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Sipping Wine in Transylvania 🍷

Vizi Andrei

6th edition: 3 days, early July, 2027



Did you know that 65% of Europe's virgin forests are located in Romania, largely Transylvania? Southern Transylvania also boasts the highest density of medieval villages and fortified churches in Europe. This makes Transylvania the last truly medieval corner the entire world has to offer.

Theme next edition: *The Intellectual Life in Times of Uncertainty*

The goal of this retreat is to challenge you with a new philosophy of work and leisure. An avant-garde *Dolce Far Niente.*

Location: We will spend time together at the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains, in a remote Saxon village between Brașov and Sibiu. You will discover a different kind of tourism—*cultural tourism*—and learn how history and tradition marry beauty and comfort.

Transportation: Included from the city of Brașov to the village and back to Brașov after the retreat ends. The ride will take roughly 1h and 30 minutes.

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Recommended airports: Brașov is the best option if available, though it has limited connections. If you're traveling from Hungary (Budapest), Poland, or Germany, among other options, it's worth checking flights into Brașov. Otherwise, Bucharest is the 2nd most practical choice, followed by a 2h and 30 minutes train ride to Brașov.

Rooms: Vintage & Timeless design evoking the Saxon passion; all rooms are equipped with a private bathroom.



Meals: Breakfast & Lunch & Dinner included. Low-impact food largely based on local and fresh ingredients inspired by Transylvanian recipes.

Wine: Included. Wine is the rockstar of this retreat. Based on my experience, I picked two of my favorite wine brands from Romania: Catleya and Villa Vinèa.

Price: 750 EUR/person. If you're a couple or two friends (and thus sleep in the same room—you have the option to either sleep in the same bed or in separate beds) you pay 500 EUR/person. You will get an invoice. Payment may be made in 2 instalments. The 1st instalment is 300 EUR/person and is non-refundable.

Retreat Structure

- Non-fancy wine-tasting experience
- Philosophy seminar (2h) & symposium
- Art workshop by painter Geanina Cernica
- Estate & fortified church & history tour
- Creative yet leisurely assignment
- Campfire: poetry session
- Hike[1]

Reviews

"Taking a few days off to travel to Romania to be part of a retreat about wine and boredom was completely contradictory to my current busy life as a salaried lawyer. However, I knew I really wanted to sign up because Vizi was organizing it and I was sure there were other great minds there too. And I wasn't wrong; looking back, it was truly one of the most beautiful and unforgettable retreat experiences I've ever had. Walks in beautiful nature, deep conversations with like-minded people around the campfire until 6 AM, inspiring inputs on lifestyle design, entrepreneurship, and creativity. I made new friends across the world and will definitely come back in the future. Take walks and seek beauty with Vizi once, and you will find it everywhere in your life from now on." *Niko Juranek*

"Something I didn't know I needed. That is what this retreat retroactively feels like. An exquisite job done by thoughtful (and overall amazing) hosts having a bunch of very different people, over a glass of wine while talking about leisure, lifestyle design, meaning, art, and beauty. But most importantly, for me, witnessing them living their life philosophy, and being brave in doing so, was and is so impactful that I am still processing and probably will still do for a while. So thank you, Geanina and Vizi, for working so diligently in making it happen to that standard. This review is coming from a very skeptical person when it comes to retreats; it was an enriching experience in a gorgeously rustic location that will definitely be revisited." *Ioana Matei*

"Sipping wine in Transylvania... Exactly as it sounds, but with a twist! Your beliefs about work and leisure will be challenged. Vizi and Geanina created such a wonderful concept and drawn people from all over the world that clicked instantly. I'm from Transylvania but never visited Saxon villages; and I'm thankful to Vizi that I got to visit this particular part of

[1] Subject to weather conditions.

Transylvania, learn a lot, make new friends and discover a new lifestyle design philosophy." *Andrei Kurtuy*

"Vizi's retreat enhanced my existential crisis, but in the best way possible. The workshop challenged every notion I had about work and leisure. However, what truly exceeded my expectations was the immersive experience of living the *Sovereign Artist* lifestyle. Experiencing it firsthand for a few days made it more impactful than any online lecture I've ever attended on the topic. The retreat's schedule was relaxed, open, and intentionally slow-paced. Yet it feels like I've made more progress thanks to those three days than the past three months combined. The Transylvanian atmosphere, the wonderful company, deep conversations around the bonfire, the painting workshop, and the amazing food were the perfect finishing touches to an already incredible experience. Don't think twice: join this retreat. You won't regret it." *Björn Van Egroo*

"What an excellent intellectual experience! Sipping Wine in Transylvania is a great context to confront your way of thinking, to bring new questions about how to organize your professional life, leisure time and how to use leisure as a foundation for creativity and success. During this retreat, I've laid a new foundation to adapt my life in a way that will hopefully bring more joy and meaning to my personal and professional endeavors!" *Alex LZR*

"I didn't think I could view boredom under a positive light and embrace it as a sort of virtue until I met Vizi and Geanina. The playground for our heartfelt and thought-provoking conversations was a fabulous Saxon estate in the heart of Transylvania; a mixture of simple elegance and true authenticity. The questions led by Vizi were needles that poked the kind of bubbles that we are all curious about. We spent our time tasting a delicious set of Romanian wines that reminded me of oaks and flavors I had never been acquainted with; then basking in the grandeur of Transylvanian fields. Stewing in stimulating conversations in front of the flames of a bonfire and tasting Romanian dishes (mulţumesc sarmale) I realized something unique: I was laughing, reciting poetry, and sipping wine with a community from all over Europe who have the same rebellious monkey mind as I do. We all resonated with Vizi's message and this was an opportunity to solidify our emerging thoughts on work, leisure, play, and meaning. One of the highlights of this retreat was how Geanina graciously led an art painting workshop, encouraging us to hush our inner critic's voice when doing something new. Everything in the retreat was so well-thought. I really appreciated every activity, the interesting people and the time given to us to absorb everything. I came home with a renewed sense of possibility and a shared feeling of camaraderie. I'd repeat this experience 1000 times over." *Julia Soprani*

"Sipping Wine in Transylvania... What a beautiful event! The time just stopped for 3 days as we got in tune with the cozy Saxon village atmosphere. Our hosts, Vizi and Geanina, are such a lovely couple! They were very kind and caring throughout the day. They were open to share all of their knowledge about the history of the village and the surroundings. The

workshops held by them gave me a different, valuable perspective about the dynamic between life and work. The food, the wine, the people... All were perfectly aligned to create one-of-a-kind experiences that must be lived by others too. I'm glad I've had the opportunity to step out of the city and get to know authentic people and places that gave me new ideas which I can immediately implement in my life." *Remus Ranca*

"What a beautiful experience you curated in a wonderful setting and with beautiful people… I enjoyed every second of it and was so glad to meet you and I have to admit you convey a better energy and vibe in person. Thanks to Geanina for all her input during the art workshop. So grateful for the connection we made and to have spent time with you and can't wait for the next one." *Hady Feghali*

"Stunning event. You created a space that felt familiar yet innovative and fostered a depth of conversation I have been craving for some time. All this is certainly a testament to your talent as an inspiring writer and your integrity as an individual living out his values in real time." *Elena Stavropoulos*

"It has been such an honour to be part of your retreat. You gave us so much energy, inspiration, and hope to embrace new things in life. You were so accommodating, going above and beyond anything I could have imagined for my sister's birthday. The entire retreat was so beautifully curated that you couldn't even tell how much thought and care had gone into it. Everything flowed so naturally and effortlessly. I now hold your retreats as the gold standard! Thank you again, from the bottom of my heart. Bless you and your wonderful wife. This retreat will likely hold a special place in my heart as one of my favourite trips with my sister… I still haven't quite found the words to explain to people what I experienced, and perhaps that's what makes it so special." *Alexandra Toska*