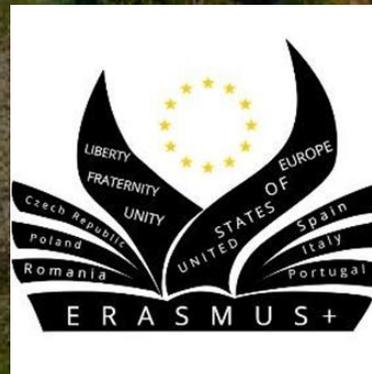
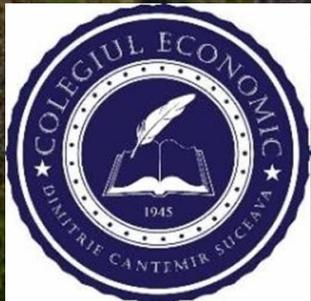


The 5 natural wonders of Romania





Romania's natural sceneries are always surprising and invite you to discover the beautiful places which surround you. Whether you love the mountain trails and the guitar tunes around the campfire or you prefer to admire the surroundings in a paddle boat, there is definitely a perfect destination for you in this country.



1. The Sphinx and Babele

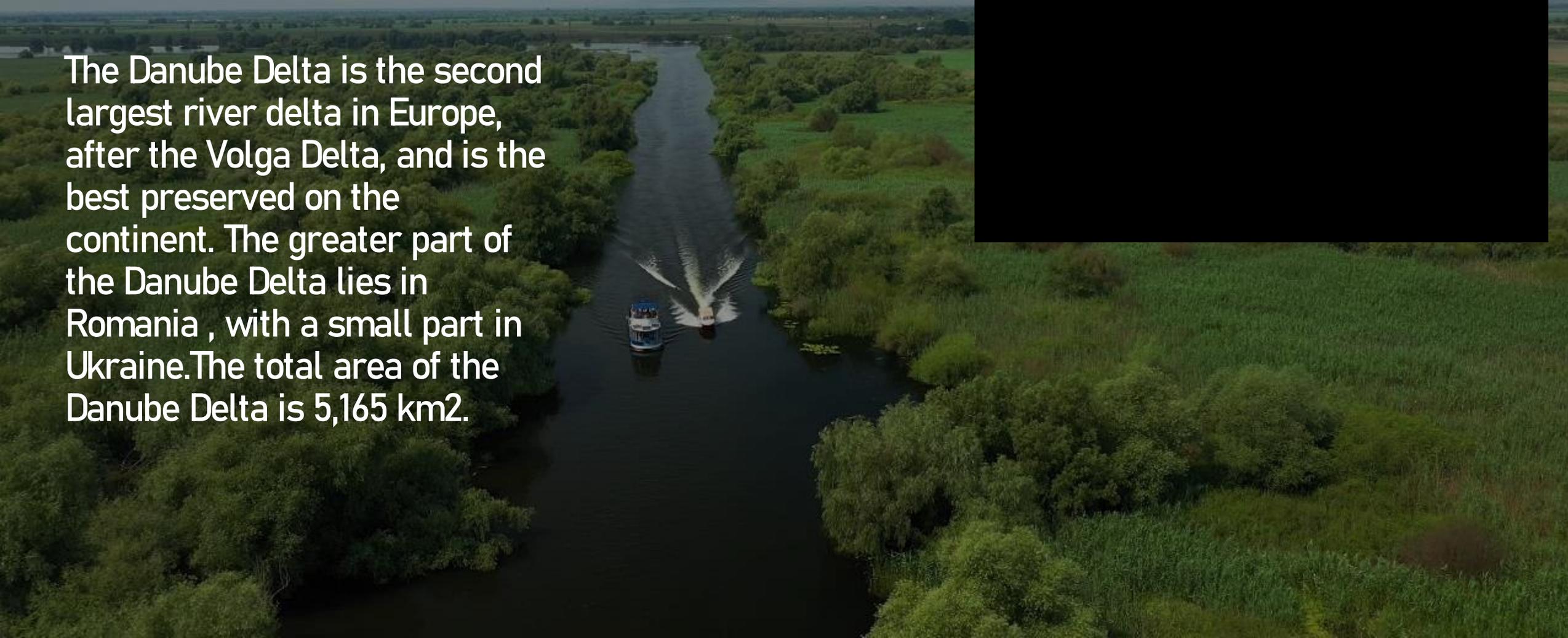
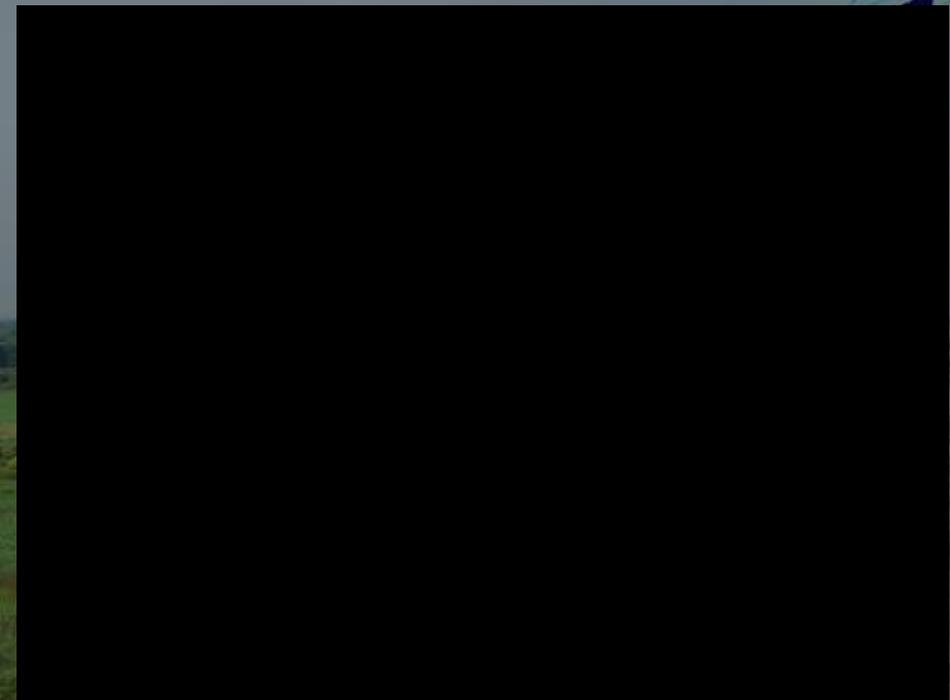
This is an anthropomorphic megalith located at 2216 meters altitude, having the shape of a human head, measuring 8 meters in height and 12 meters in width. The shape that gives its beauty was formed by the wind erosion in many years. When photographed or watched from a certain angle, the rock formation appears to resemble the side profile of a face, close in appearance to the Great Sphinx of Giza from which its name is derived.

Babele is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the country. The name comes from the mushroom shaped rock formations, the result of erosion and varying hardness of the rock layers.



2. The Danube Delta

The Danube Delta is the second largest river delta in Europe, after the Volga Delta, and is the best preserved on the continent. The greater part of the Danube Delta lies in Romania, with a small part in Ukraine. The total area of the Danube Delta is 5,165 km².





The delta is famous for its unique collection of flora and fauna which includes rare species. The delta features 23 natural ecosystems. It is also situated on major bird migratory routes and provides optimum conditions for the nesting and hatching of numerous bird species. For its ecological significance, the Danube Delta was inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1991.



3. Romanian secular beech forests



Several secular beech forests in Romania were included in the UNESCO World Heritage List, including one from Suceava county. As a result, no human intervention can be made without specific reason.

The forests are characterized by a rich floristic diversity, a dynamic cycle of growth of all tree species and are home to 20% of Central Europe's fauna and some rare and spectacular bird species.



4. Scărișoara Ice Cave



Scarisoara Cave houses the second biggest underground glacier in south-eastern Europe. To get to the impressive entrance, you have to go down 48 meters on a steep and narrow staircase.





It is at 1165 meter height and it is more that 3000 years old. The presence of ice is not because of rough weather conditions, but due to a special ventilation system that determines an underground glacier local climate.

5. The Mud Volcanoes



The Muddy Volcanoes were formed from the gas which comes from hundreds of meters underground. The gas goes through a clay sector, then through the underground water. So the gas pushes the water and the clay to the surface (which by that time become mud), creating small cones which resemble the shape of a volcano.



The craters are up to 6 m high with permanent or intermittent eruptions, whose intensity depend on the water that infiltrates the soil.

Around the volcanoes there is salt efflorescence formed as a crust and there is no vegetation.