**THE ARCH OF THRIUMPH IN BUCHAREST**

**Arcul de Triumf** is a [triumphal arch](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Triumphal_arch) located in the northern part of [Bucharest](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bucharest), on the [Kiseleff Road](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C8%98oseaua_Kiseleff).



The first, wooden, triumphal arch was built hurriedly, after [Romania](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romania) gained [its independence](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romanian_War_of_Independence) (1878), so that the victorious troops could march under it. Another temporary arch was built on the same site, in 1922, after [World War I](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_I), which was demolished in 1935 to make way for the current triumphal arch, which was inaugurated in September 1936.

The current arch has a height of 27 metres and was built after the plans of the architect [Petre Antonescu (architect)](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Petre_Antonescu_%28architect%29&action=edit&redlink=1) ([ro](http://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petre_Antonescu%22%20%5Co%20%22ro%3APetre%20Antonescu)). It has as its foundation a 25 x 11.50 metres rectangle. The sculptures with which the facades are decorated were created by famous Romanian sculptors such as [Ion Jalea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ion_Jalea) and [Dimitrie Paciurea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dimitrie_Paciurea). Nowadays, military parades are held beneath the arch each 1 December, with the occasion of Romania's [national holiday](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Union_Day).