experiences are welcome in the Lower Prut Meadow.





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## Crihana Veche Museum of History and Ethnography

The Museum of History and Ethnography, which hosts the remains discovered in the archaeological site of Crihana Veche, was opened in 2018. The museum was set up in an old house in the locality, where over 300 exhibits are displayed, many of which were donated by locals out of love for their ancestors' lineage and history. On the hill where the remains displayed at the museum were discovered, there is a burial mound belonging to the Sarmatian culture.



Archaeologists have discovered several graves from different periods here. In one of these, the skeleton of a man from the 1st-2nd century B.C. was discovered, with several deformations of the skull. This is by far one of the museum's most impressive exhibits. The twisted position and the position of the foetus in which most of the skeletons were found are reminiscent of a rite of rebirth. The Greek amphora, found in one of the tombs dating back to the 16th century, is a Greek amphora. Another relic that catches the eye of the curious. The relics have been displayed in four rooms of the museum.






In one of the rooms, the "Big House" has been set up, where carpets, folk clothes and a loom are kept, while in the others, ceramics, metal and other cult objects can be admired.

Every year, the museum is visited by hundreds of groups of children and adults eager to discover local history and become archaeologists.

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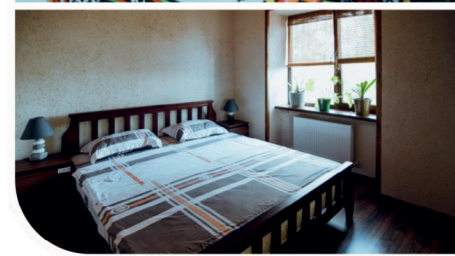
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## "Casa Bunicului" [Grandfather's House]

The Grandfather's House is an agritourism resort that was born out of love for family, traditions and the beauty of the native land. The guesthouse is located in the village of Pașcani, Cahul region.

The proximity of the Prut river and the Manta natural lake gives the place a special beauty, and the hospitality of the hosts and the taste of the Moldovan dishes encourages tourists to return here whenever they have the opportunity. The Grandfather's House has a restaurant, guest gazebos, barbecue area and children's playground. It offers all the necessary conditions for countless activities, including outdoor relaxation and various sports activities, from boating to cycling and bird watching for wildlife enthusiasts.


The guesthouse also has a mini-cellar where visitors can taste wine from the Lazăr family brand - "Vin de Pașcani" [Pașcani Wine]. For gourmets and those who want a taste of "home" there are workshops on baking traditional bread, pies and cokes on the hearth.







The guesthouse has 6 rooms with a capacity of 12 beds. They are equipped with wooden beds, TV, individual bathrooms and Wi-Fi access.

The guesthouse also organizes family events such as weddings, birthdays and anniversaries, as well as teambuilding and networking activities.

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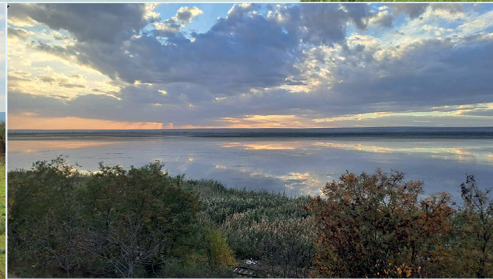


# MANTA LAKE

Manta Lake, near the village of Manta in Cahul district, is located between the villages of Crihana Veche and Vadul lui Isac on the national route Chişinău–Giurgiuleşti, at the point where the Prut River flows into the Danube. The lake is located on the lower part of the Prut river plain at the state border between the Republic of Moldova and Romania. It is one of the largest natural lakes in Moldova, covering an area of 2100 ha. Being part of the Lower Prut Nature Reserve, it is one of the most beautiful and important lakes in Moldova. Due to its special organic composition, the lake is a paradise for fish, birds, plants and animals, some of which are included in the Red Book of Moldova. Here you can find the white stork, the egret, the heron, the grey heron, the swan, the enot, the otter, the fox, the wild boar, etc., and as plant species, the white water lily and the yellow water lily. Algae and other marsh plants grow on the lake, and meadow and meadow trees are found in the areas adjacent to the lake.

Manta Lake, together with the other lakes of the Lower Prut, is a protected area in the Republic of Moldova, a wetland of international importance with a total area of 19,152.5 ha included in the Ramsar Convention under the auspices of UNESCO. The objective of the Convention is to protect biodiversity and to maintain wetlands in a favourable conservation status as waterfowl habitat.

What can you do at Manta Lake? You can study the birds, get to know the flora and fauna of the natural area, catch fish, take a boat ride on the lake and take pictures of the beautiful landscapes of Moldova!





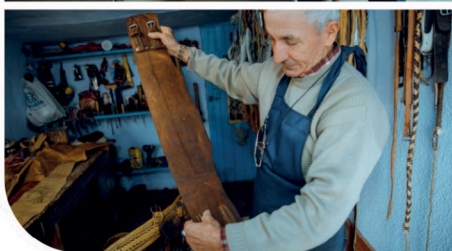
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## "Gheorghe Burcă" Leather Workshop

The "Gheorghe Burcă" leather workshop is located in the village of Manta, Cahul region. First of all, however, we should mention that the local traditions and culture are represented by folk songs and the "southern style" hora, which are very contagious.

When the music plays, Moldovans join hands and move to the lively rhythm accompanied by bagpipes, flute, accordion and the incomparable drum. The hora is danced all the more fervently when the dancers are wearing their shoes because they are more than just a pair of shoes, they carry the remarkable stories of our history.


To discover this part of the Moldovan traditions and to have a unique experience, we invite you to the workshop of Badea Gheorghită, where you will be able to make traditional leather items such as drums, opinci (traditional sandals), belts or whips and where you will have the opportunity to beat the drums in southern rhythms. And if you choose to come in August, you can pick and taste figs straight from the tree, which grow only in the south of the country.




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## "Valentina Grigoriță" Folk Crafts Workshop

The folk crafts workshop "Valentina Grigoriță" is located in the village of Manta, Cahul region and was born from Valentina's great passion for weaving. In the past, the raw material used for weaving Moldovan carpets was of local origin, obtained in the household, and the processing of wool, hemp and flax, as well as the spinning and dyeing of yarns were done in domestic conditions. In the second half of the 19th century, wool warping began to be replaced by hemp or cotton. Today this "industry" has been modernised and our craftswoman uses old clothes as raw material, which instead of being thrown away, are recycled to create multicoloured cloths that adorn Moldovan homes. Tourists who come to the craftswoman's workshop, under the careful guidance of Valentina, can try to make several traditional items, such as tchotchkes, woolens, carpets, Romanian blouses and wool socks.

The craftswoman gives them an insight into the history of carpets and plant elements specific to the southern part of the country. They are also introduced to the loom and its components: the warp beam, the stacks, the spathe and learn how to handle a "swabian".





Those who wish to recall their childhood years spent in the countryside with their grandparents, or to pass on to their children this piece of history in which the dowry of good marriageable girls was made by lamp fire, are welcome to the "Valentina Grigoriță" Folk Crafts Workshop. To conclude, the "Elizaveta Dorin" workshop is a wonderful place to learn, explore and experience Romanian cultural traditions. Those who visit this place will leave with precious memories and a deeper appreciation of traditional crafts.

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## "Elizaveta Dorin" Creative workshop

The creative workshop "Elizaveta Dorin" is located in the village of Colibași, Cahul region, where Elizaveta Dorin began her journey as a craftswoman working with plant fibers, inspired by her biology teacher. Today, people can make various works from straw such as paintings and hats in her workshop.

Over the years, Elizaveta has also loved to take. This is because the "ia" (Romanian blouse), or "shirt with a bow", is part of the Romanian folk costume and links the history of yesterday to the recent history of us all. Through the embroidered motifs and symbols, it succeeds in expressing belonging to a community, to a region, to express moods and important or ordinary events in human life.

Let's not forget that in the past, people wore the embroidery both on holidays and when working in the fields. Nowadays, visitors can try to make their own ie (Romanian blouse) with traditional motifs from the south of Moldova, or embroider a beret or a handkerchief to wear on their heads, which they can then take home.




To conclude, the "Elizaveta Dorin" workshop is a wonderful place to learn, explore and experience Romanian cultural traditions. Those who visit this place will leave with precious memories and a deeper appreciation of traditional crafts.




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## "Casa Dulce" [Sweet House] Colibași Confectionery



"Casa Dulce" in the village of Colibași is a small family sweet business that started from a hobby that Ana Cucu has been practicing for about three decades. She bakes cakes, muffins for all tastes, and each cake is a masterpiece. All these goodies can be served with herbal or sea-buckthorn tea, or with a cup of aromatic coffee in the Cucu family-run bakery.


The café seats 15 people and offers a warm and welcoming atmosphere, ideal for a quiet afternoon. In addition, during the holiday season, "Casa Dulce" Colibași also prepares gift baskets with various sweet delicacies to be offered to your loved ones. Ana Cucu and her family place great value on the quality and freshness of the ingredients used in the preparation of the sweets, so they use only natural and local ingredients whenever possible.


Although a small business, „Casa Dulce” Colibași has enjoyed continued success due to its good reputation among the local community. Local people appreciate the quality and passion that goes into making each cake and return again and again to enjoy these treats.




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## 19 Planetarium in Brînza

Brînza is a village on the banks of the Prut and is the only village in Moldova with a modern planetarium and astronomical observatory. They are located in the "Academician Ion Bostan" high school of the village. With the help of the telescope and state-of-the-art screen, celestial bodies are tracked directly in space in real time, and the fascinating journeys through the stars, planets and constellations turn a visit to the planetarium into a unique experience for all visitors.

There is also an astronomy centre in the basement, where children and adults alike can meet the great explorers of space, the stars and the Milky Way, such as Galileo Galilei, Nicolaus Copernicus, Ptolemy, etc. On the domed ceiling you can admire the constellations and the lighthouse. In the attic of the planetarium there is a telescope that can be used to observe celestial bodies, one of which is the Moon. It is wonderful to have such facilities in a small village and to be able to explore the universe in such an interesting and educational way.



This experience makes physics and astronomy classes much more interesting both for the high school students from Brînza and from all the villages in the Lower Prut Meadow.


The planetarium is the perfect choice for astrology and astronomy lovers or for romantics willing to make their wishes under the "rain of stars". At the same time, it is the perfect escape for families with children or, why not, for those who carry a child in their hearts.

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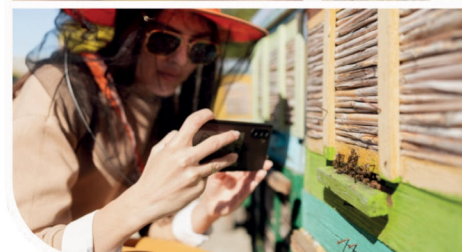
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## 20 „Prisaca din Luncă” [Apiary of Lunca]

Sergiu Chetroi or "the doctor", as the locals call him, is a beekeeper from the village of Brînza, Cahul region, who learnt his job from his grandfather and father, who also had a passion for bees. In his apiary you can find many combinations of honey and fruit, honey with walnut kernels, apricots, cough syrup, propolis tincture, apilarnil forte (dwarf milkweed with honey), energizers mixed with pollen and sea buckthorn, different kinds of honey, natural wax candles in various forms, pollen, propolis and much more. What makes him different from other beekeepers is that his hives are built from reed canes, which, in addition to the special design, provides a good living environment for the bees. Once you arrive at Sergiu's hive, you will not only be introduced to the life of the bees, but you will also be able to participate in the activities of preparing the brood, extracting the honey or pouring the candles. At the same time, you will taste bee products, delicious cheese desserts and fresh seasonal vegetables grown and cared for by his wife. Their garden also offers fruit trees such as gooseberries, raspberries and currants for tasting. Prisaca din Luncă is the perfect getaway for a sweet family weekend.




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## "At Grandma Clava" Rural House

The rural house "La Bunica Clava" is situated in a picturesque location, right at the foot of the Golden Hills in the village of Văleni. This house conveys the history of several generations, including the history of Grandma Clava. The owners decided to open their childhood home to tourists in order to keep the culture and traditions of the place alive. To this end, the house has been preserved exactly as it was originally built in 1961, so that every visitor can immerse themselves in history when visiting this guesthouse.

The porch of the house, the old cottages around it and the flower garden with a wonderful view of the Prut Valley preserve intact the authentic spirit of country life, so that more and more tourists come to these parts in search of the peace of mind. The generous garden offers strawberries, cherries, raspberries, grapes, tomatoes and many other vegetables that can be picked by guests.

The house is equipped with 2 rooms with 3 beds each, a shared bathroom, a kitchen with all the necessary cooking equipment, an outdoor gazebo and a spacious courtyard.





The house is centrally heated, and those who want to relive the rural life of yesterday, can lit the fire in the stove. The owners organise hikes in the golden hills where, with a bit of luck, you may spot a deer or get mesmerized by the fragrance of the flowering acacia trees. And one more thing, you'll taste the tastiest quince here.

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## Eco-Village Văleni Pension

Established in early 2014, Eco-Village Văleni is a local business, focused on the development of rural, cultural, wine and ecotourism. The owners set out with a burning desire to create an objective of national and international interest, becoming by their own example of good practices implemented, a catalyst for rural development in the region.

Starting from the idea of a traditional museum, the complex has subsequently developed eco-friendly accommodation, a rustic restaurant and the Corbu Winery (a small family winery) with the aim of offering integrated tourist packages to accommodate mixed groups of tourists, both foreign and local.


In the courtyard of the guesthouse there are 4 themed rustic houses: "The Miller's House", "The Fisherman's House", "The Shepherd's House", "The Blacksmith's House". Each of them has 2 rooms with separate entrances, equipped with wooden beds, TV, Wi-Fi and private bathroom.





The pension has a total capacity of 24 beds. Tasting the delicious food and ruby wine of Southern Moldavia in the small family winery, adventure touring by kayak on Lake Beleu or by bicycle on the Golden Hills of Văleni, fishing in the complex's pond or just admiring a campfire under the starry sky, are a few examples of activities offered by Eco-Village Văleni representing the magic of summer nights on the Prut Plain for the whole family.

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## "La Savetuca" Rural House

Svetlana Vodă, the administrator of the "La Savetuca" Rural House is a great lover and promoter of local traditions and culture. Once in her courtyard, you are transported into the history of the place where you learn the story of Petru Rareș, the illegitimate son of Stephen the Great, the ruler of Moldavia.


You learn that the village of Văleni is a fishing village, and Petru Rareș used to take his carts to Galați across the road that today bears the name, "Petru Rareș Road". Svetlana provides catering services and here you can find hot pies, various canned sauces, peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, all tasting "like at home". And, as Svetlana is a lover of song and folklore, you have the opportunity to get acquainted with the elements of folklore, specific to Văleni. You will learn that in the old days, women here wore skirts, sashes, tassels, totoși (traditional footwear), handkerchiefs and shirts. But to make your guests' visit even more memorable, Svetlana will delight you with some snippets of authentic folklore, you can beat the doba or even wear the traditional clothes.




Svetlana's cheerfulness and jokes are meant to warm your heart, along with a glass of sour cherry.

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## The Pension and Museum of Bread, Traditions and Customs

The Vatra Tourist Complex is located near the Lower Prut Reserve, in a special location, where the traditional and the contemporary are harmoniously intertwined, and the customs are preserved with sanctity, leaving behind the green hills and in front, in all its splendor, flows the Prut River.

The complex has accommodation with a total capacity of 11 places. It is equipped with 4 guest rooms, 3 bathrooms and 2 living rooms. The beds are made of wood with elegant finishes. Here you have access to facilities such as TV and Wi-Fi.

In the courtyard of the complex is the only museum of its kind in the country - the Museum of Bread, Traditions and Customs. There are 12 types of wedding cakes on display, as well as 8 types of cakes related to other rituals, such as Christmas, Drying Day and Easter Sunday. The tails, in turn, have various names, such as plocon, bride's bib, groom's bib, father-in-law's bib, mother-in-law's bib or wedding priest's bib.




The museum is housed in a 40-seat exhibition hall where guests are served melissa tea, mint, honey, cake, burnet, roasted pigeons on the hearth, sarmale (stuffed cabbage) in pickled cabbage leaves, lamb stew and many other goodies. In addition to learning the history of ritual bread, guests also have the opportunity to participate in the playing of the big mother-in-law's puppet, a dramatized excerpt from the "Traditional Wedding".




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## "La tanti Masha" [At Auntie Masha] Gastronomic Workshop

Auntie Masha doesn't have a recipe book, but she keeps them in her head from when she was a child, with all the necessary preparation, just like in the old days. For 40 years she cooked for thousands of guests, until the pandemic stopped the parties and the chef's services were no longer in demand. Then the housewife figured that if she couldn't go to the guests, the guests could come to her.

So Auntie Masha began to welcome guests into her home, where she provides them with beautifully appointed rooms, her big-girl dowry and spoils them with the most delicious local dishes. The stars of her workshop are her jams. The housewife makes them from peppers, figs, elderflowers, acacia, cherry tomatoes, figs and rose flowers, all finger-licking goodness. They're not served just as they are, but with specific pastries called "minciunele" or "uscățele". Because they are so popular, auntie Masha organises gastronomic workshops where she teaches tourists how to make cous-cous in a hundred-year-old cove from just three simple ingredients: wheat flour, flour and egg.




The tastiest ones are cooked in chicken broth, and the little balls explode in your mouth in a feast of flavours.


Do you want to master the art of preparing the most exquisite delights? Then don't wait any longer and book your holiday in the Lower Prut Meadow.

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## Lower Prut Nature Reserve

The Lower Prut Nature Reserve is located in the southern part of the Republic of Moldova, between Slobozia Mare and Văleni. It was founded in 1991 with the aim of protecting, preserving and studying the ecosystem of the marshes and floodplains and creating conditions for the development of wild flora and fauna species.


Among the essential components that make up the natural environment, birds have a special place. Due to this fact, the Lower Prut sector was included in the Ramsar Convention's List of Wetlands - "Lower Prut Lakes". In recent years, in addition to the basic activities of scientific research, conservation and protection, the reserve also offers tourism services.

Visitors eager to discover the almost wild places can choose between one of two routes: the aquatic or the terrestrial one. The former is used during the flood season, when the water level in the area allows boat trips and is recommended only for small groups, especially adults.





The land route encourages visitors who want to breathe the fresh mint-scented air, photography enthusiasts and those who want to experience the natural richness of this ecosystem, and is recommended for families, large and small groups, schoolchildren and students. For tourists who want to stay overnight in the area, 3 rooms are available. The reserve also caters for tourists who want to sleep overnight in tents, allowing them to set up their tents on the grass in the reserve's courtyard.

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# Flora and fauna of "Prutul de Jos" Natural Reserve



## BIRDS

Mute Swan	Black Stork
Whooper Swan	White Stork
Ruddy Shelduck	Purple Heron
Pygmy Cormorant	Glossy ibis
Great Egret	Spoonbill
Squacco Heron	White-tailed Eagle




## AMPHIBIANS

Danube Crested Newt  
Common Spadefoot  
European tree frog




## REPTILE

European Pond Terrapin  
Large whip snake



## PLANT

White water lily  
Floating fern  
Marsh fern  
Hubei Grape



## MAMMALS

Mammals	Racoon dog
European roe deer	Well cat
European beaver	Eurasian otter
Beech Marten	Muskrat
Wild boar	Fox





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## "Domeniile Pană" [Pană Domanins] Winery


Nicolae Minciună is a small wine producer from Slobozia Mare, Cahul region. The experience gathered in New Zealand, at the foot of the mountains and only 5 km from the Pacific Ocean, makes Nicolae's wines drastically different from his competitors. The sweetness of the grapes and the ripeness of the wines is conferred by the more than 60 year old vines that absorb the sweetest sap of the earth with their deep roots, giving the wines fruity or floral flavours. At Pană Domains, the Minciună family offers accommodation in 2 rooms, each with 2 beds, shared bathroom, TV and Wi-Fi, wine tasting of the most selected varieties, such as Sauvignon Blanc, Traminer Fetească Albă, Rose Merlot Cabernet Sauvignon, Codrinskii, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon or Saperavi. If you choose to visit them in early autumn then you'll be involved in activities such as picking vines, crushing grapes or pulling the barrels.


A visit to the Pană Domains can be a memorable and educational experience for anyone who is passionate about wine and wine culture.




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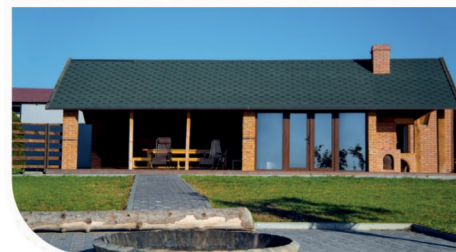
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## "Potcoava Verde" [Green Horseshoe] Tourist Complex


Artur and Lorina Neagu are the owners of the Potcoava Verde Tourist complex and are very much in love with their work. What motivates them is the positive emotions and good mood of the guests who come to visit them. Potcoava Verde Tourist Complex is a wonderful and unique place located in Slobozia Mare, where guests can enjoy outdoor activities. Moreover, the location is a picturesque one and from the viewing platform opens the whole view over the Lower Prut Nature Reserve, where the Beleu lake can be admired in all its splendor in all four seasons of the year. Here you can choose between several options for active recreation such as hiking, horseback riding, ATV riding and camping. The owners also provide 4 cottages, each with 2 rooms, each with 2 beds. The cottages have their own bathroom, modern wooden furniture and Wi-Fi internet. You will also have access to the kitchen and barbecue area.


Guests eager to immerse themselves in an oasis of tranquillity away from the noise of the city, but also to spend an active weekend are very welcome!




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## Winery in the Valley

The Winery in the Valley is, first and foremost, a family sharing values, traditions and appreciation for things well done, the love of winemaking passed through from generation to generation. This passion has been passed on by grandfather Ilie, who was an accomplished beekeeper and artisan winemaker in the Lower Prut Meadow. He had a small vineyard in the back of his garden and every autumn he produced wine with the zeal of his hands and soul to share with his friends and family.




It was there, in the south of Moldavia, a place with centuries-old traditions, where the Winery in the Valley took root. Grandfather Ilie's skill has been taken over, with dedication and perseverance, by the new generation of Davids, who continue the work of their ancestors, creating wines of impeccable quality. Because a well-made wine brings you back to the origins, to the truth, to what makes us better. The wines are produced with traditional methods, but also with modern technologies, to obtain the finest and most balanced aromas and tastes.




At the winery you will have a guided tour of the grape processing, production and wine storage sections. Of course, the tour will culminate with a tasting of several types of wine from local and European varieties.

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30

## "La Mama Catița" [At Mother Catița] House-Museum

"La Mama Catița" House-Museum is a paradise of local values translated into carpets, fabrics, embroidery and traditional objects from the peasant's home. It is one of the oldest houses, built in 1936. The house reflects the traditional way of laying out the rooms and has an open porch made of clay. Mother Catița, called by the locals "the village encyclopaedia", lives here, a woman with a face full of wisdom, hard-working hands and a gentle smile, who has kept all the heritage of her parents and grandparents with sanctity. In this house, time has stood still and every object hides legends and stories of the family life. The most impressive items are Mother Catița's wedding dress, embroidered shirts, a 200-year-old tablecloth, cushions and sheets, a dowry chest, carpets with purple flowers and many handicrafts. Any encounter with Mother Catița is a lesson of life, of kindness and gratitude, of passion for local traditions, customs and history. Mother Catița serves her guests traditional dishes: nălangâțe with honey and compote made from fresh or dried fruit.

Apart from visiting and talking with Mother Catița, cultural events such as: tea parties, ethno-folkloric performances or photo sessions in old traditional clothes can be organised at the house-museum.





Come to the Grandparents' House! At "La Mama Catița" you immerse yourself in history and feel the atmosphere of a traditional peasant house.

*"Tradition like breathing has two phases: Receive and Give. At "La Mama Catița" House-Museum we enhance what we have received and pass it on, strengthening the roots."*

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## Creative workshop "Inartiz"

Ina Minciuna is a folk craftswoman from Slobozia Mare, Cahul district.



The brand "Inartiz", was born out of pure desire to realize a dream, but which has shaped into a beautiful small business with growth potential.




We produce various quality garments from espadrilles (shoes), handbags, bags, to clothes, such as cardigans, sweaters, hats, etc., which involve more handcraft, customization, ades to order, both crocheted and knitted.


With the help of a more innovative felting machine, we make felt, from sheep's wool yarns, for various works, such as rugs, blankets. We are open for those who love beauty, quality and uniqueness!



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## Workshop of folkcrafts AR-LINA

SRL AR-LINA, founded in 2022, is a workshop for processing and manufacturing sheep fur garments in traditional style. The founder of the workshop is Dumitru Zaporozan, folk craftsman and vice-president of the AO Union of Folk Craftsmen of the Republic of Moldova. In 2010, after 5 years abroad, Dumitru returned home and developed his passion for artistic leather processing.

The workshop produces a wide range of handicraft products from sheep skins: cowlings, fur coats, carpets, slippers, car covers, etc. The products are medically processed.



Dumitru Zaporozan's workshop is unique in the Republic of Moldova. The products of the folk craftsman can also be purchased in the handicraft market in the village of Slobozia Mare.




**“**  
*AT HOME YOU CAN!*  
**”**

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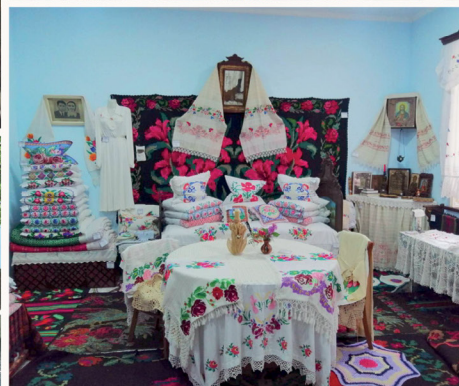
## Slobozia Mare Museum of History and Ethnography

The Museum of History and Ethnography in Slobozia Mare is a museum that speaks to you through images and real stories. Through its exhibits, the museum succeeds in bringing to life the history of the village and the people who have lived here over time. Originally, the building in which the museum operates today, was the town hall, then the command post for the border guard unit, and later the hospital. It was not until 1993 that the museum was inaugurated here.

The museum's holdings are divided into several rooms. The initiation room is a good place for those who want to learn more about the history of the village and the building in which the museum is located. Archaeological finds can be admired here. The Ethnography Room is dedicated to local traditions and customs, with a focus on folk costumes and the daily life of the local people. The Peasant House and the Peasant Garden with traditional objects and tools complete the visitors' experience. The Hall of Remembrance is dedicated to those who fought and suffered during the First and Second World Wars, the deportations of 1941 and 1949 and the war in Afghanistan.



The room contains photographs, personal objects and other documents illustrating these tragic events. The Big House is the museum's calling card, with exhibits illustrating life in the countryside in past centuries and forming an integral part of the country's cultural heritage.



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## "At the Mouth of the Prut" Museum of Culture and Civilization

The museum building was built in 1936 as a 10-class primary school. In the 1970's it was changed to the "Station of Young Naturalists", being managed by Vasile Hioară, a biologist by profession. In addition to the station, Mr Hioară managed an experimental plot of 3 hectares where, together with the pupils, he cultivated a variety of vegetables, trees and vines. At the same time, grafting was carried out, and 2-3 varieties of fruit could grow on one tree.

For the first time, tomatoes in the shape of peppers and unusual colours (orange, purple) were obtained. Today, the museum has six halls: "The Big House", "History and Archaeology", "Culture and Ethnography", "The Human Nature", "The Conference Hall" and "The Crafts Hall", which are equipped with hundreds of exhibits related to the customs, traditions, fauna and flora of the native village. Mrs Aurica Cazacu's involvement in the promotion of traditional Romanian yachts, one of the key elements of Romanian culture and national identity, is also remarkable.



The museum also includes exhibits from the field of zoology, thus offering a broader perspective on nature and wildlife, which makes it different from other museums. Visitors can see several species of stuffed animals such as swans, pelicans, penguins, wild boar and even sharks.

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REGIUNI CHEIE



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