



International Conference *Beliefs and Behaviours in Education and Culture*
Legends and Castles of Transylvania: One Day Conference Tour
Saturday, 27 June 2015

Led by **Dr. Marius-Mircea Crișan** (author of *The Impact of a Myth: Dracula and the Fictional Representation of the Romanian Space* 2013) and **Dr. Duncan Light** (author of *The Dracula Dilemma. Tourism, Identity and the State in Romania* 2012)

Departure from Timișoara to Hunedoara

On the road we discuss about the routes followed by the British travellers on their journeys in Transylvania and the Banat, and their perspectives on the region. We also refer to the authors who inspired Bram Stoker in the writing of *Dracula* and to their experiences related to the places we pass through.



We pass through **Lugoj**, the city where the famous actor Bela Lugosi, who played the role of Count Dracula, was born (*Dracula*, Universal, 1931, director Tod Browning).

On our way, we observe the fortress of Deva and discuss about its role in the history of Transylvania and about its perception by British travellers. Could it have inspired Bram Stoker in the construction of Castle Dracula?

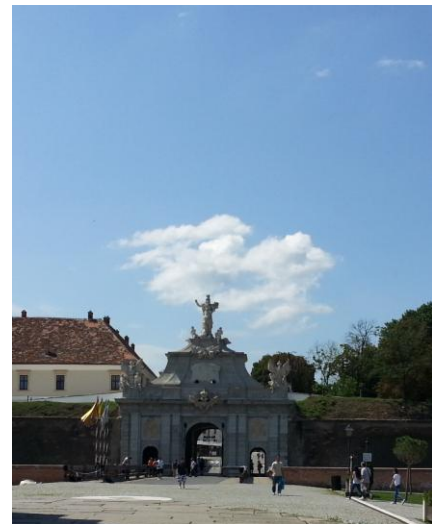
Lunch (optional)



We visit **Hunedoara Castle**, one of the most celebrated Gothic buildings of Europe. In the 15th century, Voivode John Hunyadi transformed the older fortress into an imposing castle, which became his residence. We discuss about the role of this castle in the history of Transylvania. Recent articles, documentaries etc. associate this castle with the Dracula Myth. Is this pure speculation or not? Which are the possible connections? We also try to find some answers to the questions referring to the connections of Vlad Țepeș with Hunedoara Castle.



We visit the fortress of Alba Iulia, one of the largest and best preserved in Romania. The splendid citadel *Alba Carolina* was built in the first part of the 18th Century. Our visit reflects the rich history of the place, as we can see the ruins of the Roman castrum (built in the 2nd century BC) as well as medieval monuments. The mediaeval citadel was erected in the 16th and 17th centuries. The 1000 year old Roman-Catholic Cathedral is the burial place of several Transylvanian rulers such as Voivode John Hunyadi. Alba Iulia, the city where the unification of Transylvania with the Kingdom of Romania was proclaimed in 1918, is one of the strongest symbols of Romanian history.



marius.crisan@e-uvt.ro

