

A scenic landscape of a lake in the Rodnei Mountains National Park. The lake is calm, reflecting the surrounding green mountains and the clear blue sky. The sun is shining brightly, creating a shimmering effect on the water's surface. The mountains in the background are rugged and covered in dense green forest. The foreground shows a grassy slope leading down to the water.

RODNEI MOUNTAINS

NATIONAL PARK

BIOSPHERE REZERVE

CONTENTS

map

ion. Access.

stical data

ogy and

morphology

ology and climate

and vegetation

a

ats and ecosystems

al scenery

ry, culture, traditions

community activities

gical conduct

attractions

st information

ral information about

ected areas in Romania

act information



PARK MAP



LOCATION

Rodnei Mountains boost the highest peaks of Eastern Carpathians and they are placed in north of Romania. They belong to the Northern Carpathian group, known as Maramureș and Bucovina Carpathians, and dominate the boundary region, the highest altitude gap being recorded towards Maramureș Depression, which is placed in north of Romania, Eastern Carpathians, counties of Maramureș, Bistrița-Năsăud and Suceava.

This park is the largest one in the north of the Eastern Carpathians and stretches over 46,399 hectares, of which 3,300 hectares have been declared Biosphere Reserve since 1979.

The importance of this protected area relies on geology, geomorphology, and numerous endemic or glacial relics of flora and fauna.



ACCESS

The Trans-Carpathian railway Salva-Vișeu (located westward), and its branch Salva-Rodna (in south) facilitate the access to these mountains from the following localities: Telciu, Romuli, Năsăud, Rebrîșoara, Nepos, Sângeorz-Băi, Anieș and Rodna.

The railway is backed-up by routes that link Transylvania to Maramureș through Șetref Pass or to Moldavia through Rotunda Pass. From north, the access point is Borșa.





GEOLOGY AND GEOMORPHOLOGY

Rodna Mountains appear as a horst of crystalline layers delimited by deep faults: Dragoș Vodă (to north) and Rodna (to south). There are three crystalline layers: Bretila, Repedea and Rebra.

To south, some new volcanic rocks are to be found into the high hills, placed along the Someșul Mare River. Sedimentary rocks (Cretaceous and Paleocene) surrounding the massif have been affected by tectonic movements and stamped the landscape with some particular features.

The mountain chain keeps the best traces of Quaternary glaciers. Glacial landscape is well developed on the northern slope where some glacial cirques can be found (Pietrosu, Buhăiescu, Negoescu and so on).

On the southern slope, the glacial landscape is less impressive: some suspended glacial cirques and snow niches. On south, the limestone bedrock has made up a karst landscape, with some remarkable caves: Izvorul Tăușoarelor, Jgheabul lui Zalion, Baia lui Schneider.



HYDROLOGY

Someșul Mare originates in this massif and gathers all water bodies from south-east, south and west: Cobășel, Baia, Anieș, Cormaia, Rebra, Sălăuța (with Telcișor and Strâmba as tributaries) and so on. The most important rivers of Maramureș Depression (e.g. Vișeu) have their origins on the northern slope. Bistrița Aurie has its origin beneath the Gărgălău Peak and runs towards Moldavia.

Beneath the crest there are 23 small glacial lakes, the most important ones being Iezerul Pietrosului, Tăurile Buhăescului, Lala Mare, Lala Mică, and Știol Lake.



CLIMATE

Baltic influences are apparent in this mountain; due to high altitude the climate is severe.

The annual average temperature is about 7-8°C downhill and negative (-1.5°C) uphill. In January, the temperature averages -3°C downhill, and -9°C uphill respectively. For July, the corresponding figures are 18°C and 7°C respectively.

Rainfall exceeds 1,200-1,300 mm/year.





FLORA AND VEGETATION

More than 1,100 species of flowering plants are to be found in these mountains. Endemic species, typical for this massif are the following ones: *Lychnis nivalis*, *Festuca versicolor* ssp. *dominii*, *Minuartia verna* ssp. *oxypetala*; other species, also endemic but not only for these mountains are *Centaurea carpatica* ssp. *carpatica*, *Centaurea pinnatifida*, *Dianthus tenuifolius*, *Papaver alpinum* ssp. *corona-sancti-stephani*, *Poa granitica* ssp. *disparilis*, *Poa rehmannii*, *Festuca nitida* ssp. *flaccida*, *Trisetum macrotrichum*, *Heracleum carpaticum*, *Heracleum palmatum*.

Some rare species worth being mentioned: *Salix alpina*, *Salix bicolor*, *Astragalus penduliflorus*, *Androsace obtusifolia*, *Laserpitium archangelica*, *Conioselinum tataricum*, *Carex bicolor*, *Carex lachenalii*, *Carex pediformis* ssp. *rhizodes*, *Kobresia simpliciuscula*, *Juncus castaneus*, *Draba fladnitzensis*.

On wetlands some glacial relics are to be found, such as: *Scheuchzeria palustris*, *Carex limosa*, *Carex magellanica* ssp. *irrigua*, *Carex pauciflora*, *Carex chordorrhiza*, *Empetrum nigrum*, *Salix bicolor*.

The following species are being protected under law: edelweiss (*Leontopodium alpinum*), *Gentiana lutea*, *Gentiana punctata*, *Angelica archangelica*, *Nigritella rubra*, yew (*Taxus baccata*).



Pinus cembra (zâmbbru)



Lychnis nivalis (opaitul Muntilor Rodnei)



Polana cu narcise – Masivul Saca



FAUNA



Numerous invertebrates are endemic or relics: 28 species of aquatic worms, 12 species of Lumbricidae, of which *Allolobophora carpatica* is an endemic species for Rodnei and Maramures Mountains. Many species of Collembola have been identified, but the most important one is *Tetrachanthella transylvanica*. Diplopoda are represented by 20 species, of which 9 are endemic species, such as: *Glomeris promineus*, *Polydesmus daday*. As for Chilopoda, 36 species have been identified, of which 6 species are endemic, such as: *Clinopodes rodnensis*, *Lithobius matici*. Orthoptera are represented by 39 species, of which *Isophia brevipennis*, *Pholidoptera transsylvanica* and *Miramella ebneri carpathica* are endemic species. Lepidoptera are represented by 295 species, some of them being internationally protected: *Erebia pharte carpatina*, *Erebia epiphron transsylvanica*, *Erebia sudetica* etc.



Tetrao tetrix (cocorul de mesteacăn)



Marmota marmota (marmota)



Rupicapra rupicapra (capra neagră)

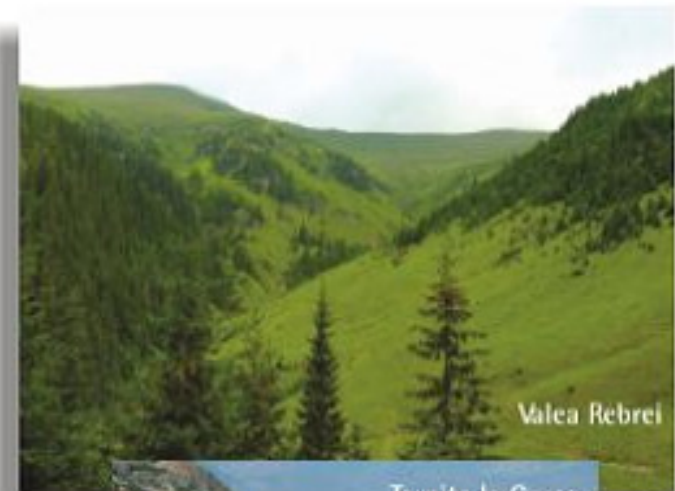
Numerous vertebrates can be found in this park, many of them being characteristic for Eastern Carpathians. Rivers stand for the appropriate habitat for many species of fish, such as: brown trout (*Salmo trutta fario*), grayling (*Thymallus thymallus*) and minnow (*Phoxinus phoxinus*). As for reptiles, worth mentioning is a relic species, the common lizard (*Lacerta vivipara*), which has been pinpointed in specific habitats, while the most representative birds are the black grouse (*Tetrao tetrix*), which breeds just in north-Romanian mountains, capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*), and golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*). Some representative mammals can be found, such as: chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra*), alpine marmot (*Marmota marmota* - introduced in this area), red deer (*Cervus elaphus*), roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*), wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), wolf (*Canis lupus*), lynx (*Lynx lynx*) and pine marten (*Martes martes*).





HABITAS AND ECOSYSTEMS

All mountainous ecosystems can be found, the alpine belt being representative for Romania. Some habitats are well preserved; therefore, the area is rich in endemic species.



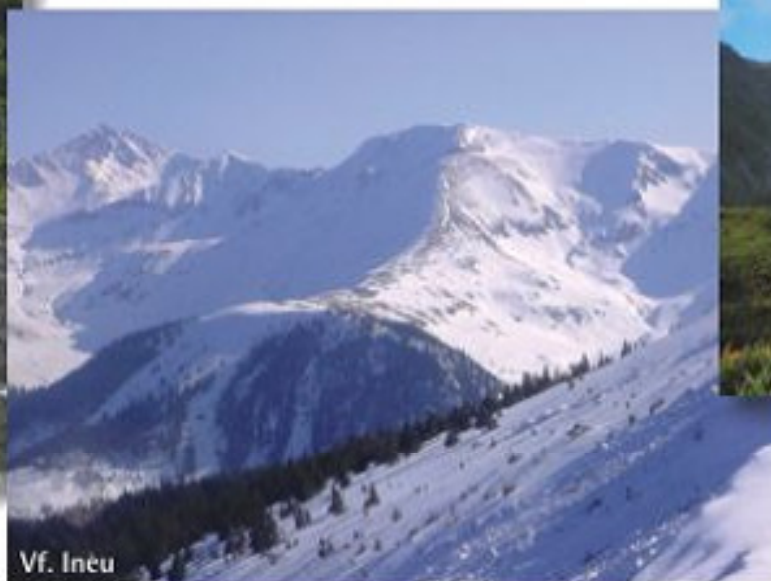
TYPICAL SCENERY

Two bulky mountains are individualized in this park: Ineul and Pietrosul.

The two mountains preserve a typical glacial landscape, contrasting other glacial platforms that can be found on southern ridges.



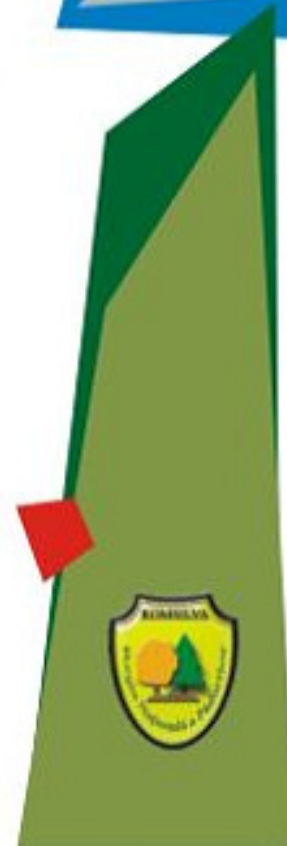
Cascada Cailor



Vf. Ineu



Circul glaciar lezer





HISTORY, CULTURE, TRADITIONS

Most of localities surrounding the park have been testified long time ago, during 13th, 14th and 15th centuries: Rodna, Borșa, Moisei, Năsăud, Rebra and many others. Two important ethnographic areas are to be found: Maramureș in north and Năsăud in south.



Costum popular
specific Văii Someșului



Biserică din lemn
din zona Maramureșului



Vâltoare de pe Valea Pietroasa



Ruinele Cetății Rodna

The former one shows off numerous architectonical items, such as wood churches (some very old), sculptured porches and traditional houses.

In south there are some mineral springs and a health resort (Sângeorz-Băi).



LOCAL COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

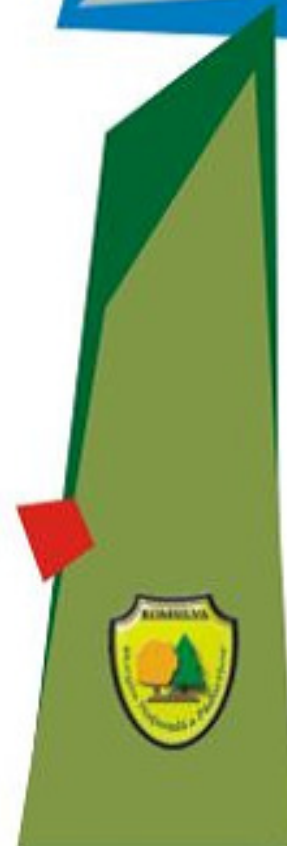
Only a few traditional activities are allowed, as they do not contravene the main managerial goals along with scientific research and eco-tourism, especially.



Păstoritul, activitate specifică



Poartă maramureșană





ECOLOGICAL CONDUCT



LOCAL ATTRACTIONS



Protected areas within the park:

Four protected areas have been gathered in the park: Ineu-Lala (2,568 hectares), Bila-Lala (325.10 hectares), Bătrâna Spring (0.50 hectares) and Pietrosul Mare (3,300 hectares).

Area: 46,399 hectares.



Lacul Iezer



Lacul Lala



Rhododendron kotschyi (smârdar)



TOURIST INFORMATION



GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT PROTECTED AREAS IN ROMANIA



The natural capital of Romania consists of the stock of physical-geographical, fauna and flora components and structures. It supports the life of our society. The conservation and durable use of this capital are considered to be major public interest objectives and hold a priority position within the national strategy for sustainable development.

Apart from the general laws protecting the environment (effective on the entire country's territory), this strategy requires special measures meant to delimitate and protect certain areas that bear a special interest. According to the current legislation (the Government's Emergency Ordinance no.236/2000 and the Law no.462/2001), a **natural protected area** is 'a legally established land, water and/or underground area that is under special regulations of protection and conservation and contains species of plants or wild animals, bio-geographical, landscape, geological, paleontological, speleological or other elements and formations which bear a special ecological, scientific or cultural value.'

The functions of the protected areas are: preserving the biodiversity, monitoring the ecosystems, research, education, recreation, preserving and promoting the customs and the traditional ways of life.

The National Forest Administration ROMSILVA manages 16 protected areas: 10 national parks (Domogled-Valea Cernei, Retezat, Cheile Nerei-Beușnița, Munții Rodnei, Cheile Bicazului-Hășmaș, Călimani, Cozia, Piatra Craiului, Semenic-Cheile Carașului, Munții Măcinului) and 6 natural parks (Porțile de Fier, Apuseni, Bucegi, Grădiștea Muncelului-Cioclovina, Balta Mică a Brăilei, Vânători-Neamț).

The national parks correspond to Category II of the IUCN (World Conservation Union): 'protected area managed mainly for ecosystem conservation and recreation'. The natural parks correspond to Category V of the IUCN: 'protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation'.





Information centers and contacts:

Forest Administration of Maramureș County

Phone: +4 0262 211 963; +4 0262 211 850

www.marasilva.ro