

# Sign on the *limes* // touristic centre

comprehensive test / 26th November 2015. 09.00 K.210 - 30th November 2015 10.00 Dept. Library

Site: Eremitu, Cetatea Săcădat, Mureș County, Romania

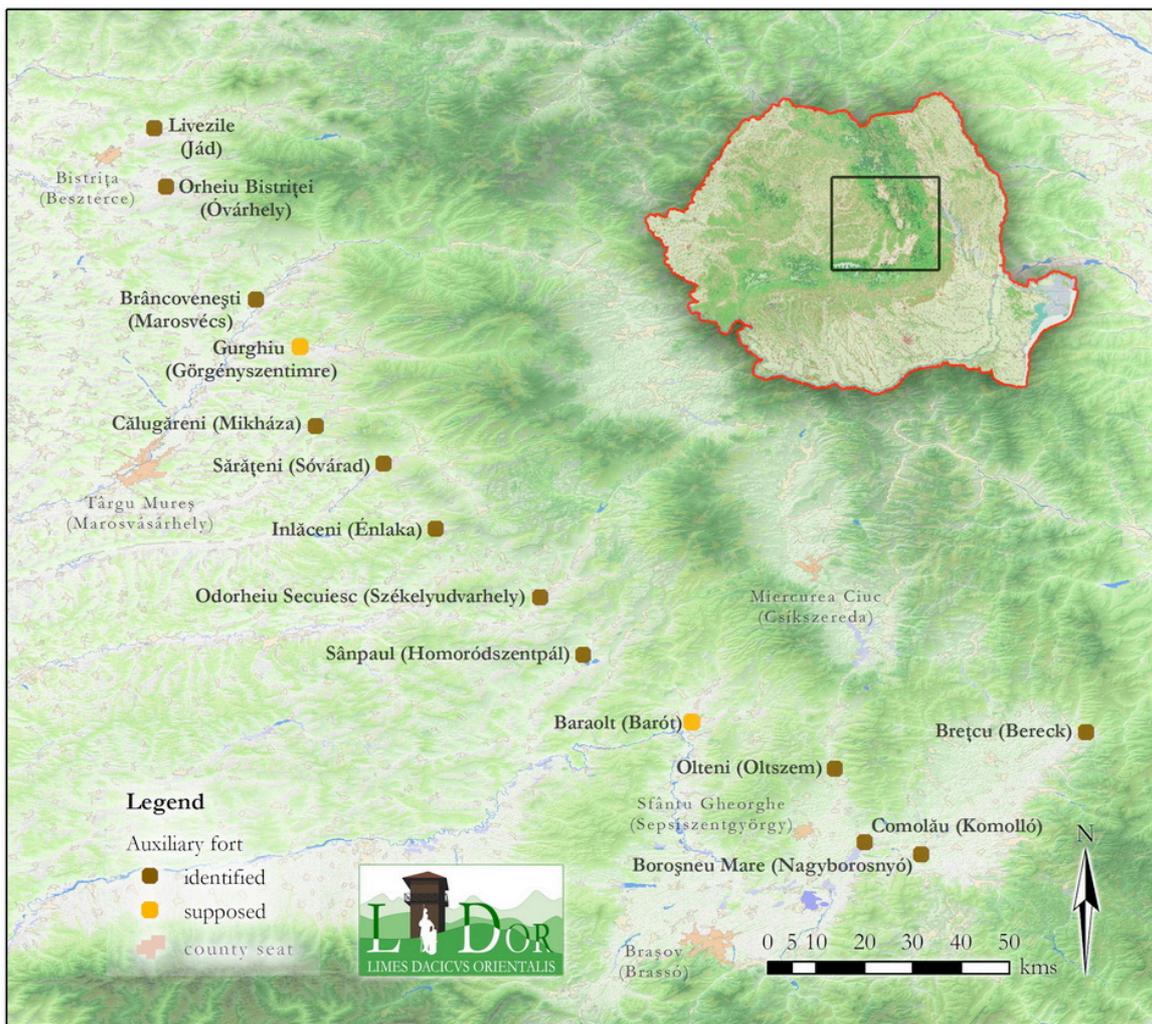
The word *limes* was used by Latin writers to denote a marked or fortified frontier. This term has been adapted and used by modern historians as an equivalent for the frontiers of the Roman Empire. Even if it is widely used, nowadays we know that the term *limes* became common only after the third century. The Roman *Limes* represented the border line of the Roman Empire at its greatest extent in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. It stretched over 5,000 km from the Atlantic coast of Scotland, through Europe to the Black Sea, and from there to the Red Sea and across North Africa back to the Atlantic coast. The remains of the *limes* today consist of remnants of built walls, ditches, forts, fortresses, and civilian settlements. Certain elements of this defensive line have been excavated, some reconstructed, but many were destroyed. It's an outstanding example of the Roman military organization and illustrates the defensive techniques and geopolitical strategies of imperial Rome.



During the research of the roman defensive system (limes) from Mureş County the need to preserve and present the sites belonging to it emerges. In 2012 the Mureş County Museum initiated the ROMAN LIMES ROUTE project. The aim of the project is to identify new sites along the limes section found on the territory of Mureş County, and the thorough mapping of the already known sites with the help of field walking, aerial photography and geophysical surveys. The processing of the GIS data allows a more exact definition of the extent of the sites to be protected and their presentation.

On one hand, our hope is that, through the propagation of the sites pertaining to the limes and the collaboration with the local community the further destruction of these sites can be prevented. On the other, it becomes possible to work out strategies which aim to utilize the limes for touristic purposes. We wish to present the limes in the form of an itinerary, which we plan to familiarize with the visitors through free maps and a brochure as well as through the more detailed information published on the web page of the project. Marked tourist tracks and signposts would guide the visitors to the locations that are more difficult to access; about the sites explanatory boards would furnish information.

Along the limes section in Mureş County three auxiliary camps are known (Brâncoveneşti, Călugăreni și Sărăţeni), in the vicinity of which settlements (vicus) were established, where next to the families of soldiers, merchants and craftsmen servicing them had settled. The camps were connected by the limes road thus facilitating the supply and the fast movement of the troops. The duty of the soldiers stationed here was the protection of the border running parallel, which was achieved through a complex system of watchtowers and signal posts but also with defensive ditches. As a result of the project beside the three auxiliary camps five watchtowers will be presented, which can be found in the outskirts of Vătava, Ibăneşti, Chiherul de Jos and Eremitu.

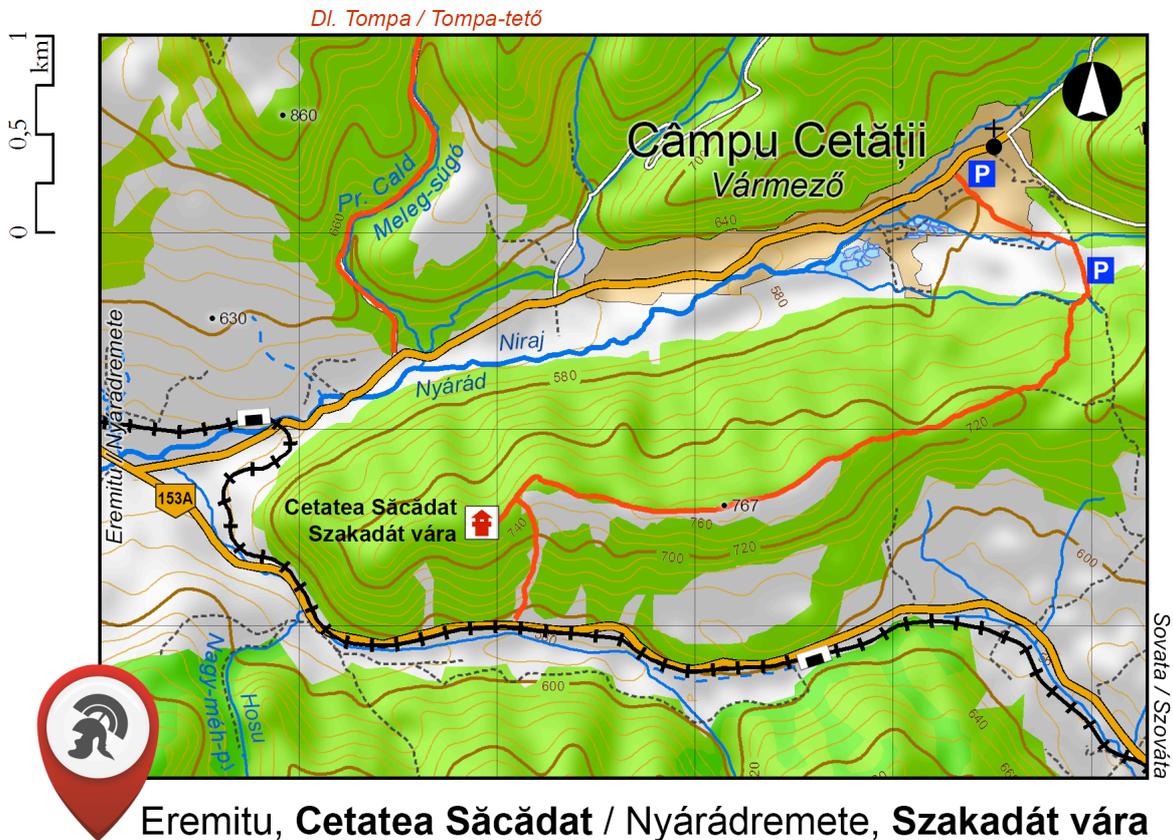


Further information:

<http://www.limesdacicus.ro/routes/by-car/eremitu-cetatea-sacadat/>

<http://www.limesdacicus.ro/limes/>

<http://www.limesdacicus.ro/projects/>



Design program:

Due to the program a Touristic Centre and a Limes-Sign has to be designed. The primary aim of the investigation will be to offer infrastructure for the local tourists. The building should include a small buffet, rent a bike and rent a trekking equipment service, and technical help for the bikers.

- parking places for 10 cars, of which 8 must be accessible for the disabled
- 1 bus stop is needed (as a bus-bay along the main road)
- foyer, info-point and exhibition space, max. 50 m<sup>2</sup>
- with a block of toilets for visitors (for 50 people and 1 for disabled)
- backoffice: an administration office (for 2 people)
- buffet with its infrastructural background for 50 guests
- room(s) for renting bikes (min. 100 items) and for renting trekking equipment, including technical service

All spaces, blocks of toilets, corridors must be accessible for the disabled. The brief arrangement of the plans must show the special needs of function and the users.

Submission:

1 'A1' (594x840 mm, vertical orientation) sheet on hardboard

Site plan showing the layout and the use of the site

1:500

Floor plan(s)	1:200
Sections: min. 2 perpendicular to each other	1:200
Elevations	1:200

Axonometric, perspective views, fotomontages, drawings representing the architectural character, with high importance of the quality of the visualizations!

Maquette – optional

**Questions are welcome until 22.00 26.11.2015, they will be answered until 09.00 27.11.2015!**

Evaluation aspects:

When designing the site plan one must take especially care of the correct dimensioning and unhindered developing of roads, covered areas, buildings. At the evaluation functioning, forming of the building's façade and volume, it's architectural, aesthetic appearance, the connection with the surroundings and ambitious elaboration is all important. When giving the marks the designer's behaviour, empathy and rationality and the harmony of architectural consequences derived from these will be considered.

26<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

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