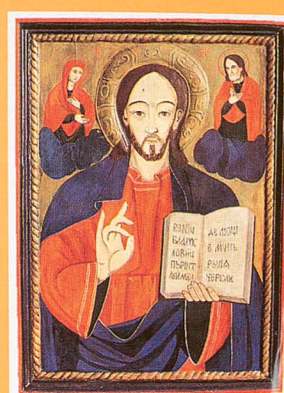


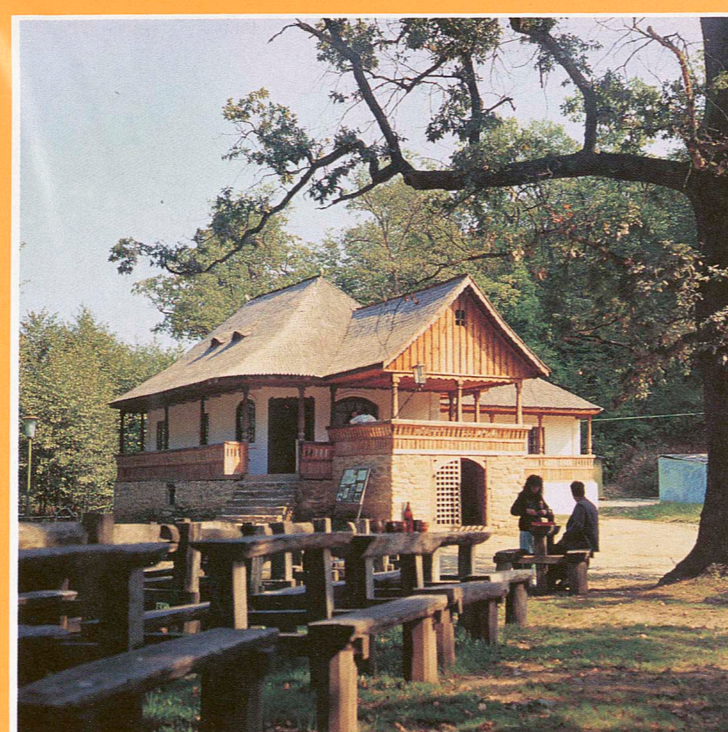
# MUSEUM OF TRADITIONAL FOLK CIVILIZATION „ASTRA”

Adress: Calea Rășinari, 2400 Sibiu  
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Open: 1 May - 15 October  
Daily 10 - 18 ■ Except Mondays ■

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72 B



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## THE PLAN OF THE OPEN AIR MUSEUM

### I. TECHNIQUES AND MEANS FOR PROCESSING THE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE PRODUCE, FOR FOOD

8. Fishery and fisherman's hut, Mahmudia, Tulcea County
- 8A. Ice house, Mahmudia, Tulcea County
10. Fisherman's homestead, Mahmudia, Tulcea County
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14. Wax-press and candle-maker's homestead, Sebeșul de Jos, Sibiu County
15. Sheep-fold, Rășinari, Sibiu County
- 15A. Polygonal sheep-fold, Ludeștii de Sus, Hunedoara County
16. Sheep-fold with „colna” - sheep pen type, Câmpu lui Neag, Hunedoara County
17. Sheep-fold with two rooms, Puru Peak, Alba County
18. Sheep-fold with three rooms, Coțji Giuvalei Peak, Argeș County
19. „Surla” - hut type from the alpine pastures, Sălic, Dâmbovița County
20. Shepherd homestead and candle maker's workshop, Rășinari, Sibiu County
21. Homestead with reinforced enclosure, Măgura, Brașov County
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- 22A. Fruit-crusher and fruit-press, Roșia, Sibiu County
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- 34A. Exhibition of presses
35. Oil-press with mortar and pulley, Arbore, Suceava County
36. Oil-press with rams, Racovița, Vâlcea County
37. Oil presser's homestead, Livada, Hunedoara County
38. Oil-press with tread-mortar, Nădăjdia, Hunedoara County
39. Oil-press with mortar driven by animal power, Grid, Hunedoara County
40. Oil-press with frontal tread-wheel, Băiești, Hunedoara County
41. Oil-press and fulling-mill, Talmăcel, Sibiu County
42. Oil-press with hydraulic mortar and „arrows”, Ohaba, Hunedoara County
44. Peasant homestead and shepherd-hut, Feneș, Alba County
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- 53A. Water-mill with two horizontal wheels and gearing, Râu de Mori, Hunedoara County
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- 54A. Water-mill with six horizontal wheels, Găleşoaia, Gorj County
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57. Water-mill with overshot wheel and double gearing,

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- 79A. Wooden church, Bezded, Sălaj County
- 79B. Traditional house, Bărsana, Maramureș County
- 79C. Monumental wooden gate and fence, Vadul Izei, Maramureș County
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108. Gold-mine gallery, Roșia Montană, Alba County
109. Stamp-mill for gold-ore, Abrud, Alba County
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112. Wheelwright-blacksmith's homestead with smithy, Mănești, Dâmbovița County
113. Smithy and bell-maker's workshop, Poiana Teiului, Neamț County
116. Potter's homestead and pottery, Marginea, Suceava County
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118. Potter's homestead and pottery, Sasca Română, Caraș Severin County
120. Potter's homestead and pottery, Oboga, Olt County
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121. Potter's homestead and pottery, Corund, Harghita County
123. Potter's homestead and pottery, Obârșă, Hunedoara County

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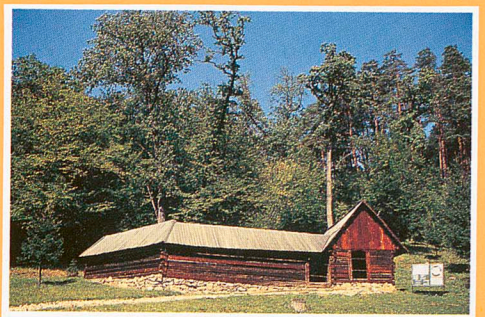
124. Furrier-saddler's homestead and workshop, Săliște, Sibiu County
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  129. Homestead illustrating the goat's-wool processing trade, Musculești-Petrești, Gorj County
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  - 72A. Dance pavilion, Botiza, Maramureș County
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  153. „Orthodox Triptych” author: Sava Stoianov
  154. „Throne” author: Alexandru Călinescu Arghira
  155. „Dumitru's Wheel” author: Alexandru Grosu
  156. „Noah's Ark” author: Septimiu Enghis
  157. „Christ” author: Danie Dub
  158. „Windows” author: Dinu Câmpeanu
  159. „Fulling Mill” author: Călin Baciu
  160. „Spring” author: Corneliu Tache
  161. „Burst of Tears” author: Traian Moldovan
  162. „The Knight” author: Mihai Istudor
  163. „Dialogue” author: Nicolae Șaptețrași
  164. „Holy Place” author: Tuvia Yuster (Israel)
  165. „Gate” author: Petroviș Istvan
  166. „Flowers” author: Ioan Căndea
  167. „Ascension” author: Gavril Brihan



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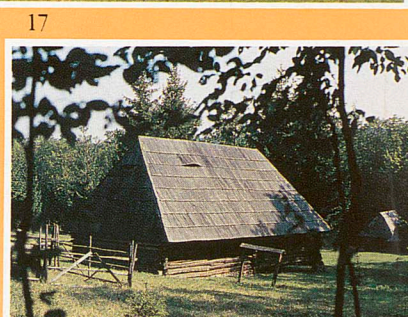
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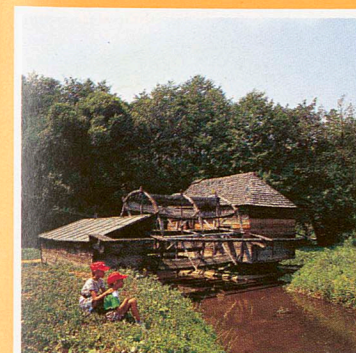
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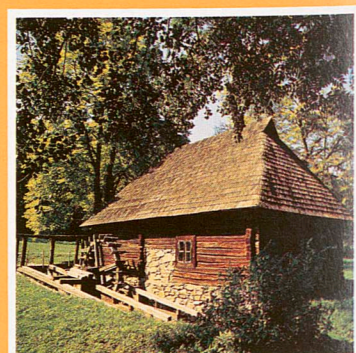
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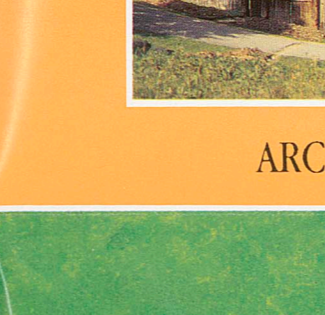
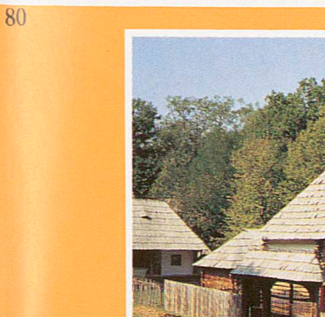
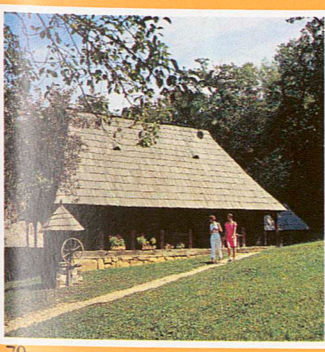
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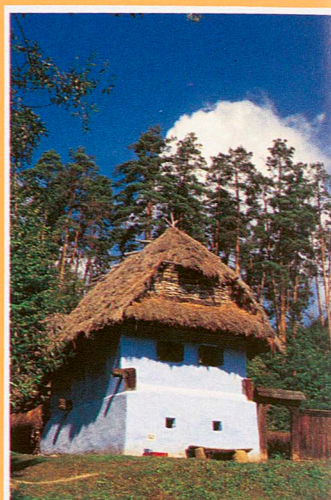
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In the marvelous landscape at **Dumbrava Sibiului** there is one of the largest, richest and most authentic open-air museums in Romania, a museum which ranks with the finest in Europe. As long ago as 1966, the well-known Dutch ethnographer **Bernet Kempers** described this museum as *"the most beautiful open air museum in Europe"*.

The cool forests, the sunny meadows traversed by a small stream which turns several water wheels, the 12 acre lake in which the wind mills and fishermen's buildings along the shore are reflected. The movable mills, the bridges and much more explain our outstanding reputation.

The area of about 200 acres, crossed by a network of paths 10 km long, with many resting places, includes two distinct and permanent exhibitions, both clearly organized spatially and thematically.

The former world of the Romanian village is shown in the *"Ethnographic Open Air Museum"* (100 acres) whereas the exhibition *"Wooden Monumental Sculptures"* shows the influence of the former in modern (the artists are famous Romanian and foreign sculptors who meet every year to create their works within the museum with the inspiration of the traditional values of the Romanian village).

The Ethnographic Open Air Museum was designed in the early sixties as a *"museum of folk technology"*, with the intention of illustrating the whole breadth of folk technology in Romania.

At the beginning it was divided into four thematic sections:

- Techniques and means for processing animal and vegetable matter for food;
- Techniques and means for extracting and processing raw materials, for construction materials (wood, vegetable matter, stone, ores, metals);
- Techniques and means for processing leather and also animal and vegetable fibres for textiles;
- Techniques and means of traditional folk transport and communication.

Thus, the museum approaches the whole traditional system of trades and occupations phenomenologically: from gathering produce to general and specialized trades, from household work to specialized handicrafts, from domestic industries to specialized peasant industries, from direct forms of transport (human or animal) to traction (dragging and rolling) or water-based transport.

The Folk Technology Museum built up between 1963 and 1989 is the most elaborate scientific-documentary and technical collection and archives (pictures, photos, films) dealing with pre-industrial folk technology in Romania.

A tool system of an impressive typological variety, with plenty of ancient forms going back through the Middle Ages, to Daco-Roman, Geto-Dacian and even the Neolithic civilization can be found here - certainly a brilliant demonstration of life and material continuity in this part of Europe. This tool system actually covers each and every traditional trade: hunting and fishing (in the Danube Delta), agriculture (in the plains, hills and mountains), sheep breeding, fruit growing (including production of vinegar and brandy), viticulture and oil processing (with tools and technologies using ancient European models).

The variety of the tool system is also represented in the handicrafts on view: weaving (wool, silk, hemp, goat hair), rope making, leather processing and lurrery, pottery, stone processing, mining (including gold), smithery, bell-making. Special mention should be made of wood processing (carpentry, wheel-making, cooperage, construction of musical instruments and weaver's reed making), as well as wax processing and candle making.

The folk technology installations also show great thematic variety (mills, diverse presses, ovens, distilleries, whirl-pools, fulling mills, hammers, stamp mills and saw mills). They are exhibited in a special area and are organized in three pre-industrial peasant complexes from Oltenia, Muntenia and Transylvania.

It should also be said that this collection represents an almost complete typology of traditional buildings and machines unlikely to be found in any other museum of the world. All these reveal continuity

between Romanian traditional technical civilization and its counterparts in other cultures, as well as its openness towards other cultural influences and therefore its potential for technical progress.

As an example of what we mean, consider the collection of mills which is unique in Europe. We have 27 mills for grains presenting all the energy types known in Euro-Asia: hand and horse driven, water (with one, two, three and six scoop-wheels) and wind mills. Only tide mills are missing. Even the range of construction types is well represented: mills which were fixed to the ground or floated on boats, with direct transmission or on gears (one or two stepped); with horizontal scoop wheels or vertical wheels; single, double, treble wheel-systems; with a superior, medium or inferior admission; with wind-sails made of board or canvas and pivoted mills (the roof of the whole building) very similar to the *"Dutch"* ones.

All our displays show the basic agrarian character of traditional Romanian civilization and its ability to take over and adapt the most diverse European innovations to local conditions and needs.

The variety of structures found in folk architecture becomes especially clear through the house building methods, which resulted from the diversity of regional types: planimetry, elevation, construction techniques, heating devices, interior design and decoration, furniture. The diversity of folk architecture also provides evidence of the stylistic personality of builders and carpenters all over Romania, of the ethnocultural specificity of the minorities, of the capacity of builders to adapt to local raw materials, and of their use of extremely refined techniques.

The evolution of traditional and archetypal values can also be experienced when combined with new types and models, influenced by local or regional factors.

Folk art forms a perfectly integrated part of the buildings as well as, illustrated by the interior decoration of the houses and workshops in textiles, ceramics, wooden or metal objects, icons and furniture.

In 1990 a new thematic section was added to the existing ones. Designed for civil public monuments, it includes so far a church, a school, an inn and a pub, a dance shed and a skittles alley. Other buildings and structures are going to be purchased and restored: a shop, a fire brigade tower, a swing and even a witch's house.

The museum now houses 115 monuments with 340 buildings and over 16.000 objects. The addition of the name *"ASTRA"* in 1993 reflected the extension and continuity in all directions (heritage, exhibitions, education) of the first historic and ethnographic museum of the Transylvanian Romanians. It was founded in 1905 and grotesquely closed in 1950 for *"ideological"* reasons.

The museum has become one of the most vivid, dynamic and attractive cultural institutions in Romania, due to the number of its projects and activities: films and slide projection, special exhibitions (in the central exhibition hall), folk performances on the stage beside the lake (one of the most popular being *"Mountain Songs"* - an international festival held each year). We also host the European Poetry Festival (every two years) and handicraft fairs (each year, for adults on 15th August and for children on 1st June). There are also monthly meetings of *"The Traditional Arts' Academy"*. The fine arts are represented in our museum by *"The Modern Wooden Monumental Sculpture Symposium"* (open August-September). Research seminars, national and international symposia on various topics (film, folk choreography, ethnography and folk art), holiday camps for pupils attending the fine arts' colleges, religious services on Sundays, Holidays, at weddings and other ceremonies, all find a home within the museum.

People of all ages will enjoy their visit to the museum: whether sailing a boat on the lake, driving in a carriage or tram-car around the museum, taking a traditional meal at the inn, using our accommodation or enjoying any of the other activities we are able to offer.

The open air museum of Dumbrava Sibiului has become the most welcoming and hospitable center of the city of Sibiu offers for tourists and leisure-seekers.

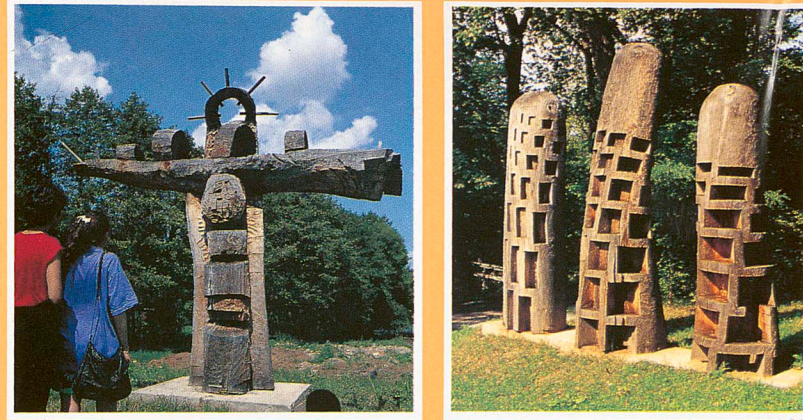
The museum with all its facilities is open between 1st May and 15th October. Outside these dates groups of tourists can still be admitted for strolls around the monuments.

OCCUPATIONS

MILLS

ARCHITECTURE

TEXTILE TRADES



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MONUMENTAL WOODEN SCULPTURE AND HANDICRAFT FAIRS



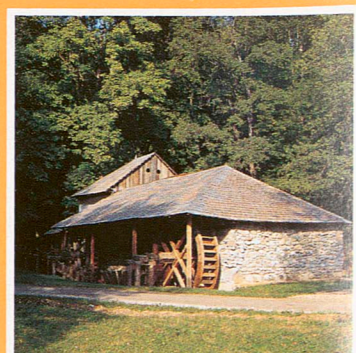
PAVILION FOR CULTURAL PERFORMANCES



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INDUSTRIES

