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Sustainable tourism in Romania

Wildlife

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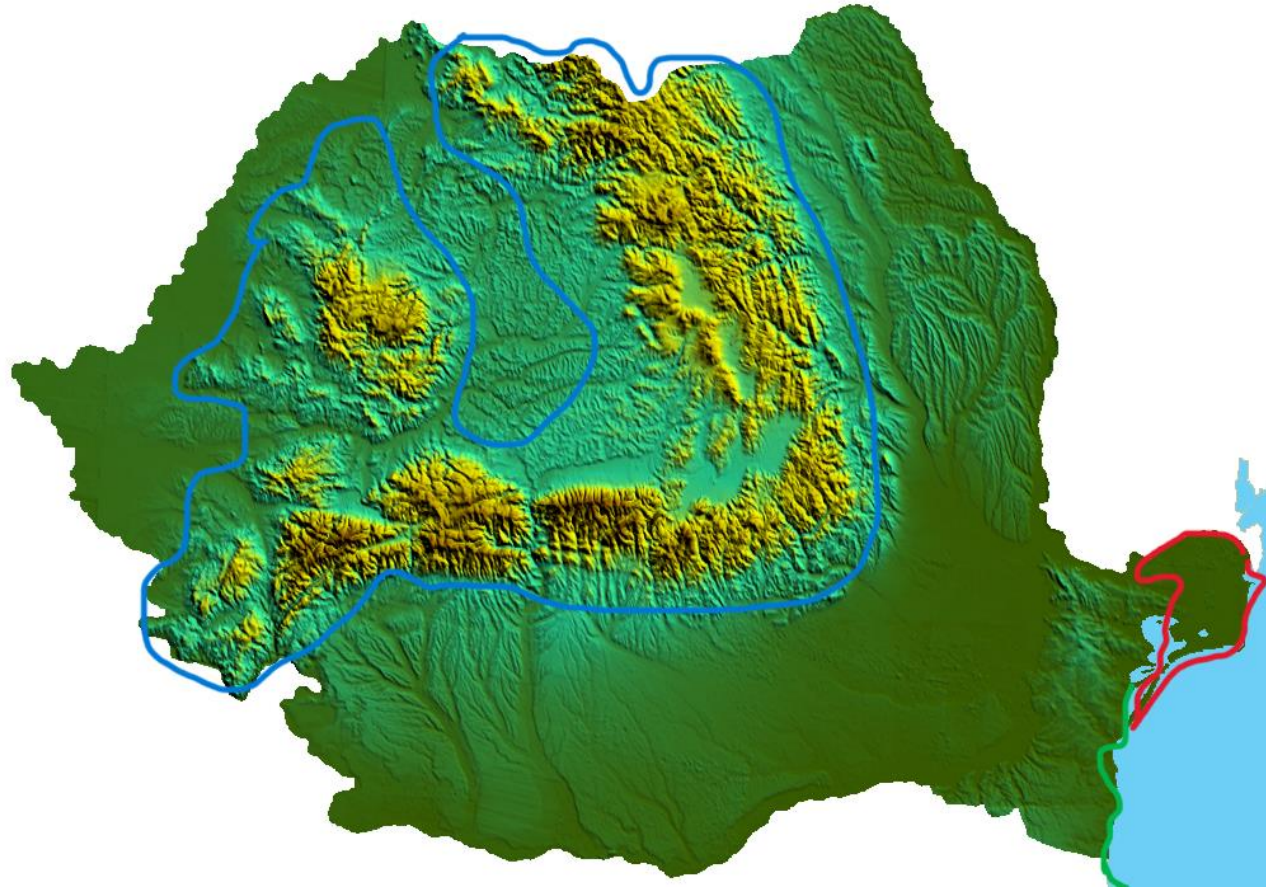
Rich biodiversity

- ▶ one of the highest biodiversity in all of Europe
- ▶ almost half of its land area is covered with natural and semi-natural landscapes
- ▶ more landscapes, habitats, plant, and animal species than on the rest of the continent
- ▶ the most bio-geographically diverse country in Europe: Danube Delta

Carpathian Mountains

Black Sea

Source: <https://www.uncover-romania.com/about-romania/nature/>
<https://www.fauna-flora.org/countries/romania/>



Carpathian
Mountains

Danube Delta

Black Sea

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Romania
Edited by me

Fauna of Romania

- 700 species of animals



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110 species



382 species



184 species

The Association of Ecotourism in Romania (AER)

- ▶ sustainable tourism development
- ▶ contributes to improving the quality of ecotourism services and promotes nature as an essential element of Romania's image as a tourist destination
- ▶ offer a wide range of accommodations, destinations, events and activities

Source: <https://www.eco-romania.ro/en/>

Wildlife tourism

- ▶ Wildlife tourism has emerged as a way to ensure sustainable economic benefits, while supporting local communities and wildlife conservation, (Shackley, 1996).
- ▶ one of the best European destinations for wildlife watching for mammals or birds
- ▶ wildlife tourism has developed greatly in Romania
- ▶ Top destination: for mammals- Carpathian Mountains
for birds- Danube Delta



Danube Delta - Pelicans

Source: <https://romaniatourism.com/delta.html>

Source: <https://www.uncover-romania.com/about-romania/nature/>

Wildlife observation- the most sustainable version

- ▶ page: Wildlife Romania
- ▶ online zoology
- ▶ live cameras about wild birds in their natural habitat
- ▶ key: free , not caged

Source: <https://www.wildliferomania.com/>

Bear Sanctuary

- ▶ Liberty Bear Sanctuary (<https://matadornetwork.com/read/european-country-6000-wild-grizzly-bears-heres-see/>)
- ▶ near Braşov
- ▶ the biggest brown bear sanctuary in the world
- ▶ 111 bears rescued from small cages at restaurants, monasteries, gas stations, and circuses



Photo: Mayra Blömer

Bear watching in Romania

- ▶ Piatra Craiului National Park (<https://www.eco-romania.ro/en/zarnesti-piatra-craiului-en/bear-watching-at-the-bear-hide/>)
- ▶ Bucegi Wildlife Park (<https://www.absolute-nature.ro/bear-watching-romania/>)
- ▶ Braşov (<https://bearwatching.ro/>)
- ▶ Băile Tuşnad (<https://visitharghita.com/en/places/bear-watching-in-baile-tusnad-k3l8xs6-lg1csw>)
- ▶ Borzont (<https://www.medveles.eu/index.php>)

Bear watching in Romania

- ▶ usually 1,5-2 hour long
- ▶ family friendly
- ▶ group of people (min.1 , up to 45)
- ▶ early in the morning or before sunset
- ▶ transportation: closed car, open car
- ▶ price: in between 35€-90€/person
- ▶ seeing bears is never guaranteed



Source: <http://www.dgwildlife.com>

Bear hide in Borzont

- ▶ Borzont, Gheorgheni
- ▶ solution for a problem
- ▶ booking (early in the morning or evening)
- ▶ transportation: car
- ▶ 1,5/2 session
- ▶ heated, electricity, wi-fi
- ▶ pictures allowed
- ▶ min.1 , max. 45 people
- ▶ min. age 4
- ▶ price: 35€/person
- ▶ free pálinka, Csíki beer and chips



Source: András Bernadett

Source: <https://www.medveles.eu/index.php>

Bear hide in Borzont

“In 2 hours we saw 29 wild animals! 5 bears, 8 deer, 2 roe deer, 14 wild boars! All of them free in their natural habitat.... words cannot describe the feeling! There is no security like this at NASA! They looked after us like we were ministers! Congratulations, what a fabulous experience!”

- Benedek Zoltán

Source: <https://www.medveles.eu/index.php>

Thank you for your attention!



Source: Szócs Renáta