

ROMANIA

My fairytale road trip around this little-visited European nation

Sacred storks, darkly dense forests, atmospheric monasteries and a third of Europe's brown bears. Janice Turner gears up for a Romania odyssey — just don't mention the food



Bran Castle and Janice Turner

ALAMY

More places to stay in Romania

By Sarah Turner

Bethlen Estate, Cris

In situ from the 12th century, the newest generation of the aristocratic Bethlen family have turned their estate in northeastern Transylvania into a Newt hotel-like foodie escape. Guests stay in luxuriously appointed cottages and the corner barn is a cosy nest for couples. A restaurant is housed in a barn and there's a cellar full of Transylvanian wines to dive into.

Details [B&B doubles](https://bethlenestates.com) from £234 (bethlenestates.com). Fly to Targu-Mures

