

KošiceCityGuide

An Exclusive Guide Through Košice & Region

complimentary copy

WHAT'S ON our
guide to top events



THEATRE
ATTRACTIONS
ENTERTAINMENT



EXHIBITIONS
MUSIC SPORTS
TRAVEL TIPS



FOOD & DRINK
HOTEL DIRECTORY



Košice City CENTRE
Map included

THE BRONZE STATUE OF A MARATHON RUNNER

Located in front of the
East Slovakian Museum

Námestie Maratónu Mieru
see map page 19





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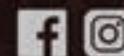
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MUNICIPAL COAT OF ARMS

The oldest coat of arms in Europe

When King Louis the Great of Anjou issued a document, awarding the city the privilege to use its own coat of arms in the castle Diósgyőri on May 7, 1369, he did not expect to create such a complicated heraldic situation for his successors. The coat of arms of Košice went through a very interesting development. When creating it, Louis used the royal and Anjou coats of arms. He added the upper blue field with the three golden lilies to the four horizontal silver cross-bars in the red field. However, he did not solve the appearance of the jewel and covers. The city solved it itself, by means of their imagination and used a person of an angel, the shield-carrier. Only after 55 years the coat of arms was modified to reach this appearance officially, by Emperor Sigismund of Luxembourg, who issued a normal official document certifying the coat of arms, in Bratislava on January 31, 1423. The angel holding the coat of arms shield had beautiful red clothes, which were replaced with light blue by King Ladislaus Posthumus thirty years later, on February 7, 1453.

The Statue of the Angel
Lower Gate - see map page 19

10th anniversary Urban-Cafe

Slovak tradition with a trendy touch.

Urban-Cafe located in a small street Vrátna no. 4 connected directly to main street Hlavná in centre of town was established in 2009 and became a concept you can't miss during your visit in Košice.

They are the specialists in self made **ice-cream, cakes and bonbons** by using only natural products of local origin and the best Belgian chocolates. Throughout four seasons you can enjoy daily self-produced fresh cakes made from rich cream, fresh fruits and real quality Belgian chocolate. You can find there the best combinations of sweets

and salty, such as the **bryndza waffle** - a Belgian waffle with a typical Slovak sheep cheese called bryndza, also known as **"the white gold of Slovakia"**. Surprising refreshment is bryndza ice-cream and it is the only shop in Slovakia to offer it.

In top season Urban-Cafe offers more than **26 kinds of ice-creams**, including unique and very popular range of the best Belgian chocolate ice creams of town from white, milk, to dark 55%, 70% and 80% chocolate.

As there is still a lot of forest and untouched nature in Slovakia, bees have plenty of flowers to produce **the best honey of Europe**. That's why their chocolatier made a yummy praline filled with it.



"Urban-Cafe - definitely to put on the „to do list!“

Urban-Cafe
Vrátna no. 4, Košice
(see map page 19)

Opening hours:
Mon-Fri: 9:30 - 19:00
Sat-Sun: 10:00-19:00

The city is rich in its history, however, it has much to offer at present as well. Its geographic location in the middle of the Košice Valley was suitable for settlement already in the paleolithic period, which is proved by an archeological finding of a municipality in the present town district Barca. Later historical events in the given location confirm the significance of Košice, where important trade roads of this part of Europe intersected, which provided the city's prosperity. Košice used to be a significant economic, cultural and social centre of former Hungary, which in fact influenced its development.



THE CITY OF KOŠICE

Košice, the second largest city in Slovakia, is the administration centre of the Košice region and the metropolis of Eastern Slovakia at the same time.

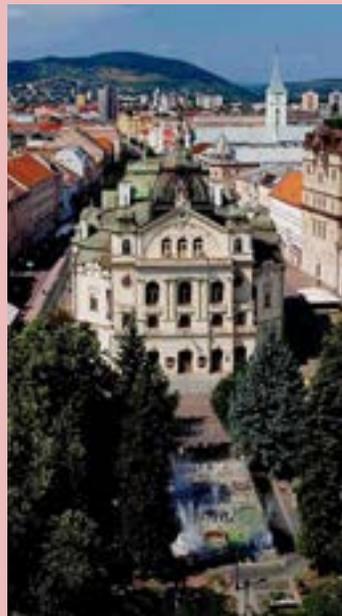
Visitor's attention is drawn mostly by the historic centre, rich in architectural and art monuments. It is represented by well preserved and perfectly developed type of town with a lenticular square.



The city historical monument reservation in Košice is the largest one in Slovakia, with 556 protected cultural monuments on its area of over 85 hectares.



Behind the theatre there is a beautiful Baroque-styled Immaculata statue, reminding of the plague epidemic which raged here in the 18th century.



When walking down the Hlavná Street every visitor stops at the attractive building of the State Theatre and spends a while relaxing at the singing fountain in the nearby park.

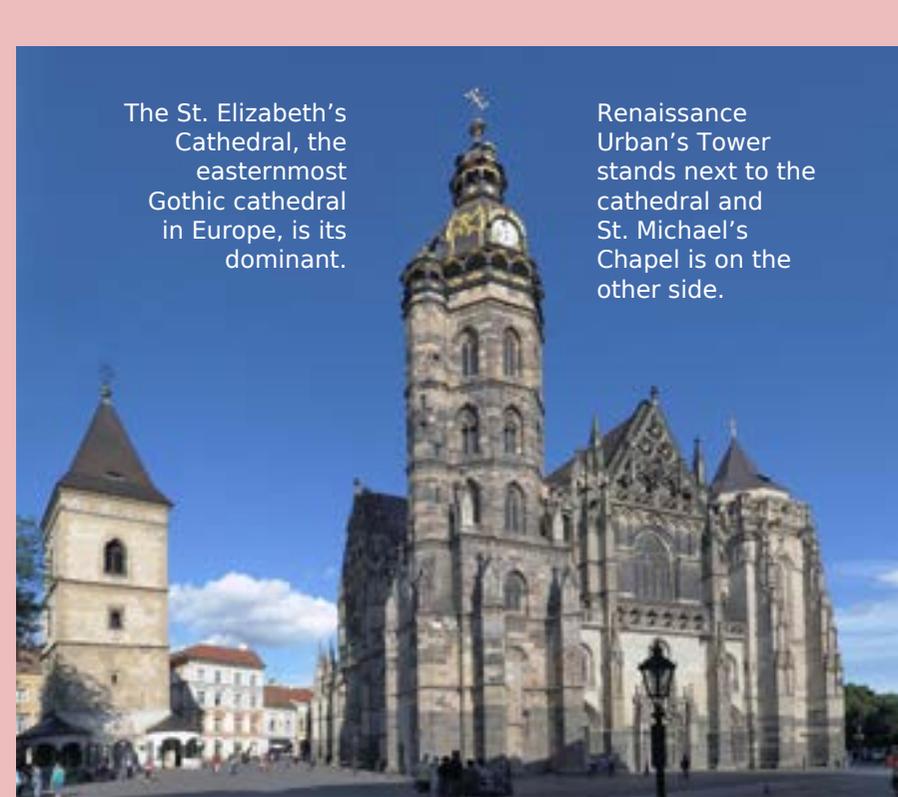


There are several museums and galleries worth visiting in Košice.

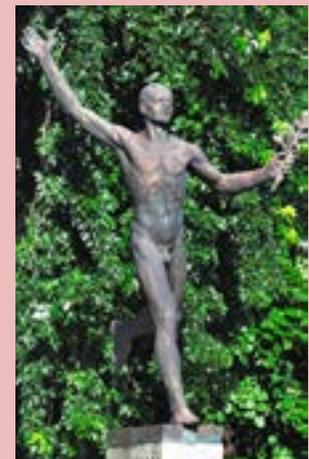


The St. Elizabeth's Cathedral, the easternmost Gothic cathedral in Europe, is its dominant.

Renaissance Urban's Tower stands next to the cathedral and St. Michael's Chapel is on the other side.



Košice Marathon. The oldest marathon in Europe Since 1924. 96th running takes place on Sunday 6 October 2019.

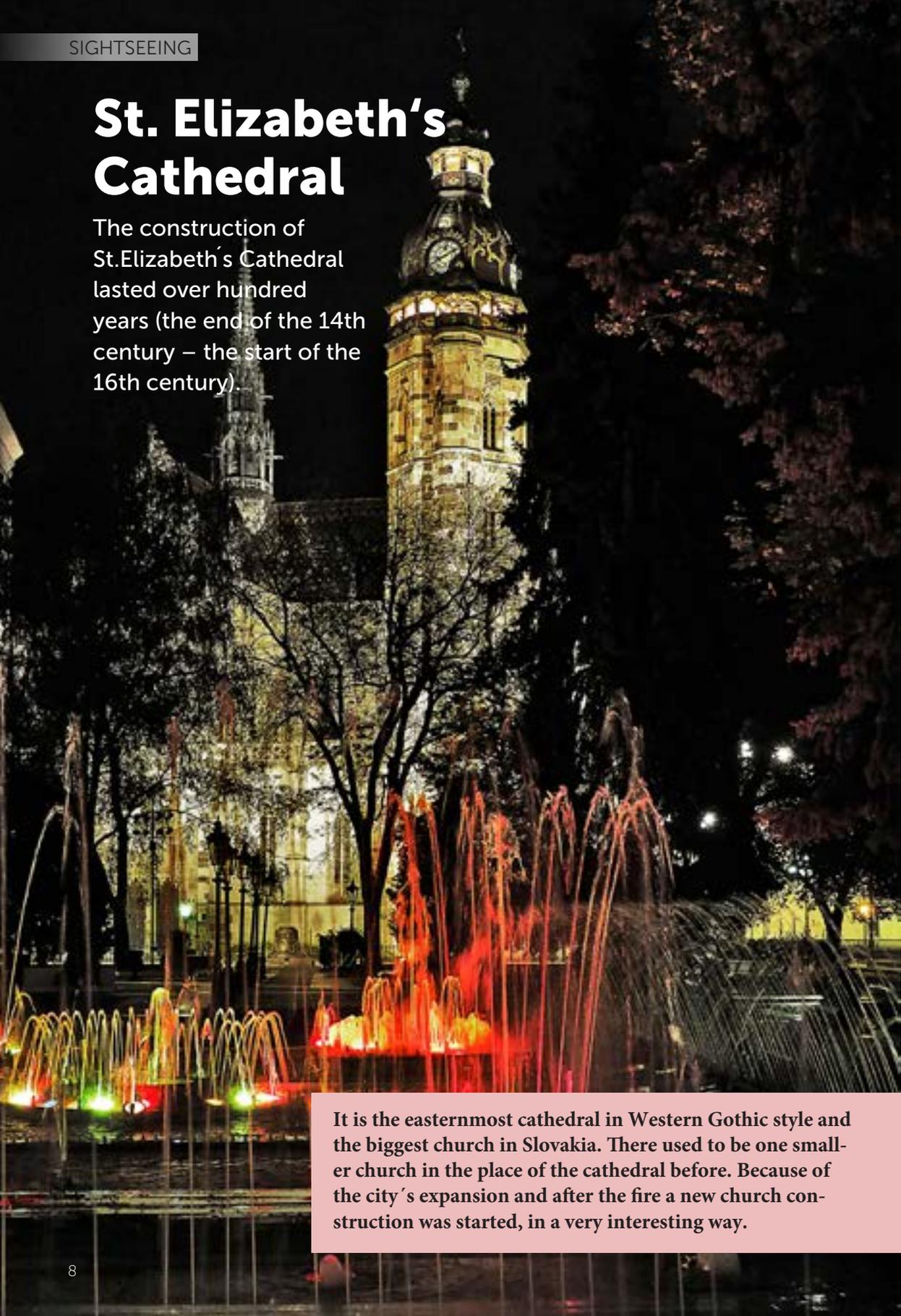


The city visitors willing to buy something original shouldn't miss the Street of Potter's (Hrnčiarska), known as the street of handicraft, where artistic artifacts are sold in individual shops and historic handicrafts are demonstrated.



St. Elizabeth's Cathedral

The construction of St. Elizabeth's Cathedral lasted over hundred years (the end of the 14th century – the start of the 16th century).



It is the easternmost cathedral in Western Gothic style and the biggest church in Slovakia. There used to be one smaller church in the place of the cathedral before. Because of the city's expansion and after the fire a new church construction was started, in a very interesting way.

They built the circumferential walls at first, then they demolished the original church and built the roof of the new one. The cathedral is dissymmetrical, because when the construction was to be completed, there was not enough money to finish the southern tower. A sundial from 1477 has been preserved next to the southern tower, above a Gothic window. St. Elizabeth of Hungary became the patron of the church, who lived in the 13th century and although she was noble, she would help the poor. We can find her statue with a spoon in her hand on the right hand side on the main and the most precious altar from 1474 - 1477. On the altar wings there are scenes from her life. The altar can be shut twice. Closing it first time, next pictures appear, showing scenes from the life of Jesus Christ. After closing the altar a second time, we can see the picture from a cycle about the Virgin Mary. In total the altar contains 48 pictures painted under the influence of the Dutch painting school. A 16-metre high pastoforium on the left hand side of the altar is a Gothic stone jewel. There are several wall paintings from the 15th century in the cathedral and a bronze baptismal font, apparently from the former church. The only double Gothic spiral staircase in Europe leads to the emperor balcony on the right in the cathedral. Opposite there is a mausoleum of the leader of the biggest anti-Habsburg uprising – Francis Rákoczi II.

Karczma MLYN restaurant

Gourmet experience in a nice and cosy place, this is a combination that visiting our Slavonic restaurant Karczma Mlyn assures. Follow our frequenters and satisfied clients and indulge yourself in food prepared from the freshest ingredients transformed by our chefs into culinary delicacy.



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filled pastry (pirohy) like from the traditional sheep farm restaurant known as "salas" (freshly made, no ready-to-made food). You can rinse that all down with our traditional Goral drink Nalewka which is served only here! Warm welcome is guaranteed by our generous and helpful, capable of foreign languages speaking staff of Karczma Mlyn.

*Don't hesitate and favor us with your visit!
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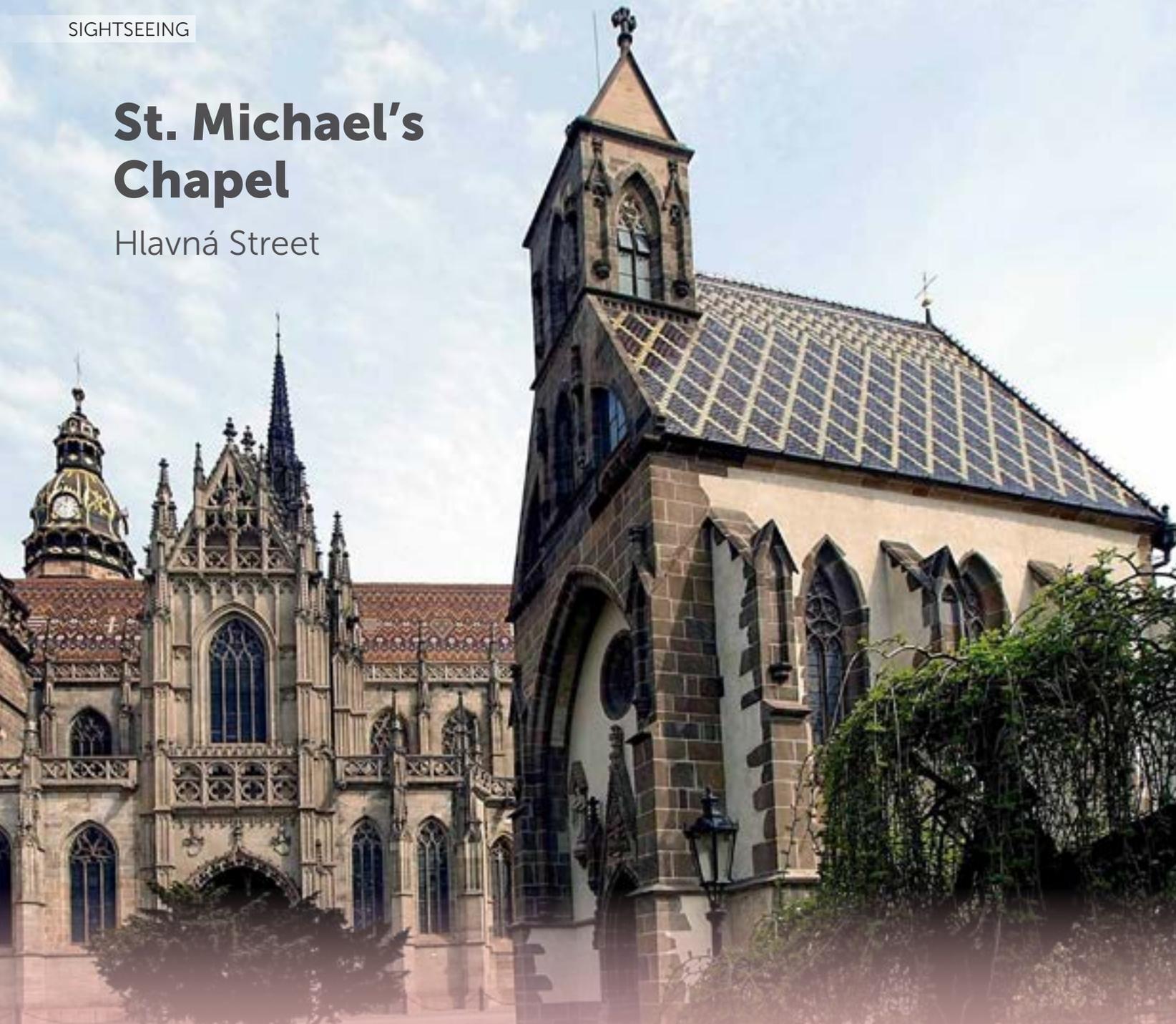
Sat: 11:30 - 24:00

Sun: 11:30 - 22:00

www.karczmaamlyn.sk

St. Michael's Chapel

Hlavná Street



On the south side of the Cathedral of St. Elizabeth you can find gothic St. Michael's Chapel, devoted to the soul guide to the afterworld – Archangel Michael. Chapel, built in 1330, stands on the place of former cemetery. Lower building of the Chapel was initially used as a charnel house (for bone relics excavated during cemetery digging for new graves). Upper

building was used for requiems. Above the entrance you can see sculpture of Archangel Michael weighing the souls of the dead. Inside the Chapel there is St. Michael the patron of the dead displayed on the altar fighting the Satan-Dragon. You can also find a nice stone tabernacle, „ecce homo“ sculpture and relics of medieval wall paintings there. Above the doors

to the Sacristy the oldest heraldry of Košice is located. In the Chapel's walls you can see 18 gravestones from Cathedral and former cemetery embedded. Unique in Slovakia!

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see map page 19

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University Church

Hlavná Street

Formerly Jesuitic and today Premonstratesian church was built in 1681 in the place of former royal house where soldiers of Bethlen had tortured three Latin priests to death in September in 1619. The priests were later sainted as the martyrs of the city. Architecture of the Church represents combination of Renaissance and Baroque style.



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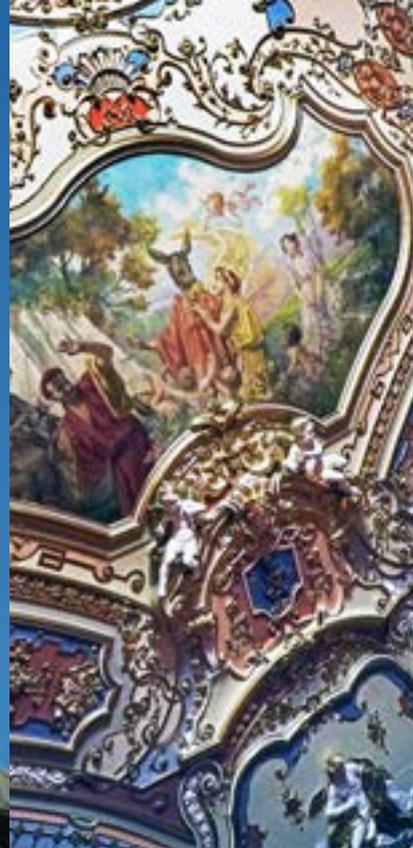
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The State Theatre of Košice

The history of stage-craft in Košice has had tradition longer than 600 years. The present State Theatre was built more than 100 years ago and it took just two years to build it.



Adolf Lang – one of the most talented European architects of 19th century, who projected some buildings in Budapest and taught at universities in Vienna, Romania and Holland as well-became entrusted with the construction. It is built

in the style of eclecticism with elements of Neo-baroque style and secession. The interior is richly decorated with plaster ornaments, the stage is lyre-shaped. The ceiling of the building is decorated with scenes from William Shakespeare's tragedies Othello, Romeo and

Juliet, King Lear and A Midsummer Night's Dream. The reconstruction of the building was needed in the 90's and after that the theatre was included among the most beautiful theatre buildings in Europe.



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with photos by Bartolomej Cisár

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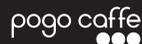
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**CENTRE OF KOŠICE
LEGEND OF MAP**

1. **Dóm sv. Alžbety**
St. Elizabeth's Cathedral
2. **Rákócziho hrobka**
Rákóczi's Tomb
3. **Kaplnka sv. Michala**
St. Michael's Chapel
4. **Urbanova veža**
Urban's Tower
5. **Štátne divadlo**
The State Theatre
6. **Dolná brána**
Lower Gate
7. **Palác grófa Forgáča**
The Palace of Count Forgacs
8. **Arcibiskupský palác**
The Palace of Archbishop
9. **Východoslovenská galéria**
East Slovak Gallery
10. **Kostol dominikánov**
The Church of Dominican Order
11. **Jakobov palác**
The Jakob's Palace
12. **Stará radnica**
Old Town Hall
13. **Univerzitný kostol sv. Trojice**
University Church of the Holy Trinity
14. **Immaculata**
The Immaculata
15. **Miklušova väznica**
The Mikluš Prison
16. **Katova bašta a Rodosto**
The Executioner's Bastion & Rodosto
17. **Kostol františkánov**
The Franciscan Church
18. **Palác grófa Csákyho**
The Palace of Count Csáky
19. **Ulička remesiel**
Craftsman's Row
20. **Slovenské technické múzeum**
Slovak Technical Museum
21. **Východoslovenské múzeum**
East Slovakian Museum
22. **Múzeum Vojtecha Löfflera**
Vojtech Löffler Museum
23. **Dom umenia**
The House of Arts

Košice Marathon

The oldest marathon in Europe Since 1924

Stories from Nine Decades

Today the Košice Marathon is a colourful festival of sport and fun, attracting roughly 10 000 participants from all over the world.

*text by Braňo Koniar
Race Director*

It was in the summer of 1924 that Vojtech Braun Bukovský, Košice sports enthusiast, organizer and journalist in one person, went to see the Olympic Games in Paris. The enthusiasm he returned home with was channelled into his decision to organize a marathon race, as it was this particular discipline which thrilled him the most in Paris. And so it happened that just a few weeks later, on 28th October, the day of the 6th anniversary of the establishment of Czechoslovakia, eight brave pioneers lined up for the start below the ruins of Turňa Castle and then set off in the direction of Košice, towards a then still unsuspected adventure.



28th October, 1924, 1st Košice Marathon

The first winner, local runner Karol Halla, tried defending his first place another nine times altogether, but the growing competition was against this. The very second edition already had an international lineup, and the winners laurels from the third were carried off to Germany around the neck of Paul Hempel. He was sent here by the Charlottenburg Sports Club, which still exists to this day and stands, as it has always stood, behind the Berlin Marathon.

The Marathon quickly made itself at home in Eastern Slovakia, and started getting a response from the rest of the world as well. One persistently memorable year was 1931, when the 20-year-old Argentinian new boy Juan Carlos Zabala shocked everyone with his course record of 2h33m19s. Many doubting voices were raised, but they were all silenced a year later by Zabala's victory at

the Olympic Games in Los Angeles. It must be stressed that the performances achieved in Košice always had the hallmark of credibility, because since 1924 the course has been remeasured every year exactly in accordance with the rules to ensure it conforms with the now generally-acknowledged 42.195 kilometres. This has not always been as self-evident as it might seem, when even as late as 1956 for example the Boston Marathon was run over a course of only 40.6 km.

Not even the torments of war could stop the Marathon, and its continuity was preserved. The early snowfall in 1946 was a kind of premonition that the era of the Northerners was beginning. In the ten years following that snowfall, runners from Norway, Sweden and Finland won a total of eight times, with the Swede Thomas Nilsson finally setting a new course record of 2h22m06s in 1956.

During that period the Košice Marathon had a superb reputation in Scandinavia. "May Boston forgive us, but the greatest marathon contests in the world are being played out in Košice," wrote the daily Göteborg Posten. And the leader of the Swedish team announced: "If I could, I would declare the Košice Marathon the official championships of Europe – it is unofficially so today in any case."

A great shift in the course record was achieved in 1959 by the Russian Sergej Popov, who not only won in Košice with a time of 2h17m45s, but also climbed by the end of that year to first place in the world marathon rankings. And in one more parameter Košice was number one in the world, namely in the number of participants. It may seem laughable in terms of today's marathon mass starts, but in 1946 and 1947 Košice had the most runners finishing the race in comparison with the rest of the world: 74 in both years. Nowhere in the world could outdo Košice in this regard in 1951 either, when there were 69 finishers.

In 1960 Košice acquired its own

artistic symbol: a 3.5-metre high, bronze statue of a marathon runner, on the plinth below which everyone could admire the names of the winners. Just a year later the name of one of the greatest was added there. He came, he saw, he conquered. We are referring to Abebe Bikila, Olympic champion in Rome and later in Tokio as well. The population of the city at that time was no more than 80 000, but nearly 30 000 people were crammed into the stadium to see the finish, and several thousands more plentifully lined the course too.

The next few Marathons were graced with other fine-sounding names: world record-holder, American Leonard Edelen won in 1963, and brilliant runners from Great Britain and the Commonwealth took turns lining up at the start, such as Bill Adcocks, John Farrington, Derek Clayton, and Ron Hill.

To run in Košice meant meeting a quite demanding qualification time limit. This became history in 1980, when the Košice marathon was opened to women as well. For many years the women's event was ruled by the German Christa Vahlensieck.



Christa Vahlensieck

Back in 1977 she had set the world record of 2h34m48s in Berlin, and in Košice between 1981 and 1988 she won five times altogether. Her countryman, double Olympic winner Waldemar Cierpinski, tried repeatedly for victory in Košice, but none of his five starts here brought him that honour. He started his marathon career with his debut in Košice in 1974,

continue on page22

and completed it here as well with his start in 1985.

The year 1989 brought great changes in more than one sense. Less than two months before the Velvet Revolution, it looked like the Marathon itself was anticipating the changes in society. The traditional course going out to Seňa and back, which had awaited the runners from 1926 onwards, was replaced with a city circuit.



Abebe BIKILA, ETH
Olympic champion
Košice Marathon 1961



This attracted the attention of the whole world in 1997, when the IAAF World Half-marathon Championships were held in Košice. Records were broken, with three men finishing with times under 60 minutes. The race was controlled by Kenya, and the titles were taken by Shem Kororia and Tegla Loroupe. A short time later the organizers were faced with another challenge, which was to start off the Marathon that same afternoon. They succeeded with that as well.



Just two years later Košice gained another honour. The city hosted the 12th AIMS World Congress, getting the chance to present its rich marathon history and organizational abilities once again. At that time, but many times later as well, it was declared that Košice is the place continually organizing the oldest marathon in Europe. The only place with a greater tradition in the world is Boston. Attentive statisticians will surely

have noticed that these marathons both have two common winners. They are the Swede Karl Leander-son (Boston 1949, Košice 1948 and 1950) and the Belgian Aurel Vandeniessche (Boston 1963 and 1964, Košice 1965).

Today the Košice Marathon is a colourful festival of sport and



fun, attracting roughly 10 000 participants from all over the world. All those running around the extensive historical centre of this city, the first in Europe to acquire its own coat of arms from King Louis the Great in 1369, must surely admire the Gothic St.Elizabeth's Cathedral from the 14th century and a great many other architectural gems in this metropolis. It was also thanks to this heritage and its programme of creative transformation that Košice gained the title of European Capital of Culture for the year 2013.

This Marathon is attractive not only due to its tradition and precise organization, and the olden-day charm of the city, but also for the fast course it offers. This has not changed essentially since the World Championships in 1997, and it has kept its epithets: flat and fast. This is witnessed by the many personal best

records which the runners in Košice improve on every year, but also by the two course records. The men's is based on a time of 2h07m01s, while the women have the time to beat of 2h27m47s.



If you ask the runners what they see as exceptional in the Košice Marathon, their answers often match. The unusual atmosphere, streets full of runners and spectators, and positive energy which everyone recharges themselves with mutually. This is an image which reflects 90 years of existence of the marathon phenomenon in this city. The people understand this marathon, live with it, and are rightly proud of it.



Lawrence Kimwetich
KIMAIYO, KEN
2h 07m 01s

Košice Marathon
The Course Record Holder
from 2012



The Museum of Aviation

Museum of Aviation – Airport Košice. The only present Slovak Museum of Aviation in the premises of Košice Airport, with a wide collection of aircraft engines, models, maquettes, aircraft equipment, aircraft instruments, weapons and a quickly growing collection of propellers and jet planes, helicopters and rocket technology.



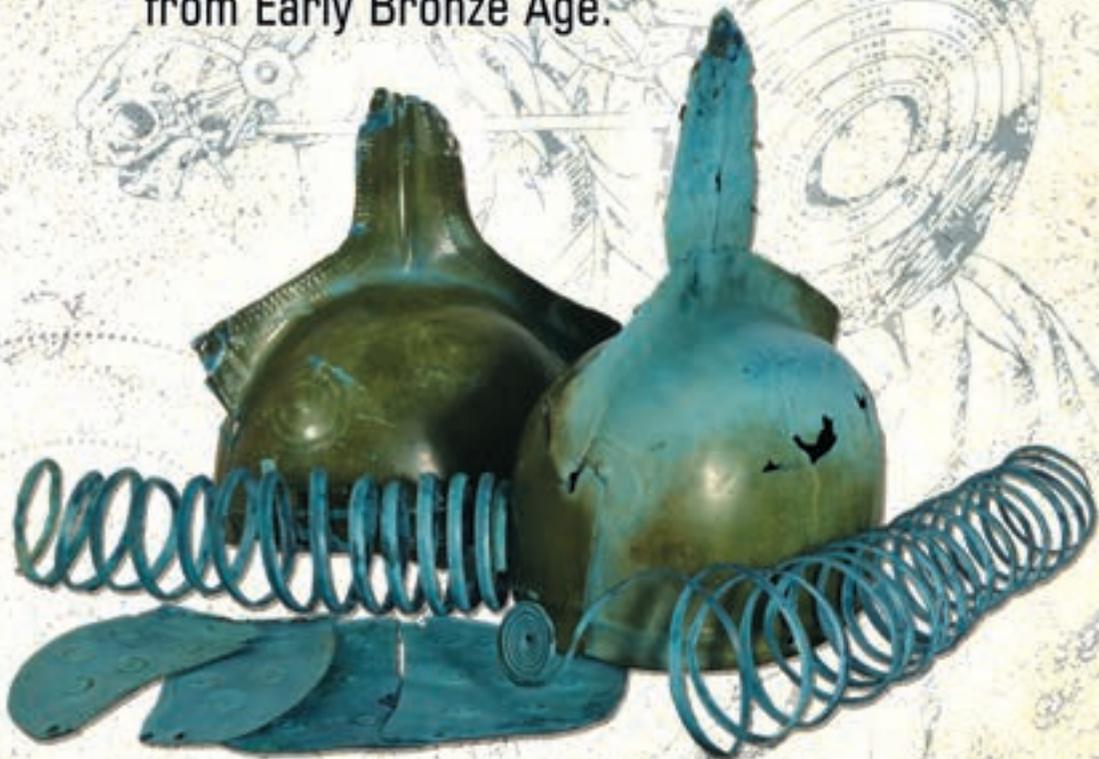
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Open: Tuesday - Friday 9.00 - 16.00
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East Slovakian Museum in Košice, cultural institution of Košice Region, invites you to the exhibition

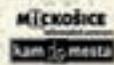
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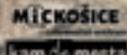
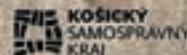


Historical building, Námestie Maratónu mieru 2, Košice
from 17th september 2019

The event takes place in an open zone,
the reconstruction of which was financed
by the EU - ERDF & SRSR



Axt Expo and East Slovakian Museum in Košice, cultural institution of Košice Region, invites You to the exhibition



The event takes place in an open zone,
the reconstruction of which was financed by the EU - ERDF & SRSR.

IMPRESSIONISTS' GRAPHICS

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Edgar Degas and others

Historical building, Námestie Maratónu mieru 2, Košice

from 26th september 2019

THE NEW 2019/2020 SEASON BY THE STATE THEATRE IN KOŠICE

Return of Traviata: both exclusive ballet fairy tale, as well as classic in a non-traditional language arrangement

Five dramatic, three opera and three ballet premieres will be offered to the audience in the new 2019/2020 season by the State Theatre in Košice. In the offer for the first half of the season, the theatre-goer will find a return of popular opera, exclusive ballet fairy tale, new authors' projects of the choreographer Ondrej Šoth, but also a theatre performance dedicated to the anniversary of the Velvet revolution, or a dramatic classic in a non-traditional language arrangement.



The first premiere of the new theatre season will be brought by the opera ensemble on October 4th. After less than a year and in a new staging, one of the most often played operas by Giuseppe Verdi, „Traviata“, will return to the stage of the Historical building of the Theatre for the fifth time in history. Its last staging (production: Božena Hanáková) from the year of 1997 said its goodbye to the audience in January 2018 after more than twenty years and one hundred reprises. In „Traviata“, a number of geniuses joined: musical Verdi, romantic Alexander Dumas Junior, whose novel „The Lady of the Camellias“ (La dame aux camélias) became an inspiration for a dramatic genius, librettist Francesco Maria Piave. The new production will be prepared by an international implementation

team, led by the German stage director Alexander Medem, the stage and costumes will be designed by Katharina Hestinger and from the musical aspect, the opera will be worked up by the chief conductor Vinicius Kattah.

Introduction of the play „Pygmalion“ written by the founder of modern English drama and Nobel Prize awarded, Bernard Shaw, will take place on November 8th in the Historical building of the Theatre as the first dramatic premiere of the new season. A story of

a bet of Higgins, a professor of phonetics, who wants to reshape a poor flower girl Lisa into a real lady, will be the fourth play by B. Shaw produced at the State Theatre in Košice. Staging of the play, which was a model for the famous musical My Fair Lady, will bring, with the production of Martin Čičvák, also a surprising language arrangement.

At the Small stage (Malá scéna) of the Theatre, on November 15th, the dramatic ensemble will commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Velvet revolution by a premiere of Marcel Děkanovský's inscenation named SPIN. The text, on which the production being prepared is based, is not a traditional model of literature and drama. The result of putting this text on stage will be an entity for which, in modern theatre, the naming „per-

formance“ became established. The inscenation will be a directorial debut of Michala Hadašovská at the theatre of Košice.

The last premiere in the calendar year 2019 will be, on November 29th, in the Historical building of the Theatre, a ballet fairy tale „The Wizard of Oz“. A remarkable fact regarding this performance is that the inscenation had its original premiere at the Opera of Berlin. This adaptation of a well-known fairy tale, with Giorgio Madia as a director and choreographer, is intended for all categories of audience, at which anyone, young or older, will become absorbed in the world of children's dreams and fantasy.

In the second half of January, the dramatic ensemble will introduce a contemporary Slovak play „Jurgova Hana“ by the author Anna Naglik. In half of February, ballet will return to the Small scene with the new author's project of Ondrej Šoth, modern dance theatre „Milada Horáková“. February will also bring a comeback of the only opera by Ludwig van Beethoven, „Fidelio“, played last time in Košice 35 years ago.

To the centenary of Slovak professional theatre, at the beginning of April, there will be dedicated by a premiere of an original Slovak play called „Borodáč“, by a trio of authors' - Karol Horák, Michal Ditte and Michal Baláž. At the end of April, ballet in another author's project of Ondrej Šoth, will pay tribute to the perhaps greatest ballet artist of the history, Rudolf Nurejev, in an inscenation of the same name. The Opera will close the season at the end of May by Košice's premiere of the opera „Werther“ by the French composer Jules Massenet.

The last premiere of the season 2019/2020 will be, on June 5th, at the Small stage of the Theatre, staging of a play of the contemporary German playwright Roland Schimmelpfennig, titled „Black water“.



STATE
THEATRE
KOŠICE

BALLET

OPERA

DRAMA



PREMIÉRES OF BALLET AND OPERA IN SEASON 2019 / 2020

4.10. 2019	Giuseppe Verdi TRAVIATA The immortal story of love based on the romantic novel by Alexander Dumas Jr. The Lady of the Camellias returns to the stage of the State Theatre Košice for the fifth time, this time under the leadership of the international implementation team.	30.4. 2020	Ondrej Šoth RUDOLF NUREJEV Life story of artist who changed the world of dance.
29.11. 2019	Giorgio Madia THE WIZARD OF OZ During a great storm, a tornado takes Dorothy to a foreign land. She wants to go home, so she asks the wizard Oz for help. On her way, she experiences various things and makes many friends.	21.2. 2020	Ludwig van Beethoven FIDELIO The only opera by L. van Beethoven. The story of Leonora who, disguised as a prison guard Fidelio, rescues her husband, political prisoner Florestan from death in a political prison.
14.2. 2020	Ondrej Šoth, Zuzana Mistríková MILADA HORÁKOVÁ The story of a woman who, thanks to her resilience and courage, has become a symbol of resistance against totalitarian power. Milada Horáková was unjustly sentenced and executed in a fabricated political trial that took place in the 1950s.	22.5. 2020	Jules Massenet WERTHER The opera was inspired by the cult novel by the German poet J. W. Goethe The Sorrows of Young Werther. A story of unfulfilled love of two young people due to fate.

STATE
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KOŠICE

Hlavná 58, Košice
+421 55 245 2200
sdke@sdke.sk
www.sdke.sk



20 September 19:00

ANNA KARENINA, ballet
Kirill Simonov, Lev N. Tolstoj,
Rodion Ščedrin



Young Russian director and choreographer Kirill Simonov chose Anna Karenina exclusively for Košice's ballet because it unfolds the human's changeability, desire for happiness and effort for moral self-improvement.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

25 September 19:00

JÁNOŠÍK, ballet
Ondrej Šoth, Zuzana Mistríková



Nations have their legends and the Slovak one has it in Jánošík. Do you know his story? Watch it in a spectacular dance performance with a live music accompaniment by the folk ensemble Železiar.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

28 September 19:00

CARMEN, ballet
G. Bizet, R. Shchedrin, D. Forest



A tragic story of love, two men and one unbridled woman, strong emotions in the Spanish environment.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

2 October 19:00

M. R. ŠTEFÁNIK, ballet
Ondrej Šoth



An exceptional historical personality in a multimedia dance theatre. The production will be a modern theatre seeking the answer to the question of how a small man feels in the great history, whose strong belief that the world can be changed stops at nothing.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

4 October 19:00

TRAVIATA, opera
Giuseppe Verdi, 1st premiére

The immortal story of love based on the romantic novel by Alexander Dumas Jr. The Lady of the Camellias returns to the stage of the State Theatre Košice for the fifth time, this time under the leadership of the international implementation team.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

5 October 19:00

TRAVIATA, opera
Giuseppe Verdi, 2nd premiére

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

6. October starts after dark
WHITE NIGHT



The city centre transforms to magic by lighting, art and performance during the night

Centre of Košice

6 October 9:00

96th KOŠICE MARATHON



Start at Hotel Hilton, Hlavná street

8 October 19:00

CHARLIE CHAPLIN, ballet
Ondrej Šoth

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

9 October 19:00

TRAVIATA, opera
Giuseppe Verdi

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

11 October 19:00

THE SWAN LAKE
Piotr Iljič Čajkovskij



Perhaps the most played classical ballet returns to the stage of the Košice Theatre after less than a year, in a new production made by two important world ballet personalities.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

16 October 19:00

DON GIOVANNI, opera
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



The opera of operas. That is what they call this opera from the last years of Mozart's life. A story of a debauched nobleman who seduces, cheats and has no scruples about anything in order to get what he wants.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

18 October 19:00

THE HOMELAND, ballet
Ondrej Šoth, Zuzana Mistríková



The new author's project by the director and choreographer Ondrej Šoth.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

19 October 19:00

OTELLO, opera
Giuseppe Verdi



Shakespeare in a romantic, musical form. Another great combination of two geniuses – Giuseppe Verdi and William Shakespeare. The world-famous tragedy in a brilliantly recomposed musical form.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

25 October 19:00

SAMSON AND DELILAH, opera
Camille Saint-Saëns



The French opera with the Old Testament theme about Israeli people desperate to be liberated from the subjection to the Philistines.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

26 October 19:00

LA BAYADÈRE, ballet
Ludwig Minkus

In exotic background of beautiful India, in a tense atmosphere, where you can inhale the smell of wonderful sandal wood a classical story of forbidden love takes place.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

30 October 19:00

NABUCCO, opera
Giuseppe Verdi



*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

4-10 November
KOŠICE FASHION WEEK



Kulturpark, Košice

5 November 19:00

CARMEN, ballet
G. Bizet, R. Shchedrin, D. Forest

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

6 November 19:00

TRAVIATA, opera
Giuseppe Verdi

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

16 November 19:00

OTELLO, opera
Giuseppe Verdi

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

20 November 19:00

SAMSON AND DELILAH, opera
Camille Saint-Saëns



*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

29 November 19:00

THE WIZZARD OF OZ, ballet
Giorgio Madia, 1st premiére

During a great storm, a tornado takes Dorothy to a foreign land. She wants to go home, so she asks the wizard Oz for help. On her way, she experiences various things and makes many friends.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

30 November 19:00

THE WIZZARD OF OZ, ballet
Giorgio Madia, 2nd premiére

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

3 December 19:00

RIGOLETTO, opera
Giuseppe Verdi



An opera based on Victor Hugo's play "Le roi s'amuse". A critical play showing the vulgar and obscene society in contrast to an unconditional father-daughter love.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

6 December 19:00

NABUCCO, opera
Giuseppe Verdi

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

7 December 19:00

TRAVIATA, opera
Giuseppe Verdi

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

8 December 16:00

THE WIZZARD OF OZ, ballet
Giorgio Madia

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*

10 December 19:00

DON GIOVANNI, opera
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



The opera of operas. That is what they call this opera from the last years of Mozart's life. A story of a debauched nobleman who seduces, cheats and has no scruples about anything in order to get what he wants.

*The State Theatre Košice
Historical building*



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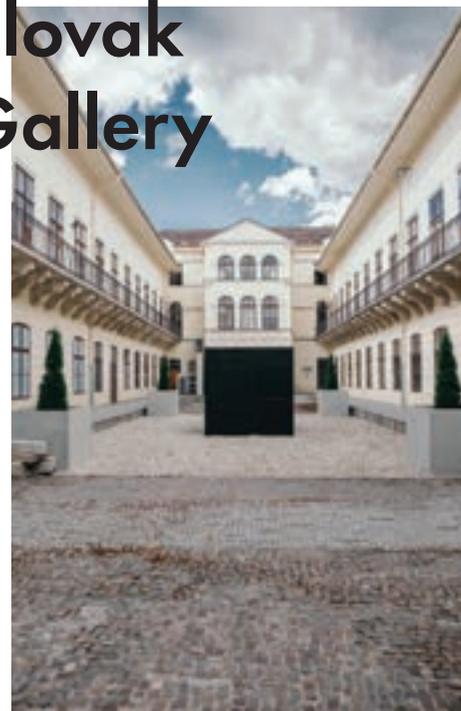
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East Slovak Gallery



In its vast premises, the Gallery presents a wide range of Slovak and international art. The accompanying activities such as guided tours, children's workshops or lectures offer great possibilities of spending leisure time directly at the gallery premises.



Established in 1951, the East Slovak Gallery was the first regional gallery in Slovakia.

The mission of the Gallery is the protection and presentation of the collection and documentation of the art scene and artistic life in the region of Eastern Slovakia.

Today the Gallery houses over 7,000 works of art. Apart from a representative collection of nineteenth - and twentieth-century art from the region of Eastern Slovakia, the collection also provides an overview of modern and contemporary Slovak art. In addition to its extensive exhibition activities the Gallery also focuses on research and exploration of art scene in Eastern Slovakia, and especially of Košice modernism, the phenomenon associated with the 1920s characterised by the unusual development of modern art.

Opening hours: Tue–Sun / 10.00–18.00

📍 Hlavná 27, Košice
www.vsg.sk



Since 1992 the Gallery has a seat in the building of the former County House. The building in a Baroque and Classicist style, designed by a Vienna-based builder, J. Langer, was completed in 1779. In the period of 1888-1889 the building underwent several alterations: the front part of the house was adjusted, courtly wings were added and the rear wing was modified. On the facade one can see the coat of arms of the Abaúj-Torna County of 1558.

Upstairs, there is the assembly hall, the so-called historic hall, with illusive arcades showing the coat of arms of former Abaúj-Torna County as well as some of its towns and villages. It was here that the first cabinet meeting of the National Front of Czechs and Slovaks was held on April 5, 1945, which proclaimed the Košice government programme.

The Gallery's second building is located in the city centre, near the St Elisabeth's Cathedral on Alžbetina Street. In the late 19th century, the Baroque building of the early 18th century was rebuilt in the manner of pseudo-historical style based on a design of academic painter J. Bencur.

KošiceCityGuide

Exkluzívny sprievodca mestom Košice a regiónom východného Slovenska
An Exclusive Guide Through Košice & Region

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Hlavná no. 32
(in front of the Cathedral)

UNESCO
World Heritage Site

Only 75km
from Košice

The Spiš Castle

The ruins of Spiš Castle in eastern Slovakia form one of the largest castle sites in Central Europe. The castle is situated above the town of Spišské Podhradie and the village of Žehra, in the region known as Spiš.

This imposing fortification stands 634 metres (2080ft) above sea level on cliffs dominating the Spiš region and was included in the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites. The castle was one of those few, which resisted the Tartar invasion (1241). Spiš Castle was built in the 12th century on the site of an earlier castle. It was the political, administrative, economic and cultural centre of Szepes County of Hungary. Before 1464, it was owned by the kings of Hungary, afterwards (until 1528) by the Szapolyai family, the Thurzo family (1531-1635), the Csáky family (1638-1945), and (since 1945) by the state (Czechoslovakia, and since 1993 Slovakia). Originally a Romanesque stone castle with fortifications, a two-story Romanesque palace and a three nave Romanesque-Gothic basilica, were constructed by the second half of the 13th century. A second extramural settlement was built in the 14th century, by which the castle area was doubled. The castle was completely rebuilt in the 15th century; the castle walls were heightened and a third extramural settlement was constructed. A late Gothic chapel was added around 1470. The Szapolyai clan performed late Gothic transformations, which made the upper castle into a comfortable

family residence, typical of late Renaissance residences of the 16th and 17th centuries. The last owners of the Spiš Castle the family Csáky deserted the castle, in early 18th century considered too uncomfortable to live in. In 1780, the castle burned down, and has been in ruins since. The castle was partly reconstructed in the second half of the 20th century, and extensive archaeological research was carried out on the site. The reconstructed parts of the Spiš castle now serve as a museum of Spiš culture, weapons and a torture room. There are two entrances to the castles. The main gate is on the eastern side from Spišské Podhradie.



Only 125 km
from Košice

HIGH TATRAS - VYSOKÉ TATRY

Paradise on Earth - Peace of Soul

High Tatras with the highest peak – Gerlach's peak (2.655 metres above sea level), 24 km long mountain chain and 32 valleys are truthfully called "the smallest great mountains in the world". It offers more than 600 km of marked nature trails since early spring with scent of the awakening nature until the colourful autumn with typical weather of Indian summer.

Alpine hiking has in itself the power of nature and oasis of silence and peace. High Tatras are also the mountain villages and hamlets, which together create the town High Tatras spread on the area of 380 km². Many villages and hamlets are the starting point to Tatra valleys, in which you can enjoy the fresh Tatra air. You can follow the nature trail through saddles of alpine crossings even to adrenalin and soul calming climbs to accessible and open Tatra peaks. High Tatras, it is also constructed transport infrastructure – the airport at foothills, railway and tramline transport or road system. Across the territory of Tatras there goes the well-known Passage of freedom.

You can be driven even to alpine environment comfortably. You can come to Hrebienok by land funicular train or, to the second highest Tatra peak - 2 634 m high Lomnický peak by aerial cableway.

DISCOVER THE BEAUTY OF TATRA NATURE

In the territory of High Tatras there is situated the oldest national park in Slovakia – Tatra National Park (TANAP), where since 1949 the efforts and attempts have continued to preserve and protect the rich and unrepeatable Tatra's fauna and flora. You can view variety of Tatra territory in the concentrated form in the TANAP Museum in Tatranská Lomnica. Don't forget to visit the Exposition of Tatra flora. Botanical garden in closeness of the museum offers 270 types of plants during the growing season.

TATRAS WITHOUT BORDERS

After accession of Slovakia to the Schengen Union, it is possible, except the time of closure of alpine hiking trails, from June 15 to October 30, to cross Slovak-Polish borders also at all points, where these trails meet at the common border.

Cableway to Lomnický štít 2634 above sea level. Enjoy an unrepeatable trip to the top of Lomnický štít, the highest inhabited place in Slovakia. You can indulge the wonderful view during 50-minute stay or in the course of night in a four-bed suite.





FASCINATION AND MAGIC OF ALPINE CHALETs

Thanks to the most well-known natural trail - 46 km long Artery pathway leading across the whole alpine territory of Tatras, starting at Podbanské and ending at Biele pleso (White Tarn) in Belianske Tatras, you can get also to 12 unique, for tourists attractive, and appealing alpine chalets, which are open all year round. What kind of trip would it be if you didn't find time for a little rest. You can encounter an amazing sight from chalets to Tatra valleys filled with sunshine. Feel the beauty of nature deeply, forget everyday troubles and problems and enjoy the sip of hot Tatra tea in one of the chalets. A trip from Hrebienok to Zamkovského chata is a good tip for an undemanding alpine walk. You can get to Hrebienok from Starý Smokovec by the new rail cableway and further you continue walking for less than an hour, following the red tourist signs, towards Zamkovského chata. On the route you can visit picturesque Bilíkova chata or stop at Rainerova chata, which is the oldest cottage offering accommodation in High Tatras and, at the same time, there is also a min-museum of Tatra sherpas. In the second part of your tour, you will admire the lure and power of Obrovský vodopád (Huge waterfall) and in the end, you will be rewarded with a wonderful view of Veľká and Malá Studená Dolina (valleys).

FUN AND ADRENALIN

If you want to enjoy the adrenaline from a joyride on biking tracks, do not hesitate and come to Dolný Smokovec. You can enjoy speed riding mountain scooters or experience the fast ride on roller coasters.

If you still think it is not enough, try Bungee-jumping from Jumping-off point at Štrbské Pleso (Tarn).

In the meantime you can leave your children romp and frolic in the nearby amusement park. Would you like to get pleasure from the view of Tatras panorama and have this stunningly beautiful mountains as plain as the nose on your face? There is the joy flight or also paragliding for you. Is the horse riding attractive for you? Visit Tatranská Lomnica or the nearby village Mengusovce. Do you still have some forces left after a hike? Don't hesitate and play tennis, squash or racket in the surrounding hotels.

BIKING TRACKS

Discover Tatras and its surroundings the way never tried before. Take your bicycle and let yourself being magnetized by beauty of chalets, valleys, Tatra villages and hamlets on more than 160 km of bicycle tracks.

RELAX AND FUN

When there comes the feeling of tiredness after a day spent at full blast, make something in favour of relaxation and health. Let yourself being enticed into newly-built Wellness centres with beneficial saunas and whirlpools. Since night is just the beginning, play and frolic at bowling or have a fun in Vysoké Tatry High Tatras the local pubs or bars.

Only 7 km from nature trails there is situated 18+9-hole match play professional golf area Black Stork in Veľká Lomnica. Here you can experience unforgettable moments with family or friends and play the driving range, chipping and putting greene. If you are not professionals, try the smack or fly in the largest sheltered place for smacks in Slovakia, which enables you to improve in any weather.

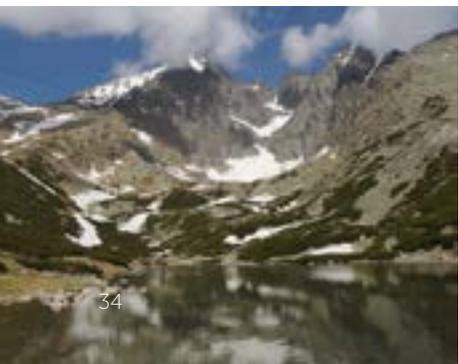


Photo by Igor Frimmel

Hotel Solisko****

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