



Carpathian Mountains and Castles - self-guided version

8 days / 7 nights

Piatra Craiului and Bucegi are some of the most popular and appreciated Romanian mountains. Come here to discover the unbelievable diversity of flora and fauna in the National Park of Piatra Craiului, the great pastures and the spectacular landscapes at the feet of Bucegi mountains. You will also visit perched sheepfolds in high mountain pastures and medieval fortresses.

YOUR PROGRAM

Day 1 - Reception in Bucharest

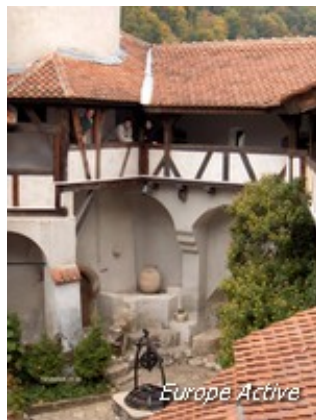
Beginning of the journey in Bucharest. Arrival before 2:00 pm if you don't want a private transfer. Reception at the train station or at your hotel in Bucharest. Train to Zarnesti (change in Brasov). Night in Zarnesti.

Day 2 - Zarnesti Gorges

Walk in Piatra Craiului ("Rock of the King") mountains to the typical mountain hut of Curmatura. On your way to the guesthouse you will cross the fascinating Zarnesti gorges with 200m high vertical walls. Approx 5h, 15km, +800m, -300m.

Day 3 - Bran castle

Today you will walk on a small ridge going down to Bran castle. This castle was built in the 14th century and had a role of defence against the migratory people. Later it protected Transylvania from the Ottoman invasions. The castle was also associated with the fictional character of Dracula, who was based on the prince Vlad Tepes of Wallachia. Transfer to the same guesthouse as the night before. Approx. 4h30, 14km, +300m, -600m).



Day 4 - Pastures and forests in "Piatra Craiului" National Park

Trek in the National park of Piatra Craiului till the south of the ridge through pastures, sheepfolds, woods and scattered villages. You will arrive in a Romanian traditional mountain village. Approx. 4h30, 13km, +300m, -250m.



Day 5 - Scattered villages

Leave the Piatra Craiului mountains. A easy walk with "picture post-card" landscapes through scattered villages with small and ancient houses, at the foot of Bucegi mountains. The inhabitants are livestock breeders; therefore the village has a long time tradition in cheese preparing. Approx. 4h, 14km, -150m, +250m.



Day 6 - Bucegi's mountains

Trek towards the Bucegi massif. A long hike which you will not regret: magnificent landscapes and sights of the Piatra Craiului's crest. Approx. 6h, 18km, +650m, -900m. (Possible shorter walk 4h, 12km, +400m, -700m)

Day 7 - Meadow of Gutanu

Continue to hike in the Bucegi mountains. A trek along the meadow of Gutanu and the vertical walls of the Bucegi's crest. Starting with June you can find the shepherds with their flocks and maybe even ask to taste the cheese they prepare. Take the time and enjoy these landscapes. Approx. 6h, 18km, +700m, -900m.

Day 8 - End of the journey

Transfer by bus to Brasov and then by train to Bucharest. End of the journey.

Additional information

TARIFFS

535 euros per person.



Day 1 - Private transfer: Bucharest airport to the train station or center, 45 min : 25 euros per person.

Day 1 - Private transfer: Bucharest airport to 1st guesthouse in Zarnesti, 3 hr : 110 euros per person.

Day 1 - Private transfer (instead of train): Brasov station to Zarnesti : 20 euros per person.

Day 8 - Private transfer: guesthouse in Bran to Bucharest airport, 3hr : 110 euros per person.

Single supplement : 75 euros per person.

Extra-night in Bucharest, hotel Capitol 3*, single room : 55 euros per person.

Extra-night in Bucharest, hotel Capitol 3*, double room : 70 euros per person.

Extra-night in Bucharest, hotel Capitol 3*, triple room : 90 euros per person.

INCLUDED

The nights, meals (except dinner and picnic day 7), road-book, maps, transfer of luggage, permanently reachable local assistance.

NOT INCLUDED

Transfer to the meeting point and to the drop off point, the insurances, the drinks, the optional activities and the personal expenses.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Requires a medium fitness level. Maximum of 6h walking a day.

CARRYING

The transfers of your luggage is ensured. You only have to carry your things needed for the day (picnic, camera...)

ACCOMMODATION

Nights in guest-houses in double rooms. Mostly 2 stars accommodation (except 2 days with WC out of the room).

SIZE OF GROUP

Minimum of 2 people.

DEPARTURES

From April to the end of October.

DEPARTURE

Bucharest train station.

DISPERSION

Bucharest train station.