



## EVERYDAY LIFE

### Arrival and check-in

You can come to Cluj-Napoca by air, bus, train, or by car.



**By air:** Cluj-Napoca has an international airport, which runs regular direct charter flights from several cities in Italy, Germany, Austria and Hungary and also several flights per day to Bucharest and Timișoara. From the Airport, the buses no. 5 and no. 8 should be taken to the “Regionala C.F.R” stop and a transfer should be made to one of the following buses: 1, 6, 7, and 24.

For further information, visit: <http://www.airportcluj.ro/ro/hpg.html>.

**By bus:** There are bus companies running regular direct transport to Cluj-Napoca from several European Cities.



**By train:** Cluj-Napoca railway station daily receives international trains.

Taxis are available in all locations. Make sure you take a taxi belonging to one of the following companies: Diesel, Terra&Fun, Rapid, Nova or Pritax. The price is 2.25 RON/km (approx. 0.5 EUR/km)

### Money

Romania’s official currency is LEU pl. LEI; 1 LEU has 100 BANI.

Exchange offices all around the city offer good exchange rates. You can also change money at any bank. It is illegal to change money on the street.



You can use your foreign debit card at any ATM and you will be issued the equivalent in Lei of the amount you wish to withdraw in US dollars or Euro. Romanian ATMs only accept Visa, MasterCard and Maestro. Depending on your needs, there are several possibilities for money transfer: postal money order (“mandat poștal”), bank transfer or special transfer (such as Western Union).



## Food and Eating Out



The cost of food per month could range somewhere between 50 and 150 EUR. The cheapest meals are of course, those you cook yourself. “Piața Mihai Viteazul” market, located near the McDonald’s in Mihai Viteazul Square, is the largest vegetable and fresh produce market and you can also get fresh meat, cheese, eggs and honey there. There are smaller outdoor markets in all neighbourhoods (Mănăștur,

Mărăști).

If you are accustomed to make supplies for a longer period of time, you could pay a visit once a week to a big supermarket. There are supermarkets in Cluj-Napoca such as Billa, Selgros, Kaufland, Cora, Sigma.

You might find it convenient to eat at the Student’s Restaurant (Cantina studentească).

### University cafeterias:

“The Pyramid” Restaurant – 1, E. de Martonne Street, close to the Faculty of European Studies;

Cafeteria -II, Avram Iancu Street, inside the Faculty of Law building;

Cafeteria –inside the Faculty of Economics building;

Cafeteria –inside the Faculty of Chemistry building;

Cafeteria & Restaurant in Hașdeu student campus;

Guest House Restaurant in the “Iuliu Hațieganu” Park.

Some of the typical Romanian dishes you can try are: tripe soup (ciorbă de burtă), corn porridge (mămăliga) and baked cabbage, Cluj style (varză á la Cluj).

Mămăligă	Ciorbă de burtă	Varză á la Cluj



Also, there are plenty of “ethnic” restaurants: Mexican, Chinese, Italian, American, Hungarian, Japanese, Turkish, etc. Cluj-Napoca has many fast-food pizza-places, which are very popular among students. The average price of a pizza is about 15 Lei -3,5 EUR.

For up-to-date information about trendy bars, clubs, restaurants, parties and things-to-do, please visit [www.sapteseri.ro](http://www.sapteseri.ro), [www.zilesinopti.ro](http://www.zilesinopti.ro), [www.cluj.com](http://www.cluj.com).

### Beverages

Tap water in Cluj-Napoca is perfectly safe for consumption.

You can buy different sorts of juices and sodas in shops. The price of 2 liters of Cola is less than 2 EUR; if you buy a local brand it might be even cheaper.

Coffee is priced around 5 Lei -1,1 EUR but prices are varying depending on the place.

Alcoholic beverages are cheaper in shops than in pubs and bars. In Romania there are some mainstream local beer brands that are good, but you can also find many international brands.

Local brand beer	Elder Lemonade	Sana (Sweet-Sour Yoghurt)
		

### Transportation

Public transportation: Cluj-Napoca has a reliable public transportation network, consisting of a long tramline, several trolley-lines and bus-lines, operating from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. The price of a ticket (bilet) is 4 Lei (0,8 EUR) - valid for two trips. Tickets are available at special kiosks or can be bought per mobile phone message, but never at the driver. Always validate your ticket immediately after getting on the bus/tram. Controls are frequent and the fine is high!

Taxi: Taxis you take in town are all equipped with a meter. One kilometer by taxi costs 2.25 Lei (around 0.50 EUR) before 9 p.m., and 2.7 Lei (around 0.6 EUR) after 9 p.m. All major taxi companies have the same fare. Big companies have the name of the company and the phone number displayed on the top of the car and on the sides. The main taxi companies in Cluj-Napoca are: Rapid, Diesel, Terra-fan, Pritax, and Nova.



Driving your own car: gas is about the same price as in other European countries. Just like in other big cities, traffic is insane at rush hours and finding a parking place can be a problem.

## Travelling around



Panoramic view of the city of SIBIU

Palas Park in IA I



The city of CONSTAN A, by the Black Sea

In Romania, the most frequently used mean of transportation is the train. There are also buses between cities.

**Trains:** There are four categories of trains. Slow-trains (“personal”) are the cheapest but the slowest and the least comfortable. They stop at every station, even the smallest, and are used mainly by commuters.



Fast trains (“accelerat” and “rapid”) are more comfortable and stop only at the most important stations.

Inter-City trains are also available between major cities; they are fast, comfortable and expensive.

**Buses:** There are several companies servicing various routes. Buses are especially popular among students since they are somewhat cheaper and run more frequently than trains.

**Planes:** If you wish to take the plane, for national or international, regular or charter flights, Cluj-Napoca has an international airport, conveniently located just 10 km east of the city and serviced by the no. 8 bus line.

For booking tickets to any destination from Cluj-Napoca, or for companies not operating on this airport, you can contact one of the numerous travel agencies in town.

## Prices of Basic Commodities

Here are some rough examples of the prices for every-day commodities:

### **Accommodation:**

In a youth hostel: 60-80 Lei/night – about 12 -17 EUR/ night

In a three-star hotel: 175-200 Lei –about 40 - 50 EUR/ night

### **Food:**

One medium pizza in an average restaurant: 15 Lei – about 3.5 EUR

One loaf of sliced bread: about 3 Lei – about 0.7 EUR

One liter of milk: 5 Lei – about 1.1 EUR

One local beer (0.5 liters) at the grocery store: 2 -2.5 Lei – about 0.5-0.75 EUR

### **Transportation:**

One bus/ trolley/ tram 2-way ticket: 4 Lei – about 0.9 EUR

Taxi fare from railway station to city centre: about 8 Lei – about 1.8 EUR

### **Entertainment:**

One cinema ticket: 5-20 Lei, depending on the movie theatre, hour and the movie -about 1-3 EUR



One game at the bowling alley: 20 Lei- about 3.3 EUR

One ticket at the Botanical Garden: 4 Lei –about 1 EUR

## Health and medical care

For entering Romania foreign citizens need a travel medical insurance.

In case you find yourself in need of medical assistance, you can go to any authorized medical unit, public or private.



### Hospitals and clinics:

EMERGENCY HOSPITAL (SPITALUL CLINIC JUDEȚEAN DE URGENȚĂ CLUJ-NAPOCA) Address: 3/ 5, Clinicilor Street, RO - 400006 Cluj-Napoca, Phone: 961.

STUDENT'S CLINIC (POLICLINICA STUDENȚEASCĂ)

Nr. 7, Pandurilor Street, at dormitory Sport 21 in "Iuliu Hațieganu" Park ("Babeș" Park)

**Emergency phone: 112 (Police, Ambulance, Fire Department)**

## Telephones and communication

Telephones can be landlines or mobile. Landline numbers have 6 digits, except for those in Bucharest, which have 7 digits. The main mobile services operators are: Orange, Vodafone, Zapp, and Cosmorum. Mobile phone numbers all have 10 digits.

Calling from abroad: When trying to call from abroad in Romania you have to dial first 004 (Romania's country code), then the 4-digit area/ network code (e.g. 0264 or 0364 for Cluj county), then the phone number.

When calling from the USA, you have to dial 011-4, then the area/ network code, then the phone number.

Phone cards are the most inexpensive method to call at the moment. You dial an access number (which may or may not be free of charge), your PIN, then the number you wish to call.

There are few internet cafés left in Cluj, though most of them offer 24-hours service. You pay by used time, sometimes with a minimum of 30 minutes purchase. The average price is 3 -5 LEI/ hour about 0.75-1,1 EUR. The Internet can also be used at your faculty. The student dorms have Internet connections, but you need your own PC.



In Cluj-Napoca there are many post offices. The main post office is P.O. 1 located on 33, Regele Ferdinand Street, RO - 400110, Phone: 0040 264 536804, Fax: 0040 264 530015. You can use the regular postal shipping service, available at any post office.

The new Romanian zip codes (postal codes) have 6 digits.

## Security

Cluj-Napoca is a safe city but as in other large cities, you should take into consideration some aspects in order to avoid potentially unpleasant situations:

- do not carry large amounts of money. Do not carry your documents in the same place with your money;
- to avoid having your pocket picked or your bag stolen, keep your wallet in a front pocket and do not carry an open bag that may attract the attention of thieves;
- you should avoid side streets and isolated places (parks, forests) at night, as well as spending your time  
in ill-famed clubs or pubs;
- changing money on the black market is both illegal and risky;
- traffic can be a hassle, especially during rush hours. Stay alert and be aware of what is going on around you, particularly in crowded intersections.



If you have security problems, contact the Police immediately at 112.

## Helpful reminders

- get in touch with the Centre for International Cooperation before and upon your arrival;
- get refills of prescription medicines for the year;
- make preparation regarding arrival details;
- make reservation for accommodation in student dorms or in town;
- check the validity of your passport;
- announce the arrival date to the Centre for International Cooperation;
- write down and keep in a safe place all the important numbers: credit cards, passport, etc.

### **Disclaimer**

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