

Transylvania Trek

Discover Romania



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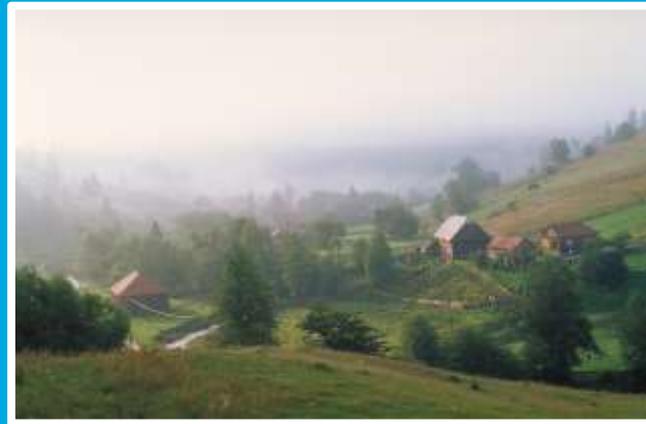
Transylvanian Trek

Discover Romania on this amazing challenge

On this unique trekking challenge we will discover some of the hidden sights of Transylvania, and step back in time to experience rural life, Romanian style.

Discover Romania on this amazing trekking challenge in the rugged Fagaras Mountains and the King Stone Mountain National Park tucked away in Transylvania. Feast your eyes on majestic castles such as the famous Count Dracula's 'Bran Castle', pass through traditional villages and hike through stunning untouched scenery.

Our five day challenge, takes us along craggy mountain ridges, through indigenous forests and flower-strewn meadows and farmland, with a fascinating glimpse of rural life in an almost medieval corner of Europe.



Detailed itinerary

Day 1: Depart London to Romania

Leave London for our flight to Bucharest, the capital of Romania.. Upon arrival we will be met by our guides and transferred to Fagaras Mountains where we will spend the night in a local guesthouse and be treated to a traditional welcome dinner and a full trek briefing about the challenge ahead. The Fagaras Mountains are a part of the Southern Carpathians, the highest mountains in Romania (around 2500m). They are characterised by very distinct features: a main ridge orientated east-west, with a well defined glacial relief including glacial valleys, cirques with glacial lakes, sharp ridges, thresholds with waterfalls etc.



Day 2: Chalet Capra to Vanatoarea lui Buteanu Peak (2507m) circuit trek 6-8hrs trekking

After breakfast, we will head East from our Chalet to the Capra Valley where we will climb Vanatoarea lui Buteanu Peak, 2507m one of the highest peaks of the Carpathians. Today we will be able to admire vast alpine meadows with specific flora (Dryas Octopetala, an arctic alpine flower, Rhododendrons, etc.) and fauna (Rupicapra Rupicapra Carpatica, mountain goat - the biggest of its species, Marmota marmota, alpine Marmots, Aquila chrysaetos , Golden Eagles to name but a few).



Day 2: Continued

After lunch we follow a different path back to the Chalet through a steep valley, following the endless forest and spectacular views of the Fagaras Mountains. Before dinner in the chalet there will be a chance to rest and admire the amazing scenery.

Day 3: Chalet Capra to Negoiu Peak (2535m) circuit trek 6-7hrs trekking

After breakfast, we will have an early departure and head West following a ridge, before reaching the glacial lake Caltun where we will have lunch. From here we then climb Negoiu Peak, 2535m (weather permitting) the second highest peak in the country, a difficult ascent which is challenging in places, but rewarding with its spectacular views from the summit.

Today is probably the hardest day of the challenge but we'll have the rare chance to admire a picturesque glacial landscape, well worth all that training! We retrace our steps to reach our chalet for some well-earned rest.

Detailed itinerary

Day 4: Chalet Capra to Bran Castle

Leaving the Fagaras Mountains and we head for Zarnesti (at the foot of the King Stone Mountain) where we'll have lunch at our guesthouse, before visiting Bran Castle; what is commonly known as "Dracula's Castle" The castle was built in 1382 by Saxons from nearby Brasov to defend the Brasov pass against the Turks. The only connection to Vlad the Impaler, upon whom Bram Stoker based his creation, is that he may have stayed there for a few nights 80 years later whilst fleeing the Turks in 1462. It is however an atmospheric castle perched on its hill dominating the town and is well worth a visit. After this memorable visit, we'll return to our guesthouse for dinner and a briefing about the next part of our challenge.



Day 5: Zarnesti to Curmatura Chalet 7-8hrs trekking

From Zarnesti we start trekking King Stone Mountain. The mountain is characterised by a very sharp ridge orientated north – south and steep valleys, but they are not as high Fagaras Mountains are (our first trekking point). Also, the landscape is changing because of the presence of the limestone. King Stone Mountain National Park is the largest in the country and protects the biggest number of large carnivores: wolves, bears and lynx and endemic flora. From here we continue along the ridgeline before reaching Curmatura Chalet our home for this evening.

Day 6: Curmatura Chalet to Zarnesti 6-8hrs trekking

Today, our final day of trekking we follow the route Curmatura Chalet to Plaiu Fojii Chalet. We traverse on a reasonable path which is dotted with small trees and bushes. The ridge is very narrow in places with a steep drop off to both sides in a couple of places but after half an hour and two short rock descents requiring use of a the steel cable handrails provided we reach a saddle after which we descend on scree passing the imposing "needle" .

Day 6: Continued

At the bottom of the scree the slope becomes less severe as we walk through the forest for another hour before emerging onto a good path. It is then other 2 or so hours on good paths and finally the road and will be transferred to our very hospitable Guesthouse in Zarnesti where will celebrate our achievements.

Day 7 : Depart Romania

After breakfast we leave our guesthouse and transfer back to Bucharest for our return flight to London.

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This itinerary is complex and subject to change

Challenge grade

Moderate to tough

Best time of year

May, June, July and early October