







Welcome to WeWilder Campus CREATING POSSIBILITY & PROSPERITY WHERE BISON ROAM FREELY

Armeniş, Romania. At the foothills of Țarcu Mountains, we are building up a nature friendly society close to the wild, triggered by our work to rewild bison and protect wilderness.

We work with wildlife and locals in 4 mountain villages to develop the local economy while restoring wild nature for generations to come.



# The area

The Tarcu Mountains are part of the Southern Carpathians, a mountain chain covering over 1.4 million ha, one of Europe's most valuable areas for maintaining and extending wilderness. It is almost entirely covered by an extensive network of protected areas of different IUCN categories and Natura 2000 sites, having large areas of relatively intact landscapes. The Tarcu Mountains are interconnected with 5 national and natural parks, together forming one of Europe's last wilderness strongholds. There are few truly wild areas remaining in our highly developed continent, yet they represent an invaluable part of Europe's natural heritage. Covering a large variety of landscapes and habitats, these areas are sometimes the last refuge for some of Europe's flagship species and most representative landscapes. They are also a unique opportunity for a new economic model to develop, with more benefits to reach the local communities that safeguard them.

## Highlights in 10 years in the Tarcu Mountains

- 190+ free roaming bison;
- WeWilder is **WWF's first social enterprise** cooperative, globally;
- 40 families are suppliers of local goods;
- 8 full time local employees & 20+ local freelancers;
- €220,000 spent on local products and services since 2020;
- Community conservation fund established; 10% of revenues return to nature
- 6 local businesses in ecotourism incubated and 3 joint ventures with local community members;

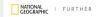
#### <u>The Guardian</u>



#### CNN Great Big Story



#### National Geographic



WeWilder: campus de co-working la Armeniș

🗢 septembrie 23, 2020 🛔 Domnica Macri 🔅 Locuri și cameri din România 💬 0



#### **Designboom**





wood + shingle tiny hut built by romanian volunteers encourages locals to immerse in nature

#### EU Mies Award



#### The Economist



An ancient beast returns to Transylvania

Invironmentalists in Romania are bringing back the European bison

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# vs. our 10% for the planet

10% of revenues funding local conservation missions

In 2023, we started the Young Trackers' Academy a weekly afterschool programme training 30 youth from Armeniș as citizen scientists, featured on National TV

In 2024, the Young Trackers continues with a pilot project for biodiversity monitoring in their family farms

In 2025 we aim to start a "Model UN" (*parliament of wildlife*) where kids represent life forms in local decision making

WEWILDER COMMUNITY CONSERVATION LEVY

## WEWILDER CAMPUS & community hub

Here WWF Romania & community members are growing eco friendly initiatives, host learning experiences and retreats for teams or groups. It was built entirely out of wood by 333 people and companies, using sustainable technologies and paying compliments to artisanal wood techniques.







Modern comfort close to nature, to reflect and connect with your fellow travelers and locals





## Enjoy farm-to-table culinary experiences and craft drinks









We co-manage a distributed network of huts & cabins owned by different locals, So that we extend the benefits from nature based tourism to the community at large.



## ȚARCU, DOMOGLED & SEMENIC HUTS

3 cabins with twin beds











## MuMA HUT

Award winning cabin with two twin beds











## SUB MAGRIN STONE HOUSE

2 rooms with king size beds











## PEASANT FARMHOUSE

1 room with 2 twin beds 2 double bedrooms 1 double sofa bed

Sauna & hot tub









Immerse in the SW Carpathian wilderness, on the tracks of free roaming bison with WWF specialised wilderness guides & trackers (group of 8)

Connect to South Western Carpathian Landscape through a fine dining experience dedicated to this region's national and nature parks with Chef Noemi Hugel

Connect with the regions' terroir and learn alongside the community It is part of our ethos to engage with the local community and immerse in their way of life. Take part in a seasonal community learning experience, dedicated to cheesemaking with the Plăieșu family.

Duration: 3 hours

# Amenities

Here is some useful information about what you will find here:

- WeWilder Campus has one main workshop & eating area, a break-out area with a extensive library dedicated to sustainability and plenty of outdoor space with an incredible view;
- Artisan coffee on the La Marzocco artisanal machine;
- The rooms in all the campus huts sleep two people. They can be arranged in a double bed or twin set-up, upon request; Village houses all have king size double beds;
- Electricity, heating and hot water in all facilities
- The main building offers 4G wifi internet; you also have full reception on any mobile network;
- Duvets, pillows, bed linen and towels;
- Ecological soap and shampoo, tooth paste;
- Fridge and an electric kettle;
- Workshop tools: flipchart, facilitation kit with the best markers and post-its.

For any health emergencies, there is a permanent clinic in nearby village of Slatina Timiș and non-stop pharmacy in Caransebeș

# WeWilder practices

There are certain practices we like to abide to for a more sustainable living:

- Try to avoid single use plastic, we recommend bringing a reusable water bottle with you; in our main building there is unlimited filtered water for you to replenish your bottle;
- Please separate trash in dry recyclables (plastic, paper, metal), organic and general waste;
- Use only ecological soap and shampoo (we are offering handmade soaps from the region) and our cleaning products are also natural, purchased in bulk from the zero waste store;
- Don't throw away your toilet paper in the toilet, put it in the basket nearby; Our water filtration system is producing greywater that replenishes the groundwater;
- Try not to enter the huts with muddy or with wet shoes, to make cleaning take less water and soap. You can leave them on the rug outside, or of its raining bring them in by the door;
- For those goodies we cannot source from local suppliers (like soaps, coffee, wine and beer), we work with small craft makers from the region; we encourage you not to bring your own drinks form mainstream produces so you too can contribute to the local, circular, artisanal and small scale economy;

We walk the talk and prioritise sustainable choices wherever possible.

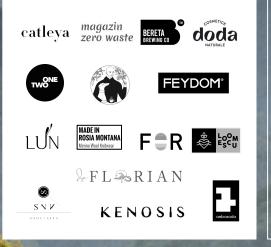
#### A long journey to zero waste

We collect our recyclable waste separately and make compost from our food waste.

We are on a long journey to zero waste and have started with removing single-use plastic and single-use packaging from our operations.

## Natural cosmetics and cleaning products

We supply zero plastic natural soap, shampoo and toothpaste, and our cleaning products are also natural, purchased in bulk from the zero waste store. Our waste water system is replenishing groundwater with greywater.



# An ecosystem of small artisanal producers

For those goods we are unable to source from local villagers (soaps, coffee, wine and beer), we work with small craft makers from the region, encouraging and supporting each other on the journey towards a positive impact on nature.

## Showcase for eco-design

Our choice of furniture, lighting, textiles, plates and cups, books, and building solutions are speaking for handcraft, long-life objects, natural materials, multi-functional design, upcycling, reviving local manufacturing and short supply chains.

# What to bring

When it comes to packing for nature experiences, taking the minimum is always a challenge, but recommended!

Here are our suggestions:

- Personal necessities
- Day backpack and a drinking container (water bottle) for nature walks
- Outdoor shoes, waterproof jacket/poncho
- Warm clothes / layers
- Binoculars if you have some
- Torch/head torch and spare batteries

• We recommend packing your luggage in a backpack not trolly, as access to some of the huts is on foot through a pebble path; the team can help with the luggage, if not.





Matei Miculescu, [EN, RO]

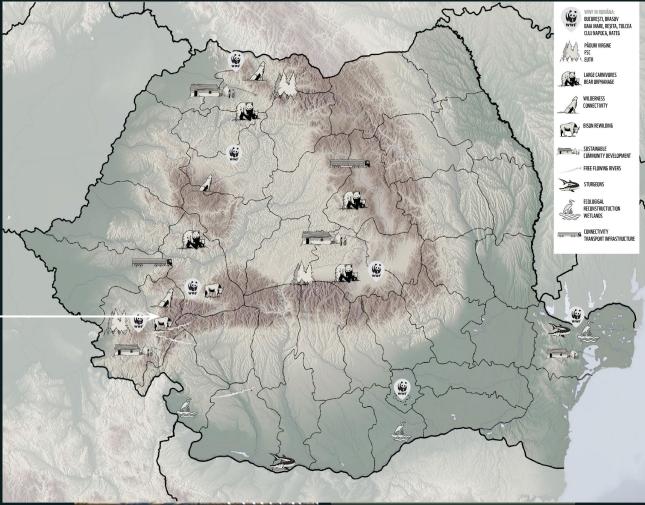
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We are located in Armeniş Comune, Caraş-Severin county, 1.5 hours away from Timişoara and 25 minutes away from the city of Caransebeş.



# We can't wait to greet you here!

