

ROMANIA - TRANSYLVANIA TRAIL

ITINERARY

Day 1

Transfers are at set times from Bucharest Otopeni airport (OTP). Flights should be booked to arrive no later than 16:00 and return flights should depart after 14:00.

If you arrive early into Bucharest then you will need to wait at the airport before the afternoon group transfer to the start of the ride.

If you plan to spend some days in Bucharest before the ride you will need to make your own way back to the airport in time for the group transfer to the start of the ride. Hotel collections and hotel drop-offs are not available.

It may be possible to arrange a transfer from Sibiu, Brasov or Zarnesti at additional cost.

Overnight Equus Sylvania. Arrive at Equus Sylvania and settle into your room. Before or after dinner there will be a ride briefing and introduction to the horses.

Please note that local conditions, weather and the ability of the group can cause the itinerary to change but always with your best interests in mind. Occasionally it may be necessary to stay at different accommodation than outlined below and the order of the villages you visit can sometimes change. The following is the proposed itinerary.

Equus Sylvania is a modern guesthouse, ski chalet style, with nine bedrooms, each with its own private shower room.

There is a dining room, large living room and a bar. The guesthouse has a modern wood central heater. There is also a veranda, where you can sit outside and relax.

Please note that the chalet also accepts non-riding bed and breakfast guests (including young children) who may join riding guests at meal times.



Day 2

After being introduced to the horses you will leave Şinca Nouă (pronounced Shinca Noah) and ride along the valleys and over the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains towards the plains of the Olt River valley.



During the day you pass several Romanian Villages. There may be the chance for some long canters through the fields. Later, after about 6 hours riding, you cross the Olt River and arrive at your destination in Hălmeag.

Overnight Hălmeag Village. You stay in private homes.

Day 3

Today you ride along the Olt River from Hălmeag to Şona. You are now in the hills of Transylvania and will start to experience the wonderful scenery of the area. You ride along a beautiful ridge with marvellous views to the Fagaras Mountains and eventually reach Cobor, an old Hungarian village in the middle of the Saxon area. Today's ride is about 5.5 hours



You stay in Cobor for the next two nights.

Overnight Cobor Guest House. Stay in guesthouses restored from abandoned houses.

The ride operator is part of a conservation project in Cobor, which includes the development of an organic farm with emphasis on biodiversity conservation and the restoration of some of the abandoned houses.



Day 4

Today is a full-day ride (c. 6 hours) around Cobor to explore the beautiful landscape of Transylvania with its stunning views and rich birdlife. You are likely to see bee-eaters, hoopoes, great grey shrikes, stone chats and perhaps lesser spotted eagles.



In the late afternoon, you arrive back to Cobor and can relax in the old stables or in the cellar bar.

Overnight Cobor Guest House.

Day 5

Today you ride (for about 7 hours) over the hills to Viscri.

Viscri is probably the most famous Saxon village in Transylvania with a stunning fortified church. Both the church and the village are recognised as UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The UK based Mihai Eminescu Trust (under the patronage of King Charles) has restored the village in its original setting.



In the evening there is time to explore the village and enjoy the traditional Saxon cuisine.

Overnight Viscri Village. You stay in former farmhouses which have been restored as guesthouses.

Day 6

This morning you explore the fortified church in Viscri, enjoying the beautiful views over the village and later have lunch.



In the afternoon you ride over the hills to a log-house set on a big meadow in the forest near the village of Jibert. Enjoy stunning scenery and some great canters all along the way on this shorter ride (c. 3 - 3.5 hours riding).

At the cabin you have a great dinner and enjoy the relaxing atmosphere of the Transylvanian countryside.

Overnight Hunting Lodge. A log-house near the village of Jibert.

Day 7

Today is your last day to enjoy the hills and forests of Transylvania (about 6 hours riding).



Eventually you arrive in the Olt Valley with a beautiful ride along the ridge through ancient oak pastures and descend from there through the forests towards Halmeag, where the ride ends.

From here you and the horses are transported back to Equus Sylvania in Sinca Noua.

Overnight Equus Sylvania.

Day 8

Enjoy breakfast this morning before saying goodbye to your hosts.

You will be transferred to Bucharest - Otopeni airport. Check-out is after breakfast. The shared transfer will leave for those on the earliest flight.