

Bucharest, September 05, 2017

Limit breaking at CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC, an amazing adventure into the wilds

*Last call for registrations:
book your place until September 15 and take the challenge!*

September comes with an incredible challenge for passionate riders, eager to push their limits to the edge! CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC, the newest stage race in the worldwide calendar, offers 157 km of riding and 5,750 m of climbing in the heart of one of the last genuinely wild regions in Europe. The 4-day event is scheduled for September 21-24, 2017, and is expecting more than 100 riders to arrive in the Race Village set at Cheile Grădiștei – Fundata Resort, in Brasov County, Romania. It's *Wild*, it's *Rugged* and it's *EPIC*.

CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC, organized by [MPG](#) Romania, challenges internationally ranked professional MTB cyclists alongside experienced as well as aspiring, avid community riders to test their skills and satisfy their desire for amazing experiences. The competition is all about self challenge and experiencing the most EPIC tracks, set in the heart of the Carpathian Mountains.

Whether you choose to take on the **4-day EPIC**, starting with the Prologue on the **21st of September**, or immerse yourself in the authentic **1-day Challenge** on the **24th of September**, the organizers promise to excite you with some amazing experiences. Green and cooling valleys, stunning peaks revealing breathtaking views and natural monuments like Babele and the Sphinx guarding the mountain plateau are waiting for those who are ready to live the new adventure. The Carpathian Mountains will challenge you and the only way to respond is to fight back, ride strong and push ahead on your journey of self-discovery!

Dozens of top riders from France, Germany, United Kingdom, Finland, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria and Republic of Moldova but also from other parts of the world, like Uganda, are waiting to take on the challenge of the 4-day EPIC. The presence of several national and Balkan MTB champions sets a high-level of competition for the first edition of the **CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC**.

"My favourite ride is made of a mix of flowy and technical single track with reasonable gradients in uphill. I consider the stage races with qualitative 50 km/day as the MTB Graal. That's why I will race the first edition of CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC! ", said very enthusiastically Frédéric Gombert, which won the title of the French XC Marathon Championship in 2016.

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The female gender is well represented by some ambitious riders. Originating from Bulgaria, Aneliya Karagyozyan, the holder of the 2017 Bulgarian National XCO champion title, confessed to us that: *"What helps me during my cycling activities... I think the will to evolve, to become better and to achieve more every day, to do things and develop ideas into reality. So, I was excited when I read about the race! When I saw the pictures, I was enchanted by the picturesque views and magnificent mountains. I think this will be my favourite part of the race: the sceneries!"*.

Others are more focused on the journey of discovering new lands and living some incredible escapades into the wilds.

"CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC is an incredible chance to explore a country I've not known for cycling - the rugged, natural, mountainous nature of the trails sound fantastic and the limited amount of tarmac road is great. What makes it so easy is the full-service nature of the event, meaning it's easy to just turn up and ride and know that everything is taken care of. For me, the equality in the prizes are also hugely positive. From riding friends that have seen the race, it's really appealed as it's a destination they had never considered before", stated Catriona Sutherland, a passionate MTB rider and guide from UK, also writer for several online and printed cycling magazines.

The efforts of the fastest riders to conquer the Carpathians in this spectacular stage race will be rewarded with a generous [prize pool](#) of **12,540 Euro** and products whose total value reaches an estimated amount of **30,000 Euros**.

At the Start line a few Romanian champions like Vlad Dascalu, Lucian Logigan, Robert Dobai and Daniel Crista are also expected.

After racing the Absa Cape Epic this year, Lucian Logigan is ready for a new challenge. *"I am really excited to race at the first edition of this stage race. It is a new event in Romania and the region we will explore is particularly beautiful. It will be a difficult competition from both a technical point of view and the conditions of riding at very high altitudes. Even if Africa's stage race is considered more difficult, with higher vertical climbs and longer distances, CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC poses a greater challenge as we will be reaching higher altitudes during the 4-day race."*, appreciated Lucian Logigan, who already owns the Balkan XCO champion title and won the Romanian XCO Championship last year.

Robert Dobai, who won the title of the Romanian MTB Marathon Championship last year, thinks that the beauty of the routes worths every effort: *"If a race creates intense, pleasant sensations or I can learn something about sports or myself, then it deserved the effort"*

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to be there. Also, for me... if the route is fine and I manage to get a performance that satisfies me personally, the official result counts very little in those conditions".

"A MTB race is first and foremost a struggle with yourself, there is no peloton like in the road races and you must always be motivated. This September stage race is really special and it will certainly be an epic one with all those incredible landscapes, and I hope that more people will join us, the Elite riders, and enjoy everything this event has to offer", believes Daniel Crista, who won the first place at the Romanian XCM Championship in 2015.

CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC is designed as a SOLO full-service MTB stage race, the only one of this kind in Romania. The event will set camp at Cheile Grădiștei – Fundata Resort, in Brasov County, a pleasant 3 hours drive from Bucharest, the Capital of the country. The MPG Romania team is dedicated to offer to all contestants a seamless and worry-free ride with a high quality „eat, sleep & ride” race pack which covers everything from 3* accommodations in the Olympic-level Race Village to nutrition and meal plans, complete race services on site and on course and top it all over with hours of pleasant relaxation and great entertainment programme.

If you are determined to take the challenge at **CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC** - www.carpathianmtb.ro – than you must hurry up to reserve your place at the Start until **September 15**, the latest!

CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC will have a broad promotion campaign that will include live broadcasts on various TV stations - Pro TV and Sport.ro - and radio, as well as advertisements in printed and online publications as well as social media. The riders' performance will be monitored both by the media and the viewers from all over the country. Each person will have the opportunity to find all the information about the event in real time, checking the [event's social page](#) and on the [Riders Club official Facebook page](#) and feel the excitement of the competition.

We benefit from the confidence and support given to this edition of the competition by **Banca Transilvania** and **Gatorade**, the Official Sponsors of the event, together with the Official Suppliers and Partners Kaufland X-trem, BOSCH, GoldNutrition, World Class, SUUNTO and Grădiștei Gorge. **CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC** is sustained by the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Waters and Forests, Romsilva, National Administrations of Piatra Craiului National Park and of Bucegi Natural Park, Romanian Cycling Federation, City Hall of Sinaia, Brasov County Council and the Carpatica Convention – Romanian Center, as well as by the Official Supporters: Tuborg and Krönenbourg 1664 Blanc, Mio Technology, Bicycle

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About the CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC:

The mission of MPG Romania team - www.mpg.com.ro – at **CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC 2017** is to help riders focus on the competition and enjoy the experience on the routes and in the Race Village to its fullest!

The **4-day EPIC** includes a Prologue, which is an optional qualifying race, and 3 daily stages. The Prologue held on Thursday, September 21st, is an XCO-type qualifying race, only 6 km long, whose results will be used to determine the competitors order at the Start line for the 1st stage. Each of the 3 stages is run on a distinct cycling route:

- **Stage 1 on Friday, the 22nd of September – 58 km, with 2,140 m of climbing**, with Start line in Sinaia city and Finish line in the Race Village, Cheile Grădiștei – Fundata Resort, Brasov County;
- **Stage 2 on Saturday, the 23rd of September – 54 km, with 1,830 m of climbing**, with Start/Finish in Race Village, Cheile Grădiștei – Fundata Resort, Brasov County;
- **Stage 3 on Sunday, the 24th of September – 45 km, with 1,780 m of climbing**, with Start/Finish in Race Village, Cheile Grădiștei – Fundata Resort, Brasov County.

Each competitor will have a comprehensive set of high quality services and benefits, including: race entry, number and timing chip from MyLaps; a cycling jersey with a special design - **CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC 2017** edition; accommodation, breakfast, recovery meal, dinner & acces to all themed parties and a farewell lunch in the last day of the contest; feeding and hydration points at the Start/Finish area and on routes with water, isotonic beverage, fruits and other energy foods; storage facilities & locker rooms; bicycle technical services, as well as medical and emergency services both in the Race Village and on the routes; bike wash; transport from the Race Village to the Start line in Sinaia, in the first stage on the 22nd of September; Finisher metal medal, with an original design, at the end of every stage. All standard benefits and additional options, such as bike pick-up & care after crossing the Finish line of each stage, premium technical services or a relaxing massage, which can be included in the competition package, are fully detailed on the official competition page, in the

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[Experience](#) section. Moreover, there are many surprises and activities accessible to all participants in the Race Village.

The [1-day Challenge](#) takes place on **the 24th of September** on the same course as the 3rd Stage of the 4-day EPIC event. It is a 45 kilometers race offering the chance to all aspiring riders, who are not ready to embrace the EPIC 4-day journey, a great entry point to this amazing experience, in a condensed package. All the details about the event are provided on the official page, available in English and Romanian: www.carpathianmtb.ro.

Book your place and get ready for a unique experience at **CARPATHIAN MTB EPIC!**

Contacts:

*For technical information about the event and races, please contact us through the special form on the official page of the event at the Contact section, click [here](#). The media representatives' accreditations for getting access to this event and in the Race Village, at Cheile Gradistei – Fundata, Brasov County, Romania, are submitted online by filling in the special form on the official page of the race in the Press section, click [here](#). For topics exclusively related to **Communication & Promotion**, please write to elena.vavilov@mpq.com.ro, media@mpq.com.ro and alecsandra@tudor-communication.ro.*
