

Youth Pilgrimage

Train from Deva to Budapest

- Thursday, July 24 (Day 1) – Arrive Bucharest, Otopeni (OTP) airport. PM motor coach departure for Carpathian Mt. resort town of Sinia (2 hrs). Group dinner & orientation session with UUPCC trip leader & staff. Overnight Hotel Alpin Cota 1400***. (D)
- Friday, July 25 (Day 2) – Morning tour of Peles Castle, summer home of Romanian Royal Family. Lunch in town before riding cable car to mountain top for hiking & sandwich dinner – (weather permitting). Watch out for bears! Overnight Hotel Alpin Cota 1400***. (BLD)
- Saturday, July 26 (Day 3) – Depart Sinia for Transylvania. En route we tour Bran Castle aka “Dracula’s Castle” and then climb up to the ruined medieval fortress at Kohalom. Scenic PM drive through the Homorod Valley. Dinner & evening program with Unitarian youth of Homorodalmas Overnight David Ferenc Youth Center - Homorodszentmarton. (BLD)
- Sunday, July 27 (Day 4) – Morning services at Homorodalmas Unitarian Church. Reception & cookout afterward with minister and youth group from the village. Evening youth program TBD. Planning session for adults. Overnight Homorodszentmarton (HSM). (BLD)
- Monday – Wednesday, July 28 - 30 (Days 5 - 7) Joint activities in Homorod Valley with Transylvanian Unitarian youth. Activities TBD – could include traditional crafts, music & dancing, service project at retirement home in nearby village as well as evening bonfires & visits to frescoed Unitarian churches of Szekelyderzs (a UNESCO world heritage site) and Karacsonyfalva. Overnight HSM. (BLD each day)
- Thursday, July 31 (Day 8) Depart Homorod Valley for Rava. En route we explore the medieval walled city of Segesvar/Sighisoara – purported birthplace of Vlad Tepes – aka “Dracula”. Free time to explore, shop, and catch up on email. Lunch on your own. Early evening arrival at B&B in Erdoszentgyorgy. Dinner & orientation session with Rava minister. Overnight Erdoszentgyorgy – Vass Panzio(BD)
- Friday & Saturday, Aug 1 & 2 (Days 9 -10) Rava days. Explore Rava & experience rural village life first hand. Service project TBD. Evening excursions to the nearby pottery village of Korond to shop for unique craft items & to Marosvasarhely for McDonalds and a movie. Overnight Erdoszentgyorgy – Vass Panzio. (BLD each day)
- Sunday, Aug 3 (Day 11) – Morning service in Rava church with youth participation. Farewell luncheon with congregation. Afternoon departure for Kolozsvar. En route we visit the “Church of the Edict” in Torda. Overnight Kolozsvar - Unitarian Center for Students & Pilgrims. (BLD)
- Monday, Aug 4 (Day 12) Unitarian tour of Kolozsvar including a tour of the 1st Unitarian Church of Kolozsvar which houses “the rock” (upon which Francis David was said to have stood when he converted the city to Unitarianism in 1568). Free evening for a movie, email, or to catch up on some sleep. Dinner on your own. Overnight UCSP. (BL).
- Tuesday, Aug 5 (Day 13) – Depart Kolozsvar for Deva. En route we visit tomb of Sigismund in Gyulaferhervar and hold a vesper service at memorial to Francis David in Deva citadel – overnight Deva – Melite House (BLD)
- Wednesday, Aug 6 (Day 14) Travel day by train to Budapest. Lunch in Deva. Sandwiches & snacks on the train. Betty Leb of 1st Unitarian Budapest will meet you and escort you to your hotel. Overnight Budapest – Fabius Hotel***.(BLD)
- Thursday, Aug 7 (Day 15) Morning orientation session. Free day to explore Budapest. Lunch & dinner on your own. Overnight Budapest – Fabius Hotel*** (B)
- Friday, Aug 8 (Day 16) Transfer to airport for flight back to the US. (B).