

Currency

Romania's currency is Leu (plural "Lei" - pronunciation: *lay*).

Abbreviation: RON

Banknote denominations: 1, 5, 10, 50, 100 and 500 lei

Coins: 1, 5, 10 and 50 bani pieces. (pronunciation: *bahnee*)

1 leu = 100 bani

Foreign currencies may be **exchanged** at banks or authorized exchange offices (called: "casa de schimb" or "birou de schimb valutar"). The exchange rates should be always visible. An identity card is requested upon each exchange transaction.

1 Euro is about 4.5 RON

1 US Dollar is about 4 RON

Exchange houses near the conference venue:

- BRD Bank, [Str. Carol I nr.4](#) (ATM present)
- Transilvania Bank, [Str. Alexandru Ioan Cuza nr.4](#) (ATM present)
- Egipteanul Valuta, [Str. Calea Bucuresti Bl. M18](#)

All the major credit cards including American Express, Mastercard and Visa are accepted in large hotels, car rental companies and large stores in the main cities. However, credit cards are unlikely to prove useful in small towns or away from tourist areas. In any case please ask before if the payment can be done through credit cards.

Budget guide

A three-course dinner, for two, with wine and tip starts at 35 Euro and can go up to 60 Euro or more in some of the more upscale restaurants. However, less expensive does not mean not as good as a very expensive one.

Loaf of white bread	0.20 Euro
1L of milk	1 Euro
200g of beef tenderloin	10 Euro
1 kg of tomatoes	0.5 Euro
McDonald's Big Mac Menu	3.5 Euro
Bottle of mineral water (0.5 L bar/restaurant price)	1 Euro
Bottle of domestic beer (0.5 L bar/restaurant price)	1 Euro
Bottle of Romanian wine (liquor store)	3 Euro to 10 Euro

Eating out (5-10 min walk from the conference venue)

The majority of the hotels also have restaurants but we recommend also trying some city center restaurants like:

- [Sofia Bistro](#) (international cuisine), Str. Eugeniu Carada nr. 17
- [Big Ben](#) (international cuisine), Str. Mirecea Voda nr.1
- [Oxygen Bistro](#) (international cuisine), Str. Alexandru Ioan Cuza nr. 6B
- [Casa Ghincea](#) (traditional Romanian cuisine), Str. Madona Dudu nr. 31
- [Iberico](#) (Tapas bar), Str. Romain Rolland nr. 13

You can get a quick bite at:

- [Luca's](#) (sandwiches), Str. Lipscani nr. 12
- [Gigi](#) (bretzels), Str. Lipscani nr. 36
- [Arkadia](#) (sweets), Str. Calea Unirii nr. 32
- [KFC](#) (fast food), Str. Calea Bucuresti nr. 29
- [McDonald's](#), Str. Calea Bucuresti nr. 26

If you want to eat during the night, [Intim Restaurant](#) is available non stop (Str. Calea Bucuresti nr. 41). It takes a 10 min drive or a 35 min walk to get there from the conference venue.

Shopping

For regular day to day shopping there is a non-stop shop just across the conference venue, [Lux Premier](#) (Str. Alexandru Ioan Cuza nr. 6)

Although some shops can be found in the city center, for a better shopping experience you should visit [Electroputere Parc Mall \(Str. Calea Bucuresti nr. 80\)](#). The mall is located at about 10 min driving or 30 min walking distance from the conference venue.

Tipping

Taxi drivers do not expect tips but courteous service can be rewarded.

Hotel maid - the equivalent of 1 Euro / day (4 RON) or 5 Euro (25 RON) for one week or longer stays.

Hotel Concierge - tipping for the answer to a simple question is not necessary but 10 RON (2.5 Euro) is suitable for help making reservations or getting tickets to a show.

Restaurants - although service is included a 5% to 10% tip will be appreciated. Appropriate gratuities for Hairdressers and/ or Massage Therapists are 10% to 15%.

Bellhop or Skycap - 2 RON (0.5 Euro) a bag.

Parking valet - 2 RON (0.5 Euro).

Transport

Buses:

Ticket price: 2 Ron ~ 0.45 Euro

The ticket must be punched in order to be valid

The ticket can be bought from the bus, either from a cashier or from the driver in the absence of the cashier.

Timetable: 5:30 AM - 9:30 PM

Google Maps can be used to plan your trip with the bus (public transport option)

Taxi:

Travelling by taxi is cheap and safe. Taxies can be recognized by their yellow color.

The taxi fair is 1.4 RON ~ 0.3 Euro per km. Usually a trip with the taxi ranges from 5 to 10 RON (1 – 2,5 Euro).

We recommend using the following taxi companies:

- Barby, phone: 00 40 745 14 14 27
- Romnicon: phone: 00 40 745 35 03 20

By Romanian law taxi drivers are obliged to use the taximeter, otherwise the trip is considered to be free.

Electricity

Romania's electrical current is 230 V; 50 cycles and **sockets** take the standard continental European dual round-pronged plugs.

Smoking

Smoking it is not allowed in public places like: hospitals, concert halls, and university. The vast majority of restaurants/bars allow smoking, which is unfortunate for the non-smokers. Some venues have non-smoking sections.

Safety

Although violent crime against tourists is almost non-existent visitors should take customary steps to safeguard their valuables. Leave your valuables and passport in the hotel's safety deposit box or use a money belt kept out of sight. Be aware of pickpockets and scam artists.

Police officers might only ask to check personal documents but never your credit cards or your cash. Not having your passport with you will not be a problem. The officer will come with you to your hotel to see your passport if he really has to check it.

Emergency numbers

The European emergency phone number is also available in Romania: 112

When in need you can also contact the **conference organizers:**

Costin Badică, phone 00 40 742 755 073

Alex Becheru, phone 00 40 766 528 538