



## Mountain biking in Romania through the Carpathian villages - Guided tour

8 days / 7 nights

During this trip we will discover the South-eastern part of Transylvania. Almost all the rides will take place in Bucegi Mountains and in Piatra Craiului Mountains. The rides in those two National Parks, in the middle of pastures, sheepfolds and forests, will not leave you indifferent! The locals abandoned long time ago the valleys to perch on the heights, mostly to avoid Tartars and Turks attacks. A journey in the middle of a pastoral tradition in complete osmosis with a wild nature sheltering brown bears, chamois, wolves and lynxes.

WE CAN ADAPT THIS TOUR TO ALL LEVELS!

Join us on the 12th of May departure!

### YOUR PROGRAM

#### Day 1 - Arrival in Bucharest & transfer to your guesthouse

The trip starts at the airport in Bucharest. Transfer (~3h) in a guesthouse at the foot of Piatra Craiului Mountains, where we spend the first night.

#### Day 2 - The Piatra Craiului Mountains

A medium-level technical mountain-biking route, initially 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 in a charming mountain chalet (~ 42 km, positive altitude change: 1200m).



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

Today we stay away from civilization. From Plaiul Foi chalet we will ride up and we enter in a wild tract of dense forest where we look for tracks, signs and markings left by large carnivores and other wild animals. Exciting descents, water crossings, the Barsa Valley and one final ascent, to finally arrive in the traditional village of Magura, nestled between the Bucegi and Piatra Craiului mountains. Accommodation in a traditional ecotourism guesthouse. (~ 45 km, positive altitude change: 1100m)



#### **Day 4 - Traditional villages & Bran castle**

We will start with a very narrow downhill single track and then we ride up through the Jurassic canyon of Zarnesti Gorges. Here the landscape becomes even more spectacular; "Poiana Frumoasa" is one of the alpine pastures where we usually find shepherds and their flocks. We descend to Bran where we visit the open-air village museum and Bran Castle, better known like "Dracula" Castle. For many years the castle was home to Queen Mary, Queen Victoria of England's granddaughter. (~ 36 km, positive altitude change: 850m)



#### **Day 5 - The border between Wallachia and Transylvania**

Today we will have the opportunity of exploring the South side of the Bran country, crossing the border between the old principalities of Wallachia and Transylvania. We go up to Fundatica, a Romanian traditional mountain village with many small and ancient houses, at the foot of Bucegi Mountains. The inhabitants are livestock breeders; therefore the village has a long time tradition in cheese preparing. (~38 km, positive altitude change: 1200m)





### Day 6 - Life in the mountains

We will discover today the Northern side of the Bran area. We will ride up near the ridge of Bucegi Mountains, and then through alpine pastures and sheepfolds. The descent will lead us to Rasnov fortress , a citadel built by the Teutonic Knights in the 13th century in order to protect Transylvania from the Turkish attacks. (~ 43 km, positive altitude change: 600m).



### Day 7 - Descent to Brasov

On our last ride we can get to Postavaru peak on tracks or cable car. Our effort will be rewarded by beautiful single-tracks in the middle high-altitude meadows and forests that will lead us to the old centre of the city of Brasov. An amazing way to immerse ourselves directly "down-town".



### Day 8 - End of journey

Transfer to Bucharest (around 3.5 hours). Possible extra-night to visit Bucharest. If you arrive early enough we can arrange a private transfer so you can visit the old Bucharest.

## Additional information

### TARIFFS

Price from 675 euros per person.



### **OPTIONS**

Single supplement : 75 euros per person.

Bike rental : 90 euros per person.

Extra-night in Bucharest, 3\* hotel, down-town - DB room with breakfast (base double) : 70 euros per person.

### **INCLUDED**

English speaking local guide for the 6 days of mountain biking, with a first-aid kit. Nights, meals, transfers, transfer of luggage.

### **NOT INCLUDED**

Transfer to the meeting point and from the drop off point, the bike rental, cable car, the insurances, the drinks, entry fees into monuments, the personal expenses.

### **LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY**

6 days of biking. Requires a medium-high level. Maximum of 45 km a day and 1100 m of positive altitude change.

### **CARRYING**

Luggage will be transferred by car or cart during the treks.

### **ACCOMMODATION**

5 nights in guesthouses, double rooms with private facilities,

1 night in guesthouse with one bathroom for 2 rooms,

1 night in hotel in Brasov.

### **SIZE OF GROUP**

From 5 to 12 people.

### **DEPARTURE**

Bucharest airport or Bucharest train station.

### **DISPERSION**

Bucharest airport or Bucharest train station.

### **HOW TO GET THERE**

By plane: Otopeni airport in Bucharest.

By train : Bucharest train station.