

## GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROTECTED AREAS

The natural heritage of Romania consists of the physico-geographical components and structures, as well as those of flora and fauna; it represents a fundamental element in our society's life. The preservation and rational use of this patrimony are major objectives of public interest and they represent a priority in the national strategy for long-term sustainable development.

This strategy refers not only to the general norms for the protection of the environment (applicable to the whole territory), but also to some special measures created in order to delimit and protect certain areas which present a particular interest. According to Romanian legislation (Government Decision no.236/2000 and Law no.462/2001), a protected natural area is "a terrestrial, aquatic and/or subterranean zone, which has legally established borders and benefits from a special regime of protection and preservation, where there are species of plants and wild animals, bio-geographical, geological, paleontological, speleological elements and components which have an important ecological, scientific or cultural value."

National Forest Administration (ROMSILVA) takes care of 10 national parks (Domogled-Valea Cernei, Retezat, Cheile Nerei-Beusnita, Muntii Rodnei, Cheile Bicazului-Hasmas, Calimani, Cozia, Piatra Craiului, Semenic-Cheile Carasului, Muntii Macinului) and 6 natural parks (Portile de Fier, Apuseni, Bucegi, Gradistea Muncelului-Cioclovina, Balta Mica a Brailei, Vanatori-Neamt).

The national parks correspond to the 2nd category I.U.C.N.(International Union for the Conservation of the Nature): "area administrated especially for the protection of the ecosystems and for recreation". The natural parks are included in the 5th category I.U.C.N.: "protected area administrated mainly for the preservation of landscapes and recreation".

The management of the national parks guarantees the maintenance of the natural physico-geographical area, the protection of the ecosystems, the preservation of the genetic resources and that of the biological diversity while maintaining the ecological stability; furthermore, any form of exploitation as well as any landuse incompatible with the established purpose is absolutely forbidden.



## TOURIST ROUTES IN THE RODNEI MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK



1. **The main ridge:** Pasul Șetref (817 m) - Capul Muntelui – Pasul Pietrii (1196 m) – Vf. Bătrâna (1710 m) – Poiana Bătrâna – sub Vf. Gropilor (2063 m) – sub Vf. Buhăescu Mare – sub Vf. Cormaia (2033 m) – Vf. Repede (2074 m) – Vf. Galațului (2048 m) – Șaua Galațului – Șaua Gărgălău – sub Vf. Gărgălău (2158 m) – Târnița lui Putredu – sub Vf. Ineu (2279 m) - Șaua cu Lac – Vf. Ineuț – Prelucile Gajei – Pasul Rotunda. Pasul Șetref - Șaua Gărgălău, in Maramureș county. Șaua Gărgălău – Pasul Rotunda, in Bistrița – Năsăud county.



2. Rodna – Valea Baia – Valea Vinului – Șaua Curățel – Șaua cu Lac – sub Vf. Ineu, Lala, in Bistrița – Năsăud county.



3. Comuna Șanț – Tabăra Valea Blaznei – Vf. Cobășel (1835 m) – Vf. Roșu (2113 m) – Vf. Ineuț, in Bistrița – Năsăud county.



4. Șaua cu Lac – Lacul Lala Mare – Prelucile Gajei, in Maramureș county.



5. Complexul turistic Borșa – Valea Fântâniei – Șaua Știol – Pasul Prislop (1416 m), in Maramureș county.



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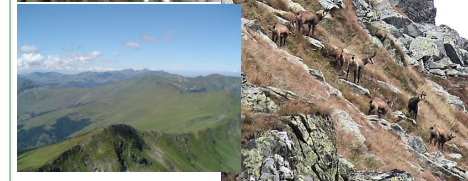
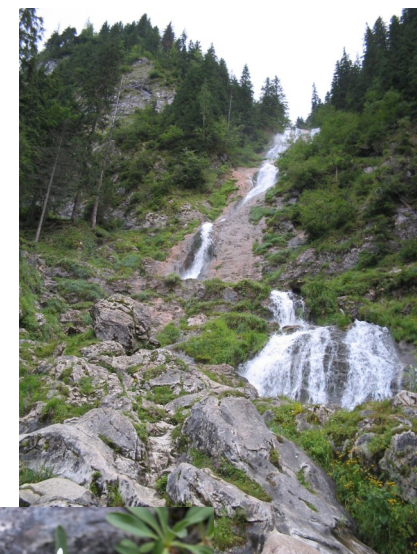
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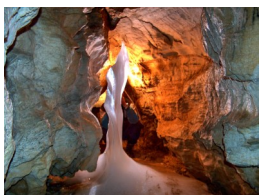
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## RODNEI MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK BIOSPHERE RESERVE



## TOURISTIC INFORMATION - RODNEI MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK



Situated in the northern part of Romania, with altitudes above 2200m (Pietrosu Peak - 2303m), The Rodna Mountains are the most impressive mountain sub-division of The Eastern Carpathians. The park area spans two counties (Bistrita-Nasaud and Maramures) and three forest administrations sub-divisions (Bistrita, Baia Mare and Suceava).

Geologically, the Rodna Mountains consist mainly of crystalline layers. The limestone bedrock facilitated the development of a karst landscape with remarkable caves (Izvorul Albastru al Izei, Cobasel, Baia lui Schneider). The lakes, situated at 1800-1950m, are another element of landscape present in these mountains: Iezer, Taurile Buhaiescului, Lala Mare, Lala Mica, Stiol.

In Rodnei Mountains National Park there are several areas of special interest, such as: The Scientific Reserve -Pietrosu Mare (3300ha, category I of IUCN.), The Botanical Reserve -Poiana cu narcise (Daffodil Meadow) -in Saca Mountain (5ha, category III of IUCN), The Cave -Izvorul Albastru al Izei (100ha, category IV of IUCN), the Speleological Reserve -Cobasel Cave (1ha, category IV IUCN), The Natural Reserve -Piatra Rea (50ha, category IV IUCN), Mixed Reserve -Izvoarele Mihaiesei (50ha, category IV IUCN), Mixed Reserve -Ineu-Lala (2568ha, category IV IUCN), Natural Reserve -Izvorul Batrana (0.5ha, category IV IUCN).

A variety of plants, more than 1100 species of flowering plants and numerous glacial relics, makes up the flora of the park. There is also an endemic species for The Rodna Mountains: *Lychnis nivalis*.

The fauna is characterised by diversity as well: 295 species of butterflies, trout, grayling, black grouse, capercaillie, golden eagle, chamois, alpine marmot, red deer, roe deer and large carnivores like wolf, brown bear, lynx.



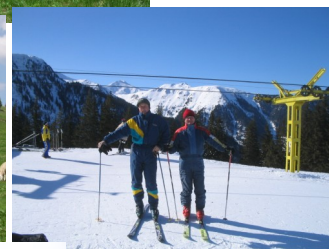
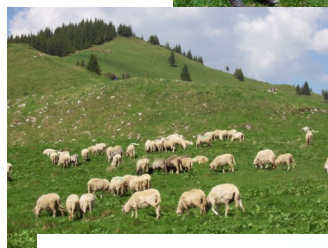
## POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF THE RODNEI MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

Those who are interested, have the possibility to hike on certain mountain routes accompanied by specialised guides, authorised by The Ministry of the Tourism. In this way, tourists are given the opportunity to observe the rich flora, the lake and mountain landscape and the glacial cirques and unique fauna elements.

Winter sports might be the challenge that you prefer and in Rodnei Mountains National Park you actually have the occasion to practise them. There are ski slopes in Borsa and Valea Blaznei.

You could also visit the park on horse-back - there are special programmes which plan such trips. The beauty of the nature can be admired in this way, and places like Poiana Narciselor, Lala Lake, Ineu, Ineut and Rosu Peaks are well worth seeing.

The recommended period for the latter is: July-August.



## ECOLOGICAL ATTITUDE

The major objectives of the park administration are the preservation and conservation of biodiversity, and the education of the public so that the natural and cultural values of the park, as well as their protection, are permanently emphasized.

Please take into consideration the following recommendations:

- the authorisation for the access in Rodnei Mountains National Park can be obtained only from the headquarters in Rodna, and from a sub-division of this centre in Borsa or from the authorised persons.

- the visit in the park is allowed exclusively on the marked paths

- the camping is allowed only in the following places: Tarnita at the Cross, under The Repedea Peak, Puzdra, La Izvoare, Lala Mica, Valea Blaznei, Valea Vinului, Izbucul Izei.

- fire is permitted only in the places especially created for this in camping sites.

- the protection of the flora and fauna is the major responsibility that one has as a visitor of the park; the destruction, the degradation or the collection of any element of flora and fauna are strictly forbidden.

- the garbage collected during the trip is to be transported to the closest place specially designated for this.

- the degradation or destruction of the marking signs or of the information boards are forbidden.

