



FACTSHEET

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Forests

QUICK FACTS

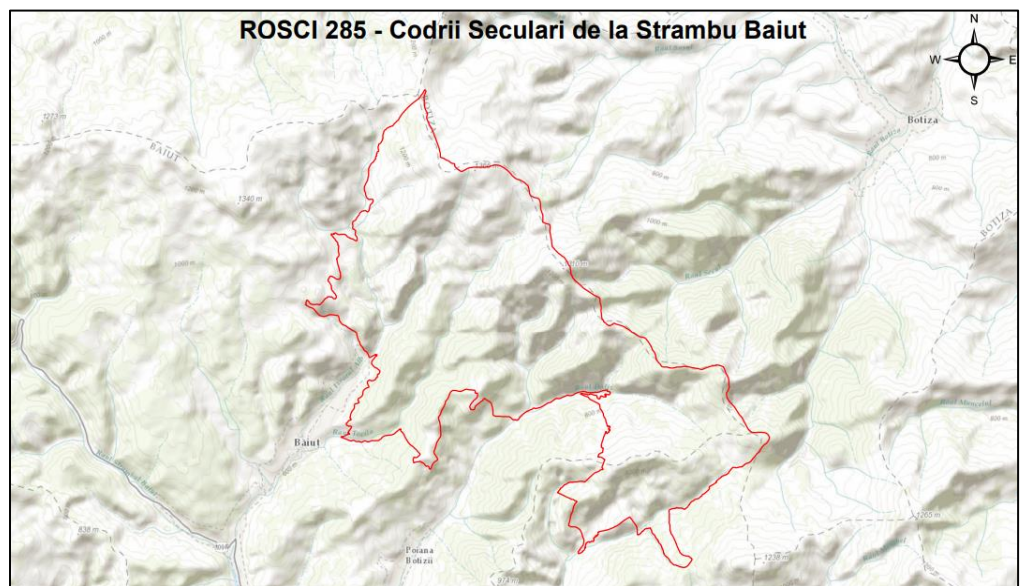
- Unique regional and Carpathian natural habitats, with rare and threatened species
- Over 50 m - the height of some of the fir trees in Strambu-Baiut
- 180 cm – the widest diameter of some of the beech trees here
- Volume of living trees: 1059 m³/hectar
- Volume of dead wood: 226 m³/hectar
- Total volume of wood: 1395 m³/hectar
- Trees of all ages from seedlings to 500-year-old giants
- More than 10.000 species of plants, animals and fungi
- The most well-preserved pure beech and mixed beech-silver fir stands from the entire range of the Oriental Carpathians
- Large and small carnivores species (*Ursus arctos*, *Lynx lynx*, *Felis silvestris*, *Martes martes*), bird species (*Bubo bubo*, *Strix uralensis*, *Strix aluco*) and reptiles (*Vipera berus*).

THE VIRGIN FOREST OF STRĂMBU-BĂIUȚ

Maramureș County, Romania

SHORT PROFILE

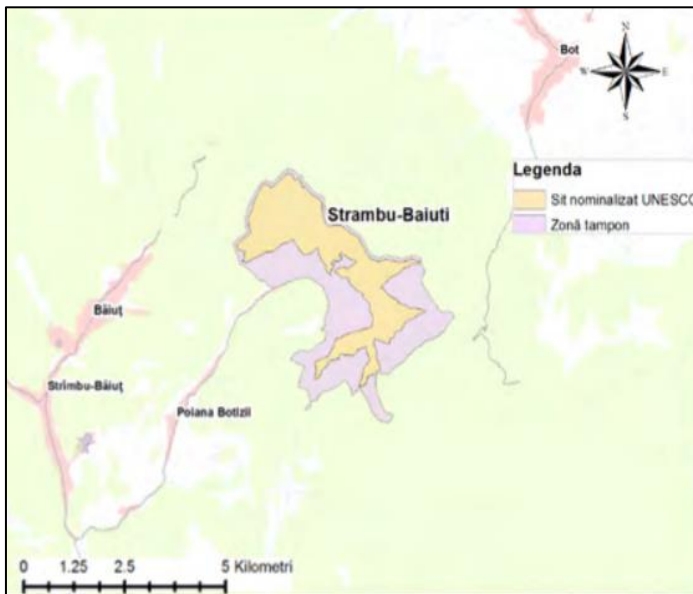
Strâmbu Băiuț preserves unique primeval forests from the northern part of the Romanian Eastern Carpathians, the last remnants of the Maramureș area. The forest is located in a mountainous area, between 560 and 1,300 meters altitude. Beech forests cover most of the area, preserving one of most important mixed primeval forests.



Map of Strâmbu Băiuț protected area

Part of UNESCO World Heritage

This protected area contains the UNESCO world heritage site of Strâmbu Băiut, of 598.1 ha (surrounded by a buffer zone of 713.1 ha).



Map of the UNESCO world heritage site

(C) RADU VLAD



(C) TIMUR CHIS VASILE



A total of 24,679.4 hectares of old-growth forests in eight areas of Romania were designated a part of the "Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe".

For more info visit <http://wwf.panda.org/?305590/UNESCO-expanded-the-Carpathian-virgin-forests-part-of-the-World-Heritage-List> and <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1133>.



(C) JAMES MORGAN WWF

How does the UNESCO process work?



(C) DANIEL DAMASCHIN

The National nomination list of Primeval and Ancient Beech Forests of Europe to the UNESCO World Heritage **was initiated and supported by WWF**, through a participatory process coordinated by Romanian authorities, with the involvement of Romsilva, ICAS and other NGOs. WWF provided **technical, financial and advocacy support** (as part of the national working group) for the nomination of the most significant virgins beech forests from Carpathian under World Heritage List of UNESCO.

Eight non-intervention management forest sites were selected in Romanian for transnational nomination of Primeval and Ancient Beech Forests of Europe to the UNESCO World Heritage List (Izvoarele Nerei; Cheile Nerei-Beușnița; Domogled-Valea Cernei; Ciucevele Cernei, Iauna Craiovei, Domogled-Coronini- Bedina; Cozia: Masivul Cozia, Lotrișor; Codrul secular Șinca; Codrul secular Slătioara; Groșii Țibleșului: Izvorul Șurii, Preluci; Strâmbu Băiuț. The protected site has 24679.4 ha plus a buffer area of 63753.9 ha.

WWF also supported the field assessment for the UNESCO WH nomination by developing the necessary documentations concerning the IUCN expert's evaluation, printed materials for raising awareness among local stakeholders were developed, trainings for forest and protected area administrators concerning the field preparation procedures, workshops consultation with local stakeholders.

In July 2017, at the 41st session of the UNESCO's World Heritage Committee in Krakow the candidate area was approved and designated as part of the "Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe".

WWF's support was possible through the WWF-Ikea project *Supporting responsible forest management for sustainable development in the Danube Carpathian Ecoregion*.

These forest ecosystems have primary structures, generated by the natural evolution of the nature for thousands of years, without significant anthropogenic interventions. They represent the last bastions of naturalness forest, the few places where we can understand the source of inspiration, matter and energy of the "Wooden Civilization" in Maramures. These woods were shelter areas for multiple generations of people. Here we can feel the nostalgia of passed times, the sacredness of the forest and the eternity of nature.

The virgin forests represent real living laboratories that teach us an open lesson about what nature is really about, to tourists or scientists alike, so that we can better understand the mysteries of the forest universe.



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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