



for a living planet®



The Maramureș Heritage Trail was completed by EcoLogic Association, who is the administrator of the Greenway

28 Unirii Bulevard,  
430232 - Baia Mare,  
Maramureș, Romania  
Phone/fax: +40 262  
224035  
Mobil: +40745 332022  
E-mail: editp@nvn.ro,  
ecologic@email.ro  
www.ecologic.romm.ro

**GREENWAY**

Greenways are routes, trails and natural corridors that are used in harmony with their ecological functions and offer the opportunity for sports, tourism and recreation. Greenways promote nature conservation and revalue the natural and cultural inheritance of a specific region, offering plenty of benefits to the environment. They improve of the quality of life and are presently an opportunity for sustainable economic activities for local communities.



**Drumul Moștenirii Maramureșene®**  
Maramures heritage trail  
Máramarosi örökség útja

Wildlife observation, nature photography, hiking and cultural experiences represent recreational activities to enrich visitors while wandering along the greenway. Route indicators placed along the 64 km journey offer information to view destinations, distance compared to positioning, different levels of route complexity, recommended means of local transport, as well as existing tourist and directional markers.



Blessed with an abundance of wildlife and natural habitats of tremendous beauty, Maramureș represents the perfect destination for visitors to explore and experience the natural and cultural diversity of its living heritage. The well-preserved and respected traditions and customs, as well as the specific wooden constructions bearing significant cultural potential, add value to the entire region of Maramureș.

**The Maramureș heritage trail** envisions a distinctive region of the Gutâi Mountains where rural civilization with archaic traces harmoniously cohabitates with nature and invites the traveler to step into a magic world of continuous surprises.

The starting point is positioned near the **Old Baths in Ocna Șugatag**, once an important place for salt exploitation, which closed down in 1950 when the last salt pit was abandoned due to water infiltration. After the collapse of the old salt-mine galleries, several lakes formed with one of the highest salinity concentrations in Europe. Here, you can also visit one of the oldest meteorological stations in Romania (1858), as well as a wooden church built in 1642. In addition, the forest reservation Pădurea Crăiasca hosts exceptional species of oak, durmast, common larch, hornbeam and common maple.



Following the country road, passing beautiful orchards of various fruit bearing trees, you reach the county road DJ 185, where the information board indicates a division of the trail in two loops, giving access to the Gutâi Mountains from different angles.



In case you choose the route to **Hoteni**, you will be enchanted to find several traditional households, including Ioan Pop, a local folk singer of notable value. His 100 year-old noble traditional home offers an authentic experience upon entering into the charming life of Maramureș. Here, you may find accommodation if you choose to stay and explore the surrounding wetland area of the Hoteni Raised Bog in further detail.

Only 2.3 km away, you will reach **Hărnicești** village, where on the banks of the Mara River the traveler may find the original peasant technical installations which use the dynamic forces of water. The whirlpool is used for washing large textiles of wool cloth - the traditional blankets "cerga" of Maramureș.

The filling mills thicken the wool cloths by hitting the cloth against two big wooden hammers. Without this machinery, an important component of the traditional costume the coarse peasant coat "sumanul", would disappear. In addition, there is another water mill used for grinding cereals, particularly maize.

Going further 2.5 km, following the national road DN 18 you reach the village of **Desești** where you can visit the wooden church of "Saint Paraschiva" built in 1770 and declared UNESCO heritage monument. Inside, the decorated woolen blankets, or "cergile", and hand woven carpets are colorfully dyed with natural colors to faithfully maintain the tradition of the region. Here in Desești you can also find popular artisans skilled in the art of wooden constructions and interwoven fences that give identity to the specific architecture of Maramureș. The village is also known for its local initiatives of harvesting therapeutic plants, forest fruits, and mushrooms. The natural remedies of plants and fruits collected from the forests of this ecologically pure region and produced in Hypericum laboratories are well known for their healing properties for various ailments of the human body, as well as increasing vital strength. Whereas delicious dried mushrooms of the Boletus family can be found at Vasile Pop's (VAP SRL).



Following the nature trail to **Mara** village, you will encounter the specific Maramureş gates carved in wood. While in the past they were attributed to noble families, today they represent a true symbol of community identity. According to tradition, they represent a barrier against evil, the element that settles the boundaries of the sacred universe of home and household, as well as the social sphere where members of the rural community recount stories, particularly on Sundays. The ornamental elements that adorn the wooden gates represent deeply rooted symbols recalling the Christian and pre-Christian culture: the solar rosette, the ear, the trinity and the wolf tooth.

From the village of Mara and diverting from the national road DN 18, you follow a forest road marked by blue cross indicators, which penetrates the Gutâi piedmont and leads up to the Rooster's Crest Reserve along the Hopsia River. For approximately 3 hours, the road leads through charming mosaic landscapes consisting of orchards, meadows and deciduous tree forests. After 5 km, you leave behind the forest road, cross the Hopsia River, and then take an old road in which you are certain to pass by flocks of sheep grazing in the pastures during summer. A stop here can become an opportunity of meeting the shepherds, who are exceptional, hard working, steadfast and hospitable people, and of tasting the local dairy products such as pot cheese and soft cow cheese.

Next to the indicator marked 25 (for further details see the map), the blue cross markings intersect the forest road, which surrounds the Gutâi Mountains. Following the blue cross trail you will reach the **Rooster's Crest Natural Reserve**. The visiting infrastructure in the reserve contributes to enriching one's knowledge of nature-related topics, offers a range of challenging outdoor recreation experiences, and empowers a unique view of the entire Maramureş surface depression.



Near the reserve is a primitive campsite for backpackers to experience overnights in the wilderness.

Descending on the same trail, you reach again the junction point with the red markings (panel 25 on the map), which leads to an active peat bog, **Chendroaiei Lakes** at 1053 m altitude. The visiting footbridge offers information on the creation and evolution of this unique ecosystem, which contains 95% water. The integrity of this life reservoir is maintained by an arctic moss type (Sphagnum) and by its roots, which gracefully interweave on the surface of the bog.

Following the red cross markings, you reach the next stop, **Morărenilor Lake**. The proposed wetland area for visiting remains hidden in a complex vegetal carpet, specific to the convergence of different habitats, and consists of Common or Black Alder, Grey Alder, and Green Alder. The lake, created from landslides and already declared a protected area, has a maximum depth of 20 m and is constantly being supplied with water by a small flowing brook. The specific plants for the wetland area include the Common Bladderwort, Common Sundew, and Buckbean or Crowberry, which find favorable conditions for growth.



*Quietly wander through the paths! Follow the trails, watch the movements, and listen to the sounds of wildlife!*

From here, the trail moves further, and for the next 5 km the red cross trail and the strategically placed directional markings offer you guidance through the web of paths descending to **Breb** village.

Through serried rank houses on stony country lanes, scattered up along the mountain foothills as if protected by a volcanic cone, Breb village introduces you to the atmosphere of the foremost archaic village. The traditional architecture is still well preserved, and craftsmanship continues by the works of Pătru Pop - local artisan, Paul Petru cooper, and Coman Vasile blacksmith. Domnica Bota, Bledea Maria and Petric Maria are masters in the art of sewing; from their hands come into being dazzling traditional shirts they've woven and sewn.

From this point, the 3 km village road connecting to Hoteni village will lead you to the **Hoteni Raised Bog**, where you can visit the natural complex of the oligotrophic swamp and the 3 eutrophic lakes with specific plant and animal species of tremendous scientific importance. The peat strata floating on the 4 m deep water represents a perfect living environment for carnivore plants, relict species and of ice age reminiscence. The other 2 oblong-shaped lakes (300 m x 20m) in the same area are well known for their presence of 150 algae species, which gives the lake water its specific color. The luxuriant vegetation in the lake reveals a variety of fish and turtles that are unique species for this region. Returning to the village road, the route continues on county road DJ 185, and you come back to the starting point at the Ocna Şugatag Salty Lakes.



The second loop of ascending the Gutai Mountains follows county road DJ 185 to Budești on a 6.5 km distance, and offers views of a majestic rural landscape harmoniously interwoven with nature. The local tradition blends agricultural fields with natural corridors, which are of vital importance to wildlife.



After a fairly continuous 3 km ascent, you reach the forest road surrounding the Gutâi Mountains, just below Măgura Budeștilor (directional panel 8). The road winds through the shadows of a beech forest, and after 2.5 km you reach the Gutâi pail (directional panel 9). The murmur of clear brooks running gently downstream whisper the story of the extraordinary capacity of the mountain to gather its waters. The water, filtered by the natural vegetation, channels its way to communities located at the base of the mountains. From this proximity, you can identify the gathering springs that feed drinking water to the village of Ocna Șugatag.

***Did you know that Common or Black Alder possesses the highest capacity to create pure drinking water by filtration in its roots?***

From this point onward, the breathtaking landscape opens up in front of you to the Rooster's Crest, Gutâi Peak, and Gutâi pail, enchanting your sight and giving further reason to not use your camera. Going further for another 1.2 km you will reach the intersection point with the first loop of the Greenway (directional panel 10). In this area, you will encounter the grotto of Pinteza Viteazul, a famous outlaw who fought for the local peasants more than 400 years ago. The famous and powerful outlaw often used this hideout and kept it out of sight by simple means such as placing a rock in front of the opening.

To reach the Chendroaiei Lakes and ascend to Rooster's Crest Natural Reserve, you follow the red cross trail, and for returning you use the same trail (indicator 10). From this point onward, the 2 trails follow the same itinerary: Morărenilor Lake, Breb, Hoteni- Hoteni Raised Bog, and the Salty Lakes of Ocna Șugatag.

The wetland areas visited on the Greenway loops represent essential ecosystems that contribute to the biological diversity, water cycle in nature, and the storage of carbon all relevant for climate change. At the same time, wetlands possess essential functions for human communities: they contribute to the recharge and discharge of aquifers, and offer storage for rainwater thus reducing flooding. In addition, the aquatic life they host give wetlands their uniqueness and patrimonial value.

This brochure does not include all details for viewing the tourist, cultural, popular or traditional attractions of the area that can be visited. Thus, we launch an invitation to grant you plenty of time to test the Greenways we have proposed. You are also welcome to ask for assistance from local guides on your journey.

The simple wisdom of the locals concerning the traditional management of natural resources, and passed through generations from father to son, utterly illustrates concepts of biodiversity conservation in agricultural fields.

Once you are in **Budești** you are welcomed by the wonderful examples of traditional architecture. The wooden church "Saint Nicholas", built in 1643, was declared a UNESCO heritage monument in 1999. The ethnographic center of the village reveals some of the secrecy of art and popular architecture. Here, you can visit original peasant technical installations such as water mills, the filling mills, and the water sawmills.

The second wooden church, "Saint Paraschieva", built in 1760 represents proof of the evolution of the community. Truly historical and a popular religious monument, the church hosts a valuable collection of icons painted on wood. In case you feel any attraction or interest in the particular hats of Maramures, we recommend you to visit the local craftsman, Ion Bârlea, who masterly designs the small hats, decked up with beadwork and ostrich feathers.

After another 4 km on county road DJ 109, you reach a forest road, which will lead you to the mineral water spring, locally named "**La Borcut**". The sulphur mineral water, possessing healing properties especially recommended for stomach diseases, gathers its waters out through a tree hollow. The water is highly appreciated and widely used by the locals in the surrounding villages.



## ACCOMODATION AND MEAL SERVICES

### Ocna Şugatag Commune

1. POHL PENSION  
Ocna Şugatag, Unirii Street, 11 places
2. MILLER PENSION  
Ocna Şugatag, Unirii Street no. 94, 20 places
3. TĂMAŞ PENSION  
Unirii street, no. 1C, 18 places
4. POPASUL DIN DEAL  
Ocna Şugatag, Unirii Street 1D
5. BOTEZATU PENSION  
Ocna Şugatag, Unirii Street, 14 places
6. DELIA PENSION  
Ocna Şugatag, str Mihai Eminescu, 4 places
7. COVACI PENSION  
Ocna Şugatag, Trandafirilor Street, no.5, 10 places
8. GHERGHEL PENSION  
Ocna Şugatag, I. Lazar Street, 10 places
9. PUŢI MARIANA PENSION  
Ocna Şugatag, Primaverii Street, 15 places
10. MĂRIOARA PENSION  
Breb 346, 12 places
11. LUCIA PENSION  
Breb, 285
12. CASA ALBA PENSION  
Primăverii Street
13. PETRAN VIOREL PENSION  
Breb, no. 104
14. TELEPTEAN PENSION  
Unirii Street, no. 1 D
15. SANDRA PENSION  
Dumbrava Street, no.1
16. R-MT PENSION  
Avram Iancu street, 15 places
17. HOTEA LILIANA TRADITIONAL MEALS  
Hoteni, no. 81



### TRANSPORT BY CARTS

- Vraja Petru, Hoteni, no. 9  
Hotea Vasile, Hoteni, no. 23  
Rednic Stefan, Hoteni, no. 72  
Radu lui Niculae, Breb, no. 110  
Pop Vasile, Breb, no. 302  
Gheorghe Pop, Ocna Şugatag, M.Viteazu Street, no. 9  
Boloha Viorel, Ocna Şugatag, D. Vodă 51  
Paul Gheorghe, Mara, no. 289  
Pop Gheorghe, Mara, no. 99  
Costin Mihai, Mara, no. 296  
Tupiţă Mihai, Mara, no. 238,  
Pop Vasile, Mara, no. 125  
Bohotici Grigore, Mara, no. 113  
Paul Gheorghe, Mara, no. 137  
Tupiţă Vasile, Mara, no. 112  
Costin Gheorghe, Mara, no. 259  
Rus Gheorghe, Mara, no. 164
- NB: Transport by carts will be invoiced by the certified pensions in the area**

### Deseşti Commune

1. "LA IRINA" PENSION  
Deseşti, no. 259, 6 places
2. "LA ANCUTA" PENSION  
Deseşti no. 286, 10 places
3. "CASA IURCA"  
Hărniceşti, no. 8, 6 places

### Budeşti Commune

1. MIŞU PENSION  
Budeşti, no. 792, 4 places
2. MARA PENSION  
Budeşti, no. 449, 6 places
3. POIENIŢA PENSION  
Budeşti, no. 226, 8 places
4. "PERLA COSĂULUI"  
Budeşti, no. 304, 10 places



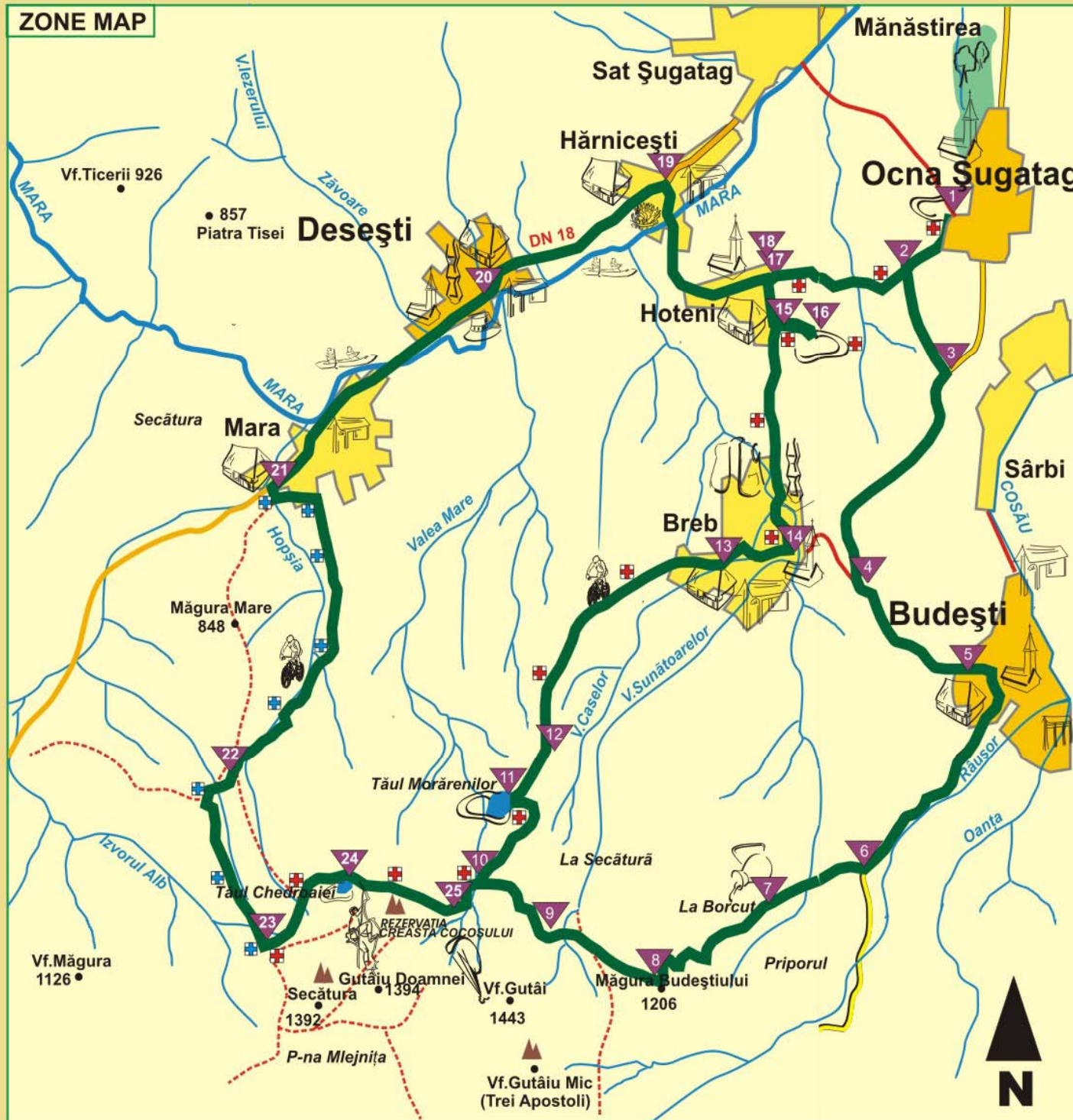
### Team Building Services and Outdoor Activities

- Paragliding
- Rafting
- Climbing,
- Paint Ball
- Mountain Bike Renting
- Ski School

EXMOTION S.R.L., tel. 0722 771267



## ZONE MAP



## Legend

-  Ethnographic Center
-  Wooden Church, UNESCO heritage
-  Wooden Carvers
-  Local Artisans
-  Traditional wooden houses
-  Peasant technical installations
-  Lakes, Peat/raised bogs
-  Mineral water springs
-  Wooden gates
-  Furrier artisans
-  "Pădurea Crăiasca" Nature Reserve
-  Paragliding
-  Rafting
-  Climbing
-  Mountain Bike
-  Touristic directional markings

## GPS Coordinates

No.	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Altitude(m)
1	OCNA ȘUGATAG-BĂILE VECHI	N47°46.731'	E23°55.856'	467
2	BIFURCAȚIE DRUMURI VERZI	N47°46.396'	E23°55.468'	505
3	BIFURCAȚIE OCNA ȘUGATAG	N47°45.716'	E23°55.835'	553
4	BIFURCAȚIE BREB	N47°44.360'	E23°55.036'	600
5	BIFURCAȚIE BUDEȘTI	N47°43.839'	E23°56.257'	588
6	SPRE IZVOR DE APĂ MINERALĂ	N47°42.635'	E23°55.104'	758
7	IZVOR DE APĂ MINERALĂ	N47°42.424'	E23°54.495'	739
8	BIFURCAȚIE MĂGURA	N47°42.042'	E23°53.018'	1029
9	BAZINELE DE CAPTARE APĂ	N47°42.306'	E23°52.043'	1015
10	ÎNTĂLNIRE DRUMURI VERZI	N47°42.583'	E23°51.438'	1005
11	TĂUL MORĂRENILOR	N47°43.104'	E23°51.689'	859
12	SPRE BREB	N47°43.218'	E23°51.855'	841
13	PANOU INFORMARE - BREB	N47°44.773'	E23°54.166'	535
14	BISERICA VECHĂ - BREB	N47°44.933'	E23°54.262'	487
15	SPRE LACURILE DE LA HOTENI	N47°46.078'	E23°54.173'	504
16	LACURILE DE LA HOTENI	N47°46.011'	E23°54.470'	556
17	PANOU INFORMARE - HOTENI	N47°46.328'	E23°54.057'	465
18	HOTENI	N47°46.328'	E23°54.057'	465
19	HĂRNICEȘTI	N47°46.840'	E23°53.175'	402
20	DESEȘTI	N47°46.208'	E23°51.466'	444
21	MARA - POD RĂUȘOR	N47°45.055'	E23°49.591'	490
22	VALEA HOPȘIA	N47°43.213'	E23°49.174'	802
23	DRUMUL FORESTIER	N47°42.247'	E23°49.605'	1086
24	TĂUL CHENDROAIEI	N47°42.632'	E23°50.072'	1055
25	SPRE TĂUL MORĂRENILOR	N47°42.469'	E23°51.353'	983