Conservation of the park's biodiversity is necessary in order to preserve the existing natural and cultural values on the territory of CHEILE NEREI - BEUŞNIŢA NATIONAL PARK. Please respect the visiting rules!













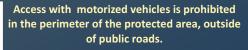












Park your car only in specially designated places.

Drive only on public roads.

Use existing fireplaces. Camp in designated areas within the park grounds or in the surrounding areas.

The destruction of flora, fauna and any natural asset is prohibited under any pretext.

Use the marked tourist hiking trails. Don't go into the woods alone. Noise pollution is prohibited.

Do not feed the wild animals and don't disturb them from their natural environment.

Abandoning waste of any kind on the territory of the park is prohibited. Take your garbage with you and store it in specially arranged places in order to be collected.

Access with pet dogs is allowed only if the dogs are kept on a leash.



This leaflet is made within the project "Improving the state of conservation of species and habitats of conservation interest in Cheile Nerei - Beusnita National Park and the overlapping natural areas of community and national interest by revising the integrated management plan"

PROJECT BUDGET:

Total project value: 20.823.847.20 lei Eligible project value: 20,772,680.20 lei **PROJECT DURATION:** February 2022 - December 2023



What our project is about and what a management plan means:

People have their goals, actions, rules and laws. The same applies to protected areas, except that, in this case, it is called a management plan. A good management plan must combine the conservation and protection of nature with the interests for the development of the local communities.

The purpose of this project is to revise the old management plan, improving it. This means that researchers will go on the field to collect and update the necessary scientific data and recommend what measures should be taken by the authorities for the good of the species and habitats.

In order to attract tourists and create premises for sustainable economic growth, we will highlight the elements of tourist interest in the area through the Nera Gorges Ecotourism Destination and we will promote Cheile Nerei - Beușnița National Park and the overlapping Natura 2000 sites.

Sustainable economic development starts from the fact that all our natural resources are limited. We will use them carefully, so that the generations that come after us can also benefit from them.



The project is co-financed from the European Regional **Development Fund through the Large Infrastructure Operational** Program, 2014-2020

The content of this material does not necessarily represent the official position of the European Union or the Government of Romania.

R.N.P. ROMSILVA - CHEILE NEREI - BEUŞNITA NATIONAL PARK **ADMINISTRATION - RA**

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EXPLORE AND DISCOVER CHEILE NEREI - BEUŞNIŢA NATIONAL PARK

Founded in January 1990, the park is located on the southwestern border of Romania, in Caras-Severin County. Ever since, this small corner of Heaven protects and preserves all its natural and cultural values, unique landscapes, ancestral beech forests listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, meadows of great floristic diversity, containing many rarities of Romania's flora, various species of insects, birds, mammals and fish, numerous waterfalls and lakes, such as Beusnita, La Văioaga, Moceriș, Bigăr, Ochiul Bei Lake and Dracului Lake and, of course, the unmistakable Nera Gorges, a karst area where the Nera River pierced the mountains and led to the creation of the longest gorges in Romania.

There are currently 9 certified pedestrian hiking routes on the territory of Cheile Nerei - Beusnita National Park. We invite you to explore them properly equipped, with care and respect to all the wonders that surround you.

Thank you!











1. Sopotu Nou - Nera Gorges - Podul Beiului - Sasca Română



Length: 24 km **Duration: 9 hours** Difference in level: + 681 m, - 741 m Difficulty degree: medium



This is the main route, the "hiking boulevard" through the Nera Gorges. Squeezed between steep slopes, it closely follows the river. Generally, there are no steep ups or downs, with just two small and short exceptions. In some places, the path is carved into the limestone, forming a sort of a terrace that is secured with cables and requires extra attention. There is one crossing of the river approximately in the middle of the trail (crossing right through the stream), which is not possible at high water. Although it is possible to complete the hiking in one day, an overnight stay in a tent at the Damian Canton or walking the route in several stages is recommended. This way, you can really enjoy the unique wilderness of the Nera Gorges. Intersections with hiking trails no. 3, no. 5, no. 8 and no. 9.

2. Sasca Română - Sasca Montană - Susara Waterfall - Cărbunari



Length: 8 km **Duration: 3 hours** Difference in level: +523 m, -101 m Difficulty degree: medium



You can start from Sasca Română to Sasca Montană by foot, it is just a simple passage over the hill. From the upper end of Sasca Montană village, you enter Cheile Şuşarei (Şuşara Gorges) – an easy walk on the path up to the waterfall. A steeper climb takes you further to Cărbunari karst plateau; from here you have various options to continue or return. Intersections with hiking trails no. 8 and no. 9.

3. Podul Beiului - Ochiul Beiului Lake - Crivina (Anina)



Length: 19km **Duration: 8 hours** Difference in level: +862, -436 m Difficulty degree: medium



From Podul Beiului (Beiului Bridge) follow the forestry road along Beiului Valley - shady, slightly uphill, stopping at Văioaga Waterfall. Passing by the trout farm, you continue to Ochiul Beiului Lake. The small karst lake, as well as the nearby Cascadele Beușniței (Beușniței Waterfalls), accessible through a 20-minute detour from Ochiul Beiului, on the "red cross" path, route 4), are major attractions of Cheile Nerei - Beusnita National Park. Don't go all the way below the falls, the calcareous tuff formation can be easily destroyed! Most tourists only reach Ochiul Beiului, but if you choose to continue, you will ascent barely perceptible (but a long way!) through the endless forests of Beiul Sec Valley, until you reach the higher area of Crivina, near Anina. Intersections with hiking trails no. 1, no. 4 and no. 5.

4. Socolari - Custura Cetății - Beiului Valley -Ochiul Beiului Lake - Beusnita Waterfall



Length: 11km **Duration: 3.5 hours** Difference in level: +400. - 291 m Difficulty degree: medium



This hiking trail is an alternative to the famous Ochiul Beiului Lake and Beusnitei Waterfall or a good way to return from them. The difference from the "classic" trail (no. 3): there is no motorized traffic here. The old cobbled road gently ascents from Socolari to the plateau below the ruins of the fortress. The cliff of the Socolari fortress is well visible; a path "yellow cross" (trail no. 7) splits from our route and climbs the 170 m difference of altitude right to the top (the panorama is exceptional!). Next, the trail smoothly descends to the forestry road on Beiului Valley, approx. 1 km downstream from Ochiul Beiului Lake / Beusnitei Waterfall. Intersections with hiking trail no. 7.

5. Sasca Română - Cărăula Hill - Podul Beiului



Length: 3km **Duration: 1 hour** Difference in level: +181 m, -182 m Difficulty degree: low



The hiking trail starts from the hanging bridge in Sasca Română, on the "red stripe" marking towards Tunele (trail 1, in the opposite direction). When encountering the first limestone cliffs, you notice the "red dot" markings on the left, going uphill through the meadow and the young forest. You soon reach the top plateau of Dealul Cărăula (Cărăula Hill) then descend steeply through the oak forest to the road DJ 571K; you can follow it to the right towards Podul Beiului. The trail is rarely used, but it is useful for access / return from the "La Tunele" area.

Intersections with hiking trails no. 1 and no. 7. 6. Potoc - Chichiregul Mare - Beiului Valley (Văioaga Waterfall)



Length: 3km **Duration: 45 minutes** Difference in level: +63 m, -115 m Difficulty degree: low

Going towards Beiului Bridge on DJ 571K, about 1.8 km after exiting the village of Potoc, you will see the marker on the left side, close to a nearby spring on the left slope. The trail ascents smoothly on the meadow and passes through thickets of Oriental hornbeam and through a forest with many typical thermophilic species. You slowly descend and reach the main forestry road from Beiului Valley, shortly below the "La Văioagă" Waterfall. This interesting trail facilitates the access to Beiului Valley, while keeping off the motorized traffic (hiking trail no. 3). Intersections with hiking trail no. 3.

7. Cărăula Hill - Chichireg Hill - Custura Cetătii -**Socolari Fortress Ruins**



Length: 6.8 km **Duration: 2.5 hours** Difference in level: approx. +360 m, approx. -80 m Difficulty degree: medium



From the bushes of the top plateau of Dealul Cărăula (Cărăula Hill). located above the Nera Gorges, you slowly descend northwards through the oak forest to the road DJ 571K and then follow it - gently uphill - for approx. 1 km. A simple "tractor road" starts to the right and climbs the Dealul Chichireg (Chichireg Hill), then continues mildly uphill over the extensive meadows. Although partly overgrown with bushes and partly overgrazed, these meadows host some rare plants. You slowly approach the large block of limestone on which stand the ruins of the Socolari Fortress ("Beiului Fortress", "Theresia Fortress" etc.) and climb right onto it. This trail can be used for access or return from Ochiul Beiului Lake / Beusnitei Waterfalls. Intersections with hiking trail no. 4.

8. Sasca Română - Camenita Valley -Livezile Cărbunarilor - Poiana Vogiun (Nera Gorges)



Length: 10 km **Duration: 3 hours** Difference in level: 484m / -493m Difficulty degree: medium



The starting point is at the main junction in Sasca Română, going uphill on the main street. You soon enter Camenita Valley and its meadows full of botanical rarities (an old Roman bridge spans over the Camenita valley on the left side of our route, but it is now regrettably hidden by overgrown bushes) then you go up through the mixed forest. Once on the hill, you cross the overgrown clearings of the (former) Livezile Cărbunarilor (Cărbunarilor Tree Orchards). From the plateau, you start the descent to Ulmului Valley, on an old forestry road. Suggestion: this road comes from Poiana Logor, so it is a way of entering the trail from DJ 571B Cărbunari – Stăncilova (see hiking trail no. 9). The descent brings you right in the wilderness of the central part of the Nera Gorges.

Intersections with hiking trails no. 9 and no. 1.

9. Cărbunari - Dracului Lake



Length: 8km **Duration: 3 hours** Difference in level: 0 m, approx. -410 m Degree of difficulty: medium



This hiking trail starts from Poiana Logor - it is the first meadow on the road DJ 571B, between Cărbunari and Stăncilova (on the left). You enter the forestry road, slightly downhill, then continue on the path from Cracu Porcului. When the descent towards Lacul Dracului becomes more pronounced, you will cross the route no. 1, at a point called "La Scaune". You are now deep in the Nera Gorges: for the return you can make a nice circuit by using the trail no. 8: for that you need to go from "La Scaune" on trail no. 1, downwards along the Nera, till you meet the trail no. 8 and follow it upwards. Intersections with hiking trail no. 1 and no. 8.

The list of hiking trails is still being completed, so, in order to access the latest information and find out more details about the trails, please scan the QR code

