



# DISCOVER THE WARMTH OF SOUTH MOLDOVA: PAȘCANI - SLOBOZIA MARE



## „Gitana” Winery, Plopi

- Belvedere to Ghiltosu
- Sulfur spring, Gotesti
- Green Village, Rosu
- Cahul County Museum

## „Casa Bunicului” guest house, Pascani

- Willow branches weaving workshop „Olteanu Constantin”, Manta
- Leather workshop „Burca Gheorghe”, Manta
- Folk crafts workshop „Valentina Grigorita”, Manta
- Manta Lake
- Leather workshop „Cojan Constantin”, Colibasi
- Willow branches weaving workshop „Petru Tricolici”, Colibasi
- Creative workshop „Dorin Elizaveta”, Colibasi
- Valeni Golden Hills
- Valeni Museum
- The craftsman’s house „Tudor Bejenaru”, Valeni
- Eco-Village Valeni
- View Point Beleu Lake
- Beleu Lake Reservation, Valeni
- Slobozia Mare History and Ethnography Museum
- „La Tanti Masa” gastronomic workshop, Slobozia Mare
- „Potcoava Verde” riding center, Slobozia Mare
- „Domeniile Pană” Winery, Slobozia Mare
- Leather workshop „Dumitru Zaporojan”, Slobozia Mare

## „Vinaria din Vale” Winery, Slobozia Mare

- View Point on Vineyards
- The paved road from Vulcanesti
- Vulcanesti History Museum
- Cahul Battle Monument, Vulcanesti
- Trajan’s Wall Monument, Vulcanesti

## „KaraGani” Winery, Vulcanesti

° Note: Most trails follow local roads

## Comrat Wines

- Tourist Information Center, Comrat
- Handicraft center „Zaanat Evi”, Comrat
- The Cathedral „St. John the Baptist”, Comrat
- Comrat Regional History Museum
- Monument of Lenin, Comrat
- Museum of Living Bulgarian Traditions „Rodolyubets”, Chirsova
- House Museum „Ana-boba Evi”, Chirsova
- National Gagauz History and Ethnographic Museum, Besalma
- The Besalma Windmill
- Ethno-touristic complex „Gagauz Sofrasi”, Congaz
- The painted wall from Baurci
- Ethno-Courtyard „Park-Hakikat”, Ceadir Lunga
- „At Prolin” Horse Farm, Ceadir Lunga

## Carir- Kraft Cheese and Winery, Ceadir Lunga

### TOURIST SIGNS

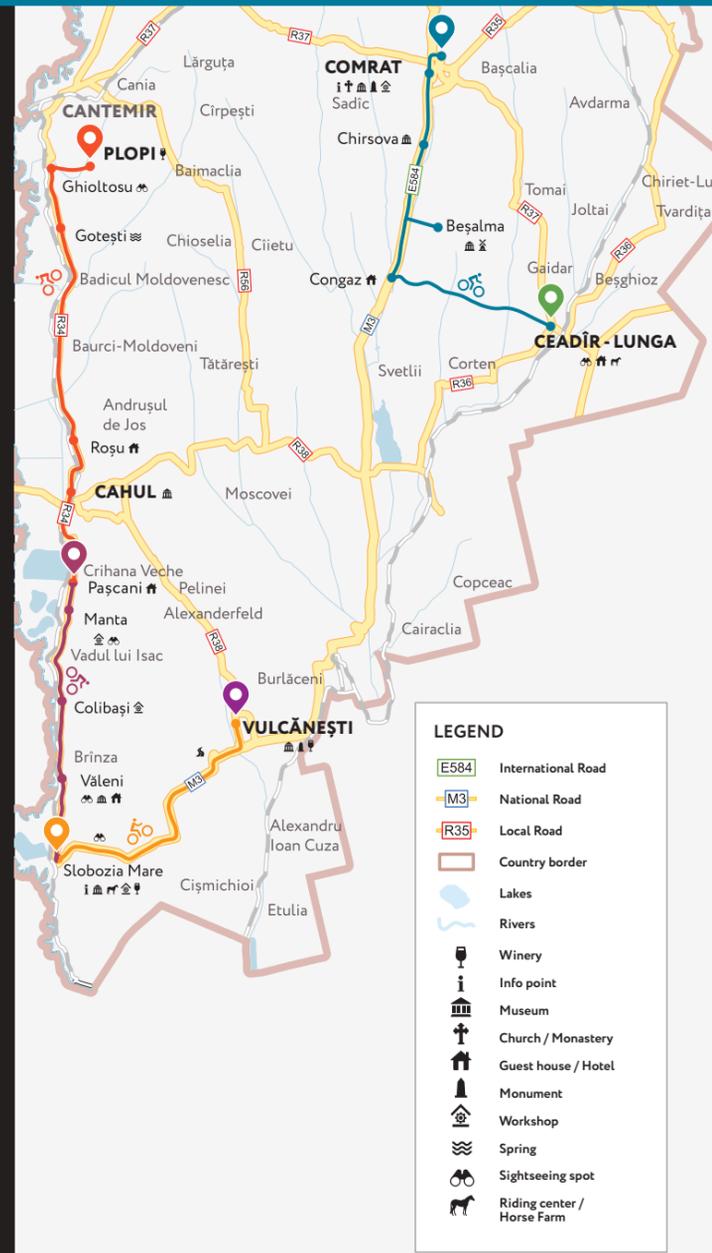
- Start / Stop
- You are on the right way
- To the right / To the left

**C4** 70 m 37 km 6 h Easy Scan

**C2** 192 m 53 km 7 h Middle Scan

**C3** 100 m 53 km 7 h Middle Scan

**C5** 139 m 30 km 5 h Middle Scan



## TIPS AND TRICKS:

- We recommend that you arrive at the bike rental points the day before your tour, to have the chance to taste wines and dishes specific to the region, but also to rest before a day on the bike.
- The starting and ending points of the routes can be reached either by car or by public transport. Because the routes are marked in both directions, you can choose to go in any direction.
- Do not take heavy luggage with you on the route. Just take the most necessary things in a small day pack that is easy and light to carry.
- Find out what are the main attractions on the route, before starting your ride or you can download it to your phone by scanning the QR code attached to the route.
- On the way you will find poles that will confirm that you are on the right path, but also signs marked on trees and electricity poles every 350-400 m, as in the legend of the routes.
- Respect the privacy and property of the locals. Take the garbage with you to the nearest bin to preserve the beauty of the place.

**These are just some of the tips that are worth following. We guarantee that respecting them will make your experience even more beautiful.**



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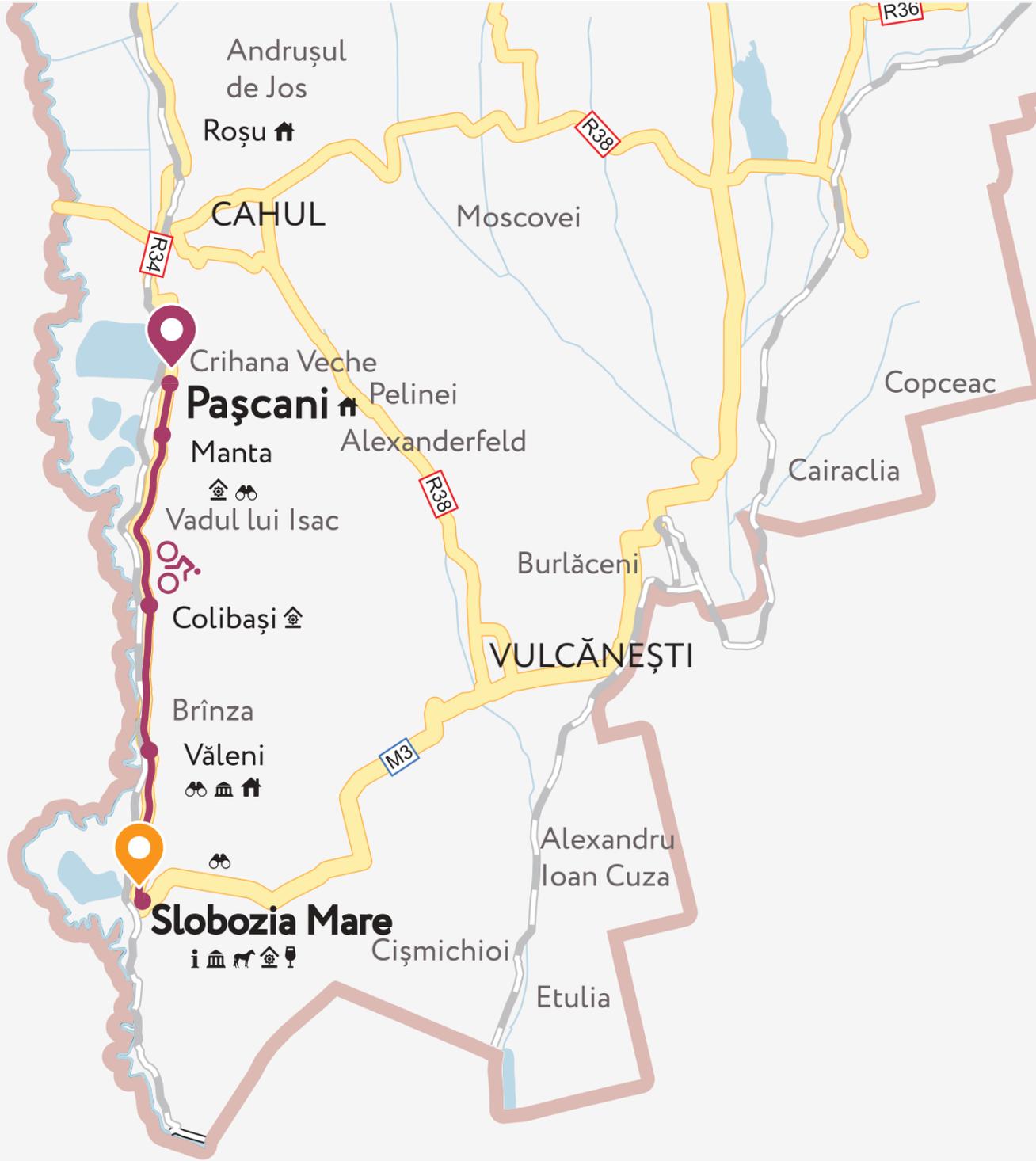
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## DISCOVER THE WARMTH OF SOUTH MOLDOVA: PAȘCANI - SLOBOZIA MARE





## LEGEND

	International Road		Winery
	National Road		Info point
	Local Road		Museum
	Country border		Church / Monastery
	Lakes		Guest house / Hotel
	Rivers		Monument
			Workshop
			Spring
			Sightseeing spot
			Riding center / Horse Farm



## DISCOVER THE WARMTH OF SOUTH MOLDOVA: PAȘCANI - SLOBOZIA MARE



### About this Route:

This cycling route from Pașcani to Slobozia in southern Moldova will surprise you not only with the richness of the local traditions you'll encounter – local crafts, cuisine and wine – but also with the natural beauty of this region, especially its lakes and Golden Hills.

You will have the opportunity to visit two different lakes with a rich fauna and flora, including the unique **UNESCO-protected** Beleu Reserve, to meet local artisans, learn about their craft and see their workshops and studios and even arrange for a class to learn how to weave willow branches, process leather for belts or embroider an IA, a traditional Moldovan blouse.

In addition to visiting several artisans we highly recommend you to rent a boat at the Beleu Reservation to go out on the lake. The tour guide will describe in detail the biodiversity of the reservation and show the places where the birds are hiding from the sun...or maybe from you.

### Casa Bunicului guest house

Casa Bunicului is an ideal place to spend the night and enjoy a home-cooked hearty meal after a day of cycling and exploring the region. The proximity of the Prut River and the natural lake Manta offers a special beauty to the place, and the hospitality of the hosts and the flavor of Moldovan dishes will make you want to stay longer, or perhaps come back here again and again.

**Address:** Pașcani village

**Phone:** +373 79 072 373

**Email:** info@casabunicului.com

### Willow branches weaving workshop „Olteanu Constantin”, Manta

Olteanu Constantin is a folk craftsman who offers to you a wide range of items – baskets, furniture, souvenirs and others – made of willow branches and twigs and rush woven mats – these are mainly used to be laid on the floor in the house, to keep warm. In the master's house you can visit the workshop and take part in masterclasses.

**Address:** Manta village

**Phone:** +373 76 705 064

### Leather workshop „Burdă Gheorghe”, Manta

The folk craftsman, Burdă Gheorghe, produces and offers the following handmade items: drums, sheepskin sticks, leather belts, whips, and other souvenirs. He is one of the last craftsmen in the area to make „opinci” - romanian traditional footwear made of leather. You can visit the workshop and take part in masterclasses (need to book in advance).

**Address:** Manta village

**Phone:** +373 78 129 275

### Folk crafts workshop „Valentina Grigoriță”, Manta

Valentina Grigoriță is a folk craftswoman who mainly makes little carpets from recycled textiles, but also other handmade items, like: - carpets; -IA (traditional Romanian blouses); - wool socks. You can visit the workshop and take part in masterclasses (need to book in advance).

**Address:** Manta village

**Phone:** +373 78 850 138

### Manta Lake

Lake Manta is the largest lake in the Republic of Moldova with an area of 2,100 ha and is a paradise for water-loving creatures, such as the cormorant, white stork, egret and other plant and animal species included in the Red Book of Moldova. The best season to visit the lake is spring and summer, when pelicans, swans and other birds migrate here from warm countries.

**Address:** Manta village

### Leather workshop „Cojan Constantin”, Colibași

The folk craftsman Cojan Constantin makes a wide range of handmade items, including sheepskin fur coats, sheepskin and rabbit hats, and car covers.

**Address:** Colibași village

**Phone:** +373 69 672 975 / +373 68 910 126

### Willow branches weaving workshop „Petru Tricolici”, Colibași

The craftsman Petru Tricolici offers a wide range of handmade items made from willow branches and twigs: baskets, flower pot holders, tables, chairs, and wine bottle holders. You can visit the workshop and take part in masterclasses (need to book in advance).

**Address:** Colibași village

**Phone:** +373 68 752 023

### Creative workshop „Dorin Elizaveta”, Colibași

Dorin Elizaveta is a folk craftswoman who makes a wide range of handicrafts, including items made of straw and vegetable fibers, hand-sewn and embroidered IA (traditional Moldovan blouse), handkerchiefs, and bracelets made of beads. You can visit the workshop and take part in masterclasses (need to book in advance).

**Address:** Colibași village

**Phone:** +373 60 365 011

### Văleni Golden Hills

The Golden Hills represents a Natural Monument of great natural, geological and archeological importance that surrounds Valeni and the Beleu Lake. They are called „Golden” because of their golden color due to the presence of sand and clay. Traces of mammoths and mastodons have been found here.

The hills are located between Valeni and Slobozia villages (km 27 to km 32). From them opens one of the most beautiful viewpoints and sunset watching spots in Moldova - a perfect place to relax after a long day on the bicycle.

**Address:** Valeni village

### Văleni Museum

The Văleni Museum of History and Ethnography opened its doors to the public in 2017 as part of the Văleni Socio-Cultural Center. The museum includes up to 1000 pieces of clothing, furniture, documents, pictures, and various tools. There is also a Carpet Weaving Workshop available at the museum, where local craftswomen pass on the carpet weaving craft to its visitors.

The tour will take a maximum of 30 min.

**Address:** Valeni village

**Phone:** +373 78 403 622

### Eco-Village Văleni

Eco-Village Văleni is a local guesthouse focused on the development of rural, cultural, wine tourism and ecotourism in the area.

Starting from the idea of a traditional museum, the complex later developed ecological accommodation capacities (Casa Dorului Eco-Pension), a rustic restaurant (D'or Restaurant) and a small family winery (Corbu Winery). They also organize fairs of the local craftsmen, becoming one of the few places in the southern region where they can sell their products to foreign tourists for a fair price.

Here you can enjoy fishing, wine tasting, masterclasses or perhaps to stop for lunch.

**Address:** Valeni village

**Phone:** +373 60 775 173

**Email:** complex.valeni@yahoo.com

### The craftsman's house „Tudor Bejenaru”, Slobozia Mare

Lidia and Dorel Bejenaru inaugurated the "Grandma's House" Museum right in their yard, in Văleni. They brought the country's fame abroad by participating together with the band Zdob and Zdub in the international Eurovision contest.

At the same time, Tudor Bejenaru is a well known craftsman for his leather drums that sound great. You can visit the workshop and take part in masterclasses.

**Address:** Slobozia Mare village

**Phone:** +373 78 656 516

### Beleu Lake, Slobozia Mare

The Lower Prut Nature Reserve, a UNESCO protected area, is a true paradise for birds, fish and plants. Lake Beleu occupies about one third of the Nature Reserve, and the rest of the territory is made up of a network of ponds that together form a unique ecosystem of national and international importance due to its biodiversity. You can rent a boat or kayak from the Reservation office and take a short tour of the lake canals, admiring the birds and the wonderful nature.

**Address:** Slobozia Mare village

**Phone:** +373 62 122 295

### Vinăria din Vale, Slobozia Mare

Vinaria din Vale is the largest producer and exporter of wines in the Republic of Moldova. Their wines are also adored by the locals and win numerous medals at national and international competitions.

This is the final point of this cycling route segment. You can rent a room for the night and enjoy a hearty meal here so you are well rested before your next adventure.

**Address:** Slobozia Mare village

**Phone:** + 373 68 464 647

### Additional Stops

#### Slobozia Mare Historical and Ethnographic Museum

The museum was founded in 1988 and has six exhibition rooms. In the museum you can find a wide range of peasant objects and tools specific for the south region, plus a unique diorama of the Beleu Reservation. Also at the museum you can find a room where the traditional "Casa Mare" (a special room in traditional Moldovan houses dedicated to celebrations and special occasions) with the most precious things from the household.

**Address:** Slobozia Mare village

**Phone:** +373 68 048 161

#### Potcoava Verde - riding center, Slobozia Mare

At this riding center those interested have the opportunity to take a horse ride on the territory of the "Prutul de Jos" reservation. You can also rent a carriage for a ride on the reservation territory or a boat for the lake. Or you can stay overnight in tents or one of the available rooms.

**Address:** Slobozia Mare village

**Phone:** +373 69 689 393

#### „Domeniile Pană” Winery

Before dinner at Vinăria din Vale you can have a walk to Domeniile Pană winery which is 50m away. It's a family business born out of a love of wine. The word „Pană” in Romanian means feather - which refers to the fact that their wines are light.

**Address:** Livezilor str. 37, Slobozia Mare village

**Phone:** +373 79 903 409

**Email:** domeniile.pana@gmail.com

#### Leather workshop „Dumitru Zaporojan”, Slobozia Mare

Dumitru Zaporojan is a craftsman who makes a wide range of sheepskin products, including fur coats for adults and children, boots, car covers, and gloves. You can visit the workshop and take part in masterclasses (need to book in advance).

**Address:** Slobozia Mare village

**Phone:** +373 78 476 743

#### „La Tanti Mașa” gastronomic workshop, Slobozia Mare

At Maria Minciună's gastronomic workshop you can enjoy various culinary delights, including acacia jams, shock flowers, cherry tomato jam with peppers and even berry liqueurs.

**Address:** Viilor str.12, Slobozia Mare

**Phone:** +373 60 769 004