



**LENDING THE APPEARANCE
DAVE IN BETLIAR
MANSION**

CLOCKWISE FROM
OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP LEFT

—
Amazing feature of late
18th and early 19th
century furniture in one of
the room

—
The women bed room

—
One of the largest
paintings in the mansion
called "The Struggle of
Man" by Belgian painter
Henri Etien Grandjean on
the staircase

—
Baby cradle from late 18th
century

—
Oriental exhibition room
featuring luxurious
oriental drapes on the wall

—
The Red Reception Salon
where the walls are
covered with brocade
tapestry in red wine colour

chandelier hangs. The smoothly plastered walls with wooden neo-Gothic paneling give the illusion of real artwork frames in grey tones. Two of the largest paintings in this mansion by German and Belgian painters can also be seen here, together with portraits of the most important members of the Andrassy family which dominate the front wall of the second floor. This beautiful staircase also has a

somewhat masculine feel with a large display of precious hunting trophies of Carpathian deer and Canadian wapiti deer on display.

Each of the rooms inside Betliar Mansion is beautifully decorated and designed, nevertheless there is one room that really took my heart away with its ambiance and that is the amazing library. The high ceilinged room is bathed in natural light and the ceiling

itself is covered with a 12-sided illusory painting that makes you just want to stare at it. All of the walls in this room are filled with tall book cases made of oak in a new-Baroque style. With over 15,000 books covering various themes, the library was established at the beginning of 18th century by Leopold Andrassy who was a keen student of science and fine art. The dominant piece of furniture in the library is a rather eclectic set of chairs from the second half of the 19th century with blue silk seats. I wouldn't be surprised if J.K. Rowling used this library as her inspiration for Albus Dumbledore's office in the Harry Potter series. It has that kind of vibe.

I could carry on describing the beauty of each room, salon, hall and chamber but it still wouldn't be the same as visiting the mansion in person. It is surely a great source of inspiration for any large modern house these days. The understanding of creating balance by mixing different periods of furniture and interior design styles is definitely something that all design enthusiasts could learn from visiting this delightful mansion. **10**