



Villages of Bucovina and Maramures

9 Days / 8 Nights

Immersed in the Romanian counties you will discover a rural world which disappeared long ago in western countries. You will be permanently in contact with the rich peasant culture and the protected nature. You will visit two regions, Bucovina and Maramures. In these two regions, so close but so different, the inhabitants will help you to discover the village life and their crafts and to understand the mysteries of the painted monasteries and wooden churches which are now part of the UNESCO Heritage. All this, and many other discoveries, waits for you during this journey.

Bucovina will seduce you with its famous painted monasteries, with its rich culture (hailing from almost all the ethnic groups of Central Europe), with the crafts, with the field works in its hilly landscape and other wonders.

In Maramures, the wood work, result of a secular tradition, will fascinate you. This know-how transmitted from father to son is perfectly mastered by the craftsmen.

A soft and peaceful landscape will surround you during this unforgettable journey.

YOUR PROGRAM

Day 1 - Reception in Bucharest

Arrival in Bucharest. Transfer to the train station. Visit of Bucharest, according to the arrival time. Night train for Bucovina at 9:00 PM (first-class sleeping wagon, 2 beds / cabin).

Day 2 - Local craft

A short transfer will take us to our hosts where we will have breakfast. Today we will stroll in a typical village. After a few hours of walk, we will meet Hutsules people; these inhabitants (with uncertain roots and history) will make you discover their art: eggs painting. We will also discover today one of the major components of the unique Bucovina monasteries set, the Moldovia painted monastery. These monasteries are famous due to the exterior frescoes. Moldovia constitutes a perfect introduction to feel the charm of the Moldavian monasteries. Here, frescoes where yellow and orange dominate amaze the visitor. (~4 hours, 13 km, +350m, -300m). Night in Moldovia.



Day 3 - Sucevia and its monastery



A hike through woods and fields will lead you to an unexpected rural world which is still very alive. We will arrive to the Sucevia monastery from the fields, which will offer us a striking sight: the nature seems to protect the monastery like a jewel! The perfection of each detail on such a vast fresco is amazing. (4-5 hours, 15 km, +400m, -300m). Night in Sucevia.

Day 4 - Bucolic hike

Hike in the forests: we will walk through hills to arrive to the village of Mnstirea Humorului. This immersion in a peasant world will enchant you; the beautiful landscape punctuated with sheep herds and horse-carts reveals a great harmony. Night in the village of Mnstirea Humorului (~4 hours, 12 km, +400m, -350).



Day 5 - Transfer to Maramure

According to the weather, we would discover the Vorone monastery and the brilliant blue of its frescoes. Transfer to Maramure (~4h30 of transfer). We will visit the oldest wooden church of Maramure, and then we will hike to our host, in the nearby village. Immersion in the Maramure atmosphere with its deep forests, its long-shaped villages with sculptured portals and with its wooden churches (~3 hours, 10 km, +300m, -250).

Day 6 - Traditional way of life

Today we will discover Maramure between fields and forests. In every season, country is animated by the field's works. Hike from a village to another. According to the weather, visit of the Bârsana monastery which is a masterpiece of the wooden Maramure architecture. (4-5 hours, 15 km, +300m, -350). Possible longer walk depending of the group level.



Day 7 - Hike in mountains

Today we go to a remote region of Maramure, and we hike between high mountain pastures, mountain lakes, and forests. We will make a last visit in one of the most impressive wooden churches. This church has one of the richest interior frescoes. (~5 hours, 16 km, +100m, -550). Possible longer walk depending of the group level.



Day 8 - Happy Cemetery

Private transfer to Spâna to discover the incredible "Happy Cemetery". It is time to visit the city of Sighetu Marmaiei and its "Communism Victims Memorial" created in the prison where were detained (without judging) the main opponents of the regime. Departure at 5:40 pm, night in the train to Bucharest (first-class sleeping wagon, 2 beds / cabin).



Day 9 - End of journey

Early arrival in Bucharest (7:20AM). Free time in the city centre and transfer to the airport.

Additional information

TARIFFS

719 euros per person.

Single supplement : 65 euros per person.

Private transfer airport / train station (for 3 people) : 25 euros per person.

INCLUDED

-> Nights,

-> Meals:

- 7 breakfasts,

- 7 picnics,

- 7 dinners (6 at our guest-houses and 1 in the train as a picnic-D8). Dinner: 3 course menu – entrée/soup, main dish and a dessert (occasionally dinner is a 2 course meal),

-> Transfers,

-> Luggage transfer.

NOT INCLUDED

- Transfer to the meeting point (North train station in Bucharest),

- The entrance fees into museums, monasteries...

- The insurance.

- Meals as indicated (1 breakfast and 1 diner), drinks, personal spending & snacks.



LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

9 days / 6 days of walking: easy to medium (accessible to every person who walks regularly in the year), on paths and forest roads. Some walks could change depending on the group level or the weather conditions or be interrupted by small transfers.

CARRYING

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

ACCOMMODATION

Rural pensions in double occupancy, exceptionally triple with private & shared facilities (1 for 2 rooms).

Depending on the size of the group, the accommodation can be done in several pensions. Meals will be taken together.

SIZE OF GROUP

6 to 14 people. Smaller groups with supplement, contact us for details.

DEPARTURE

Bucharest train station.

DISPERSION

Bucharest train station.

- optional transfer from/to the airport

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Depending on the majority of the people booking this trip, guide could be French and English speaking.