

Alpin Film Festival 2026: Film, Photography, Literature and Mountaineering in a Week Dedicated to Mountain Culture

• **September 21–27, 2026** •

Exhibitions, literary meetings, conferences, workshops for children and outdoor activities round out a selection of more than 40 films from 18 countries at the 11th edition

Alpin Film Festival, Romania's largest international festival dedicated to film and mountain culture, returns from **September 21 to 27, 2026**, in **Braşov, Râşnov and Buşteni**.

Admission to events is free, reflecting the festival's aim of building community and making mountain culture accessible to as broad a public as possible. Seats for screenings must be reserved in advance through the [Eventbook – Alpin Film Festival 2026](#) platform.

The festival's extraordinary documentary program is rounded out by an impressive series of events bringing the mountains, people and nature to the forefront: exhibitions, meetings, conferences, workshops and outdoor activities.

KEY MOMENTS OF THE 11TH EDITION

The festival preview takes place on Monday, **September 21, at 7:00 PM**, at Cinema One – Coresi Shopping Resort, with *"The Song of the Forest / Les Chants de la forêt,"* by the celebrated French photographer and filmmaker **Vincent Munier**, a nature documentary that opens the Braşov edition.

The opening gala is scheduled for Tuesday, **September 22, at 7:00 PM**, at the Reduta Cultural Center, with the screening of *"Iron Winter"* (Australia, dir. Kasimir Burgess), a production arriving in Braşov after winning the Grand Prize at the Banff Festival.

The closing gala and awards ceremony take place on Saturday, **September 26, at 8:00 PM**, at the Reduta Cultural Center in Braşov, with the evening rounded out by the screening of *"Old Man Lightning"* (USA, dir. Dawn Kish).

Screenings continue through the end of the weekend, and on **September 27, at 5:00 PM**, the Reduta Cultural Center hosts the **special IAMF screening** – *"Sherpa,"* directed by **Jennifer Peedom**, presented in partnership with the International Alliance for Mountain Film.

The festival also brings to Braşov directors **Deyan Bararev**, with *"Cruel Way"* (Bulgaria), on September 24; **Emilia Sniegoska**, with *"Kumotry"* (Poland); and **Jean-Gabriel Leynaud**, with *"Blood and Mud"* (Belgium), on September 25. All three will accompany their films at the Reduta Cultural Center and take part in discussions with the audience.

ROMANIAN MOUNTAIN FILM COMPETITION

The section dedicated to homegrown productions brings together this year: *"Wanderers Through the Mountains"* (dir. Cosmin Dumitrache), a portrait of mountain couple Marlene and Dinu Mititeanu; *"Şona, a Story Written in Stone"* (dir. Mircea Gherase); portraits by Ruxandra Hurezean dedicated to ultramarathon runner Tibi Uşeriu and climber David Neacşu; *"The Belişoara Ladder"* (dir. Dan Curean); and *"Safety on the Via Transilvanica"* (dir. Alex Dima).

ART, FILM AND VIA TRANSILVANICA

On September 25, starting at 6:30 PM, the Multicultural Center of Transilvania University in Braşov hosts the opening of the exhibition *"Ştefan Câlţia – Virgil Scripcariu – Lithographs – Via Transilvanica,"* with artists Ştefan Câlţia and Virgil Scripcariu in attendance.

The opening is followed by a screening of the film *"Şona, a Story Written in Stone"* (34 min), directed by Mircea Gherase, who will also be present. The film is part of the festival's Romanian Competition and explores the world of the village of Şona and painter Ştefan Câlţia.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The festival opens on September 21 at 3:00 PM at Olimpia – the Museum of Mountain Tourism and Sport, with the opening of the exhibition "*The Alps of Alfredo Corti*," produced in collaboration with the Museum of the Mountain in Sondrio, Italy.

At AFI Braşov, the FORONA exhibition "*BLACK AND WHITE*" puts nature photography in focus and can be visited for 30 days starting September 19.

The 11th edition also gives participants the opportunity to meet one of the festival's best-known international guests, **Luc Hardy**, an explorer and photographer whose expeditions to polar and glacial regions have produced images exhibited worldwide and published in international magazines such as *Paris Match* and *GEO*.

Photography meets film again on the evening of September 23, at 8:00 PM, in the Courtyard of the Rectorate of Transilvania University in Braşov, with a screening of the short film "*Archaic*" (France, 14 min), directed by Mathieu Le Lay, in the presence of photographer Jenő Major. The film follows a journey through ethnographic and landscape photography in search of the essence of Romanian village life.

LITERATURE

Four editorial meetings bring authors and stories connected to the mountains, exploration and adventure to the festival: "*Between Two Worlds*," by Viorel Nicolaescu (September 21); "*The Book of Hearts*," by David Neacşu, with Ruxandra Hurezean (September 25); "*Where the Mountains Show No Mercy*," by Rareş Năstase (September 26); and "*Via Ferratas of Romania*," by Paul Crişan (September 27).

The 2026 edition also marks Alpin Film Festival's twinning with **NOD Festival**, a partnership built around shared values and reflected, among other things, in the co-organization of literary events.

MOUNTAINEERING, HERITAGE AND MOUNTAIN MEMORY

This year's edition brings a significant presence of elite mountaineers to Braşov, in a difficult year for world mountaineering that has brought essential themes back into focus — sustainability, endurance, courage and responsibility on the mountain. The program also includes a conference dedicated to high-performance mountaineering, hosted by the Reduta Cultural Center in Braşov.

Another important moment is a meeting with **Horia Colibăşanu**, one of Romania's most accomplished mountaineers, who will give a talk on September 26 at the Reduta Cultural Center in Braşov about his ascent of Nanga Parbat, in the Himalayas.

Also on September 26, in Buşteni, the Aurel Stroe Cultural Center hosts the special screening "*A Mountain of Stories*," drawn from the TVR archives — a selection of footage and stories about the history of the mountains and the people who have shaped mountaineering and mountain exploration in Romania.

WORKSHOPS AND ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

The festival continues its educational component through workshops for children and outdoor activities that bring young people closer to nature, the mountains and movement. The workshops complement the program of screenings and meetings and open the festival to families and to a new generation of mountain lovers.

In 2026, Alpin Film Festival is launching a new "mountain culture tour," a program running across three cities and aimed at the mountain community and the general public alike.

The full program and information on access and reservations are available at www.alpinfilmfestival.ro and on the Facebook page facebook.com/alpinfilmfestival.

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About Alpin Film Festival

Alpin Film Festival is an international cultural event dedicated to film, books and photography, promoting mountain civilization in all its dimensions — heritage, tourism, ecology, economy, education and sport. Born in the heart of the country, at the gateway to Transylvania, in Braşov, the festival has become a landmark on the map of international mountain cultural events. Since 2020, it has been part of the prestigious **International Alliance for Mountain Film (IAMF)**, alongside 27 festivals from 20 countries across 5 continents.