ROMANIAN CULINARY EVENTS

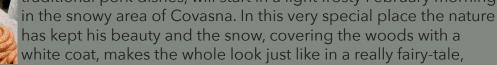






February, International Festival "Pork's Feast", Băile Balvanyos, Covasna County

The story of the charming gastronomy festival recognized for offering a plenty of I traditional pork dishes, will start in a light frosty February morning

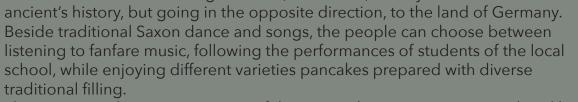


over there between the mountains in the scenic town called Balvanyos. Organizer: National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural Tourism

February, Pancake Festival, Prejmer, Braşov County

The event running its 8th edition this year takes place in mid-February, each

year, before the beginning of the Easter Lent, following the calendar of the Evangelic Church. It is a strictly kept tradition to show respect to those who lived hundreds of years in Prejmer, before leaving the town, after 1989, as they decided to revival the



The caravan is the attracting point of the event. The entourage is completed by disguised accordion players, drummers, trumpeters and the never missing coach with the cooking-stove for preparing the pancakes. Young people offer the pancakes to the locals receiving in exchange flour, sugar, eggs, wine or money. Products are used for making donuts served at the Masked Ball. The event ends with a masked Ball.

Organizer: Prejmer City Hall

February, Honey Festival, Câmpina, Prahova County

This event is bringing together beekeepers and honey companies in several counties throughout the country. The honey festival takes place in the Trade Union's House in Campina. All those interested in bees and honey products will be able to find at the show more than 20 varieties of honey, from the well-known ones, as linden and locust honey to the less-none ones, amber, mint, plum or fir tree.

Organizers: Apicultural association Prahova Valley, City Hall and City Council Câmpina





April, "Vinvest Timişoara", Timişoara, Timiş County

International Wine Salon "Vinvest" is an event dedicated to Romanian and



international wines. Since 2006 this event includes a national wines competition. The goal of this event is to keep Romania's viticulture traditions alive.

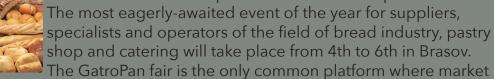
This is the tenth edition.

Organizers: Vinvest Timişoara, The chamber of Trade,

Industry and Agriculture Timiş

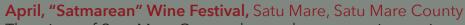
April, GastroPan Fair, Braşov, Braşov County

GastroPan is the largest bread, pastry and catering fair is the largest in Romania and one of the most important in Eastern Europe.



players may meet to present innovations, to share experiences and to develop their business. 10th edition.

Organizers: Gastromedia, The Baker and Pastry chef



The wines of Satu Mare County the northernmost wine region of Romania are known for their unique flavour and character.

> The "Satmarean" wine trial starts in the north of the county, at Halmeu vineyard and it ends towards the hills of Bihor, in Pir. Historical testimonies reveal the fact that viticulture represents a preoccupation of ancient inhabitants of this

area. The volcanic soil of this area and the mid climate are excellent for grape growing. The region of Satu Mare is home to numerous small vineyards and cellars which are hiding unique wines and flavours.

Every year, the Satu Mare County Council in collaboration with the Association of Wine Producers organize "Festivalul vinurilor sătmărene" (The festival of Satu Mare wines), which is preceded by a wine contest to select the area's best wines.

Organizers: Satu Mare County Council, Association of wine producers







Mai, Plum Brandy Festival, Coşeşti, Argeş County

The event is taking place in Valea Păcurarului, Coşeşti. The place is located 30



km from Pitesti, on the Piscani-Domnesti route. The village Costesti is situated on the Raul Domanei Valley. Here you can admire the most beautiful objects made of wood and ceramic carried out by craftsmen in the area. The guests can also follow a folkloric performance supported by referenced names of the Romanian music, accompanied by Doina

Argesului Ensemble from Pitesti. Individual producers will present their plum brandy taking part at the contest. The goal of the festival is continuing the campaign for the recognition of plum brandy as national drink. This campaign has begun in Costesti, on 2002, 19 of May, when the first plum brandy festival get started.

The first used brandy-kettles were simple and rudimentary, located directly in the farmyard of the producer. Their slowly operation mode trailed off the process of plum brandy distillation until late in the spring. Before 1900 there were approximately 30 simple kettles in the area. During the German occupation time, their number reduced at half. The first installations for plum brandy distillation were constructed on the river bank to help increasing the cooling process. In 1846 the village Jupanesti counted 8 installations and some years later, in 1900 their number increased at 21. This long process of manufacturing the plum brandy has inspired the Plum Brandy Festival. It is a festival to maintain the old customs and traditions, with good mood. Thousands of people are coming here to taste the best natural plum brandy in the country. The 12th edition.

Organizers: Coşeşti City Hall, National Association of Romania individual producers of Brandy

Mai, The Strawberries Festival, Halmeu, Satu Mare County

More than three quarters of Romania's strawberry production comes from



Halmeu area, in the north-western part of the country.
Romanian strawberries have a strong, unique, natural flavour and are in great demand for export to other European countries. The Area also produces large quantities of vegetables and other fruits.

Growing strawberries is an important source of income for residents of Halmeu and their harvesting is a great joy. Every year on the last Saturday and Sunday of May, a big strawberries celebration is organized. Strawberry pickers in Halmeu continue the tradition of tasty red fruit cultivation on hundreds of acres of land. For nearly half a century they are famous throughout the country for the quality



of cultivated strawberries.

Although many producers begin to abandon the culture of strawberries, for vegetables, Halmeul still retains its reputation as the "center of the strawberry" in Romania. An amount of 4,000-5,000 tons of fresh and tasty strawberries is being harvested annually.

Strawberry Feast dates back at least 10 years in Halmeu . The objective of this event is to promote strawberries on domestic and foreign markets. Every year, The Strawberry Feast Day in Halmeu village enjoys more participants. The celebration included cheerleaders performances, strawberry producers competition, traditional music programs, strawberries exhibitions and retail, dance competitions, festive dinners, strawberry pickers Cup soccer, and the election of "Miss strawberry".

Organizers: Halmeu's City Hall, Satu Mare County Council

May, Festival "Mangalitsa's pork", Baia Mare, Maramures County

Participants in this unique national and international event, will be part of the



three-day festival, in which tasty traditional products derived from pig meat will be promoted. At the same time, learning and benefits from this meat and the secret of great taste it procures will be discovered. The event will consist in a communication session on themes such as agriculture, agro tourism, and gastronomic competition,

traditional foods tasting and an exhibition. The main theme of the event being to rediscover and promote the traditional Maramures products of Mangalitsa's pork as well as other traditional milk products (cow, sheep, goat cheeses) and derivates of fruits (jams, marmalade), organic honey and handcrafted products made by Maramures craftsmen. Mangalitsa pig has a history of over 200 years. This is a species with curly hair that resembles a sheep with a flesh is almost as healthy as salmon and so apreciated by locals inhabitants that a yearly party takes palce for three days and three nights. Omega 3 known as extremely important for cardiovascular health and acting to decrease the level of "bad" cholesterol and triglycerides and increase the level of "good" cholesterol is available in this pork meat! In addition, the same fatty acids protects cells from oxidation and keep away from depression, rheumatoid arthritis and other serious illnesses.

Unlike other more evolved species Mangalitsa pig is a more rebellious, difficult to reconcile with the dump, is called a fur pig, curly wool pig, sheep with rind, salmon pork or olive oil with four legs. Its flesh has many vitamins and its lipid profile is particularly healthy. Its is adapted to live in households where it can





graze, eat vegetable scraps and a large amount of weeds. Mangalitsa pork is rich in fat, but contains less cholesterol than ordinary pork. It is very tasty, similar in taste to wild boar. It is also called the pig salmon because of its high content of unsaturated fatty acid ration, similar to olive oil or fat salmon. During the three days the atmosphere will be maintained by folk ensembles of the four areas of Maramures called countries: Country Maramures, Lăpuș, Chioarului, Codrului. **Organizers:** Traditional and Ecological Producers Associations of Maramures, Maramures County Council, Recea City Hall

May Festival of Honey Producers, Cerneşti, Maramures county

In the second part of May 2014 at Cerneşti Maramures - Brar will conduct the beekeeping tradition by organizing the XI edition of the Festival Honey Producer. This festival involves all those in carrying further the tradition of beekeeping in the area.

On Pietris hill in Cerneşti village a feast is held so is the famous

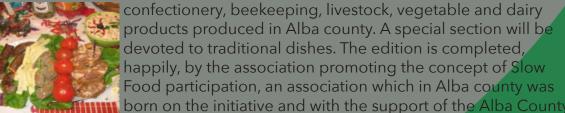
festival of beekeepers in the area, " Festival of honey producers". For two days, guests can enjoy traditional music, sweet hive - pride of area competitions, but also one that has to choose the "Honey Queen " of the year. Connoisseurs and aficionados of art can participate in symposia and debates

about the fate of beekeeping in Maramures. Dozens of specialists are expected at this event. The city is then transformed into a real fair that will display all kinds of honey specialties, royal jelly and propolis. Eleventh edition.

Organizer: Cerneşti City Hall

May "Gustos of Alba", Alba Iulia , Alba County

During the two days of the fair will be presented food butchery, bakery, pastry,



Council. Slow Food concept developed world wide protects local culinary culture promoting healthy and tasty food. This concept will be at the heart of taste education activities dedicated to children.

Food products will be completed by renowned wines produced in Alba County, visitors can find at the fair vineyards in the Tarnavelor valley, in Aiud area, from Secașelor plateau and around Alba Iulia

Organizer: Alba County Council







May to September, Transilvanian Brunch, different localities Sibiu county

Brunch Held under the Transilvanian slogan : local food tastes good " Brunch &



Cultural Dessert " sites, brunch take place on the last Saturday of the month (from May to September) and are organized in different localities. Along with diverse culinary offerings, Transylvanian brunch promotes architectural and cultural heritage of the Saxon villages by organizing visits to fortified churches, music concerts, or demonstrations of craftsmen

and local artisans.

Organizers: Sibiu County Council, Sibiu Tourism Association

June, the International Championship of outdoor cooking, Arad Cup in Gastronomy, Fair and traditional products, Arad, Arad County

International outdoors Cooking Championship is an event type competition and is organized internationally.



The event is aimed at both professional chefs that have also participated in other competitions and they have a culinary experience in this field and amateurs who cook for pleasure and want to be part of this wonderful experience.

The event is certified by W.A.C.S. (World Association of Chefs Societies) as gourmet continental competition and compliance with the existing requirements internationally. Competitors from Romania and abroad participate to this event. All awards and titles are recognized in over 90 countries. Second edition.

Organizers: Euro Est Alternativ Cultural Association (A.C.E.E.A.) in partnership with Arad City Hall, Arad County Council, Arad County Cultural Center, W.A.C.S. (World Association of Chefs Societies)

June, Virşli culinary medieval Festival at Corvin's Castle, Hunedoara, Hunedoara County

Medieval atmosphere at the Corvin's Castle in Hunedoara , where a food festival



takes place like in the good old times. The stake of the event has been to promote the sausage designation named "virşli", an assortment prepared from goat and sheep meat, specific to Hunedoara.

Virşli are a traditional product which locals believe dates from the Dacian era. However, the recipe remains unchanged for hundreds of years, is preserved like sacred

artifact and is passed on from grandparents to grandchildren.



This year the organizers have come up with a new concept named "Virşli semi-marathon". On a distance of 21 km, starting from the Corvin's Castle in Hunedoara and the arrival in the city center of Deva, the participants in this competition can measure their speed.

Besides tastings the Brad and Sălaş virşli, those arrived in Victory's Square in Deva, have the opportunity to see a live virşli preparation, and in addition, the organizers have prepared them a series of concerts and a lot of fun. Second Edition

Organizers: European Centre for Rural Development, TOC International in partnership with Deva City Hall and "Drăgan Muntean" Cultural Center

June, "Where you go lamb?", Bran, Brasov County

The event "Where you go lamb?" is held annually in Bran, along with the sheeps'



transhumance. The event takes place both on the Inima Reginei Plateau (Queen's Heart Plateau) in Bran as well as in some hostels in the area, where the traditional programs and events take place. The festival includes folk music, alternating with moments of traditional dance, a gourmet

contest in the company of folk artists and exhibition with sale of traditional products specific to each area.

The event is held annually in order to promote rural tourism and the variety of services and products that are available to both locals and tourists alike. It is also an alternative for tourists coming to visit Bran to spend their spare time.

Organizer: National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural Tourism

July, Festival "Brăduleț Cheese", Brăduleț, Arges County

The Cheese Festival is meant to be an event designed to promote the traditions



and local customs, the centerpiece of the event being the delicious product of which the villagers Brăduleţ are real masters. Thus, those that will respond to the invitation from the local authorities will receive a feast of flavors and tastes of the perfect cheese produced in local households, as well as be able to take part in a true rural celebration, with a

parade of costumes specific to the area and folk music shows.

The Festival "Caşcavalul de Brăduleț" runs for three consecutive days, during July, in the three villages of the commune: Galeş, Brădet and Brăduleţ. Each day of festival, the village hosting the event promotes its own values related to local cultural identity. Producers from the area have the opportunity to exhibit their traditional products in the festival's stands, while visitors and other participants





in the event can discover the culinari delights prepared in the households of Brăduleţ's villagers: cottage cheese, soft and salty sheep cheese, telemea cheese, baschiu pressed cheese and more. In the meadows that host the event, the village craftsmen will gather in the specially designed workshops, to offer all those attending the event true demonstrations of talent and skill in the traditional arts specific to the area. Meanwhile, the Vâlsan Valley will be filled with the sounds of folk artists invited to the festival, among them big names of Romanian folklore, dancing teams will amaze the audience with the frantic rhythms of the beautiful folk dances.

Organizers: City Hall and City Council through REGIO projects

July, Pancakes Parade, Moneasa, Arad County

This event is more than a gastronomic delight. Beside pancakes, the organizers are preparing for the tourists a varied artistic schedule.

As usual, beside all of the above, all those present will be able to

take part in the contest called "pancake cross".

Thirteenth Edition.

Organizer: Arad County Cultural Center

August, Arges Traditions Festival, Corbeni, Arges County

For three days the tourists felt, breathed, danced and truly lived an authentic



Romanian atmosphere, at the Arges Traditions Festival, third edition, that was held in commune Corbeni, Arges County, during the month of August. The organizers had prepared unique contests for all the bold ones, such as running, horse traction, wood cutting, traditional cooking, cow milking or fast bulz eating (bulz is a type of cornmeal

porridge with cheese). Children, parents and grandparents were dressed in folk attire and danced "hora", exulted and spent these days joyfully. The craftsmen's stands were the delight of all those present that were looking for souvenirs. The cooks proved their culinary competency trough traditional dishes made with 100% natural ingredients, specially prepared for this event. The Arges Traditions Festival is a symbol of Romanian folk traditions, because it perfectly meets their standards by strictly maintaining everything about the folklore and folk traditions: the costumes, crafts, songs, traditional cuisine as well as the folk dances that are specific to the Arges county ethnographic area. The youngsters participating in the folk song contest coming from many areas, the craftsmen with their beautiful costumes and "opinci" (also called opanak - word of Slavic origin that refers to leather traditional shoes without laces), all crafted by hand, the farmers



that came with products that taste genuinely just like they once did, the village dance "hora" where the ardent musicians enroll everybody in a dancing frenzy that lifts the dust from the ground, all these brought back the Romanian village world like it once was, at the Arges Traditions Festival.

Organizers: Acapella Cultural Association, Argeș County Council, Corbeni City Hall

August, Cauldron Festival, Neptune Swimming Pool, Arad, Arad County

This event is part of an extensive program of cultural-artistic shows dedicated to



the "Days of Arad". The Cauldron Festival is the largest event of its kind in the west side, where each year dozens of types of stews and soups are made, preparing thousands of meals for the participants.

Eleventh Edition.

Organizer: Arad City Hall

August, Potato Festival, Miercurea Ciuc, Harghita County

Stew masters compete each year at the Potato Festival in Miercurea Ciuc. Various



dishes are being prepared, from pork goulash to fish dishes. The main ingredient being the potato, the Central Park in Miercurea Ciuc turns into a flavor bazaar, where chefs delight all food lovers with a great variety of dishes. While in a pot, boils to simmer a pork goulash with potato, two steps away, a

game stew awaits to be tasted. Freshly spiced, all dishes are given to the locals for a taste. The festival does not lack in fish dishes or desserts, like potato pie with butter and cream, chocolate cream with boiled potato and raspberries. Thirteenth Edition.

Organizer: Miercurea Ciuc City Hall

August, National Trout Festival, Ciocănești, Suceava County

The National Trout Festival in Ciocănești, held each year in August, on the feast



of the Assumption, continues the Bucovina's tradition and not in any kind of manner, but as it was inherited, taking from the local's "dowry chest", all kinds of events. This festival is recognized at national and international levels, as being the only trout festival in Europe.

The National Trout Festival includes a series of complex events such as: religious moments (Christian choral), reverential shows, historical commemorations, rafting



(reminiscent of traditional occupation in this area), fishing contests, culinary competitions and a competition of fisherman jokes and stories, folk costume parade, folklore performances and entertainment shows, exhibitions, wine tastings, brass bands, balls, rustic and traditional dinners. The culinary part of the festival is one of the most endearing for both locals and tourists alike. Starting 1993, over the 10 editions, the gastronomic achievements were worthy of records: a cobza (a sort of closed basket made from fresh fir leaves) of 1000 smoked trouts, a soup with 250 liters of water, 50 kg of trout, 5 kg of carrots, 5 kg of greens and a cornmeal porridge made from 40 kg of corn flour. Fourteenth Edition.

Organizer: Ciocănești Village Hall

August, The Festival of Cheese and Brandy, Rasinari, Sibiu County

Cheese and Brandy festival aims to promote Romanian traditional products from



Sibiu Surroundings. Cheese and Brandy producers from Rasinari, and other places in the region exhibit their products to be tasted and bought.

Rasinari City is known throughout the country for quality of cheese that is produced here and also from the well preserved cultural heritage for generations.

Every year, people from Sibiu and tourists arriving in this region have the opportunity to taste cheese prepared by shepherds and for the brandy that was previously made on the boiler. The X-th edition.

Organizers: City Hall and City Council of Rasinari, Tourism Association of Sibiu, "Marginimea Sibiului Gal" Association, Association of Rural Pensions of Rasinari, Association of the Most Beautiful Villages from Romania

August, Festival of Jam, Izvoarele, Prahova County

Festival of jam, compote and natural juice is a national event where Romania



display their rich gastronomic, tourist and ethnographic and are expecting the producers and housewives in Romania who will be demonstrating their diligence and skill in jams, compotes and natural juices

Here you can taste and buy a wide range of Romanian sweets and jams made simply, from the carrot, celery or

green tomatoes till to sophisticated recipes made from traditional or exotic fruits, such as oranges, plums, blackberries or blueberries.

"The star" of the festival is jam elderberry, extremely meticulous of preparation, a specific recipe from Prahova County. Also you can buy fresh apple juice, sea-





buckthorn, prepared with honey and seasonal fruit compotes. Organizer: Association of the Most Beautiful Villages from Romania

August, Festival of Pies, Oituz, Bacau County

In August, in village Oituz, Bacau County, it is organized the Festival of Pies. In

the two-day of competition, it will be organized a lot of events, as follow: receiving the guests, organization of the pies (presentation invitations and stands), the judging, artistic presentation of local elements (promotional objects) participants award, and a field party.

The competitors can bring pies already made (with description of the technological process and recipe) at home, or they can prepared the pies on the spot, in space arranged by the organizers, but with its own ingredients and tools.

Organizer: National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural Tourism



August, Festival of Ethnographic Communities, Mures Valley, Valley of Mures, **Mures County**



Association Microregion Middle Mures Valley alongside Mures County



Council, organizes every year the Festival of Ethnographic community Mures Valley, between August 15 to 25, an important tool for presenting authentic customs and traditions specific to the Mures land. During the festival it will be built an allegorical Transylvanian village in the commune Rastolita- "The Alley" as the main venue of events, with the

arrangement of the 14 homes that will be represent of the community organizing also the secret art of manufacturing violins, exposing the public traditional artisan items, trades and products; area will present exhibits of local culture: household items, traditional fabrics, ceramics, furniture, tools, musical instruments and popular technique.

The opening of the festival will be made though a costume popular parade from the area, presented by local and folkloric presentation of a folklore show performed by professional ensembles and performers invited. Also the presentation of the three traditional-gourmet contests, wood molding and beauty (girls and costumes from Mures villages), organization of exhibitions with artisans selling traditional object-specific land-use zones for specific presentation of sheperd, arranging a play park for children who will be able to have pony rides and other surprise elements.

This holiday is one of the most significant activities that bring on a large number





of Romanian and foreign tourists (over 25,000 people) but also different manufacturers and artisans who are able to present products and items made by mastery and their skills.

Organizer: Mures City Council, Association Microregion Middle Mures Valley

August, The Festival of Figs, Svinita, Mehedinti County

The Festival of Figs is an unique cultural event also in Romania and Europe. It is



organized in Svinita and trz to promote local products from figs, but also the ethnic diversitz oft he region of Clisura Dunarii. At this festival can be seen: presentation and degustation of traditional products made from figs as figs sweets, figs coockies, demostration of picking figs, but also parades of popular costumes, folcloric shows offered by the artistic

ensembles oft he region of Clisura Dunarii and invited ensembles from Serbia. Organisers: Svinita City Hall, The Association Partnener from Svinita, Mehedinti County Council, The Union of Serbs from Romania

August, The Festival of Plums, Mediesu Aurit, Satu Mare County

During the years, this village did not stop to promote the popular costumes, the



traditions and the songs, as well as the name of their village. A special attraction, with more then 5.000 guests, ist he "Festival oft he Plums" lasting two days. The fist edition was in 1998 proposing to attract as much as posible visitors, different programs, a special ocasion to celebrate the village and the local population, but also to promote the image oft he village and the touristic objectives and the gastronomy. During the two days, the visitors will know about the history

oft he Lonia Castle, the Dacian Ovens, can visit them and find out interesting things about their history and arhitecture. During the festival, the most skilled housewives prepare donuts with plum jam, Swabs strudel, pies and deligious house made coockies with plum jam. From this exhibition are not missing cabbage rolls with meet, witch are perfect matching with the plum brandy, from the region of Tara Oasului or Codru. In the centre of the village will demonstrate local producers and craftsmen. They will demontrate how they produce handicraft und food (plum jam, sweets, plum brandy) inviting the visitors to try their

Organisers: Mediesu Aurit City Hall, Satu Mare County Council, The Association Natural







August, The Goulash Festival, Ocna Sugatag, Maramures County

Every year in August, the Ocna Sugatag Village Hall organizes the Goulash

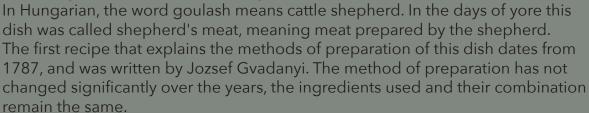


Festival where contestants compete in culinary skills to prepare the best goulash. All participants (both locals and tourists) can enjoy the delicious dishes accompanied by a soundtrack of authentic folklore.

This year the contestants will cook both bean goulash and normal goulash - with pork, beef or lamb.

The Goulash Festival in Ocna Sugatag is a competition for both professional and amateur cooks trying to prepare

the best goulash, an authentic Hungarian dish.



After the tasting of the competing dishes, the winner is announced and the food is washed down with horinca - a traditional brandy made in Maramures. VI edition.

Organizer: Ocna Sugatag City Hall



August, The Pancakes Festival, Amara, Ialomita County



This festival, besides the culinary competition also includes sporting events and music shows by well known or debutant artists. Hundreds of delicious pancakes, dozens of skillful chefs, sporting competitions, super-per formances and hundreds of tourists - these are the ingredients for a perfect weekend in Amara where fun and merry making are the main headliners. Edition: IV

Organizers: Amara City Council and City Hall

September, Turia International Cooking Festival, Turia, Covasna County

Teams from Germany, Hungary and Romania participate in the International Outdoors Cooking Festival. Scattered near the open fire, the teams start preparations early in the morning so by lunchtime the coals are hot and the oil is sizzling in the cauldrons. Various types of onions, peppers, tomatoes, meat, wild boar, rabbits and hares are grilled and cooked



by the most skilled chefs and amateurs who came from afar to cook outdoors. The recipes are carefully chosen by each participant, eager to stand out, ones with a grilled mole - a type of grilled bacon ruled - others with roast lambs and so on. While waiting for the food to be ready and tasted, the guests are offered figs soaked in alcohol, wines or various types of traditional brandies and the invited orchestras (both from Germany and Turia) liven the atmosphere. Although everything is prepared in sight of the guests, the teams keep small secrets to themselves, secrets meant to tickle the taste buds of the judges. Organizer: National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural Tourism

September, Fish Borsch Festival, Crisan, Tulcea County

During the two-day event, local teams and experts from all over the Danube



Delta, gather in Crisan, compete amongst them and show their guests and tourists their own ethnic cuisine. Organizers put up tents that look like summer kitchens where the teams cook the fresh fish in from of the lustful viewers. The first day is dedicated to various fish dishes: cabbage rolls filled with fish, fish "saramura",

fish "plachie", fish-balls with sauce and without, and countless other dishes that enchant the visitors with their taste and with the presentation.

The second day is dedicated to the famous fish borsch. Each team has its own secret recipe. The borsch is served the traditional way: first the boiled fish and then the broth to which garlic sauce is added. Hot polenta accompanies the

Organizer: National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural Tourism

September, The Wine Festival at the Minis Maderat Vineyard (an itinerant festival held in the towns of the Arad Vineyard), Arad County

Minis Maderat is one of the oldest vineyards in Romania. Many archeological



and historical evidence attest the fact that wine and vineyards have occupied and important place in the lives of the residents of the area since the days of yore. For several years, now, the Wine Festival of Minis Madera is marked by cultural events, wine tastings and presentations of traditional products.

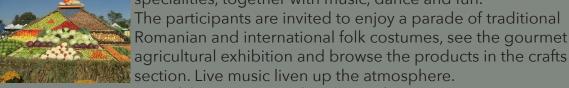
Organizer: Arad County Council



September, Harvest Days, Cumpana, Constanta County

The main attractions of this Festival are organic products and traditional food

specialities, together with music, dance and fun.



Organizer: Association of the Most Beautiful Villages from Romania

September, Vorona Forest Celebrations , Vorona, Botosani County

No true culture lover could ever miss the Vorona Forest Celebrations. After



browsing through the objects of the craftsmen, both participants and visitors enjoy the traditional dances. Each year the ingredients for a successful celebration are good music, good food and lots of beer. The celebrations are the pride of the area. The event promotes local products and

local cuisine.

Organizer: Association of the Most Beautiful Villages from Romania

September, Festival of the Hunters, Bata, Arad County

The Festival is aimed at all those who appreciate hunting as sport. Each autumn,



Bata is the place to hear the most amazing hunting stories and to enjoy the best stews. The event is accompanied by a cooking contest held outdoor, live music and dance. The main attractions of the festival are contests for the most skilled hunters, contests of traditional food, dog training

shows and evaluation of the trophies. Sixth edition.

Organizers: Arad County Cultural Center, Association of Hunters and Fishermen Arad, Bata City Council

September, "Culinary Mosaic" Festival, Caransebes, Caras Severin County

This European Culinary Festival brings together for two days producers of meat products (goat, sheep, beef, pork) who come not only from Caras Severin, but from the entire country. The purpose of this culinary exhibition is to promote traditional Romanian products and to make Romanian cuisine known all over the world.

Organizer: National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural Tourism





September, Pastrami and Cheese Festival, Runcu, Dâmboviţa County

The shepherds' autumn descent from the mountains is the biggest celebration



that takes place in Runcu area. This is the moment when the shepherds are coming down to the villages and each owner gets back their sheep and the animals are taken to the winter shelter, while the shepherds hand over the cheese products and receive the payment.

Each year this celebration is increasingly popular, as visitors from the area come here to buy cheese and pastrami.

This is a symbolic feast that marks the end of the pastoral year. The festival is accompanied by music, dance and traditional food, especially pastrami and bulz (baked polenta with Romanian sheep cheese and cream). Not only is the festival popular for its culinary attractions, it also brings together artists and craftsmen from all over the country, who present their works in ceramics, traditional Romanian costumes, sculpture and many more.

Organizer: Runcu City Council and City Hall

Septembrie, Traditional Autumn Fair, Timişoara, Timiş County

The main component of the festival is the culinary one, with a strong accent on



bakery products. The Village Museum in Timişoara, a city filled with tradition, brings together companies and traditional producers from the counties of Timis, Arad, Caras Severin, Hunedoara, Cluj, Covasna and Braşov, as well as from Hungary and Serbia. All of them will welcome visitors swith a variety of traditional products (bakery, pastry, pasta,

meat, dairy products), ecological products (honey, teas, cosmetics), drinks (wine, brandy, juice), homemade sweets, products grilled, boiled or roasted outdoor. This event is aimed at perpetuating traditional values and promoting culture and traditions by organizing a very rich artistic and folkloric program, but also by displaying a large variety of products. Fourth edition.

Organizer: Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Timis

September, Culinary Festival "Pita de Banat", Timişoara, Timiş County

The theme of the festival "Pita de Banat" is very diverse: products, accessories and equipments for bakery, pastry, traditional and ecological products, specific products of international cuisine, wine, tea, coffee, beer, other alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, grilled and roasted outdoor products.



The organizers also plan to host demonstrations from bakers and master chefs, demonstrations of artists and craftsmen, contests and a fashion show including innovative outfits created entirely out of pastry products.

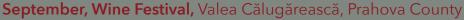
Organizers: Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture and County Council Timiş

September, "Festival of papricas and wine", Buzias, Timis County

Two days of culinary shows, demonstrations of traditional art and culture, art fair, music and folklore shows. The highlight of the event is a culinary contest - tasting of papricas (traditional Transylvanian

dish). Fifth edition.

Organizers: Association for the Development of Buziaş region, Buziaş City Hall



The Wine Festival is aimed at promoting traditions and customs of local



producers, who are specialized in seasonal products for autumn, like pastrami, sausages, chees, meat, kurtos, graper, wine, minced meat rolls. Not even a drop of beer! Over 20 producers of Bacchus' liquor, most of them from the area, have presented their products and are awaiting their customers. Everything is there to be tasted. Even if people aren't queuing,

you can still see them coming from other counties just to buy the wine from the local producers.

Organizers: City Hall and City Council Valea Călugărească

September, Romanian cheese Festival, Doftana Valley, Prahova County

The autumn celebrations are among the most beautiful in Prahova county, taking into account the fact that Doftana Valley is a wonderful place for relaxation, and also the traditional place for the production of caşcavea (traditional cheese), since hundreds of years. The festival awaits dozens of producers from the area, specializing not only in the production of cheese, but also sausages,

ham and other traditional products based on old recipes.

Furthermore, the two days offer tourists a great opportunity to taste cheese, polenta and other goodies from traditional Romanian kitchen.

Organizers: City Hall and City Council Valea Doftanei







September, Carpathian Culinary Heritage Festival - Heritage of Oas Land Nearest Oas, Maramures county

This event was initiated and organized within trans boundary project "Carpathi-

an Culinary Heritage Network", in partnership with Ivano-Frankovsk Tourism Association, Ivano-Frankovsk City Council from Ukrainian, Association EcoLogic - Maramures County, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovakia, Szamos-Bazar Association from Hungary.

Within the festival will be organized a professional seminar, presentations about "Gastronomy and Crafts - history and tradition", "Grandma's recipes", projects and trans boundary activities, issues related to trans boundary trade of food. Visitors will have free tastings at the stands as: corn bread, jams, honey and jams, various cookies, cakes, fruit, cabbage, potatoes, cheese and plum jam Beles, Strudels, fancuri with jam, various filled pies, "boace", "brânzoici" "gombot" with plum, goulash, sausages and smoked ham, palinca and other distillates drinks, wines, soft drinks and mineral water, etc. Masters of the culinary art from the three countries will present traditional dishes. Skilled handicraftsmen from Satu Mare and Maramures will be present.

On stage of festival, during the two days of the festival, will evolve popular artists from Satu Mare - Maramures, which will complement the festive atmosphere with recitals of popular music.

Organizers: Negresti Oas City Hall, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Satu Mare, Mara Oas Association, Museum of Oas Land

September, Hrib Festival, Vama, Suceava County

Every year, since 2009, in September, the Vama Tourism Association - Bucovina,



organize "Hrib Festival". The Hrib Festival is an event by which the Vama Tourism Association members - Bucovina promote their folklore, culinary products, forest fruits and other bio-ecological organic raw materials.

The festival program includes: culinary competitions exhibitions and products based on hribs and other forest mush-

rooms. Stands are decorated with traditional culinary specialties, prepared by the units of the Vama Tourism Association. The festival bring to the attention of participants flavour of "hrib borsch" seasoned with sour cream (boiled), the unforgettable taste of the hrib stew with sour cream and mamaliga, of chubby sarmale with forest mushrooms, of mushrooms zacusca, salads with autumn mushrooms, of mushrooms meatballs with mayonnaise and many other local dishes, all splashed with blueberries, wild strawberries and raspberries liquor, as



many famous liquors prepared from forest fruits. During the festival you can admire exhibitions of folk craftsmen from Vama and of guests from other localities of Bucovina, parades of song and dance performances by artists of folk assemblies and groups from the county. An in addition to specific event of the festival is organizes a gastronomic seminar based on ecological products. Organizer: Vama Tourist Association - Bucovina

September, The festival of Palinca, Satu Mare, Satu Mare County



The overall objective of the project started in the county "International Festival of Palinca - Satu Mare" is to promote the touristic potential and creating the necessary infrastructure in order to increase Romania's attractiveness as a tourist destination through increasing the Satu Mare visibility on the tourist map of Romania and promotion of Roma-

nian traditional product. The knowledge of Romanian products through tourism is a main factor of international promotion of tradition and tourism in Romania and the development of its domestic market. Palinca is one of the power brands of Satu Mare and already knew that the best palinca in the world is prepared here under Turţ's plum trees or in palincia or Zetea from Medieşu Aurit. Palinca is the integral part of a lifestyle that blends temperance with the joy of living. The festival of Palinca brings together the biggest manufacturers of palinca from Satu Mare and the surrounding, as well as from Hungary.

Organizers: Halmeu City Hall, Satu Mare County Council

September, "The Festival of Sarmale (Stuffed Cabbage)", Salonta, Bihor County

The festival was conceived as a blend of Romanian folk tradition and old cuisine.



🌉 When we talk about tradition, we take into account that by decorating the competition pavilions with ceramic ware old woven fabric was played back the beauty old fashioned Romanian peasant house, and when we talk about Romanian cuisine, we talk about dishes cooked by 100 years old recipes, such as sarmale made with grape

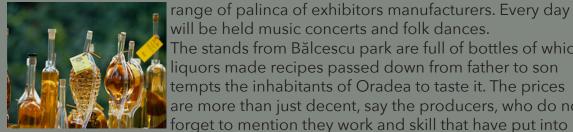
leaves, sarmale with mush, sarmale with walnut kernel and many other recipes. Organizers: Salonta City Hall, Bihor County Council





September, Fair of manufacturers of palinca, Oradea, Bihor County

During those three days residents of Oradea are expected to taste the diverse



will be held music concerts and folk dances. The stands from Bălcescu park are full of bottles of which liquors made recipes passed down from father to son tempts the inhabitants of Oradea to taste it. The prices are more than just decent, say the producers, who do not

making tuica.

Organizers: Oradea City Hall, Bihor County Council

September, Fair of Bread, Bucharest

Dozens of breads of all kinds and sizes, some specially prepared in front of



visitors in hearth ovens, numerous bakery exhibits, bards of Romanian folklore and many other surprises - are just some of the attractions "Fair of Bread" organized by the City Hall of 2nd District in National Park.

During two days in September, between 11.00 and 18.00, the inhabitants of Bucharest are invited to relive the typical atmosphere of a "Village of Bread" built around this primor-

dial symbol that is the bread and its multitude derivatives.

Dressed in original popular garments, housewives that came to the National Park from all regions of the country will demonstrate their skill in recipe achieving by hundreds of years, through preparation of some traditional dishes coming from ancient Romanian cuisine.

The atmosphere of rich autumn in old Romanian villages and fairs will be complemented by workshops and handicraft exhibitions of the peasants dressed in garments specific to each folklore areas that will sing, dance or tell anecdotes. Another attraction point will be given by the presentation to the Bucharest inhabitants of old customs that link to bread - ritually bread tree of the birth, wedding tree, death, calling rain, prosperity, worship of wheat.

At the same time, in a contemporary note, will be present the large units of bakery, private companies, manufacturers of wine and tuica or eco foods, that will tempt visitors of Fair of Bread to taste or purchase pies, papanasi, cakes, oilcake, bulz etc.

Organizer: Bucharest City Hall of District 2







September, Festival "The Story of cheese", Rucăr, Arges County

At the time ransacked, National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural



Tourism (ANTREC) joins the Rucăr City Hall and Rucar City Council to organize the traditional annual celebration. Within the "Expopastoralis - The Story of Cheese" in September takes place various activities, which marks this celebration: the folk parade of costumes from Rucar moment of display of folk costumes from Muscel - standard of Romanian folk art and opportunity to promote authentic

traditional values. Gastronomic competition "The Story of cheese" is intended for manufacturers of cheeses (from Rucăr to Fundata) and pension owners of ANTREC network. Bellows cheese, shepherd Bulz of Rucăr, the curds, cream and cottage cheese with mamaliga, traditional Romanian dishes based dairy and meat prepared by the best skilful housewives are just some of the dishes that will entice the lovers of traditional mountain gastronomy at the "The Story of cheese". The most diligent and beautiful shepherd dogs, the most beautiful ovine, cattle, horses and pigeons from the area are just some of the attractions with which residents of Rucăr-Arges welcomes everyone who stopped at the Rucar celebrations. Expopastoralis is a traditional celebration occasioned by sheep came down from the mountain.

Organizers: National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural Tourism, City Hall and City Council of Rucăr

September, Polenta Festival, Satu Mare, Satu Mare County

The first Polenta Festival was held at Turt in 2012 and thereafter it was held in



Satu Mare, being one of the most representative gastronomical events in the county. The festival, at its first edition had an international character thanks to the participation of representatives of villages in eastern Hungary where still is prepared the famous polenta, seasoned with cheese and roast pork or chicken.

A Polenta is a common food for the two countries, but the definitive difference is given by the method of preparation and the side-dishes that goes with it. The objectives of this festival is increasing the number of tourist that visit Satu Mare County by offering alternatives for leisure, discovering of Romanian traditions and culture in Satu Mare County, through the direct interaction with the local population during a multicultural and multiethnic event. 4th Edition.

Organizer: Satu Mare County Council



September - October "Sarmale" (Stuffed Cabbage) Internațional Festival Sarmale, Praid, Harghita County

The "Sarmale" Festival is a typical and unique event in Praid, a small resort in Harghita County, located at feet of Gurghiului Mountains, at the border with Mureş County. It is held every year, in the third weekend of September. The story of the festival

begins more than 14 years ago, on the occasion of an international Rural Tourism Symposium, held in the same Praid. The attendants in this symposium suggested that

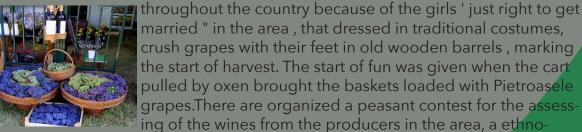
Romanians and Hungarians leave aside their misunder-

standings and go to a "culinary war" on the land of "sarmales", traditional dishes that both cuisines brag on, the challenge was accepted, and the first festival was celebrated in Pusztamérges – Hungary in 1994, and following year's edition was held in Praid - Romania. After a period of 4 years that the festival was celebrated alternatively in Hungary (Pusztamerges) and Romania (Praid), starting from, the touristic resort in Harghita County became the permanent host of the yearly festival. Since then, at every edition come to Praid both representatives of the neighboring villages as well as participants almost from every region in the country and abroad, mainly from Hungary. 29thEdition.

Organizers: Praid City Hall, Touristic Association "Ţinutului Sării"

September "Tămâioase Festival", Pietroasele, Buzău County

Every year in early September , "Tămâioase "Festival is celebrated, well-known



graphical and old tools for winemaking exhibition and also a gastronomical exhibition of the local rural-homes that have as ingredients the wine and the grapes. Among the delicatessen on the tables you can find "deer spoiled with cranberry sauce", "oven roasted rabbit", "batter marvels with fish ", and also quails, spiced turkey, meat stuffed pan-cakes or Penteleu snowballs, everything abundantly doused with Pietroasele wine.

Rusty as the topaz stone, fine and full of sweetness taste, the "Tămâioasa de Pietroasele" wine it is considered by wine specialists as the most fragrant assortment in the Romanian Tămâioasa, because of the geographical position of the



hill-sides where the vineyards are located. These hills, sunbathed from morning to sunset, the lime in the soil, heated up during the day and that releases warmth during the night too, contributes to the uniqueness of this Romanian wine.

Organizers: City Hall of Pietroasele Village with National Authority for Tourism support and Romanian Most Beautiful Villages Association.

October, Festival - competition Culinary Tradition in Ialomița County "La Casa Tudorii", Giurgeni, Ialomița County

History, culinary arts, old music and a "momâi" (puppets) exhibition are the



landmarks of the festival that is celebrated in the Archaeological Research Station in Giurgeni, Ialomița County.
Through this festival it is intended to rejuvenate the public interest for the valorization of the extraordinary culinary tradition in Ialomița County and the discovery of typical local culinary recipes. 4thEdition.

Organizers: Ialomița County Council and Ialomița County Museum.

October, Wine Festival, Oradea, Bihor County

The Wine Festival is a traditional event, which every year gathers thousands of



inhabitants from Oradea during the three days dedicated to fun and quality folkloric music. The exhibitors delight the festival's visitors with fresh grape juice squeezed right in front of them and also with traditional potatoes and cabbage pies. "Micii", sausages, skewers and other culinary delights attract the ones there. On the specially decorated stage, in front of Antonio Alexe Arena, performers and folkloric groups, both

professional and amateur, from Bihor County will be performing. Prized contests and competition will create a joyful and fun atmosphere.

Organizer: Oradea City Hall

October, Transylvanian Feast, Sfântu Gheorghe, Covasna County

The feast has two main traditional dishes form Transilvania Region; sausages and



"sarmale". During the weekend you'll have gastronomy and the best cooks from all over the country and even from abroad, that come to Sfântu Gheorghe for competing and for sharing their special recipes.

Besides preparing the dishes, the teams will have to dedicate time also for the table arrangements, because the jury will valorize the team for costumes and organization, fun,



ingredients preparation for the dishes, table arrangements (decoration, traditional products, and originality). Of course, very important are the appearance and taste of the dishes. This unique event is centered on the local cuisine, gathering of traditional recipes and promoting of high quality ecological

Organizers: Sfântu Gheorghe City Hall, Small and Medium Enterprises Covasna Association, Sfântu Gheorghe Hotels and Restaurants Association, The chamber of Trade, Industry and Agriculture Covasna

October, National Festival of Jellied Meat, Valea Bistriței, Gori County

Jellied (pork) meat - Racituri or Aituri or Piftie - in Romanian - is a favorite cold season appetizer, preceded by a shoot of plum brandy and followed by a serving of stuffed cabbage.

> Chefs and cooks representing dozens of hotels and B&Bs in Romania will offer the attendance their best creations. Mid-October.

Organizer: National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural Tourism

October, "Oktober Bier Fest", Arad, Arad County

The well-known German tradition has gained popularity in Romania, a country whose beers get rave reviews from both locals and foreign visitors.

> Several types of Romanian beers will be complemented by traditional foods such as sausage, pork shank and rotisserie chicken. Brass bands will offer concerts which will - of course include Bavarian songs.

Organizer: Arad City Hall

October, Plescoi Sausage Festival, Berca, Buzău County

Plescoi - a small town in southern Romania - is known for its tasty dry sausage

(Carnati de Plescoi) and every year locals and visitors gather for a two-day celebration of this local delicacy.

Artisanal sausage makers will feature their products next to producers of other local, traditional foods such as Romanian Pastrami (salt-cured lamb meat), cheeses, breads and pastry. Local wineries Blajani, Zoresti and Pietroasele will offer tast-

ings of their slightly fermented grape juice (must) and wines made from native grape varieties.















Calendar gastronomic

Entertainment will include: traditional music and dance performances, acrobatic shows offered by Masca Theatre.

The hungriest and thirstiest of the attendance can participate in sausage eating and beer drinking contests to win the Festival's Hungriest (Fomilă de Pleşcoi) and Festival's Thirstiest (Setilă de Berca) titles.

Organizers: Berca City Hall, National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural Tourism, Buzău County Council

October, Banat's Brandy, Băile Herculane, Caraş-Severin County

The (plum) brandy is Romania's traditional aperitif whose name, flavor and alco-



hol strength varies from one area of the country to another. In western Romania (Banat) the local brandy is called Rachie or Rachia and it is mainly produced/ distilled from fermented fruit (plum - the most common -, pear, cherry, apple and forest-berries). Mulberry or locust wood barrels - used to store the brandy in - give the drink a unique (yellowish) color.

Rachia is complemented with traditional breads, sheep's milk cheese, pickled mushrooms and vegetable spread (Zacusca).

Organizers: Caraş-Severin County Council, Băile Herculane City Hall



October, Wine Festival, Timişoara, Timiş County

The Recas Vinery, 15 miles east of the largest city in western Romania, are known



for its unique rose and red wines among which are those produced form native grapes: Feteasca Neagra and Feteasca Regala.

The venue for this open-air event will be the city's largest soccer stadium "Dan Păltinişanu", home of the local soccer team Poli Timisoara.

Wine tastings and traditional foods and lots of music concerts: folklore, pop and rock. XVI-th Edition.

Organizers: Timișoara City Hall, Culture House Timișoara

October, Festival of Inns "Hanul Ancutei", Tupilati, Neamt County

Romania's old hospitality traditions are revived during the annual Festival of Inns



(Festivalul Hanurilor); Inns from all over Romania will offer plenty of old fashioned dishes and the best Romanian wines. Folk arts and products of artisans in all ethnographic regions of Romania will be featured in a section dedicated to arts and crafts.

Organizer: National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural Tourism





October, Milk Fair, Câmpulung Moldovenesc, Suceava County

Cattle farmers bring in to the Milk Fair, show and sell, their animals, best cheeses



and veal and beef meat products. This annual event also attracts other categories of small farms, bee keepers, producers of traditional foods and craftspeople. Livestock exhibitions, traditional music and dance and folk art stands.

Organizer: Câmpulung Moldovenesc City Hall

October "Danube Delta Fish Soup Feast", Jurilovca, Tulcea County

Fish has always been the main ingredient in the diet of the people of the



Danube Delta and their fish soup or borscht (Bors Pescaresc or Bors de Peste in Romanian) in considered the best in Romania. Chefs and cooks from all over Romania will 'set' their special iron cast pots near to the bank of the Danube River. Festival attendance will have the opportunity to taste the Delta's traditional fish soup as well as other fish dishes.

Traditional music and dances, guided tours of the nearby Argamum Greek settlement and Jurilovca village.

The event is attended by a huge number of people and that is because the reputation of Jurilovca exceeds the limits of the county and even the country as Jurilovca was the European destination of excellence for 2013.

Organizers: Jurilovca City Hall, Tulcea County Council

November, Products and Traditions from Olt Country Festival, Avrig, Sibiu

This is an important event and a great occasion for visitors to buy various



agricultural products, fruits and vegetables, canned meat products, cheese and other dairy products, all natural, made using recipes inherited from ancestors. Also, the a fairs has stands where visitors can browse the products of various local craftsmen, meet with popular artists and learn about different offers from service providers. As usual, songs, dances and merry making will be the order

of the day. This is a good opportunity for the organizers to promote the area and strengthen relations between villages of Olt Country.

Organizers: "Olt Country" Local Action group, Avrig City Hall







November, Plum brandy Festival, Valenii de Munte, Prahova County

This Autumn Festival is one of the most popular in the area. Thousands of people from all over Romania come here to enjoy the traditional products (especially from the Teleajenului Valley) in an authentic Romanian atmosphere. The highlight of the festival is the awards gala where the best brandy producers are celebrated. Last year more than 60 small producers took part in the competition, each of the offering the jury and to the visitors generous samples of

their products. For three days people are dinking brandy (in moderation) but also eat delicious food as over 40 farmers and food producers also exhibit their work and offer samples such as: cheeses, pastrami or sausages.

Organizers: Local council and City Hall of Valenii de Munte.

November, The Arad Wine Festival, Arad, Arad County



This annual festival brings together producers from the Arad vineyard area to showcase their best wines. The visitors will have the chance to enjoy some of the best folk music available and also taste some local delicacies from the especially set up little houses. We are talking about Romanian specialties such as: meat filled cabbage rolls, sausages, mititei, grilled fish and cakes. Of course everything is washed down with a good

glass of wine. This will be the ninth edition.

Organizer: Arad City Hall

December, Sustainable Fish week, Brasov, Brasov County



This event aims to focus the fish species certified by the Council of Marine Organization and the sustainable fisheries. Overfishing and the future of marine resources will be also tackled. On this occasion international-class chefs will demonstrate their skills preparing gourmet dishes using sustainable fish and well kept recipes. This will be the second edition.

Organizers: The International Organization for Nature Conservation, National Association of Chefs