



## Via Unitariana Walking Camp Transylvanian Pilgrimage, 2026 June 28 - July 4

"It is an honor to welcome you to Transylvania, a land where East meets West, where diverse cultures have flourished side by side for centuries, and where the spirit of religious freedom was born. It was here, in 1568, that the Edict of Torda was proclaimed – a landmark moment that made Transylvania a beacon of tolerance and understanding in Europe.

This is the birthplace of Unitarianism, a faith that champions freedom of belief and the dignity of the human spirit. As you explore the rolling hills and majestic mountains, you are invited to walk in the footsteps of those who stood for faith and tolerance. Transylvania's breathtaking scenery, rich cultural heritage, and welcoming communities make it a unique destination for spiritual reflection and renewal."

*Rev. István Kovács, Bishop of the Hungarian Unitarian Church*





### What is Via Unitariana?

Via Unitariana is a walking camp, that changes you — and it's worth taking part only if you are willing to risk exactly that. Change happens only when we step outside our comfort zone. And here we not only walk outside it, we also pray, exist, and breathe there. A new way of life opens up. This is the kind of camp many of us have secretly longed for: a chance to rediscover that we are still full of life.

The camp is essentially a pilgrimage: over the course of a week, moving on foot along Transylvania's trails, pastures, streambeds, and through small rural settlements, it creates a balance of physical challenge, spiritual experience, and religious-cultural learning. It is a pilgrimage close to nature, combining spiritual guidance, religious reflection, and self-discovery.

Alongside all this, we consciously embrace the following values: slowing down, practicing simple living, deepening self-reflection, strengthening our spiritual vision, experiencing mutuality, forming meaningful human connections, gaining transformative experiences, and supporting life changes.





## ITINERARY:

### Day 1: Sunday, June 28

Arrival to **Kolozsvár/Cluj-Napoca**, welcoming dinner with the organizer and participants, check into the accommodation and optional orientation walk in the Old Town.

### Day 2: Monday, June 29

Orientation meeting, and then departure at 9:00 a.m. from Kolozsvár, from the **Headquarters of the Hungarian Unitarian Church**, including a short visit of the **János Zsigmond Unitarian High School** and receiving a blessing for the pilgrims.

Bus transfer to **Erdőfelek/Feleacu** (30 minutes), where the first day's route begins, following the **Erdőfelek/Feleacu – Komjátszeg/Comsești – Tordatúr/Tureni** trail.

On this first day we will enjoy a beautiful forest hike, with occasional excellent views of the surrounding valleys and rocky peaks. We will pass through two congregations, entering their churches as well, where we will tune our hearts to prayer. In the afternoon a bus will take us to our designated accommodation.

Distance: 18.6 km (11,56 miles), elevation gain: 209 m (686 ft).





## HUNGARIAN UNITARIAN CHURCH

### Day 3: Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Departure at 8:00 a.m. by bus to **Magyarpeterd/Petreștii de Jos**. From here we begin the day by walking through the spectacular **Turda Gorge/Cheile Turzii**. Reaching the other side of the gorge, we take a short rest, then continue on to **Mészkö/Cheia**, where we learn about the life of Balázs Ferenc, our renowned former Unitarian minister — writer, poet, and world traveler.

From there we follow the **Aranyos/Arieș** River to **Várfalva/Moldovenești**, our destination for the day, where we will pray together in the medieval church and learn about its history. In the evening a bus will take us to our accommodation.

Distance: 17,8 km (11,06 miles), elevation gain: 446 m (1,463 feet).



### Day 4: Wednesday, July 1, 2026

Departure at 8:00 a.m. by bus to **Várfalva/Moldovenești**. From there, local carts will take us 4–5 km along forest roads toward the **Székelykő/Piatra Secuiului**. From the meadow clearings we continue on foot, enjoying the full panorama over the **Aranyos/Arieș** valley; once we reach the top of the **Székelykő/Piatra Secuiului**, a magnificent view opens before us. On the summit we will get acquainted with *Egy az Isten* (God Is One), the renowned work of the Hungarian writer Mór Jókai.

We then descend to **Torockó/Rimetea**, a village uplifting in both its built heritage and its beautiful Unitarian church. If time allows, we continue on foot to **Torockószentgyörgy/Colțești**, if not, a bus will take us to our accommodation for the night.

Distance: 17.1 km (10.63 miles), elevation gain: 680 m (2,231 feet).

## HUNGARIAN UNITARIAN CHURCH



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## HUNGARIAN UNITARIAN CHURCH

### Day 5: Thursday, July 2, 2026

Starting from **Torockószentgyörgy/Colțești**, we first visit the fortress above the village. From there, entering the ridges of the surrounding mountains, we ascend behind the **Ordaskő/Ardașcheia** and continue up to its summit, which offers a magnificent view facing the Székelykő/Piatra Secuiului. From there, we follow gentle forest and meadow paths until we reach our destination for the day, **Torockó/Rimetea**. From there a bus will take us to our accommodation.

Distance: 14.4 km (8,95 miles), elevation gain: 451 m (1,480 feet).



### Day 6: Friday, July 3, 2026

In the morning we travel by bus to **Aranyosrákos/Vălenii de Arieș**, where we begin in the church with local orientation and prayer before setting out. This day is dedicated to visiting the villages along the Aranyos/Arieș river: **Sinfalva/Cornești**, **Kövend/Plăiești**, and finally **Bágyon/Bădeni**, with its rightfully renowned church.

After meeting the local congregations, a bus will take us to the final destination of our journey, the **Torda/Turda Historical Museum**, where we will see **Körösfői-Kriesch Aladár's painting depicting the 1568 Diet of Torda**.

From here, the bus will return everyone to **Kolozsvár/Cluj-Napoca**, to our original point of departure.

Distance: 11.2 km (6,96 miles), elevation gain: 70 m (230 feet).

### Day 7, Saturday, July 4, 2026

Breakfast, saying goodbye to Transylvania and departure.

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## HUNGARIAN UNITARIAN CHURCH

### Services included :

We provide breakfast, lunch, and dinner from arrival day dinner to departure day breakfast. Since at lunchtime we will be in some of the most beautiful natural areas, everyone will get packed lunch prepared in advance and distributed each morning. In light of this, we provide hot meals for dinners.

Appropriate accommodation is arranged for every night of the pilgrimage to ensure a comfortable rest. We also provide bus transport to and from the starting and ending points of every day's hikes and the transportation of luggages between accommodations.

All organizers and accompanying leaders of the pilgrimage are experienced hikers, most of them also Unitarian ministers.

In case of rainy weather, alternative tourist attractions will be offered for those days.

### Not included:

- Airport transfer (can be provided for and extra 20 USD/person)
- Airplane tickets

### Price offer:

Date: 28 June - 4 July 2026, 7 days, 6 nights

Prices are calculated for a group of 15 members, but according to the number of participants, the price will be adjusted

Price: 1780 USD, 254 USD/day/pers

Single supplement: 260 USD

The application deadline is March 21st, 2026!

Our groups will only start when we have at least 15 people registered! Under 15 participants, we reserve the right to reconsider starting the camp. If there are not enough participants by March 21st, we will notify everyone on the 22nd about the status of the trip. **PLEASE DO NOT BUY FLIGHT TICKETS UNTIL THEN!!!** In light of the challenges that arise, we reserve the right to change the program.

We are operating with a low profit margin, from which we are supporting our humanitarian assistance programs, our scholarship fund, marginalized communities and impoverished congregations, while also reinvesting in the development of our pilgrimages.

### Registration and more information:

For registration or more specific information, please contact us via [pilgrimage@unitarius.org](mailto:pilgrimage@unitarius.org) or fill the form on [the following link](#).

If you are seeking assistance in organizing your travel from the US side, you can contact UUA's ambassador to Transylvania, Rev. Andrew Weber at: [weberandras@yahoo.com](mailto:weberandras@yahoo.com).

