



### 3. Cepașului`s Ridge

Sarmizegetusa – close to Păucinești village – Cepașului`s ridge – forest road  
Hobiței Valley – Hobița-Grădiște – Sarmizegetusa



**Approximate time:** 4 hours

**Distance:** 27 km

**Altitude difference:** approx 970 m

**Suprafață:** asphalt road, gravel road, dirt road

**Grad de dificultate:** difficult

**Problems:**

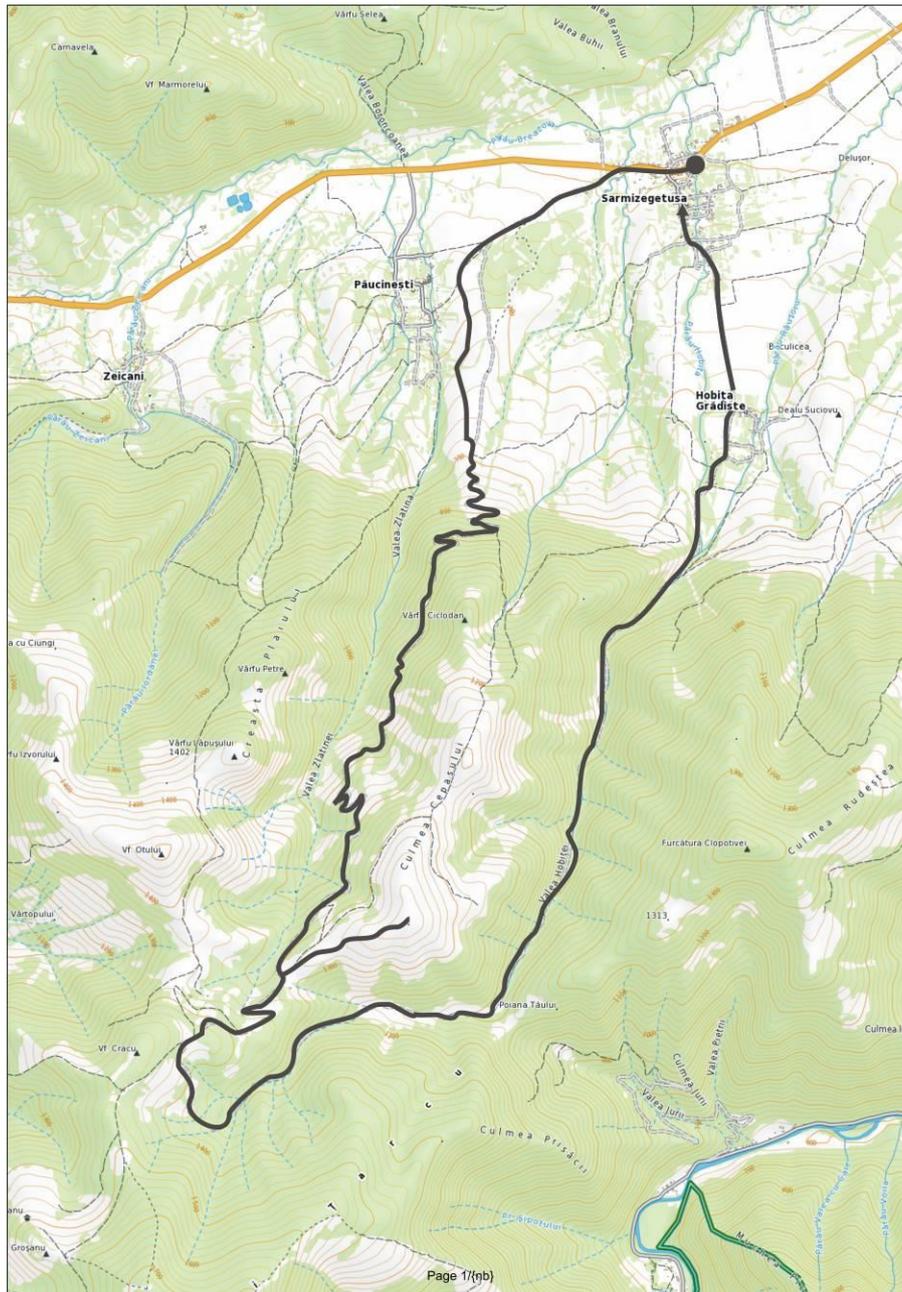
- It is very easy to lose the correct direction at Sarmizegetusa`s exit, so we strongly recommend you to pay attention on this route;
- Climbing is in some places difficult because of the road condition that is affected by the logs exploitation.

**Unique features:**

- The trail reaches high altitudes (1400 m), offering a wonderful panoramic view over Hațeg Country;
- A beautiful and long descending on a forestry road.

From Sarmizegetusa village centre you start cycling towards Caransebeș (opposite to Hațeg) and then turn slightly left on a cobblestone paved road, near the end of the village. Keep going on this road that leaves on the left the Zamolxe guesthouse. From here, go straight ahead for about one kilometre until you enter in a small forest, and then turn left onto a road that will take you up on the rounded ridge of the hill. From here you can see just in front the meandering road climbing up and then disappears in the forest. From here on you need to follow the most frequented road until you exit the forest in the mountain pastures. Once arrived here, we can climb to the peak from the left on which an antenna is set. Once up, we can enjoy a stunning panoramic view of Hațeg Depression, Poiana Ruscă Mountains and Retezat Massif.

We enjoy a beautiful descent back to the point where we exit the forest and we keep going straight ahead, climbing easily, and leaving on the right the road on which we climbed from the valley. Then follow a few serpentines and immediately reach a crossroads where we follow the road to the left. Firstly, the road ascends and then descends to the valley. From here, you simply have to go along the valley for a few kilometres until you reach Hobița-Grădiște. Continue on an asphalt road to Sarmizegetusa.



Visit the website [www.eco-romania.ro](http://www.eco-romania.ro) or [www.turismretezat.ro](http://www.turismretezat.ro) to download its GPS track.  
For a better orientation in the field we recommend you to use "Țara Hațegului - Retezat" map, available in many locations at destination's level and on the web sites [www.eco-romania.ro](http://www.eco-romania.ro) and [www.zenithmaps.com](http://www.zenithmaps.com)