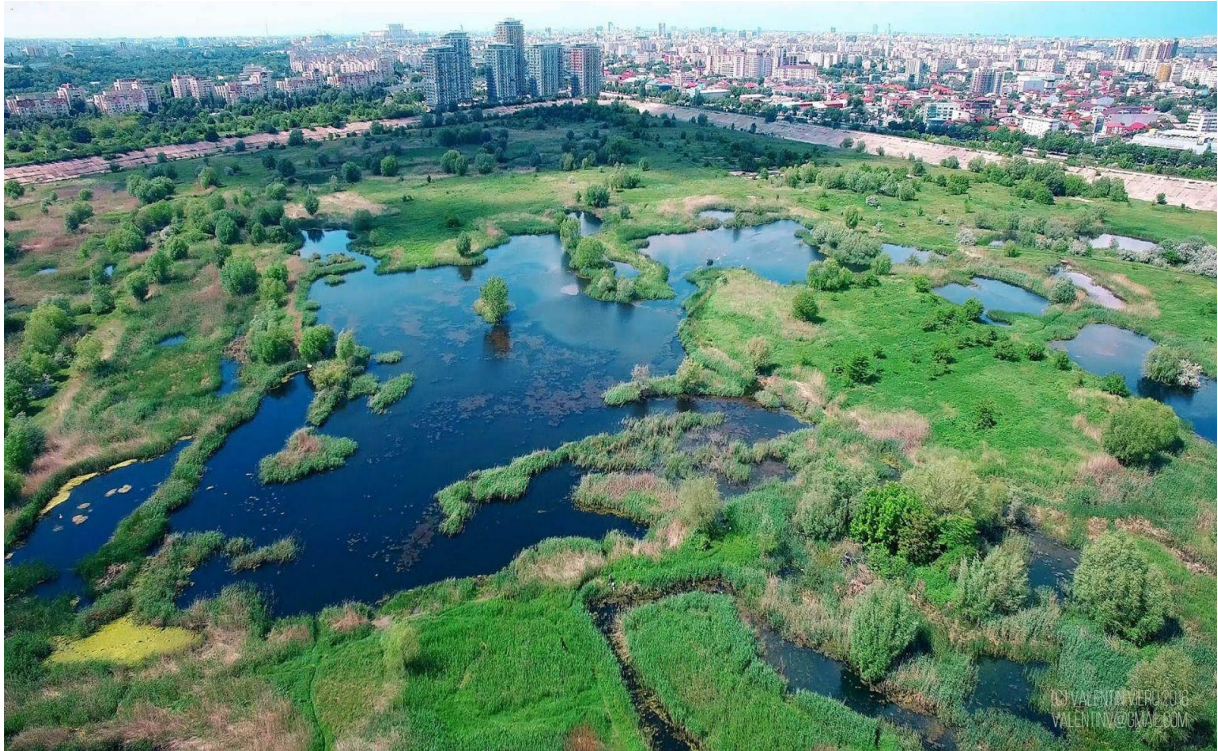


VACARESTI NATURAL PARK



The Vacaresti Natural Park is the only urban natural park in Romania, situated in the center of Bucharest. Covering over 190 hectares, it is also a protected area.

It is very representative of the climate changes because many kinds of animals and plants have settled down here over time, finding all the food and peace they needed to survive. In total, there are 390 species out of which 138 species of birds, 5 species of mammalians, 116 of plants, 5 of reptiles, 7 of fishes, 111 species of insects and 6 of amphibians, most of them being endangered and protected by the law.



The otter is one of the most fascinating mammalians that can be found in the Vacaresti Park. The European otter was common as recently as the 1950's in the British Isles and then migrated to the other parts of Europe. This breed is nationally threatened – people from all over the country hunt it, therefore they found a good and welcoming shelter in the park, where they have enough food and a fine environment.



One of the best examples of plants that had settled here because of the climate changes is the ambrosia – it couldn't resist the Norwegian cold anymore, so it started to be found in warmer countries.

The Vacaresti Natural Park is an amazing place for education – every week, children of all ages come to see and learn about nature in small or big groups – for relaxation, the park provides both cycling and walking routes, together with lots of fun watchtowers and picnic spots.

In conclusion, this park is an incredibly and by all means necessary place in such a big city where everyone is welcome to connect themselves with nature.



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Photos source: www.parcnaturalvacaresti.ro (Helmut Ignat)
www.youtube.com/valentinnv