

Erasmus+ Student in Cluj-Napoca

SURVIVAL GUIDE

2019-2020

Welcome to Cluj-Napoca, the Heart of Transylvania!

Hello and welcome to **Cluj-Napoca**! We are glad that you decided to study for one semester or a full year in the **Heart of Transylvania**.



If you are enthusiastic about your future mobility and you want to find more information about how it is to be a student in Cluj-Napoca, this guide is for you! We created it having you in our mind, your needs and curiosities. It contains information about what you should know before you come and during your stay here. In case you still have questions after reading this guide, do not hesitate to contact us.

We hope you're ready for a life changing experience and you'll enjoy it to the fullest and you'll allow us to be part of your journey,

Sincerely, ESN Cluj-Napoca

Erasmus Student Network



Initiated in 1989, **Erasmus Student Network (ESN)** is the biggest student association in Europe, with 500+ sections across 40 countries, and with over 15000 volunteers. The principle of ESN is “**Students helping Students**”, so the goal is to represent Erasmus students and their needs.

ESN Cluj-Napoca was accepted in the network in 2004, being **the first ESN section in Romania**, in present having **100 active volunteers**. It is also the biggest section in our country, with the biggest number of Erasmus+ students, each semester coming in our city around **600 students**.

ESN Cluj-Napoca has three major goals: helping Erasmus students to be integrated in the local society, promoting the Erasmus+ program among the students from Cluj-Napoca and giving support to the young people that are going in study mobilities. ESN members work on a **voluntary basis** and most of them were Erasmus students themselves before.

We work closely with the **International Relations Offices** from our partner universities, supporting them in integrating the incoming students.

In Romania there are 13 sections, in **11 cities**: Alba Iulia, Bacău, Braşov, Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Constanţa, Craiova, Iaşi, Sibiu, Târgu Mureş and Timişoara.

Buddy System

Would you like to have a **friend** that is a **local student** and can help you discover the city, find where your university or dormitory is, and tell you where the best club in the city is? Then you should consider the idea of having a buddy.

To get a buddy you need to **create an account** on <https://buddysystem.eu/en/>

A lot of fields are not mandatory, but in order to receive a buddy closer to your expectations, we recommend you to have a complete profile. Once you finish configuring your profile, all you have to do is to **wait for your buddy to contact you**. During the semester, keep in mind that your buddy is a student too, it's possible that he/she will not know the answers to all your questions, and maybe will be busy and will not have too much free time to always hang out with you.



Intro Days



Intro Days is your **first contact** with the city, ESN volunteers and the other exchange students. We are organizing it at the **beginning of each semester**, and there are **2 weeks full of events** designed for you.

These activities are made to help you get to know the city and introduce you to many different people. In order to participate, you need to buy a **bracelet** from our office. With the bracelet, you will have free access or a discount to the events that we organize in Intro Days.

The events include a guided tour, visit at the museums, an international dinner, interactive and socializing activities like: city hunt, pub crawl, quiz night, speed friending.

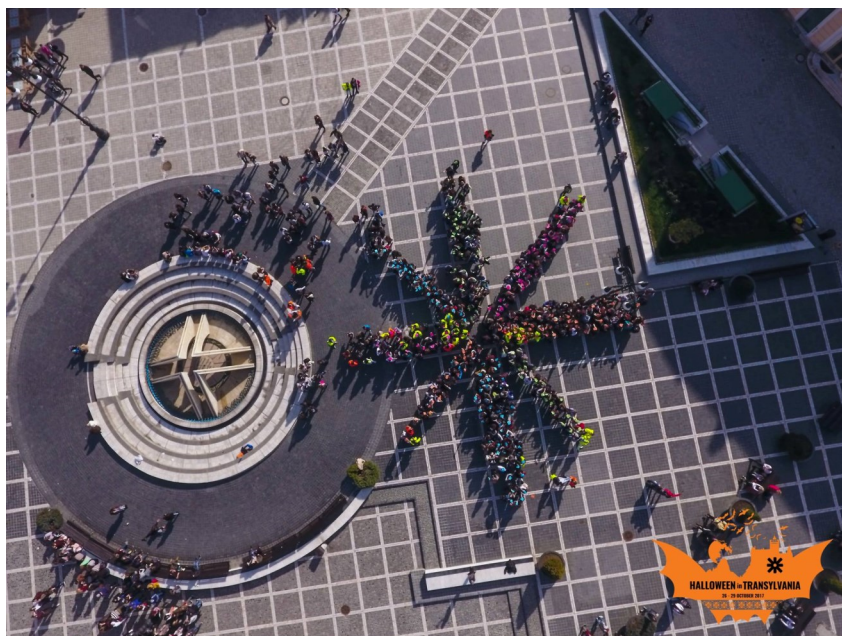
You will find the complete schedule before the beginning of the semester.



The Intro Days are usually followed by a **small trip**:

- **Maramu' Trip** during the Winter semester
- **Moldova Trip** during the Spring semester

National Events



During the year, ESN Romania organizes different events where sections from different cities in Romania come together to give you an opportunity to meet **Erasmus+ students all over Romania**.

Our traditional national events are two trips :

- **Halloween in Transylvania** during the Winter semester
- **Escape to Vama Veche** for the Spring semester



We also usually participate in the International **Erasmus Games (IEG)**, a sports competition that has 3 phases : local, national and international. If you are an active person, you might consider taking part in the IEG.

After Krakow, Milan, Porto, Nis & Paris, this year we decided to provide you a unique experience and organize the **international phase** of IEG 2020 in **Cluj-Napoca**.

ESNcard

ESNcard is a **discount and membership card** designed for international exchange students and ESN volunteers. During the Intro Days and throughout the semester you will have many opportunities to buy it.

It provides discounts and advantages not only at the local level, in Cluj-Napoca, but also in lots of European cities, since there are **2000+ partnerships** all over Europe signed with ESNcard.



More information on: <https://esncard.org/>



15% OFF flights

Free 20kg checked-in luggage



SPOTAHOME

25% OFF the reservation fee

Free membership
10% discount in all bookings



ESNcard



25% discount of the service fee
(not available in all countries)



10% discount with the code *ESNRO10*



**Discounts available around
Europe**



TOMORROWLAND
LIVE TODAY LOVE TOMORROW UNITE FOREVER

Discounts for 2019's edition



20% discount on the student subscription

ESNcard discounts in Cluj-Napoca



Discounts for the trips
organized by ESN Cluj-Napoca



20% OFF for Escape Room
Games

The Dungeon

15% OFF for
Laser Tag Games



Free Entry before 00:00

At the parties organized by them



Free Entry before 00:00

Free Entry before 00:00

At College Parties



Free Entry before 00:00

Before you arrive

Before you leave your own city you have to prepare a few things. We have prepared a list for you to make the transition easier. Knowing what to expect will help you know what to bring and what to leave behind.

Information about the city



Cluj-Napoca is located in **Transylvania** region and is one of the most important university and economic centers of Romania. Cluj-Napoca, mostly known as Cluj, is crossed by **Someșul Mic** river.

The city is surrounded by hills with heights between 500 metres (1,600 ft) and 700 metres (2,300 ft) and in the west part you will find the Apuseni Mountains.

It hosts the country's **largest university**, Babeș-Bolyai University, with its botanical garden. Cluj-Napoca held the titles of **European Youth Capital** in 2015 and **European City of Sport** in 2018.

Useful Words

Romanian is one of the 5 Latin Languages, together with Spanish, Italian, French and Portuguese. It also has Hungarian, Slavic and German influences due to its history.

There are some useful words you might want to know once you get to Romania which will help you to integrate easier. People in Cluj are nice and friendly and you will not have any issues using english.

We have prepared a list of the most used phrases in Romanian:

Hello! = Salut!

Good afternoon! = Bună ziua!

Thank you! = Mulțumesc!

You are welcome! = Cu plăcere!

How are you? = Ce faci?

I'm fine = Bine

Excuse me = Scuze

I don't understand = Nu înțeleg

Do you speak English? = Vorbești engleză?

I'm not romanian = Nu sunt roman

Yes = Da

No = Nu



Preparing your luggage

Firstly, check what items are permitted to be carried in hold & hand luggage. Depending on which semester you come, you should know that in Romania the **summer is warm** (can reach 35 degrees) and the **winter is cold** (can go as low as -20 degrees Celsius). It would be a good idea to bring some warm clothes for the winter and autumn such as sweaters and jumpers. Also some boots would be helpful because there can be snow in the winter. For summer do not forget lighter clothes such as t-shirts and shorts.



Sometimes life in Cluj can be very busy and once you find your group of friends you can start partying and enjoying your stay. So do not forget your party clothes and be ready to impress.

What to expect

Cluj-Napoca is an university city and hosts students from many cities, but also from different countries. Also, there are a lot of Erasmus+ students and you will have the chance to meet people from all over the world. During the night there are lots of places to party or to hang out with your friends.

Do not be surprised if you hear many languages. Cluj-Napoca is an international city. It is considered an innovative city, with a great cultural life. It hosts dozens of festivals and it's well known due to Untold & Electric Castle Festivals.

Cluj never sleeps! It's a **work hard—play hard kind of place**. In Cluj-Napoca you can attend lots of training events and workshops, many of them being held in English.

Accommodation

Cămin – Student dorms

These are the university dorms, many local students stay there. They are the least expensive option and are usually very close to the universities. For more information about them you can contact your Erasmus coordinator.

Private housing

If the dorm life is not for you, renting an apartment or a room in an apartment/house is also an option. Make sure they are not too far from your university or at least close to a bus station. Useful links to help you find accommodation :

<https://tinyurl.com/ESN-Accommodation-Cluj>

<https://tinyurl.com/ForeignStudentsCluj>



Transportation

1. Bus

What you need to get a **student bus card** :

- ID
- Student card delivered by the Romanian faculty
- Student discount card (ex: StudCard, ISIC Student, Euro <26 Student, Omnipass, City Card and Acard/AKartya)
- Cost : **35 LEI /month**

The bus card can be bought at the kiosk located next to the bus stations.

For more information about the bus services follow this link : <https://tinyurl.com/Bus-Cluj-Napoca>

A **bus ticket** costs 2.5 LEI for one ride. You can buy it from the machines or kiosks from the bus stations. **Don't forget to validate** the ticket inside the bus! You can also buy it in the bus using a contactless card or by sending a SMS at 7479.

Transportation

2. Train

Students in Romania are eligible to a **train card** that gives them access to free 2nd class tickets and discounted 1st class and bed cabin tickets.

To get this card you must go to the appointed office in your Faculty. Buying a student ticket will require you to go at the train station or at the train agency on Mihai Viteazu street and **having your ID, Romanian student ID and train card** with you.

Please be aware that some universities can choose not to provide this card to their Erasmus students, since it is not mandatory for them.

Non student can also be purchased online :
<https://tinyurl.com/train-clujnapoca>



3. Taxi/Uber

You will find many taxis all around the city. You can order a taxi from a specific point with the app **“Clever Taxi”**.

You can also use **“Uber”** or **“Bolt”** apps.



Phone plan



If your phone plan does not already cover Romanian network you can choose to get a chip from one of the local carriers : Orange, Vodafone, Digi, Telekom, etc. Considering that you will stay for 1 or 2 semesters it is recommended that you take the “pre-paid” card option.

Immigration services

The Immigration bureau is located in the Iulius Mall Complex.

More information can be found with this link :
<https://tinyurl.com/ImigrationBureau>



Bank account

The local currency is the RON (also called LEI).

If you are interested in opening a RON account you can go to any of the local banks : *Banca Transilvania, BCR, BRD, Raiffeisen*, etc.

To open the account you will need, at least, an ID, proof of housing and studies in Romania.



Also, online banks such as Revolut can be a good option, they usually offer a good exchange rate and demand less fees/documents.

Health

Each faculty provides its students with free healthcare services, however these services are limited and depending on the reason of your visit you might be sent to consult a different doctor.

Several clinics offer paid services :

<https://tinyurl.com/ReginaMaria-EN>

<https://www.medlife.ro>

<http://www.cardiomedcluj.ro>



Sightseeing

Parcul Central - Central Par

Cetățuie – Cetatuia Park

Piata Unirii – Union Square

Piata Muzeului – Museum Square

Piata Avram Iancu – Avram Iancu Square

Salina Turda – Turda Salt Mine



Important dates (red = National Holiday)

September 30th - Official start of the University year

November 30th - Feast of St. Andrew

December 1st - National day

December 21st to January 5th - Winter break

January 24th - Unification day

March 1st - Martisor

April 17th - Orthodox Good Friday

April 19th - Orthodox Easter Day

April 20th - Orthodox Easter Monday

May 1st - Labour Day

June 1st - International Children's Day

June 7th - Orthodox Pentecost

Useful contacts

ESN Cluj-Napoca

E-mail: contact@cluj-napoca.esn.ro

Website: www.cluj-napoca.esn.ro

Adress: B.P Haşdeu Street, no. 90-92 **A4**
Dormitory, 2nd floor



@esn.clujnapoca



/ESN.clujnapoca



@ESN_clujnapoca

Emergency

Number: 112

Emergency hospital : Strada Clinicilor nr.3-5

Police station : Strada Traian nr. 27

University Babes-Bolyai (UBB)

International Students Centre for International
Cooperation 68, Avram Iancu Street

E-mail: cci@ubbcluj.ro

Website: <http://cci.ubbcluj.ro>

Useful contacts

Technical University of Cluj-Napoca (UTCN)

International Relations Office and Erasmus+ Office, Memorandumului Street, no 28

E-mail: international@staff.utcluj.ro

Website: <http://bri.utcluj.ro/en/bri.php>

Art and Design University (UAD)

Erasmus+ Office

E-mail: relations@uad.ro

Website: <https://tinyurl.com/DRI-UAD-clujnapoca>

University of Agricultural Science and Veterinary Medicine (USAMV)

International Relations Office

E-mail: iro@usamvcluj.ro

Website: <https://tinyurl.com/DRI-USAMV-clujnapoca>

University of Medicine (UMF)

Department of International Relations, Pasteur Street, no. 4

Email: dri@umfcluj.ro

Website: <https://tinyurl.com/DIR-UMF-clujnapoca>