



Explore Travel Romania
19 bis Calistrat Hogaş street, Piatra-Neamt, Romania
tel: +4 0748 155 400 / tel/fax: +4 021 210 96 62

www.exploreroomania.org
office@exploretavel.net
VAT number: RO15727857

Explore Romania

GOING TO THE HEART OF IT

Ski touring and freeride in the Transylvanian Alps

Arrival in the beautiful city of Sibiu where you will meet your guide(s). A 2h transfer will bring you to Hateg, a scenic depression surrounded by mountains, close to the ancient metropolis of Colonia Ulpina Traiana Sarmizegetusa, capital of Roman Dacia. Our accommodation lies in the little resort of Rausor, at 1200m altitude, close to the ruined Colti castle that inspired Jules Verne in the writing of his "Castle of Carpathians" novel.

Retezat Mountains - Romania's first national park, established in the first years of the 20th century is home to the last intact forest landscape of the continent, outside Scandinavia.

Day 1. Rausor – Stevia Lake – Rausor. 5 hours on skis, difficulty level: easy, 800m elevation gain; Highest point: Stevia Lake 2070m

We start on skis from our accommodation, and, after a medium climb on a wooded valley, we come above the treeline and onto Stevia Lake. We are at 2070m altitude, and our climb ends underneath the 400m northern walls of Retezat peak, our next day's destination. The descent is made by retracing our steps.

Day 2. Rausor – Muncelu Pass – Retezat peak – Valareasca Ridge – Condor Refuge – Rausor. 8 hours on skis, difficulty level: medium, 1400m elevation gain. Highest point: Retezat Peak 2482m

Today we start on a different valley and we find our way through the forest, then grazing lands and finally a ridge that brings us eventually on the summit at 2482m. The descent is a beautiful north-east face towards the bottom of the valley, then the forest.





Explore Travel Romania
19 bis Calistrat Hogaş street, Piatra-Neamt, Romania
tel: +4 0748 155 400 / tel/fax: +4 021 210 96 62

www.exploreroomania.org
office@exploretavel.net
VAT number: RO15727857

Explore Romania

GOING TO THE HEART OF IT

Day 3. Rausor – Ciurila Pass – Lolaia Pass – Stevia Lake – Rausor. 6 hours on skis, difficulty level: average, 1000m elevation gain. Highest point: Lolaia Pass 2200m.

Today's track traverses another forest while climbing Lolaia Ridge in order to continue towards the central area of Retezat Massif via Lolaia Valley. A short steep climb brings us to Lolaia saddle, on the eastern flank of Retezat peak., with a beautiful western oriented face opening for us . The return is done via Stevia valley or Lolaia ridge.

Day 4. Rest and transfer day.

The route between Rausor and Fagaras mountains is packed with Unesco sites and beautiful typical villages. We start by paying a short visit to the ancient site of the roman capital of Dacia, situated on the planes at the feet of Retezat Mountains. From here, a 15 minutes' drive brings us to Densus, hosting one of the oldest churches in the country. It is an odd structure, the result of a probable conversion of an ancient roman site in a Christian basilica, using quite a lot of roman stones from the nearby metropolis in the process.

The itinerary continues with the beautiful medieval Corvin Castle, coming straight from a fairytale, and then, through the thick beech forests of Gradistea de Munte National Park, we go looking for the ancient, pre roman capital of the Dacians. We find the ruins of our own Machu Picchu in Sureanu Mountains, at 1000m altitude, and we make a short visit of the sacred area and the military quarters of Sarmizegetusa Regia, the Dacian capital.

In the afternoon we arrive at Sibiel, typical Romanian village of Transylvania, at the feet of Cindrel Mountains. Dinner and accommodation in a local guesthouse owned by our friends, Pau family.

Fagaras Mountains.





Explore Travel Romania
19 bis Calistrat Hogaş street, Piatra-Neamt, Romania
tel: +4 0748 155 400 / tel/fax: +4 021 210 96 62

www.exploreroomania.org
office@exploretavel.net
VAT number: RO15727857

Explore Romania

GOING TO THE HEART OF IT

Day 5. Balea Lake – Balea Saddle – Doamna Lake – Balea Saddle – Balea Valley – Balea Lake. 5 hours on skis, difficulty level: easy, 1000m elevation gain. Highest point: Balea Saddle 2200m.

Today we transfer further east, to the alpine chain of Fagaras. At 1200m altitude we take the cable car and climb to Balea Lake (2050m). After checking in at Paltinu Chalet, we embark on a circuit towards Balea Saddle and Doamnei (Lady's) Lake, in the neighboring valley. We return via the same track.

Day 6. Balea Lake – Vaiuga Valley – Vaiuga Saddle – Capra Peak – Vaiuga Saddle – Vaiuga Valley - Balea Valley – Balea Lake. 7 hours on skis, difficulty level: average, 1000m elevation gain. Highest point: Capra Peak 2494m

Today's circuit brings us to the main ridge of Fagaras Massif, for a beautiful descent on the south side. From Capra Peak, just short of 2500m altitude, we ski down to Capra Lake, then climb back to Vaiuga Saddle in order to ski down Vaiuga Valley – a beautiful 600m and 1,5km long descent.



Day 7. Balea Lake – Balea Saddle – Pietroasa Circ – Laita Peak – Pisica Valley – Paltinul Arete – Doamna Lake – Balea Saddle – Balea Lake – Balea Waterfall. Transfer to Sibiu. 8 hours on skis, difficulty level: difficult, 1200m elevation gain. Highest point: Laita Peak 2397m

Today's objective is Laita Peak in the neighboring Doamna Valley and a beautiful descent on Pisica southern face. We return via Paltinu Arete for another nice descent on Doamna Valley and a final climb to Balea Saddle. In the afternoon



Explore Travel Romania
19 bis Calistrat Hogaş street, Piatra-Neamt, Romania
tel: +4 0748 155 400 / tel/fax: +4 021 210 96 62

www.exploreroomania.org
office@exploretavel.net
VAT number: RO15727857

Explore Romania

GOING TO THE HEART OF IT

we say goodbye to Balea with a nice 800m descent down to Balea Waterfall. We then transfer for 40 minutes to Sibiu, for an evening out in the city. Accommodation in a 3*** hotel in the city.

Day 9.

Breakfast

~ End of tour ~

