



FAI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

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A brief presentation of Ploiesti City

Ploiești (Romanian pronunciation: [plo'je[ti]; older spelling: Ploești) is the county seat of Prahova County and lies in the historical region of Wallachia in Romania. The city is located approx.60 km (38 mi) north of Bucharest. The area of the city is around 60 km² Ploiești has direct access to the Prahova Valley, one of the most important alpine tourism area in Romania. Ploiești is an important transport hub, linking Bucharest with Transylvania and Moldavia. According to the 2011 Romanian census, there were 201,226 people living within the city of Ploiești, making it the 9th most populous city in Romania.

The name of Ploiesti is close connected with HALPRO Operation and TIDAL WAVE raid performed by Allied Airforces during 1943-1944 against oil refineries around the city.

After the <u>Romanian Revolution of 1989</u>, Ploiești experienced rapid economic growth due to major investments from foreign companies. The city is situated at just 60 km (37 mi) north of <u>Bucharest</u>, with promising infrastructure projects currently underway. It is a strong industrial center, focused especially on the oil production and refining industry. Although oil production in the region is declining steadily, there is still a thriving processing industry with four operating <u>oil refineries</u>, linked by <u>pipelines</u> to <u>Bucharest</u>, the <u>Black Sea</u> port of <u>Constanţa</u> and the <u>Danube</u> port of <u>Giurgiu</u>. Ploiești also has a long history as a textile manufacturing center.

The city has become a hub of foreign investment. Companies such as <u>OMV-Petrom</u>, <u>Lukoil</u>, <u>Shell Gas</u>, <u>Timken</u>, <u>Yazaki</u>, <u>Coca Cola</u>, <u>Efes Pilsener</u>, <u>British American Tobacco</u>, and <u>Interbrew</u> have operations there, and retailers like <u>Carrefour</u>, <u>Metro</u>, <u>Selgros</u>, <u>Kaufland</u>, <u>Billa</u>, <u>Bricostore</u>, <u>Praktiker</u>, <u>Lidl</u>, <u>Obi</u>, <u>Auchan</u>, <u>Profi</u>, <u>Mega Image</u> have found in Ploiești a

continuously growing market. There are two <u>McDonald's</u> restaurants in Ploieşti and three <u>KFCs</u> - the first opened in 2006 and the most recent in 2013 in AFI Palace Ploieşti.

The German retailer <u>Tengelmann</u> built a depot in Ploieşti to support a €200 million regional expansion plan. With its <u>Interex</u> operation, the French independent retailer <u>Intermarché</u> intends to become a distribution leader in the Balkans. In Romania the first <u>Interex</u> store was opened in June 2002 in Ploieşti. The <u>Interex</u> depot and facilities where bought by <u>Penny Market XXL</u> in 2014.^[9]

<u>Unilever</u> has a detergent plant in Ploiești. By transferring their food production to Ploiești, the company will concentrate all its activities in Romania at the same location. At the beginning of March 2006, <u>Unilever</u> announced they would invest money to build one production center in Romania, and the construction of the new food plant is part of this plan.^[10]

In 1950, as a milestone in the development of the <u>petroleum</u>, <u>hydrocarbon processing</u>, and <u>petrochemical industries</u>, the <u>Engineering</u> and Design Institute for <u>Oil Refineries</u> and <u>Petrochemical Plants</u>, <u>SC IPIP SA</u>, a Romanian company with a large range of capabilities and experience, was established at Ploiești.

In Ploiești there are four local televisions: Ploiești TV, Valea Prahovei TV, Wyll TV and Prahova TV.

Climate

The climate is similar to that of the nation's capital, <u>Bucharest</u>. According to the <u>Köppen climate classification</u>, the city falls within the temperate <u>humid continental climate</u>(Dfa) of the hot summer type. The average annual temperature is 10.5 °C, with record minimum registered on 25 January 1952 of -30 °C while record maximum was registered on 19 July 2007 of 43 °C. On average, around 17 days are very cold, 26 cold, 99 warm and 30 tropical, while the rest have a moderate temperature.

Average annual precipitations are 600 mm; 30–40 mm in January and 88 mm in June. Precipitations range between 963.9 mm registered in 1901 and 305.3 mm registered in 1930. Throughout the year, there are on average 104 days with rain, 26 with snow, 112 with clear skies, 131 with clouds and 122 with no sunshine. The climate of Ploieşti is influenced by the winds coming from north-east (40%) and south-east (23%), having an average speed of 3.1 m/s. On average, there are 11 days throughout the year with wind speed exceeding 11 m/s and only 2 days characterised by winds over 16 m/s. Atmospheric pressure is 748.2 mm