

Magazine

Bratislava region

SLOVAKIA magazine

TRAVEL TIPS AROUND THE BEST PARTS OF THE BRATISLAVA REGION

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tourist edition
look



Slovak Tahiti

Slnčné jazerá attract a great holiday near water



Wine secrets

Visit a region with a long wine-making tradition



Through Morava river valley

You'll get to know Záhorie's natural beauty from the seat of a bicycle



Bratislava region



Ivan Marek

He is the author of concepts, texts of promotional materials, scriptwriter and director of dozens of films, author of photographs and multimedia in tourism



Photo: Peter Fialo

Silvia Krpelanová

Journalist, playwright and presenter

Dear readers,

In your hands, you are holding the First Edition of Look at it! A tourist edition magazine in Slovakia. This magazine brings you tips on where to stop, what to discover, what's happening on the other side of the region, and in an attractive way who the local people can be proud of. It's a great pleasure for me that the Bratislava region is the first one in Slovakia engaging in Look at it!

The editions of the magazine don't replace tourist guides, but there are stories of people, institutions and companies who spread the glory of their location with their skills and abilities far beyond their region. They're personalities who move the boundaries of their field, just a little further. They're from both public and private spheres. You can find them all over the region and their stories are mostly about great effort, courage and vision. While travelling around the Bratislava Region, I met many of them, I admire them and I am very grateful for them.

The aim of the Bratislava Region magazine is to evoke emotions in the readers from stories, professional photographs and graphic purity among various media. To bring readers the experience of a high-quality, paper-based magazine with pictures. That's why such great appreciation is given to all those who participated in the magazine's creation. Editors, production, graphic designers, photographers and workers from the Bratislava Self-Governing Region. A big thank you is also sent to all the partners involved in the Bratislava Region magazine project.

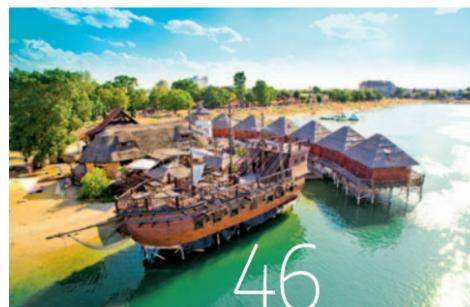
Enjoy reading

Ivan Marek
 Publisher of Look at it! Tourist Edition
www.lookatit.tips

13 years ago, I was a foreigner in Bratislava. I found my first alternative home in Petržalka, although, people I know warned me about it. The terrible warnings about the concrete jungle with the drug scene haven't been fulfilled. On the contrary, the prejudices have disappeared, although, and this is true, Bratislava and its surroundings have many faces. Not all of them are perfect, but they have their unique glory. Their story and not just that. On a daily basis I convince myself that I want to live here. Because it's like standing under a tree with apples, plums or walnuts. Everything you need and love is so close, you just can't forget that every tree needs looking after. Now let the story begin...

Silvia Krpelanová
 Editor

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Title page photo: Devín.

Juraj Droba

The president of the Bratislava Region provided his own tips on the most interesting places in the area.



Photo: Darina Ižipová

You are a Bratislava native. Are there any places in the Bratislava Region that have a special meaning for you?

Devín Castle, Calvary in Hlboká Street in Bratislava, Pajštún, Ivanská Šturovka, the centre of Pezinok... I have specific memories of each of these places, or they are places where I am very happy to return, today with my son.

Where do you relax best?

In the summer the Senec Lakes are very pleasant; for active relaxation on a bike I like going to the forests of the Little Carpathians, to the Wild Water Resort in Čunovo and also to the Calvary in Hlboká Street in Bratislava, which is an interesting location. Lourdes Cave, originally a quarry, is located there. It is a site with an exceptional atmosphere. I used to really enjoy going there to sit, but unfortunately I don't have much time for that these days.

What does the Bratislava Region offer for foreign visitors?

Many attractions can be found in a small area, and in summer, visitors can enjoy the city with an almost subtropical climate. Bratislava itself is a very interesting for being vibrant and lively. Few people realize that when you walk around the city you still meet mostly local residents, which is definitely not the case in Budapest, Prague or even Vienna, where you mostly run into tourists. But in Bratislava you still get the local Slovak colour. There is also a wide range of water sports, biking, wine tourism, golf, musical landmarks, monuments tied to Habsburg and Napoleonic history, excavations from Roman Celtic and Great Moravian times, hillforts, castles, ruins, chateaux, palaces, ... There is an amazing mix of many possibilities in a very small area.

You meet with many foreign partners. What do they like in our region?

The region is appreciated best by foreign diplomats working in Slovakia because they are insiders who still have a view from the outside. Above all they enjoy the accessibility, the ease of moving from one place to another, and hence good transport. (laughs.) They positively assess the overall quality of life, starting with safety and including water purity, nearby nature and relatively good services. The view of foreigners is much less critical than ours.

Does the Bratislava Region also offer something for domestic tourists?

Certainly, you can see this in the popularity of the Small Carpathian Wine Route. It is confirmed by forests full of tourists, the high traffic on recreational cycling trails and the inline skating track along the river; these are locals, not foreigners. These places are proof that people also enjoy our region for recreation.

Do you have a good tip for active relaxation for families with children?

For families with children, I would definitely recommend Železná studienka, Horský park and Horáreň, which also organises many events for children in Bratislava. There are a great number of sporting opportunities at Kamzík. Families can ride the cable car that connects Kamzík with the Železná studienka. This cable car reminds many parents of their childhood. A good tip for a trip is Červený Kameň Castle, which is both fun and educational.



Photo: BSK

Visit the region of unlimited possibilities

When they send you to 'UFO' in Bratislava, you can find it easily: look for the sun or raise your head to the stars. From here, from above, you will see up to 100 km in good visibility. The beautiful countryside through which the Danube flows spreads out before you. Discover it all: by walking, cycling, by car or boat.



Photo: VideoFly studio



Photo: Daniela Matuskova

Adela Vinczeová: Bratislava is just fine

A well-known presenter looks at Bratislava with a critical eye, but at the same time, she sees it with the loving look of a person who sincerely likes it. We talked in a place where the cars don't stop and you can sit in the shade of the trees .

This kind of unique place is Adela's favourite.

You were born in Bratislava, but as a child, you lived in East Germany for years. You also did a lot of travelling. Do you get a nice warm heartbeat when you return home?

It depends on where I am returning from. In July, we were in Hronec, organising a theatre camp, there were no billboards, no visual smog disturbing me, so on that occasion I didn't have the "heartbeat". But sometimes I really can't wait to get home. It's different, but the emotion changes on the way to the city.

Continues on p. 8



Is there a place in Bratislava, where you get butterflies in your stomach, for example, in the place where you were first kissed?

I have rather a great feeling of well-being from few of the places I live in. For example, here in Karlova Ves, where I live. When someone from Vranov or Ružomberok starts telling me about Bratislava being made of concrete, and how we live here with hardly any nature, I say it isn't true, because I have the apartment closer to the woods in Bratislava than they have there. Karlovka is proof for me that it is possible to live in a city near nature.

And can you imagine living somewhere else?

In Bratislava?

For example, in this region.

Is there a village, a small town you like?

I like Svätý Jur, where we actually had the real wedding. It is a place with good energy. I also go to the wine tours. We have family there – Bogнар wine-growers, so I am very close to it. But I can't really say whether I could live outside Bratislava. Because rural life is often associated with false illusions about

a happy life in the peace. Then we suddenly begin to go crazy due to the strong peace.

In Svätý Jur you had a ceremony, the wedding was in Tomášovský kaštieľ ...

Well yes, Tomášov is a place where the heartbeat can be...

Why did you choose these two places?

In Svätý Jur we had the Evangelical background and we went to pre-marriage preparation. Directly opposite the parish office, there is a winery belonging to my cousin and her husband and the wedding was held in their courtyard, such a small Provencal style, nice. It all fell into place nicely. We chose Tomášov, because even though it's a very busy place, it's nice and I didn't want to invent any original versions in the old factory or in the water tent. And we were very lucky with the date. We decided to get married on the June 10 just for fun regarding the month after we started dating. But here in Tomášov they're usually booked a year in advance, but we tried. My friend called in and they told her it was possible because someone else had just cancelled their event, such a coincidence.

It looks like destiny....

So we had to hold it there. (smile)

You talked about wine and Svätý Jur. But you are well-known for promoting a healthy lifestyle.

Do you enjoy wine tours?

I think I'm more of a promoter than an implementer. I also know people who live healthier. For example, when I was in the camp it was all diverse, not just a healthy

lifestyle. But I like wine tours because it has a certain culture. It's very charming to enter those cellars – each has its own story. I'm not so familiar with the wine, but I like the atmosphere. For example, the Renaissance House in Svätý Jur has such power that you can even sit there on an old stool and still feel good.

Let's get back from Jur to Bratislava. It is a small capital city.

Does its smallness suit you?

I am delighted with the size of Bratislava. Even though it's not so well discovered yet. In Prague, I feel that they should sell poking devices for tourists to allow them to get somewhere. When there are too many people, the charm of that place is lost. Perhaps it would help tourism, but it doesn't bother me when something doesn't attract so much attention. Maybe it's because I attuned to it.

Urbanists and architects say that Bratislava doesn't have a clear concept, conservationists are critical that its lost its sights that Genia Loci had, ... others lack the underground. What do you think is missing?

I agree with regard to those sights, but there's nothing we can do about that. It's only possible to save what's still there. For example, I am one of the very few people in my area who likes the new building for the Slovak National Gallery. I like it when architectural styles communicate with each other. I miss a little taste in all sorts of insurance companies from the 1990's. And I miss the respect for a period that we may not consider to be the happiest – the socialism. I feel like people divide things – good is just

something very old and then something super modern. But as for a concept – I don't know, because there are so many imperfect things that I consider to be fine because they are also "ours".

There have been different nicknames for Bratislava, some of them being purely purposeful. PARTYslava, BARTislava and others. What nickname would you give it?

Bratislava is just fine. The only things I would improve are the urban bike paths. But otherwise, everything else is just fine as far as I'm concerned. When I'm in the mood to go to the fourth price group pub, I have it right on the street, but I can go to a great restaurant or a luxurious sauna, boat on the abandoned meander of the Danube... We have everything that we want. You can get a great cup of coffee, nature is very close from everywhere, it's relaxing. There is an increasing number of shops with Slovak designed products, interesting concepts of shops – now, for example, one packaging-free, ...



Photo: Daniela Matušková

different alternatives and I like it. But I really wish there was one normal big disco here. Because I love to dance and in the clubs here it's just House and that's crazy music for me. The only alternative is the student clubs in Mlynská Dolina, but it's not for me.

Do you prefer some oldies?

No. Normal Bruno Mars. No remix. Because perhaps the DJs might think that Bruno Mars did it well, but we can do it better and they remix it.

Earth, air, water, and fire – the four elements we find in nature or in the city ... Where would you invite visitors to go in this region to experience it?

Well, if I invite them, it would be crowded there and I wouldn't want to go there then (laughs). If I decided from my point of view, I would send them to the Líščie údolie for a walk. I don't really go to town and culture, because I'm socially busy, therefore, I like to explore this area. For example, I like this restaurant (Kontajner Riviéra) because we are sitting here under the tree and we are on the main road to the pulse of events.

And there are pears over our heads.

Yeah. But we also have great wellness and a few excellent restaurants. I am such a gastro tourist and I enjoy being here in Bratislava as well, although I'm sorry that there are so many tourist restaurants in the centre where the tourist may never return. They offer them "halušky" and cheese and the really good gastronomy is missing. But in fact, the gastronomy is improving nowadays. As I said, just as well.

Bratislava CARD

LOADS OF BENEFITS IN ONE SMALL CARD



The official destination tourist card allows you to get to know and experience the best that the city of Bratislava and the region have to offer.

The main advantage is unlimited travel by public transport in all tariff zones of the Integrated Transport System of the Bratislava Region (IDS BK), including the transport of a single piece of luggage. One child under the age of 16 can also accompany you free of charge. You will certainly also enjoy a free hour-long guided tour of the historical city centre in Slovak, English and German daily at 2 p.m. And don't hesitate to use the Bratislava Card to visit museums and galleries, 12 of which you can enter for free. And that's far from all. Check out www.visitbratislava.com/bc to learn about more than 120 other attractive discounts.

BRATISLAVA



Bratislava Card
1-day: €15
2-day: €17
3-day: €19



The Bratislava region is a challenge for all who are looking for active relaxation on wheels. The EuroVelo 6 and EuroVelo 13 international cycle routes intersect the region and cyclists will also appreciate the Freedom Cycling Bridge.

Bratislava and its surroundings

HAVE THEIR PLACE ON THE EUROPEAN MAP

Freedom Cycling Bridge, photo: VideoFly studio

Petržalka, photo: m-ARK



Freely to Austria via the Freedom Cycling Bridge

The Freedom Cycling Bridge connects Slovakia with Austria and by its name, it's a symbol of what people were waiting for from behind the Iron Curtain for four decades. Forty years had passed until they were able to go freely to the West in 1989 and several more years had passed by before crossing this bridge to Austria was made possible. The steel bridge is over the remains of the original one; the bridge is 955 metres long, its steel structure is 525 metres and is 4 metres wide. The EuroVelo 13 international cycle route leads directly under the Freedom Cycling Bridge on the Slovak side.

EuroVelo 13 (EV13) cycle route

It's also called the Iron Curtain Trail and runs from the Barents Sea in the north of Europe to the Black Sea in the south and passes through Slovakia. It's different in each country through its 9,500-kilometre long route. In Slovakia, it starts at the border crossing of Hohenau – Moravský Sv. Ján and is 87 km long. The diversity of this trail underlines its natural character. The Slovak part of EuroVelo 13 runs on asphalt roads of varying quality and with minimal or almost zero traffic.

EuroVelo 6 (EV 6) cycle route

This European cycle route with a length of 3,653 km has been nicknamed the River Route as it runs from the Atlantic coast from the city of Nantes in France, through Switzerland, and continues through Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania along the River Danube up to the Black Sea. Part of EuroVelo 6 along the Danube is also known as the Danube Cycle Route. The Slovak section starts at the Berg border crossing, ends in Štúrovo and is 168 km long. In Bratislava, it runs along the Danube Dams – from Berg to Čunovo, along the River Danube through Prístavný most (literally Harbour Bridge) towards the village of Hamuliakovo. It has a good asphalt finish on most of the route, making it an attractive route for roller-skaters.



Photo: m-ARK



Photo: m-ARK

Bratislava City

To the place where three countries meet (Trojmedzie)

49 km, bicycle: road
 Petržalka – Berg – Kittsee – Pama – Deutsch Jahrndorf – Trojmedzie – Čunovo – Petržalka
 From the Danube dam go around Pečniansky Forest, where there is the B-S4 Lány military bunker – which nowadays is a museum. Along the dam you reach the borders, take a break on the Berg landing, and through the apricot orchards you will reach Kittsee with a baroque castle. At the meeting point of three national borders, enter Hungary. The route continues to Čunovo, go to Action Park and along the dam to the destination.

The Danube Region



Photo: m-ARK

Trip along the Danube

68 km, road/trekking bicycle
 City of Bratislava – Čunovo – Vojka – Čilistov – Hamuliakovo – Little Danube – City of Bratislava
 Enjoy the charming and albeit dilapidated, neo-gothic manor house in Rusovce with an English-style park, refresh yourself in the Lake of Rusovské and enjoy the surge of adrenaline in the complex of Divoká Voda. Modern art is waiting for you in Danubiana, ferry in Vojka and beer in Hamuliakovo.

BRATISLAVA CITY IS SITUATED AT THE CROSSROADS OF CYCLE ROUTES: EUROVELO 6 AND EUROVELO 13. WE HAVE SELECTED THE 4 MOST INTERESTING ROUTES IN OUR REGION.

Hundreds of kilometres **plenty** of experience

Záhorie Region

To Marianka and Stupava

28 km, bike: trekking
 Devínska Nová Ves – Záhorská Bystrica – Marianka – Stupava – Devínska Nová Ves
 The alluvium of the Morava River is rich in fauna and flora, there is a pleasant stop on the way to Stupava – the Old Bicycle Buffet (Bufet U Starého Bicykla). Check out the park and taste "bryndzové halušky" (a typical Slovak meal – potato dumplings with soft sheep cheese and bacon-bits) at a Biofarma Príroda. In the Marianka pilgrimage with a former Pavlínov's monastery they believe that the local spring is a healing spring. On the way to the starting point of the climb up Sandberg.

Photo: m-ARK



The Small Carpathians Region

Green Bike Tour

71.5 km, bike: mountain
 City of Bratislava, Červený most – Malinský vrch – Biely kríž – Tri kamenné kopce – Slnčné údolie – Limbach – Malý Javorník – Biely kríž – U Slivu – Kamzík – Koliba – Červený most
 You can get refreshments and a boat in Železná studienka, spend the night in tree crowns in Kačín (info@ba-lesy.sk). The milestones are Little Slavin and White Cross. A small circuit will take you back to the starting point through Pánova lúka, Tri duby and Kamzík. The longer circuit continues from Biely kríž through Pezinská Baba to Limbach. At Kamzík go and take a look from the new lookout tower.

Photo: m-ARK



The Small Carpathians Region

This is the place for original ceramics, lovely nature and delicious taste covered with green vineyards



Photo: VÍNA Z MLYNA

Welcome to the region of delicious wines, where the greatest delicacies are prepared using traditional receipts. The region, where you can discover valuable monuments and our nature's jewels while experiencing the great taste of local wines.

In the woods of the Small Carpathians, there are hidden treasures from ancient ages as well as those built recently by man: lookout towers. You can use them to observe the beautiful countryside in this region. Tourists and cyclists can't get enough of this place. What everybody can enjoy, regardless of footwear or the quality of their cycling equipment, is original ceramics, exclusive wines and high level gastronomy. The evidence of the vinicultural tradition is the large vineyards extending over the hills of the Small Carpathians, as well as the people strengthened by hard work. You can taste wines made from grapes that are grown with love during the whole year, even through bad weather, smaller or larger, often family wineries or during many events. The taste of good wine even improves the taste of good food. They're masters at preparing duck and goose meat, "lokše" (thin salty pancake) and apple strudels. You certainly won't leave this place thirsty or hungry!



Photo: m-ARK

Dorota Pospíšilová

She has cultivated varieties of grape wines for which the whole world of wine applauds her

We can thank her for 24 registered grape varieties. The first lady of grapevine breeding in Slovakia, originally from the city of Bratislava – even at the age of almost 90, Mrs. Dorota Pospíšilová is still very active and her current work will have a great impact on the entire wine industry in Slovakia. As a holder of the Crystal Wing Award and Ľudovít Štúr Order of 2nd class, she remains an example of humility and modesty.

You grew up in pre-war Bratislava surrounded by vineyards. Do you miss the old Bratislava?

This topic is still popular; unfortunately, the injustices that happened are irreparable. Socialist concrete cubes and megalomaniac modern villas stretch over the whole area between Račianske mýto and the Carpathians – constructions that leave no space for greenery. European cities with such a disposition protect their vineyards; here, they covered up the hill with concrete. The heart of each and every Bratislava citizen is crying, and crying all the more if they have any connection to vineyards.

What do you remember about a city full of wine bars?

In the autumn, they usually put a huge sphere in front of the wine bars, made from wine leaves, straw or pine to show that they already had young wine to sell. People from far and wide sold their wares on the market – today's Slovenského národného povstania Square. The basic table varieties – Čabianska perla and Chrupky – weren't missing. Of course, there were also shops and bakeries, the old marketplace, but fruit and vegetables were mostly sold on the market. And then socialism came and they took everything from everyone.

Are you from a family of winemakers?

No, my father was a captain in the Austro-Hungarian army, later an official, but it is true that he was sensitive to the taste of wine and could easily determine the region it came from just by the taste. Maybe because of this ability – to determine the quality of food – he became a quartermaster.

It was also thanks to you that Slovakia has made its mark on the world wine map. What made you choose your profession if it wasn't a family tradition?

Many things happened between this and that. In 1937, violent nationalism began to spread through Slovakia, and the ones

who were mainly affected were Jews and Czechs. My father, whose nationality was Czech, was told: "you either move out or you won't get a pension". He should have already been retired at that time. He had just bought a medium-sized property in Miloslavov – Alžbětín dvor, to make sure he had something to do after he retired. He, as a native from Haná, leaned towards this sort of thing, my mother – Viennese – did not. So in 1938, we moved out of Bratislava to the Czech Republic and went to Kralupy nad Vltavou. My bother graduated, but couldn't go to university because during the Protectorate, all the Czech universities were closed for 6 years. Shortly before the end of the war, the city was bombed and we were left with nothing. A priest from Nelahozeves took us in, but we returned to Slovakia soon after. The man to whom my father rented his property before we left slammed the door in our face. They almost didn't accept me in grammar school due to political reasons, but in the end, they let me go there. In 1948, the communists declared that



Devín grape variety, photo: SVČR

parents whose children studied agriculture wouldn't have their property taken away. My father was no longer alive, but my mother and brother decided for me. I had to go to Košice, but I never regretted it. I studied the general field, not viticulture. And, they took our property anyway.

What were your first professional steps?

They assigned me to Boroviec near Piešťany. I refused to live in a room smelling of urine from the stables next door. I worked in Bratislava for a year and then I was approached by the Research Institute of Viticulture and Enology – apparently, they needed a grapevine breeder.

Who was your first teacher? The one who opened the door of knowledge for you?

We had about 2 hectares of experimental vineyards, where we could conduct research, and there was an elderly gentleman from Rača, we called him "Uncle Hrdlička", who knew all varieties of grapevine off-by-heart; he taught me how to cut and split the vine.

Were you even able to do valuable research during those troubled times?

The genetics on which the entire breeding field is built on, was considered a bourgeois hoax. The names of key genetics – Mendel and Morgan – couldn't even be said out loud. They gave us Mičurin as an example, who knew a lot about applied breeding, but that wasn't enough.

Up until today, you have cultivated 24 new varieties of wine. They carry such nature-inspired names as Devín, Dunaj, Hron, and Torysa... Do you come up with those yourself?

Yes, and it isn't easy. The names have to make sense. I'm very interested in history, especially after the time I spent in Algeria. We have many historic monuments, so I decided that I'm obliged to honour the Slovak heritage with our varieties. When naming our table varieties however, I drew my inspiration from gems and planets and the blue wine varieties are named after Slovak rivers.

Which of our vineyard regions are closest to your heart?

I have two: first one is around Nové Zámky; I found understanding there when I needed space. You know, when you make something, you need to test whether it has a future. Ondrej Korpás from Rúbaň helped me. In Svodín, gentlemen Kováč and Šimonka assisted me as well. The other one is the Small Carpathians Region. When they kicked me out of the Institute because of my age, Daniel Sekera from the Šenkvice vineyard station approached me. We selected 14 new varieties "from my kitchen" and found Karol Braniš in Dolné Orešany, who provided an area of one hectare for our experiments. All the varieties were later registered.

Does the Small Carpathians Wine Region also impress you with its wines?

Yes, because wines from there have the ability of standing up to competition. Wine-makers started to improve the quality right after the revolution, especially from a technological viewpoint. They did pioneering work and gave a wines a good name abroad, nowadays, there isn't a large wine



Photo: m-ARK

tasting where our wines don't win gold medals.

You are still active, what are you working on now?

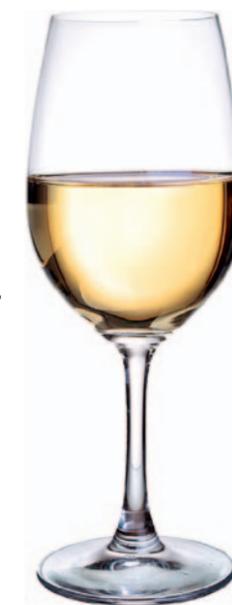
With my colleague Rastislav Šimor, we managed something amazing. *Vitis vinifera* (common grape vine), which includes all the noble varieties of wine, has two sub-species, one of them is the *Vitis vinifera sylvestris* (wild grape). In Šenkvice, we took part in a European project focused on studying this variety. We were supposed to find out whether it also grows in Slovakia. We have explored an extensive area and discovered three shrubs of this endangered plant in Rusovce. We have made an amazing discovery in Úľany nad Žitavou in the area of Veľký les, where we found around 270 individuals. In the meantime, our workplace has been abolished, but we are already writing a monography, it should come out soon.

What does it mean for the global vine breeding?

Since this vine is resistant to disease and isn't wild, but cultivated, it might be possible to transfer its abilities to its off-spring after breeding.

And what does wine mean to you personally?

I place it on the pedestal, high above all other drinks and not only because for all believers it's a drink by which the one we believe in – God – is represented.



The town is in a picturesque landscape, situated on the rugged terrain on the line between Bratislava and Pezinok. Thanks to this, people who wish to be near the city and at the same time, romantic countryside move here. You can have first-hand experience of its charm and temptations.



Svätý Jur

Photo: VideoFly studio

A small town full of attractive tastes, nice views and rich history

The slopes around the town of Svätý Jur are green with vines which are an indispensable part of the town and the life of local settlers. The whole colour of the town is completed by the Šúr Nature Reserve from the bottom and by the deciduous oak-beech forests from the northern side. You can also enjoy the ruins of the White Stone Castle and the remains of the Great Moravian fort. Originally White Gothic Castle is just a torso, but a walk

there is pleasurable for every tourist. Šúr is a paradise for botanists and zoologists. Ancient Šúr was inhabited by people from the Early Stone Age and there are springs of alkaline sulphuric water in its vicinity.

Sacral sights and a legend about the sow that found the bell

Svätý Jur is full of precious monuments, including the walls that surround it and the first horse-drawn

railway building in the Kingdom of Hungary. The four-horse-drawn carriages were driven here in 1840. Trains were also used for transport and they were powered by steam engine from 1873. Believers in Svätý Jur could select which church to go to pray. When you long for prayer in a quiet and intimate space, you can enjoy the same luxury. Go to the Gothic Church of St. Juraj, the oldest of the three. When visiting, note the precious white sandstone Altar of Saint Juraj. The next one – the Church of the Holy



Photo: m-ARK

Trinity was built by the Evangelical Church, but has belonged to the Catholics since 1674. It boasts a Baroque organ which is the work of the Moravian master, Výmola. The third – the Evangelical Church was built by rebuilding the Segner family house. There was a presbytery, a school and a chapel there. The impressive sacred monument in Svätý Jur is also a wooden bell tower at the Church of St. George. There is a bell from 1400 and the rumour is that it was buried in the time of the Turkish warfare, but accidentally dug up by a grazing sow.

The Pálffy manor house and the home school of Móric Beňovský

An interesting story is told about the local Pálffy manor house where children were healed after World War I. Education in the town was developed by Piarists who built a grammar school at their monastery.

Many scholars finished this school, including the 'King of Madagascar', Móric Beňovský. The monastery is decorated with a sundial with the regional symbols on it: the sun and grapes. The unique atmosphere of Svätý Jur is provided by the old town houses and the historical monuments and historical core of a town without other present interferences was declared in 1990 for the town memorable reservation. Svätý Jur might be a small town with 6,000 inhabitants, but it's world-famous thanks to its wines. It was also an inspiration for the thrilling novel Red Wine by writer František Hečko who lived here for a short time. Most of the traditional vault cellars where the local wine-makers reside are under the original houses on the square. Each year, 30 of them open their gates during the Day of Open Cellars – an event held on the last weekend of January.

Photo: m-ARK

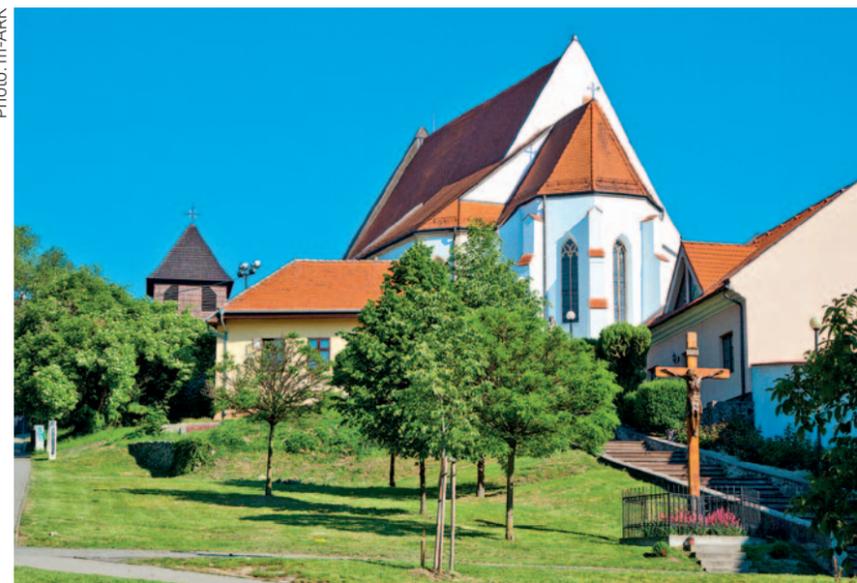


Photo: m-ARK



Photo: town archive



Photo: m-ARK



Photo: town archive

You can get to Svätý Jur by car, by bus, by train – or by bicycle. The Ju-Ra-Va Cycle Route connects the Bratislava part of Rača, Vajnory and Svätý Jur. If you choose it, stop by a church known as the Desolate Church where pilgrims from Jur, Rača and Vajnory have been travelling every August for the last 300 years. They are fulfilling the promise they gave years ago as their gratitude for this region not being hit by plague.

In Svätý Jur they think of both home and visitors – they will improve signage

Interview with Ing. Šimon Gabura, the Mayor of Svätý Jur:



Photo: town archive

You are planning to introduce a new information system in Svätý Jur. What will it be used for and by whom?

The information system will be unique and original. The first material is a new map of Svätý Jur which is already located in the most important landmarks in the town. The system will follow. It should be working this year.

Why did you choose the new system?

We already have a lot of boards, charts and arrows in our town. From cycling through hiking to directional. The original will be removed, the new system should make the signs clear and unified in Svätý Jur.



The Hotel Maxim is trying to maximise your satisfaction

The *** Hotel Maxim is located in the ancient town of Svätý Jur – very close to Bratislava in the beautiful Small Carpathians Region. The best reference for this hotel are the satisfied guests.

They make great efforts to make you feel at home here. Hotel Maxim can accommodate 46 people. Nicely decorated rooms with a Wi-Fi connection, air conditioning and satellite TV provides clients with maximum comfort. In addition to accommodation, there are dining and congress services. The Hotel Maxim's quiet environment creates ideal conditions for organising conferences, seminars and training. They're also able to prepare a wedding or family celebration here. You can use the congress room or the meeting room, where many great deals have already been closed. If you also succeed in closing one, go and get a drink at a club with the bar and play billiards on the hotel's ground floor.

The local restaurant will meet with the expectations of the most

demanding customers. The menu offers traditional dishes from both Slovak and international cuisine. As this region is known for its good wine and food, goose and duck feasts will be provided for gourmets. Refreshment is awaiting you at the café, where you can enjoy a delicious cup of fragrant coffee with ice cream, apple strudel or dessert.

If you want a glass or a bottle of fine wine, go to the wine cellar, just a 10-minute walk from the hotel under the Renaissance building, which used to be the homestead of the Zichy family in the 16th-century. Here you can taste the Small Carpathians wine with your friends and get a professional interpretation.

Hotel Maxim ***
Bratislavská 52/11, 900 21 Svätý Jur
tel.: +421 2 4497 0742
e-mail: recepcia@hotelmaxim.sk



Photo: Hotel Maxim



Kindly step into "Goose Kingdom", where they are writing the story full of tasty food which smells so good

All roads lead to Rome. But we all know that the goose roads lead to a 100-year tradition of goose roasting in Slovenský Grob, where gourmets have been visiting for many years to taste this delicacy not only from Slovakia but also from all over the world.

In this way, "Cech husacínárov" (a civic association) invites you to a village, which is unique in the whole world. This association was formed in Slovenský Grob by merging seven of the best quality "Husacínári" establishments. Their common goal is to offer the best of what they can roast in their ovens. It isn't a problem for them to prepare a great experience for challenging clients. Delicious crunchy goose meat isn't the only delicacy you can taste there. Well roasted pork and the famous local "lokše" (thin salty pancake) complement the traditional menu. They are prepared using the old recipes.

Award for both creativity and quality

The Goose Roasters' Guild was awarded by the European Commission in 2006, when it was chosen as the best of 422 projects in the European Union among small and medium-sized businesses. 'Every satisfied guest is a challenge for us to be better and to improve the quality of our services. Do not miss a unique experience in the cosy restaurants of the Goose Roasters' Guild of the town of Slovenský Grob', say guild members. A special event known as the Goose Kingdom will be held on 1 September 2018. Visitors to the town are welcomed by a bronze statue of a goose, which offers a good photo opportunity. Although you won't meet Marie Theresa, who allegedly spent a night with a shepherd here during a storm, you can enjoy roast goose with a glass of wine just like the famous empress. The culinary experience is accompanied by a cultural programme.



Photo: m-ARK

"Husacínári" branches: (Slovenský Grob):

- Pivnica u Zlatej Husi**, Pezinská 2
- Zelený Dvor**, Nová 49
- Husacina u Jakuba**, Pezinská 42
- Grobsky dvor**, Vajnorská 3
- Husacina u Zápražných**, Pezinská 51
- Husacina plus penzión**, Hlavná 6
- Penzión & Restaurant Karolína**, Pezinská 2



Photo: Bratislava Region Tourism



Photo: Pivnica u Zlatej Husi

Danka Kisslingová “Traditions can't be innovated”

This is the motto of a lady, who dedicated her life to preserving the tradition of a roasted goose. She continues doing what her mother – Mrs. Anna Jajcayová – taught her, and what her great-grandmother started 120 years ago.

Every Friday morning she roasted geese from her own farm in bread ovens, so she could sell them at the markets on a Saturday. The wealthy bought the tasty – though cold – meat on Saturday mornings. After a while, wealthy masters got used to going for their hot goose roast on Friday evenings directly at her home. Well, after some time, they began enjoying the golden-roasted goose in her yard. This is how it worked in Slovenský Grob – where many other families kept and also roasted geese, which is what made this little village unique within the whole world. The geese are still roasted in the very same yard, but under the guidance of Mrs. Danka Kisslingová, everything looks a bit different.

Golden goose on a pan – heaven in your mouth

Roasting a goose takes some skill. It's a true art, even though it looks simple. The only things you're supposed to need are “just” a goose, salt, milk and water. But knowing the right ingredients isn't enough. Without clay roasting pans and electric ovens, it just wouldn't be the same. Forget stainless steel or convection ovens. Here, in the Pivnica u Zlatej Husi, they serve you a goose roasted in a traditional clay roasting pan made by a ceramics master in the village of Limbach. The right roasting pan has to be bound with wire, mainly for safety reasons – during roasting, the goose has to be taken out 6–7 times, basted or pierced. Changes in temperature and handling leave their mark on the roasting pans and you can believe that each and every one of them will go through a lot. Yearly, they prepare hundreds of geese here!



Photo: m-ARK



Danka Kisslingová, photo: m-ARK

The story of a goose or from the yard to your table

The journey of a goose to your table is a long one. Once upon a time, when they still had a lot of still water in Slovenský Grob, it was paradise. Geese were kept in every yard, but in the 1960s, Water Buildings drained the Šúrsky water channel and the water disappeared. The ideal conditions for keeping geese were gone, unlike the demand. Mrs. Kisslingová recalls travelling with her parents and siblings when she was a child to Southern Slovakia looking for geese. Fortunately, their expeditions have been successful and today, more than 40 families provide her family business with geese and have been doing so since 1976. The construction of Pivnica u Zlatej Husi took considerable effort. We are convinced of this by the luxurious, spacious interiors as well as the wine bar that offers the best wines that satisfy even the most demanding customers. There are about 270 varieties on offer, mostly Slovak brands. However, delicious foreign wines and rare vintages are also on offer.

Experience an authentic look

The charm of this place with its picturesque courtyard and glazed terrace can be enjoyed all year around, even during various events. Autumn events are the most popular. It was maintaining the traditions that led Mrs. Kisslingová in 2004 to found the Guild of Geese-makers of Slovenský Grob. The skills of its members can be appreciated during the Kráľovstvo husaciny event, when



Photo: m-ARK

you have the opportunity to experience the traditional Grob kitchen in the Pivnica u Zlatej Husi.

Royal Feast

Gourmet delights in the Pivnica u Zlatej Husi were also enjoyed by several prominent personalities. Among them are artists, athletes, as well as statesmen. The photographs reveal that presidents Václav Havel, Andrej Kiska or Václav Klaus have been to visit in the past; however, the visit of a real king is still being awaited. One doesn't have to be a president or a king to experience a royal feast though. Delicious roast, melting in your mouth, buttered “lokše” (thin salty pancake) and tender goose meat. All of this is tasty and fresh. Because it takes up to three hours to roast a large, 18 pound goose, make sure you announce your visit beforehand. The gourmet experience has to be thoroughly prepared and that starts the day before. And when you're on your way out, leave a message for your hosts in the visitors book – currently the fourth one – that holds the records of the visitor's satisfaction. Looking through it is always a moment that fills Mrs. Kisslingová and the Jajcayová family with joy.

A gift for gentlemen

Special attention is paid to gentlemen, who have their own lounge here. The idea came up when Mrs. Kisslingová saw cigar enthusiasts standing around outside in winter with cigars in their hands. She felt sorry for them, seeing as enjoying a smoke takes some time after all. So, she built them a lounge, where they're able to enjoy their cigar properly in the comfort of leather chairs with a cup of expensive cognac or rum.

Photo: m-ARK



Photo: Pivnica u Zlatej Husi

Pivnica u Zlatej Husi
Pezinská 2, 900 26 Slovenský Grob
www.zlatahus.sk
tel.: +421 905 759 163
#pivnicauzlatejhusi

Treasure of the Small Carpathians Region the royal Pezinok



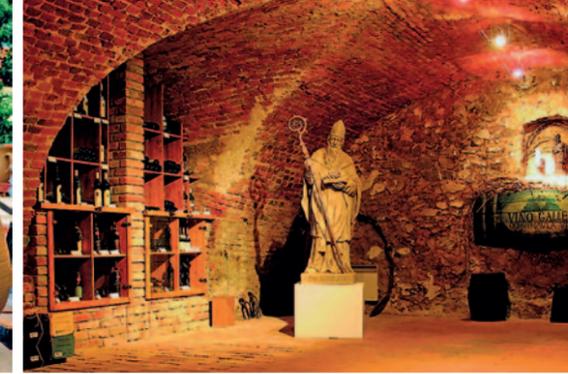
Photo: VideoFly studio



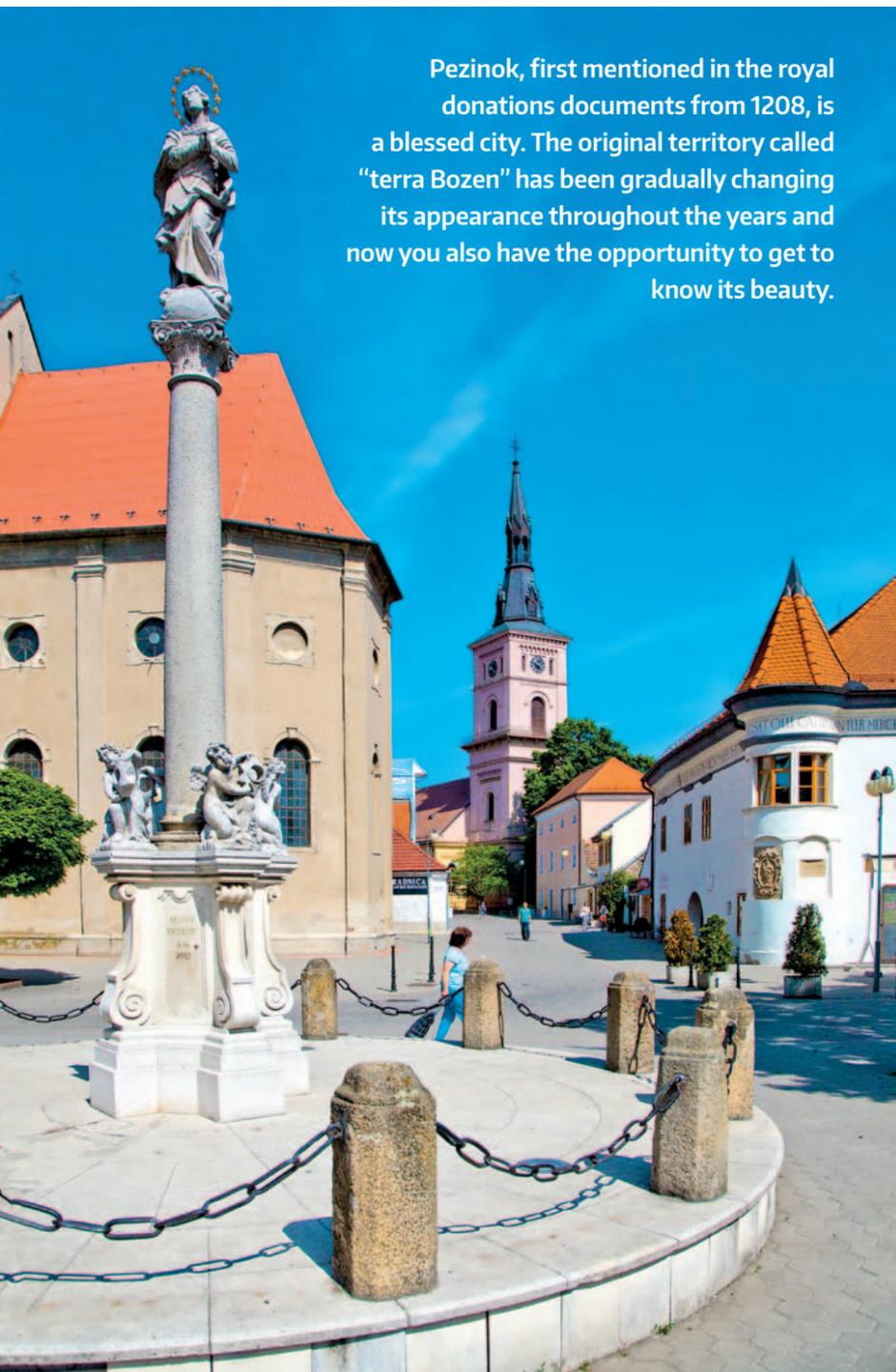
Wine and lavender, photo: Ján Štrba



Ceramics Market, photo: Ján Štrba



Town Wine Cellars, photo: Ján Štrba



Pezinok, first mentioned in the royal donations documents from 1208, is a blessed city. The original territory called “terra Bozen” has been gradually changing its appearance throughout the years and now you also have the opportunity to get to know its beauty.

Photo: m-ARK

Today has been predetermined by the past

From a small settlement, Pezinok became a large wine-growing and mining town after the first wave of German colonization. It became a free royal city in 1647 and experienced its greatest flourish during the 17th and 18th centuries. The high-quality wines made here were the reason the city became one of the richest cities of the Kingdom of Hungary. The industry began to form in the 19th century; and here, was also the place where the first sulphuric-acid-making factory was established in the Kingdom of Hungary, as well as the first needle-making factory and paper and brick factories. Gold mining was also temporarily resumed, horse rail and later steam rail was also built here. However, the first half of the 20th century was cruel to Pezinok. In response to the events happening in the world, the city's economy began to decline. The situation only improved after the Second World War. Today, the city is thriving: its proximity to the capital, distinctive character, strong vinticulture and cultural traditions, surrounding countryside, the business environment and visions of sustainable development all pre-determine the city's successful future.

Your visit will satisfy both the spirit and the body

Thanks to the town's rich history, visitors are able to admire typical city vineyard houses from the original city fortifications looming above them. The most important monuments are the renaissance town hall, four churches and the 13th century castle with a beautiful park. The castle was rebuilt from the original old water castle and despite many changes, it maintained its disposition. The English park with a pond, founded by Count Francis Pálffy, is a popular place of rest mainly for families with children.

Experience and try both the wine and the culture

The city isn't just interesting because of its history, but also for the exceptional cultural and sport events. The most popular ones are those associated with wine, such as the famous harvest celebrations – Vinobranie (Vintage festival), St. Martin's wine blessings, Open Cellars Day, or Wine and lavender that take place directly in the vineyards. The mining tradition is remembered by the Pezinok Mine Dwarf event – the Small Carpathians exhibition and sale of minerals, fossils and semi-precious stones. There is also an accompanying program – street gold washing. The region is famous for its ceramics and therefore annually, during the Ceramics Market, the city of Pezinok changes into a centre for ceramic art. Utility and ornamental ceramic products, in all colours and various motifs, are not only on display – but visitors are able to buy some if they so wish. Also, if you want to, you can give a try to working with clay or a potter's wheel in the craft workshop. You'll need your spoons in Pezinok at the end of August, when an international competition is held here – cooking the special bean soup called Fyžuľnačka. The Street Theatre Festival also has its diehard supporters. Performances for both young and old are held outside day



Monastery, photo: Ján Štrba

and night – underneath the stars as well. The fact the Pezinok is a truly cultural city is also proved by the Pezinok Tassel international dance competition and, of course, the festival, which honours the life and work of the most famous Pezinok native – music composer Eugen Suchoň.

City of Sport, home of Filip Polc

Sport enthusiasts should surely note down in their calendar that a cycling marathon takes place here in June. For those who prefer recreational cycling, we recommend the cycle route from Bratislava to Pezinská Baba and from there another cycle route to Pezinok. However, there is more to do than just cycling, which is obvious from the competition results. Pezinok's basketball and volleyball players, karate, jockey or orienteering representatives, as well as players in many other sports, all know the taste of victory. And just so you know: Filip Polc – the best Slovak mountain biker and the European champion for downhill-mountain biking – lives in Pezinok. Whoever decides to get to know the surrounding countryside on foot rather than from the seat of a bicycle can choose from several educational trails. Whether it's the educational trail of the Pezinok wine-growers, through the Pezinok Manor Park or the “Pezinský banský náučný chodník” or any other, you won't be able to forget Pezinok. The taste of the golden liquid that made the city famous all over the world won't be the only reason that make it unforgettable.



Chateau, photo: VideoFly studio



Wine and lavender, photo: Ján Štrba

The Small Carpathians Museum in Pezinok

Where else would you be able to find answers to questions related to viticulture and wine-making culture other than in Pezinok? This museum preserves a rare collection of objects that document the history of the region. Visitors will find it in a 17th century renaissance house. Both parts of the exposition are also accessible to visually impaired and deaf visitors.



Photo: m-ARK

Town Information Centre
tel.: 033/6901 120
www.pezinok.sk



It breathes life into tradition and gives hope for a better life

Products from the Majolika R sheltered workshop are unique. A story of a person who needed a helping hand and have somebody to hold, is written in many of them.

A helping hand is given by Renáta Hermysová who has been producing traditional Slovakian majolica for 30 years. She started with her parents in the cellar, having a ceramic kiln in her room. Today, 200 different and impressive products come out of her workshop. Various disadvantaged people find a place there and keep the tradition alive thanks to their common efforts. Even you can learn about this craft, get to know its history and mysteries. Majolika R connects two worlds: the world of clay and the world of wine. Book in advance to taste wine and experience a goose, duck, or pig feast in the local cellar.



A home for amateur artists work has been found under the roof of the Schaubmar mill.

An enormous amount of amateur art is waiting for you in the idyllic environment of the Small Carpathians landscape in Schaubmar's mill. It was built in 1767 by the Pálffy family. Since 1857, over the years it has gradually belonged to four generations of the Schaubmar family who came here from Bavaria.

This largest stream mill in Slovakia has a spacious courtyard with large buildings. The mill itself is simple – cylindrical with a water wheel and a machine equipment preserved from 1913. You can see there miller's exposition and although there is no flour grinding here today and the mill no longer issues its flour treasures, you can find extensive work worthy of appreciation. The Slovak National Gallery has set up

an amateur art gallery ten years ago. This is the first and so far the only gallery of this type in Slovakia. You will be introduced to more than 100 pieces by local and foreign authors. To make everyone feel good there will be a gradual conversion of the mill. New services, events, and architectural modifications will make this place an educational space for everyone who wants to experience something extraordinary.



Photo: m-ARK

Photo: Chute Malých Karpát



The Flavours of The Small Carpathians will be to the taste of all gourmets

Nine wineries have joined forces to create an exceptional project for an autumn open cellars, gastronomy and culture festival. Prepare yourself for a day full of amazing gastronomic experiences, unique wines and meeting artists. All this is on November 11, 2017.



Twenty open wineries and ten restaurants will offer such strong brand wines as KARPÁTSKÁ PERLA, Skovajsa, Terra Parna, Repa winery, Hacaj s.r.o., Vinárstvo Mavin – Martin Pomfý, Vinkor, Ratzuky and Vins winery – Richard Tóth.

These vintners know that wine, as good as it may be, can't be drunk by itself – it only excels when in combination with quality food. So don't be shy and accept our invitation to visit a region where wine not only quenches your thirst, but drinking it is a way of life. "Wine creates friendships, settles quarrels and is undoubtedly a source of good cheer," this is not only said, but also proven all year round during various events. The ones that were very well received were the Pekné víno s rozhľadom 2017 (Nice wine with an overview 2017), Wine night 2017 or Parna párty 2017 and many more will follow. Make sure to check with their website, so you'll know about every event on time.

www.chutemalychkarpat.sk

Photo: Chute Malých Karpát



The wine from Skovajsa

belongs on a demanding gourmet's table

The wine list of this family-owned winery has strong foundations in old family traditions, which is why you'll find quality wines of many different varieties, colours and flavours on offer.

However, the long tradition of wine-making was cut short by the former regime, which is why the Skovajsa family-owned company was only established in 1991 with the goal to pick up from where their ancestors left off. White, red and rosé Skovajsa wines are made from grapes grown on 7.5 hectares in their own vineyards in Pezinok and Limbach. They offer modern, light wines with distinctive aromas made exclusively from their own locally grown grapes. Tasting is possible directly in the winery, or during various tasting events such as **The Pezinok wine cellars, Wine and lavender or Chute Malých Karpát (The Flavours of The Small Carpathians)**. The Skovajsa family is also looking forward to meeting you during the **Open cellars event**, where you can become acquainted with their products directly in the wineries, bars or wine bars. We recommend their unique Pinot Blanc.



Photo: Víno Skovajsa

Víno Skovajsa
www.vinoskovajsa.sk
 tel.: +421 905 164 227
 FB: www.facebook.com/vinoskovajsa

Photo: Majolika R

Majolika R
www.majolika-r.sk
 Store: Klobučnícka 450/3, Bratislava
 Wine cellar: SNP 80/76, Limbach





Dubovský
&
Grančič
Náš život je víno

Taste the drink of the Gods

IN A PLACE WHERE YOUR HEART WILL LEAP

It is a beautiful summer evening, the heat of the day is being replaced by a refreshing breeze, and delicious wine tones mingle with the tones of the old grand piano. You won't find this experience everywhere. However, at Dubovský and Grančič winemakers', it's possible.

The massive musical instrument catches your eye as soon as you enter the tasting room. The welcoming atmosphere of the home environment reflects this winery perfectly. The birth of this strong brand was preceded by a long family tradition and the friendship of winemakers – Bohumil Dubovský and Miloš Grančič. Family trees and photographs reveal that their families have been cultivating vineyards in Svätý Jur as far back as the 17th century. The first common bottles were filled in 2003 by Müller Thurgau, Pešeká Leánka and Silván červený. Nowadays, Pinot Blanc, Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon Rosé, Riesling,

Michelle Trois Pinot and others are also available.

You can even taste these wines during the tasting. The tasting room has a 35 person capacity, and they also offer to organise corporate events for you. On the terrace, you will experience an even stronger feeling of the closeness of the Small Carpathians. And as it isn't good to leave the wine alone on the table, something tasty to eat should also be served. In the tasting menu there is goose, tasty "lokša" pancake, duck, grilled pork knee and apple strudel for dessert. And the words of the Old Testament, "good wine cheers up the heart of a man", doubles here:



Photo: Dubovský a Grančič

your heart will also leap while listening to the master harmonicist playing. When talking about heart, the heart of this wine cellar is the barrique cellar and the pressing room. The juice is processed in the pressing room, it then goes into stainless steel tanks to ferment into wine at lower temperatures. Then it rests for several months on fine sediment before travelling into bottles. In the barrique cellar there are oak barrels, where mainly red wines are resting, but there are also white wines. The winery, awarded with the title "Winemaker of the Year 2014" will present their wines with pleasure.

Dubovský a Grančič, s.r.o
Zuby 293, 900 21 Svätý Jur
obchod@dubovskygrancic.sk
www.dubovskygrancic.sk



Photo: Dubovský a Grančič



Rare treasures in the Stoličný stream valley are waiting for you to discover them

There is southern blood circulating through the veins of the Šenkvice inhabitants. According to the period records, Croats founded the village in the 16th century. Their arrival was related to the Turk invasions that destroyed Kostajnica.

There is a lot of evidence of their presence. For example, boys used to be taught Croatian at the church school, and later a new school was built – on the Chorvátska ulica (Croatian street). We can also thank the Croatian colonists for the Church of St. Anna. Walls with a gate surround the building; this unique Renaissance compound is historically very valuable. Stop by the Chapel of the Virgin Mary in Cerová, where a bell tower used to stand.

Getting to know the local vineyards and wine on the educational trail

Šenkvice today is primarily a vineyard village with a unique Viticulture educational trail. You will get to know thirty different varieties of vine, as well as newly bred varieties and some that were grown in the Middle Ages. You will see 15

demonstrations of the basic ways of cutting and guiding the vines. You can also visit during many of the winemaking events that take place in the village. The fact that Šenkvice is a true paradise for wine lovers is also confirmed by the local collection of 16 grape vine varieties grown in Czechoslovakia, its 160 clones and the gene-fond of 600 varieties of grape vines. Both vineyards that are part of the collection are located in an area with a very poetic name "Pri hájičku" (By the grove). Successful wineries are located here; smaller vintners are joined in a local club. Together, they guarantee the preservation of tradition and quality wine. But the locals here are not only hard working; they also know how to have fun. Please accept our invitation and come see some of our annual events. Easter markets, Farm markets, Šenkvice feasts, Jánske



Photo: m-ARK

Photo: m-ARK

ohne, Ockov kotlík, Cabbage cooking competition and Christmas markets are a great opportunity to get to know all the flavours and smells of the Stoličný stream valley. And believe it when I tell you that people from Šenkvice, maybe also because of their southern blood, know how to live life to the fullest.



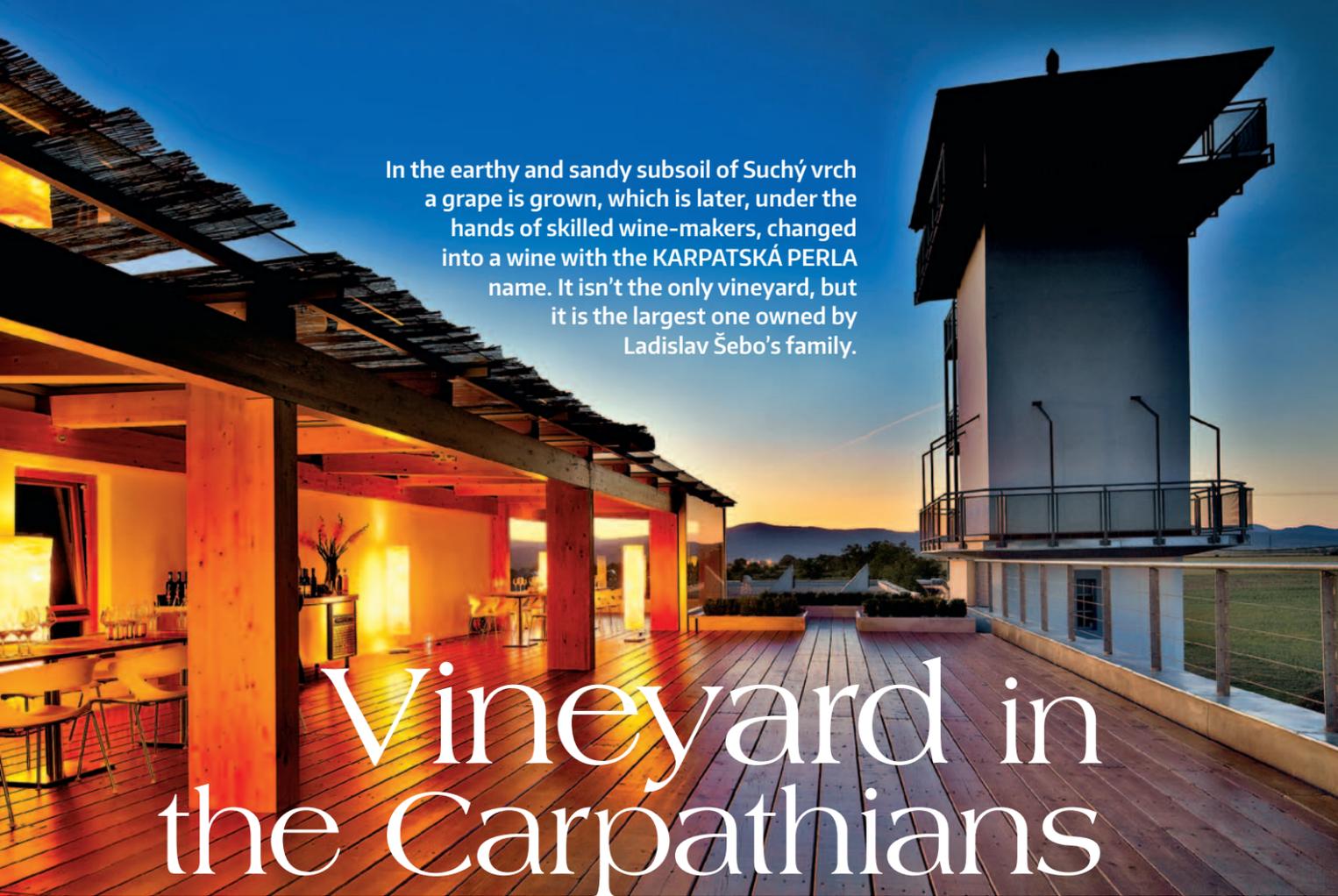
Photo: BSK

Wine events in Šenkvice:

Good wine with a view – April
To Šenkvice for a glass of wine – April
The St. Urban's day of open wine cellars – May
Summer Šenkvice wine tasting – July, August
Day in vineyards – 2nd September 2017
The day of open beer cellars – 17-18th Nov. 2017



Photo: m-ARK



In the earthy and sandy subsoil of Suchý vrch a grape is grown, which is later, under the hands of skilled wine-makers, changed into a wine with the KARPATSKÁ PERLA name. It isn't the only vineyard, but it is the largest one owned by Ladislav Šebo's family.

Vineyard in the Carpathians

IS THE BIRTHPLACE OF PEARLS

Photo: KARPATSKÁ PERLA



Modra vineyard



Photo: KARPATSKÁ PERLA



Photo: KARPATSKÁ PERLA

In the largest vineyard Suchý vrch, only 5 km from Šenkvice, KARPATSKÁ PERLA grows traditional varieties – Cabernet Sauvignon, Riesling, Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir but also the newly-bred Devín, Aurelius or Muškát moravský. Veltlín is planted in the Noviny vineyard between Modra and Šenkvice. The Riesling variety grows on the new Šajby and Kramáre vineyards.

Power couple – Margita and Ladislav Šebo

Hard work, love of soil and grapes combined with their winemaking skills made KARPATSKÁ PERLA the Winery of the year in 2011 and 2012. Margita and Ladislav Šebo established it in 1991 with the belief that the “Vineyard is the birthplace of pearls”. Wines from their “workshop” bear protected designation of origin in five collections JAGNET, VARIETO, DÍLEMŮRE, 4 ELEMENTS and KARPATSKÁ PERLA, they also make young wines and the must BOBULO.

Tasting and original wine truffles

Their wines can be tasted in an authentic winery environment. The company wine bar can accommodate smaller groups, for larger ones there are two stylish tasting rooms with a capacity for 50 and 60 people.

During the supervised tastings, you'll also be able to enjoy some of the culinary treats such as the goose specialities. The seasonal menu is prepared by a local chef. The overwhelming taste of handmade truffles made from genuine Belgian chocolate and their own Alibernet red wine is only improved with a cup of quality hot coffee.

During your visit, you can also set out directly to the cellars, where the pearls of this winery mature. The new archive in the premises of former concrete wine tanks is interesting, which was created after careful reconstruction of the original building for Nupod Association in 1942. The Šebo family managed to preserve some of the original premises of the buildings such as the Dance hall and the winery archive. The perfect end to your wine-gourmet experience in KARPATSKÁ PERLA is a climb to the majestic 21-metre lookout tower with views that aren't to be missed.

Here, the owners will not only be glad to see you during wine tastings but; they can organise family celebrations, weddings or corporate team-building events according to your wishes. A thing that you'll surely appreciate after a day of experiences in this winery is the opportunity to stay in one of the 4 new, stylish rooms directly on the winery premises.



Photo: KARPATSKÁ PERLA



Photo: KARPATSKÁ PERLA



Experience the taste of the Small Carpathians

Every year in the KARPATSKÁ PERLA lovers of the golden liquid meet up in a friendly atmosphere in spring. Nice wine with an overview is an event with a rich programme. There are competitions such as running competition up to the watchtower and the wine tasting events are spiced up with exhibitions and concerts. You'll also have the opportunity to try the very best from the production of the local wine-makers from Šenkvice during the Taste of the Little Carpathians event. The Taste of the Little Carpathians takes place on 10 November 2018. Leading wine-makers from the Small Carpathians region will offer visitors the best of the local flavours. Apart from wines, local gastronomic specialities will also be served. You don't need a chauffeur to take you; there is a shuttle service between the wineries and restaurants.

The winery opening hours:
Monday: closed
Tuesday–Friday 9.00–19.00

KARPATSKÁ PERLA, s.r.o.
Nádražná 57, 900 81 Šenkvice
tel.: +421 33 64 96 855
www.karpatskaperla.sk



Modra

A Small Carpathians town under the protection of Saint Florian and Urban

Modra is the town of important figures who throughout our history have written their names with gold letters. A place rich in vineyards and industrious people, the home of ceramics and a unique cultural heritage.

In the footsteps of Ľudovít Štúr

One of our most important national revivalists belongs to Modra just like ceramics and wine. This is why the Ľudovít Štúr Museum and his memorial room are here. The museum is in a house that belonged to the Emresz family for generations. Rosina, the daughter of Ján Emresz, joined this family with the Štúr family, when she said 'yes' to Karol the oldest brother of Ľudovít Štúr – the rector of grammar school and an Evangelical pastor. When she was widowed, she and her children moved to her parents. That was the

Photo: m-ARK



time when Ľudovít came to Modra to help his sister-in-law. He didn't live in the house with his family, but rented a room nearby. At first, he was caring for his loved ones, but later, when he shot himself on a hunt at the end of 1855; the family had to

take care of him. Štúr died at the Emresz place. The room was opened in 1956 as a memorial and there is a permanent exhibition today.

The strong wine-making tradition lives on

The Modra inhabitants have been devoted to wine-growing since the Middle Ages. It isn't by chance that the Small Carpathians Wine Route, which offers year round wanderings for delicious wine, is located in a Modra manor house with a mysterious garden. It was in this manor house where the wine-making and fruit growing vocational school was located for more than thirty years. Today it's elsewhere, but it's currently the only school of its kind in Slovakia. You can check all year round during various events that they know both, how to make and enjoy wine in Modra.

Walls, ceramics and Ignác Bizmayer

Thanks to the wine, Modra became a royal town at the beginning of the 7th century. It encouraged the burghers to build a fortification. The demanding construction of the 2,300-metre-long wall took 36 years. The circular defence bastion served as a lookout tower, and three gates lead behind the walls. Today, you can admire the Upper Gate, a circular bastion and a large part of the bastion fortification in Modra. Long before the walls were built, Modra was a ceramic centre. Local masters built on the Hutterite tradition of white glazed painted ceramics, complemented by a wider colour range and varied decorations. Modra ceramics has its own hallmark and is a popular souvenir. If you wish to have a taste of it, accept an invitation to the Feast of Clay – Ceramic Modra with a traditional allegorical pottery parade, a ceramic fair and pottery ball under the blue sky in the historic exterior of the town. The town is also proud of the figure-maker Ignác Bizmayer who has captured Slovak folklore and traditions in clay.

The Ignác Bizmayer Gallery can be found in the medieval circular bastion and the history of the ceramic craft in Modra is documented by the Slovak Ceramic Sculpture Museum in the gallery area.



Photo: m-ARK

Sacral monuments

The two churches standing next to each other also attract attention, separated by an old presbytery. The peculiarity is that both are evangelical. The Slovak Evangelical Church was built in 1826 as an articular church. Eight years later, the German Evangelical Church grew in a neoclassical style. However, the oldest sacred building in Modra is the St. John the Baptist Gothic Roman Catholic Church in the historic grounds of the cemetery.

Wandering through the land, walking through the resort, Jurkovič's Modra

On the way from the cemetery through the town around the manor house, through the vineyards, around the historical part of the town, Kráľová, the landscape changes to forests and meadows where the Austrian-Hungarian nobility and the first republic high society were walking on the Mansion walkway. That's why for several years Modra inhabitants have been opening the summer season in a really stylish way – Modranský Picnic on



Photo: VideoFly studio

Events:

- Taste of the Little Carpathians:**
10 November 2018
- 2018 Modra Grape Harvest:**
28–30 September 2018
- Clay Festival – 2018 Ceramic Modra:**
30 August 2018 – 1 September 2018

Otčenáška meadow in Harmónia Resort. Dressed in period clothes, they have fun and explore the Harmónia Resort with its villas and sun baths which are closely tied to Dušan Jurkovič, a doyen of Slovak architecture. In Modra, he left his marks on the evangelical orphanage project, 'clerical homes', several family houses, and tombstones. When you walk through this small town, you will notice one big tree. The largest sorbus domestica in the world grows in Modra, which has a trunk diameter of 160 cm. The majestic tree is around 500 years old.

Town Information Centre
Dukelská 38, 900 01 Modra
tel.: +421 6908 324, www.modra.sk



Photo: m-ARK



Photo: m-ARK



Photo: m-ARK

There is a painted treasure hidden in the Small Carpathians viniculture area in western Slovakia – the town of Modra. There is nowhere else where they can manually decorate ceramics so beautifully with traditional patterns as they do in Modra. Local wine-growers are among the most valued in the country and they swear by the grapes ripening in this area.

If you want to taste the typical Modra varieties, try Veltlín, Welschriesling, Pinot Blanc or Silván. There is also a Slovak unique thing – the velvety Danube with a taste of chocolate and forest fruit. You should also try local specialities and your traveller's soul will always want to return there.

Ceramics masters

The history of ceramics in Modra goes back to the early 17th century. At that time the town confirmed the status of potter's guild. After their disappearance, the ceramics production was covered by Vocational School of Ceramics which was transformed into the establishment of the famous Slovak Modra Ceramics plant. In 1952, the plant was renamed to Slovak Folk Majolica. A number of outstanding masters such as Heřman Landsfeld, Ignác Bizmayer, Imrich Kóňa, Rudolf Barčík, Viliam Peško, Michal Petráš and many others grew up in the Modra ceramics workshop. Ceramics made Modra famous all over the world. Old Hutterite ceramic traditions are still preserved in production. Over the course of decades, however, new patterns and technological processes have emerged.

Modra ceramics today

The original ceramics tradition continues to be preserved by the Slovak Folk

Modra ceramics, photo: m-ARK



A Painted Town with the Taste of Fine Wine



Modra wines awarded at international exhibitions, photo: town archive



Example of R. Barčík's work, photo: Modranská Beseda



Photo: m-ARK



Photo: mesto Modra, Jana Kuchtová

Majolica, which, under new management, begins to produce traditional Modra ceramics with original old sample books and new technology. You can find a Slovak Folk Majolica shop in Modra square. Traditional folk ornamentals in modern designs are produced by the Modra ceramics company with the distinctive modranska name which connects two generations of Modra ceramics manufactures through father and son Marián and Jakub Liška. Even ceramics manufacturers trained in the Slovak Folk Majolica don't remain behind in the manufacture of ceramics and try to preserve the old Modra craftsmanship, as is the case with Miroslav Malinovský whose workshop is directly related to the trade of ceramic products and Ďureje brand ceramics. The manufacture of ceramic tiles for tiled stoves, cookers or tiled fireplaces is handled by Remaart, a Malinovec family company. Products from Modra ceramics are sought after for their originality and quality. Majolica was suggested to be listed in the list of Intangible Cultural Heritage, which only confirms its uniqueness and exceptionality.

Free royal city

Modra is a traditional wine town, also known as the town of vineyards. There are beautiful vineyards and the Small Carpathians forests nearby. Thanks to its geographical location, vine even flourished during the Middle Ages. The wine trade grew and the prosperous town was included in the free royal towns in 1607. The Town Hall gained revenues

from wine-growing through taxes and the operation of the town's economy. To protect against vine diseases, to represent, enlighten and secure wine sales, the Modra wine-growers established a wine-growing association in 1896 that, with small breaks was active until the 1950's.

Wine events of the year

The fruit picking season in Modra culminates in a three-day celebration in September representing the hard work of local viticulturists and wine-growers. The vintage in Modra is exceptional by preserving the elements of fruit picking feasts from the first half of the 20th century. Visitors admire the last 'lajtra' – a typical allegorical parade or demonstration of pressing on historical presses. Wine tasting and local gourmet specialities along with regional music, entertaining performances and a rich accompanying programme create the unforgettable atmosphere of old Modra. Several associations of viticulturists and wine-growers are currently active in Modra. Vincúr is an association of viticulturists, wine-growers, wine connoisseur and wine lovers. Since its founding in 2000, the association has been actively involved in organising promotions for the work of Modra viticulturists and wine-growers. The most famous events are St Catharine Young Wine Tasting or the Vitis Aurea Modra international exhibition of wines. Víno z Modry ('Wine from Modra') is another association for Modra viticulturists and wine-growers

who care about preserving the origin of processed grapes from Modra vineyards. The association organises a popular event Modra Cellars Day and a wine festival outside the town called Vinári v chotári. In Modra there is also the Small Carpathians Wine Route which combines several phenomena of the Small Carpathians Region – wine, landscape, history and gastronomy of the area spread between Bratislava and Trnava. Thanks to the events organised by associations, wine lovers can enjoy this intoxicating drink throughout the year. The wine year culminates in the autumn in the Wine Cellars Day where visitors armed with a wine licence and a cup travel around the entire Small Carpathians Region and taste high-quality wines from Modra wine-growers in their cosy wine cellars.

Gastronomy and wine tips

The well-known vineyards and wine-growing traditions of Modra are represented by successful wine-makers producing high-quality wines valued at regional as well as prestigious international exhibitions. Víno Rariga, Víno Šimonovič, Elesko, Chateau Modra, Fedor Malík a syn, Miroslav Dudo – VMD, Víno Kmeťo, Víno Klimko, PURUS Modra and others are among the most successful in recent years. High quality Modra wines can be tasted directly in the wine cellars or in gourmet and wine-making facilities. Popular are: Pavúk – wine restaurant, Pivnica u Práde, Starý dom, Mlyn 108, Hotel pod lipou, Hotel Zochova chata, Wine bar & shop Elesko, or Farma pod Gaštankou.

More about Modra:
About the town: www.modra.sk
Attractions: www.visitmodra.sk
Culture in the town: www.kcmodra.sk



Something old,
something new,
everything good

Photo: m-ARK

TAKE A LOOK INTO THE KITCHEN OF **MLYN 108**

A restaurant that will attract even the pickiest guests by its concept and offer was a common residential house until recently. However, in the distant Past it served as a water mill where flour was milled as early as the 16th century. Today, it meets the most demanding gastronomic criteria and rightly belongs on the map of the best restaurants in the region.

Old beams above the guests heads, A mill mechanism experiencing a lot, artefacts with their own, strong story everywhere you look. Go ahead and enter Mlyn 108 where you can enjoy true delicacies. The environment you find yourselves in will intensify the experience. Natural materials – stone and wood dominating both the restaurant and the kitchen add space, warmth and Genius Loci to the place. You will feel great there

thanks to the elaborated details as everything is in harmony like a good song. You will even like the place before you open the menu.

'Welcoming guests is both a pleasure and a privilege and great honour for all of us'
Otto Chrapčiak

The owners do their best to make you feel good and have a unique experience there. Although the mill is antique, modern cuisine decorated with several prestigious awards

awaits you. Their success is thanks to their approach to their guests, ingenuity and originality when preparing meals and the quality.

They enjoy quality

To make the gems of the local cuisine come into existence, quality ingredients are necessary. When selecting meat, cheese, eggs and everything needed, they prefer to use proven farmers or buy directly from manufacturers. Fruit and vegetables has a different and better taste there too, as they buy them at the market. They bake fresh bread twice a day and make their own, homemade pasta. The menu also includes meals that are absolutely gluten-free. Gourmets who have to say no to gluten can



Photo: Mlyn 108

enjoy smoked trout with a wild garlic and herb mayonnaise, apple vinaigrette and fresh green asparagus; duck breasts with wine sauce, grilled duck meat, rhubarb glazed on fresh redcurrant juice and potato gratin or beef Entrecôte dry aged with fresh asparagus, potato rösti and thyme jus. These gluten-free delicacies were on the menu at the time this text was written. Of course, the entire menu, which is a real manifestation of culinary mastery, changes seasonally. Wines are a special chapter. This restaurant offers a unique possibility to taste the best of the local production which they give the thumbs-up to. And believe me the competition is very big in the Small Carpathians Region.

The open kitchen is a great experience

The heart that once beat in the mill in the form of a milling machine has moved to the kitchen. It is

located directly at the restaurant entrance. It's still unconventional in local conditions; each guest has access to it and is welcome there. What you see there is a magnificent experience. The opportunity to watch the chef and his assistants at work makes this place unique. Well-being spreads throughout the interior with a unique design and is completed with a fantastic garden with a park and organic bathing pond. You will forget your worries and enjoy the served meal in this little paradise. Find it all behind a green wooden gate of an inconspicuous yellow house in a residential area of Modra at 108 Dolná Street where the owners borrowed the number for their restaurant name.

Mlyn 108

Modra, Dolná 108
tel.: 0948 100 252
mail: rezervacie@mlyn108.sk
www.mlyn108.sk
FB: www.facebook.com/Mlyn108



Photo: Mlyn 108



Photo: Mlyn 108

Tasting the menu

- **Fresh pea puree** with fried egg and bacon bits
- **Sirloin steak tartare** with herb salsa, radish in wine vinegar, jelly of consommé and fresh horseradish
- **Brook trout fillet** with young nettle juice, nettle oil, roasted garlic foam, black lentils puree and cheese ravioli
- **Veal on apricot sauce** with roasted fresh apricots on thyme with chopped onion and nutmeg mash
- **Mint chocolate mousse** with nibs of cocoa bean, chocolate streusel and mint jelly
- **Homemade 'kardinál'** with fresh strawberries and roasted almonds
- and **local wines**



Coffee Roaster Ebenica

World Class with a Slovak Pedigree

Marek Fajčík worked, travelled around the world and tasted local specialities. He was extremely interested in coffee that tasted different – better. Although, enthusiasm wasn't enough and two years passed before he had the idea of selling the first products – together with family and friends. There was experience and mistakes, but finally, a great result came true and paid off – Ebenica has become a favourite of the most demanding clientele. Ebenica Intensivo, Harmonelle and Piano excellently passed a test in Coffee Review in the USA. The number of points earned corresponds to the gold medal. They're now among the top 10 coffee espressos in Europe.

Thanks to Ebenica, you will go on a journey around the world and you will recognise the taste of Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, Ethiopia and El Salvador "as a taste". In these coffees you will find, sweet, chocolate-nut tones and a pleasant bitter and fruity flavour excels. If you want to see the whole birth of Ebenica, feel free to arrange a tour.



Photo: EBENICA COFFEE

EBENICA COFFEE s.r.o.
Šúrská 136, 900 01 Modra
tel.: +421 917 853 555
www.ebenica.com

Shop opening hours:
Mon: – Fri: 9 am–4 pm
Tue: 9 am–4 pm Sat: –
Wed: 9 am–6 pm Sun: –
Thu: 9 am–4 pm



Pump Track

Photo: BSK

FREEDOM ON BOTH BIG AND LITTLE WHEELS

The new pump track in Piesok above Modra near Zochova chata is designed for cyclists, skateboarders, skaters and scooter riders. The track was first "baptised" by the Slovak mountain biking champion and a representative of the City Downhill Filip Polc.

Asphalt surface, dirt jumps and 113.6 metres long. A height difference of over one metre. These are the basic parameters of this track. Pedalling doesn't help you to overcome the twists and height differences. Actually the riders move by moving themselves up and down. This pump track is safe because there are no unexpected places that could give the riders an unwelcome surprise. Even the smallest riders can test their skills and improve themselves so that they can handle any terrain later. Professionals can just entertain themselves. There will be regular events such as Day on the Wheels, training and racing events with Filip Polc and professional exhibitions.



Photo: BSK



Photo: BSK



A true gem

hidden away in a forest, where you can regain your strength and vitality

The story of the legendary Zochova chata is one with a happy ending. The original "Zoška" was built in a true log-cabin style and welcomed its first guests in 1933.

During the next couple of years, the chalet faced decline, but fortunately an investor appeared, an investor who couldn't stand seeing the building fall into ruin and in 2007 reconstruction began in line with the Feng Shui principles. The popular, but ruined, "Zoška" became a luxurious, four-star award-winning hotel with a wellness centre, with an immense benefit – its location. It's surrounded by beech forests and greenery, far from civilisation. Various natural themes can also be found and represented in the impressive hotel interior.

Harmony, sport and varied cuisine

Today, Zochova chata is sought after by lovers of quality wellness and spa. The surrounding greenery can be appreciated from the indoor pool and

sauna. You will regain your energy from red-hot stones, warm steam, in a Kneipp bath or under a refreshing ice-fall. You can breathe in the fresh air from anywhere – all you need to do is to walk out of the wellness facilities to one of the terraces or into the hotel garden with a pond. The people who get tired of just lying around can improve their skills in badminton, volleyball and football or play croquet, ride a horse or go skiing down the mountain in winter. A new pump-track is located nearby. Even during bad weather, you'll be able to get your fill of sports in the hotel gym. Your program might be spiced up with several musical-gourmet events. For example, popular events that take place every year are the Provence night, Tropical night, International Festival of Yoga and relaxing music and many more.



Photo: Hotel Zochova chata

Hotel Zochova chata****
Piesok 4015/B7, 900 01 Modra
tel.: +421 33 2633 300
www.hotelzochovachata.sk

tips

The one thing you won't forget are the local restaurant delicatensens, with its offer of delicious Carpathians dishes and exceptional wines. So what do you think, will you accept our invitation and try the Zander fillet with asparagus ragout and rocket salad or do you prefer a Spring salad with sorrel, spinach, hazelnuts and pieces of grilled sirloin?



Červený Kameň



Photo: m-ARK



to visit, pick one of the guided tours and enjoy a beautiful day at Červený Kameň.

Events

Harp and Violin (chamber concert),
9 June 2018

A summer chamber concert performed by renowned Slovak harpist Michal Matejčík and violinist Lucie Harvanová of the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra.

Baron Pálffy (night tours),
7 July 2018, 18 August 2018

Night tours from the museum's own workshop familiarise guests with the busy life of Nikolaus Pálffy II, nobleman, soldier and hero.

Červený Kameň Castle Pilgrimage,
August 2018

A religious pilgrimage with a long tradition dating back to 1751. It is celebrated on the Feast Day of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, in whose name the castle chapel is consecrated.

Mysterious Shadows: Christmas Nightmare (theatrical tours),
1–3 November 2018

Scenic tours based on Tim Burton's story about stolen Christmas.

St. Nicholas Day at the Castle,
8 December 2018

Do not miss the unusual visit of St. Nicholas to the castle.

Snow Queen (Christmas theatrical tours),
27–30 December 2018

Tours of rooms with Christmas decorations with performances based on classical fairytales.

Hrad Červený Kameň

(The Red Stone Castle)
900 89 Častá, tel.: 033/690 58 03
e-mail: objednavkymck@gmail.com
October to April: Monday closed,
Tue–Sun: 9.30–15.30
May to September:
Mon–Sun: 9.00–17.00

Svätý Jur and Pezinok. The Fugger and Pálffy families however played the most significant role in the castle's history.

It was Anton Fugger, a prominent European businessman, who set up a safe storehouse for his products at this strategic location. This however, meant that the medieval castle had to be rebuilt into a renaissance fortress. This created a unique storage spaces, where copper, gold, silver and iron was never stored. The grandiose plans of the Fugger were unfortunately halted by the increasing danger of Turks' attacks and the castle was sold. Young Baron Nicholas II. Pálffy showed interest in the castle and in addition to the property he also won the heart of Anton Fugger's granddaughter – Maria Magdalena Fugger. The last member of the family left the castle in 1945, and later the building became a state cultural property.

Treasure behind the doors

Another castle treasure is the Sala Terrena. It was created when Nicholas IV. Pálffy invited artists to his home with the goal of rebuilding the castle into a gorgeous baroque residence. The author of the frescoes is Carpoforo Tencala. Once upon a time, theatre performances took place here. Today, it's mostly weddings. The castle also houses a Zlatý orol pharmacy and in the Knight Hall, visitors can see a ceiling fastened to the roof with chains. The hall is a reminder of the fights and victories of the Pálffy family. From here, it is possible to see the former rich library, which contained approximately 14,000 volumes. We invite you

Pure romance in the Carpathians

The minute you arrive here, your heart will start pounding: the gorgeous scenery perfectly complements the long history of this place. It's easy to travel to times long since gone if you happen to visit during the fencing and knighting events or the craft markets with an offer of local goods. Night tours, theatrical performances and open-air concerts entice visitors all year round.

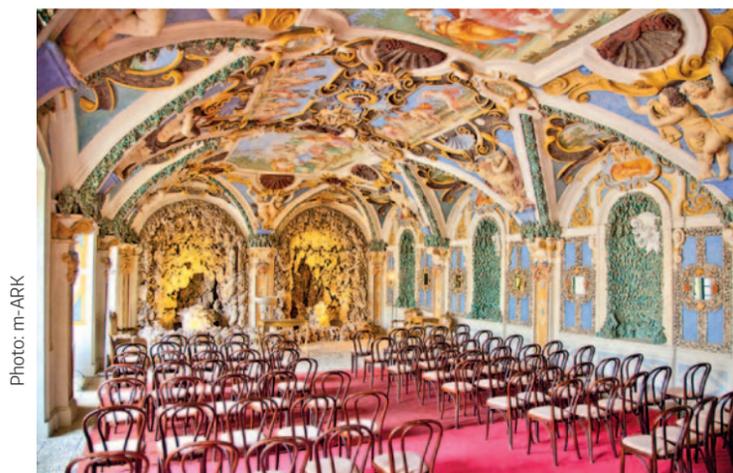


Photo: m-ARK

The castle is first mentioned in ancient documents from the 13th century. And, as they say: „Behind every great man there's a great woman.“ The castle was built at a request of Queen Konstancia of Hungary, the widow of the Czech king, on her own land before 1240. After the woman, men arrived – and pretty significant. The castle later passed into the ownership of Matus Cak Trenciansky and a number of families including Zapolski, Turzo and the counts of



Vinárka

Secondary Vocational School

THE PROUD HOME OF FUTURE SUCCESSFUL WINEMAKERS

Entire generations of winegrowers have been trained here at the famous Vinárka Secondary Vocational School in Modra for over 130 years. The work of teachers and students is reflected in the beautiful environment with a park, fruit orchard and vineyard.

Students are trained in the following fields: the sommelier craft, agrotourism and business. All three fields have tremendous potential today, especially in this region with a strong wine tradition. Closely linked to this tradition is agrotourism, which is expanding here beneath the Small Carpathians and in other parts of the landscape, where future winemakers from all over Slovakia are welcomed.

Environmental sensitivity at Vinárka

The Modra Secondary Vocational School of Winemaking and Fruit Farming tends vineyards with a wide variety of grapes on an area of roughly 4.3 ha. The vineyards have two locations, in Emresovka with a 10-16 year age structure, and in Noviny, where the age of the vineyards is 4-25 years old. The school is guided by ecological principles, and the students perform all agrotechnical work manually. Three years ago, they decided to use alternative applications that do not



Foto: BSK

harm the environment, the vines or the grapes. These work on the basis of plant elicitors, which are extracts of plants and vegetable oils, which also optimise nutrition. Preliminary test results are very good and therefore, in the future, this mode of protection can be extended to the entire operation.

The school as a partner in wine events

Degustation, wine-degustation stays are a great attraction for wine lovers offering an authentic experience visitors will remember forever. You can also tickle your taste buds in the former distillery as you leave Modra. The reconstructed distillery now offers tastings, corporate and family celebrations. On tasting stays lasting several days, guests enjoy comfortable school accommodations at affordable rates. Guest who liked what they tasted can buy the school's products right on the grounds.

Modranská Vinárka is a co-organiser of the events:

- Vitis Aurea**, Modra – March
- Modra Wine Cellar Day**, Modra – April
- Open Wine Cellar on St. Urban**, Little Carpathian Wine Trail – May
- Modra Grape Harvest**, Modra – September
- Apple Feast**, Modra – October
- Day of Open Cellars**, Little Carpathian Wine Route – November



Foto: BSK



Wines from the mill

WITHOUT CALLUSES AND A LOVE FOR THE LAND THE WINE WOULDN'T TASTE AS GOOD



Photo: VINA Z MLYNA



This story began to be written in the 18th century when Štefan Zloch started to plant the first grapevine seeds in Ompitál – today's Dol'any. After a short pause, this story even continues after the revolution when the family returned the vineyards. Today, there are 45-year-old vineyards, of which Pinot Blanc, Veltliner Grün, Welschriesling, Silvaner Grün, Saint Laurent and other wines are made. They're characterised by the typical smells and flavours of the sunny slopes of the Small Carpathians. Part of the water mill, which started to be renovated 15 years ago by Zloch's great-grandchildren,

Demovičovci, is also the cellar, where guests are welcome during the popular tasting. But the mill is open throughout the year: it all begins with the Pig-slaughtery in the Mill, then there is Fašiang's tasting of young wines, the Cimbál music, ... You will experience the Fairy Tale Christmas during Advent at the Mill. You can also come to see the mill at any other time, just arrange your visit. Besides natural wines, you can also taste the excellent roasted duck with "lokše" pancakes. A little coniferous branch at the gate is a symbol of a welcome for everyone.



VINA Z MLYNA
Dol'any 64, 900 88
tel.: +421 903 935 525
www.vinazmlyna.sk



Photo: BSK

Aviatic Celebration over the Small Carpathians

Hope the weather will be fine! This is probably what every aviator, airman or aeronautical acrobat wishes for. But also everybody who is preparing and looking forward to the Air-show in Dubová near Modra every year.

In this beautiful region, between fields and vineyards, there is an event held every year in May for everyone who loves aeroplanes, the sound of their engines and the wind in their hair. This is where the propeller is still spinning. The more courageous individuals can book a sightseeing flight. Those, who aren't spend some time up in the air will appreciate the opportunity to explore the cockpit of the plane or the helicopter cabin and chat with the pilots whilst they're on the ground. You won't be bored here with all the experiences around. Take-offs and landings, acrobatics on bright machines,...this is what the world and also local masters of this art will show you. They're the real masters, the machines in our air force and the whole acrobatic groups flying above our heads. So, see you at Dubová airport!



Danube Lowlands Region

A place where the water shows you your direction, fills you with experience, inspires you with its power and from its surface you can see the world from a different perspective



Photo: m-ARK

Welcome to the region, where you can enjoy water tourism, the possibility of active relaxation, but it's not just the sports. Castle ruins and refurbished manor houses where chefs will play with all your senses are looking forward to your visit.

“Water paradise”, is a great description for this picturesque region. Its name already seems to be influenced by the majestic Danube. This river follows the state border with Hungary in the southernmost part of this region. We can't go into such detail in our magazine, but we will introduce you to the unique attractive places on the water. Hiking on The Little Danube is a great experience especially for fans of technical sights. Water sports on larger water areas, cycling along the lowlands and golf in large open spaces attract people during the whole year. As well as high-quality wellness, hotel, and restaurant services. Charming monuments in the form of manor houses, where the nobility used to live, shine brightly as if they're saying: “Come in.”

Senec recharges you with energy. You can relax during sports or in water activities in this pulsating town, and the biggest summer carnival in Slovakia has a strong tradition here. Senec has many cultural events and this is just a small sample of what's on offer.



Photo: m-ARK



Photo: m-ARK



A town filled with sunshine, WHERE THERE IS NO BOREDOM

When you hear the word 'Senec', everyone thinks of the Sunny Lakes. Thousands of visitors come from near and far to relax there every summer. But did you know that every year on January 6, the Three Kings Swimming is held in their cold waters? You can join the Polar Bear group cold water swimmers. In addition to the legendary Sunny Lakes, the Big Summer Carnival has been attracting people to Senec for more than 20 years. Homemade or shop-bought masks, complex or simple, painted, glued or sewn – they all illuminate Senec at the end of every June. Senec always welcomes summer holidays in a spectacular way. The popular Senec Summer event is rich in cultural programme and experiences. Singers, bands, dancers or entertainers alternate on two stages, while films are screened in the summer amphitheatre. 20,000 people

have a fun time here. Hardly anyone goes to bed early due to the traditional and magnificent firework display over the lakes. The disco continues even after the last firework disappears into the night sky. If you decide to come here at harvest-time, you won't regret it. Jablkové hodovanie (Apple-Feast) takes place every year in Senec, just like in other towns and villages throughout our region. You can taste and buy apple goodies. When the time comes to open the wine cellars, direct yourself towards Farské Square. Senec has been returned to the Small Carpathians Wine Route map. This beautiful underground space has come to life thanks to the Jungperg 1632 society. It's just made for wine tasting and representative events. The town's monuments document its rich history. The plague column – Immaculata is a mark of gratitude

for the end of the plague killings in 1714. There was once a large Jewish community in Senec, but the Jewish Synagogue is now abandoned. They also had their own pillory where offenders were publicly whipped. Even a certain wizard was punished after supposedly casting a spell on the onion harvest. The extensive Renaissance building called Veľký Štít served as the Esterházy family manor house, a woman's reform school with a textile factory, an orphanage or a school. You should also visit the Church of Saint Nicholas the Bishop – the oldest historical and artistic building in the town. In addition to culture, Senec has a positive attitude towards sports. Our football teams train at the National Training Centre which was co-opened in 2003 by the legendary Michel Platini. Those who prefer cycling are recommended to use the cycle route around the Sunny Lakes, which is also suitable for roller-skating.



Photo: m-ARK





100 hectares of water, 2,200 hours of sunshine per year, water temperature around 25 degrees and thousands of satisfied holidaymakers. Such are the mathematics of Slnecné jazera

Slnecné jazera

Photo: VideoFly studio

full of life

Both domestic and foreign tourists used to go there to fulfil their dream of a great holiday even during the former political regime when it wasn't as easy to get to the sea as it is today. However, the locality was also very popular at the beginning of the 19th century when the Hungarian railway on the line Bratislava – Štúrovo – Budapest was being built. And since the gravel was being extracted there, the lakes were nicknamed "The Digger". There were five in total, and all the people from

the neighbourhood rushed here to cool themselves down.

Slovak Tahiti or Slnecné jazera?

Gradually, the place began to change in order to meet the needs of holidaymakers. The Slovak league had their own beach with a buffet, where the entrance fee was even collected between the two world wars. The golden era of Slnecné jazera began in the 1960's when it was this popular name that won the

competition. But did you know that Slnecné jazera has also been called Slovak Tahiti in the past?

Movie stars and Dubček were enchanted with Slnecné jazera

Today there is nothing left of the five lakes. At the end of the 1970's, when mining ended, one large water area was formed from the five lakes. This attracted many well-known personalities. Many of the movie legends – František Dibarbora, Ladislav Chudík, Július Pántik or Karol Machata built their inconspicuous cottages or villas on the shores of Slnecné jazera. Also, the statesman and a High Representative

Photo: VideoFly studio



Photo: VideoFly studio

Lobster

A little bit of exotic in Slnecné jazera

Become a pirate for a moment. A two-storey ship reminiscent of the Santa Maria, the ship sailed by Christopher Columbus. It won't get you to the other side of the Atlantic, but you will have a fantastic view of Slnecné jazera.

The stylish Restaurant Lobster is held over the water by acacia pickets. Very demanding gourmets will be satisfied by delicacies from both domestic and international cuisine, including fish specialities. Fresh ingredients, beautifully cooked broths, classical juices, spiced up with fantasy, all this contributes to the quality of this restaurant. A unique location, great facilities and friendly staff guarantee a well-organised training event,

a corporate or family event according to your requirements. There are plenty of opportunities to spend time in Slnecné jazera and if you choose to stay longer, take advantage of the Lobster guesthouse. Enjoy your stay in romantic luxury apartments with terraces over the lake and direct access to the water. The Polynesian style bungalows can accommodate 56 people.

Lobster guesthouse and restaurant
Slnecné jazera, Senec
tel.: +421 948 011 210
www.lobster.sk



Photo: Lobster

of The Prague Spring Alexander Dubček had a house here. A place under the pine trees where he used to find peace is no longer there.

Slnecné jazera full of life

The generous Slnecné jazera area borders with Senec to the east. Green beaches with a shimmering

water surface looks like paradise. Nowadays, there are many opportunities regarding how to actively spend your summer vacation, whether you like sports or fishing, children's playgrounds, beach-volleyball courts, tennis courts, a sports equipment rental, water slides, a soccer field with an artificial

playing-surface and water football. The accommodation meet the most diverse requirements. There are services offered by hotels, guesthouses and larger cottages. You can also spend relaxing days with your beloved in bungalows. You can play tennis, squash, bowling, billiards, mini golf, darts or table tennis in the hotels. And, of course, there are massages, wellness services, and a gym. In order to become better orientated, the shores of the lake are marked according to the cardinal points. In the north, there's also a sought-after aqua park with year-long relaxation possibilities.



Holiday Express

A TRAIN AROUND THE SUNNY LAKES

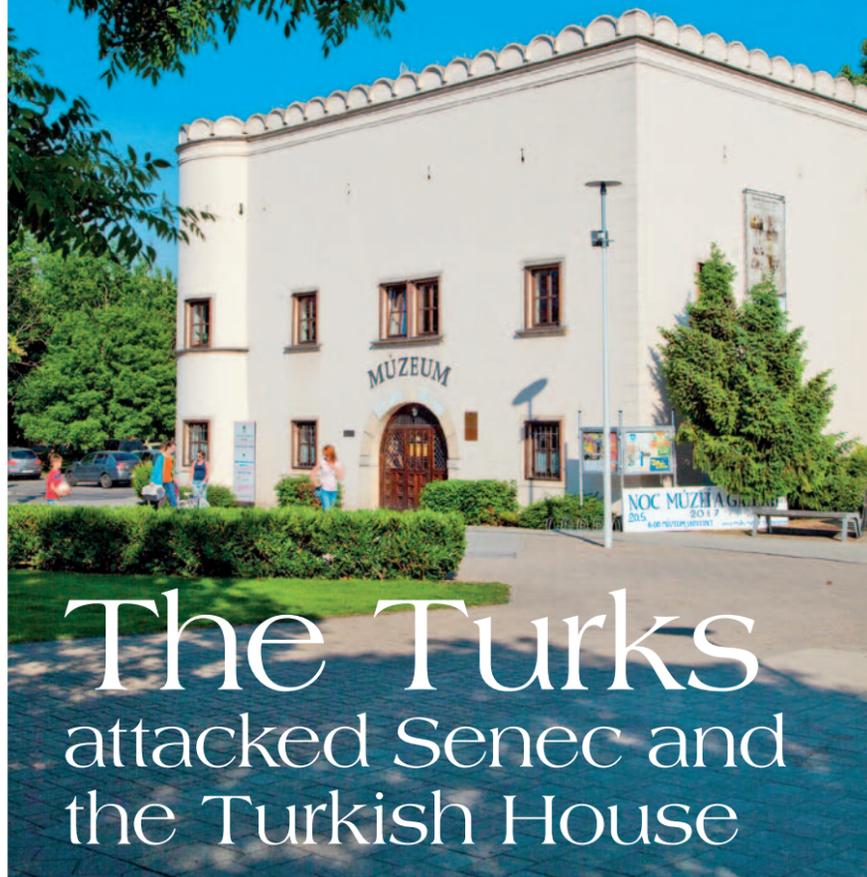
Take a tour around the lakes from the comfort of a train. The popular Holiday Express proudly runs in the colours of Senec – yellow and blue – during the summer season.

It runs daily from 9:00 to 22:00 at regular intervals from the town to the Sunny Lakes and around them. During this 7.3 km long route, you will soon realise the size and beauty of these five lakes with a total area of 100 hectares. The tourist train is an ideal connection between the resort and the town centre. It has well-defined stops, but you can get on and get off at any point throughout its journey if you come to an agreement with the guard. The 2017 summer season is the train's 14th year of life and therefore, next year will mark its fifteenth anniversary.



Photo: m-ARK

The Turkish House – the most precious historical monument in the central square of Senec was built by the Bratislava district governor Krištof Baťan in the 16th century. It was in 1663 when the Turkish House experienced a real attack by the Turks.



The Turks attacked Senec and the Turkish House

However, the project architects were very prudent with its design: there are arched loopholes and semi-circular attic gables that had both aesthetic and defensive purpose. There is also an underground corridor leading from the Turkish House, and this was protected by a bastion. Later, when it no longer needed defending, the estate was used by nobility for entertainment purposes. The other premises were used by the District of Bratislava until 1757 and later by officials. Years of decay followed. However, Senec decided to end its state of disrepair and completed a costly reconstruction in 1994. Today, the Tourism Administration, Tourist Information Office, Town Museum and a restaurant are located there.



Photo: m-ARK

SAI Wellness a AQUAPARK Senec



Silence. Calm. Relaxation. You are able to discover a completely new meaning for those words in the SAI Wellness located in Senec, spread over an area of almost 1,000 square metres.

First class relaxation BOTH IN WINTER AND IN SUMMER

Can you remember the last time you relaxed carefree without worries? When freed drops of sweat ran down your body? Magical moments aren't so far away. Thanks to the diversity and number of local saunas, you'll be able to discover the beneficial effects of "sweating" a little differently. Professional sauna animator may surprise you in a sauna, but eventually, you'll definitely appreciate its presence.

The beneficial effects of a sauna are something money can't buy

Taking a deep breath in a Russian Banja is a treat for your bronchi and lungs. It improves your blood circulation and the unconventional 30-minute ceremony – Russian massage – will relieve your various ailments. Firstly, your body is warmed up and steamed, and then the sauna animator continues with a massage with mostly birch branches. Next is the body detox using honey, later

another branch massage and finally, cooling down in a shower or an outdoor cooling pool while relaxing with a cup of herbal tea. Steam saunas will enhance your immunity, salt saunas detoxifies your body and, among other things, acts as a natural peeling. In the Turkish hammam, you'll be able to relax on dry heated benches, the bamboo sauna is also a guarantee of a sauna show, infrared saunas cleanse your body of toxic substances, heavy metals, and help get rid of kilograms or skin problems. In the winter season 2017/2018, the symbolic Japanese garden will be expanded to include two new outdoor saunas – another Finnish one, a new Russian sauna and a large cooling pool, making this SPA complex one of a kind in the surrounding area.

Health and beauty within reach

Prestigious Spa Cosmetics – Comfort Zone – will pamper your body during

massages and full-body rituals. Ladies, make a note in your diary that every third Tuesday in the month is Ladies Day. In addition to that, special "Wellness evenings" including night saunas are regularly held throughout the winter.

Just a few steps to the water

In addition to the oasis of tranquillity, you'll also be able to experience relaxing by the water. All year round, you'll be able to draw your strength in a swimming pool hall with the possibility of swimming out under the open sky. You will surely enjoy the water jets, hydro-massage benches or the water rain in the swimming pools with a water temperature of 28 to 38°C. Children are able to enjoy the children's pool or indoor waterslide. In summer, there is also an outdoor area with many other attractions for all ages.



AQUATHERMAL SENEC
Slnéčné jazerá – north, 903 01 Senec
tel.: +421 (2) 45 64 80 21
e-mail: info@aquaparksenec.sk
www.aquaparksenec.sk

Photo: AQUATHERMAL SENEC



From Bratislava to the Little Danube

Not only the famous Danube, but also its 'little brother', the Little Danube, will please every paddle boat lover. Float along this 128 km long branch of the Danube directly from Bratislava.

Little Danube near Jelka: m-ARK

DISCOVER UNIQUE WATER MILLS

The Little Danube flows with a steady and moderate flow, so it's also suitable for families who want to go rafting with children. It separates from the main flow of the Danube at Slovnaft in Bratislava. The District of Vrakuňa and the villages of Most pri Bratislave, Malinovo, Zálesie, Tomášov, Jelka, Jahodná, Trstice and Kolárovo are located on route. Many of them are beyond the Bratislava region's borders, but we

recommend this trip because you will discover a few rare technical buildings – water mills. The most famous water campsite is located by the water mill in Jelka. The boaters also like to 'drop anchor' at the water mills in Jahodná, Kolárovo and Tomášikovo, where the local mill serves as a technical monument of the folk miller's trade in southern Slovakia. There is another mill in national nature reserve – Klátovské rameno near Dunajský Klátov where there are several

places to eat or stay. Your water trip will be enriched by watching birds, aquatic mammals or the surrounding flora of the riparian forests separating the Little Danube from the lowland fields and meadows. Two dams are also built on the river:

at Nová Dedinka and Tomášikovo. This place, however, isn't just a 'lure' for boat-lovers. The Little Danube creates Žitný ostrov (Rye Island) – one of the largest drinking water reservoirs and the largest river island in Europe.

From May to September, you can also float along the Little Danube on a raft with the opportunity of visiting the thermal swimming pool in Topolníky. Just click: www.raftovanie.sk.



Photo: m-ARK



Photo: m-ARK

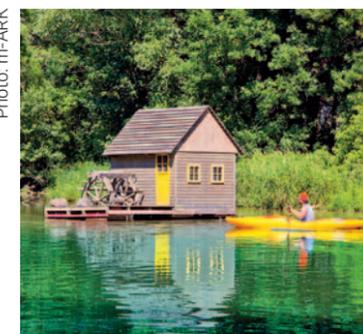


Photo: www.kanoing.sk



Photo: www.splavuj.sk

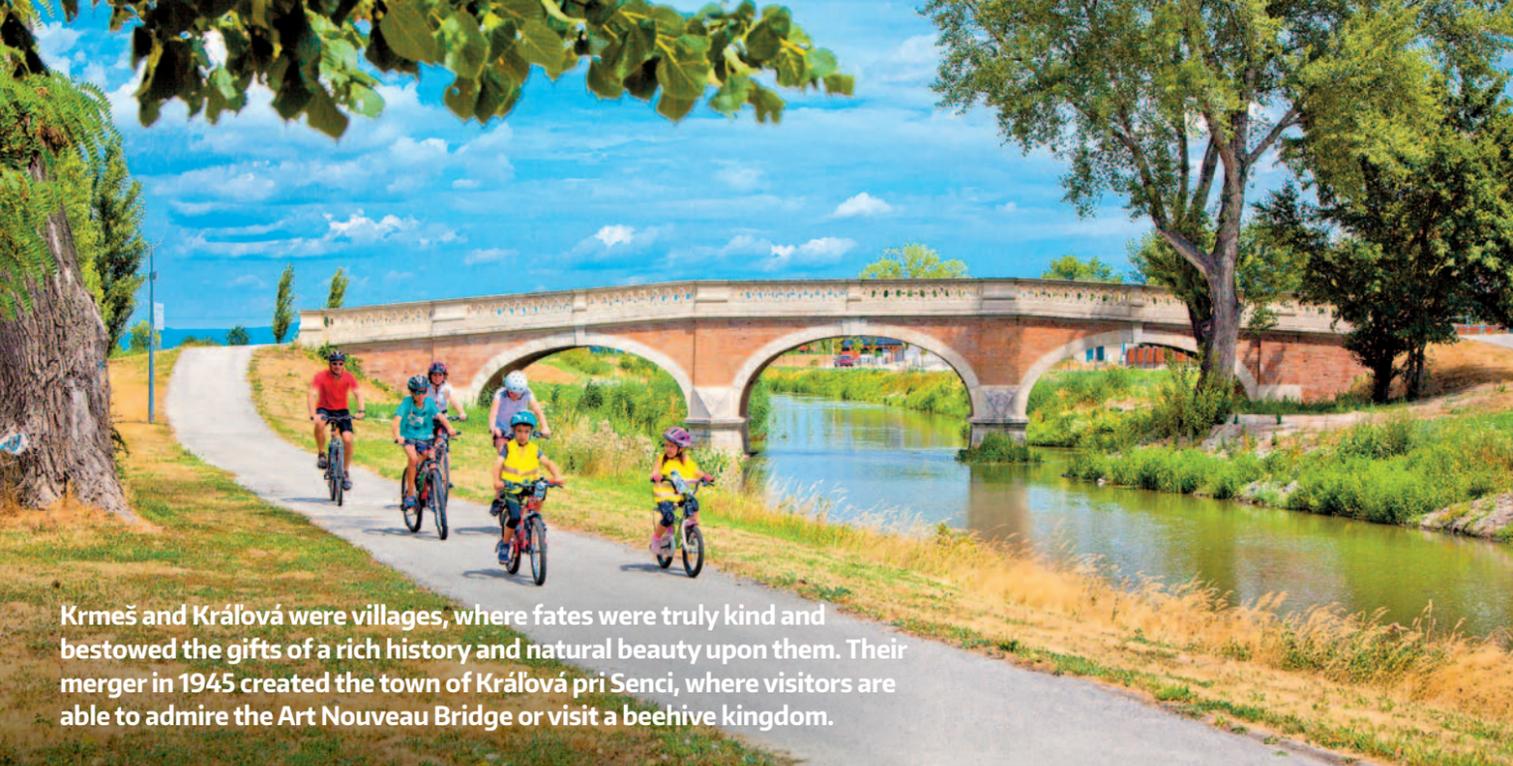
Where do you arrange to float along the Little Danube?

You can arrange to rent the full equipment, canoe, or kayak from April to October on www.splavuj.sk.

Another possibility of renting or buying your own canoe and going to discover the Little Danube's mysterious places is: www.splavmalehodunaja.sk.

At Boat4u rental you will be provided with a complete service, boat or person transport or rental and advice. For more information, visit: www.malydunaj.com.

You can also choose from a wide range of services at www.kanoing.sk. Whether you take a day trip or a week-long trip, these trips are 'tailor-made' for you. As part of the package you will receive continuous assistance services.



Krmeš and Kráľová were villages, where fates were truly kind and bestowed the gifts of a rich history and natural beauty upon them. Their merger in 1945 created the town of Kráľová pri Senci, where visitors are able to admire the Art Nouveau Bridge or visit a beehive kingdom.

Photo: m-ARK

Enjoy the beauty of the Art Nouveau Bridge and visit a bee paradise



Once upon a time, there was King Sigismund of Luxemburg's hunting chateau and King Matej Korvín himself came here to hunt. The premises soon became a property belonging to the Pálffy family, who rebuilt the chateau and enhanced its beauty with a French garden and an English park. These peaceful oases were connected by a garden bridge, which still stands to this day. The bridge is often mistakenly said to be baroque – however, the construction only imitates baroque art. It is in fact an Art Nouveau construction from 1904, a piece by Italian masters, over the Čierna Voda River. Altogether, there are five bridges in the town, however, only this one has been immortalised on a postage stamp.



Photo: m-ARK

Beekeeping Museum in Slovakia
Skanzen, 900 50 Kráľová pri Senci
www.vcelarskapaseka.sk

When visitors reach a place where the vibrating buzzing of bees is heard far and wide, they truly feel at peace. The bees are guarded by Saint Ambrose in the form of a wooden statue, which is, of course, inhabited by bees. The Open-air Beekeeping Museum is the oldest bee-keeping museum in Central Europe. However, this museum isn't full of still exhibits; it's bustling with life. Honey extractors, spinners and other beekeeping equipment document the needs of beekeepers in history. Unique hive collections or embossed and of course figural hives in exteriors aren't missing. Visitors are also able to taste and buy bee products. It's possible to find accommodation, refreshments, set-up a campfire or enjoy fishing. Lest we forget: the giant bee on the side of one of the buildings is a gift from the makers of the film "Tisícročná včela" (The Millennial Bee) by Juraj Jakubisko, who borrowed props from here.



Photo: Café Štefánik

Celebrate M. R. Štefánik

in an authentic café whilst sipping a delicious cup of coffee

We invite you for more than great coffee and a great dessert. Café Štefánik also serves "evening experience events".

General Štefánik will welcome you as you enter. Almost 100 years after his death, of course, only in the form of a statue. The atmosphere inside is enhanced with a replica of his legendary uniform and photographs. He wasn't only a general, an aviator, a politician and a diplomat, but also an astronaut and a globetrotter. From a large wall map, you'll discover more about his journeys. And when your finger finally leaves the map, you can taste delicious cakes and a perfect coffee – directly from a cup with Štefánik's picture on it. In the summer, you can drink a refreshing lemonade on the terrace, for the hungry visitors we recommend the local spreads and sandwiches and of course, wine. The offer is also popular for the gourmets who must exclude gluten from their diet or need barrier-free access. In good mood, with a biplane model above their heads, they welcomed the wine harvest here, celebrate Christmas, and love is celebrated on Valentine's Day. We recommend you to come here during the thematic evenings organised in honour of the globetrotter. There were very successful ones like French, Mexican, Italian, and Greek with traditional specialties and live music.



Café Štefánik
Bernolákovská 18,
900 28 Ivanka pri Dunaji
www.cafestefanik.sk
0944 49 49 48



Photo: m-ARK

"There is a tumulus over there, there is a bad moment ..."

The introductory words of Ján Botta's ballad – *The Yellow Lily* depicts exactly what the tumulus symbolises. It reminds us of the tragedy on May 4, 1919, when a plane crashed here with General M. R. Štefánik.



The tumulus from 1923 was not only built in the memory of Štefánik, three other members of the crew also died in the machine's wreckage. There is still speculation regarding the reasons for the crash, some people say that it was assassination, others blame the troublesome machine. The monument was designed by the architect Dušan Jurkovič, as well as more famous Mohyla na Bradle (1928), to which people contributed to the collection. General Štefánik was buried in "Mohyla na Bradle", close to his hometown of Košariská, but his memory can also be honoured here, near Bratislava, near the tumulus, surrounded by lindens – a symbol of reconciliation and love.



Malinovo

Photo: VideoFly studio



Under the wings of the Guardian Angels

Prominent people choose it for their wedding vows due to its elegance and first-rate services. The pride of Danube Lowland Region is accessible to the public as the Art Hotel Kaštieľ.



Tomášov manor house was built 250 years ago by Baron Ján Jesenák. The change of ownership changed its appearance, and a chapel was added – newly restored and dedicated to the Guardian Angels. The manor house offers the possibility of participating in sports and recreation, the restaurant offers monarchical specialities, several tours are held several times a year. The splendid manor house with a huge park will win your approval just as it did with the creators of the *Búrlivé víno* (Taste of Love) series.



Photo: Art Hotel Kaštieľ

A charismatic park and a manor house visited by filmmakers

The scriptwriters of the exceptionally successful series *Tajné životy* (Secret Lives) set the story in this charming place. They made the manor house a shelter for abused women, whereby the director–actress Zuzana Mauréry – needs to raise money to fund its further operation. Here's where the story becomes complicated.

visited by filmmakers

In reality it's not a simple matter; although the ravages of time have eroded this majestic manor house, the belief in its preservation is still alive. The history of this manor house began in the 14th century when a castle grew up in the then Eberhard. It became the manor house later. It was built by the lords of Pezinok and Svätý Jur counts, reconstruction was arranged by Archbishop Juraj Pohronec-Slepčiansky. Malinovo belonged to a famous family – the Apponyis – in the 19th century and their reconstruction of the manor house began its classicist era. It maintains the style to this day. Unfortunately, nowadays, it's decaying, but you can take a walk through a beautiful park rich in woody plant life. They were probably planted in the 19th century. There could've been many more oak, ash, pine, and exotic woody plants if the Second World War hadn't taken place. Today's visitors to Malinovo Park are able to admire approximately 230 different types of trees or bushes.



Photo: m-ARK



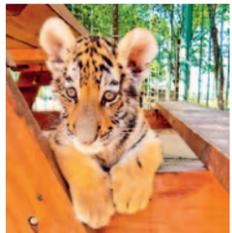
Photo: m-ARK



Oasis of the Siberian Tiger

Oasis of the Siberian Tiger

Siberian tiger trophies have a high price on the black market. In China, they make slippers for newborn babies from rich families, believing that they protect them. People in the Oasis of the Siberian Tiger want to save this animal. The feline has enchanted the founder Yveta Iršová. Raising every young cat with great care and providing them with everything they need is an everyday challenge for herself and her team. Support this effort by visiting.



Oasis of the Siberian Tiger
Kostolná pri Dunaji
www.tigre.sk



Photo: m-ARK, Obec Miroslavov



Follow the footsteps of our ancestors

Weavers move their looms and you can listen to the sound of a hammer pinging against the anvil in the Handicraft Courtyard and Rural Culture Museum in Miroslavov. You will discover that ceramics manufacturers don't have dirty hands, but hands that are just a little smeared with clean clay. While the ground floor is dedicated to handicrafts, on the first floor, you can fill yourself with knowledge about the Danube Lowland Region. Draw inspiration for trips in the surrounding area, watch documents about the lives of the local people, history, local fauna and flora. In the attic, you can experience an intimate view of the household of local major landowners after World War I.



Zálesie

WHERE MIRACLES HAPPEN

Photo: Michal Zajaček

Just a short distance from Bratislava is a small village, one that has enchanted many artists and will do the same to you. Every year, for a moment, it becomes a “Mecca of theatre”. It will also capture the heart of every canoeist, as the ride on the Little Danube is an amazing experience.



Photo: Michal Zajaček



Photo: m-ARK



Photo: Michal Zajaček

“In the summer of 2015 we played a theatre show – Master and Margarita – at the Zálesie theatre fair and witnessed the miracle that has existed in Zálesie for several years...” These are the words that Ondrej Spišák – respected director – used to describe the Zálesie theatre fair. However, the Medzinárodný festival divadla pre deti (The International Children’s Theatre Festival) isn’t just for children. The programme will even please those who were born a little earlier. Visitors have been able to enjoy the indescribable atmosphere at the end of August since 2011. The cooperation between O.Z. Naše Zálesičko, the local community and the village and their great love for the theatre is the reason behind everything. Because they approach this masterpiece with immense enthusiasm, the same emotion also fills the festival participants. It’s said that “all the world’s a stage” and this theatre stage isn’t to be found in a monumental old building with a heavy purple curtain. Theatre, music, dance and infectious laughter can be heard from the town centre. Children may be able to meet a real artist for the first time, and we adults are allowed to return to our childhood for a short time. Well – who wouldn’t want to go on such a trip? It seems that art simply has a place in Zálesie. The composer Roman Berger used to live here, as well as the illustrator, graphic artist and painter Milan Chovanec and also Ján Glonda, who made the readers of Roháč laugh with his illustrations. Zálesie is also the home of the acclaimed cartoonist Vojtech Krumpolec. Zálesie however isn’t just a place for art, but also for water. From the local shipyard on the banks of the Little Danube, and Záleský Maják, you can go on adventure water rides to the surrounding area. Rookies first learn where to borrow boats and gear. On popular trails, you can visit the old mills in Jelka, Tomášikov, and Jahodná among others. You are also welcome to some of the water sports and cultural events such as the Odomykanie a Zamykanie Malého Dunaja or Čarovní vodáci. Local boaters take their boats to the water every Thursday night. But if you’re not just looking to have fun and would like to pay back your debt to the nature, you can join the “Horný tok Malého Dunaja oživa” programme, which aims to clean up the river’s upper reaches.



Photo: Michal Zajaček



Photo: m-ARK

www.lodnicazalesie.sk/lodenica-zalesie
www.zaleskaput.sk



Photo: Michal Zajaček

Bratislava

The city that cheers you up, the region, which will offer you a full experience package



Hlavné square, photo: m-ARK

The region is dominated by the City of Bratislava, its history was also written by Maria Theresa and Napoleon Bonaparte. The surrounding region, full of natural beauty, is the site of thousands of possibilities: modern and traditional gastronomy, culture and entertainment, sports, rich history and good vibrant presence.

With its notorious restaurants, cosy cafes, sought-after bars and a promenade alongside the Danube, Bratislava is a metropolis that can be everyone's cup of tea. Its grandiose coronation past predetermined this city to become the city of art and culture. Panoramic views, unique mountain parks, and city gardens are an oasis of peace in a busy city. The atmosphere will absorb you in the zigzag streets of the old town and the castle. Adventure, sports and cultural monuments can also be found behind the city "walls". Bratislava will surprise you with its virgin nature, the floodplain of the Morava River, the forests and the majestic "Devínská Kobyla". You can enjoy the excitement of this region on several cycle routes, hiking trails or on a comfortable cruise ship.

Ivo Nesrovnal
Mayor of Bratislava



Photo: The town of Bratislava



Green Bratislava

Bratislava is a modern European city with a rich history. But it's also a city of innovation, smart solutions and a green city that distinguishes Bratislava from other metropolitan areas. We talked with Ivo Nesrovnal, the Mayor of Bratislava.

What should we imagine under the term 'Green Bratislava'?

In the city, we have lots of parks, green areas and in particular, a unique forest park that a British newspaper, The Daily Telegraph ranked as one of the most beautiful forests in the world. The unique nature surrounding Bratislava can be reached from the city centre in just a few minutes.

What are your favourite places? What would you recommend from the forest park?

I like to go running to Železná studienka (The Iron Well) or hiking with my family to Kamzík. In addition to a TV tower which is one of the most dominant features in Bratislava, there's also a bobsleigh track and a rope centre. Kačín, Horáreň Krasňany or an observation tower on Americká lúka (American Meadow) that are also worth visiting.

At present, people from the city often spend their free time in

shopping centres in particular.

How does the capital city attract people to nature?

We made the first tree house in Slovakia under Kačín last year. The night stay needs to be booked in advance, and even though it's a paid service, a lot of people are interested in it. This is why we have built another tree house this year in Pod Dubmi, where you can spend an adventurous night in the trees.

The house has beds, basic furnishings and a terrace with beautiful views. The Červený kríž (Red Cross) site with its new gazebo, barbecue and benches is another attraction in the forest park.

How is it with green vegetation in the city centre? Is the city building new green areas?

In the area of greenery restoration, we have used the 'Bratislava is pre-

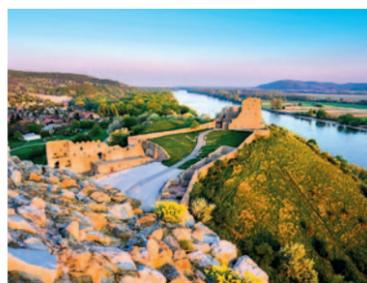


Photo: The town of Bratislava



paring for climate change' project funded by the Norwegian funds. Altogether, we have implemented 10 projects, such as the reconstruction of two ponds at Železná studienka, the greenery restoration at the Námestie hraničiarov (square) in Petržalka, the Main Square and the Franciscan Square. We also managed to build Parčík Svoradova in the Old Town, which is a green island in the middle of the city centre.

What would you recommend to a visitor to the capital? What to experience and where to go?

My favourite is sitting down at the Danube. Watching the flowing river, the city's panorama, or the 'wall' of the riparian forest calms me down. And I would certainly recommend it to the city's visitors. And I would also invite them to Devín Castle where the upper castle was reopened after reconstruction which lasted nine years. In addition to beautiful views, they can enjoy the new exposition in the castle caves.

Photo: Bratislava Tourism Board



BRATISLAVA

2018 Christmas markets, November/December 2018
Wonderful encounters with friends take place every year on several squares full of wooden stands with goodies.

TOP 5 events in Bratislava

Bratislava City Days, April

The city opens its gates every spring. Experience many events and an attractive weekend in city museums, galleries or the zoo, all of that is free of charge.



Cultural Summer and Castle Festival, June/September

The largest city festival turns Bratislava into a magnificent multi-genre scene where the International Guitar Festival, the Cathedral Organ Festival, the Traveller Cinema, the Summer Reading Room u Červeného raka and other events are held.



Bratislava Coronation Days, June

The top is the coronation of one of the sovereigns. You will enjoy the coronation atmosphere during theatre performances, sacral concerts or period games.



Bratislava Music Festival, October/November

Experience the atmosphere of the 54rd year of this event with the attribute of the most significant and most prestigious international festival in Slovakia.



More information on www.visitbratislava.com

Breathe in the coronation past of Bratislava

Bratislava experienced an unprecedented boom after Székesfehérvár – until then a place for coronations – was occupied by the Turks. Coronations took place there and the city became the capital of the Kingdom of Hungary.

Photo: Bratislava Tourism Board



Ten kings, seven royal wives and one reigning queen were crowned in the cathedral of St. Martin from 1563 to 1830. The queen was Maria Theresa. Silent witnesses of the time – the streets, houses or churches that lined the coronation route are still there today. Even today, you can recall these historic events, for example on a walk holding your mobile phone and playing an interactive encryption game, or with a tour guide from the city Tourist Information Office. You will experience the atmosphere of Royal Bratislava during the Coronation Days in June, where you can enjoy a varied cultural programme. A new feature is a coronation photo-video point on the floor of Michael's Tower where visitors can take a picture or upload a video in a period costume with crown insignia.

More information on www.visitbratislava.com





Photo: EUROVEA

EUROVEA

The modern city district of Eurovea can be proud of attracting almost 81 million visitors its 7 years of existence. Visitors enjoy Eurovea because of its atmosphere, modern architecture and, of course, the quality shopping it offers.

EXCELS IN BOTH ITS OFFER AND ARCHITECTURE



Visitors enjoy Eurovea because of its atmosphere, modern architecture and, of course, the quality shopping it offers. Since its opening, Eurovea hasn't been a place for just shopping, but also a venue for various sporting events, exhibitions, fashion shows, children's events and artistic performances. One of the most well-received ones was the screening of the 2012 Hockey World Championship, ČSOB marathon, Night run, Slovak Volleyball Championship, AVON – Breast Cancer March, Donau FEST – Regional Cultures Exhibition, European Space Expo – European Space Exhibition, or the DJ's Antoine concert. Eurovea is also traditionally one of the scenes of The Cultural Summer in Bratislava, the Viva Musica Festival and the Eurovea Fashion Show, Fashion Forward.

city. This is why the first floor has become the new High Street of Bratislava with flagship stores for prestigious brands that are available only in Eurovea in Slovakia – Armani Jeans, Baldinini, BCBGMAXAZRIA, Guess Jeans, Lacoste, Luisa Spagnoli, Michal Negrin, Pinko, Penny Black, Trussardi Jeans, TWIN-SET by Simona Barbieri, Weekend Max Mara, Khie's as well as Nespresso.

The second phase – EUROVEA2

The planned expansion will extend the existing retail space by an additional 25,000 square metres by 2020. The most important thing is to maintain the visible quality and outstanding architecture of the existing project.

Expansion of the existing project is supposed to extend the city centre even further along the river. As this is an extension of an existing successful project, Eurovea's priority is to bring brands that customers demand and love. EUROVEA2 follows and complements the urban concept of the first phase. It develops an already established network of roads and takes into account the character of the surrounding urban structure. The elaborate proposal supports the Danube as a significant phenomenon forming Bratislava's urbanisation, especially by revitalising the waterfront and creating opportunities for a wide range of leisure and sporting activities in the river's immediate vicinity. You can look forward to sport zones, shops, services, work opportunities, playgrounds and a wide range of restaurant facilities. The sought-after waterfront promenade will extend all the way to the Apollo Bridge. The aim of all these activities is to enable the inhabitants and visitors to the city of Bratislava to get closer to Danube and to be able to actively use its waterfront on a larger scale.

A stone's throw away from the centre, the Danube is close enough to touch

Eurovea was built in a new modern city district, which was supposed to expand and revive the centre of Bratislava. The main idea was to change the waterfront area along the Danube. The name represents the combination of two words: Europa and Veá – the way. The waterfront park and the calm waters of the Danube complete the amazing atmosphere of this first-class Bratislava location. Eurovea is situated in an ideal location on the banks of the Danube and in the greater centre of Bratislava. Its great location underlines the direct touch with the centre of the capital city. The recently opened Old Bridge and the revitalised Šafárikovo Square are a guarantee of excellent accessibility for both the public and personal transport.

The most popular shopping boulevard with new brands

Eurovea has become the most prestigious shopping boulevard in Bratislava in seven years. The key factor of its success is, of course, the structure of its tenants that must take into account the unique location in the heart of the

EUROVEA
Pribinova 8, 811 09 Bratislava
Mon–Sun: 10:00–21:00
tel.: +421 2 20 915 000





Water Sports Centre, photo: m-ARK

From Bratislava to Gabčíkovo

GET READY FOR THE MAGNETIC ATTRACTION

Sports grounds and unique museums. Roller-skating and cycling on the dam with wind blowing through your hair, you will smell baked fish and discover the picturesque setting of the Danube riparian forests and the spectacular technical work.

Bratislava – Čunovo – Gabčíkovo: The dream of all roller-skaters

Even if you are an experienced roller-skater, you probably won't manage the entire route from the Slovak capital to Gabčíkovo in one day. But it's a challenge and a great tip for a bigger trip. Cyclists also like the flat route and on two wheels you can conquer it in around five hours. You can start under the new Starý most (Old Bridge) on the Petržalka side, or later along the entire length of route in the Danube direction. The first stage will take you to Rusovce, Čunovo and Danubiana. History lovers will be captivated by Rusovce. A dominant Neo-Gothic

building – Rusovský manor house – has been falling into ruin for several years. However, you can sit in the shade of the English park trees nearby. Be sure to discover ancient Rusovce.

Gerulata national cultural monument

There are the foundations for the 1st–4th century buildings on the museum grounds. On the exterior you will see a late-ancient 4th century fortress, which was built in the north corner of the original castrum. The exhibition hall tells you stories from archaeological researches. Archaeologists have uncovered the ruins of a Roman forum, a well, tombstones



Gerulata, photo: m-ARK



Hrušov, photo: m-ARK

and altar stones, oven remnants, burials, ceramic fragments along with other objects that document people's lives. The deformed helmet of a Roman officer is also highly valued. The camp protected the eastern wing of legions stationed in Carnuntum, the capital of the province of Pannonia. If you don't like roller-skating or biking, you can also stop at Rusovské Lake. You don't even need swimsuits: there is a nude beach. But beware: no boredom, nor social facilities, as bathing here is unofficial.

On the way to the south you will see the Danubiana modern art museum. The 'fine artwork' of contemporary artists in an impressive setting will appeal to anyone that loves the arts. There are also buffets here. Recharge your batteries, refill the supplies and rest your feet. You should definitely try a local speciality – baked fish. Enjoy a car-free ride, thanks to which this dam is popular for the whole family. The feeling of safety without unpleasant exhaust fumes makes this part of the country a perfect place for active relaxation. Although, not only relaxation but also the life revealed by houseboats in the cove.

You will realise the size of the Gabčíkovo waterworks for the first time in the lower part of Hrušov water reservoir behind Čunovo. The Danube is rushed into an artificially adjusted bed and forms rapids. Divoká voda complex is in this area, which is an ideal place for



Podunajské luhy, photo: m-ARK

water sports. You can try rafting, kayaking, hydrospeed, surfing, water scooters, wakeboarding, water skiing or even the Aqua Roller. Or you can 'fly on water' on a flyboard. If you don't want to end up getting wet, start a four-wheeler. It's possible to ride a pony, practise archery, beach volleyball, football or paintball. But we definitely recommend trying the two channels with different routes and the possibility to regulate the difficulty. You can also stay in accommodation directly at the Centre.

The route seems endless

From now on, both the traffic and number of buffets will be reduced. But the more the Danube will impress you in stark contrast with the peaceful riparian forests. Rare birds, such as cormorants can be seen in the Dunajské luhy Protected Landscape Area. Continue along the route and you will reach Vojka, from there, you can use the free ferry transport to Kyselica on the other bank of the Danube. You can get to Bratislava from this point on the other side. The circuit is roughly 70 km long.

To the locks in Gabčíkovo

However, if you decide to go through the entire circuit, which is approximately a distance of 100 km around the water reservoir, the route from Vojka leads to the Gabčíkovo lock chambers. The construction of this large technical work started in



Photo: m-ARK

1977 and was designed as a measure of protection against floods and to create a reliable fairway. With a bit of luck, you'll see its operation with your own eyes. The route then turns north to Bratislava. You should consider whether you go this way – entry is forbidden for a stretch of a few hundreds of metres in length, even though you can get across it. Another stretch through the village of Gabčíkovo and other villages is smooth.

Wakeboarding and kiteboarding in Hamuliakovo

Whoever wishes to experience a rush of adrenaline can enjoy it on a wakeboard or kiteboard in Hamuliakovo. The number of buffets is increasing with increasing kilometres. This part of the dam is also called 'Slovnaft' because it runs around Slovnaft and the port.

4 August 2018 – Bratislava River Surfing Day by Divoká Voda

Open championship in white water river surfing at the Wild Water Resort in Čunovo with an international field (Slovakia/Hungary/Austria/Czech Republic). In addition to enjoying the races, the public can also try our activities at a fraction of their normal price. A pleasant atmosphere is created by a musical guest, and visitors can also enjoy wild game and fish delicacies.

Podujatia Gerulata

01 September 2018 – XXI Roman Games (21st annual) and 2018 LIMES Days (5th annual) Rusovce.

This successful event reminds guests of the history that links us with the famed Roman Empire.

Gem in the middle of Danube

Danubiana Meulensteen Art Museum

With Danubiana, Bratislava was given a gift that every cultured city should have: a truly modern, timeless museum. The Danubiana spreads over an area of 7,811 square metres and inspires by its very existence.



Photo: Danubiana Meulensteen Art Museum

In the gallery on the “Roman Galley” in harmony with water

Danubiana stands on the Danube peninsula leading out into the Gabčíkovo Dam, which creates a unique combination of architecture with water. You can actually get there on a boat from the city centre. Visitors are able to watch the flow and life of the river while walking alongside the sculptures under the open sky. Or even from the inside – through the glazed walls. This interconnection of art combined with

spectacular views of Danube leaves you with an unforgettable impression. The monumental building carries the signature of Ing. Arch. Peter Žalman and after closer inspection, one might realise that the Danubiana building is actually shaped like a ship. The author was inspired by the historic context of the site. The northern borders of the Roman Empire once lead through these places. Žalman’s “ship” represents the legendary Roman galley. Based on this original idea the architect proposed a ship-like floor plan with vertical constructions symbolising oars, which support the main structure.

High-class exhibitions

Danubiana gained prestige among professionals, but also the favour of the public. This is thanks to the high class nature of its exhibitions. It’s impossible to choose the best one, but here is an example of how it’s able

to fulfil ambitious ideas in the fine-arts field: the exhibitions well-received by the public were: New Cipár (M. Cipár), Man ultimately knows (R. Sikora), Testimony on the Edge (J. Jankovič), His Own Way (J. Kaplický), Beautiful Art from

Distinguished guests and inspiring van Gogh

Danubiana was honoured to welcome various prominent personalities, such as the Norwegian Queen Sonja, Dutch Queen Beatrix, Spanish King Juan Carlos I. with his wife, tennis legend Martina Navrátilová, actress Catherine Deneuve and others. However, none of the things you have read would have been possible without two men. For establishing this prestigious museum, we owe our thanks to the Dutch entrepreneur, collector and patron of art Gerard H. Meulensteen and lawyer Vincent Polakovič. He set out on a journey “Following in the Footsteps of Vincent van Gogh” almost 30 years ago and inspired by his travels he built the Yellow House of Vincent van Gogh in Poprad. The culmination of his efforts was creating the Danubiana, and as its director, he looks after it to this day.

Photo: Danubiana Meulensteen Art Museum



the Meulensteen Collection (K. Appel, S. Francis, V. Popovič, S. Ilavský, M. Prachensky), So Far Away (K. Vavrová), Pêcheur d’Images (R. Doisneau) and others. The works of these masters are a magnificent experience by themselves. But when seen on the Danubiana premises, their impact becomes something else entirely. In a modern, generous interior with clean lines, each work is like an individual northern light shining in the night sky. Danubiana was able to build an international collection of paintings and expand the collection of contemporary Slovak art. And if art doesn’t appear to be enough for you and you wish to take a piece of it home with you, make sure you visit the local art shop. But before you do that, please accept an invitation to try a cup of lovely-smelling coffee or well-chilled sparkling wine in the local cafe.

DANUBIANA – Meulensteen Art Museum
www.danubiana.sk
OPENING HOURS
Tue–Sun: 10 AM–6 PM

Photo: Danubiana Meulensteen Art Museum



Photo: Danubiana Meulensteen Art Museum





Sad Janka Kráľa, photo: m-ARK



Photo: m-ARK

The place where you get to know all the shades of Bratislava

A popular Luna Park and Lido Aqua Park used to be on this side of the Danube. Today, life returns to the river banks. Boats with a theatre scene, a brewery and also a boatel anchor there. The banks are full of traditional and international cuisine. This isn't a typical promenade, but a gate to the oasis of tranquility – in the park "Sad Janka Kráľa".

London has Hyde Park, New York has Central Park, Bratislava's treasure is "Sad Janka Kráľa". Under the 200-year-old sycamores you'll see families with children, couples in love, seniors, as well as frisbee or yoga enthusiasts. The oldest public park in Central Europe originated in the 18th century. According to the layout of the pavements, it was called "Sternallee," the star alley. One of them leads you to a unique garden gazebo – originally it was a tower on the Franciscan church. And there's also a sculpture of the poet Janko Kráľ.

From the amphitheatre through the warehouse to the theatre

On the edge of the park, there is a charming building from 1828 - Arena Theatre. Initially, it served as an open-air amphitheatre, later, they built a new building and it's still virtually unchanged today. After World War II, it was closed and for half a century it served as a warehouse. Today's theatre is a multi-genre scene dominated by drama and for the last 15 years has been transformed into Komenský Children's University. In Arena Theatre you will find the Water Tower, which is a national cultural monument. The tower used to serve as the water supply in the times when the city had no existing water supply. Behind the

Arena, there's a UFO, a restaurant with a view and you can take a lift to get there. From here, the "roof of the city", Bratislava will be in the palm of your hand.

You will learn more than textbooks can ever teach you

A little further, there are hidden bunkers in the Petržalka forests which were used to protect Czechoslovakia. The border fortification was established between 1935 and 1938 in response to German politics. Thanks to volunteers, one of the infantry log-cabins – object B-S 4 "Lány" serves as a museum. Military bunkers, of course, are tons of steel, embrasures, infantry and strength weapons, armour protection, ... But it wasn't just about fighting, it was also about living there. They also had a bed, a kitchen and bathroom. In order for everything to work, strict rules needed to be followed. The soldiers were able to produce electricity, but during peace they were only able to use paraffin lamps. The Bunker had its own well and an air purification system, food, fuel and ammunition supplies. The men were sleeping in shifts on straw beds. This is just a brief excursion into the history of the Petržalka bunkers, everything else you can learn here. This is why the soldiers were never directly attacked.



Sad Janka Kráľa, photo: m-ARK



Bunker B-S-8, photo: m-ARK



interview

Tatiana Mikušová
director of the Centrope
Slovak House



We live in a region with enormous potential

What does CENTROPE mean?
CENTROPE means Central European Region. It is the bold vision of politicians to create an international region in the borderlands of Slovakia, Austria, Hungary and the Czech Republic. A total of 6.5 million inhabitants live and work in the CENTROPE area, the region with the most dynamic development in the EU.

What is the importance of cross-border cooperation?
For CENTROPE, this is about planned collaboration, because the development of our cross-border area would certainly not reach this level without the support of enlightened regional and municipal politicians. This year, CENTROPE is chaired by the Bratislava Region with its own priorities. We are working on policy cohesion, especially with respect to transport. The aim is to complete

the missing infrastructure such as the Bratislava bypass along with the planned northern highway between Bratislava and Vienna, completing the Brno-Vienna motorway and intensifying the use of the Danube River. Attention must also be paid to the harmonisation of public

A TOTAL OF 6.5 MILLION INHABITANTS LIVE AND WORK IN THE CENTROPE AREA, THE REGION WITH THE MOST DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE EU.

transport with an emphasis on the use of environmentally-friendly and intelligent means of public transport. We strive to ensure that our activities have a positive impact on the everyday life of local residents.

Where and in what is your cooperation reflected?
Our partnership ensures the

implementation of cross-border projects. At present, these are projects for creating thematic routes such as the European Cultural Route of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Pálffy and Esterházy Noble Families, Wine Trails in the CENTROPE Region, and the construction of the Small Carpathian Bike Trail. We also participate in multiple events and ensure the sustainable development of existing tourism products.

What specifically are these products?
For example, Family Passports, which are discount cards for families with children. Registration at www.rodinne-pasy.sk is free and takes just a few minutes. Card holders then receive discounts from our partners in the Bratislava and Trnava regions and in Burgenland and Lower Austria on various services and products. The CENTROPE Slovak House also maintains and develops the tourist cross-border web portal www.tourcentrope.eu.

What does this portal offer?
We provide tips for trips and thematic events that take place here and in the borderland areas. All information is in five languages: Slovak, Czech, Hungarian, German and, of course, English. Currently, you can find descriptions of 44 cycling routes, hundreds of attractive events and information on 186 landmarks. We regularly update the portal, and we provide information daily on the top events on our Facebook page.

Do you provide special support for wine tourism?
In recent years, many wine trails have been created, often connected with cycling. Our association has created a map application containing 42 wine trails with all relevant information on all of the included wine trails. This information is available in multiple languages.

Bratislava

Take a bite of the Golden Apple of the proud city on the Danube

The Golden Apple in the field of tourism is the same as the Oscar for an actor. The award in the form of the Golden Apple has been 'picked' by Bratislava this year, ranking it among 40 cities rich in history, culture and experience.



Photo: BSK



Ventúrska steet, photo: m-ARK

The history of the settlement of this territory extends to the oldest times and its rich history that embraces you from every side. Tourists are mainly attracted by the historic centre – small enough not to get lost and large enough to satisfy all your senses.

Squares full of life

Main and Hviezdoslavovo Squares are filled with terraces in summer and Christmas markets in winter. You will find many rare architectural gems within these places and in

the winding streets of the old town, dominated by such historical buildings as the Slovak National Theatre, Reduta and Primate's Palace. Clusters of tourists and camera flashes centre around the statues of Čumil (Watcher), Schöne Náci, Napoleon's soldier and the storyteller Hans Christian Andersen.

On the contrary – peace and quiet can be found in the largest church in Bratislava – St. Martin's Cathedral. The presbytery of the cathedral with its impressive interior was the place

where Hungarian rulers had their coronations between 1563 and 1830. There are many churches in Bratislava, but only one synagogue. However, the city is in the viewfinder thanks to the Chatam Sofer Memorial which was founded in commemoration of a significant Orthodox rabbi. Born Moses Sofer, he worked here and his remains were placed in an underground cemetery under the memorial. Just a short walk away, Bratislava Castle rises on the castle hill.

Historical Bratislava has its age, but it also moves with the times. It's reflected in both architecture that tracks world trends and also in gastronomy and services. But it doesn't forget about our cultural heritage so you can try the traditional Pressburg cuisine, homemade wines or cakes like they were made by grandmother. This is Bratislava, sometimes called BARTislava. Because – yes, there's fun to be had in the city's nightlife too, in dance clubs and bars.



Photo: m-ARK

MICHAEL'S GATE

This is the only preserved gate from the original four from the Bratislava city fortification. The tower was built at the end of the 14th century and today, houses the Arms Museum.



Photo: m-ARK

CHURCH OF ST. ELIZABETH

It's quite different from the other churches in the city – in an Art Nouveau style and you can easily recognise it by its bright blue colour. It was originally standing in the area of the nearby grammar school and served as a school chapel.



Photo: m-ARK

GRASSALKOVICH PALACE

It was built in 1760 by Count Anton Grassalkovich. The Palace with a French-style garden was the home of pioneers in the past regime, today it's the seat of the President and the public can visit annually during the open day.

Photo: m-ARK



SLOVAK NATIONAL THEATRE

The theatre's new home took 20 years to build. The seven-floor building by three architects, Kusý, Paňák, Bauer, is decorated with several works of art. Opera, drama and ballet will engage your interest not only by its gracefulness but also its repertory. From this location, take the promenade along the river and the modern Eurovea shopping centre to reach our oldest and largest Comenius University and also right to the city centre.

Photo: m-ARK



SLAVÍN

This monumental memorial offers beautiful panoramic views. There are 6,845 Red Army soldiers buried there, who fell during the city's liberation in the Second World War in April 1945.

Bratislava's statues tell unique stories

Camera flashes and a cluster of tourists and by following them you can easily find the Čumil statue which can be easily overlooked. The bronze head peeping out from the manhole is the most photographed statue in the city.



In the vicinity there are statues of two personalities that never met, but belong to Bratislava: the legendary Schöne Náci, born Ignác Lamar, who was a part of the city atmosphere for 40 years and a Napoleonic soldier. You can also visit the monument of the writer P. O. Hviezdoslav and the statue of H. C. Andersen, in memory of the storyteller's visit here in 1841. You can admire the sculptural group of M. R. Štefánik with a lion at Eurovea. Joint placement isn't accidental.

This was the original memorial that the Communists had destroyed.

Photo: m-ARK



Photo: m-ARK

The most sweet-toothed individuals meet at Zeppelin Cafe & Souvenirs

The secret of the success of the cafe in the heart of the city is in the quality ingredients, its own traditional recipes, but also new recipes from the owner Zuzana Baloghová.

Sweet temptations in the form of fruit pie, apple pie, traditional snacks or cherry and almond cakes are just a small sample of what your taste buds can enjoy here. They offer various cakes, pies and cheesecakes in the romantic setting of the cafe and its summer terrace. They are decorated with edible flowers and fruits – hand-picked at your own farms. The smell of salty cakes, with vegetables or bryndza, spreads through the cafe. Customers with limitations are also given a thought here – they can try the BAKED WITH LOVE cakes free of gluten or lactose. The flavours of these goodies are perfectly underlined by the excellent coffee and fresh lemonade. Discover other magical places with a bag of genuine Bratislava rolls from Zeppelin. If you are looking for a true Slovak souvenir, try the beautiful Zeppelin embroidered originals – textile products with folk motifs, painted boots or hand-painted ceramics. You can find the real Slovak under one roof – better to say 'under the Zeppelin' as a model Zeppelin 'flies' in the interior. The real one appeared in 1909 and the great Zeppelin cake will remind you of the famous event after 108 years.

Zeppelin Cafe & souvenirs
Mon–Sun: 08:30–22:00
tel.: +421 911 110 287
Sedlárska 10, 851 01 Bratislava



Photo: m-ARK



Bratislava Castle

Old man in a new dress

Photo: m-ARK

It can be seen from afar. Graceful, although a little austere, once – without the turrets – resembled an inverted table. Dressed in a new dress, it attracts tourists who can reach it through the streets of the Old Town or by catching the tourist train from the centre.

The castle hill with a rich history

Its rich past defines today's Bratislava Castle. They say that the castle hill already had settlers on there 4,500 years ago. The Bratislava Castle was an important Great Moravian fortress in the 9th century and the seat of the royal family in the 11th century.

The complex consists of a monumental building, the former Royal Palace, gates and smaller buildings as well as a small Baroque garden since 2016. Reconstruction of the interior and also the exterior modifications transformed Bratislava Castle beyond recognition. Today it serves the purpose of the National Council and the Historical Department of the Slovak National Museum which has its depositories and professional offices there, and impressive, regular exhibitions are also held there.

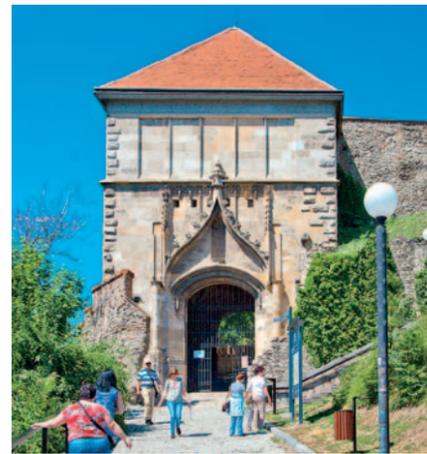


Photo: m-ARK





Svätopluk memorial, photo: m-ARK



Žigmund gate, photo: m-ARK



Photo: Twin City Live

NEAR & FAR: The most beautiful experiences in the area

They're incredibly close to each other, yet each is different and unique. These are Bratislava and Vienna. 'United by the Danube with a multi-cultural charisma, confronted by close contact with the Iron Curtain for decades,' you'll learn this from the Twin City Live project thanks to which the two cities are within your reach.

Vienna, which was on the free, western side of the Iron Curtain, reflects the glamour of glory of the Habsburg dynasty. Bratislava is renowned for the coronations of the sovereigns of the Kingdom of Hungary. Both cities were influenced by Maria Theresa and you can visit them both in one day.

Surprises and experiences

Under the brand ŠIROKO & ĎALEKO Najkrajšie zážitky v okolí (NEAR & FAR the most beautiful experiences in the area), Twin City Live offers experience programmes from which you can choose to your liking: historical and cultural, natural beauty, leisure and sports activities or wandering through the wine routes. Experience them on both banks of the Danube, in the wider metropoli-

tan region between the two capital cities.

Wine packages

Wine packages with regular departures from Bratislava to surrounding wine regions in Burgenland, The Lower Austria and Small Carpathians Wine Route represents a unique offer. Viecha Expres bus is very popular as it takes you and your friends to taste good wine in wine bars selling wines from their own harvest. Even though traditional wine bars have disappeared from Bratislava, you can still find them on the outskirts. Get on-board every Friday at 18:00. The Grand Wine Tour package is also really popular and thanks to this you can discover the flavours of the wine cellars and the wines within.



Photo: Twin City Live



Twin City Gate in Bratislava



Twin City Gate in Vienna

Wine-makers will only be available for you and you certainly won't leave thirsty or hungry. Light or dark, yellow or blue. The same wine can always surprise you with another taste. If you don't believe it, try the Colourful Wine Tour experience package.



The full offer can be found at www.twincity.live or you can obtain information personally at the Twin City Gate information offices in the centre of both Bratislava and Vienna.

office@twincity.live
tel.: +421907716518

Like other castles, even the one in Bratislava faced various attacks, which marked its appearance. The site gained importance in the 15th century when Bratislava became the new country's seat. The days of its great glory came after the Budin occupation in 1526. Bratislava became the royal town and the country's seat and Bratislava Castle was the main royal castle in the Kingdom of Hungary where the royal court moved. Maria Theresa took to the place, so it was important to make it cosier. Stables were built, along with a covered riding hall, gardens, the Terezianum and even a water pipeline, a unique piece

of engineering which brought water to the castle from the Danube. When the Empress died, the castle became a 'general seminary', which was a type of state school for Catholic priests, it was later assigned to a military administration and the beautiful Rococo rooms became a military residence. It was bombarded by Napoleon's artillery in 1809, but the fire in 1811 was more devastating. It's a place of commemoration, where the Act on the Federative Arrangement of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and also the Constitution of the Slovak Republic were signed.

On board the Twin City Liner high-speed Catamaran



platform 30 minutes in advance. The ship is spacious enough to accommodate 109 passengers on the main deck, 8 in the captain's lounge, and 12 seats on the outside upper deck. If you so wish, you can organise a corporate celebration or a birthday party. There is also the possibility of planning an unforgettable wedding on-board. Tickets for the cruise to Vienna and back can be bought from the general partner FloraTour and their dealers. Getting to know the Danube and the surroundings can also be done by speedboat. The sea or actually a river full of experience, sightseeing trips around the city, tickets for events or guided tours will be provided by FloraTour.

You will certainly enjoy staying in Bratislava. But if you want more adventure, get on the Twin City Liner and head to Vienna. The Austrian metropolis is only 90 minute from Bratislava by water. The way back – downstream – is shorter, so bear this in mind when planning your trip.

Cruising on this high-speed catamaran is a great experience for families with children or even tourists with bikes. In order to get to the city of the waltz by water, don't forget your travel document and you must definitely arrive at the

FloraTour, s.r.o.
Kancelária Huma 6 – Twin City Gate
Rázusovo nábřežie, Bratislava 811 02
tel.: +421 903 505 505
e-mail: twincityliner@floratour.sk
www.floratour.sk



Photo: FloraTour

Photo: Twin City Live



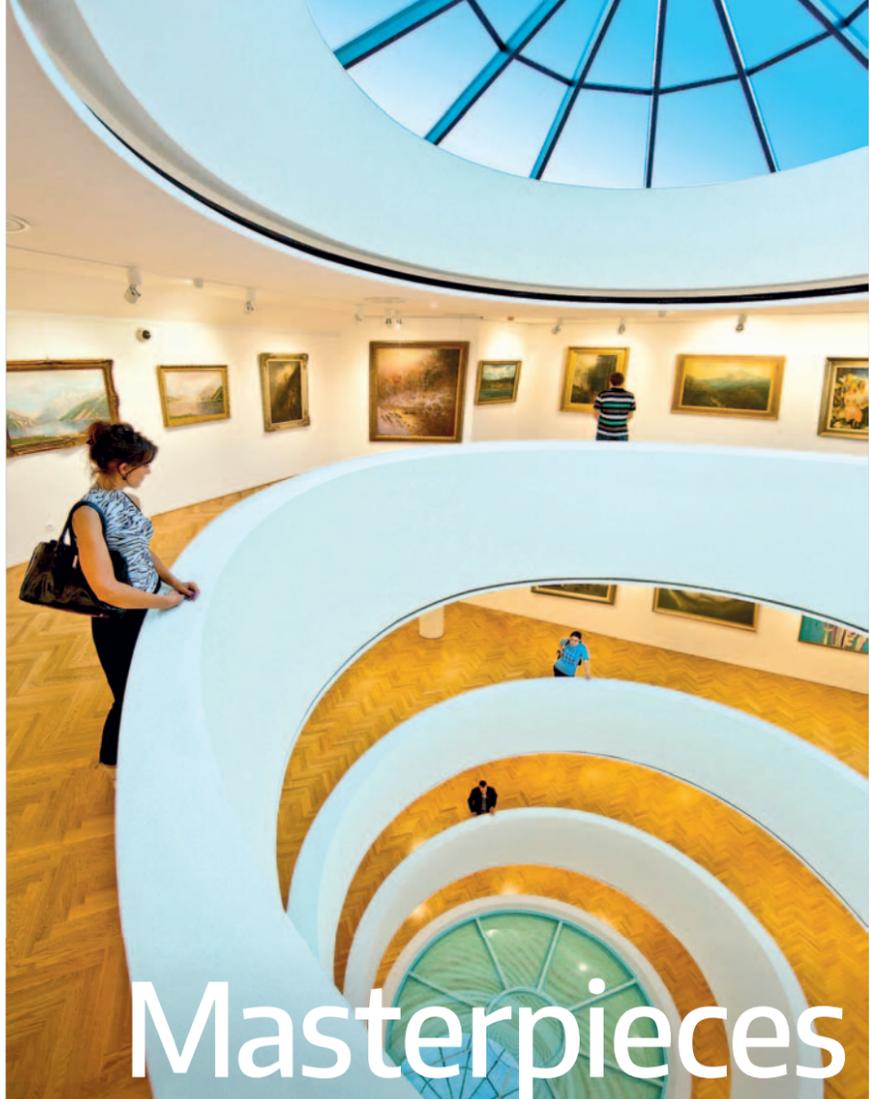


Photo: Galéria Nedbalka



The modern gallery in the historic building is reminiscent of the Guggenheim Museum in New York with regard to its interior. The artworks of famous authors can be admired on the ground floor, where various current exhibitions are held five times a year. On the other four floors, you can see a permanent exhibition divided by the time period – that is The Turn of the Century, Modern Art, The Galandas (Galandovci) and Personalities and Phenomena. The focus of the collection is the painting, but sculpture and graphics are also represented here. You will learn about the birth and development of Slovakian modern art, as well as the history of painting and sculpture in Slovakia. Visitors can form a complete picture of the Slovak art scene through the 160 outstanding paintings and sculptures. Among the personalities from the turn of the century, for example, the Nedbalka Gallery displays works by Ladislav Mednyanszky or Petr Július Kern. The period between the wars is represented by Ľudovít Full, Mikuláš Galanda, Martin Benka, Cyprián Majerník, Vincent Hložník among others. The Mikuláš Galanda group is represented by Andrej Barčík, Vladimír Kompánek, Rudolf Krivoš, Milan Luluha, Milan Paštéka, Andrej Rudavský, Ivan Štubňa and Pavol Tóth. All the works combined create a quality and rich collection that is a great cross-section of the history of Slovak painting and sculpture. The gallery was established in 2012 as a non-profit organisation and in its collection, there are more than a thousand works of art. Slovak modern art is displayed in this impressive place thanks to the founder of the gallery and philanthropist Peter Paško along with his wife and private collector Artur Bartoška.

Masterpieces

from Slovakia admired by the world

A unique concentration of works of art by authors working in Slovakia from the end of the 19th century to the present day. This is the Nedbalka Gallery, which you will find in Nedbalova Street in the heart of Bratislava.



Photo: Galéria Nedbalka

Galéria Nedbalka, n. o.
Open daily except Mondays
1–7 PM
Nedbalova ulica 17, 811 01 Bratislava
tel.: +421 907 865 776



Centuries of history, nine permanent exhibitions, hundreds of precious objects

It's a great challenge to document and present Bratislava's rich history. The Bratislava City Museum has been reacting to it since 1686 and therefore, being the oldest museum continuously in operation in Slovakia.



Photo: m-ARK

Numismatic treasures, handicraft tools, wine-growing equipment and many rare objects of extraordinary artistic and historical value reside in this Museum's collections. Learn Bratislava's history, its cultural and social life as well as ethnology in several places. There are nine permanent exhibitions – most of them, for example, the Arms Museum, the Pharmacy Museum, the Hummel Museum, the Clocks Museum and others can be found in the historical centre of the Old Town. The Devin Castle National Cultural Monument and the Gerulata – Museum of Ancient Roman History in Rusovce are located elsewhere.



Photo: m-ARK

Bratislava City Museum
Radničná ul. č. 1, 815 18 Bratislava
tel.: +421 259 100 811-2
www.muzeum.bratislava.sk

ICE-CREAM, you need to queue for



If you want to know where to go for an ice cream in Bratislava, you should definitely visit Koun.

'I scream for an ice cream' is a play on words describing what this ice cream is really like. You want to try it so bad you would scream. Muscadell and wild strawberries, Ricotta and caramel + figs and many other flavours are prepared for you in a family business by a graduate of the recognised Gelato Academy in Italy, Barbara Szalai. Her ice cream parlour is among the TOP 13 in Europe. And its excellent reputation spread so much that both locals and tourists are willing to wait for it in a queue. Try it for a reason!

Paulínyho 1, Bratislava 811 02
Mon: closed
Tue–Thu: 11:00–20:00
Fri–Sat: 11:00–21:00
Sun: 11:00–20:00
tel.: +421 948 687 795
www.koun.sk



One app reveals what's happening in the city and where to go

The official Bratislava City app will answer the questions that interest you. Useful information is easily found – just download it to your smartphone.

Monuments, restaurants and attractions can be found quickly and easily thanks to this app. You'll learn what's happening in the city and how to get there. You can also use it offline, and it's also a great planner before visiting the city.

More information on www.visitbratislava.com/app





BRATISLAVA from another perspective

Take the Prešporáčik® and get to know the history of Bratislava, feel the wind in your hair while speed-boating on the Danube – everyone who wants to enjoy Bratislava 'a little bit differently' should try it.

It all began when Dušan Šmidák decided to uncover and promote the beauty and history of Bratislava for its visitors after the Velvet Revolution. He decided to combine two things he liked – tourism and horses. He built the first horse-drawn carriage in 1996 which took tourists around Bratislava. Gradually, three carriages drawn by six horses carried them around Bratislava. However, this didn't meet with the demand so he decided to build the first sightseeing car. On a Škoda 1500 chassis and from a photograph of a historic period vehicle driven in Bratislava, Dušan Šmidák made his first Presporáčik®, a silent little car, which managed driving through narrow streets. Together with his two brothers, he still cruises the historic streets of the Old Town. The meeting-point for the Old Town Tour is on the Main Square.

The visitors' great interest in Bratislava Castle and the city centre's wider surroundings led to the creation of the Castle Tour. You meet more modern, yet the same Prešporáčik® vehicles in their design if you take the Castle Tour on Hviezdoslavovo Square. This tour operates all year round and it can be your shelter from rain or frost in

bad weather. In contrast, in summer, you can enjoy the comfort of a 'cabriolet'.

Famous people who took the Prešporáčik are, for example, Larry King, Garri Kasparov, presidents of various countries, and other prominent personalities. They got to know Bratislava in their native language because Presporáčik® vehicles are equipped with audio guides in up to 14 languages and new languages are added annually. The audio guide for children is a special feature. This tour was personally written and narrated by the famous Slovak writer Ľubomír Feldek. Thanks to Dušan Šmidák's another passion, Speedboats.sk cruise the Danube River. An action tour along the banks of the River Danube to Devín Castle, Danubiana Gallery or Hainburg isn't just an unforgettable experience for adults but also for children.

Tour4U – DMC also offers:

- Team-buildings
- Experience programmes
- Group trips to Bratislava and Central Europe
- Organisation of conferences, etc.



Photo: UFO watch.taste.groove.

Have a taste of Bratislava gastronomy heaven

These aren't the only ones, but they're interesting: three vantage points associated with a gastronomic experience in Bratislava.



Photo: UFO watch.taste.groove

UFO watch.taste.groove

The lenticular structure lies on the head of a pylon from which the legendary SNP Bridge is suspended. From here, you can see Bratislava in all its beauty. The lift will take you to the top in 45 seconds. Meals prepared with fantasy and a magical view can be enjoyed from a height of 85 metres. Thanks to an elevated view of 95 metres and vision of around 100 km, you will experience the enchantment of the work that became the Slovak building of the century.

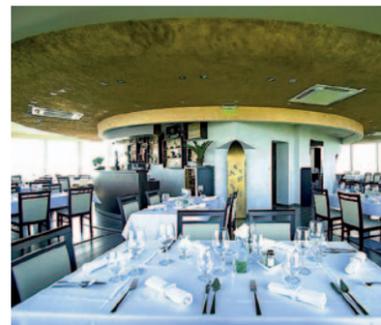


Photo: Altitude restaurant

Altitude restaurant

The rotating restaurant with view is located in the Kamzík TV Tower built in 1975 at an altitude of 433 metres above sea level. Kamzík, surrounded by the Small Carpathians forests is 194 metres high. Visitors to the restaurant are guaranteed unrepeatable views from a height of 70 metres. Impressive interiors and a tempting menus are complemented by a gallery dedicated to exhibiting artwork and sculptures. This place was chosen by President Andrej Kiska who invited the Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader of the Tibetan people, to lunch there during his visit.



Photo: Lindner Hotel Gallery Central

Lindner Hotel Gallery Central

You will have a completely different view of the city from the roof of one of Bratislava's newest shopping centres – the 'Central'. The Lindner Hotel Gallery Central restaurant has a pleasant terrace overlooking the park. We recommend visiting the 13th-floor Out-look Bar & Lounge with its spectacular views of the city and castle.



TeamUp

Only skill, logic and team play will take you to the finish

Has your heart ever started beating when you see children trying to negotiate assault courses you couldn't even dream about as a child? Did you also try to conquer the Fort Boyard? If so, you are in the ideal place.



TeamUp is an original amusement park on an area of 1,800 m². Forget about success if you're not a team player. TeamUp doesn't recognise individuals and the only way to succeed is teamwork. That's why this game is ideal for team-building purposes. Besides corporate events, TeamUp is a great place for families, friends or entire classes. TeamUp game can be played by up to 80 people at once, with three to five players in a team. Their goal is to overcome 20 tasks that tests physical strength, psychological resilience, logical thinking, communication skills, and team spirit perfectly. Everyone will have fun whether you succeed or not. The game takes 3 to 4 hours and there's also a meeting and common area with a terrace and a bar.

www.teamup.sk

Photo: TeamUp



www.tour4u.sk
info@tour4u.sk

HOTLINE
+421 903 302 817



Photo: Bedrich Schreiber

Through the history of Devín castle to the Gate of Freedom

The historical site of the Danube and Morava confluence is the border between Slovakia and Austria and a place of two faces. On one side it meant freedom, while others died trying to escape through the heavily guarded border. Pay tribute to the totalitarian victims at the Memorial – The Gate of Freedom.



Photo: m-ARK

Devín Castle can also be reached by boat or bicycle. The route from Bratislava is approximately 10km long and is partly along the main road, so be careful. If you want to go by water, enjoy it: nature prepared a wonderful theatre performance there. You should allow more time – in the opposite direction towards Devín, the journey can take up to 90 minutes. The boats depart daily from the centre of Bratislava except Monday. The medieval castle welcomes visitors from afar. It stood on a rock 212

metres above sea level throughout the centuries, but in 1809, it was blown up by Napoleonic troops during their “visit”. The castle is a ruin, where archaeological research is sometimes carried out. You can visit the archaeological museum there and see the floor plan of the discovered buildings in the exterior: Early Christian chapels and the foundations of the Great Moravian church. The memorial board at the Renaissance palace reminds us of an historical trip by Slovak youth to Devín in 1836 under the leadership of Ludovít Štúr. The castle comes back to life several times a year – especially during the event known as the Knights of Devín. A series of all-day events are held annually, this year on the first Sunday in the months of May to September. The craftsmen of old martial arts and crafts from

Bratislava will open doors to the past. Sword-play, knight tournaments, historical dances, historical parades. It’s just a little of what you can experience there. Children can enjoy horse riding, archery, wooden horse riding, laughing at fairy-tales in the open-air. Knights of Devín is always a unique experience and it’s not enough to come just once. The craftsmen present a different historical period every time, this year it’s: Gothic, Antique Rome, Turkish invasion, and the Thirty Years’ War.

Under the castle walls

Beneath the castle, falconers with different species of raptors show off their art, children can see a lama or a mini pig at the mini zoo. From April to November, they can ride on ponies. Archery and firing crossbows will check-out their shooting skills. Get yourself a refreshment in the restaurants, buffets or wine cellars. We particularly recommend the last option, as Devín is very popular for its excellent currant wine.

Photo: Bedrich Schreiber



Photo: m-ARK

Záhorie Region

The Záhorie Region is a place full of rich history, it's the centre of Pilgrim's interest, where you should go with a bicycle, a headlamp and some climbing gear



Photo: m-ARK

Welcome to the region where they promoted the cultivation of cabbage to an art, where the "Hutterite people" (groups of Christians living in communities in South Moravia and Slovakia) have left their footprints and where the weak and sick people have always looked for strength and health. The region loved by history lovers, cyclists, climbers and cave lovers.

Natural beauty, extensive forests and cultural heritage. This is what characterises this region. When the local people called "Záhoráci" start speaking in their dialect, it is hard to understand them. They're not only good at keeping the original language called "záhoráčtina", but also other traditions. Every year they exalt the cabbage – called "zelé", which has always grown well here, and if it wasn't for the local farmers, local cabbage wouldn't have been given to the world. The cultural award was also given to Záhorie by the Hutterite masters, skilled craftsmen, and authors of the unique faience. Harmony and perhaps healing can be found at our oldest pilgrimage site, which of course – you can find in Záhorie. The local countryside nestled under the tree crowns, is great to discover on a bicycle. The location is also attractive for adrenaline lovers – rock climbers and cave lovers. We believe that this beautiful piece of land will conquer your heart.

Stupava has different tastes, but all of them are worth tasting

Stupava's past predetermined it to be an interesting point on the map of Záhorie today. A well-preserved part of the town is a local manor house with a park, but what you'll remember for a long time is the taste experience that you'll take away from Stupava.



Photo: Town of Stupava, Milan Kekeňák

The big story of the growing town started to unfold thanks to trade and crafts. They supported the significant markets visited by buyers and sellers from far and wide. And as the Stupava markets have a tradition, for example, today, you can visit the Easter Fair, Stupava Markets (May), St. Jakub (July) and St. Martin Fair (November) or St. Nicholas Fair (December). The variety of products and events, gastronomic fare and a good mood guarantee that you'll remember Záhoráci (the local people) as a cheerful and hearty.

Colourful tradition

Stupava is also famous for jug production. For almost 250 years the Putz and the Kostka families dedicated their time to this. A jug producer by the name of Ferdiš Kostka, a national artist, has become a real legend.

The city of skilled traders and farmers

Business in the city has benefited greatly from strong family ties between the Stupava Jewish community with the capital of the monarchy. Not only skilled tradesmen came from this community, but also respected students and prominent celebrities, such as the world-renowned theatre director Max Reinhardt and the director of several European theatres, Angelo Neumann. However, in Stupava, fruit and vegetable growers were the most eminent. The things that grew well were mostly root vegetables, cucumbers and of course, cabbages. There were rich apple and



cherry harvests in the fruit orchards. Proof of the local growers was a reference to the periodic press, according to which the last manor gardener Jozef Krupička, organised a three-day fruit and vegetable exhibition in the greenhouses in autumn 1927. It was viewed by around 2,000 visitors.

Stupava mansion and park

When the Stupava Beer Fest is not being held, the local park becomes an oasis of peace. There is a manor house in the area, that used to belong to the noble Pálffy family. The family determined the development of Stupava for almost three centuries. After the Pálffy family, the Károlyi acquired the manor, and after the ownership Stupava large estate changed in 1867, the new owner, the Earl Alojz Károlyi, not only modified the manor house but also changed the English-style garden into a landscape park. The swamp water was replaced by a pond, the park grew, and new, non-original woods were added. In the first half of the 20th century, there was a brewery, a cafeteria, a laundry and a mill – the only one still preserved today, in the park. At the end of the 19th century there was also a new three-part heated greenhouse built with a boiler room. This unique monument is today in a state of extreme disrepair and is waiting for deserved restoration. Today, the mansion serves as a home for the social services and facilities for senior citizens. The mansion with a park is a national cultural monument and is currently undergoing gradual renewal. Its maintenance includes the town of Stupava and the Bratislava Self-Governing Region.



Cabbage days

The farmer's tradition is still here, and the cabbage from the Stupava fields still keeps people happy. But don't ask for "kapusta" (cabbage), Záhoráci (the local people), with their specific dialect, call it "zelé". And their cabbage isn't a usual one, therefore, local farmers used to go on carts to sell it in Prešpork (Bratislava) and Vienna. Today, Stupavčania (people from Stupava) and people from all the surroundings celebrate their skills and harvest with "Dni zelá" (The Days of the cabbage), this is accompanied by various cultural events. You can taste the super-vitamin bomb every year since 1996 on the first weekend in October. Thanks to this in Stupava – the capital of the cabbage, there is "no cabbage, no joy" as the saying goes. And why is the Stupava cabbage so unique? A specific taste is given by the fertile soil that used to be covered by the deposits from the Morava River. It tastes like horseradish and slightly bites the tongue.



Stupava Beer Fest

In Stupava they not only know how cabbage should taste, but they're also knowledgeable about beer. In the local manor park this year, visitors will be able to taste this bitter drink for the fourth time at the Stupava Beer Fest. Beer delicacies and good quality beer from small Slovak breweries accompanies the program which isn't only for beer drinkers.



Municipality Stupava
www.stupava.sk
tel.: +421 (2) 60200910

City cultural and information centre
Hlavná 1/24, 90031 Stupava
tel.: + 421 (2) 60200935



Photo: VideoFly studio

Pajštún

Walk through history

A long way up, hidden from the outside world. This is how you can imagine the Pajštún castle ruins nowadays. It's a popular tourist destination, as visitors can reach it using several different routes – both less and more challenging.



The shortest and most pleasant alternative for a trip to Pajštún is to start from the village Borinka. A red tourist trail as well as other travel signs will safely lead you to the place. The climb is rather mild; walking leisurely, you'll reach the castle in around 30 minutes. If you want to make it slightly more difficult for yourself, choose the route from Záhorská Bystrica, follow the blue trail to Marianka and then Red through Borinka to Pajštún. For this route, you need to put aside at least hour and half. For experienced tourists we recommend the route from the Bratislava district of Rača along the "Zbojnica" swimming pool – follow the green or blue tourist trail to Medené Hámre, then yellow (with a turn at Dračí Hrádok (the Dragon's Castle) to Kozlisko and red to Pajštún. This route takes approximately 5 hours.

Shards of the castle's history

You won't meet a guide up there, so we'll tell you about the Pajštún castle ourselves. It belonged among those

that protected the Kingdom of Hungary's borders. Its origin dates back to the second half of the 13th century. The castle frequently changed its rich owners. The castle was badly damaged by fire in the 18th century, but was still habitable. Its fate was sealed by Napoleonic troops in 1809. Now, ruins are all that remains. Visitors are also able to see the fortifications built into the castle's massive walls, window-like openings archways and entrances. Possibly the most impressive are the gothic prismatic supports above the entrance with a late-Renaissance decorations in the form of masks from the 17th century. For us, they are a rare reference of what people of that time liked and how they lived. When you are finished with admiring Pajštún, take a break. There are several fireplaces, perfect for roasting some bacon or a sausage.



Photo: m-ARK

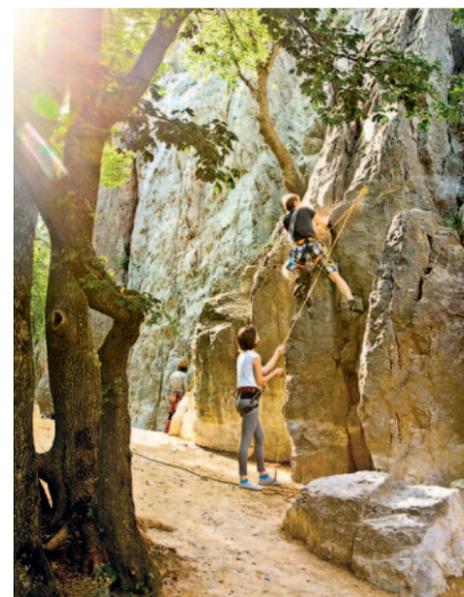


Photo: m-ARK



Place of healing, thanks, humility and faith

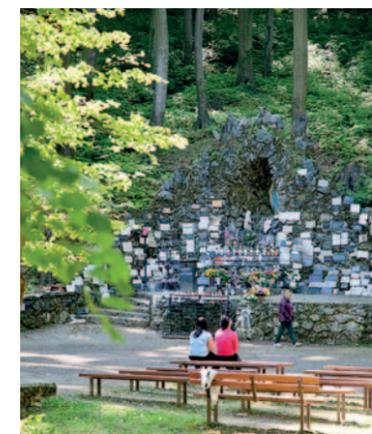


Photo: m-ARK

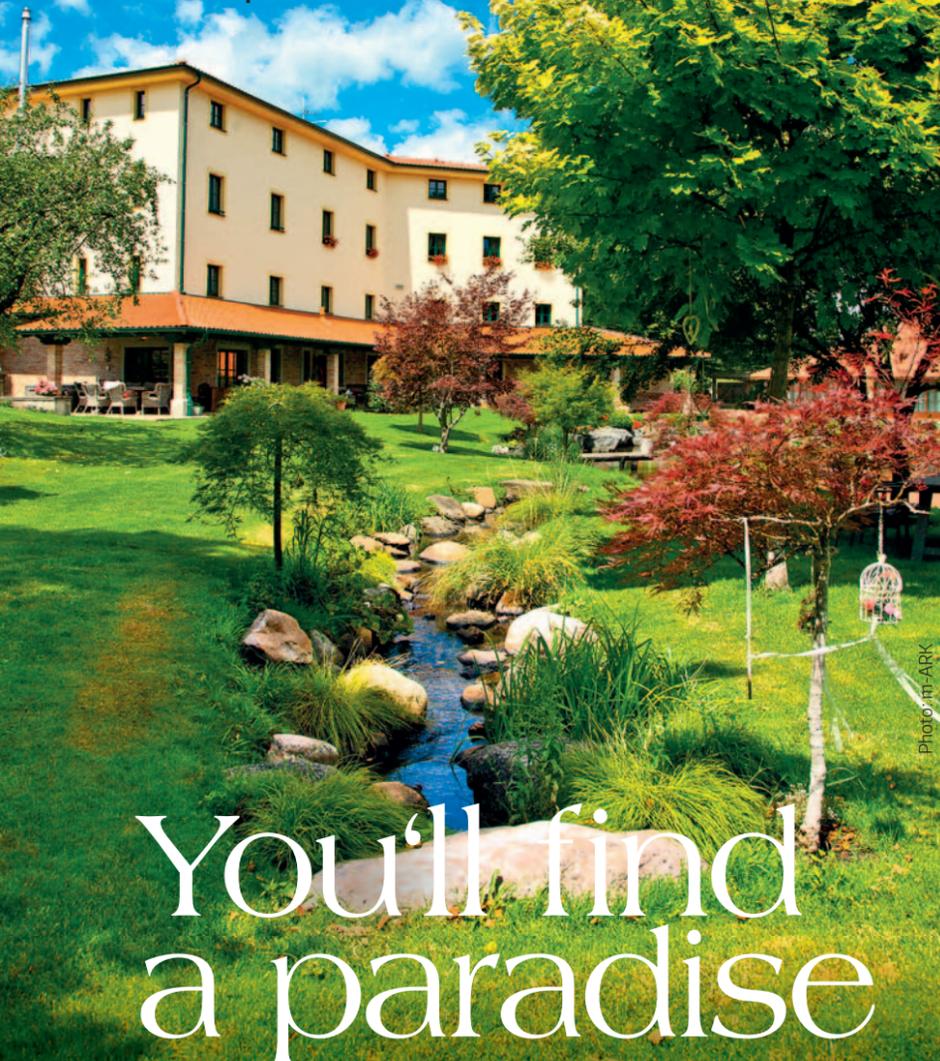
The village of Marianka has its place especially in the hearts of believers. It's not only the oldest pilgrimage site in Slovakia but also in the territory of the former Hungarian Empire.

Legends about why believers began to worship the place vary, but the story about the existence of a life-giving spring of miracles is often repeated. We know with certainty that the original name of Marianka is "Mariantal", what is German for "Mary's valley".

One of the foundation stones on this pilgrimage site was laid in 1377, when the King of Hungary, Ludovít I., the Great of the Anjou, stopped here. That was when construction of the church began. The King entrusted the administration of the pilgrimage site to the Order of Saint Paul the First Hermit, who were there until 1786, when their order was overthrown. The Roman Catholic Church of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary stands here to this day. The originally Gothic building was later expanded in a Baroque style and then, once again re-decorated in a Gothic style. The local monastery had an interesting fate; it fell into the possession of Duke Schwarzenberg from Orlik nad Vltavou. He rebuilt it into a hunting lodge in a new-classicist form and rich nobles lived on its premises ever since. In the first half of the 20th century, the Lurdská cave was added, and between 1927 and 1950, this pilgrimage site was administered by the Kongregácia bratov tešiteľov (Congregatio Fratrum Consolatorum de Gethsemani), whom we owe for the crossroad. However, the dramatic destruction of relics in the 1950s also affected this congregation. Interesting history was written here in 1947 and 1948. Before the communists came into power, marches with tens of thousands in attendance took place in Marianka called "Crossroads", where believers prayed for the Earth. Four decades of Communism are the reason for the city's loss of inhabitants, but not its destruction. Visitors can still admire the beautiful sacral monuments located right in the heart of the nature. Today, the Congregation take care of the church as well as the former Order of St. Paul monastery; since the fall of the Iron curtain, various church celebrations have taken place here.

Photo: m-ARK

The old mill is situated in the beautiful surroundings of the Small Carpathians, obviously, there is water everywhere. The unique reflections of the magnificent scenery are mirrored on the pond's surface, nearby you find the Záhorie paradise.



You'll find a paradise

AT THE MILL IN ZÁHORIE



Photo: Pri mlyne hotel a restaurant

The rural homestead took several years and was built by the Haramia family. Today you can live through a fairy tale wedding, an unforgettable team building experience or a few days there with your family. Ladies and gentlemen, let us present you with the Boutique Hotel and Restaurant – Pri Mlyne.

A wedding with a magical rural romance

Did you dream of having a little wedding with just your closest family or a big one with celebrations leading to the morning? Do you wish to get married in the open-air or in a flourishing meadow? Imagine yourself dancing in the arms of your love on this big day, glowing lanterns on the banks of the pond are burning around you... Here, all your wishes can be realised. The experienced team will prepare your wedding to the smallest details, including floral decorations. They will arrange the photographer, cameraman, wedding coordinator, music or program. Wedding guests will also enjoy a great menu at the new wedding venues by the lake with crystal chandeliers and a dance floor. The capacity of the exterior space is 160 guests. The stylish restaurant hosts 58 guests.

Business and family events at the highest level

Beautiful spaces can also be used during corporate or team-building events, as well as a variety of other events including family celebrations. You can enjoy Gourmet Feasts in the local restaurant. When creating the menus, the staff were inspired by the region's traditions and seasonal offers led by



Photo: Pri mlyne hotel a restaurant

Igor Janiga and Peter Reisenauer. Along with their team, they prepare food from quality fresh ingredients from local farmers and suppliers or those which they grew themselves. A perfect culinary experience strengthens wine from the vineyards of the best Slovak and world wine makers. Tasting can be enjoyed in a typical wine cellar with a capacity of 20 people.

An open-air museum that takes your breath away

Sleepy wooden cottages in a typical Slovak open-air museum complete the colour of this place. They are from 1900 and with the help of the Orava masters the Haramia family managed to restore them. In the village, there is a blacksmith's warehouse, a collection of old wooden wagons, and a variety of farmers' tools used by our ancestors. The open-air museum is a great place for a themed event, team-building, family celebrations, barbecues, or a weekend stay with your children. Everything you need for a barbecue will be prepared for you. "Tourists" can also be accommodated there. The minimum number for required for renting the open-air museum is 20 people.

Hotel, wellness and spa

You can also stay in a hotel with 9 rooms and one spacious apartment

with antique furniture. Hotel guests get perfectly relaxed in the wellness centre. In an elegant environment the body and mind gather new energy. Finnish and steam sauna, a Jacuzzi and a pleasant relaxation area have a capacity of 10 people.

Free time – what to do first?

The backdrop of the homestead with nature is truly unique. It's located in the western part of the Small Carpathians Protected Landscape Area, which provides visitors with a wide range of active leisure activities. The surrounding area is full of biking-trails, so if your heart beats for this sport, be certain not to leave your bike at home. A popular saying is "it's just a stone throw from here," and here it is adapted to "it's just a ball shot from here" – this is how close the 18-hole golf course is. The PEGAS Golf Club is just a kilometre away. Boating and fishing is just 500 metres away and it's a guarantee of a pleasant relaxing time on the water. Abeland, also known as the rural village, is also extremely close and well known for traditional crafts – here, you can learn them during weekends. Taste Slovak cuisine at Biofarm Príroda and for tourists, we recommend going up to the ruins of Pajštún Castle. Bratislava and Marianka's pilgrimage are just a few minutes away by car.



Photo: m-ARK

Menu selection:

- Pork legs with apricot jam, home-made bread
- Beef consommé with buckwheat ravioli stuffed with foie gras, julienne vegetables
- Pork back, white beans, chickpeas, gratin potatoes
- Calf Osso – Bucco, blanched baby vegetables, potato puree
- Homemade ravioli with beef, mushroom sauce, Parmesan cheese
- Citrus salad with mango, avocado, shallot, Dijon mustard
- Poppy-seed cake with white chocolate, cherry dip, seasonal fruit, mint powder



PRI MLYNE HOTEL A RESTAURANT
 Zvončinská 77, 900 55, Lozorno
 tel.: +421 2 6029 7611
 rezervacie@primlyne.sk
 www.primlyne.sk



Photo: m-ARK

Malacky

A CITY WITH A MYSTERIOUS UNDERGROUND AND TREASURES ABOVE

Malacky truly has a lot to be proud of. The Pálffy Manor, together with the Manor Park is full of history. The local synagogue is the first built in an oriental style in Slovakia.

The local manor and adjacent park are associated with the name of the Palatine of Hungary and the royal governor Pavol IV Pálffy. He moved the centre of power from Plavecký Castle to Malacky in the 17th century, which required a new representative seat. The manor has two above-ground floors and extensive underground spaces that once served as a riding hall. It is being said that there is actually an extensive system of secret escape routes built underneath the manor and its surroundings. Items of immeasurable value that survived to this day are the sundial or the original altar in the St. Cross Chapel.

The last inhabitant of the manor from a famous family – Count Nicholas XIII. Pálffy with his wife left the manor in 1918. The manor was taken over by the Order of St. Francis of Assisi, later the owners changed again. Since 2007, the city of Malacky has owned the manor; the city is reconstructing the monument and during the tourist season makes the reconstructed parts, as well as the courtyard of this jewel, accessible to the public.

30-hectare Park

The things you can enjoy as much as you like are the paths and corners of the park. The original French park changed its appearance at the turn of the 18th and 19th century and today visitors are able to stroll through an English-style park. It features a gardener's hut as well as a concierge house. The park's pleasant atmosphere is complemented by the refurbished fountain, an imitation of Lurdská cave with a sculpture of St. Mary that was left here by the Franciscans.



Photo: m-ARK



Photo: Martin Macejka

Black monastery, church and burial grounds

The sacral complex is made up of a monastery and a church. The monastery was established here as a part of the re-Catholisation by the Pálffy family. They brought the Franciscans here, who were already taking care of education in the local gymnasium. A vast collection of books with precious Latin prints from the 15th century was created in the monastery. When you're here, make sure you admire the epitaph of the Palatine Nicholas V. Pálffy. A mysterious world, and one that tourists are also able to visit is hidden underneath the monastery arch and the chapels on the left. About 200 people were buried in the crypts, among them priests, important Malacky inhabitants and, of course, dozens of the Pálffys are enjoying their eternal sleep here. If you want to visit, make sure you call at least a day in advance. The Black monastery's unique monument is the St. Staircase Chapel with a faithful copy of the stairs that Jesus Christ walked to Pontius Pilate. Such monuments are scarce in the world and the one here is a target for pilgrims worldwide since the 17th century. It's also necessary to stop in the inner courtyard of this complex, called the first square, with its restored stone well.



Photo: m-ARK

Synagogue in a Moorish style

The reminder of the life of a Jewish community is located in the heart of the city – the impressive synagogue from the late 19th century, built in a Moorish style, with two Oriental domes. The synagogue is constructed in a Moorish style following plans drafted by architect Wilhelm Stiassny with the help of a patronage of the Spitzer family. At the end of the 19th century, it served as a model for synagogues of smaller Jewish religious communities. Today its premises are used by the Primary Art School; it's a venue for cultural events.

Sport and culture

Malacky is a city where they know that one needs to develop both the body and spirit. Therefore they organise the handball Turnaj generácií (Generation Tournament), boxing Memorial of Ali Reisenauer, bike marathon Memorial of Petr Patsch or the Beh oslobodenia (Liberation Run). Among the cultural events, the Malacká hudobná jar (Malacky Spring Music Festival) is a very popular one. A series of mostly classical music and choir concerts takes place in March and April. Since 2001, the Manor Park comes to life during the Prvomájové Malacky (Malacky 1st May Day) with folk, pop and even rock music. It's packed with craft stalls,



Synagogue, Photo: m-ARK



Photo: Martin Macejka

the audience is entertained by actors and everyone can engage in fun games and sport competitions. During the Kultúrne leto (Cultural Summer), both locals and visitors can look forward to open-air concerts and theatre performances or chamber music concerts. Adventné Malacky (Advent Malacky) will lure anyone to the streets of Malacky, especially those, who like to meet up with friends with the sound of Christmas carols drifting through the air and a warm Christmas punch in hand. There's an ice arena built in the Manor Park during the winter, so you can warm yourself up not only with the hot mead from the Christmas markets, but also with sport.

Tourist and information office
www.malacky.sk, tik@malacky.sk
 tel.: +421 34 772 20 55



At the castle, rocks and film festival



The nearby Plavecký Castle is one of the most interesting places. You will need 30 minutes following the blue way marking to reach the altitude of 400 metres. The castle was founded as a royal border fortress on the initiative of Detrich – the son of Kunt, a Bratislava magistrate. The fortress, known as Detrichov kameň, was only a rectangular wall and a prismatic tower. The shape and size of the castle changed as the owners changed. It gradually belonged to Stibor of Stiboricz, counts of Svätý Jur and Pezinok, the Serédovec, the Fugger and Balašov families, Matúš Čák Trenčiansky and the Pálffy family. The castle was damaged by the battles between the imperial army and the rebels in 1706. It has been in a decaying state ever since, but today, the village together with volunteers try to maintain its silhouette in the Small Carpathians foothills.

The area under the castle with the cave system fascinates cavers in particular. We have been unable to find out the truth about the legend of the local underground treasures, but they've had another, 'above-ground' treasure there for 5 years now: the Film Festival under the Castle. It takes place in an open air amphitheatre which accommodates approximately 300 spectators. The organisers want to satisfy every visitor with the selection of films, making this festival truly world-class.

We also recommend Plavecké Podhradie to climbers. Pros as well as the not so brave ones can climb the local limestone crags. Real athletes can try routes with a difficulty of 9- or 10+. Well, pack your climbing shoes, chalk bag, ropes, snap-links or just a mat and come here and try bouldering.

Photo: VideoFly studio

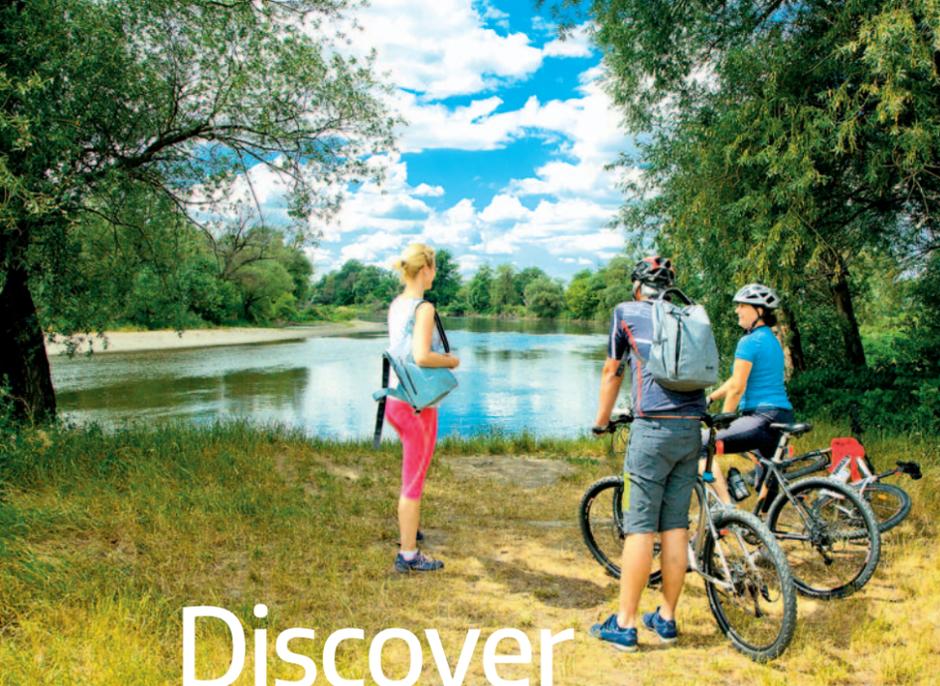
Enjoy the village of Plavecké Podhradie

Although the village doesn't have a large population, it's rich in history and in what it offers. There is a 17th century Renaissance manor house and the Church of St. Barbara from the 18th century. However, the manor house is closed to the public and serves as an archive for the Ministry of Interior. One of the largest Celtic settlements in Central Europe hidden on a hill called Pohanská is a testimony to a rich past.



Plavecké Podhradie
www.plpodhradie.sk
 tel.: 034/ 6585 123

Photo: Plavecké Podhradie



Discover

the hidden charms in the alluvial flat of the Morava River

The Morava and Danube rivers combine a tremendous amount of power. Visitors can admire their energy directly from the Devín Castle. Two differently coloured flows join together; this electrifying place is where your journey begins.

On the 80km long route, you will get to know the natural and cultural treasures of the area. All of this is thanks to 39 info boards in Slovak, German and English languages.

Mystery of wetland ecosystems of Moravian floodplains

In addition to the Morava River itself, enjoy the beautiful images of islets, swirling sand dunes and closed-off river branches, rich in fauna and flora and meadows. When you're there, you may also be able to see the rare birds living in the area. White and black storks nest here, as well as

the Eurasian curlew, corn crane and other birds. The floodplain forests are home to snowdrops and lilies of the valley and more than 50 different kinds of plants grow on the river meadows. The Morava River is a haven for 62 species of fish and amphibians; bats and the uncrowned king of the territory – Eurasian beaver – all thrive here.

On a bike

The best access for cyclists is from Devínska Nová Ves, where the Freedom Bridge connects the city to the Austrian Schlossohof. However, don't cross it yet. Continue on the



Photo: m-ARK



Photo: m-ARK



Photo: m-ARK

Photo: m-ARK



The 80km educational pathway may start in Devín and then continue to Devínska Nová Ves, but most of its length leads through Záhorie – the villages Vysoká pri Morave – Záhorská Ves – Suchohrad – Gajary – Malé Leváre – Veľké Leváre and Moravský Svätý Ján.

left bank of the Morava River, then follow the railway line to Marchegg and continue to the edge of the Hofierske meadows. The car park can be reached through the forest; from there you can take your bicycles to Záhorie and to Vysoká pri Morave. The cycling route continues to Záhorská Ves, where you'll cross to Angern in Austria. Follow the Kamp-Thaya-March route to Marchegg and Schlossohof with the most beautiful castle in eastern Austria. Crossing the Freedom Bridge will get you back to Slovakia.

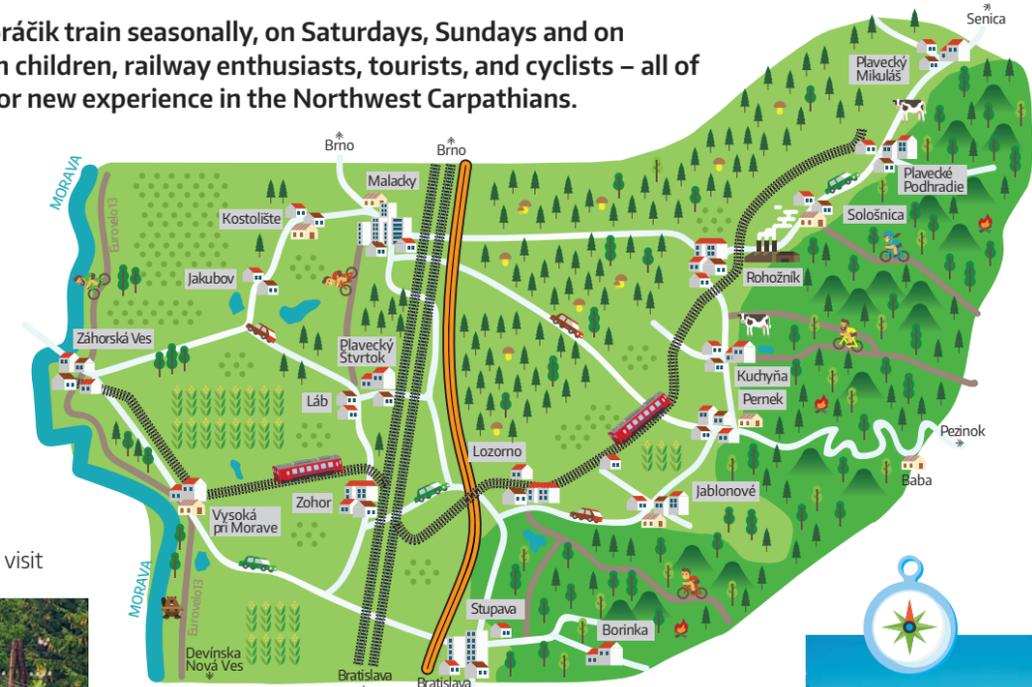
Záhoráčik Train: discover the treasures of old times

You can take the Záhoráčik train seasonally, on Saturdays, Sundays and on holidays. Families with children, railway enthusiasts, tourists, and cyclists – all of you who are looking for new experience in the Northwest Carpathians.

What you will see

In Záhorská Ves there is St. Michael Archangel's Church and Uhrské museum. Vysoká pri Morave is famous for St. Andrew's Church and the fishing paradise – Lábske lakes. Both villages lie on the EuroVelo 13 cycling route. In Zohor there is St. Margita of Antioch's Church, and Germanic graves were found there. In Lozorno, you should visit

Photo and map: BSK



St. Catherine's Church, the rural village Abeland and the PEGAS Golf Resort. Jablonové is proud of its St. Michael Archangel's Church, the remains of the glassworks and the sports complex. Kuchyňa is famous for St. Nicholas' Church, Adventure park and the recently closed Beaver dam. On the route, you can also see

Rohožník with the Church of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, synagogue and dam, Sološnica and Pernek. Plavecké Podhradie with its castle, caves and climbing area it's an excellent place for active relaxation.

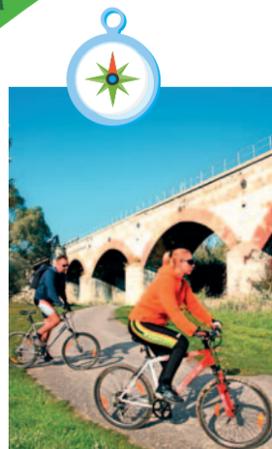


Photo: BSK

History is coming back to life in Záhorie

Friendly, relaxing and informal – this is an annual event of Slovenské piesky Association. It's mainly for lovers of weaponry and military technology as well as collectors.

Photo: BSK



Visitors can explore modern shooting technique, enjoy historical cars and period camp tours. People have always enjoyed the Slovak Air Force techniques flying overhead. Visitors are also excited about the fighting on the occasion of the end of World War II and static and dynamic demonstrations of our army. This year the event was held on 5th August, but if you missed the ninth year, come the tenth year anniversary at the VTSÚ Záhorie area near Plavecký Mikuláš.



Photo: BSK

Slovenské piesky
www.slovenskepisky.sk

interview

Michaela Králiková Varinská

She has lived in America, travelled across Australia and Scandinavia, she loves Greece, discovers the treasures of Slovakia or Moravia with the same passion, she was blogging about food. She finished in second place in the Czech-Slovak version of the Masterchef contest. Today she runs two of her own Kralikova Cafe & Cakes establishments in Stupava and Malacky. With her husband Lukáš and children Ondrej (7) and Sárka (5), they live in Sološnica. Another baby is expected in the autumn. Miška brought Sárka to the interview and she assured us that she is growing-up to be her mother's major competition.



Photo: Michaela Králiková Varinská archive

Her weapons

are a rolling pin and wooden spoon

When did you start cooking and baking?

Nobody taught me how to cook, but I grew up with my mum and grandmother, there was always good food and a plenty of it. My granny prepared traditional meals like a rice pudding or "žemlovka" (bread and butter pudding). My mum experimented a little more.

Which cuisine do you prefer nowadays?

I like good, honest Mexican cuisine. I also won the "Mexican Challenge" in Masterchef. I prepared a steak with mango salsa and avocado puree.

What did this contest teach you?

I didn't trust myself much before. I enjoyed cooking and baking, but cooking more, although I didn't think I had an extraordinary talent. I complimented my husband for playing the guitar and for being good at sport and he told me: "But you know how to cook" and I almost got angry. When I was on TV, I started to understand that what I know is something special.

Do you create the recipes yourself?

There are rarely new ingredients. Sometimes there are new things like maca powder, baobab,

superfoods, but it's just about inventing new combinations. Sometimes I make up recipes, sometimes I just transform them.

Does your husband and children test it first?

Yes.

Sárka: And Mum, will you make me a perkelt for lunch today?

Sure... I make perkelt from rabbit meat with homemade butter "halušky" (Slovak gnocchi) from spelled flour with curcuma. Sometimes with classic cream and sometimes with almond.

I hope my husband doesn't read this interview, because he may have higher demands. Sárka, do you help your mum?

Sárka: Yes... and I have my own recipe too.

Which?

Put the strawberries, coconut sugar, coconut milk, almond butter and chia seeds in the mixer and turn it on. Then I decorate it with one purple straw and a strawberry on the glass.

I would like this smoothie. Fresh and healthy.

We like this concept. For example,

we don't use white sugar at all in our establishments. We are an alternative for vegans or people with allergies, we offer raw cakes, gluten-free and lactose-free delicacies. We also make smoothies, cocktails, we have more kinds of milk for coffee, in the morning we serve spreads – beetroot and avocado...

In good restaurants, the menu changes seasonally. Do you also do that?

Yes, also because people still want something new.

So what would you recommend in spring, summer, autumn and winter?

For spring, a green smoothie with spinach, pineapple, mango and pudding with chia seeds. In summer fresh salads with our own dressings, full of legumes and healthy cereals, raspberry-lime-mint lemonade. In autumn homemade chai latte with maple syrup and chestnut cheesecake. In winter there is a very good Mexican coffee and a cake with 75-percent chili chocolate.

I saw your cakes. Don't you feel sad to cut something so beautiful?

Not anymore, I'm glad to see my costumers happy.



Baked healthily and playfully: Kralikova Cafe & Cakes

Real cakes, quality ingredients, a great selection and an alternative for anyone who wants to live healthier.



Photo: Michaela Králiková Varinská archive

A visit to the Slovak Provence



Growing lavender has been a big dream that they began to fulfill in 2014, and the passion for this fragrant herb gave them the idea to set up a company with the distinctive name of Levanduland.

They began on a one hectare area where they planted the first 1,500 plants, and new bushes produced from their own seedlings which grew each year. This number has now increased to 6,000. They have created a unique place where a lavender blanket covers the land once a year. With love, they grow two varieties of this herb, where the use literally knows no bounds. They produce syrups, jams, teas, honey, liqueur or natural cosmetics and decorations. The absolute novelty is wine with a touch of lavender. You can also collect some lavender there. Between June and July, the Open Doors Days are held annually and this is where you can collect your some lavender for yourself. You can take a picture of the lavender fields behind Malé Leváre. At the time of blossoming, every enthusiast can reserve their photo opportunity.



Photo: Levanduland

Lavender from Záhorie
Recreational area of Rudava
908 74 Malé Leváre
www.levanduland.sk



The heritage of the Hutterites is still alive

Photo: m-ARK

The journey of the Hutterites to Slovakia was unavoidable, as was their departure. However, what they left behind is a precious cultural heritage, one that shouldn't only be read about, but should also be seen.

The Hutterites belonged among the Anabaptists – one of the offshoots of Protestantism who lived away from society. They were autonomous not only politically and economically, but also religiously, which irritated the nobility. When their persecution began in Moravia, they found shelter in western Slovakia. In the mid-16th century, they already inhabited developed communities in 33 villages. One of those was the village of Velké Leváre. The Hutterites came to the village in 1588.

Duke Jan Bernhard gifted them with meadows, fields, forests and space for building houses. After four years, the Hutterites already had their own mill, brewery, public bath as well as a knife and ceramic workshop. In the days of its prosperity, there were about 40 houses, a school, a chapel and a parsonage. This is just a short excursion into the rich history of this community. You will find much more in the renovated Izer's House from 1717, where the Hutterite Museum is located. The exposition of the Záhorské Museum in Skalica introduces the life of the Hutterites in this area. Your visit must be arranged in advance by telephone and, on request, for a larger group the museum is happy to provide you with a guide.



Izer's House is a part of the Hutterite community. This Monument reserve of folk architecture is formed by 22 original multi-storey buildings from the 17th to 19th centuries build around a large square. Today, they are partially reconstructed to adapt to the needs of current inhabitants, however, the atmosphere of old times will still pull you in. This happens especially on the first Sunday of July, when the traditional Hutterite fair is held here.



Hutterite House and Museum
 Habánsky dvor 78
 908 73 Velké Leváre
 tel.: +421 34 779 44 93,
 +421 34 779 41 07
 e-mail: kulturnydom@levare.sk
 Visits need to be arranged in advance.



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