

## Queen Mary of Romania

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# Maria, granddaughter of tar and queen



#### PART 01

Maria spent her childhood and adolescence at the family home in Eastwell Park, England.



Grand Duchess Maria Alexandrovna of Russia, daughter of Tar Alexander II



#### PART 02

For a time the family lived in Malta, where her father had high military duties.



Alfred Ernest Albert, Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, son of Queen Victoria of England



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In 1892, at the age of 17, Maria became, through her marriage to Crown Prince Ferdinand of Romania, the Crown Princess of a distant and unknown country.









Maria, 1893 The first photo taken in Romania



For King Carol I, whose existence is confused with the idea of debt, the duties of a young heiress princess could only take place in the domestic, under the zealous supervision of the sovereign, and its sole purpose was to perpetuate the dynasty.



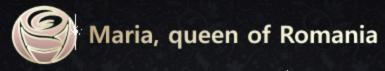
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After marrying Crown Prince Ferdinand, Maria was forced to wage a permanent battle with King Carol, who completely isolated her from Peles and forbade her any contact with Romanian political or cultural figures. In the years of isolation she suffered terribly because of the belief that she was drawn into a "trap", that she was given only the "mission" to give birth to an heir to the Throne of Charles I, that she would destroy her youth and beauty in a cold castle, spied on by maids and governesses.





On October 14, 1914, after the death of his uncle Carol I, Ferdinand became king of Romania.



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Two years in which Mary worked diligently to persuade her husband to follow the path she had chosen: to join our country to the Allies (England), against the Central (Germany).



The accession of King Ferdinand and Queen Maria in 1914 marked a period of neutrality for Romania during the First World War.



Romania declared war on the Central Powers on August 27.



Maria during the First World War She was nicknamed "Mother of the Wounded" and "Queen-Soldier" by the people.





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He worked directly on the front, in field hospitals, and coordinated the work of a charitable foundation.





### Unusual aspects of Maria's life Queen Mary's visit to the USA -1926

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Queen Mary of Romania was not only the first "crowned head" to visit the United States but also the first member of a royal family to agree to appear in cosmetics commercials (Pond's creams).

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In 1933, by will, Queen Mary demanded that her heart be embalmed and deposited in Balchik after her death.





As early as August 15, 1916, when Romania declared war on Austria-Hungary, Queen Maria of Romania became involved in organizing the Red Cross service.



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The first mission undertaken by Queen Maria was to organize and coordinate the ambulance services.



The Red Cross organized 58 field hospitals in Romania. in which more than 150,000 wounded were cared.





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Thus, in 1919, King Ferdinand sent her on unofficial visits to France and Britain, which he made in March-April to plead the country's cause at the Paris Peace Conference (1919-1920) where he spoke. about the sacrifices made by the Romanian army during the First World War.



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The most difficult meeting he had was the one on March 7, 1919, before which he pleaded for the integration in Romania, after the First World War, of Transylvania to the Tisza and the Banat, in its entirety.



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Clemenceau, nicknamed "The Tiger", would have told him, then, about the recognition of Romania's borders, "Madame, what you are asking for is the lion's share!" Queen Mary's response was prompt: "That's what the lioness asks of the tiger!".





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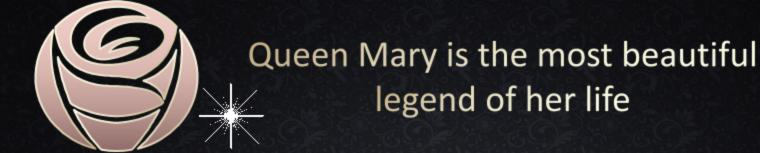
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Queen Mary's response was prompt, "That's what the lioness asks of the tiger!". Clemenceau would be impressed by her, leaving his anthological statement "A queen like this must be received with military honor, with General Foch (Marshal Ferdinand Foch, one of the leading French military commanders during World War I n.r.) at the helm!".





Queen Mary played a key role in the recognition of the Great Union on December 1, 1918 by the great powers. Its mission resulted: the Great Union and the borders of Greater Romania were recognized by the Treaties of Versailles (June 28, 1919 - January 21, 1920), Saint-Germain (September 10, 1919) and Trianon (June 4, 1920). On October 15, 1922, in Alba Iulia, Ferdinand and Maria were crowned kings of Greater Romania in front of tens of thousands of people.



Ion Gheorghe Duca states in his work "Political Memories": "Queen Mary is a being you should be ashamed of. It is so shining physically and morally that it takes away your sight, no one can surpass it. Beautiful of enchanting beauty, I don't think there were many women in Europe who could have resembled her. Intelligent, charming, full of talent for painting, riding, writing, a brilliant conversation, verve, humor, spontaneity of thought, originality of expression and courage...".