

HALF DAY TRIP (2)
FORTIFIED VILLAGES & CHURCHES IN BRASOV COUNTY

1. THE VILLAGE CITADEL IN PREJMER

www.fortified-churches.com/locations/prejmer_tartlau/89

Prejmer, known also by its Saxon name of Tartlau is the major Saxon citadel in Southern Transylvania. It was built starting from the 15th century, around a church dating from the 13th century. In the 15th century, the Romanesque church was adapted to the Gothic style, the style shift being visible in the architectural details. The church has a small organ, and there is a regular summer program of musical activities. The citadel has a relatively circular shape. The walls are approx. 3 m thick, at a height of 10-12 m. The walls are surrounded by a deep and wide moat. The local population, in medieval times took refuge in the citadel, in case of an invasion. The fortified church was built by the Teutonic knights, but two centuries later it started to be used by the Saxon community of Prejmer/Tartlau.

The citadel has a delightful little museum at the entrance.



2. THE VILLAGE CITADEL IN RÂSNOV

www.romaniatourism.com/castles-fortresses

This rather large citadel of Rasnov (Rosenau) was built during several stages, between the 14th and the 16th centuries, on a calcareous height. It has several enclosures with towers, a polygonal bastion in the east and the ruined chapel dates from the 17th century. Inside the citadel the foundations of an Orthodox church from the 12th century were discovered.

Between 1211 and 1225, the Tara Barsei plateau was ruled by the Order of the Holy Virgin Mary of the Germans –the Teutonic Order. It is supposed that the first Saxon colonists of Rasnov came from the Rhein riverside, from a village called Rosenau. They gave this name to their new settlement from Transylvania.

