

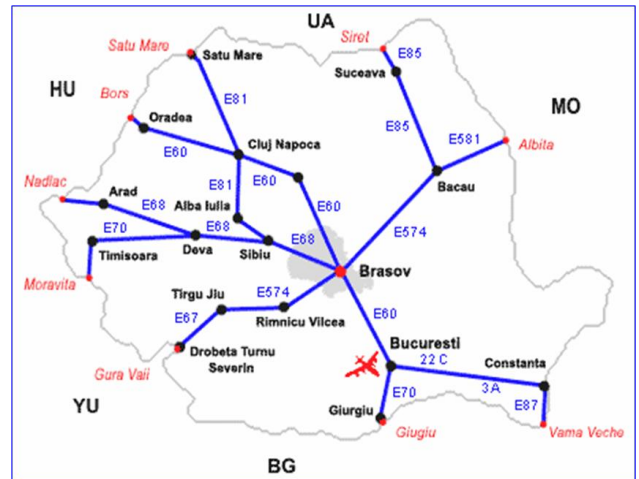
FAGARAS CITY

1. ADMINISTRATIVE STATUTE

Fagaras City is a municipality of the third category, Fagaras obtained this statute in July 27th 1979.

2. GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION

From the administrative point of view the municipality of Fagaras belongs to Brasov county. Brasov county has a central position within territory of Romania. Fagaras city is the second city of Brasov county as size and it has an altitude between 424- 441 meters and it lies on the National Highway DN1 between Brasov City (66 kilometers) and Sibiu City (76 kilometers).



3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The history of Fagaras City can not be separated from that of the Fagaras Country as there are many similarities between them.

Fagaras County has been mentioned for the first time in 1222 as “Terra Blachorum” (the Country of the Romanians) or as „Terra Valachorum“. Fagaras Country became later the district of Fagaras, this countryside had a privileged position from ancient history, belonging to those countries attested as Romanian political blocs since the IXth century, when the Hungarians came here, the Romanians managed to maintain their autonomy.

Fagaras was mentioned for the first time in 1291 as „posesio Fogros”, in 1369 „terra Fogaras”, in 1397 „villa Fogaras” and as a town in 1431.



Fagaras City was the political-administrative centre of the countryside with its secular fortress for a long period of time, as a district between 1918 and 1950, polarizing the whole economic, social- political and cultural life in the area.

4. POPULATION

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According to statistical data the total population of the city is as high as 39273 people, 18667 (47.57%) of them are men and 20570 (52.43%) of them are women.

In terms of religion over 90% of the population are Romanian Orthodox and in decreasing order Reformed, Roman Catholic, Greek- Catholic communities.

The ethnic structure of the population is the following one: over 93% of the population of the city are Romanians and the remainder is composed of Hungarians, Germans, Romas and other ethnic communities.

5. LABOR FORCE

The total number of the employees in Fagaras City registered a decline in recent years and at the end of 2007 there were 7000 employees.

The 35% of the employees work in industry (chemical products, plastic products, car and equipment industry, textile industry, food industry). The remainder of the employees work in fields as trade, education, health, welfare, constructions, transport, energetic sector, banking, insurance, public administration. Under 2% of employees work in agriculture and other activity fields.

Beside the local labor force, the employees from over 50 Fagaras Country localities complete the actual workload.

The number of the unemployed persons from Fagaras Country in January 2011

The name of the town	The number of the unemployed persons
Fagaras	831 (420 women)
Beclean	24
Cincu	159
Harseni	69
Lisa	79
Mandra	98
Parau	154
Recea	135
Sambata	13
Sercaia	126
Sinca	224
Sinca Noua	93
Soars	221
Voila	88
TOTAL	2314

6. EDUCATION

Today a number of 26 pre-university public educational institutions operate in Fagaras City, including one baby nursery, 12 kindergartens, 6 primary school,



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4 high schools and 3 post high schools. Statistics show that 6713 children were enrolled in the city's school system during the 2010-2011 school year.

In Fagaras City since 2008 exists at „Radu Negru” National College a branch of „Lucian Blaga” University Sibiu.

7. HEALTH

The health of the Fagaras citizens is insured by the „Dr. Aurel Tulbure” Hospital and 27 medical units in public and private system which include family medical, dental surgery, laborator analysis and 12 drugstores.

8. CULTURE AND SPORTS

Fagaras City hosts a number of cultural festivals of various types. These occur throughout the year, though are more frequent in the summer months. The main cultural festivals hosted in Fagaras city in 2010 were:

- National Day of Romania – 1 December
- National Anthem Day of Romania – 29 July;
- Fagaras Spring Festival – April;
- Days of the Fagaras Fortress (festival) – August;
- Potato and Onion Festival – Autumn Fair – September;
- National Humour Festival – June;
- White Days and Nights Fagaras Festival (Christmas Fair)- December;
- World Health Day – April;
- Golden Wedding – October;
- Ski Contest – March;
- Folk Fagaras Contry Costume (exhibitions) – February;
- Child Day Festival- 1 June;
- World Environment Day- June;
- Fair Christmas - December.
- International Environment Day



The most important festival in Fagaras city is Days of the Fagaras Fortress that lasts



four days where people can take part to: folk costume parade, henchmen parade, Folk Show, music concerts, Fire Dance Show, Horse Tournament, children shows, Commedia de L'Arte Show, folk and medieval art fair, Medieval Music Concert, pirotehnics.

Fagaras country is considered, national leveled, an etno-folcloric distinct area, through it's traditional clothing, rich through it's folklore and richness of customs

9. TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

The **Fagaras Fortress** is the most impressive landmark of the region and one of the largest and best preserved in the country and even in Europe.

Ladislaw Kán started to built it in 1310 on the former place of a 12th century wooden fortress strengthened by earthen walled fortifications. The former fortress had been burned down by the Tartars in 1241. The fort was enlarged and rebuilt in the 15th-17th centuries in the Transylvanian Renaissance style and came to be known, alongside with Deva, as one of the strongest fortifications in Transylvania.

Fagaras Fortress was placed in the middle of a large feudal estate, which, in the 17th century comprised 20 boroughs and 52 villages, being the largest in Transylvania.

The existence of the **Fagaras Citadel** favoured the early development of the guilds, particularly those of the tanners and of the potters. At the same time, it became an important political centre with Diets being held there. The Fortress functioned mainly as a residence home to its prince-owners and high dignitaries together with their families. Records show that its interiors must have been luxurious in the 17th century; unfortunately, little of its former glamour has been preserved to the day. The castle was deprived of its decorations and fancy furniture when it was turned into a military garrison (18th century).

Fagaras Fortress and **Castle** were wholly built in brick. At present, the castle has 80 rooms, and the fortress is still surrounded by a moat which is deep and wide. At times of war or social unrest in the area, the moat could easily fill with water from a mountain brook nearby, whose course had been specially deviated to this purpose. The citadel was ranked among the strongest in Transylvania,



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standing in the way of Turkish and Tartar invasions. Its massive walls, towers and tall roofs are arranged in the shape of a trapezium with four corners provided with four large bastions. Access is made through a bridge over the defence moat. At the centre of the citadel stands the castle. It has three levels, i.e. basement, ground floor, first floor and five towers, i.e. the Red Tower, the Black Tower, the Prison's Tower, Tomori Tower and the Motley Tower.

The exterior wall of the castle was erected in the first half of the 15th century. The castle was first mentioned in 1455, when Transylvania's prince, Iancu de Hunedoara, appointed two lords to administer it.

As regards its style of construction, **Fagaras Fortress** belongs to the western system of fortifications used in the 15th century, and brought along to Transylvania as early as the 14th century. In 1539, Transylvania's prince Stephen Mailath (1528-1541) partially rebuilt the fortress. Gaspar Bekes (1567-1573) had the moat made, strengthened the earthen exterior walls and resumed works in the northern wing of the castle. Stephen Bathóry (1575-1586) and Balthazar Bathóry (1589-1594) finished the second level of the northern wing, the third level of the southern wing and the loggia on the south side. It was Gabriel Bethlen (1613-1629) who brought along major architectural changes he built Italian style bastions and casemates, repaired the inner walls and reshaped the loggia on the south side in the Renaissance style. He turned the edifice into a fortified castle, with much the same its present-day aspect. Strongly influenced by the Italian Renaissance, Bethlen brought along architects and glass-makers from Italy, bestowing elegance and beauty to a construction formerly designed for merely military and utilitarian purposes.



For a year (1599-1600), **Fagaras Fortress** was the residence home of Michael the Brave's family his wife, lady Stanca and their children

During the rule of Georg Rákóczi (1630-1649), the fortification of the castle was doubled and the moat was enlarged. Rákóczi had the bastions bridged and covered, the moat paved with stones, the bridge and the casemates repaired and a guard house built.

The fortress had 33 commanders-in-chief between 1507-1848. During the Austrian-Hungarian rule, under the rule of Michael Apáfi, Diets were held there. After 1699, the fortress fell under Hapsburg sway; it was functional as a castle under Maria Theresa's reign (1740-1780); by the end of the 18th century, it was turned into military



headquarters and barracks. The only changes that were made by that time were of a strictly military or utilitarian nature.

In 1948, the **Fagaras Fortress** was taken over by the communists and became a dreadful political prison.

Since 1954, the castle has housed the **Museum of Fagaras Country**; it comprises sections of archaeology, which render the evolution of the Fagaras borough; sections of history, which display Roman artifacts and a collection of medieval weapons, ethnographic sections, which focus on artistic and folk crafts in the area. The museum hosts also a beautiful collection of glass painted icons made by Ioan Pop, Savu Moga, Matei Simfonea alongside recent ones, made by archimandrite Timotei Tohaneanu from Sambata de Sus monastery.

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church was founded by the Wallachian prince Constantin Brancoveanu together with his wife Maria. Despite its modest appearance, the church has a particular artistic value, being the town's oldest religious monument. The church was inspired from the chapel of Brancoveanu's palace at Mogosoia (near Bucharest), and served as a model, in its turn, for another twenty churches in Transylvania.

The nave and the altar preserve the original painting made by Preda from Campulung (Brancovan style similar to Hurez Monastery in Wallachia). Beyond their intrinsic value, Preda's paintings are of a special importance, as they point to the spread of the Brancovan painting style in the whole of Transylvania. They also mark the birth of a community of Romanian



masters whose art could not be annihilated either by the Hapsburg oppression or by the severe interdictions imposed on the Orthodox Romanians in Transylvania. Of a rectangular plan, with its belfry over the narthex, the church has on its western side a porch with archways and octangular girdles made of brick which resemble the solid churches built under the rule of Matei Basarab in Wallachia. The iconostasis, richly decorated, is typical of the Brancovan style of art.

The entrance door to the narthex is beautifully carved, revealing a balanced sense of composition and proportions. The "pisania" with Wallachia's coat of arms is placed above it.

The Roman Catholic and the Franciscan Monastery were finished in 1737. In 1760 the town burned to ashes and the church was restored the following year (in the rococo style). In 1895 an Angster organ with 18 registers was brought along.



The Reformed Church (1712-1715) has a carved pulpit whose compositions, based on vegetal motifs, blend the baroque and the oriental styles of art with the Transylvanian one.

The Evangelical Church in its present form was built between 1842-1843, on the foundation of former constructions demolished because of repeated fires. The church detains a valuable Bible printed in German in 1544. Other assets inside the church are an organ and three funerary monuments placed at the entrance in the 19th century; they bear the trademark of the tanners' and of the potters' guilds, as Fagaras was renowned for its crafts since the Middle Ages.



Ioan Inocentiu Micu Klein's House was built in Transylvanian Renaissance style in 1727. Micu Klein, a salient representative of the Romanian Enlightenment, was the initiator of the Romanians' political struggle for equal rights in Transylvania.

Lady Stanca's Statue is the work of Spiridon Georgescu and has been placed in the park which faces the castle in 1938, on Nicolae Iorga's initiative.

Badea Cartan Statue reminds the passers-by that this villager from Carta spread teaching in the Romanian language in Transylvania.

10. PROJECTS IN FAGARAS

Finalized project in Fagaras

1. Tessere – Ricamare: Anziani Meditatori di Esperienze
2. Cetatea Fagarasului – Living Legend

Implemented projects

1. Increase and modernization of urban territory of Fagaras – Galati area
2. Rehabilitation of purification station in Fagaras
3. Service development of e – health offered by the Municipal Hospital Dr. Aurel Tulbure – Fagaras
4. Improving the environment through the rehabilitation of the Castle Parc in Fagaras

Future projects

1. Improving the quality of worm whater through utilization of renewable energy at Municipal Hospital Dr. Aurel Tulbure
2. Investment in renewable energy in Fagaras City for energy production
3. Eficiency improvment in Fagaras City Hall through organizational development
4. Social economy through integrated services
5. For my community

11. THE DATA OF THE CITY HALL

Mayor: SORIN CONSTANTIN MANDUC

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