

Cycling getaway in Transylvania

5 days / 4 nights

This cycling trip in Transylvania is the perfect opportunity for you to discover the mysterious and spectacular land made famous through Bram Stocker's legend of Dracula. Surrounded by the Carpathian Mountains, Transylvania was the desired land. It is because of its richness that the Saxons arrived here in the 11th century and guarded the Carpathian Mountains passes against the Tatars and the Ottomans. But this is just a tiny portion of its incredibly rich heritage which you'll be discovering during this magical trip. An exceptional adventure is waiting for you!

YOUR PROGRAM

Day 1 - Arrival in Bucharest & transfer to your guesthouse

On your first day, you will be welcomed by us in Bucharest Northern Train Station before 2 PM. You will then board the train to Brasov (approx. 3h) and once you arrive you will have a Private Transfer to Bucium, a splendid mountain village at the foot of the wonderful Fagaras range.
Accommodation and dinner at your guesthouse.



Day 2 - Fagaras cycling

Today you will cycle at the foot of the Fagaras mountains over Bucium river. You will go through the beautiful village of Lisa where you will discover a 100 years old functional machine used for tailoring thick woollen blankets. Next, you will visit the Sambata de Sus (Higher Saturday) region to see its impressive Brancovenesc monastery from 1696. After that, the trip will take you further to the village of Dragus where you will explore its ethnographic museum which has many insights regarding the local traditions and culture. Later on, you will cross the Victoria town and you will arrive in the traditional village of Carta, where you will be impressed by the ruins of its Cistercian monastery. Hopefully, you will be able to meet the local pastor who will delight your imagination with his interesting stories. Accommodation and dinner at a traditional stone mill guest house in Carta village.
Breakfast, packed lunch, dinner, ~60 km, +300m, -450m.

Here we recommend you extra-nights in Carta to make the most of your stay:

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1. The first one is for the visit of Sibiu, one of the most beautiful medieval towns in Romania. Also worth knowing that Sibiu was chosen « the cultural capital of Europe in 2007 ». This beautiful place was developed by the Saxons on the remains of a Roman village and it became the residence of the Austrian government in Transylvania. Nowadays Sibiu impresses with its small streets, picturesque courtyards and the ancient rock stairs which create a most romantic atmosphere.
2. The second suggested option is for letting you discover the Transfagaras road by bike, which is a 100 km long wonder which crosses the Carpathian Mountains, being the highest bitumen coated road of Romania at just under 2000 m altitude.

Day 3 - Pastoral Landscapes

Today's itinerary takes you straight through Transylvania towards the beautiful village of Biertan which is home to a wonderful fortified church filled with history. Being such a stunning monument, the church was included on the Unesco World Heritage list since 1993. You will continue your adventure along pristine country roads where you'll enjoy the pastoral sights. You can also make a little detour on the way to see another beautiful fortified church in Richis. Dinner and accommodation in Biertan village.

Breakfast, packed lunch, dinner, ~65 km, +600m, -650m



Day 4 - Towards the Citadel

Today you will discover one of Transylvania's pearls. You will be cycling to Sighisoara, one of the few last medieval citadels in Europe. This amazing city is fully habited and is also part of the UNESCO World Heritage list. Discover its wonderful old town, home to a stunning clock tower (initially purposed as the main entrance to the citadel), interesting covered stairs, colourful medieval streets as well as the house where Vlad Dracul (Dracula's father) was born. On your way, you can make a small detour to Dumbraveni, another lovely town with an important Armenian Catholic Church proof of our glorious past.
Accommodation in a charming 3* central hotel. Dinner not included.
Breakfast, packed lunch, ~40 km, +380m, -400m

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Day 5 - End of trip

After your breakfast, according to your schedule, you can still have a few hours to visit enchanting Sighisoara or board the train to Bucharest (5-6 h depending on which train you choose). End of the trip once you reach Bucharest.
Breakfast included

Additional information

TARIFFS
610 euros per person.
Welcome and brief in Bucharest : 35 euros per person.
Single room supplement : 90 euros per person.
Single Traveller supplement : 370 euros per person.
Rental Trek Hybrid Bikes, V-brake (21-speed trigger, equipped Shimano, double rims, aluminium frame, 1 rear bag, repair kit, antitheft) Not included: gloves, counter, helmets. We can provide you with helmets, but we advise you to bring your personal helmets : 75 euros per person.
Rental of E-Bike during the trip : 170 euros per person.
Visit Sibiu with an extra night in Carta (at the same guesthouse) or Sibiu/person in double room : 90 euros per person.
Visit Sibiu with an extra night in Carta (at the same guesthouse) or Sibiu/person/SGL room

 : 115 euros per person.
Extra night in Carta to ride down Transfagarasan road/person/double room : 160 euros per person.
Extra night in Carta to ride down Transfagarasan road/person/single room

 : 185 euros per person.
Extra night in Bucharest 3 * hotel/single room/night : 83 euros per person.
Extra night in Bucharest 3 * hotel/double room/night : 88 euros per person.
Extra night in Brasov 3 * hotel/single room/night : 90 euros per person.
Extra night in Brasov 3 * hotel/double room/night : 95 euros per person.

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Bucharest Walking city tour (approx 2h) : 120 euros per person.

INCLUDED
Accommodation
Meals (4 breakfasts, 3 picnics and 3 dinners)
Road-book
Maps
Luggage transfer
Transfers:
Day 1 – Train Bucharest / Brasov: about 3h
Day 5 – Sighisoara / Bucharest: about 5-6h
Day 1 – Private Transfer Brasov / Bucium: about 1h
24h/24 local assistance available

NOT INCLUDED
Bike rental
Drinks other than water
Items of personal nature
Transfer to the meeting point and from the drop off point
Insurances and personal expenses.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY
5 days of which 3 of cycling. Medium level (from 35 to 66 Km / day, with some climbs).

CARRYING
Luggage will be transferred from one guest-house to the other.

ACCOMMODATION
Double occupancy:
- 1 night in 3* small central hotel in Sighisoara (D4)
- 3 nights in guesthouses, exceptionally shared facilities

SIZE OF GROUP
Minimum of 2 people.

DEPARTURES
Every day from April to October, subject to availability of accommodation, response within 48 hours, from Monday to Friday.

STARTING POINT
Bucharest North train station.

END OF THE TRIP
Bucharest North train station.

HOW TO GET THERE
HOW to get from the AIRPORT to the North train station:

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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 Plecari” (Otopeni departures).
- Take bus 100 and get off at the Piata Victoriei stop. From here, you can get the metro to GARA DE NORD stop.

TAXI
- You can order a taxi from the machines found near the exits of the terminals. A taxi costs maximum 80 lei, don’t accept to pay more or don’t take a taxi with another cost than 2,59lei/km!

PRIVATE TRANSFER
- We can arrange a private transfer for a total cost of 35 Euro, ~ 45 min – 1h (depending on the traffic).

UBER/BOLT
- The UBER and BOLT 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 20 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 an entrance at the metro-train.
- Take the yellow line for 1 stop, until Piata Victoriei.
- The bus station is right in front of the metro exit on "Lascar Catargiu Bulevard". Take the 100 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 100 lei, don’t accept to pay more or don’t take a taxi with another cost than 2,59lei/km! Independent taxi drivers have different prices.

PRIVATE TRANSFER
- We can arrange a private transfer for a total cost of 35 Euro, ~ 45 min – 1h (depending on the traffic).

UBER/BOLT
- The UBER and BOLT 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.

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EQUIPMENT TO TAKE

WHAT TO BRING?

- 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 (some guesthouses may not have bed-side lamps, if you want to read in the evening)
- Sun hat
- Personal clothing for mild to hot weather
- Sturdy shoes

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This trip can be done the other way around if requested (from Sighisoara towards Bucharest).

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

The entrances and exits of the biggest cities can have busy traffic for a few kilometres.

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