Méhely's Blind Mole Rat post-tour extension in ROMANIA by **SAKERTOURS** (10-15 September, 2023)

6 days / 5 nights or extension-only 7 days / 6 nights

Price for Romania Mammal Tour 2023 participants: 950 euro/person (including single room) Romania Mammal Tour: <u>https://www.sakertour.com/bw.php?tour=romania-mammal-tour</u>

This extension is possible to book alone.

Please contact our office for availability: sakertour.office@gmail.com For the extension only price see below.

The extension has a guaranteed departure and will be led by Romanian Mammal Expert Zsolt Hegyeli and János Oláh as assistant.

This tour is targeting to see the Romanian endemic Méhely's Blind Mole Rat (*Spalax antiquus*) in Central Romania. If we manage to find the target species in time we can look for another ground dwelling species, the **Transylvanian Mole Rat** (*Nannospalax transsylvanicus*) which is not endemic to Transylvania as it is also found in Hungary.

We have no other specific targets but will surely be doing some small mammal trapping and those who wish to camp by the traps we will provide tents. This is optional and generally we plan to return to our base for the evening after looking for the Mole Rats. With small mammal trapping there could be chance for Pygmy Field Mouse *Apodemus uralensis*.

ITINERARY

10 September: When the Romania Mammal Tour 2023 has finished we say good by to those travelling back to Bucharest airport and we travel towards the Island (Bihar) Mountains. Night in Rimetea Valley.

11-13 September: We will devote our time to locate our main target, the Méhely's Blind Mole Rat with our expert tour leader who has seen the species several times. Nights in Rimetea Valley.

14 September: After a final day on the field we will travel back Hargita and those who were not taking the main tour before the extension will have a chance to see Carpathian Brown Bear this evening. Night in Hargita Bear Lodge.

15 September: Transfer back to Bucharest airport where the tour ends at 13:00.

WHAT TO BRING

There is nothing special needed for the extension. For optional camping Sakertours provide tents, matrasses and sleeping bags.

Price for extension only: 1100 euro/person (including Bucharest transfer to Hargita, 6 nights with single room). Those taking the extension only must arrive to Bucharest the day before (9th September) and a private transfer to Hargita is included in the price.

Alternatively the extension can be joined in Cluj Napoca in which case no need of extra night but extra transfer from Cluj airport to Hotel is necessery. If you interested in this please contact our office!