

Cost of Living in Romania 2025

Romania offers one of the best value propositions in Europe: EU membership, fast internet, beautiful landscapes, and a cost of living 50-60% lower than Western Europe. This comprehensive guide breaks down what you can expect to spend living in Romania.

Monthly Budget Overview – Major Town’s

Lifestyle	Bucharest	Cluj	Timisoara
Budget (single)	€1,000-1,300	€800-1,100	€700-1,000
Comfortable (single)	€1,500-2,000	€1,200-1,600	€1,000-1,400
Comfortable (couple)	€2,000-2,800	€1,600-2,200	€1,400-2,000
Family (2 children)	€3,000-4,500	€2,500-3,500	€2,200-3,200

Rent: Housing is the biggest expense but still very affordable by European standards:

Bucharest

Type	City Centre	Outside Centre
Studio/1-bed	€500-800	€350-500
2-bedroom	€700-1,100	€500-700
3-bedroom	€1,000-1,500	€700-1,000
House	€1,500-3,000	€800-1,500

Cluj-Napoca

Type	City Centre	Outside Centre
Studio/1-bed	€400-600	€300-450
2-bedroom	€550-800	€400-600
3-bedroom	€800-1,200	€600-900

Timisoara

Type	City Centre	Outside Centre
Studio/1-bed	€350-500	€250-400
2-bedroom	€450-700	€350-500
3-bedroom	€650-1,000	€500-750

Tips:

- Rent is typically paid monthly, 1-2 months deposit required
- Furnished apartments are common & often only slightly more expensive than unfurnished
- Search property websites
- Agents typically charge a monthly fee of 5-10% of one month’s rent

Utilities

Utility	Monthly Cost
Electricity	€30-60
Gas/Heating	€20-80 (higher cost in winter)
Water	€10-20
Internet (fibre)	€8-12
Mobile phone	€5-15
Total	€70-150

Note: Romania has some of Europe’s fastest & cheapest internet. 1Gbps fibre is standard in cities.

Food & Groceries

Groceries (Monthly)

Shopping Style	Single Person	Couple
Budget (local markets, cooking)	€150-200	€250-350
Moderate (supermarkets, some dining)	€250-350	€400-500
Premium (organic, imported goods)	€400-500	€600-800

Grocery Prices

Item	Price (€)
Bread (500g)	0.60-1.00
Milk (1L)	1.00-1.50
Eggs (12)	2.50-3.50
Chicken breast (1kg)	5.00-7.00
Rice (1kg)	1.50-2.50
Apples (1kg)	1.00-2.00
Tomatoes (1kg)	1.50-3.00
Local cheese (1kg)	6.00-10.00
Wine (bottle)	3.00-10.00
Beer (0.5L)	0.80-1.50

Dining Out

Type	Price (€)
Cheap meal (fast food, takeaway)	4-7
Mid-range restaurant (main course)	8-15
Fine dining (3 courses)	30-60
Coffee (cappuccino)	2-3
Beer at a bar	2-4
Cocktail	5-10

Transportation

Type	Cost
Monthly public transport pass	€15-25
Single bus/metro ticket	€0.50
Uber/Bolt (5km ride)	€3-5
Taxi (per km)	€0.40-0.60
Fuel (per litre)	€1.40-1.60
Monthly car insurance	€30-80
Parking (city centre, hourly)	€0.50-2

Healthcare

Private Healthcare (Recommended for Expats)

Service	Cost (€)
GP consultation	25-50
Specialist consultation	40-80
Private health insurance (monthly)	50-150
Dental cleaning	30-50
Dental filling	30-60
Blood tests (comprehensive)	50-100

Entertainment & Lifestyle

Activity	Cost (€)
Gym membership (monthly)	25-50
Cinema ticket	5-8
Theatre/Opera ticket	5-30
Museum entry	2-5
Yoga/fitness class	8-15
Haircut (men)	8-15
Haircut (women)	15-40
Domestic cleaning (hourly)	8-12

Education (International Schools)

School Type	Annual Tuition (€)
International schools (Bucharest)	8,000-18,000
International schools (other cities)	5,000-12,000
Private Romanian schools	3,000-6,000
Public schools	Free

Sample Monthly Budgets

Single Professional in Bucharest – Comfortable (€1,800/month)

- Rent (1-bed, central): €650
- Utilities: €100
- Groceries: €300
- Dining out (8x): €150
- Transport (Uber + metro): €80
- Entertainment: €150
- Health insurance: €80
- Gym: €40
- Phone + internet: €20
- Miscellaneous: €230

Couple in Cluj – Comfortable (€2,200/month)

- Rent (2-bed, central): €700
- Utilities: €120
- Groceries: €450
- Dining out: €200
- Transport: €80
- Entertainment: €200
- Health insurance: €150
- Gym (2 people): €70
- Phone + internet: €30
- Miscellaneous: €200

Family (2 children) in Timisoara – Comfortable (€3,000/month)

- Rent (3-bed house): €900
- Utilities: €150
- Groceries: €600
- Dining out: €150
- Car costs: €200
- Activities/entertainment: €200
- Health insurance: €250
- Children's activities: €150
- Miscellaneous: €400

How to Save Money

- **Shop at local markets** – Piata Obor (Bucharest), Piata Mihai Viteazu (Cluj) have fresh produce at great prices
- **Use Uber/Bolt** – Often cheaper than taxis, especially for longer rides
- **Cook at home** – Restaurant markup is lower than Western Europe but home cooking is still much cheaper
- **Get Romanian health insurance** – Local private plans are much cheaper than international coverage
- **Avoid expat areas for rent** – Floreasca in Bucharest is pricey; consider Militari or Titan for 30-40% savings

Country Comparison

City	Monthly Cost (Single)	vs. Romania
Bucharest	€1,500	Baseline
Berlin	€2,800	+87%
London	€3,500	+133%
Paris	€3,200	+113%
Amsterdam	€3,000	+100%
Prague	€2,000	+33%
Budapest	€1,700	+13%

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