



Villages of Bucovina and Maramures

9 Days / 8 Nights

With this 9-day guided tour of Maramures and Bucovina, you will discover a rural world which is no longer present in the Western countries. You will get to be in constant contact with the rich peasant culture and the beautiful, protected natural environment. Your two destinations are Bucovina and Maramures. Here, you will discover two regions which are so closely located to each other, however very much different. Their inhabitants will help you discover their very interesting village life, crafts, and customs and by the end of your adventure, you will have also understood the mysteries of the world-renowned Bucovenian painted monasteries and the beautiful wooden churches of Maramures which are now part of UNESCO's heritage. A stunning landscape will keep you company during this unforgettable journey. All of this and much more exciting surprises are waiting for you on this trip.

YOUR PROGRAM

Day 1 - Reception in Bucharest

Arrival in Bucharest. Meeting the guide in the evening at the train station 1hr before the train departure. Night train for Bucovina at 9:30 PM (sleeping wagon 2 or 4 beds / cabin, upon availabilities, we can know it only 3 weeks before the departure. Train timetable may change).

Day 2 - Bucolic hike

In the morning, short private transfer to our hosts. After breakfast, be ready to discover already the deep Bucovina: we'll take the steam train. The steam train track leads along the River Moldovita. We will get off before the terminus of the track, at the best starting point of our hike. 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 Moldovita (~5 hours, 14 km, +500m, -550). (BLD)





Day 6 - Contemporary Maramures

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First stop for the day will be in the town of Sighetu Marmatiei, after a 2h transfer by car. Here we will visit the "Communism Victims Memorial" created in the prison where the main opponents of the regime were detained, without judging. You'll have some free time for lunch before we go to the village of Desesti, to visit one of the most beautiful wooden churches of Maramures. From there we'll do a relaxing walk to our host village for tonight, Breb, the village where Prince Charles is owner of a beautiful old traditional house. (~2 hours, 8 km, +350m, -650).



Day 8 - The oldest wooden church and Cluj-Napoca

Day 9 - End of journey

Breakfast. End of the trip.

We can assist you with train transfer or flight ticket to Bucharest. Also, we designed a special extra-tour for the way back to Bucharest including:

-1st day: train transfer to Sighisoara, visit of the beautiful fortified citadel and overnight Sighisoara.

-2nd day: train transfer to Brasov, visit of the medieval center and overnight Brasov.

-3rd day: train transfer to Bucharest. Check the extra-options below.



We can as well customize this tour.

Additional information

TARIFFS

1350 euros per person.

Single room supplement : 195 euros per person.

Private transfer Bucharest OTP Airport - Bucharest North Train Station (1-3 people) : 35 euros per person.

Private transfer Cluj city centre or Cluj Train Station - Cluj CLJ Airport (1-3 people) : 35 euros per person.

Extra-night in Cluj 3* hotel /SGL room/night : 80 euros per person.

Extra-night in Cluj 3* hotel/DBL room/night : 90 euros per person.

Extra-night in Bucharest 3* hotel /SGL room/night : 83 euros per person.

Extra-night in Bucharest 3* hotel /DBL room/night : 88 euros per person.

Small group supplement: departure in case of a 5 person group, supplement to be paid / person : 100 euros per person.

Small group supplement: departure in case of a 4 person group, supplement to be paid / person : 250 euros per person.

Small group supplement: departure in case of a 3 person group, supplement to be paid / person : 500 euros per person.

Small group supplement: departure in case of a 2 person group, supplement to be paid / person : 750 euros per person.

INCLUDED

English speaking guide throughout the trip

Accommodation

Meals (8 breakfasts, 6 picnics, 6 dinners). Dinner is a 3-course menu – entrée/soup, main dish, and a dessert

Transfers

Luggage transfer

Steam train ticket (if the 2022 schedule allows it)

NOT INCLUDED

Transport to the meeting point and from the point of dispersion

The insurance

Meals as indicated (not included Dinner of Day 1 and Lunch and Dinner of Day 8) and drinks, other than water

Site visits

Personal expenses

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

9 days / 6 days of walking. Easy to medium level of walking with a maximum day at 6 hours. 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.

1 night in sleeping train wagon - 2 or 4 beds /cabin, upon availabilities, we can know it 3 weeks before the departure. Sooner the booking is done, more chances we have to book cabins of 2 beds.

6 nights in rural guesthouses, in double occupancy, with private & shared facilities (1 for 2 rooms)

1 night in 3* hotel in the center of Cluj

SIZE OF GROUP

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

STARTING POINT

At 20:30 at Bucharest train station. optional transfer from Bucharest OTP Airport.

END OF THE TRIP

At your hotel in Cluj, after breakfast. Optional transfer to Cluj CLJ Airport.

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 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 "Lasca 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.

EQUIPMENT TO TAKE

Mandatory equipment

- Waterproof tracksuits (breathable Goretex type jacket and possibly trousers)
 - Warm fleece jacket
 - High walking shoes (preferably already worn)
 - Backpack for day hiking (20-35l)
 - Water bottle (allow at least 1,5l of water at the beginning of the day)
 - Hiking poles
- Walking Boots Should be sturdy and of good quality to handle all types of terrain. Ankle support is important. Leather, with a good durable sole, is the most suitable or, for people who prefer a more lightweight boot, Cordura/leather boots which have Gore-Tex or sympatex waterproofing. They should be well broken in and be of correct fit. Proof your boots before you leave home. Waxing your boots regularly prolongs their life.



- Lightweight walking shoes/sneakers For wear around towns & villages. They can also be a backup pair for your walk.
- Socks & Underwear Take only good quality socks with wicking and insulating qualities. Road test them before you go on the trip to be sure they are comfortable with your boots. Take a suitable quantity of underwear (washing facilities are limited).
- Several Shirts and Walking Trousers T-shirts preferably with collar and at least 1 long-sleeved shirt for sun protection. If you sweat a lot it is a good idea to purchase at least one t-shirt in a breathable material. These are fast drying, keep moisture away from your skin and are available from outdoor stores. The quick-drying loose-fitting trousers are popular. You should bring one pair of the loose-fitting type trousers to wear in cities and for evenings etc. Shorts for warmer weather.
- Warm jacket Fleece Polartec or warm wool shirt for evenings. This will be worn a great deal; be sure it is totally suitable for your needs. A fleeced jacket which blocks the wind (Windstopper) is the most preferable.
- Waterproof Jacket & Pants Must be waterproof, not shower proof, Gore-Tex is best. It must fit comfortably whilst wearing warm clothing and wearing your rucksack. It must have a proper hood, zipper flap and storm cuffs and come down over hips. Pants should have a zip on the side of the leg to make it easier to get them on quickly over boots.

Optional equipment

- Cutlery and pans for picnics
- Lamp (frontal preferably - some guesthouses don't have head lamps)
- Toilet paper or tissues for the day
- Solar cream
- Sun glasses
- Personal pharmacy
- Your favourite snacks or energy bars

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS