



Mysteries of the Carpathian Mountains and Saxon citadels of Transylvania

8 days / 7 nights

Transylvania is a hilly area surrounded by the Carpathian Mountains that always knew how to protect its mysteries. Your trip will take you in this bastion loaded with history (where Romanians, Hungarians and Saxons live together) on the route of the Saxon citadels, registered as UNESCO world heritage sites. As one of the unforgettable spots of this civilization, the city of Sibiu (Hermannstadt), founded by Saxons, was elected European capital of culture in 2007.

You will also discover the villages perched on the trays of the Carpathian Mountains which have kept until our days a pastoral life in perfect harmony with the wild nature of the surroundings. This walk & drive tour will give you the possibility to have a vision of the whole Transylvania and to truly discover this fascinating world during the hikes.

YOUR PROGRAM

Day 1 - Reception in Bucharest

You will get your rental car and begin your journey towards Transylvania. Depending on your arrival time you could have a stop to see the romantic Castle of Peles, a dreamy architectural jewel which served as a holiday home for the Romanian Monarchs. You will spend the evening in a traditional guesthouse, in a heavenly mountain village. Dinner included.



Day 2 - Beautiful trek in the Piatra Craiului Mountains

Today you will pack up and have a short transfer with your rented car (15m) to a mountain landmark. From here on, you will have a beautiful trek in the Piatra Craiului Mountains (" the Prince's Stone" in Romanian). Passing by the 200m high vertical walls of the Zarnesti gorges which are very beautifully coloured, you will head to the Curmatura hut, a traditional mountain hut where you will enjoy a tasty lunch. You will continue your circling trek back to where you left your car head to your next accommodation in another lovely Romanian village at the base of the Bucegi mountains. Breakfast, packed lunch and dinner included. (around 5 h, +/- 650m)



Day 3 - Hike into the Bucegi Mountains

Today after breakfast you will enjoy a splendid hike into the Bucegi Mountains through secular forests and an amazing scenery. A longer walk is possible along the meadow of Gutanu and the vertical walls of the Bucegi's ridge, who will offer you beautiful landscape and view over Piatra Craiului ridge. Make sure to have your camera ready as there will be plenty of use for it today! Breakfast, packed lunch and dinner included. (around 6h, 18 km, +650m, -900 or a shorter one, around 4h30)



Day 4 - Medieval citadel





Day 5 - European capital of culture

Today you will leave Sighisoara to visit Sibiu, which was chosen to be the European capital of culture in 2007. This town is representative for the Transylvanian Saxon culture. On your way you can stop to see a splendid fortified church in Biertan, home to many legends and a rich cultural heritage. You will spend the evening in a charming guesthouse in Sibiu. Breakfast included.



Day 6 - Last days in Transylvania

This morning you can continue the visit of Sibiu (maybe with the recommended Astra Folk Technology Museum in Dumbrava Forest). Then you can have a splendid drive up across Fagaras Mountains, along the Transfagarasan Road. You will spend the evening in a mountain lodge up in the Fagaras mountains. Breakfast included.



Day 7 - Farewell Transylvania



Day 8 - End of the stay

Today after breakfast you will give back your car and your holiday with us will have finished.

Additional information

TARIFFS

455 euros per person.

Single supplement : 115 euros per person.

INCLUDED

Technical description of the itinerary, map with itinerary traced out, contact listing, technical sheet, and vouchers. Our Road Book includes restaurants, museums, craftsmen, ATM addresses and a 24-hour emergency phone number.

Accommodation

Meals (7 breakfasts, 4 picnics (plus 1 more on day 7- if you stay in Balea mountain cabin if the weather allows) and 4 dinners (plus an additional one if you stay in Balea mountain cabin on day 6). Dinner: 3-course menu with several choices - entrée, main dish, and a dessert. Occasionally dinner is a 2-course meal.

NOT INCLUDED

Rental vehicle - possible through us
insurance

Drinks and meals not mentioned
Cultural visits and optional activities
Personal expenses & souvenirs
Air Transport

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Requires a medium fitness level. Maximum of 5h walking a day. 3 days of hiking.



CARRYING

You will take your own baggage in the rented car.

ACCOMMODATION

- Double occupancy with private facilities.
 - 1 night in Magura in a traditional guesthouse
 - 2 nights in Moieciu in a traditional guesthouse
 - 1 night in Sighisoara in a charming 3* hotel inside the citadel
 - 1 night in Sibiel in a traditional guesthouse
 - 1 night in Balea or Brasov (According to the season) either a traditional mountain cabin or a 2* central époque hotel in Brasov
 - 1 night in Bucharest in a 3* central hotel
- OR equivalent boarding house/hotel nearby.
Exceptionally, there are shared facilities.

SIZE OF GROUP

Minimum of 2 people.

DEPARTURES

All year, subject to availability of accommodation, response within 48 hours, Monday to Friday.

DEPARTURE

Bucharest airport or train station.

DISPERSION

Bucharest airport or train station.

HOW TO GET THERE

HOW to get from the AIRPORT to the North train station:

BUS

- To go to the North train station, exit the Arrivals terminal (from the ground level – if you see a flower shop to your right, you are on the first floor) and walk towards the bus stop “Otopeni Plec?ri” (Otopeni departures).
- Take bus 780 and get off at the GARA DE NORD stop.
- From there walk straight into the train station, passing by Mc Donald’s. The train platforms will be right ahead.

TAXI

- You can order a taxi from the machines found near the exits of the terminals. A taxi costs maximum 60 lei, don’t accept to pay more or don’t take a taxi with another cost than 1,69lei/km!

PRIVATE TRANSFER

- We can arrange a private transfer for a total cost of 20 Euro, ~ 45 min – 1h (depending on the traffic).



UBER/TAXIFY

- The UBER and TAXIFI apps work very well so you can order a car that will take you to the hotel. The price depends on how many cars are available and on the traffic. The cost is of maximum 10 Euro.

HOW to get from the North train station to the AIRPORT:

BUS

- To reach the airport, at the end of the train platform take the corridor between McDonald's and the information office.
- Just in front of the exit, there is a bus stop.
- Take the 780 bus that will take you straight to the airport.
- Get off at the AEROPORTUL INTERNATIONAL HENRI COANDA TERMINAL PLECARI (DEPARTURES).

TAXI

- You can order a taxi from the machines found near the exits of the train station. A taxi costs maximum 60 lei, don't accept to pay more or don't take a taxi with another cost than 1,69lei/km! Independent taxi drivers have different prices.

PRIVATE TRANSFER

- We can arrange a private transfer for a total cost of 20 Euro, ~ 45 min – 1h (depending on the traffic).

UBER/TAXIFY

- The UBER and TAXIFY apps work very well so you can order a car that will take you to the airport. Just exit the train station and walk around 200 m near the station so the GPS can locate you better. The price depends on how many cars are available and on the traffic. The cost is of maximum 10 Euro.

EQUIPMENT TO TAKE

Practical information for Romania

Weather / climate

Located in the south-east of Europe, Romania has a dynamic climate that differs from one country to another. In September, climatic conditions in Bulgaria make it a good travel destination. In September, the temperatures vary from 10 to 25 ° C, but the maximum temperatures can exceed 30 ° C.

connectivity

All hotels offer wireless internet connectivity.



Electricity

Electricity in Romania is 220 volts - two plugs are used.

Romanian currency

Romanian LEU (lei) is the official currency of Romania and the currency code is (RON). The lei come in 1 - 5 - 10 - 50 - 100 - 200 - 500 banknotes and coins of 1, 5, 10, 50 bani (50 bani x 2 = 1 leu)

Exchange rate

The leu has a fixed rate with the euro at 1 euro = 4.65 lei Romanian

Money problems

Lei are the only accepted currency. ATMs are widespread throughout the country and foreign exchange bureaus in Romania operate without commission. Major credit cards are commonly accepted in major cities and towns in Romania, but still provide money for rural villages and small towns. In addition, we advise you not to exchange money as there will be a commission, but to use the ATM to withdraw lei.

Along the way you can use an ATM or currency exchange in Bucharest, Sibiu, Sighisoara and Brasov.

Tax Information of Romania

Romania applies a general rate of Value Added Tax (VAT) of 19%. VAT is included in the indicated price of items.

Equipment

- Casual clothing for travel and city clothes
- Casual shoes for travel and leisure
- Day pack (15-25L)
- Jacket
- Insecticide
- sun block
- Sun hat
- Sun glasses
- Toiletries
- Bottle of water