

Bucharest, August 11, 2018

# Cyclists from 25 countries will compete in Carpathian MTB Epic 2018

The 2nd edition of the event, an UCI S2 competition, will be organized during August 16-19, 2018, at Cheile Gradistei - Fundata, Romania

Mountain bike stars, European and national champions, international cycling legends and passionate riders are joining the 2nd edition of Carpathian MTB Epic in an attempt to conquer the Romanian mountains! The multi-stage mountain bike competition, accredited by UCI, will introduce the participants in the amazing untamed lands of Central Carpathians and into the great atmosphere at Cheile Gradistei - Fundata!

There are only a few days left until the Race Village of **Carpathian MTB Epic 2018**, organized by **MPG Romania**, will vibrate by hundreds of voices and will be filled with the participants' enthusiasm while waiting for the Start of the race. The first multi-stage event from Romania registered in the UCI international calendar, as an <u>S2 category event</u>, will be held during **August 16-19** at Cheile Gradistei - Fundata, an Olympic-level resort in the Transylvanian "Alps", in Brasov County.

Many famous and passionate cyclists will compete in the 4-day EPIC race, from European to world champions, coming from 25 countries. We are proud to welcome our Event Ambassadors: **Ariane Lüthi**, who has won the podium of some of the world's toughest international mountain bike competitions, such as Absa Cape Epic, where she has been 5 times champion; **Frans Claes**, number 1 in the UCI World Series Marathon 2017; and **Vitor Gamito**, an Olympic athlete, winner of the MTB Tour of Portugal and a GoldNutrition Ambassador.

The competition is announcing to be even more tougher at its 2nd edition, among the international and national champions being the following: Janka Keseg Števková (Slovakia), the winner of the first edition of **Carpathian MTB Epic**, Márton Blazsó (Hungary), who won the 3rd place last year at 4-day EPIC during this contest, Hans Comyn, as an Event Ambassador (Belgium), Gustav Larsson (Sweden), who was awarded two Silver medals at the Beijing Olympics in 2008 and at the World Championships in 2009, Lejla Tanović and Ivan Širić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Peeter Pruus (Estonia), Katazina Sosna (Lithuania), Riccardo Chiarini (Italy), Cory Wallace (Canada), Jovana Crnogorac (Serbia), Celina Carpinteiro (Portugal), Andrea Juhásová and Martin Haring (Slovakia), Ramses Bekkenk (The Netherlands), Veronika Cseh, Andras Parti and Regina Schmidel (Hungary), Frédéric Gombert (France), Miguel Angel Garcia Marti (Spain),





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Europe's Ultramarathon MTB winner - Master 50, Pirmin Eisenbarth, Daniel Gathof, Jakob Hartmann and Pirmin Sigel (Germany), Wolfgang Krenn (Austria) etc. Among the Romanian Elite cyclists accepting the challenge of the foreign competitors are the following: Lucian Logigan, Alexandru Stancu, Bogdan Duca, Marius Stancu, Attila Malnasi, Ede Molnar, Daniel Bostan, Raul Sinza, Roberto Burta, Tudor Oprea, Robert Dobai Joltvinschi and Paul-Sebastian Muntean.

**Carpathian MTB Epic 2018** is open to both professional and amateur cyclists, offering two options to compete:

- <u>4-day EPIC</u> includes a Prologue and 3 daily stages. The Prologue, which will take place on Thursday, August 16, is an XCT race of 11 km. The 3 stages, organized between 17th and 19th August 2018, have an XCM format and each will take place on a distinct route, with an individual distance of 60 km, and all having the Start/Finish set at Cheile Gradistei Fundata Resort. The cummulative elevation gain of the 3 stages is 8,500 m.
- <u>1-day Challenge</u> takes place on August 19 and, as a novelty to the first edition, proposes a shorter route of only 40 km, specially designed to provide amateur riders, who haven't yet reached the level of training required for the 4-day EPIC, the occasion to enjoy an authentic MTB experience in a top international competition.

The Elite cyclists attending this event will have the chance to win **80 UCI MTB XCO points**. The multi-stage competition from the Carpathian Mountains is a full-service event – *"eat, ride and sleep"*, offering all participants a challenging experience, top standards, services and an impecable event organization. <u>The prizes</u> awarded at **Carpathian MTB Epic 2018** include trophies, medals, flowers and money, plus special prizes from sponsors. **The total amount of the prize money pool is 15,480 Euro**.

MPG Romania team pays special attention to the sport atmosphere, planning to offer a jolly and friendly environment during the 4 race days and to promote the local culture and hospitality. A lot of surprizes await the foreign and local guests during the traditional dinners, including the Count Dracula's special evening!

All the details about the event are available on the official webpage <u>www.carpathianmtb.ro</u> and the event schedule is presented <u>here</u>.

**Carpathian MTB Epic 2018** benefits from the confidence and support given by **Banca Transilvania** and **Gatorade**, the Official Sponsors of the event, along with the following Official Suppliers and Partners: BOSCH, GoldNutrition, Profructta, Tractalis and Cheile Gradistei – Fundata Resort. The event also enjoys the support of the following partners: the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Tourism, Romsilva and the National Administrations of the





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Piatra Craiului National Park and Bucegi Natural Park, Salvamont Romania, Romanian Cycling Federation, Brasov County Council, Carpatica Convention – Romanian Center and the Foundation Conservation Carpathia. Other event supporters are: CANAH, Mitsubishi - Tiriac Auto, Kronenbourg 1664 Blanc, Expotehnica, La Vitta, Domeniile Urlati, Zimbria, Torockoi, Legume Fericite, Barilla, Eisberg, Organic India, Terapie pentru Miscare, Papercups.ro, ROMDIST Packaging, Bicycle Ambulance - AmBike, Wild Romania, NTD Film, Bio-natur.ro and Mainfreight. We can always rely on the help offered by the Media Partners that are giving us important support in broadcasting and publishing the information: Radio GUERRILLA, FreeRider.ro, Prima TV, TVR, International Mountainbike Magazine – IMB, Biciclistul.ro, Transilvania365, RomaniaPozitiva.ro, Ireporter.ro, Bike FM, BikeEvents.ro and SportsPlanner.com.

News and information are communicated on the new social media pages <u>Facebook Carpathian</u> <u>MTB Epic</u> and <u>Instagram Carpathian MTB Epic</u>, where Likes and Shares are much appreciated. **During the event, we invite you to watch LIVE transmissions on: <u>Youtube Carpathian MTB Epic</u> <u>Romania</u> and <u>Facebook Carpathian MTB Epic</u></u>. We are waiting for you to enjoy this Wild, Rugged and EPIC adventure!** 

### Contacts:

Technical information is available by submitting the special form -> Contact, click <u>here</u>. Media accreditation can be obtained by submitting the special form -> Press, click <u>here</u>. Communication & promotion: Elena Vavilov, PR Manager Carpathian MTB Epic: +40 725 925 328, +40 740 050 906, <u>elena.vavilov@mpq.com.ro</u> or <u>media@mpq.com.ro</u>.

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### About MPG Romania:

Media Production Group (MPG) is the largest independent investor in recreational sports events in Romania. The company coordinates over 700 events every year, held in 70 cities of Romania, Bulgaria and The Republic of Moldova. MPG coordinates 5 Sport & Entertainment projects, offering participants unique and memorable *Sportainment* experiences: Riders Club -<u>www.ridersclub.ro</u> - MTB competitions; RUNFEST - <u>www.runfest.ro</u> - road and trail running events; Tenis Partener - <u>www.tenispartener.ro</u>, Tenis10 - <u>www.tenis10.ro</u>; Romanian Corporate Sports - <u>www.corporatesports.ro</u>. The newest event in the calendar is **Carpathian MTB Epic**, launched in 2017, a multi-stage full-service competition, with a special format -<u>www.carpathianmtb.ro</u>. Over the past 10 years, MPG has implemented more than 5,000 sport events and launched communication campaigns with the specialized media. More details about MPG: www.mpg.com.ro.

