



PLACES OF WORSHIP

**CONSTANTA COUNTY  
A DISCOVERY THAT IS ALWAYS RECENT**

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## PLACES OF WORSHIP

### *The Orthodox Cathedral "St. Petru and Pavel"*

The Orthodox Cathedral Saint Apostles Petru and Pavel is situated on 25th Arhiepiscopiei street from Constanta, having as patrons "the Saint Apostles Petru and Pavel".

The Cathedral was built after the plans of the architect Ion Mincu, between 1883-1885, its inauguration taking place of 22 May 1895.

The construction of the Cathedral was performed in the Greek-Roman style, of pressed brick, imposing itself by the monumentality of the facade and the tower tall of 35 m. The painting is remade in 1959-1961 by Gheorghe Popescu and Niculina Delavrancea, the frescoes being restored in the Neo-Byzantine structure with a Romanian coloring.



*Orthodox Cathedral St. Petru and Pavel*

The Cathedral hosts since 2001 the reliquary with the relics of Saint Martyrs Epictet and Astion, a fact that motivates more and more Christians to come here and attend the special services being held on different occasions. Besides these relics, the Cathedral also hosts the relics of Saint Great Martyr Pantelimon (since 1931) and the bones of Saints Auxentiu and Simeon Stalpnicul. One of the most valuable icon is the Icon of the Mother of God (painted at Durau Monastery).

**The Cathedral** was included on the list of historical monuments of national interest.



*Orthodox Cathedral St. Petru and Pavel*



*The inside of the Cathedral*



*Main entrance*



*Mosaic detail  
of St. Andrei*

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## *The Monastery of Saint Apostle Andrei*

4 km from the locality Ion Corvin from Dobrogea is the **Monastery "The Cave of Saint Apostle Andrei"** with the three churches and body of cells, placed in a beautiful natural frame.

The Monastery has as patron Saint Apostle Andrei (the cave church and the large church) and the Coating of Mother of God (small church).

The first place to visit in the Monastery is the church from **Saint Apostle Andrei's cave**, the place where seems to have inhabited the Apostle Andrei. The cave is a real church dug in rock, placed at the base of a small mountain with forests.

Instead of the altar there is a large icon of Saint Apostle Andrei. In the current church from the cave, in the ante-nave, in a niche, there is a sort of bed, initially carved in stone, about which the tradition says that on it the Apostle Andrei rested.

The Monastery also has now a small church situated at a few tens of meters from the cave. The Church was blessed with the patron the Coating of Mother of God.



*The Monastery of Saint Apostle Andrei*

In the small church is kept a saint reliquary with the relics of Saint Andrei. It is a cross in the shape of an X, in front of the Holy Altar, on the left side. In the center of the cross there is a small part from the finger of Saint Apostle Andrei, brought from Trifiliei Metropolitan Church from Greece and on the four sides of the cross are little parts from the holy relics of the Saints from Dobrogea: Zoticos, Attalos, Kamasias and Filippos , the Saint Martyrs from Niculitel, Epictet the priest and Astion the monk.



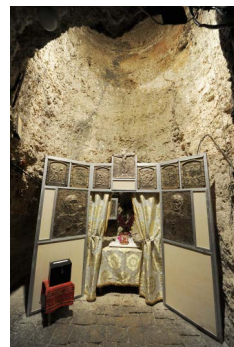
*The cave of Saint Apostle Andrei*



*Crucifix of the Monastery St. Andrei*



*Stone bed*



*Altar of St. Andrei cave*

The third church is the large church whose construction began in 1998, and finished in 2002. The church has as patron Saint Apostle Andrei.

Nearby is also found the Spring of Saint Apostle Andrei. The tradition says that when Saint Apostle Andrei arrived here, in this area there was no water. Then he hit with the stick in the rock and the water came out, the Spring of Saint Apostle Andrei remaining a testimony until today, never becoming dry.

## *The Monastery "Saint Ioan Casian"*

Is situated near the locality Casian, on the administrative territory of Targusor, being built in 2001.

The complex is made of a church, erected from yellow stone, two administrative bodies with rooms for living and dining room. The two bodies are built identically, having at the ground floor a covered terrace, three columns and three arches, and at the first floor a balcony covered with a triangular roof framing, with access from the outside on a wooden ladder.

Nearby there is the cave "Saint Ioan Casian", arranged as a cell; in the past the monks used the cave as a home and liturgical service area.



*The Monastery of Saint Ioan Casian*



*The cave of Saint Ioan Casian*



*Entrance in the Monastery of Saint Ioan Casian*

## *The Hermitage "Saint Maria" from Techirghiol*

It is situated on 5 Ovidiu street from the resort Techirghiol, being founded in 1928 as priest sanatorium.

In 1951 is transformed in Hermitage of nuns, and the sanatorium transformed in an annex. The church of the Hermitage has as patrons "Saints Apostles Petru and Pavel" and was brought from Pelisor palace.

The church is built on a rectangular plan, and the wall are made of oak beams combined through "dovetail" technique; the exterior is simple, decorated with a rope-shaped belt, representing a symbolic limitation of the sacred space; the bell tower has a gazebo decorated with geometrical motifs and crosses.

The painting was made in several stages by the local artists, blending the naive style with the late romantic one. In the years 1965 - 1967 and 1975 - 1977, the Hermitage was renovated and extended.



*Hermitage Court "St. Maria Techirghiol "*



*The Hermitage St. Maria Techirghiol*

## *The Old Church Saint Gheorghe from Mangalia*

The church is a historic and religious architecture monument, situated in the center of Mangalia, being one of the most beautiful and old Orthodox churches.

The fundamental stone for building this church with the patron Saint Gheorghe and Saint Ioan the Baptist was laid in 1914. The construction was finished in 1929, when it was also blessed.



*The inside of the old church  
Saint Gheorghe from Mangalia*



*The old church  
Saint Gheorghe from Mangalia*

## *The Big Mosque from Constanta*

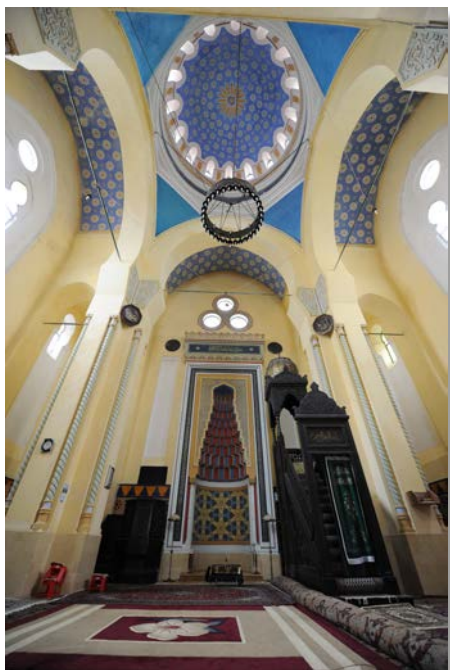
Is situated on 5 Arhieiscopiei street from Constanta. The Mosque was built between 1910 and 1912. The plans were made by the engineer Gogu Constantinescu, under the guidance of the architect Victor Ștefanescu.

From an architectural point of view it belongs to the Moorish style, the architects taking as model Konya Mosque from Anatolia.

**The Mosque** was built as a tribute brought to the Muslim community from Constanta, being made of reinforced concrete with a height of 47 m. The internal staircase has 140 steps up to the muezzin place, from where in the past it was announced the prayer hour.

The inside has a beautiful mural painting and hosts a valuable oriental carpet, received as donation from Turkey. The carpet comes from Ada Kaleh island and was the property of the sultan Abdul Hamid being 200 years old. The carpet is impressive due to its size and weight - 144 m<sup>2</sup> and weight of 490 kg.

**The Mosque** was declared historical monument of national interest.



*Inside of the Big Mosque from Constanta*



*The Big Mosque from Constanta*



## *Hunchiar Mosque from Constanta*

Is situated on 41 Tomis Avenue from Constanta, being built in 1860 by the Sultan Abdul Aziz.

From an architectural point of view it is characterized by simplicity, being made in a Moorish style; the internal ornaments keep the oriental features; the sanctuary has the shape of a square, and the minarets are without windows, having only a staircase that leads to the balcony with ceremonial role.

**The Mosque** is an historic monument of national interest.



*Hunchiar Mosque – Outside*



*Hunchiar Mosque – Inside*



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**JUDEȚUL CONSTANȚA O DESCOPERIRE MEREU ACTUALĂ**

Unitatea Administrativ Teritorială Județul Constanța

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