



EN

Golf

golf guide

Bratislava Region and the surrounding area





MAPA

Bratislava Region and the surrounding area

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HISTORY OF GOLF

Golf is one of the oldest sports in history. According to historical sources, the origins of this game's predecessor date back to the turn of the 13th and 14th centuries in Europe. There are many theories trying to shed light on where the game came from. One theory traces the origins of the game to Scotland, where the shepherds allegedly passed their time by hitting rocks into rabbit holes using their crooks. It must have been a fun activity, because the game was shortly after included in

the local chronicles, seeing as though an artefact was preserved from 1350 depicting a man swinging a club. This image can be found on a stone portal of a window at Gloucester Cathedral in Scotland. The only preserved evidence of the game's existence in the following periods were official documents prohibiting the playing of the game as it was considered a distraction for the

common people. As early as 1424, King James I of Scotland issued an edict prohibiting his subjects from practising this activity on Sundays. In the following years, the Scottish Par valueliamint issued many similar prohibitions, citing the

neglect of archery practice as the reason behind the ban. Another edict from 1491 reasoned that men playing golf were weird, allegedly neglected their families and squandered money. Several other theories



are equally interesting. One centres around the Roman Empire, where the game of paganica garnered great popularity. Players used wooden sticks to hit a leather ball into a hole. Others cite chuiwan as golf's antecedent, where "chui" means striking and "wan" means small ball. A Ming Dynasty scroll dating back to 1368 shows a member of the Imperial family playing what appears to be a game of golf. The game is thought to have been introduced into Europe at the turn of the 10th and 11th Centuries. Other references to similar games are also noteworthy: cambuca or pall-mall were games played in England and chambot or chole in France. The ancient Persians are believed to have played a game called chaugán and the Dutch a game called kolven.

The etymology of the word golf

The origin of the word golf has also been debated to no end. Linguists found the origins of the word golf in the English language, as evidenced by documents dating back to 1457. The



The first organised golf club with written rules of golf was founded in 1744 in Edinburgh.

word is similar sounding to the Scottish word gouf, whereas the Dutch use the words colf and colve to mean a club. A bit of a more humorous theory says that the word originated as an acronym of "Gentlemen Only Ladies Forbidden". Another possible acronym is speculated to have been "Greatest Of Live's

Frustrations". Those who play golf understand very well what the author of the phrase intended to say.

World's first golf club

The first organised golf club with written rules of golf was founded in 1744 in Edinburgh.



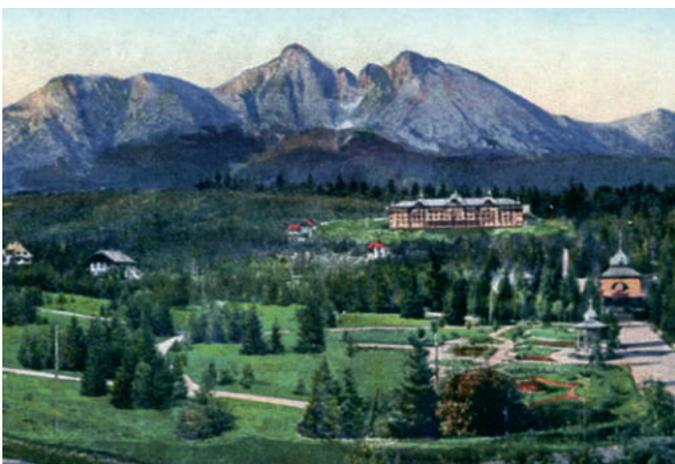
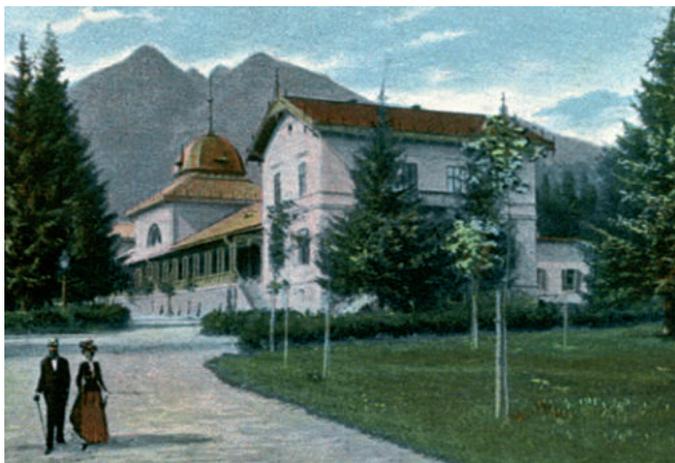
GOLF IN SLOVAKIA

According to historical sources, the first golf course was built in Tatranská Lomnica in the early 1900s. This is evidenced by an article in the 27th issue of the newspaper Karpáthen Post published on 5 June 1906 in Kežmarok, in which the first mention appeared regarding the game of golf being played in Tatranská Lomnica on 29 July 1906 on the



occasion of the opening of the bathing season. The game was played in the area that can be found to this day in the maps under the name

"Golfová lúka" (Golf meadow). However, we have found an even older report in the archives from 1902 about the game of golf that was demonstrated on the horse racecourse in Veľká Lomnica in that same year. According to the materials available, the game was but a mere social event. It was not until 1909 that the game became codified and organised, the first 18-hole golf course was built and a golf club was founded in Tatranská Lomnica. As historical sources state, the golf course was designed by the civil engineer Dezső Lauber. The course was built on the premises of Sándor Nákó and took 4 months to build. The construction was supervised by R. Williams, an English colonel and a military attaché. The cost was borne by three aristocrats: Count Gejza Zichy Lipót, Count István Széchenyi, and Baron Miklós Vécsey. The sets of golf club used in the first tournament were ordered from England. The first tournament started on Wednesday, 11 August 1909. It is interesting to note that since the game's very beginnings in Slovakia, women have enjoyed playing golf just as much as men. This is supported by the fact that a women's tournament was organised on the golf course in Tatranská Lomnica in that same month.





The beginnings of golf in Piešťany

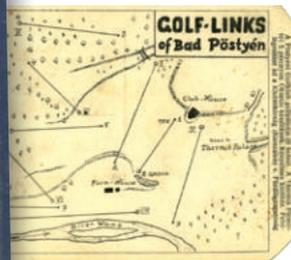
In 1914, upon the foundation of the first golf course in the High Tatras, another golf course was built, this time in Piešťany. This was just before the start of World War I. At the time, the English magazine *Golf Illustrated* wrote the following about the course: "The most beautiful golf course on the continent has just been opened in Piešťany Spa (Austria-Hungary), only 3 hours away by train from Vienna. It is beautifully situated between the Carpathians and the Váh River, a 5-minute walk from the Thermia Palace Hotel." It was set to be opened on 26 July 1914. On that occasion, a so-called Flying Day took place on the golf course. Two days later, news about

the outbreak of the First World War arrived in Piešťany. During the period between the two world wars, the game of golf blossomed at the world-famous spa. European nobility, as well as the local elite, visited Kúpeľný ostrov (The Spa Island) in order to play this gentleman's game. This fact, along with the information that the same thing happened on all the other continents, gave rise to the belief that golf is a game of the privileged. This was true in the past. As time went on, however, those that were interested in playing were increasingly given the opportunity to engage in activities

that strengthened both the body and the soul, and, as a result, the game became no longer exclusive to top athletes only.

Golf Etiquette

It is a well-known fact that there is no other sport that has at its core as many principles of generosity, good manners, and pure sportsmanship as golf does. The etiquette is included in the game's rules. And there's more. Do you know a sport which guarantees equal competition between professionals and recreational players, families and children, juniors and seniors, etc.? Where in other sport disciplines you often have to say goodbye to your dream of representing your country when you are still young, in golf you can represent Slovakia even if you are in your sixties or seventies, as there





are regular European Championships and World Championships for these categories, as well.

What is golf?

Simply put – golf is a sport in which players use special clubs to hit balls into a series of holes. The game is played on a course in a natural environment and the terrain is shaped in such a way as to keep the game interesting and challenging at the same time. A course contains 18 holes. The players use clubs to strike the balls. As a general rule, the player with the fewest strokes wins the game. Each course has its par, i.e. the predetermined number of strokes that put a ball in a hole. It is the number of strokes a golfer should require to complete a hole. The courses usually consist of par 3, par 4 and par 5 holes. It can be concluded that the overall course par score is the summation of

all 18 holes. Master golf courses and the so-called great courses usually have overall par values of 72. Another interesting fact is that, unlike many sports, golf is played, for the most part, without the supervision of a referee or umpire. The section Etiquette and Behaviour on the Course in the Rules of Golf states that the game relies on the integrity of the individual to show consideration for other players and to abide by the rules.

What is the spirit of the game?

This term is also explained in the rules. You abide by the spirit of the game if you conduct yourself in a disciplined manner, demonstrate courtesy and sportsmanship at all times, irrespective of how competitive you may be, as the overriding principle of golf is that consideration should be shown to others on the course at

all times. This exceptional game seems to literally embody the values that are frequently talked about, yet rarely abided by in real life. It is noble and uplifting at the same time. This might be one of the many reasons behind the game's popularity or its expansion in the world. As impossible as this may sound, there are more golfers in the world than there are football players and the game is played on every continent, including Antarctica. It is for these reasons that golf should be viewed as a sporting and social phenomenon of global importance. We should consider it as part of an active lifestyle, as an activity that looks after the health of the world's population. Moreover, many countries learned long ago that this sport is an integral part of tourism and, in addition to its health benefits, it produces considerable revenue as well. ●



PENATI GOLF RESORT

Šajdíkové Humence

A large resort with two master 18-hole courses, training grounds, and a modern Club House is situated in the vicinity of the village of Šajdíkové Humence and the district town of Senica. The Legend Course was designed by the design firm Nicklaus Design and the design of the Heritage Course was entrusted to Jonathan Davison. Penati Golf Resort is a singular project in Slovakia and one of the most beautiful resorts in Europe. The authors

constructed the resort in a slightly undulating location amidst pine forests on land interspersed with white sand dunes. A unique feature of the Legend Course is the 716-metre-long 15th hole with 11 teeing grounds, which makes it the longest hole in Europe. Ever since its foundation, the resort has been professionally managed and both master courses have received top-notch professional care. In addition to the 36-hole golf course

on par with European standards, the resort offers a plethora of possibilities for relaxing and spending active leisure time. In recent years, lots of recreational villas were built by the beautiful lakes lined with sandy beaches. The resort also offers lucrative plots of land for family homes to be built according to the unique specifications of their future owners. ●



Background information

Number of courses: 2

LEGEND

Par value: 72

Length: 6 313 m

HERITAGE

Par value: 72

Length: 6 230 m

Number of holes: 36

Driving range

Pro-shop

Restaurant

Changing rooms/showers

Instructional golf course/
golf instructor

Golf Services Fees

9 holes/18 holes

Monday - Thursday

€41/€75

Friday - Sunday

€51/€95



Address

Penati Golf Resort

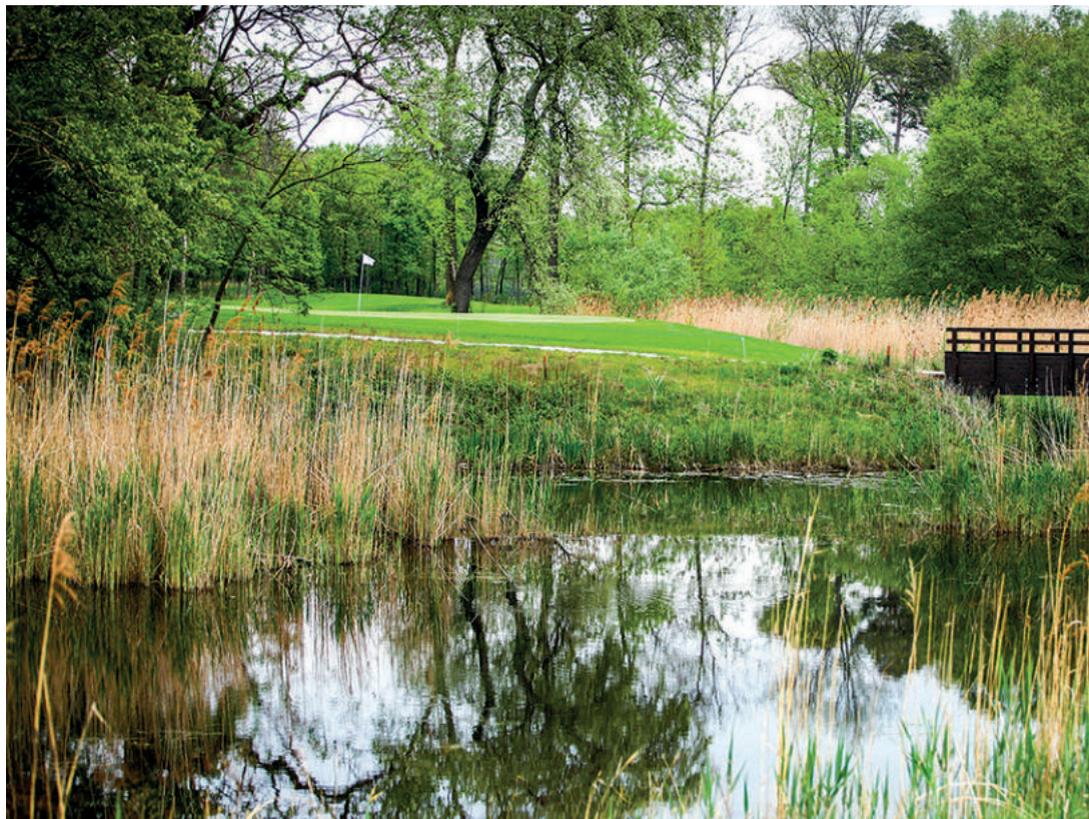
Šajdíkove Humence 453

906 07 Senica

☎ +421 34 397 97 77

✉ info@penatigolfresort.sk

🌐 www.penatigolfresort.sk



GOLF RESORT

Sedín

In April 2017, a master 18-hole course located in the vicinity of the village of Velké Úľany, in between the towns of Galanta and Dunajská Streda, opened its doors to golfers. This generously-designed and professionally-built golf course offers interesting scenery. It is surrounded by the beautiful alluvial forests by the Little Danube. The landscape alternates between forests and plains and part of the

course is in a British links-style. Bodies of water accompanying the players around several holes are an inseparable part of the course. The surrounding nature with bodies of water creates a perfect synergy of golf and recreational activities. The golf course is demanding in nature and will thoroughly examine the abilities of players of all skill levels. The resort is supplemented with generous modern club house ac-

commodation, including a quality restaurant with a capacity of 70 seats, modern changing rooms and spacious terrace. Social events are hosted in a multi-purpose hall designed by the architects as a separate building. As a matter of course, the resort includes training grounds with 3-par training tracks and a driving range. ●



Background information

Number of courses: 1
Par value: 73
Length: 6 492 m
Number of holes: 18

Driving range

Pro-shop

Restaurant

Changing rooms/showers

Instructional golf course/
golf instructor

Golf Services Fees

9 holes/18 holes

Monday - Thursday

€32/€49

Friday – Sunday + public holidays

39/€65



Address

Sedín Golf Resort

925 22 Velké Úľany

Nové Osady 110

☎ +421 313 700 307

+421 918 169 141

✉ info@golfsedin.sk

🌐 www.golfsedin.sk



GREEN RESORT

Hrubá Borša

A majestic golf resort with training grounds, a 9-hole golf academy, and an 18-hole master golf course is located in the village of Hrubá Borša near the town of Senec. Generous high-quality club house accommodation is part of the resort. Ever since its establishment, the 27-hole golf resort has been kept in excellent condition. The golf courses are suitable for golfers of all skill levels. The resort is among the most popular in Slovakia. In 2013, a 9-hole public golf

course was opened at the Green Resort, where golfers can train and practise predominantly short play and test their knowledge of the rules of golf. The surrounding alluvial forests, a large number of bodies of water and the 16th hole situated on a peninsula make the resort all the more appealing. Nearly half of the eighteen fairways border lakes. The chief designer of the golf course was the architect Martin Munka who collaborated on this project with Dávid Zále-

ský. The final appearance of both the fairways and the greens was provided by the internationally-renowned English shaper Chris Horn. The 18-hole master course has been open since 10 August 2014. The top-notch quality of the grass on the fairways is worth noting since the designers used the same type that is usually sown only on the putting greens in this country. This type of grass is, however, used at the majority of the top golf courses in the world. ●



Background information

Number of courses: 2

Par value: 72

Length: 6 646 m

Number of holes: 9 + 18

Driving range

Pro-shop

Restaurant

Changing rooms/showers

Instructional golf course/

golf instructor

Golf Services Fees

9 holes/18 holes

Monday – Thursday

€32/€45

Friday – Sunday + public holidays

€37/€55



Address

Green Resort

925 23 Hrubá Borša 35

☎ +421 902 602 737

+421 910 925 924

✉ repcia@golfborsa.sk

🌐 www.golfborsa.sk



GRAFOBAL GROUP GOLF RESORT Skalica

The master 18-hole golf course is part of the urban area, accessible by foot from the residential part of the city of Skalica. The course was designed by the top Austrian architect, Hans-Georg Erhardt, who created nearly thirty courses in Europe and Africa. His course design in Skalica incorporates link-type golf courses and the entire course is situated on an area of almost 85

ha and, with its length, it is among the longest courses in Slovakia. There are five lakes situated in the area. The Grafobal Group Golf Resort in Skalica has been open since 2009. The resort offers a covered 250-metre-long practice teeing ground, a putting and chipping green, and a pleasant restaurant in the club house with a terrace, where local culinary specialities are

served. Its nice lounge is suitable for sport and private events. ●



Background information

Number of courses: 1
Par value: 72
Length: 6 577 m
Number of holes: 18

Driving range

Pro-shop

Restaurant

Changing rooms/showers

Instructional golf course/
golf instructor

Golf Services Fees

9 holes/18 holes

Monday - Thursday

€20/€40

Friday – Sunday + public holidays

€25/€50



Address

Grafobal Group Golf Resort

Štvrte v Jazernom poli 2650

909 01 Skalica

☎ +421 34 774 96 27

+421 910 925 121

✉ recepacia@golfskalica.sk

🌐 www.golfskalica.sk



EUROVALLEY GOLF PARK

Malacky

The extensive golf resort is situated at the eastern border of the town of Malacky. There are three 27-hole courses (Public, Sand, and White), training grounds, a driving range and a club house situated in the beautiful natural surroundings of pine trees. White Eurovalley Golf Park was ceremonially opened in July 2009. Along with the oldest resort in Slovakia – Golf and

Country Club Bratislava–Bernolákovo – it forms the Black & White Resort. The two are located in the vicinity of Bratislava. A club house with sanitary facilities and a restaurant with a capacity of 40 persons (interior) and 80 persons (terrace) are part of the resort. The resort offers sporting goods rental, as well as the full services of a golf academy. The complex consists of

two courses. The Public Course (9 holes) is 2,799 m long, par 36, and is designated for beginner golfers. The 18-hole White Course consists of two parts: the Sand Course (9 holes, length of 3,095 m, par 37) and the Pine Course (9 holes, length of 3,308 m, par 38.5). ●



Background information

Number of courses: 3
Par value: 72
Length: 6 406 m
Number of holes: 27

Driving range

Pro-shop

Restaurant

Changing rooms/showers

Instructional golf course/
golf instructor

Golf Services Fees

9 holes/18 holes

Monday - Thursday

PUBLIC: €15/€20

WHITE/Sand + Pine: €30/€45

Friday – Sunday + public holidays

PUBLIC: €20/€30

WHITE: €35/€60



Address

Eurovalley Golf Park Club

Továrenská ulica

901 01 Malacky

☎ +421 911 243 101

✉ club.malacky@golf.sk

🌐 www.golf.sk



BLACK RIVER GOLF RESORT

Bernolákovo

The modern history of golf in Slovakia began in Bernolákovo. The first 9 holes entitled Park were ceremonially opened in September 1995. The park golf course was built in a palace park and, although small in size, it became an important milestone, which launched the rapid development of golf in Slovakia. The construction of the other parts of the resort

ensued and the 18-hole Black River Course was opened in June 2006. In 2017, a full renovation of the baroque castle Theresia Chateau was launched. The castle serves as a club house for the members of the Golf and Country Club Bratislava–Bernolákovo, includes the Maria Theresa restaurant, and provides accommodation for visitors, as well. The Black River Course is

built in diverse natural conditions, the elevation change between the holes in the first half of the course is almost 30 metres. The second half of the course is dominated by bodies of water. The Black River golf course is one of the most challenging in Slovakia. According to the international assessment, it is among the toughest golf courses in Europe. ●



Background information

Number of courses: 2

Par value: 73

Length: 6 483 m

Number of holes: 12 + 18

Driving range

Pro-shop

Restaurant

Ubytovanie

Instructional golf course/
golf instructor

Golf Services Fees

12 holes/18 holes

Monday – Thursday

PARK: €25/€35

BLACK RIVER: €35/€45

Friday – Sunday + public holidays

PARK: 40/€45

BLACK RIVER: €45/€65



Address

Black River Golf Resort

Kaštieľ 5

900 27 Bernolákovo

☎ +421 2 4599 4221

✉ club.bernakovo@golf.sk

🌐 www.golf.sk



FAMILY GOLF RESORT WELTEN Báč

The resort is located in the south of Slovakia, a mere 23 km from Bratislava. It was opened in 2007 and, in addition to the master golf course, the resort offers its visitors the services of a golf academy, a driving range, and a club house with a restaurant and accommodation. The course in Báč is flat for the most part, and its fairways are shaped in an interesting way. During its first few years, the place suffered, especially in the summer months,

due to the lack of natural shade. In 2014, the situation changed for the better. On the recommendation of the course's architect H. G. Erhardt, many trees were planted, which noticeably revived and beautified the environment. The course is rich with sand bunkers. The resort is appealing to all categories of golfers regardless of their level of handicap. Visitors have an opportunity to practice at a 3-hole academy, which is ideal for beginner golfers. Players

without a green card can play there, as well. The training zone also includes two chipping and putting greens, and a 300-m-long driving range with seven green targets. The night-time lighting of the driving range makes training an even more unique and attractive experience and is a rarity in Slovakia. In case of bad weather conditions, players may use the covered part of the teeing ground. ●



Background information

Number of courses: 1

Par value: 72

Length: 6 180 m

Number of holes: 18

Driving range

Pro-shop

Restaurant

Changing rooms/showers

Accommodation

Instructional golf course/
golf instructor

Golf Services Fees

9 holes/18 holes

Monday – Thursday

€25/€45

Friday – Sunday + public holidays

€35/€60



Address

Family Golf Resort Welten

Báč 113

930 30 Báč

☎ +421 315 911 111

+421 313 812 190

✉ recepacia@welten.sk

🌐 www.welten.sk



GOLF CLUB PEGAS

Lozorno

The second oldest golf facility in Slovakia currently offers a 9-hole golf course, generously-designed training grounds, 55 teeing grounds on a driving range, 12 of which are covered and illuminated with artificial lightning, three chipping and putting greens, two sand bunkers and one pitching green. The resort also has a club house. Golf Club Pegas was estab-

lished in 1998. As the years went by, the size of the golf course expanded from the original three to the current nine holes, on which HCP tournaments have been played since 2009. Two years later, a new club house was opened, which gradually became the centre of life at the club. The golf training at the Lozorno resort is provided by several qualified golf

professionals. Besides individual lessons for beginners and advanced players, it is possible to complete a course in order to obtain the so-called green card. The club with a flying horse on its emblem places great emphasis on the training of the young, which is done in the form of group training under the supervision of individual coaches. ●



Background information

Number of courses: 1
Par value: 30
Length: 1 619 m
Number of holes: 9

Driving range

Pro-shop

Instructional golf course/
golf instructor

Refreshments

Golf Services Fees

9 holes/18 holes

Monday – Friday

€15/€25

Weekends + public holidays

€18/€29



Address

Golfový klub Pegas

Potočná 942

900 55 Lozorno

☎ +421 917 624 876

✉ golflozorno@golflozorno.sk

🌐 www.golflozorno.sk



GOLF CLUB CARPATIA

Záhorská Bystrica

The only golf course situated within the boundaries of Bratislava is located between the boroughs of Devínska Nová Ves and Záhorská Bystrica, in the area of Poľný mlyn, in the neighbourhood of an equestrian resort. Currently, the 9-hole course offers the opportunity for golf training and the resort includes a club

house. Practice teeing grounds, putting and chipping greens, and sand bunkers for training your sand technique are also available. The urban golf course GC Carpatia has undeniable advantages due to its accessible location. The course is flat for the most part with a lot of sand bunkers. ●



Background information

Number of courses: 1

Par value: 32

Length: 1 916 m

Number of holes: 9

Driving range

Instructional golf course/
golf instructor

Refreshments

Golf Services Fees

9 holes/18 holes

Monday

€11/€15

Tuesday – Friday

€15/€20

Weekends + public holidays

€20/€25



Address

Golf Club Carpatia

Bratislava – Záhorská Bystrica,
Poľný Mlyn

☎ +421 948 660 113

✉ recepacia@golf-carpatia.sk

🌐 www.golf-carpatia.sk



GOLF RESORT ČIERNA VODA

Chorvátsky Grob

The resort is located in close proximity to the Šúrsky prales nature reserve, only about 15 minutes from Bratislava city centre. Together with the Agatka hotel, they form a complex, where both golf enthusiasts and complete beginners, individually or in groups, find suitable conditions for learning how to play or for practising their golf skills. The resort features

a 9-hole academic golf course situated in the hotel courtyard, which also offers a beautiful view of the Little Carpathians. The lengths of the individual holes are shorter than on conventional courses, yet they are sufficient for the training of techniques and rules of golf. The bodies of water and the biotope keep the course interesting. The golf academy also includes a driv-

ing range, a summer green with five practise holes, practise sand bunkers, a body of water, putting and chipping greens, and a summer terrace with refreshments. Golf Club Elán, the oldest golf club in the country – founded in 1973, is located there. ●



Background information

Number of courses: 1

Number of holes: 9

Driving range

Restaurant

Accommodation

Instructional golf course/
golf instructor

Golf Services Fees

9–18 holes: €10

18 and more holes: €15



Address

Golf Klub Elán

Pezinská 901/5

900 25 Chorvátsky Grob

☎ +421 2 4594 3611

✉ info@hotelagatka.sk

🌐 www.gcelan.sk



GOLF DRIVING RANGE

Pezinok

A public golf driving range situated at the foot of the Little Carpathians, in the vicinity of the Philippe Pinel Hospital in Pezinok. There are 25 teeing grounds in the area and 10,000 golf balls available. Visitors who do not need a green card to practise golf in Pezinok can use a sand bunker for training their sand techniques, and putting and chipping greens. Golfers and

non-golfers alike may enjoy the pleasant surroundings and come to the Albatros Café for refreshments before and after their practice. The place is part of the so-called Relaxation and Leisure Park (Park oddychu a umenia) with exhibitions of various works of art, and an outdoor viticulture museum with vineyards of typical wine grape varieties. Ever since its foundation

in 2013, Driving Range Pezinok has been organising creative workshops, and the works of art that are created become a permanent part of this place of sports and culture. The driving range in Pezinok is a good example of the synergy of sports and the city. It creates and deepens the relationship of both golfers towards golf and the citizens towards their city. ●



Background information

Driving range

Number of teeing grounds: 25

Pro-shop

Restaurant

Instructional golf course/
golf instructor

Golf Services Fees

Entry fee: €2

Bucket of 42 balls: €2.50

Club rental: €1 per piece



Address

Golf Driving Range

Kutuzovova 1/A

902 01 Pezinok

☎ +421 903 791 543

+421 907 977 701

✉ info@golfpezinok.sk

🌐 www.golfpezinok.sk

GLOSSARY OF GOLF

You can find below several key terms specific and unique for the noble game of golf.

Green: The area of specially prepared, cut and rolled grass around a hole. Oftentimes it is difficult to get the golf ball on to the green but, in most cases, the ball lands there at long last.

Teeing ground: The area where players tee off to start a hole. The player focuses on his first shot on hole, which can prove a success or a future disaster. The other players should keep that in mind and refrain from disturbing the player. They should focus just as much in order to identify the direction and location of the teed-off ball.

Fairway: The area of the course between the teeing ground and the green that is well-maintained. It is usually the best place for the next shot because you cannot lose the ball on the fairway; you can, therefore, play comfortably. It is easier to play the ball from the fairway than from the rough, although that doesn't mean you should be proud of yourself if, on a par-3 hole, your ball is still on the fairway after five strokes.

Rough: The area of the course where the grass is cut higher and is often of a coarser strain than on

the fairways. Finding your ball in taller grass or in a forest doesn't spell disaster (provided that you find the ball at all), it is easier, however, to play the ball on a fairway or putt on a green.

Stroke: Any forward motion of a golf club with the intention of hitting the ball. Keep in mind that, even if you do not hit the ball, it still counts as a stroke in the overall score. Beginner golfers especially tend to disregard this fact and, in cases where they try to hit the ball and whiff, they simply state it was only the last practise swing.

Putt: Every shot played on the green in order to put a ball into a hole. A special golf club with a very flat, low-profile face (a sort of small hammer with a long handle) called a putter is used for putting. In theory, there should be a maximum of two putts per hole, yet only practice will show what the reality is. Remember! Putting is a very important part of golf. If par for an 18-hole course is 72 strokes, exactly half of those strokes are allotted for putts. Putting has one big advantage – it is one of the only golf strokes which you can practise in the comfort of

your living room or in your office. It is not recommended to practise the other strokes in enclosed spaces (unless you are the owner of a glazier's shop or your hobby is painting ceilings).

Par: The predetermined number of strokes that a 0-handicap golfer should require to complete a hole. The courses usually consist of par 3, par 4 and par 5 holes. There are some par 6 holes and, allegedly, somewhere in Japan, there is a par 8 hole on a course. However, there is no such hole on master courses. Par is very satisfying for each golfer, except for those gentlemen you see on sports news playing in the PGA Championships who do not even crack a smile.

Overall course par: The summation of all 18 holes. Championship golf courses and the so-called great courses usually have overall par values of 72. However, completing a great course in fewer than 100 strokes is not a bad result at all.

Links: Originally, golf was played on coastal dunes in Scotland, England, Ireland, and the Netherlands, which utilised the natural conditions of the terrain,

where golf courses were relatively easily positioned, such as sand dunes and bodies of water. Today, links are characterised by a slightly undulating surface, relatively small yet very deep sandy soil, coarse grass, and islands of thick open heathland. Typically, they can be found on the British Isles but also in other places, where investors and architects decided to build more challenging courses.

Shaper: A particularly important expert operating a machine similar to a bulldozer, which he uses to form the final shape of the individual fairways on the golf course, based on the designer's plan.

Slope rating: A measure of the difficulty of a golf course. The higher the slope rating of a course is, the more difficult it is for players. A golf course of average playing difficulty has a slope rating ranging from 120 to 130. The Black River golf course in Bernolákovo has a slope rating of 146 and is one of the most difficult golf courses in Europe.

Green fee, fee: The charge a golfer needs to pay in order to play. It is paid before you start playing. If you are a member of a golf club, you do not pay the green fee in order to play on the course of said club, because you are already paying the mem-

bership fee and the green fee is included in it.

Fore: A very important term in golf. It is an interjection used to warn players standing in the flight path of your ball. As it is an interjection, it should be adequately loud. If your ball is the one flying towards other players, you are relatively safe if you only whisper this interjection. Safe until you later meet the players in person, that is. On the other hand, if your ball is firmly placed on the ground in front of you, and you hear someone yelling fore, you should immediately turn your back on the person yelling and cover your head. Golf balls are very hard and, therefore, dangerous. Had golf originated in Slovakia, golfers would have been yelling: varúúúúj (watch out!).

Handicap: A number assigned to each player based on his playing ability. The lower the number, the better the golfer is. Professional golfers have a handicap of 0 and beginner golfers a handicap of 54. In addition to indicating your skill level, a handicap allows you to play with better golfers and beat them, provided that your skill level is taken into account during the game (in a so-called handicapped game).

Caddie, caddy: A person who carries the player's golf clubs and other golf equipment.

A caddie is the only person the player can receive advice from. Professional golfers consider caddies as more than just people carrying clubs. Their caddies offer advice during the game on to how to swing, which club to use, and in what direction to putt the golf ball. Each player may use one caddie.

Hole-in-one: When the ball goes directly into the hole with one stroke. Every golfer's dream. The worst thing is when you finally manage to score one and there are no witnesses around because you have been playing by yourself. In that case, it's better not tell anyone as it does not sound credible. If, however, you have a witness around when you score a hole-in-one, it is tradition to buy a round of drinks for all golfers on the course at the time. It is not exactly a cheap dream. Professional golfers even purchase hole-in-one insurance because there is nothing worse than breaking tradition. Scoring a hole-in-one is an indescribable feeling. The ball you played has to be replaced with another one immediately and kept in a place of honour as a golf trophy. You may put other balls around the winning ball in order for it to teach the others to be played in one stroke. It doesn't help much, though. After all, golf balls are a bit thick...

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