

The PRIDE 2 project follows the successful delivery of PRIDE in 2016-17. As before around 15 European countries offer a number of pre-agreed ‘structured training courses’ (STC’s) to adult education staff from Grampus’s UK-based consortium of 15 partners involved in rural sustainability. PRIDE 2 embraces “Green Village” (an earlier “Leonardo da Vinci” project) principles of environmental, cultural, social and economic sustainability in the countryside.

**Romania -
Restoration of a fruit orchard with traditional varieties.
17th to 24th March 2020 (6 spaces)**



Introduction.

The Satul Verde Association in beautiful Transylvania have worked with Grampus for 10 years now. Their mission is to rescue and promote traditional skills in the rural landscape and assist villagers to survive in the 21st century, with something of the rich cultural past still in place. The Association is involved with grazers and fruit tree producers and seeks to re-instate agricultural systems that allow for grazing with cattle and sheep but also give crops of fruit and firewood (as a by-product). We will be restoring such a fruit orchard for fruit, hay and firewood production into the future. Such orchards are favoured also by many butterflies and a number of birds, including raptors, hoopoes, golden orioles and rollers

DAY ONE:

Early morning arrival in Cluj Napoca, transfer to hotel accommodation in Cimbrud near Aiud in Alba County.

DAY TWO:

You arrived very late, so a late breakfast. At 11 AM, visit the fruit tree producers in nearby Aiud. See the various types of grafting being carried out on traditional fruit varieties. Lunch in the town before visiting a commercial producer, whose roses, shrubs and trees are sold through global supermarket chains like Dedeman. Return to the hotel for rest, discussions and dinner/

DAY THREE:

After an earlier breakfast, travel (30 mins) to the village of Gârbovița. Visit the orchard to be restored, looking at pruning, felling and re-planting regime/ plan. Discussions and allocation of tasks. Begin work, some will fell trees (we have trained chainsaw operators available - but may need more), sned, prune, cut woody scrub and bushes. Arisings are sorted into logs and some small wood is bundled into faggots. Picnic lunch in the orchard./

DAY FOUR:

A second busy working day, cutting and clearing, we now identify spaces for new fruit trees, we discuss objectives for fruit production, what varieties, protection from deer and wild boar. We have a picnic lunch (weather allowing) and discuss life in a typical Transylvanian village, in the past and present day. Evening meal at the farm before returning to Cimbrud

DAY FIVE (Saturday):

In the morning, we finish our restoration tasks and have lunch at the farm. In the afternoon, we visit the forest, vine yard, church and meadows, where we focus on wildlife, especially flowers, insects and birds. We see the fencing without wire, which is still a successful way of protecting crops and gives the village a medieval feel. Dinner is in Aiud.

DAY SIX (Sunday):

Not a working day in Christian Orthodox Romania, so we plan a trip to the medieval city of Sibiu, visiting the market, Astra Village Museum and the walled city. Lunch is a picnic in the village museum meadows and woodlands. Return to Aiud for dinner

DAY SEVEN:

An early start to choose our new fruit trees from the Aiud nursery. We might also re-visit the grafting process if somebody wants to have a go. By late morning we should be on the site of the now restored orchard. We see a sample planting by the farmer before our picnic lunch. In the afternoon, we plant the (20 or more) replacement trees, considering micro-site, hydrology, weeds, grazing animals and appropriate protection.

DAY EIGHT:

Departure day but with time to visit Cluj Napoca with its medieval cathedral and great architecture with Neo-Classical and Art Deco highlights. Time also for shopping and the pavement cafes and parks. Departure from Cluj Napoca airport.



Host details: The Satul Verde Association / Mrs Monica Oprean

Flights: Return flights with Wizzair from Doncaster/Sheffield

17th March 2020

Doncaster/Sheffield 22:05 – Cluj-Napoca 02:55 (W6 3314)

24th March 2020

Cluj-Napoca 20:20 –Doncaster/Sheffield 21:35 (W6 3313)

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