



# Association of Ecotourism in Romania

a partnership for nature conservation and tourism in Romania

## Join us now!

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The Association of Ecotourism in Romania (AER) is a partnership between the public/voluntary sector in the field of nature conservation (foundations, associations, protected areas, national parks, etc.) and the private sector in the field of tourism (travel companies, tour-operators, guesthouses, guides, etc.).

### The AER definition of ecotourism:

Ecotourism is a form of tourism where the main motivation of the tourist is **to observe and appreciate nature and local traditions linked with nature** and which must fulfil the following conditions:

1. nature conservation and protection;
  2. use of local human resources;
  3. educational character, respect for nature – awareness raising of both tourists and local communities;
  4. minimum negative impact on the natural, social and cultural environment.
- (Adopted by AER from the World Tourism Organisation definition)

### Objectives of AER:

1. Promotion of the concept and principles of ecotourism locally, regionally and nationally;
2. Promotion of ecotourism as an instrument for nature conservation;
3. Promotion of natural and traditional values as ecotourism attractions and maintaining these values;
4. Local community involvement in the development of infrastructure and ecotourism services;
5. Promotion of ecotourism as an instrument by means of which local populations can generate income;
6. Encouraging the use of local resources by those who offer ecotourism products;
7. Creation and maintenance of a system of quality services in ecotourism;
8. Creation and implementation of a system of certification in ecotourism.

### Qualities of AER membership:

According to the Statute and Internal Regulations of AER, there are 2 categories of members:

1. Private individuals and Companies that want to promote ecotourism products through AER activities. These members will pay an **annual fee of 200 lei** and an annual **promotion fee of 300 lei**.
2. Private individuals and Companies interested in ecotourism development in Romania who do not have any products to promote through AER's activities. These members will pay an **annual fee of 200 lei**.

### How can I join AER?

1. Decide if you have (or not) ecotourism products that you want to promote through AER activities. Who do these products belong to? (you as a private individual, your company, your association, etc.)?
2. According to your answer to the previous questions, decide WHO will join AER: you as a private individual, your company, your association, etc.
3. Fill in the attached form in the name of the person/company who will become the member of AER.
4. Add a short description (max. 1 page) about your activity and/or your interest in ecotourism.
5. Complete and sign the Declaration that you agree with the ecotourism principles and AER objectives, and that you will abide by them.
6. Obtain recommendations from two AER members.
7. Send the form, description, declaration and recommendations to: Andreea Bell, AER, OP 1 CP 210, Braşov 500500; e-mail: bogdan.papuc@eco-romania.ro , tel: 0368 441084 / 0728 974801. Or hand them in to one of the members of AER's Board of Directors.
8. After you have been accepted as an AER member by the Board of Directors, you must pay the Joining Fee of **100 RON** plus your membership fee as stated above.

### Note regarding AER Certification and promoted products:

Starting in September 2005, AER launched a system of certification of ecotourism products in Romania. The system will certify accommodation and tour products, as well as destinations. Until a sufficient number of products have been certified through this system, AER will promote any members' products provided they respect the principles of ecotourism. As of 2010, however, as a result of a decision taken by AER members at the AGM in December 2008, AER will ONLY promote those members who have at least one certified product.



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## Application for AER Membership

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**To the Association of Ecotourism in Romania for the attention of the Board of Directors:**

Company / Organisation / Association / Foundation / Private individual, etc:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

CUI (VAT Number): \_\_\_\_\_ registration number at Registrul Comertului

(only for Romania): \_\_\_\_\_ bank account no: \_\_\_\_\_

bank: \_\_\_\_\_ represented by Mr/Mrs/Ms: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Business/home address in (town): \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

phone: \_\_\_\_\_ fax: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Identified by (ID): \_\_\_\_\_ series: \_\_\_\_\_ nr. \_\_\_\_\_ Issued by: \_\_\_\_\_

Issue date: \_\_\_\_\_, request approval of the quality of Member (associate) of the Association of Ecotourism in Romania.

I / We are a: (tick as appropriate)

Travel agency:

Tour-operator:

Accommodation provider:

Ecotourism destination:

Travel Guide:

Other: (please specify)  \_\_\_\_\_

I / We have ecotourism products which we wish to promote through AER activities:

Yes:  No:

Are you a member in other tourism organizations ?

Yes:  No:

Details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



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## Declaration:

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I / We agree with the principles of ecotourism and will abide by AER's objectives. I / We have read the AER Statute and Constitution authenticated under nos. 691 and 690 of 17 July 2003 at the office of Public Notary Stoian Coriolan Adriana.

I / We understand the rights and obligations that apply to members of the Association and agree to abide by them, and agree to pay the appropriate membership fees.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_