



## 7. Poieni

Sarmizegetusa – Poieni – Criva Valley – Densuș – Peșteana – Breazova – Sarmizegetusa



**Approximate time:** 4 hours

**Distance:** 29,1 km

**Altitude difference:** approx. 300 m

**Surface:** asphalt road, gravel road, dirt road, path;

**Difficulty level:** medium

**Problems:**

- The descending road to Poieni is less visible because it is not used anymore; in the section before reaching Poieni village the road turns into a path and fallen trees will slow your descending;
- You will have orientation problems between Sarmizegetusa and Poieni; as a rule, always follow the most used dirt road, always climbing up to a large clearing when you start descending.

**Unique feature:**

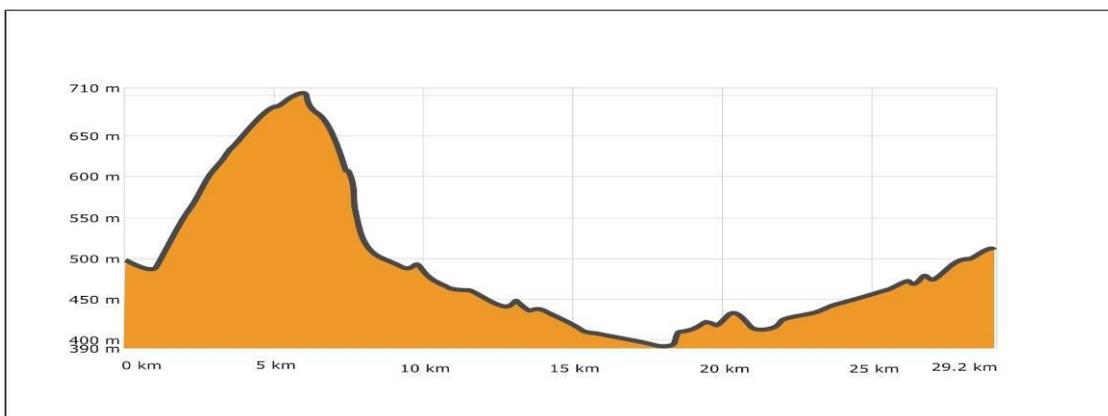
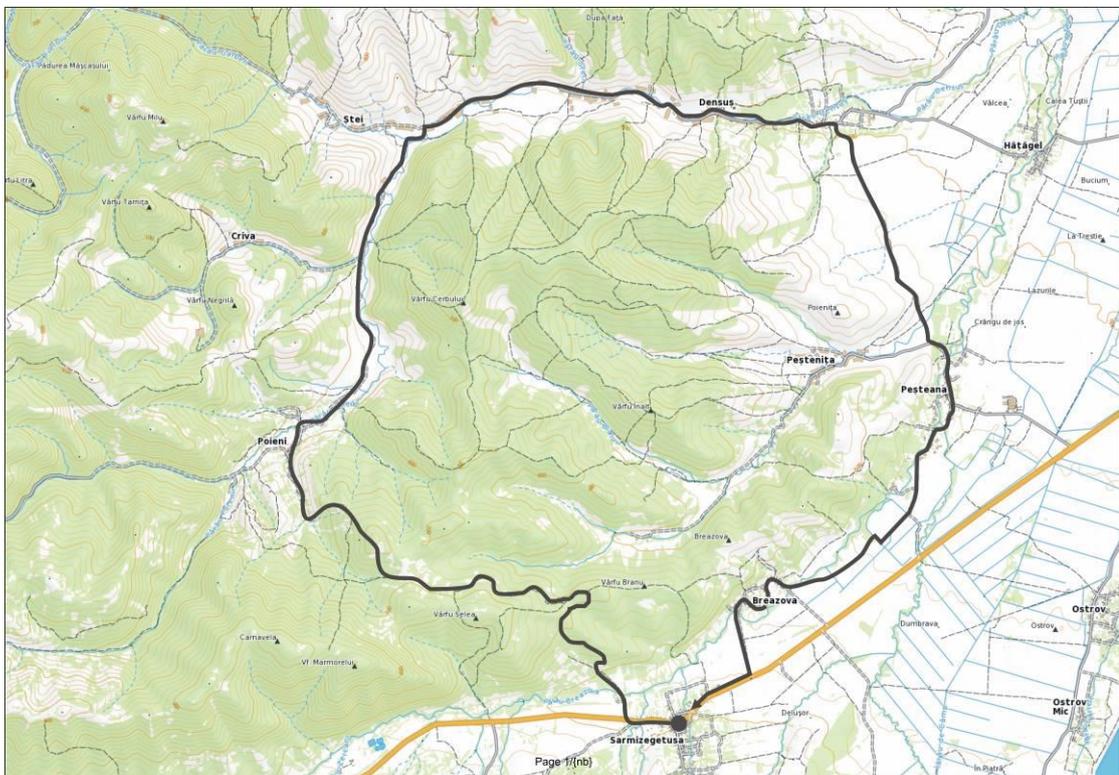
- Medieval churches in Densuș and Peșteana, reformed church in Peșteana, Hațegan Village Museum, Volcanoes Valley.

From Sarmizegetusa village centre you start cycling towards Caransebes (opposite to Hațeg). Just at the exit from the village turn right onto a gravel road. Keep going straight ahead on it, while passing other roads coming from the right and from the left. Not long after this the road enters in the forest and begins to climb. In the forest there will be even more crossroads, but you always have to follow the most visible used route, or the road with the deepest tracks. Continue climbing until you reach a large clearing where the road branches into several directions. You need to follow the road to the right that continues through the clearing, it enters in the forest and then begins to slowly descend. The road continues through a dense forest being less visible on a few segments; you might also find fallen trees on the road, while on the second part of the descent the road will turn into a footpath. At the exit from the forest you will have already seen down in the valley the first households in Poieni. Here the road disappears completely, so you will have to use one of the many paths used by animals in order to reach the valley. Once down, continue to the first crossroads and turn right on the asphalt road. Follow the asphalt road to Ștei, and there turn right towards Densuș. From place to place you will see information boards about site geology and especially about volcanoes that were in this area, more than 65 million years ago. In the centre of Densuș you can visit the medieval church.

From the village centre the route continues downhill and turns right on the first asphalt road. Go up and down the hill that separates the two valleys and at the next crossroads turn left and enter in Peșteana. Here you can visit the medieval church, the Hategan Village Museum or the reformed church.

Cross the village and go straight ahead without turning left towards the national road. At the exit of the village the asphalt area ends and a gravel road begins. Keep biking on it up to a 90 degree curve to the left where you follow the dirt road that continues straight ahead, bordering the cultivated land.

Following the road, it makes two bends; one to the right and the next one to the left and not long after the last curve there will be a path to the right. At 10 meters distance after entering on this path the road turns strongly to the left and exits in DN. Continue on the path on the river's banks until you reach Breazova. Here turn right, cross the village and enter on the gravel road that continues several hundred meters up it gets in DN. At the crossroad with DN turn right and in a few minutes you arrive in Sarmizegetusa.



Visit the website [www.eco-romania.ro](http://www.eco-romania.ro) or [www.turismrezezat.ro](http://www.turismrezezat.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)