



Welcome!

Ласкаво просимо!

A Guide for LGBTQIA+ Refugees in
Romania



Stand
with
Ukraine

mozai



About this guide



This guide is for LGBTQIA+ people of any nationality who are in Romania because of the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine. The purpose of this guide is to help you find your way more easily. It contains useful information about what rights, benefits, and services are available to you. It also contains a series of useful advice about LGBTQIA+ life and community in Romania, including health-related and welfare.

It includes:

- An overview of Romania as a country and its history, with useful facts to remember when interacting with Romanians.
- Relevant information about your rights and duties while in Romania and what support there is for you here.
- Useful information about what you need to consider if you intend to settle in Romania and where you can ask for help.
- Relevant information about the LGBTQIA+ life and community here, and sexual health.

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About Us



mozai is one of the largest LGBTQIA+ organizations in Romania. Our main purpose is to engage in community organizing and provide services to LGBTQIA+ people through various programs that meet their needs.

Starting from December 2015, we developed to have a presence in most regions of the country and rely on an extensive support network.

Vision and Mission

Our vision is to transform the Romanian society into one in which LGBTQIA+ people can engage actively, openly, and visibly in any segment of social life.

Our mission is to improve the life quality of LGBTQIA+ and to defend their rights and interests.



Services provided by mozai

We provide a comprehensive package of services to LGBTQIA+ Ukrainian refugees in Romania, composed of six key services:

- We provide **accommodation** in Bucharest - a shelter that can host up to 6 people (we are going to expand in the next weeks with more shelters).
- **Transportation** (we cover the costs) from the Romanian border to Bucharest or other cities, as well as international transportation (EU) in case they need to migrate further than Romania.
- We can provide **food** and **essentials**.
- We provide access to **legal assistance** to obtain the temporary protection status or asylum.
- We facilitate access to **psychological** counselling.
- We can **connect** you with partner NGOs around Europe who can offer similar services in case there are people who want to travel further than Romania.
- We facilitate access to **health care** services.
- We provide assistance with integration in case there are people who want to stay in Romania medium or long term.
- We provide free Vodafone SIM cards.

office@mozaiqlgbt.ro
hotline: +40764109385

Facts about Romania...



Romania has a population of about 19 million people. The climate is temperate; cold, cloudy winters with frequent snow and fog; sunny summers with frequent showers and thunderstorms. The terrain of the country is divided between the central Transylvanian Basin and the Moldavian Plateau on the east by the Eastern Carpathian Mountains, and separated from the Wallachian Plain on the south by the Transylvanian Alps.

Romanians account for 83.4% the population, Hungarian 6.1%, Roma 3.1%, Ukrainian 0.3%, German 0.2%, other 0.7%, unspecified 6.1% (2011 est.). Religiously, the country is divided between Eastern Orthodox (including all sub-denominations) 81.9%, Protestant (various denominations including Reformed and Pentecostal) 6.4%, Roman Catholic 4.3%, other (includes Muslim) 0.9%, none or atheist 0.2%, unspecified 6.3% (2011 est.)

Bucharest is the capital and the largest and most developed city, with about two million inhabitants. Other large cities are Cluj-Napoca, in Transylvania (Center), Timișoara, in Banat (West), Iași, in Moldavia (East), and Constanța, in Dobrogea (South).

The official language is Romanian. The currency is the 'leu' (lion, symbol RON), which is subdivided into 100 'bani' (equivalent of *koniŭka*). 1 € ~ 4.95 RON and 1 RON ~ 6.3 UAH (May 23rd, 2022).

Important dates: 9 May 1877 (independence proclaimed from the Ottoman Empire); 13 July 1878 (independence recognized by the Treaty of Berlin); 26 March 1881 (kingdom proclaimed); 1 December 1918 (unification with Transylvania); 30 December 1947 (republic proclaimed); 14 December 1989 (start of the anti-Communist revolution); 1 April 2004 (NATO membership); 1 January 2007 (EU accession).

Entry and Exit from Romania

You can enter Romania from Ukraine through one of the six border crossing points that Romania has with Ukraine, by car, train, or by foot. People currently in Ukraine can also enter Romania through the Republic of Moldova, with which Romania has nine border crossing points.

To enter Romania, individuals of any nationality living in Ukraine need one of the following traveling documents:

- A biometric passport, which allows you to enter the country without a visa and to stay for up to 90 days within an 180 days period, if you do not ask for refugee status.
- A national passport with a single or multiple entry visa issued by a member state of the EU, EEU, or Switzerland, which allows you to stay in Romania for up to 90 days within an 180 days period, if you do not ask for refugee status.
- A national passport with a small border traffic visa issued by Romania. The small border traffic visa is issued to residents that live within 50 km of the Romanian border.

! If you intend to ask for asylum or protected status in Romania, you can enter the country with other documents, such as identity card (internal passport), birth certificate, or based on an affidavit (Афідевіт), for humanitarian reasons.

Trans* people

Romania allows the entry of everyone currently present on the Ukrainian territory, including men, women, and children. The border officials are not allowed to discriminate based on gender or sexual orientation.

! **Trans* people may find it difficult to enter the country** if their physical appearance differs from what is socially expected based on the gender specified in the travel document. Romanian border officials are not allowed to deny you entry into Romania simply because your physical appearance differs from what is socially expected.

However, the Ukrainian border officials may not allow trans* women that have been assigned male at birth and still retain that designation in their travel documents from leaving the country.



Entry Points via Ukraine and Moldova

You can enter Romania at the entry points with Ukraine or with Moldova, by car, train, or ferry.

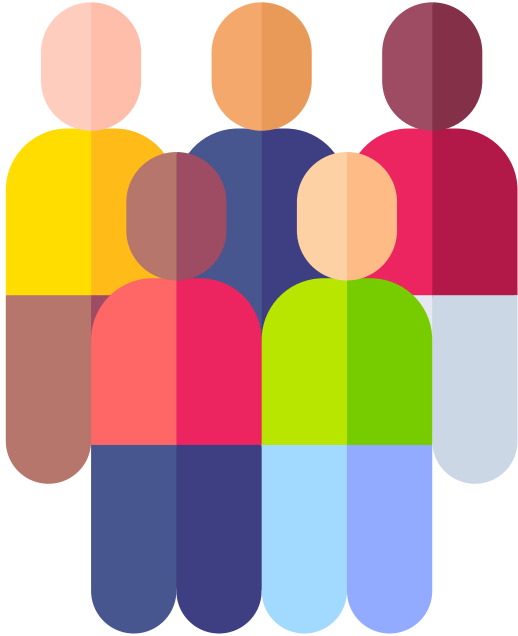
- Romania has the following borders with the Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova open to non-commercial **automotive** traffic:
 - Albita, with the Republic of Moldova (24hrs)
 - Galati, with the Republic of Moldova (24hrs)
 - Halmeu, with Ukraine (24hrs) - best option if you have pets.
 - Oancea, with the Republic of Moldova (24hrs)
 - Radauti Prut, with the Republic of Moldova (24hrs)
 - Sculeni, with the Republic of Moldova (24hrs)
 - Sighetu Marmatiei, with Ukraine (24hrs)
 - Siret, with Ukraine (24hrs) - they may allow pets on a case-by-case basis.
 - Stanca, with the Republic of Moldova (24hrs)
- Romania has the following **rail border crossings** with Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova that are open to non-commercial rail travel:
 - Galati, with the Republic of Moldova (24hrs)
 - Halmeu, with Ukraine (24hrs)
 - Ungheni (Iasi), with the Republic of Moldova (24hrs)
- Romania has the following **ferry** border open to non-commercial travel with Ukraine:
 - Isaccea, with Ukraine (01:30 – 22:30)





Seeking Asylum

At the border crossing point or once on the Romanian territory, you can ask for asylum either verbally or in writing. Once you ask for asylum, you enjoy certain protections and rights in Romania, as you can see on the next page.



Once you ask for asylum verbally or in writing, your request will be sent to an Immigration Office, where your request will be processed and approved or rejected. In the review process preceding a decision, you will be asked to sit for one or two interviews, for which you will receive notices with the date and time for each interview. Be aware that the Romanian bureaucracy is moving slowly, so it will take a few months for your application to be reviewed and potentially approved.

What To Do?

If you intend to apply for asylum in Romania, you can do it verbally or in writing at the border crossing point. At that time, the border crossing officers will send your request to the Romanian Office for Immigration.

If you intend to apply for asylum after you entered Romania, you can do it at the nearest Immigration Office.

You can find the address of the nearest office at igi.mai.gov.ro, together with useful information. You can find additional information at dopomoha.ro/uk.



Asylum: Rights and Duties

If you are granted asylum in Romania, you will benefit from the same social and economic rights as Romanian and European citizens. You will be treated as a Romanian citizen, with the exception of political rights, such as voting, running in elections, or holding public office.

As an asylum-seeker, you also have the right to receive a stipend up to 32 lei (~6€) per day for food and other expenses, you can stay in a reception or integration centers, and may have the right to work three months after you applied for asylum.

! If your asylum request is denied by the Immigration Office, you have the right to challenge the denial in court. If you cannot afford a lawyer, you have the right to receive legal support from a bar-appointed lawyer.



What about duties?

As an asylum-seeker, you have the duty to allow the Immigration Office to take your fingerprints and a photograph. You also need to inform the Office if you change your address and not to depart the city of residence without notifying the Office.

You may also be asked to submit to medical exams or to vaccinate, if the Immigration Office requires you.

Temporary protection

The European Union has activated a new mechanism called "temporary protection" that seeks to provide the residents of Ukraine with comprehensive welfare support and legal status without following the cumbersome process entailed by submitting an asylum application.

- Our suggestion is that you should opt for temporary protection instead of asylum, if you have a valid passport. This gives you comprehensive rights without the stress and red tape.
- You can request temporary protection at the nearest Immigration Office, which will issue you a one-year residence permit, renewable.
- You can be denied temporary protection if you committed serious crimes or if you are deemed to pose a serious danger to national security.



What for?

- If you are a student or have children of school-age, you benefit from free education in public institutions, including universities.
- You are fully covered by the healthcare insurance system, free of charge.
- If you are disabled, you are eligible to receive the same social services as Romanian citizens.
- You enjoy full working rights, without a working visa. There are special limitations regarding professions that require special licences, such as those of medic, architect, or lawyer.
- If you are an unaccompanied minor, you will be placed under the case of a contracted caretaker if you have no relatives in Romania.





Restrictive measures

The Immigration Office can limit or restrain your rights, including your freedom of movement within Romania. Restrictive measures are usually imposed either to limit abuses of the asylum process or for national security reasons.

It is important to remember that any restrictive measures imposed by the Immigration Office can be challenged in court, where you have the right to a lawyer.

What are these?

- You may be required to present yourself at the nearest Immigration Office at a designated date and time.
- You may be required to live in a processing center.
- You may be placed in confinement, if previous restrictive measures were assessed as ineffective.
- If you have a family, your family may be allowed to live with you.





LGBTQIA+ Life in Romania



LGBTQIA+ Rights in Romania

Romania is rather similar to Ukraine when it comes to social acceptance of LGBTQIA+ people, but some important differences exist, particularly as a result of Romania's EU membership. Romania has adopted comprehensive protections of LGBTQIA+ people, but it does not compare with fellow EU countries from the West.

- Sexual intercourse between consenting adults (18+) has been legal since 2001.
- There is a right to change legal gender since 1996, but gender affirming surgery is required in practice. The European Court of Human Rights ruled that Romania must eliminate the gender affirming surgery requirement, but no legal changes have been adopted until now. There is no uniform jurisprudence on this matter.
- There is no legal recognition of non-binary gender.
- Same-sex marriage and cohabitation are not available in Romania. Foreign same-sex marriages are recognized only for the purpose of free travel and if they were performed in an EU member state.
- Men who have had sex with men are *banned* from donating blood.

Anti-discrimination

- Most forms of discrimination against LGBT people are illegal in Romania since 2002.
- Employment discrimination is illegal only if based on sexual orientation, but not gender identity.
- Housing discrimination based on both sexual orientation and gender identity is illegal in Romania.
- While most forms of discrimination against LGBTQIA+ individuals are illegal, enforcement may vary across the country.
- You can report cases of discrimination at cncd.ro/depune-o-petitie.



LGBT Organizations



Over the past decade, the Romanian LGBTQIA+ community experienced a renaissance, with new organizations emerging:

- **MozaiQ LGBT** is the largest organization focused on community building and support. Based in Bucharest. www.mozaiqlgbt.ro
- **ACCEPT** is the oldest LGBT organization in Romania, founded in the mid-1990s. Based in Bucharest. www.acceptromania.ro
- **Rise OUT**, and **Q Society**, operating in Iași (Moldavia).
- **PRIDE Romania** and **Queer Sisterhood**, operating in Cluj-Napoca (Transylvania).
- **Identity.Education** and **eQuiVox**, operating in Timișoara (Banat).
- **HLGBTQ United** in Brașov and **Sibiu Pride** in Sibiu (Transylvania), and **Rainbow Prahova** in Ploiești.

Clubs & Bars

Similarly to Ukraine, Romania has rather few public venues where gay people can gather. Those that do exist tend to be situated in the largest cities.

You can find an interactive map with most LGBTQIA+ friendly clubs, bars, coffee shops, and safe spaces at: www.campus-pride.ro/harta-interactiva.



STD Testing

Free STD testing or counseling are available at:

- **Checkpoint ARAS**, in Bucharest and Cluj-Napoca, Tuesday and Thursday, 17-21:00. www.checkpointaras.ro. To schedule an appointment, call 0751-010-539 in Bucharest and 0751-111-017 in Cluj-Napoca.
- **consiliereHIV.ro** by Sens Pozitiv and Code4Romania for Ukrainian refugees, for referrals and support.
- **Baylor Foundation**, in Constanța, Monday-Thursday, 8:30-11:30. www.baylor.ro/hiv
- If you need **post-exposure prophylaxis** (PEP), you may be able to receive treatment at most infectious diseases hospitals in large cities. Receiving PEP is not guaranteed, as some hospitals reserve these treatments for their employees.

You can also test for sexually transmitted diseases at any private laboratories. Some major networks, with national presence, are Synevo, MedLife, Sanador, Clinica Sante, and Bioclinica.

A HIV screening test costs approx. 40 lei/8€, while a full screening package for most common STD's averages around 300 lei/60€.



Condoms

Condoms are usually available in any larger grocery store or pharmacy. You may also be able to receive free condoms if you do a free STD test at Checkpoint ARAS or from one of the LGBTQIA+ organizations listed in this guide.

MozaiQ LGBT provides free condoms at their headquarter in Bucharest.

Antiretroviral Medication

If you are HIV positive, you have the right to receive the same antiretroviral treatment in Romania. You can obtain the same treatment you received in Ukraine from any **infectious disease hospital** in Romania or by contacting **ARAS** (Romanian Association Against AIDS), an NGO specialized in assisting HIV positive people that struggle with their treatments.

- You can also request your HIV treatment at **consilierehiv.ro/uk**, where you can schedule a consultation with a doctor at one of 10 regional centers. You will receive your treatment and specific blood tests.
- You can visit the infectious disease hospital from the county you currently reside in. Every county has at least one infectious disease hospital, usually in the largest city. You have the right to receive your treatment and any required medical check-ups free of charge.

Harm Reduction & Opioid Substitution

ARAS also offers a Harm Reduction Program and Opioid Substitution Treatment, with services such as needles exchange, screening for HIV, hepatitis B and C, social support and medical referrals.

The Harm Reduction Program:

Bd. 1 Decembrie 1918 9J, Sector 3, Bucharest
Call: 0746-125-397

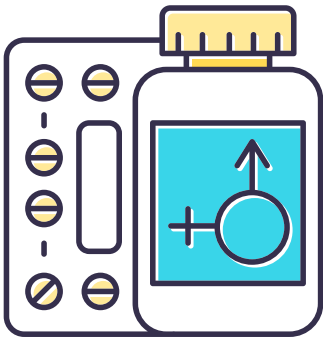
Opioid Substitution Treatment:

Str. Dr. Calistrat Grozovici 1, Sector 2, Bucharest
Call: 0213-186-198

Hormonal Treatment



If you are a trans* person following hormonal treatment, you can obtain some of what you need from Romanian pharmacies, but the options are rather limited and expensive.



For trans men, only two products are available in Romania:

- **Androgel**, a brand of gel-based testosterone. Price: 260 lei/55€.
- **Nebido**, injectable testosterone. Price: 420 lei/85€.

We do not recommend any other type of treatment except for those acquired from a pharmacy and under medical observation.

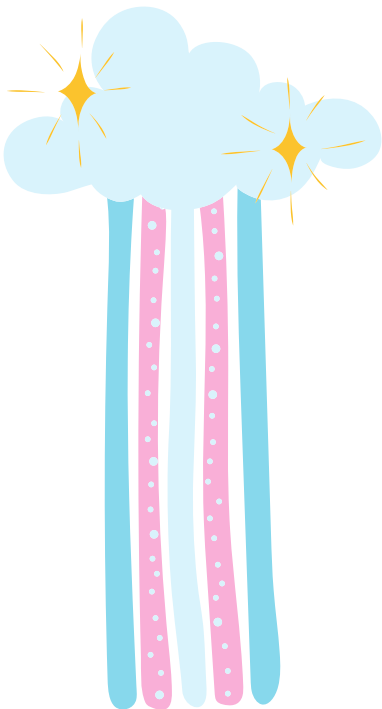
If you have received a Romanian identification number that starts with 1 or 5, you can get these with a 90% discount if you ask for a prescription from a general practitioner.

For trans women, the following treatments are available:

- **Androcur**, a blocker. Price: 120 lei/25€ per box.
- **Cyclo Progynova**, estrogen pills. Price: 10 lei/2€ per box.
- **Lenzetto**, estrogen gel. Price: 50 lei/10€ per bottle.

We do not recommend any other type of treatment except for those acquired from a pharmacy and under medical observation.

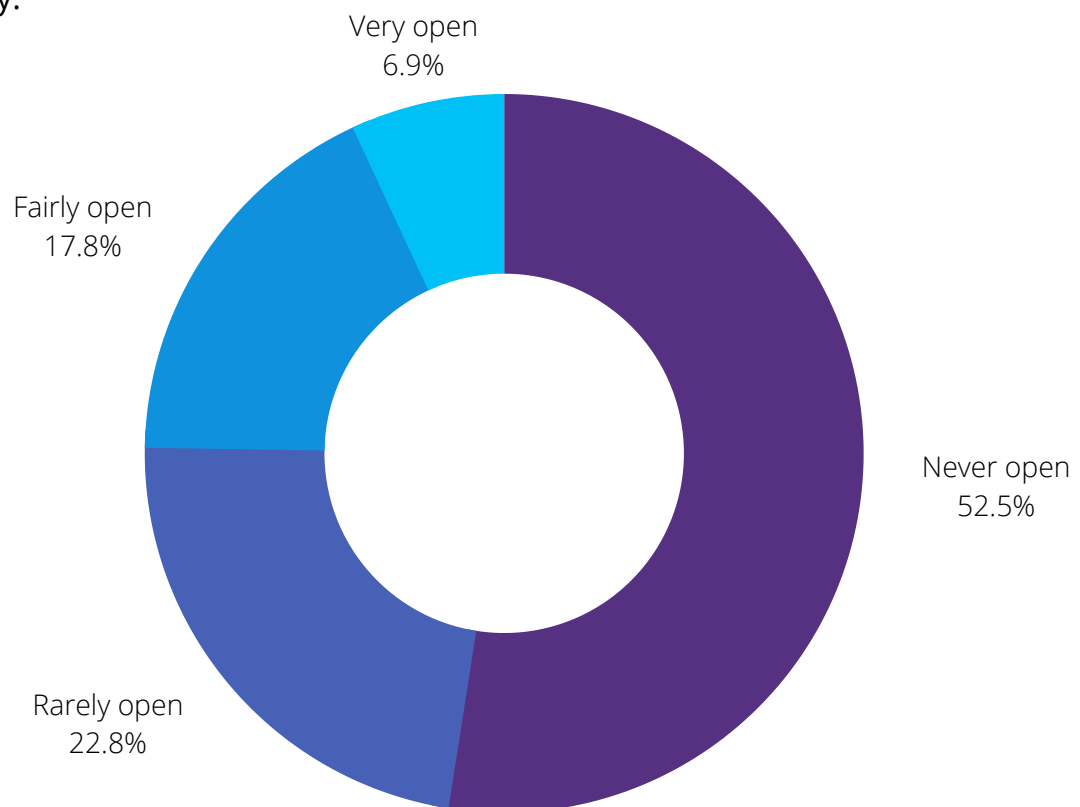
The hormonal treatment for trans women can be acquired without a prescription, from most pharmacies.



Discrimination and homophobia

In Romania, discrimination and homophobia, while illegal, are culturally and socially pervasive. Holding hands or kissing in public can attract unwanted attention and, in some cases, violent reactions. This is particularly the case outside the centers of very large cities, such as Bucharest and Cluj-Napoca. Awareness of your surroundings and caution are advised in every situation.

In 2019, over half of the respondents to a survey said that they are never open about their sexuality.



Know your rights!

- If you are the victim of a crime, such as harassment or physical violence because of your sexual orientation, this should count as an *aggravating circumstance*. This means that the perpetrator will receive a harsher penalty for his or her actions.
- Bullying - physical or psychological violence - is illegal in Romanian schools. If you are bullied, call 116 111 (International Child Helpline), 119 (National Child Line) or at 112 (Emergency Line) and ask for help.



Life in Romania



Transportation, Housing, Finance



National Transport

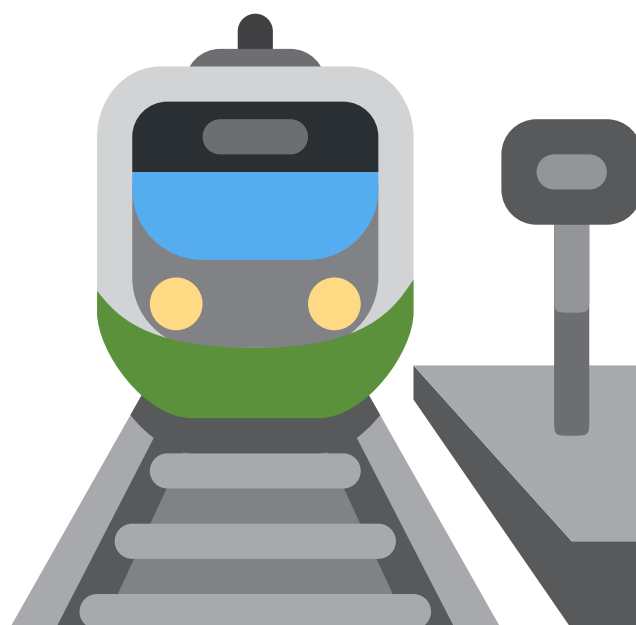
Ukrainian residents arriving in Romania, **who are not seeking asylum or temporary protection**, are entitled to **free** travel with railway carriers for Regio and InterRegio trains, 2nd class. While travel is free, you need to obtain a ticket from the ticket office in all railway stations.

The Local Emergency Committees may organize free national / international routes for Ukrainians who are crossing Romania.

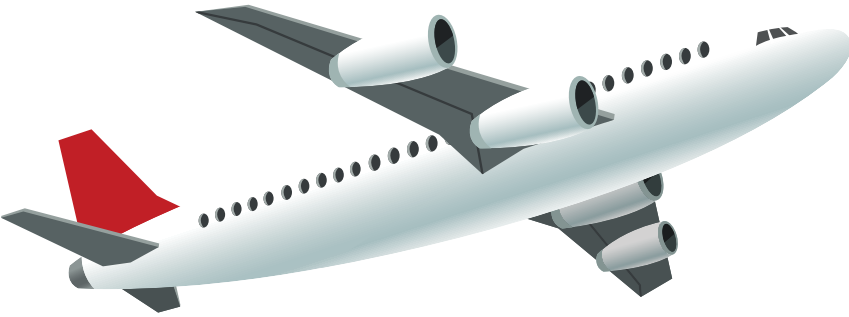
Romania has an extensive network of regional and national busses. You can find a route and book a ticket at **autogari.ro**

Local Transport

Some large municipalities seem to be granting free local transportation services to Ukrainians. There is no national regulation regarding this entitlement, so it is best to check with the local transportation company before using the public transport. Most of these measures are ad-hoc and rather informal.



Flights



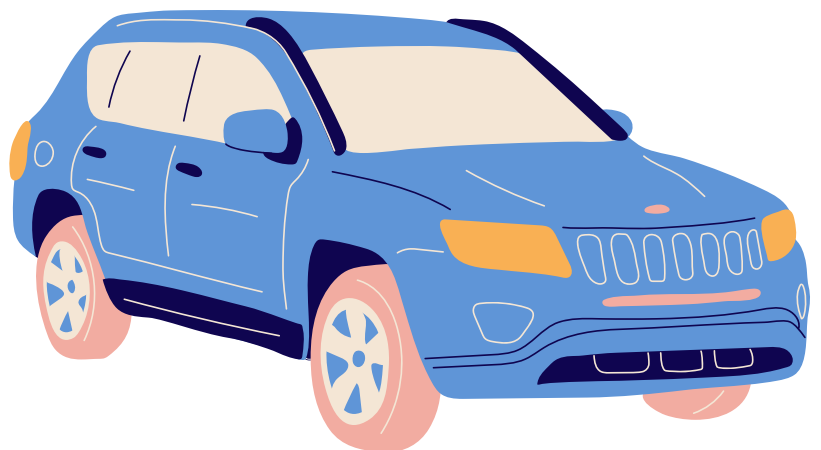
Most European air carriers operate from most large Romanian airports, including most low-cost carriers, such as Ryanair, BlueAir, and EasyJet. The Romanian national carrier is TAROM, however, the fees are quite expensive.

By car

If you arrive in Romania by car, you need to buy a **Romanian vignette**, a special sticker that you need in order to use national roads and highways. You can buy them online at **roviniete.ro** or at any gas station.

The price varies between 3€ for 7 days to 28€ for 12 months.

The speed limits in Romania are 50kmph in localities, 60kmph for some city boulevards, 100kmph for european roads, 120kmph for expressways, and 130kmph for highways.



Housing options

Romania has established six refugee centers in Timiș, Maramureș, Suceava, Giurgiu, Tulcea and Bucharest. The Romanian government accommodates mothers with children from Ukraine free of charge. Meals are provided free of charge until you find more permanent accommodation.

You can find housing by using one of the following platforms:

- **unacoperis.ro/uk**, where you can request for temporary housing.
- **refugees.ro**, where you can also request temporary housing.
- **facebook.com/groups/unitipentruucraina**, a large crowd-sourced Facebook group providing assistance and housing to Ukrainian refugees in Romania.
- **bit.ly/3ryhNSI**, for pet-friendly housing options for Ukrainians.
- **travelminit.ro**, for free housing in hotels and bed&breakfast.

On the private market

- If you intend on settling for a longer period in Romania, you may consider renting an apartment on the private market. You can find an apartment for rent either by using various online platforms, such as **imobiliare.ro** or **olx.ro**, or by contracting a real estate agency.
- Real estate agents usually ask for the equivalent of one month of rent for their services. You should sign a contract with the agent and he or she should issue you with an invoice.
- Landlords in Romania frequently refuse to sign a formal lease contract to avoid paying taxes. We suggest you ask for a formal contract, which allows you better protection from abuse.



Renting in Romania

If you are looking to settle for a longer period in Romania and want to rent an apartment or a house, you will need to sign a lease contract with the owner of the property. These are usually in writing, but some owners prefer to rely only on oral contracts. Our suggestion is to always ask for a written contract because this provides you with more legal protection from abuse and can be a proof that you have a stable residence in Romania. When signing the contract, the owner will ask for a security deposit equal to either one or two months of rent.

Beyond paying the rent, tenants are expected to pay, separately, the house expenses, such as electricity, heating, water or gas and building management fees. These are in the name of the owner of the property, but it is the responsibility of the tenant to pay them.

Rent prices

- Although the rent prices have increased across the country, especially in the most developed cities, such as Bucharest, Cluj, Brasov or Timisoara, their value is still smaller than in other European countries.
- The rent in a city will generally cost more than in a smaller town or in the outlying area. The average rent for a studio apartment is between 250€ and 300€, while for a one-bedroom apartment the rent averages at around 350-400€.
- Rent agreements in Romania will generally last for 12 months, but you can negotiate shorter periods as well.



Money Matters

- If you apply for **asylum**, you have the right to receive **20 lei per day** for food and **12 lei per day** for other expenses. You will receive the funds from the Immigration Office you were assigned to.
- If you stay in a refugee camp, you will receive free meals as long as you stay in the camp. NGO's actively involved in the camps may also provide you with additional food support.
- If you have a Ukrainian passport, you can exchange Ukrainian currency into Romanian lei, up to 1,000 lei (6,400 UAH) per person, at any **BCR Bank** office. You can receive more information at 0373514244 or at **suport.linia1@bcr.ro**.



Opening a bank account

- Romania has 33 commercial banks, which, in turn, have somewhere around 6,500 branches across the country. Among the most important ones is the Transilvania Bank (public owned). Other important banks are: BCR (owned by Erste), BRD (owned by Societe Generale), CEC Bank (owned by Romanian Gov.), ING Bank and Raiffeisen Bank.
- Some major commercial banks allow you to open a bank account for free just with your Ukrainian international passport or documentation issued by the Romanian government.
- You should pay attention to the transaction and operational fees imposed by the bank. Some Romanian banks tend to have relatively high fees for even the most basic current account. Some banks offer completely free current accounts, if you deposit a minimum amount each month.
- Debit cards are issued on the spot by most banks and they can be used effortlessly in most grocery stores. Small corner stores or grocery stores in remote villages may not have POS.



Phone & Internet

- The mobile carriers Orange Romania and Vodafone offer **free** SIM cards with Romanian phone numbers and all calls made to or from Ukraine are free of charge. You can find free SIM cards at every border crossing point.
www.orange.ro/ucraina/#ukr and **www.vodafone.ro/ucraina#section-11**.
- **MozaiQ LGBT** also provides **free** SIM cards issued by Vodafone.

Getting connected

- You can buy SIM cards with mobile numbers for very reasonable prices, compared with the rest of Europe, and use them for calls or SMSs worldwide. A prepaid SIM card is between 7-9€ and you can activate special offers with different amounts of minutes, text messages, and internet traffic included. Otherwise, the rule is a pay-per-minute/message/Mb used.
- There are several mobile network service providers in Romania, from which the most popular and performant are Orange, Vodafone, Telekom. To buy a local sim card, you need just to drop by one of the offices of one of the providers above with your passport or other identification document.
- Data gathered by Google has proved that Romania and Germany have the best performance among the European countries in terms of internet speed. For instance, it takes 8.1 seconds on average for pages to load, while the average speed in Poland, Sweden, and Italy exceeds 9 seconds.
- Until you obtain your own landline and internet connection, you can still access the internet in hotels, restaurants, coffee shops, etc. Most places will allow you to use their wifi connections if you stay there or buy some of their products, such as a coffee. You can also find free wifi in some parks, in most major cities.

Employment



While in Romania under temporary protection, you enjoy equal working rights to Romanian citizens. To work, you need to sign a contract, which needs to be registered with state labour authorities. Work without a registered contract is illegal.

You can find job opportunities at:

- www.jobs4ukr.com
- olx.ro/helpua
- adecco.ro/en
- cariere.lidl.ro

What should you know?

- In Romania, there are two types of contracts: (1) contracts for indefinite periods and (2) contracts for definite period. The general rule is that a contract is signed for an unlimited duration, while contracts for a limited duration are the exception. You cannot work for more than 36 months on a contract for a definite period.
- According to the Romanian Labour Code, the minimum age to be employed is 16 years. However, minors can work from 15 years, if they have parents/guardian consent.
- To be employed, you need to provide (1) study diploma(s); (2) perform a basic medical check; (3) present your identification documents; (4) your birth certificate and translation; (5) and proof that you are trained or specialized in a particular field.
- You cannot be paid less than 1.524 lei net/month, as this is the minimum statutory wage. If you are employed in the construction sector or agriculture sector, the minimum statutory wage is 1.774 lei net/month.
- The working day has 8 working hours and the week 5 days (40 hours per week) for the full-time contract. For working hours beyond these, you are entitled to extra pay. By law, you are entitled to at least 20 days of **paid leave**. You can also agree with a part-time contract with your employer.
- Most employees receive meal vouchers, which can be redeemed in most grocery stores for basic food stuff, but you cannot acquire alcohol or cigarettes.

Legal assistance

- The Romanian Bar Association offers free legal assistance to Ukrainian refugees. You can find contact details at: **bit.ly/3838zGR**.
- **MozaiQ** provides free legal assistance to LGBTQIA+ people at **office@mozaiqlgbt.ro**.
- **ACCEPT** facilitates access to legal assistance to LGBTQIA+ people at **accept@acceptromania.ro**.



Law and justice

- Similarly to the Ukrainian justice system, Romania's legal order is based on civil law. This means that all norms and rules are codified and judges have little wiggle room to interpret and redefine the law, as it is the case in common law countries such as the UK or the US.
- The Romanian justice system is divided hierarchically from district courts (judecătoria), tribunals (tribunale), the courts of appeal, and the Supreme Court. If you have contact with the courts, it is best to have a lawyer that knows both the law and the system.
- Romania has a comprehensive anti-discrimination regime that is run by a National Council for Combating Discrimination (cncd.ro), which has the power to sanction acts of discrimination taking place in public institutions or by private individuals or organizations. You are entitled to submit a complaint if you feel that you have been discriminated. You can submit a petition at: **cncd.ro/depune-o-petitie**.
- If you feel you are mistreated or your rights are not respected by public institutions, you can submit a petition to the Office of the Ombudsman, which monitors the behavior of state institutions in regards to the rights of the refugees. You can submit a petition, in English or Romanian, at **petitii@avp.ro**.

Useful contacts



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DOPOMOHA

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ROMANIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR REFUGEES



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CHECKPOINT ARAS

People living with HIV
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Useful Legislation

- Law No. 122/2006 on Asylum in Romania;
- Government Decision No. 1251/2006 for the approval of the Methodological Norms for the application of Law no. 122/2006 on asylum in Romania;
- Emergency Government Ordinance No. 20/2022 establishing humanitarian support and assistance measures;
- Government Decision No. 367/2022 establishing the conditions for assuring temporary protection;
- Government Decision No. 337/2022 on the granting of free and unrestricted transportation arrangements for foreign nationals or stateless persons in special situations from the armed conflict in Ukraine.
- Government Ordinance No. 137/2000 on the prevention and sanctioning of all forms of discrimination (republished).
- Law No. 53/2003 - The Labor Code.
- Law No. 95/2006 on health care reform.



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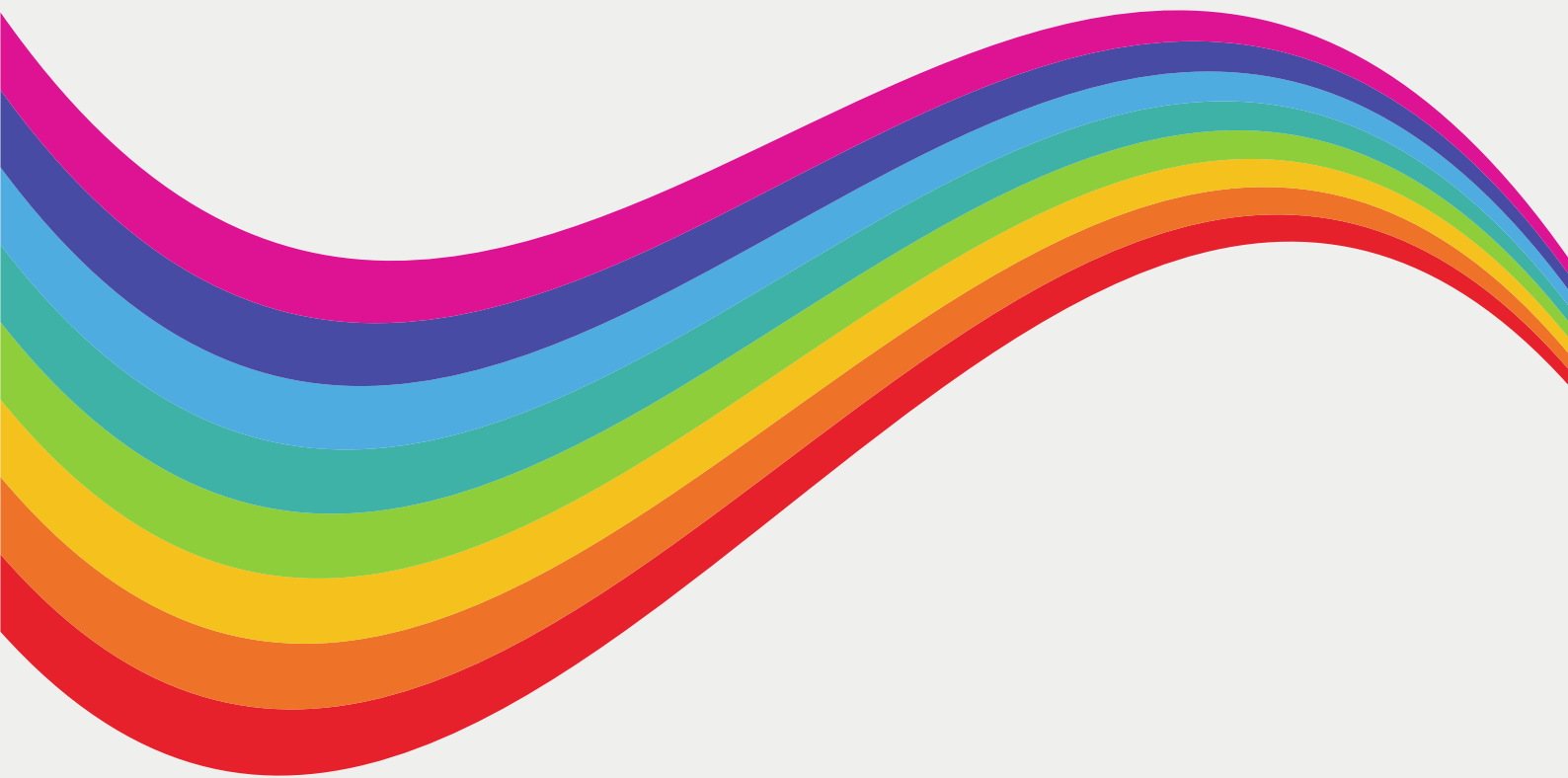


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