



Discover Maramures by bike

8 days / 7 nights

Maramures is situated in a hollow ground in the heart of the Romanian's Northwest Carpathian Mountains. The inhabitants of this region have known how to preserve their traditions and their folklore and you can admire the woolen traditional costumes, the flowery skirts, the colored head scarves which cover women's head and the traditional hats which crest the men's ones. Although surrounded by Ukraine, Hungary, and Transylvania, Maramures presents an unmistakably cultural unity. One of the aspects of this common heritage is the architecture: here, the majority of houses are wooden built, according to an ancestral and proven technique. All the villages count at least a few centuries old wooden church (among which some are registered with the UNESCO world heritage list).

The region lives essentially on its natural resources, especially on the farming and on the forest exploitation. Come and discover the sweet hills, and fields covered with flowers during the springtime, and forests with plenty of mushrooms and wild berries. The fieldworks reflect the seasons and add an updated charm to this bucolic region.

YOUR PROGRAM

Day 1 - Arrival in Cluj Napoca

Arrival in Cluj Napoca. Private transfer from the airport to your first accommodation in Maramures. Free evening. Dinner included. (Possibility to arrive in Bucharest and have a transfer by night train to Maramures)

Day 2 - Immersion in Maramures

After breakfast, you begin your adventure with a loop which will bring you on the outskirts of the town of Sighetu Marmatiei, the old capital of Maramures: to visit the Memorial of the Communism Victims, a museum situated in the former political prison, which will give you a sad testimony of the Romanian dark years. You can then have a coffee break on the pedestrian street at one of the cafes and stroll through this city which is also a border point with Ukraine. This is also the hometown of Holocaust survivor and Nobel Prize winner, Elie Wiesel. A first taste of Maramures's landscape and charm. (~40km, +/-500m)

Day 3 - Discovery of the traditional environment

Today, our route will bring us through typical and charming villages of the region. We can admire houses, churches and monumental portals with symbolic or everyday life scenes carved in wood. We will arrive in the charming village of Breb, a hidden gem surrounded by the Carpathians. We will spend the night at a traditional guesthouse. (~30km, +/-400m)

Day 4 - Bucolic landscape

Today you will leave Breb and bike further on the Iza Valley. You will pass villages like Budesti and Valeni, where you will be able to admire the tranquility of the Maramures life. In the village of Barsana you can stop and admire the craftsmanship of the wooden church, located above the village. Your destination for today is the village of Botiza. (~40km, +/-600m)

Day 5 - The oldest wooden church from Maramures



Moving further today to Viseu Valley. On your way you can stop and visit the church from Ieud, the oldest wooden church from Maramures, also part of UNESCO heritage. You'll cross Iza river and you'll be getting closer to the Ukrainian border, passing through beautiful villages. You arrive in Viseu de Sus, the home of the steam train Mocanita. (~47km, +/-400m)

Day 6 - Steam train

In the morning, you'll ride the steam train from Viseu de Sus. It will take you through breath-taking landscapes, a cool forest that was once a battlefield in WWI and stop at the end of the track for lunch. While eating a delicious meal, you can admire closely the artwork of the steam engine. Once back, you take your bike and ride to a nearby village, where you'll spend the night. (~20 km, +/-100m)

Day 7 - Poienile Izei

Today you'll ride across the hills between Viseu Valley and Iza Valley. The never-ending hills and scattered villages will be your companions for this journey. Arrival in the village of Poienile Izei, where you can visit the UNESCO wooden church. Night at a family-run guesthouse. (~40 km, +/- 400m)

Day 8 - End of the trip

You leave our bikes today. Then, you will have a private transfer back to Cluj. End of the tour. Breakfast included (Possibility to return to Bucharest by night train from Sighetu Marmatiei)

Additional information

TARIFFS

890 euros per person.

Bike rental during the trip

: 135 euros per person.

Single supplement : 130 euros per person.

INCLUDED

The accommodations

meals (7 breakfasts, 6 picnics and 7 dinners in our guesthouses)

roadbook

maps

luggage transfer

permanent local assistance.

NOT INCLUDED

Bikes rental, transfer to the meeting point and to the drop off point, transfers which are not mentioned, insurances, drinks, attractions entry fees and personal expenses.



LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

8 days of which 6 cycling. Medium level (40Km a day, with usually gentle climbs and a few steeper parts).

CARRYING

Luggage will be transferred from one guesthouse to the other.

ACCOMMODATION

7 Nights in guest-houses in double rooms, exceptionally shared facilities

SIZE OF GROUP

Minimum of 2 people.

DEPARTURES

From April to the end of October, response within 48 hours, from Monday to Friday.

DEPARTURE

Cluj train station.

DISPERSION

Cluj train station.

HOW TO GET THERE

Cluj-Napoca International Airport

Strada Traian Vuia 149-151, Cluj-Napoca 400397

1) On foot, about 3 min, 210 m

- Exit the airport, turn right, walk for 30 m.
- When you arrive at the intersection, take the first left exit, towards the parking space.
- walk for 75 meters, you will be on the main road (E576) turn right and walk for 70 m and the bus station will be there (do not cross, the station is on the airport coast)

2) Take bus number 5 for 14 stops (about 31 min)

- Traian Vuia Nord
- Planoarelor
- Vlad Tepes
- Camin Someseni
- Branului
- Transilvania EXPO
- A. Vlaicu
- Arte Plastice
- Crinului
- Some? UI II
- Constanta
- Statia Sora
- Closca



- P-ta Garii Sos

3) Go down

- Cross the Dedeman Store Coast
- Turn right, the first big orange building is the station.

Cluj Napoca Railway Station

Strada C? li Ferate, Cluj-Napoca 400000

EQUIPMENT TO TAKE

WHAT TO BRING?

- Helmet - we provide helmets, but it's always more comfortable to have your own helmet
- Bags to attach to bikes or small backpack for the business of the day (picnics, camera, ...). Saddlebags are not provided!
- Sunglasses
- Gloves
- Bottle/bottles to fill with water (the plastic bottle on the spot can always be an option)
- Cereal or energizing bars for the day
- Solar cream
- Anti-mosquito cream
- Card, but also a little money in cash
- Binoculars
- Light fleece top
- Light windproof/waterproof jacket
- Headlamp
- Sun hat
- Personal clothing for mild to hot weather
- Sturdy walking shoes