



## Discover the Carpathian Mountains and Saxon villages by MTB - luxury guided version

8 days / 7 nights

This 8 days long Luxury MTB Tour will show you the best MTB trails of the Carpathians, all in luxurious comfort. During this trip we will discover the South-eastern part of Transylvania. The rides in those two regions, in the middle of pastures, sheepfolds, and forests, will definitely impress you! A most comfortable adventure in the middle of a pastoral tradition in complete osmosis with a wild nature sheltering brown bears, chamois, wolves, and lynxes.

### YOUR PROGRAM

#### Day 1 - Arrival in Bucharest & transfer Brasov

The trip starts at the airport in Bucharest. Transfer to our first stop: Brasov. We'll spend the first night in a hotel built in a historic building dating back to 1477, formerly a German Bank. It is just a stone throw from sumptuous cafes and bakeries and Brasov's main tourist attractions.

Transfer time: ~3h

Meals included: Dinner

#### Day 2 - The Piatra Craiului Mountains

We will start from Brasov today, through Poiana Brasov. Our main objectives today are the Bran castle and Rasnov forstres. In Bran we visit the open-air village museum and Bran Castle, better know like "Dracula" Castle. For many years the castle was home to Queen Mary, Queen Victoria of England's granddaughter. Night in a welcoming guesthouse in Bran.

Biking time: ~ 55 km, +800m

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### Day 3 - A fair bit of adrenalin

Today you'll discover the area at the foot of Bucegi and Piatra Craiului, that the inhabitants are livestock breeders; therefore the village has a long time tradition in cheese preparation. We will admire traditional Romanian mountain villages with many small and ancient houses. We will also have the opportunity of exploring the South side of the Bran country, crossing the border between the old principalities of Wallachia and Transylvania. This night and the next one will be spent in a charming wooden guesthouse, located in the middle of the mountains. You'll feel very comfortable in this cozy house.

Biking time: ~ 45 km, + m

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



#### **Day 4 - Traditional villages**

A medium-level technical mountain-biking route, initially on asphalted roads, then through forest with many ascents and descents. The later part of the route takes us through remote hilly villages into a very attractive rural landscape with steep hills and alpine pastures, on a ridge near the Piatra Craiului Mountains. Night back to our accommodation.

Biking time: ~50 km, +1300m

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### **Day 5 - Saxon villages**

The 5th day will have us ride through the Saxon villages from Transylvania and through Fagaras region. Almost everywhere we go, we'll get a chance to visit different fortified churches and citadels. The most known one that we'll pass through is Viscri with its UNESCO fortified church. The people living here understand the importance and benefits of sustainable tourism and Romanian and foreign tourists love it here due to the beautiful fortified churches, the house's architecture, traditional way of living and unspoiled nature. We'll spend 2 nights in a traditional Saxon home.

Biking time: ~85km, +700m

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### **Day 6 - In the heart of Transylvania**

We'll bike in the heart of Transylvania so more, passing through some more splendid Saxon villages, enjoying the historical immersion one last time. While riding through the forests, we might get lucky and spot herds of deers. The main villages for today will be Bunesti, Saschiz and Crit, all dating back from the 13-14th century, with their fortified churches, with paintings and objects from the Medieval times. Another chance to observe the almost unspoiled nature and the old german and Romanian mixings.

Biking time: ~50km, +700m

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### **Day 7 - Sighisoara citadel**

Our last day of biking takes us uphill along the narrow dirt path, crossing to Mures county. We will go down along the river Tarnava Mare, deep forests and hop fields. The destination for this evening is a real treat: Sighisoara, one of the few medieval citadels in Europe that is still fully inhabited and also included on the list of UNESCO world heritage sites. Here we have the whole free afternoon to discover the old town with its famous clock tower, medieval streets and the house where Vlad Dracul, the father of Vlad the Impaler was born. Night in a central hotel inside the citadel.

Biking time: ~50km, +700m

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



### Day 8 - End of journey

In the morning, after breakfast, we say goodbye to our guide and Transylvania, and make our way back to Bucharest by private transfer. Stop at the airport (Flight must be in the afternoon or an extra night in Bucharest). End of the trip

Transfer time: ~5h

Meals included: Breakfast

## Additional information

### TARIFFS

1390 euros per person.

Bike rental (price/pax) : 95 euros per person.

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### INCLUDED

English speaking local Romanian guide for the 6 days of mountain biking, with a first-aid kit.

Private transfer on day 1 & 8

Luggage transfer

7 breakfasts, 6 picnics and 6 dinners to our guesthouses.

Accommodation

### NOT INCLUDED

Insurance

Drinks, other than water

Tips

Items of personal nature

Entry fees into monuments.

### LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

6 days of biking. Requires a medium-high level.

### CARRYING

Luggage transfer from one accommodation to another. During the rides you'll carry only the necessary things for the day with you (picnic, camera, water bottle etc. )

### ACCOMMODATION

In guesthouses & hotels, double occupancy.

- 1 night in superior rooms in a charming central hotel in Brasov
- 1 night in a luxurious manor house in Bran
- 2 nights in a luxurious guesthouse in Magura
- 2 nights in a luxurious guesthouse in Viscri



- 1 night in 5\* central hotel in Sighisoara  
OR equivalent guesthouse/hotel nearby.

#### **SIZE OF GROUP**

From 8 participants

#### **DEPARTURE**

Bucharest airport

#### **DISPERSION**

Bucharest 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 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 TAXIFY 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

##### 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