SPICE ROADS
CYCLING

TOURING

TOURING TRANSYLVANIA BY BICYCLE

Tour Code
ROU-TTB

7 DAYS
6 NIGHTS

Destinations	Romania
Tour Meets Tour Ends	Bucharest, Romania Sibiu, Romania
Fly in to Fly out of	Henri Coandă International Airport Sibiu International Airport
Group Size Minimum Age	4-16 riders 18 (on scheduled departures)

ACTIVITY PROFILE

6 Cycling days	**359** km Total cycling distance
60 km Avg distance / day	**550** m Avg climbing / day

PRICING

Price	US$ 4,150
Bike Hire (Hybrid Bike)	US$ 315
Bike Hire (E-Bike)	US$ 560
Single Supplement	US$ 595

**E-bikes are in limited supply, please enquire to reserve one.*

DEPARTURES

16 May - 22 May 2027
13 Jun - 19 Jun 2027
19 Sep - 25 Sep 2027
17 Oct - 23 Oct 2027

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- ✓ SpiceRoads jersey
- ✓ Water bottle
- ✓ Support vehicle
- ✓ Guide(s)
- ✓ Meals (as indicated)
- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Snacks and drinks
- ✓ Lunch
- ✓ Entrance fees

WHAT'S EXCLUDED

- ✗ International flights
- ✗ Domestic flights
- ✗ Airport pick up
- ✗ Airport drop off
- ✗ Visa fees
- ✗ Alcohol
- ✗ Tips

TRIP PROFILE

We ride a total of 359 km over 6 cycling days, following a network of quiet rural roads through southern Transylvania. Daily distances average around 60 km, with rolling terrain and steady elevation gain rather than long, sustained climbs. The riding builds gradually through the week, with a few longer days toward the end that reward a steady, unhurried pace. Most riding days begin after breakfast, with a relaxed rhythm and regular stops, leaving time for visits along the way. Highlights off the bike include fortified Saxon churches, historic villages such as Viscri and Cincșor, and time to explore UNESCO-listed Sighișoara, with regional cuisine and local wines forming a natural part of the experience. The trip is fully supported, and your guide's expert knowledge of the area and terrain means that you always know what is coming up in terms of distance and difficulty. This makes a tremendous difference, as does the constant supply of water and refreshments along the way.

Suitability: This tour is suitable for riders with a reasonable level of fitness who are comfortable cycling on mixed terrain. We recommend some prior riding, particularly on hilly routes. While there are no sustained climbs, the rolling landscapes of Transylvania result in an average daily elevation gain of around 550 metres, spread steadily throughout the day. Most routes follow quiet country roads, with occasional busier sections when entering villages or towns. The support vehicle is always nearby to offer refuge to any weary cyclists.

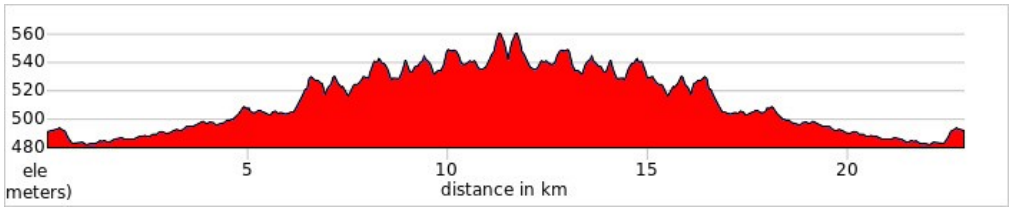
Biking Conditions: This tour follows a varied mix of riding surfaces, including good tarmac, quiet country roads, gravel roads, forest tracks, and short off-road sections. Approximately 10% of the route is on dirt or gravel tracks, 10% on dedicated bike paths, around 50% on quiet roads with little traffic, and roughly 30% on roads shared with traffic, particularly when entering or leaving villages and towns. Rainfall is not uncommon in Transylvania at certain times of the year. We generally ride rain or shine, but based on the guide's discretion or your level of comfort, modifications to the planned route can be made. It's all part of the adventure!

Accommodation: Stays are at a comfortable 3–4 star level and reflect the character of the regions we travel through. Accommodation includes restored medieval guesthouses, traditional rural hotels, and small heritage properties, often family-run, with select nights in historic settings where available. Rooms are clean, comfortable, and well maintained, though standards and layouts may vary from place to place, particularly in rural areas. Some older properties, while full of character, may show signs of age, and service can be more relaxed than you might be accustomed to. For larger groups, we may use more than one accommodation in the same location, and in the case of limited availability, we may substitute an alternative property of a similar standard to that listed in the itinerary.

Day 1: Meet in Bucharest or Brașov & Head to Tălișoara

The tour begins with a morning group pickup in Bucharest or Brașov. We recommend arriving in either city the day before the tour begins to allow for a smooth and relaxed start. The transfer from Bucharest takes approximately four hours, while the transfer from Brașov is around one hour. If you are joining in Brașov, there is time to enjoy lunch in town before the transfer. Those picked up in Bucharest make a short stop en route for snacks before continuing into rural Transylvania. Our first destination is Tălișoara, a quiet village where we settle into our accommodation. Once there, the focus shifts to easing into the journey, with time for a short warm-up ride through the surrounding countryside to get comfortable with the bikes and terrain. After the ride, there is time to relax or visit the local blacksmith before a welcome dinner and an introduction to the days ahead.

Miclosoara Kalnoky Castle or Talisoara Castle Dinner



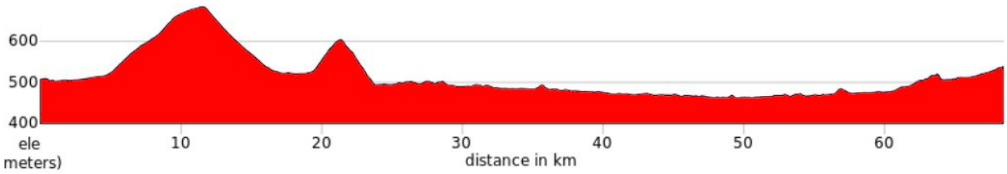
Ride 20km +226m -225m

Day 2: Tălișoara → Viscri

After breakfast, we ride straight out of the manor and into rural Transylvania. The route follows the Olt River, passing through medieval villages such as Vârghiș, Dacia, and Rupea, where little has

changed over the centuries. We stop in Rupea for a relaxed lunch before continuing the ride. In the afternoon, we cycle onward to Viscri, a historic Saxon village recognised by UNESCO for its cultural and archaeological significance. Best known for its 12th-century fortified church, Viscri feels like a postcard come to life, with whitewashed houses, thatched roofs, and local artisans along its cobbled main street. The village has benefited from long-term preservation efforts supported by King Charles III, and during our time here, you can step inside the traditional house he owns, now open as a small museum. We stay in a charming, traditionally restored guesthouse and have time to explore the village, visit the bakery, or browse local workshops. In the evening, we witness one of rural Transylvania's most memorable scenes as herds of cows return to the village from grazing in the surrounding pastures.

Viscri 125 or Critz Cross Guest House Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

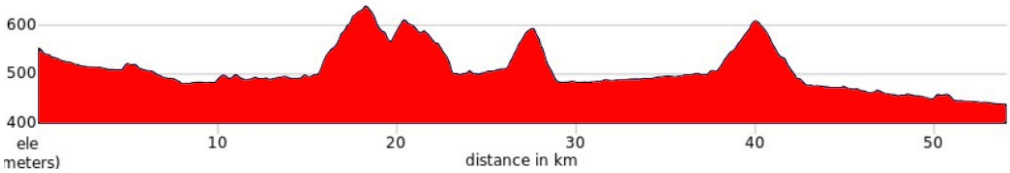


Ride 69km +477m -446m

Day 3: Viscri → Cincșor

This morning, it's worth taking some time to wander through Viscri before setting off. We ride directly from our accommodation, heading west through the villages of Dacia and Jibert before climbing over a forested hill toward the village of Cobor. In Cobor, we visit a biodiversity farm and enjoy an organic lunch made with local ingredients. After lunch, the ride continues along a mix of quiet gravel tracks through the forest and local paved roads, leading us onward to Cincșor. We spend the night in a carefully restored historic guesthouse, offering comfortable accommodation and a strong sense of place rooted in the village's past.

Cincsor Transylvania Guesthouses or Hanul Brancovenesc Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

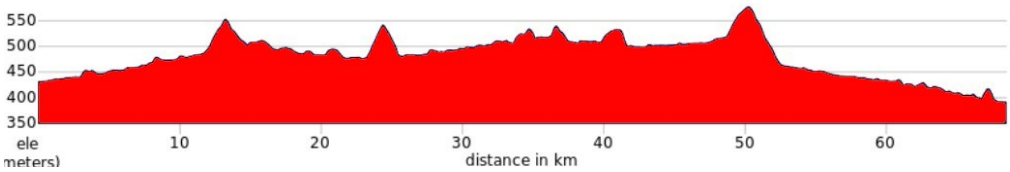


Ride 54km +531m -647m

Day 4: Cincșor → Sighișoara

From Cincșor, we ride north through rolling countryside to the village of Dealu Frumos, whose name means "the beautiful hill" and which is considered the geographical centre of Romania. The route follows quiet rural roads, passing a series of Saxon villages that reflect the region's layered history. Near Agnita, we detour to the village of Movile, where we visit a fortified church currently undergoing restoration and enjoy lunch in the village. The ride then continues toward Sighișoara, one of Romania's UNESCO World Heritage sites and the best preserved of the country's medieval fortified towns. Perched on a hilltop, Sighișoara's citadel is a maze of cobbled streets, towers, and colourful houses, rich in stories and detail. It is also home to the birthplace of Vlad Țepeș, the historical figure who inspired Dracula, and today open as a small museum. The evening is free to explore the old town and choose from one of its many restaurants for dinner.

Fronius Residence or similar Breakfast, Lunch

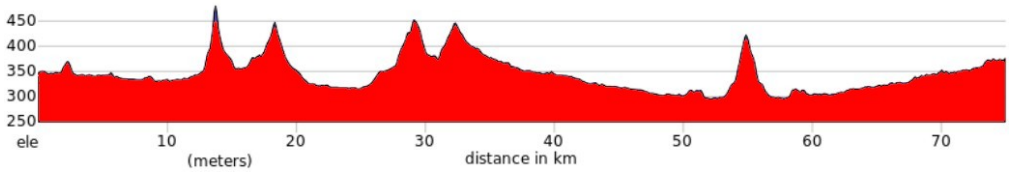


Ride 69km +535m -575m

Day 5: Sighisoara → Cund & Wine Tasting

After breakfast, we ride out of Sighișoara along gentle country roads through a quiet rural landscape. The route includes an off-road section leading to the pastoral village of Prod, with an asphalt alternative available for those who prefer it. A series of gentle climbs carries us over low, wooded hills to the village of Cund, a small former German settlement known for its carefully restored traditional houses. The local community has preserved the village with care, maintaining its architectural character while bringing new life to the buildings. We stop in Cund for lunch and have the chance to taste locally made cheese. In the afternoon, we set out on an easy ride to a nearby boutique winery set among the surrounding hills, where we visit the cellar and enjoy a wine tasting. Afterward, we cycle back to Cund for the night.

Valea Verde Resort or similar Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

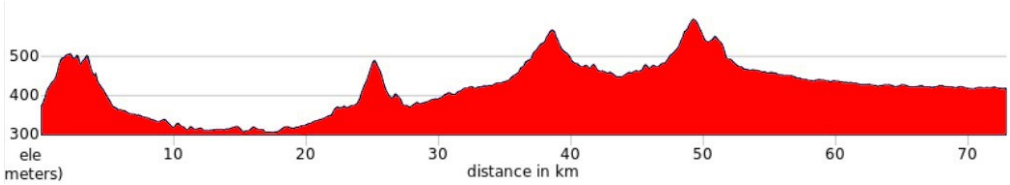


Ride 75km +736m -709m

Day 6: Cund → Sibiu

We begin the day with a pleasant ride to Biertan, the first village in Transylvania to receive UNESCO World Heritage status. Its fortified church, with imposing walls and soaring spires set against rolling green hills, is one of the region's most recognisable landmarks. From here, the route leads through forested terrain to Alma Vii, where we stop for lunch in a traditional Saxon cellar beneath the village's 13th-century fortified church. As we eat, we may even hear the church organ being played above us. After lunch, we continue riding through the Hârtibaciu Valley, passing quiet countryside on the way to Nocrich, a village known for its pottery tradition. In Nocrich, the riding day comes to an end, and we transfer for around 40 minutes to Sibiu, our final destination for our Transylvanian cycling journey. Named European Capital of Culture in 2012, the city offers a rich cultural scene, with museums, galleries, concert halls, and elegant squares all within easy walking distance of our hotel. Highlights include the medieval walls and towers of the old town and the Brukenthal Museum. We gather in the evening for a farewell meal, raising a glass of Romanian wine to a week well spent on the road.

Craft Inn or Republique Hotel Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Ride 72km +794m -754m

Day 7: Sibiu - Breakfast and departure

After breakfast, the tour officially concludes in Sibiu. If you choose to stay longer, Sibiu offers plenty to explore, from its well-preserved historic centre and museums to nearby countryside easily reached from the city. One option is the ASTRA Open-Air Museum, an extensive outdoor museum set in the forest just outside town, showcasing traditional houses, churches, and rural life from across Romania. If you would like to extend your stay or need assistance with post-tour hotel bookings or onward travel arrangements, please let us know, and we'll be happy to help.

Breakfast

Disclaimer: The adventure cycling tours we operate often go beyond the beaten track, and the countries where we ride are not always predictable. Due to these reasons, it is occasionally necessary to reroute or update itineraries. Our guarantee is that we will not change a trip unless for safety or to improve it. Our listed hotels are always accurate at the time of writing, but should we have to change any hotel, it will always be for a similar or better one.

NUTS & BOLTS

Bikes

Because some people can't imagine going on a trip without their own beloved bicycle, we do not provide them as part of this tour. However, you can hire bikes locally for the price listed in the tour pricing section. You are welcome to bring your own mountain bike or gravel bike, provided it is in good mechanical condition. If you prefer not to travel with your own bike, front-suspension mountain bikes are available for hire locally, with rental costs listed in the tour pricing section. We also have E-Bikes available for hire, but they are limited in number and size - please send an email to us to check on availability.

Bike Repairs

Basic spares and tools are carried by the guide and on the support vehicle, though we cannot guarantee having spares for every conceivable problem. Carrying a basic tool kit, a spare tube and a pump while riding is recommended.

Safety

Wearing a helmet is required on all our biking adventures and is non negotiable. If you do not wear a helmet you will not be allowed to cycle. Your tour leader is trained in first aid and emergency rescue, but to a large degree you must be responsible for your own safety while riding. It is therefore compulsory that you take out travel insurance that will cover you for a mountain biking tour.

Guides

You will be led by a local English-speaking guide and if the group is 9 people or more we will add another guide to the tour. All our guides are well informed in the history, culture and religions of the area where you are biking and are skilled at passing that knowledge on to you. Your guide is also medically trained and an experienced cyclist, able to handle most minor repairs en route.

THE NITTY GRITTY

Passports and Visas

Romania is a member of the **Schengen Area**. Citizens of the **UK, US, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand** do not require a visa for short-term tourism and are permitted to stay for up to **90 days within any 180-day period**.

Travellers from visa-exempt nations are required to have a valid **ETIAS** (European Travel Information and Authorisation System) approval prior to arrival. This is a digital registration linked to your passport and is valid for three years. Additionally, the **Entry/Exit System (EES)** is operational at all borders, which involves a quick biometric registration (photo and fingerprints)

upon your first entry into the Schengen zone. For citizens of the EU, Switzerland, and Norway, entry is permitted with a valid National ID card or passport.

Health & Insurance

No specific vaccinations are mandatory for entry, though it is advisable to be current on standard boosters such as Tetanus and Hepatitis A/B.

Comprehensive travel insurance is essential and should specifically cover cycling and medical evacuation in mountainous regions. If you are an EU citizen, ensure you carry a valid European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), or a Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) if you are from the UK, to access state-provided healthcare.

Weather

The prime cycling season in Romania runs from **May to September**.

- **The High Passes:** The legendary **Transfăgărășan** and **Transalpina** highways are high-altitude routes and are typically only fully clear of snow and open to traffic from **late June until October**.
- **Conditions:** Summer in the lowlands is warm and pleasant (20°C–30°C), but weather in the Carpathian Mountains is famously unpredictable. Rapid temperature drops and mountain storms can occur even in mid-summer.
- **Gear:** High-quality waterproof layers and thermal gear are mandatory for any alpine sections to manage the shift between sunny valleys and exposed peaks.

Food

Romanian cuisine is rustic, filling, and deeply tied to the land. Key dishes to look out for include **Sarmale** (cabbage rolls stuffed with spiced meat and rice) and **Mici** (grilled ground meat rolls). The dairy heritage is strong here, particularly the local sheep's milk cheeses like **Telemea**. Most meals are served family-style, and our tours cater to all dietary preferences; please ensure you notify us of any requirements at the time of booking.

Drink

Hydration is a priority, especially during the long climbs of the Carpathian passes. We provide ample water and local snacks during the ride. Romania has a winemaking tradition dating back thousands of years; the white wines are crisp and refreshing, while the full-bodied reds like **Feteasca Neagră** are excellent. For a traditional post-ride experience, you might try a small glass of **Țuică** (plum brandy), a staple of Romanian hospitality.

Solo Travellers

SpiceRoads does not charge a mandatory surcharge for solo travellers. We will arrange for you to share a room with another traveller of the same gender in twin-share accommodation. If a match is not available, we provide a single room at no extra cost. If you wish to guarantee your own private room, a single supplement can be added to your booking at the rate listed in the tour pricing.

Extra Expenses

Romania remains an affordable destination by European standards. You should budget for personal incidentals, tips for the support crew, and unique local souvenirs such as hand-painted ceramics from Horezu or traditional woven textiles.

Money

The currency is the **Romanian Leu (RON)**, often referred to locally as "Lei."

- **Card Acceptance:** Credit and debit cards are widely accepted across the country, including in most rural shops and guesthouses.
- **ATMs:** Cash machines are plentiful in all towns and regional hubs, accepting major international cards (Visa/Mastercard).
- **Cash:** While digital payments are the norm, it is still wise to carry a small amount of cash for tips or for use in the most remote mountain areas where signal for card terminals may be intermittent.

GENERAL BOOKING INFO

If this is the tour for you here's what you need to do to confirm your place:

FLEXIBLE BOOKING CONDITIONS

Booking a SpiceRoads cycling adventure is easy and we try to do everything possible to make sure you have full flexibility and peace of mind. We do not require a deposit to hold your place on a tour and once full payment has been made your money is protected in our client account and you have the flexibility to cancel or change your booking if needed.

CONFIRMING YOUR BOOKING

Just complete our online booking form or send your booking details offline (email or post), and we will confirm your participation. No deposit is needed to confirm your place on a SpiceRoads tour.

You are advised to read our Booking Conditions in full before you make your payment and should you require further clarifications of any of the conditions below, please email us or call our office.

TRIP STATUS

There is a minimum number of participants (usually 2) required to enable the trip to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to Depart'. Once a trip is guaranteed to depart you are free to book your flights and make other travel arrangements. If the trip status is 'Limited' will mean we have only a small number of spaces available for booking. If you are unsure about the trip status, please email us or call our office.

BOOKING ONLINE

From the tour page, click the 'Book Now' link. All departures for this tour will appear, just select the date you'd like to travel. For the next steps, you'll need to know the names of the people travelling. If you wish you can also provide extra details such as passport numbers, height (for bike hire), or you can add that later by logging into Manage My Trip (we'll set up an account for you automatically if you don't already have one). Our system will contact you from time to time to fill in the missing information, as it will be required before departure. However, if the trip that you are booking offers a child discount, you will have to fill out the date of birth of each rider (so we can calculate the appropriate discount).

If you are having any problems please send us an email, or give us a call (+66 026 3295) and one of our travel specialists will assist you with your booking.

BOOKING OFFLINE

Just call us or send an email indicating which trip you want to join and we will happily send you a list of questions and process your booking for you.

DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS

We do not require a deposit or full payment to book a place for you on a tour.

The balance of the tour's cost (final invoice) will need to be paid 60 days before the departure date with fees for any bicycle rental(s), single supplement(s) and extra hotel nights.

In the case where a booking is made when there are less than 60 days until the tour departure date, the tour's cost should be paid in full within 72 hours of receiving an invoice from SpiceRoads. Payment can be made by credit card using our online payment gateway or by bank transfer. When making payment online you will need to confirm that you have read these booking conditions during the "checkout" process, which equates to agreeing to the terms of services and stipulations as indicated in this document.

In all cases, tour fees need to be paid "in full" before participation in a tour. No person(s) will be allowed to join a tour without fully settling their invoice and receiving a confirmation number from SpiceRoads.

The exception can be made for last-minute miscellaneous fees that can be paid locally (visas, additional local hotel bookings, etc.) can be settled on the day of arrival.

FULL FLEXIBILITY FOR TOUR CANCELATIONS

If the tour is cancelled or postponed by SpiceRoads because we didn't make the trip numbers and the tour can't run, we will make a full cash refund (by bank transfer or on your credit card).

If the tour is cancelled for any other reason, including due to Covid related travel restrictions, we will give you a full credit (with no deductions for admin or any other small-print item) to use on any SpiceRoads tour with no time limit. (Exceptions being flights, special permits and other non-refundable items and these will be advised when booking the trip).

Before paying for your tour, you can cancel your booking with no charge and up until 40 days before departure, you can change your booking to another travel date or move your booking onto another SpiceRoads tour with no charges.

If you need to cancel after you have made full payment, please see our cancellation policy.

Loyalty Riders Club

For those who have been on several long tours with us, we reward customer loyalty by offering repeat customers a special discount off the tour price (excludes single supplement and bike rental). If this is your fourth scheduled tour or more you will receive a 5% discount. If this is your eighth scheduled tour or more we will extend a 10% discount. The discount will be reflected in your online booking, but please contact us if any questions. Loyalty discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Note: Only tours of 7 days or more will be applicable for a loyalty discount.

International Flights

International flights, to and from the start and finish points are not included in the tour price. Once your tour is Guaranteed to Depart you can book your flight. Please contact us for advice before arranging flights for the best arrival and departure times. We would only cancel a trip for an extreme circumstance, but in that case, where we cancel your trip, we cannot be liable for losses incurred relating to any flight booking you have made. Please claim any losses from your travel insurance that you acquired when you booked your holiday.

Newsletter

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from SpiceRoads, be sure to subscribe.

CONTACT US

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