

## TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN ARGÈŞ

**ARGÈŞ COUNTY MUSEUM** is an important cultural institution from Piteşti that it was founded in 1928 by a group of intellectuals of the Popular Athenaeum Cultural Foundation Gheorghe-Ionescu-Gion. The museum has four sections: Natural Sciences (Exhibition “Mine Flowers”), History (Argeşean Sports Museum, Roman Camp Câmpulung Jidova, Poenari Castle, Memorial exhibition “Dinu Lipatti”), Art Gallery and Planetarium.



**GOLEŞTI VITICULTURE AND TREE GROWING MUSEUM** is just 10 km away from Piteşti. It was established in 1939 by the king Charles II and has an Open Air Section that covers an area of 10 ha. It is composed over 35 peasant households that represent main viticulture and pomiculture areas of Romania grouped as a Romanian village. There is also the Goleşti manor built in 1640 and it is the only building layed-fortified from our country. The Memorial Museum Department includes “Free Public School” founded by the great scholar Dinicu Golescu. Near the manor there is the Golescu’s park, where there was a pond crossed by a bridge of birch wood, a pavilion and stone statues after the fashion of the time.



The **BRĂTIANU MANSION FROM FLORICA** is located in Ştefăneşti town (8 km away from Piteşti) is one of the most beautiful manorial lands from Romania, well preserved until today (except for the interior objects, furniture and books scattered under the communist regime). It is the mansion where the most important family of Romanian politicians (Brătianu family) was born and lived, a true civil dynasty which gave the country no less than three prime ministers. They have an overwhelming role in the realization of the modern state of Romania.

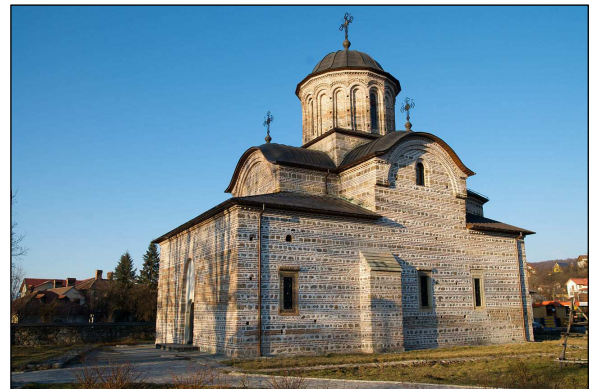


The **CATHEDRAL OF CURTEA DE ARGEȘ** (early 16<sup>th</sup> century) is a Romanian Orthodox cathedral in Curtea de Argeș (about 30 km away from Pitești). It is located on the grounds of the Curtea de Argeș Monastery, and is dedicated to Saint Nicholas.

The building resembles a very large and elaborate mausoleum, and was built in the Byzantine style, with Moorish arabesques. In the vicinity of the monastery one can find the well of the legendary Manole Master, the inspiration for a number of folk ballads.



The **ROYAL ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH** in Curtea de Argeș is founded by Basarab I in 1352. The church is one of the most representative monuments of Romanian medieval architecture, the oldest princely foundation of the Wallachia.



**POENARI CASTLE** also known as Poenari Citadel is a ruined castle in Romania, notable for its connection to Vlad III the Impaler. Access to the citadel is made by climbing the 1480 concrete stairs. The castle is located in the mountainous area (58 km away from Pitești), facing the west side of the Transfăgărășan, on a canyon formed on the Argeș river valley close to the Făgăraș Mountains.



The **TRANSFĂGĂRĂȘAN** is a paved mountain road crossing the southern section of the Carpathian Mountains of Romania (89 km away from Pitești). The road built in the early 1970s as a strategic military route, connects the historic regions of Transylvania and Wallachia. The Transfăgărășan was featured in a segment of the British TV show *Top Gear*, in the first episode of Series 14 (November 2009). Host Jeremy Clarkson proclaimed that the Transfăgărășan was “the best road in the world”.

