



# Cernavodă

  A small town on  
the Danube

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# Overview OF ROMANIA

Romania is a Southeastern European country known for its remarkable geographical diversity, cultural richness, and historical depth. It borders Bulgaria to the south, Serbia to the southwest, Hungary to the west, Ukraine to the north, and the Republic of Moldova to the east, while its southeastern frontier opens to the Black Sea. As a member of both the European Union and NATO, Romania plays a strategic role in regional stability and European politics. The Romanian landscape is defined by its three major regions: Transylvania, Wallachia, and Moldavia.

These areas are complemented by the Carpathian Mountains, dense forests, fertile plains, and the biologically unique Danube Delta. The population is predominantly Romanian, with important minority communities such as Hungarians, Roma, Germans, and Ukrainians. Historically, Romania developed at the intersection of Latin, Slavic, and Oriental influences, shaping a culture that is distinct within Eastern Europe. Its artistic heritage, folk traditions, and medieval architecture continue to attract millions of visitors each year.



# History

## AND CULTURAL HERITAGE



This Roman influence is one of the foundations of the Romanian language and identity, making it the only Latin-based language in Eastern Europe. Throughout the Middle Ages, Romanian lands were organized into the principalities of Wallachia, Moldavia, and Transylvania, each facing pressures from the Ottoman, Hungarian, and Habsburg empires. Key figures such as Stephen the Great and Vlad Ţepeş (the inspiration for the Dracula legend) left a lasting impact on national consciousness. The 19th century brought the unification of Romanian territories, culminating in the Great Union of 1918.

Culturally, Romania is renowned for its wooden churches of Maramureş, painted monasteries of Bucovina, fortified churches of Transylvania, and traditional villages that have preserved centuries-old crafts. Romanian literature, film, and music—represented by figures like Mihai Eminescu, Constantin Brâncuşi, and the modern Romanian New Wave cinema—enhance the country's global cultural image.



# Geography, Economy

## AND KEY INFRASTRUCTURE

Geographically, Romania is characterized by the arc-shaped Carpathian Mountains at its center, surrounded by hills and fertile plains that support agriculture and viticulture. The Danube River forms much of its southern border before spilling into the delta, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its bird species and wetlands. The Romanian economy has transitioned rapidly since the early 2000s, developing strong sectors in information technology, automotive production, energy, agriculture and tourism.

Bucharest, the capital, is a major regional economic hub, while cities such as Cluj-Napoca, Timișoara, Iași, and Constanța play important roles in innovation, academia, and maritime transport. The national infrastructure includes highway networks, modern airports, and vital energy corridors. As one travels eastwards across the country, the terrain gradually flattens, giving way to the Dobrogea region—one of the oldest geological formations in Europe and a gateway from the mainland to the Black Sea.

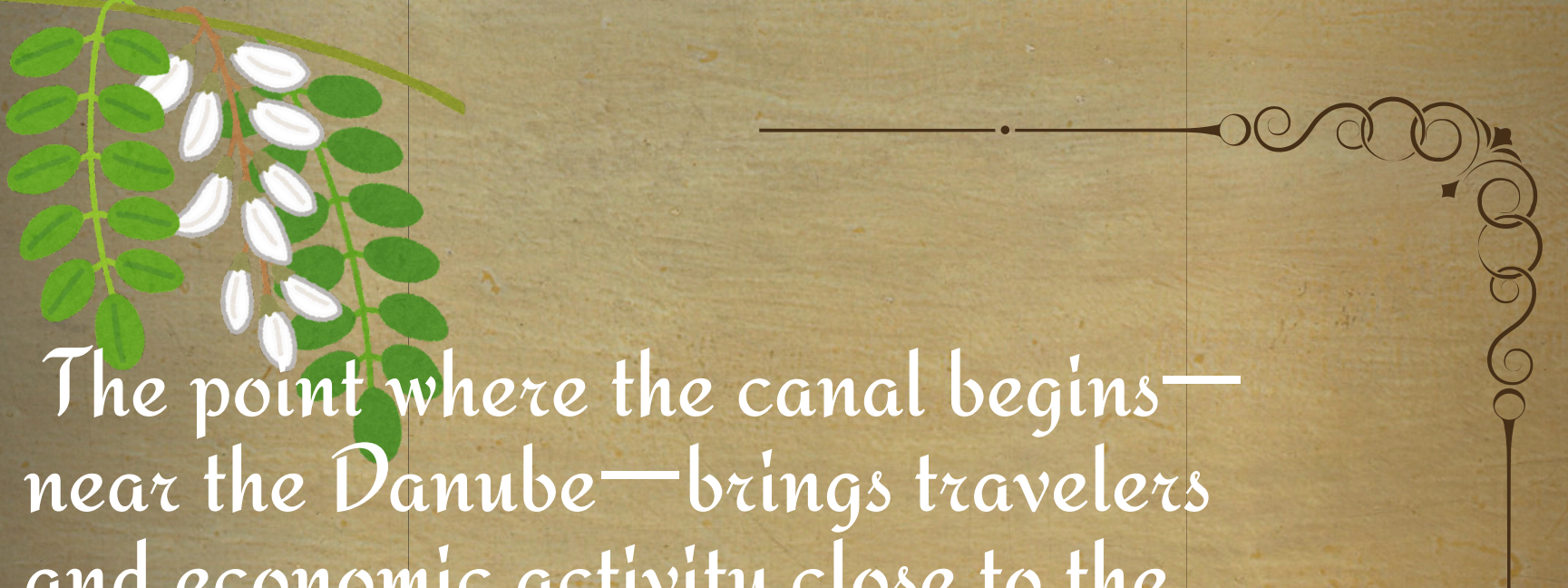




# The Danube

AND THE CONNECTION  
TOWARD CERNAVODA

The Danube, Europe's second-longest river, is essential to Romania's transportation, agriculture, and energy generation. As it approaches the Dobrogea plateau, the river becomes a central element of Romania's inland waterway system. One of the most significant engineering achievements linked to the Danube is the Danube-Black Sea Canal, which shortens maritime routes and facilitates international trade. This canal plays a crucial role for ships navigating toward the Port of Constanta, one of the largest ports on the Black Sea.



The point where the canal begins—near the Danube—brings travelers and economic activity close to the town of Cernavodă. The region surrounding the Danube here is marked by archaeological remains, ancient trade routes, and evidence of some of the earliest European settlements. The combination of nature, history, and modern infrastructure makes the area a unique corridor connecting inland Romania to the maritime world.





# Take



## NOTES...

### General Information

- Country: Romania
- County: Constanta County
- Region: Dobrogea, in the southeastern part of Romania
- Population: Around 20.000 inhabitants
- Location: Situated on the right bank of the Danube River, about 160 km east of Bucharest and 60 km west of Constanta (on the Black Sea coast).

Cernavodă is a small town located in southeastern Romania, in Constanta County, on the right bank of the Danube River.

It has a population of about 20,000 people and is known for its industrial, historical, and cultural importance.

One of the town's most famous landmarks is the Cernavodă Nuclear Power Plant, which produces a significant part of Romania's electricity. Nearby, the Anghel Saligny Bridge, built in 1895, was once the longest bridge in Europe and is considered a masterpiece of engineering.





# The Ancient Settlement

AND IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
DISCOVERIES

Did you know that  
According to local legend,  
the town was founded or  
rebuilt by the voivode  
Negru Vodă, and thus the  
name could originate from  
his name (Negru Vodă)  
meaning "Black Voivode".

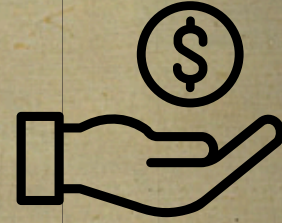
Near the town of Cernavodă, archaeologists discovered the ancient settlement of Axiopolis, founded by the Geto-Dacians and later occupied by the Romans. Because of its position on the Danube River, it became an important military and trade center during the Roman Empire.

Excavations revealed fortifications, houses, pottery, coins, and inscriptions, as well as graves and necropolises showing that people lived there for many centuries.

These discoveries prove the continuity of life in the area from ancient times to the Byzantine period. Many of the artifacts can be seen today at the Axiopolis Museum in Cernavodă and the National Museum of History and Archaeology in Constanta.



# Economy



## AND DEVELOPMENT



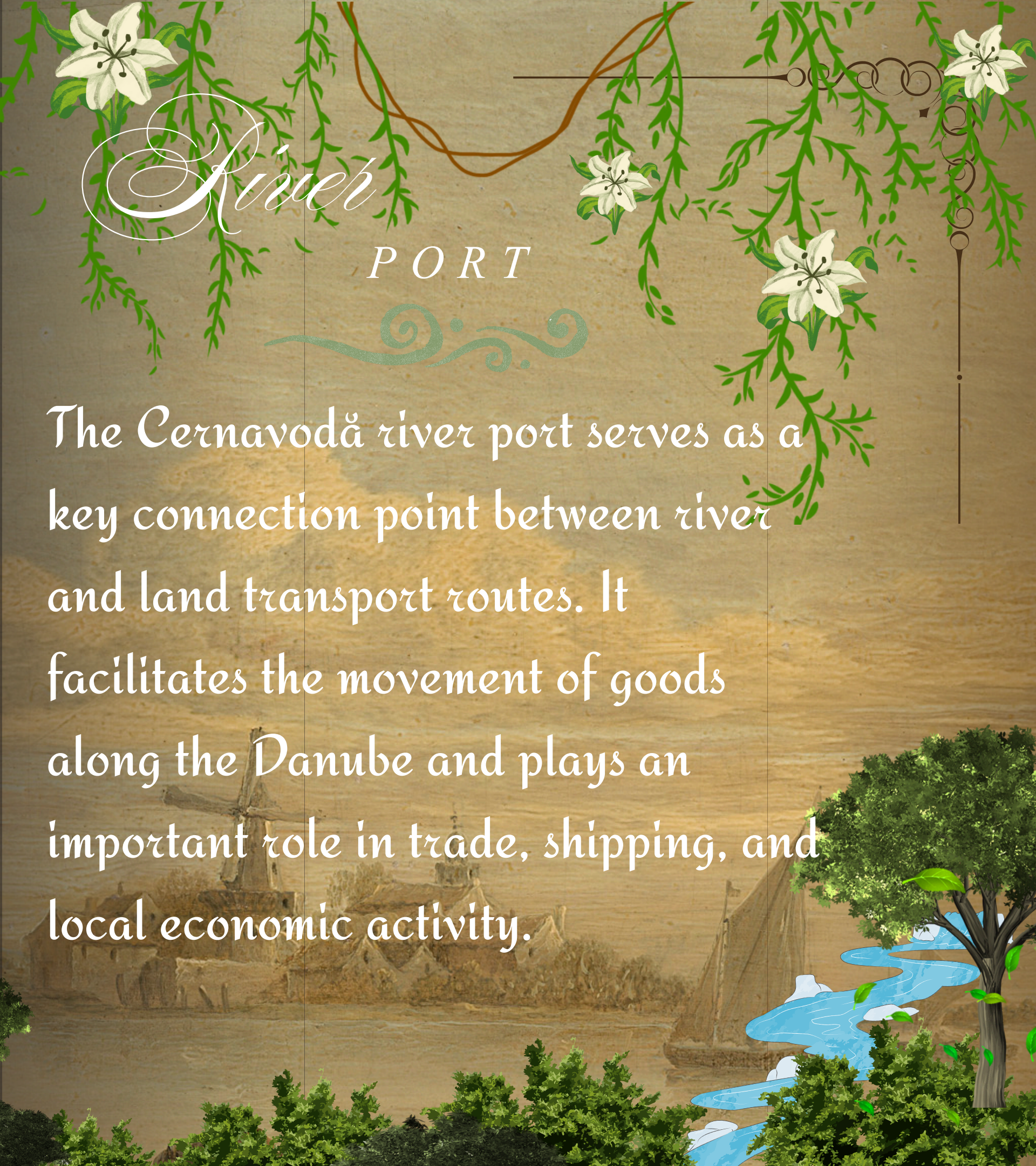
Cernavodă has a diverse local economy supported by its strategic position on the Danube River. The town's development is closely tied to industry, transport, and energy production, making it an important regional hub in southeastern Romania.



# River

## PORT

The Cernavodă river port serves as a key connection point between river and land transport routes. It facilitates the movement of goods along the Danube and plays an important role in trade, shipping, and local economic activity.





# Southeast

## ATTRACTIONS

We don't have many tourist attractions, but I'm sure you will like these ones.

Although Cernavodă is a small town, it has several interesting places to visit that reflect its history, culture, and natural beauty:

- The Anghel Saligny Bridge, opened in 1895, represents the symbol of the town and of the Dobrogea region. At that time, it was the longest bridge in Europe and is still admired today for its impressive engineering and elegant design.
- The Danube-Black Sea Canal, an amazing human-made waterway that connects the Danube River to the Black Sea. It offers beautiful views and shows the importance of Cernavodă as a transport and navigation hub.
- The Cernavodă Archaeological Museum is another attraction, where you can see ancient artifacts from the Geta-Dacian, Greek, and Roman periods including pottery, coins, and tools found in the nearby ruins of Axiopolis, the ancient name of the settlement.

# Photo

## GALLERY





# *The statue*

## OF THE THINKER

The Statue of the Thinker from Cernavodă is a famous statuette from the Neolithic Hamangia cult, made of a ceramic material, dating back to approximately 5,000 BC. It represents a man bent over, resting his head in his hands and kneeling, in a meditative posture. The figurine, along with its female counterpart, was discovered near Cernavodă and is considered a masterpiece of prehistoric art.



# *Appearance*

## AND INTERPRETATION

The statuette is stylized, with triangular geometric shapes, and the head is modeled with particular care. It is often interpreted as a representation of a god of vegetation, alongside a goddess of the harvest, who form a pair. It was discovered approximately 60 years ago, in a tomb near Cernavodă. The statuette is included in the UNESCO list of the 10 artifacts that should be protected. It is a unique piece of the national treasure, representing the cultural identity of the Romanian people.







Presented with respect and pride by the students of “Anghel  
Saligny” Theoretical High School, showcasing the heritage of  
our beautiful town, Cernavodă.  
Thank you for your attention!

