



## Cycling getaway in Transylvania

5 days / 4 nights

This trip will take you into the Carpathian Mountains and Transylvania's hills, known as a mysterious and spectacular land, famous through Bram Stoker's legend of Dracula and well-known for its forests, shelter for many species of wild plants and animals.

Transylvania, surrounded by the Carpathian Mountains, was also a much sought for land. That is how the Saxons arrived here in the 11th century to guard the Carpathian Mountains passes between Transylvania and Wallachia against the Tatars and the Ottomans. But this is just a hint of the rich heritage that you will discover during this entire trip. An exceptional holiday is waiting for you!

The trip offers diversity, there aren't only cultural sites, but also several small nature reserves. Further the nature in the region is hardly touched by chemicals so that also nature lovers will enjoy the rich pastoral landscapes.

### YOUR PROGRAM

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

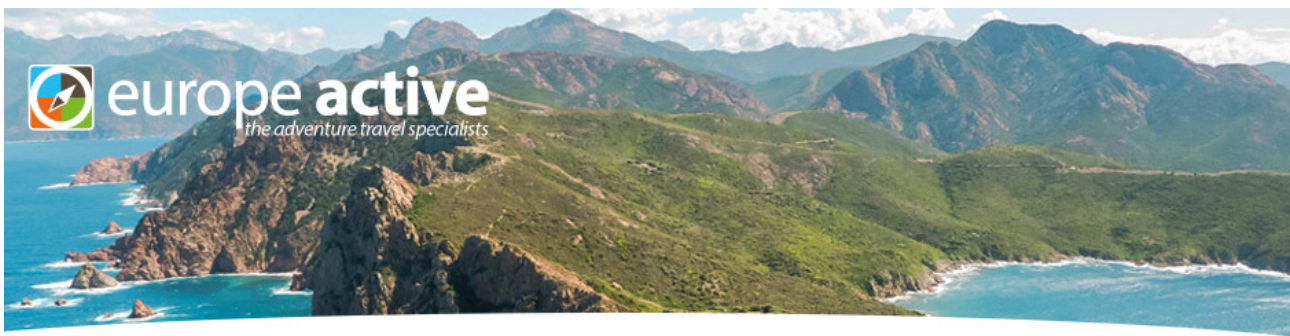
Arrival and welcome in Bucharest Northern Train Station before 2 PM. Train to Brasov (approx. 3h) followed by Private Transfer to Bucium, a mountain village at the foot of the wonderful Fagaras range. Accommodation and dinner at your guesthouse.

#### Day 2 - The foot of the Fagaras Mountains

You cycle at the foot of the Fagaras mountains over Bucium river. You will step by the original village of Lisa where a 100 years old machine, tailoring thick woollen blanket is still working; then passing by Sambata de Sus with its impressive Brancovenesc monastery from 1696. After that the trip goes further over Dragus (ethnographic museum). You cross the Victoria town and to the small village of Cartisoara and from there to the village of Carta, where you will visit the ruins of the Cistercian monastery. Hopefully you will have the opportunity to meet the pastor and hear his beautiful stories. Overnight at guesthouse in Carta village. (BLD, ~60 km, +300m, -450m)

2 extra nights possible in Carta:

- One for the visit of Sibiu: we recommend to have an extra day in this magnificent village and to go by train to visit Sibiu, one of the most beautiful medieval towns in Romania. This is certainly the reason why Sibiu was chosen « the cultural capital of Europe in 2007 ». Developed by Saxons on a Roman village, Sibiu was the residence of the Austrian government in Transylvania. The small streets, the picturesque courtyards and the rock stairs create a romantic atmosphere. Lots of monuments and interesting museums are also waiting for you. In the evening you return by train to Carta village.
- One for riding the Transfagarasan route: details below



### Day 3 - Pastoral landscape

The route through Transylvania continues towards Biertan and its enormous fortified church with several ring-walls. It is Unesco World Heritage since 1993. Trip along country roads and you'll enjoy the pastoral landscapes and fortified church of Richis. Dinner and accommodation in Biertan village. (BLD, ~65 km, +600m, -650m)



### Day 4 - The citadel of Sighisoara

This cycling day will allow you to discover other treasures from Transylvania. You move on to Sighisoara, one of the few medieval citadels in Europe that is still fully inhabited and also included on the list of UNESCO World Heritage. Discover the old town with its famous clock tower, which initially served as the main entrance to the citadel, but also covered stairs, medieval streets, the house where Vlad Dracul, the father of Vlad the Impeller known by Bram Stoker's legend as Dracula, was born. On the road you can make a small detour to Dumbraveni, another town with an important Armenian Catholic Church, another witness of our glorious past. Free diner. Accommodation in a charming 3\* hotel. (BL, ~40 km, +380m, -400m)



### Day 5 - End of the trip



After breakfast, private transfer to Brasov from where train departure to Bucharest (one train at 9.38 and several trains starting with 13:30). End of the trip. Possible detour to Bran (1.5h stop to visit it) and you continue to Bucharest.

## Additional information

### TARIFFS

Price from 425 euros per person.

### OPTIONS

Single supplement : 60 euros per person.

Bike rental (Arcade hybrid bikes, 21 gears, back bag, repair kit, pump.) Not included: helmet, speedometer : 60 euros per person.

Bike rental (Trek hybrid bikes with front suspension, bottle holder) : 70 euros per person.

E-bike rental : 200 euros per person.

Extra-night in Carta, guesthouse, 1/2 board, double based / person - for visiting Sibiu : 45 euros per person.

Extra-night in Carta, guesthouse, 1/2 board, double based / person - for riding the Transfagarasan road available only on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays : 75 euros per person.

Extra night in Brasov/Bucarest 3\*, central, double based : 70 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.

Suggested Items: light fleece top; Light windproof/waterproof jacket; headlamp, sun hat, personal clothing for mild to hot weather, sturdy walking shoes, sunblock, sunglasses.

### LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY



4 breakfasts, 3 picnics and 3 dinners at our guesthouses

#### **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**

From April to the end of October.

#### **DEPARTURE**

Bucharest train station.

#### **DISPERSION**

Bucharest train station.

#### **HOW TO GET THERE**

By plane: Otopeni airport in Bucharest.

By train : Bucharest train station.

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

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

#### **SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS**

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