



BRAILA

Romania



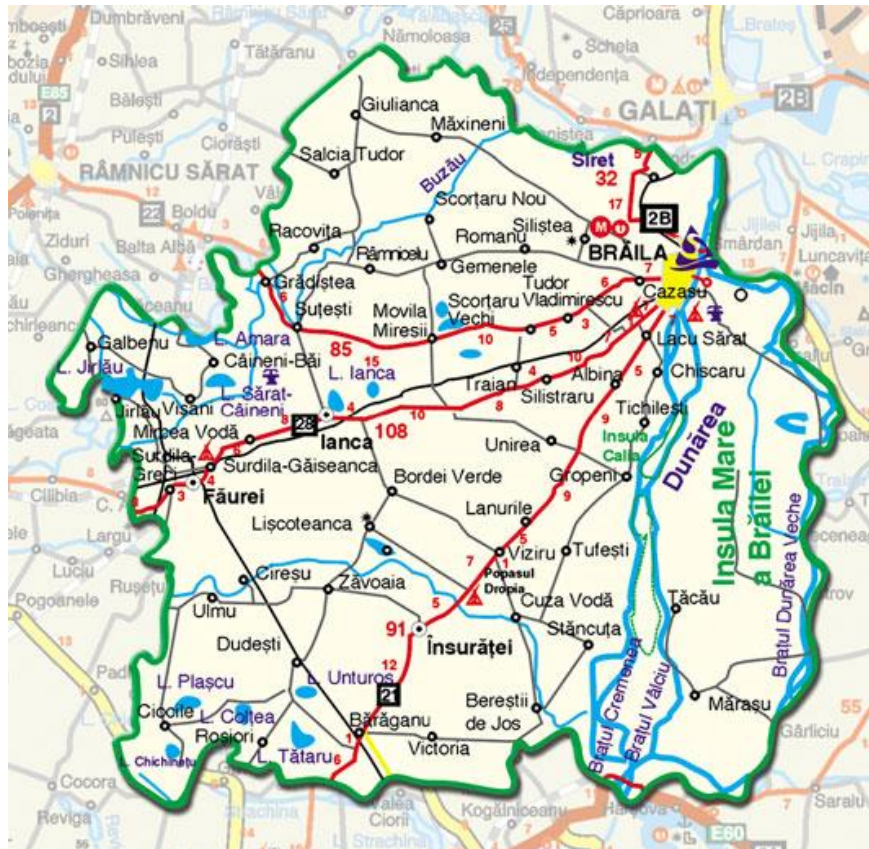


Braila city is situated in Muntenia area, in the South East of Romania.

It is a harbour at the Danube River.

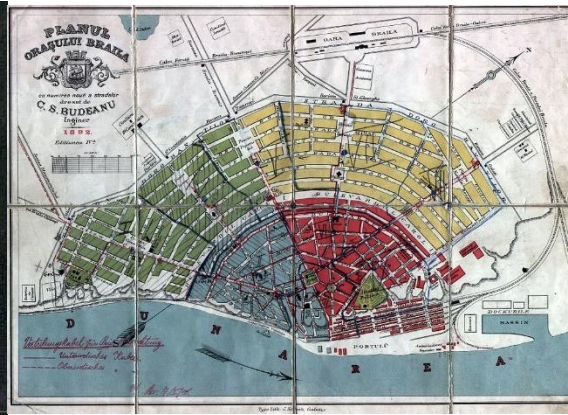


- Population: about 200.000 inhabitants
- Surface area: 5000 square kilometres
- Brăila County has 1 municipality, 3 towns (Ianca, Faurei, Insuratei), 40 communes and 140 villages



Braila County was mentioned for the first time in several Catalan maps in the years 1325-1339 and again in 1350 in the Spanish “Libro de conocimiento” with the name of **Drinago**. In the Greek documents, the city was called ‘**Proilabum**’ or ‘**Proilava**’, an adaptation from ‘**Brailov**’, its Slavic name.

From 1538-1540 until 1829, the city and its surroundings were controlled by the Ottoman Empire, that changed its name in **Ibraila**.



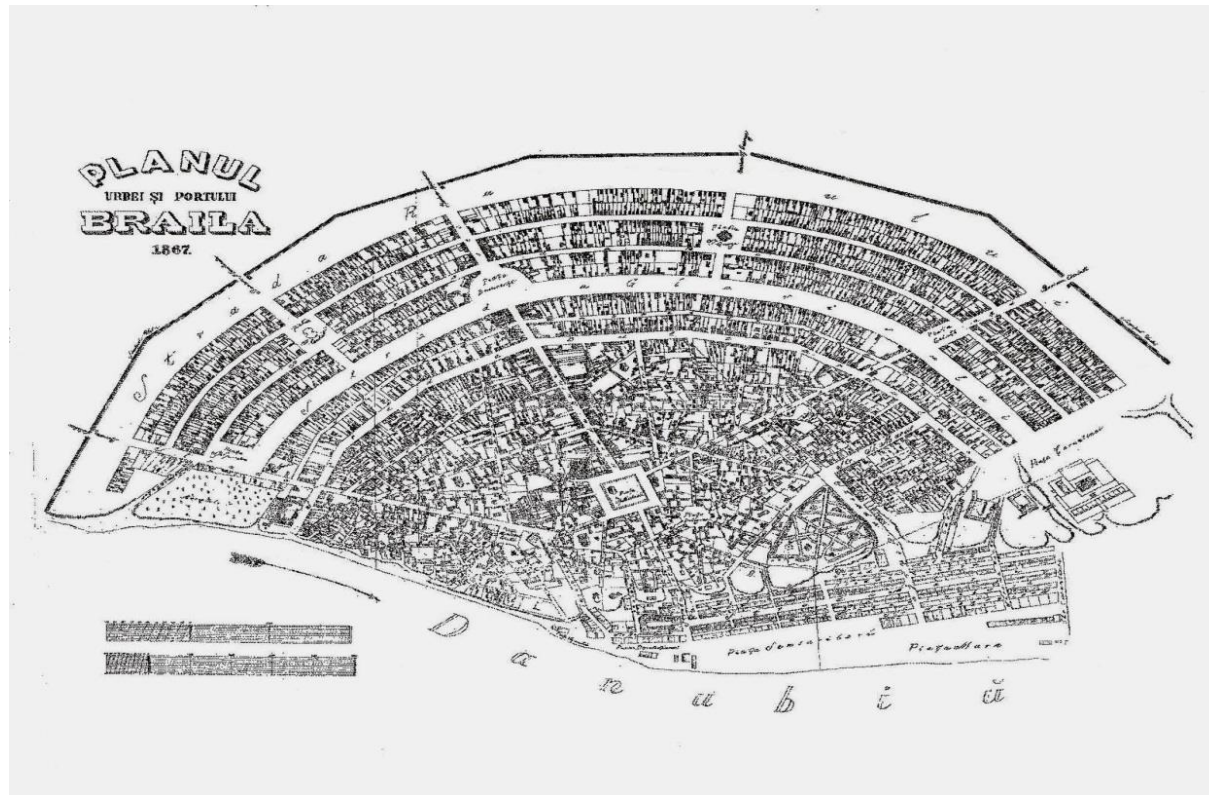
The ancient city of Braila, seriously affected during the Russian-Turkish war in 1828-1829, was rebuilt in the 1830s. Nowadays it still preserves a part of its grandeur from the 19th century.





During the 19th century, it was the most important harbour on the Danube in Wallachia region.

The streets that radiate from the port to the center of Brăila are crossed at symmetrical intervals by concentric streets following the geometric design of the ancient Ottoman fortifications.





Brăila has one of **the oldest electric tramway lines** in Romania, inaugurated at the end of the 19th century. In the year 1900, there **were the first public light bulbs.**

Ethnic population :

- **Romanians: 97,21%**
- Lipovans: 1.14%
- Gypsies: 0,97%
- Greeks: 0,1%
- Turkish: 0,1%





The old city center has many 19th century buildings, some of them fully restored. The most important monuments are **the Greek church**, built in 1865 by the Greek community, **St Nicholas church**, also from the 19th century, **Maria Filotti theatre**, the **Palace of Culture** and its **art museum**, the **historical museum** and **the Water Tower**. In the tower there used to be a restaurant and due to a rotation system it was able to turn around (360° in one hour).

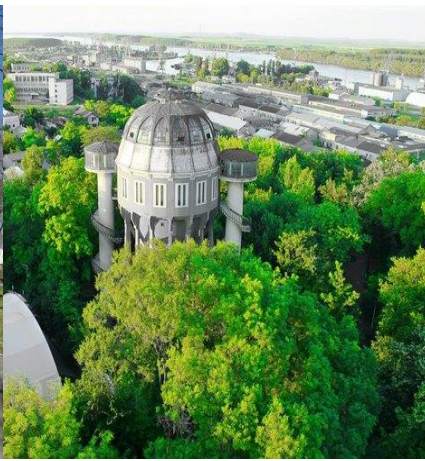
The Church of the Holy Archangels Michael and Gabriel

This is the oldest church in Brăila and originally a mosque, the precise period of its construction is uncertain. The building suggests a date before 1750, when the area was under the Ottoman administration as a raya.





Another important sight is **the Public garden**, a park located above the bank of the Danube with a view of the river and the Macin mountains.



Personalities



- **Prof. Ana Aslan**, the famous Romanian biologist and doctor, is the founder of the Geriatric Institute of Bucharest and inventor of the famous anti-aging formula Gerovital H3. She was born in Braila in 1897.

-**Maria Filotti**, a well-known actress, was born in 1883 in Braila. The Theater in Braila has been named after her since 1969.

-**Hariclea Darclée**, an opera singer, was born in 1860 in Braila. There is an international opera festival in Braila, organized every year since 1995.

ROMANIA



Braila in prezent

