Transylvania Trek

Discover Romania

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Transylvanian Trek
Discover Romania on this amazing weekend 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 weekend trekking challenge in the rugged Piatra Craiului Mountains, 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 three-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 Zarnesti
Leave London for our flight to Bucharest, the capital of Romania. Upon arrival we will be met by our guides and transferred to Zarnesti (approx. 3 hours), 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.

Day 2: Zanesti Gorges to Piatra Mica Peak (1470m)
6-7hrs trekking
After breakfast we transfer to Zarnesti Gorges. Here we begin trekking through Zarnesti Gorges leaving the gorge on a shepherds path through an old forest towards Curmatura hut.

We resume our trek along the same road but it becomes narrower and at the same time forms the bottom of a stunning steep sided limestone gorge with several natural caves, one of which was used in a scene from the recent film "Cold Mountain".

After half an hour we take a steep turn and start walking through the forest at a much steeper angle and on a slightly rougher terrain.

Day 2: Continued
We follow a shepherd's trail rather than the normal tourist trail, which should give us a chance to see forest wildlife such as woodpeckers, shrike and owls. Our guides are expert trackers and will undoubtedly point out traces left by the inhabitants of the forest such as wolves, bears and lynx. After trekking in the forest we emerge onto a high meadow near a shepherd's camp. This afternoon we will trek to Piatra Mica Peak and then transfer back to Zarnesti.

Detailed itinerary

Day 3: Coltii Chiliilor to Plaiu Foii Chalet
6hrs trekking

After breakfast we make a short transfer by bus to the northern slope of Piatra Craiului Mountains. We begin trekking along the lower border of the forest towards Coltii Chiliilor Monastery. Here we begin a more difficult ascent to Diana refuge (beautiful views of the western slope of the Piatra Craiului Mountains.). This afternoon we descend along Valea Ursului towards Plaiu Foii Chalet. After a great days trekking we have a short transfer back to Zarnesti for dinner and overnight in our local guesthouse.

Option 2
For those that do not want to transfer today there will be an alternative trekking route from the guesthouse.
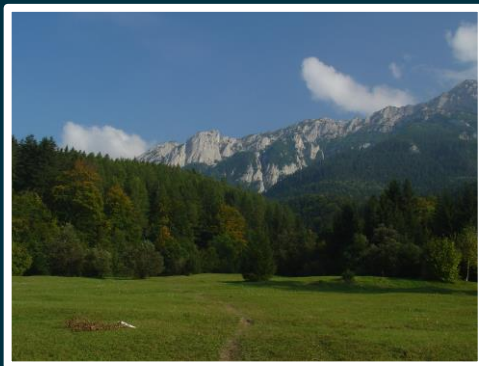
Day 4: National Park Bucegi Mountains to Padina Chalet
5-6hrs trekking

The final day of our trekkingchallenge! After breakfast we will be transferred to the remarkably unspoilt little town of Bran, famous for its castle, which was the home of Count Dracula. Bran Castle was originally a fortress built by the Knights of the Teutonic Order in the year 1212. After a short visit to the castle we will be transferred to the entrance of the National Park Bucegi Mountains. Here we begin trekking on a forestry road. When we enter the alpine meadows we will trek up to Strunga Saddle. We then trek the Bucegi Mountains to Padina Chalet our finish line! Late afternoon we transfer to Sinaia resort where we will check in to our 4* hotel and enjoy an evening of celebrations.

Day 5 : Depart Romania

After breakfast we there is the opportunity to visit Peles Castle in Sinaia before making the transfer to Bucharest (about 2 hours) 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