

# Transylvanian Plateau

Coordinates: 46°30′N 24°30′E

The **Transylvanian Plateau** (Romanian: *Podișul Transilvaniei*; Hungarian: *Erdélyi-medence*) is a plateau in central Romania.

## Description

The plateau lies within and takes its name from the historical region of Transylvania, and is almost entirely surrounded by the Eastern, Southern and Romanian Western branches of the Carpathian Mountains. The area includes the Transylvanian Plain.

It is improperly called a plateau, for it does not possess extensive plains, but is formed of a network of valleys of various size, ravines and canyons, united together by numerous small mountain ranges, which attain a height of 150–250 m (490–820 ft) above the altitude of the valley.<sup>[1]</sup>

The plateau has a continental climate. Temperature varies a great deal in the course of a year, with warm summers contrasted by very cold winters. Vast forests cover parts of the plateau and the mountains. The mean elevation is 300–500 m (980–1,640 ft).

## Subdivisions

The Transylvanian Plateau is divided into three areas:

- Someș Plateau (*Podișul Someșan* or *Podișul Someșelor*); the northern part.
- Transylvanian Plain (*Câmpia Transilvaniei*); the central part.
- Târnava Plateau (*Podișul Târnavelor*); the southern part.

The Transylvanian Plain is also hilly (400–600 m), but because the area is almost completely cultivated it is called a plain.<sup>[2]</sup>

## The Transylvanian Basin



The Transylvanian Plateau



The Someș Plateau



The Transylvanian Plain

The Transylvanian Basin (Romanian: *Depresiunea colinară a Transilvaniei*) includes the Transylvanian Plateau and the peripheral areas towards the Carpathian Mountains, which have a different character than the plateau.<sup>[2]</sup> The basin is the main production site of Romania's methane. It also contains a salt dome.<sup>[3]</sup>

## See also

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- Romanian Carpathians

## References

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1. One or more of the preceding sentences incorporates text from a publication now in the public domain: Chisholm, Hugh, ed. (1911). "Transylvanian Mountains". *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Vol. 27 (11th ed.). Cambridge University Press. p. 212.
2. "Depresiunea Colinară a Transilvaniei, Podișul Transilvaniei" (<https://www.gimnaziu.info/depresiunea-colinara-a-transilvaniei-podisul-transilvaniei>). *www.gimnaziu.info* (in Romanian). Retrieved 18 July 2020.
3. Pene, C.; Coltoi, O.; Grigorescu, S. (4 June 2012). "Badenian Evaporite Evolution and Methane Entrapment in the Transylvanian Basin". doi:[10.3997/2214-4609.20148461](https://doi.org/10.3997/2214-4609.20148461) (<https://doi.org/10.3997/2214-4609.20148461>).

## External links

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- "Country Information on Romania" ([https://web.archive.org/web/20060127192152/http://archive.soschildrensvillages.org.uk/sponsor-child/country\\_information\\_on\\_romania.html](https://web.archive.org/web/20060127192152/http://archive.soschildrensvillages.org.uk/sponsor-child/country_information_on_romania.html)). *archive.soschildrensvillages.org.uk*.
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