

WINTER 2025|26

Košice City Guide

An Exclusive Guide Through Košice & Region

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What people drink in East Slovakia at Christmas

Photo by Bartolomej Cisár



Košice City Centre Map included



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Managing director: Juraj Gašpar, gaspar@epoca.sk, tel.: +421 905 537 846

Founder: Peter Kačo, In Memoriam

Advertiser: Judita Mlynaričová (SK, HU), +421 911 051 723, Marian Hunčík (SK, EN), +421 907 933 306

Editor: Mgr. Daniela Capcarová, PhD.

Contributors: Visit Košice, OOCR Šariš Bardejov, TMR Tatry mountain resorts

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St. Elizabeth's Cathedral

The construction of St. Elizabeth's Cathedral lasted over hundred years (the close of the 14th century – the beginning 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 Rákóczi II.



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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, stays 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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Dominican church

In the Dominikánske Square

Gothic church of Dominican Order was built during at the turn of 13th and 14th century so it is one of the oldest preserved buildings on the territory of Košice. In 1556 Church was destroyed by fire and dilapidated. In 18th century it was reconstructed in Baroque style with interior decorated with illusive tableau. Today, it is once again administered by Dominican Order.



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The Immaculate Conception statuary

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Baroque-style Immaculate Conception statuary built by the decision of local-government of the city of Košice in 1723 as acknowledgement for repel of destructive plague contagion by the end of Rákoczy's uprising. Sculpture was created by famous Šimon Grimming.



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Mikluš's Prison

Pri Miklušovej väznici Street

Near Hlavná Street, in the historical centre of the town, one can find two buildings belonging to the so called Miklus prison. Both are from the first half of the 15th century. Later in that century one more floor was added to the corner house and according to the ceramic material and artefacts, a potter workshop was there since the 16th century. At the beginning of the 17th century, both houses were united and reconstructed to serve as a town prison and torture chamber. From the year 1872, when jurisdiction was separated from the Town council, the building was a prison of the town police until 1909. Two years later it was given to the museum as stock. The objects were fully reconstructed in 1940 -1942. The East Slovakian Museum created an exposition "The Centuries of Kosice" connected with the history of the town and also the building.



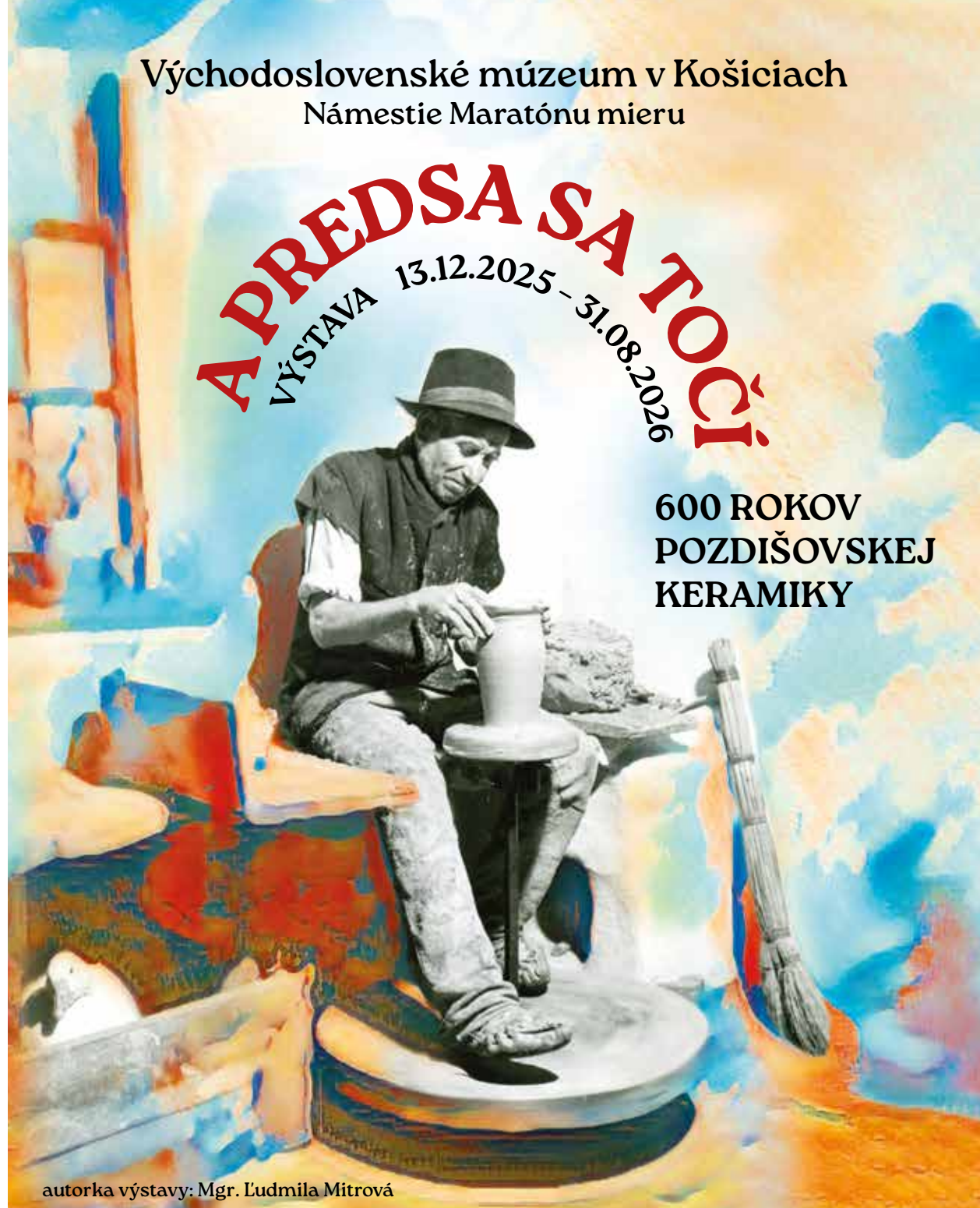
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What people drink in East Slovakia at Christmas



After the huge success of our Beer Tour, we bring readers an up-to-date overview of the drinks enjoyed in Eastern Slovakia during Christmas. As the holiday season approaches, almost every East Slovak sits down at the Christmas Eve table on December 24th, where—besides non-alcoholic drinks — traditional alcoholic toasts never fail to appear. Across Slovakia, many believe that alcohol consumption is higher in the East than in the West, so we and our foreign readers were curious to find out which drinks dominate Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and Boxing Day.



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We conducted a mini-survey among people from Košice, East Slovaks, and members of our editorial team, and we relied on data from on-line alcohol retailers. Some findings surprised us—for example, the growing interest in newly emerging spirits. In the article, we also recommend drinks that tourists can buy in Slovakia as original gifts or high-quality souvenirs. Foreign travellers are increasingly interested in distillery tours, where they can learn about alcohol production and taste regional spirits from the East.

Traditional and New Spirits by Local Producers Take the Lead

“I have always mulled over wine at Christmas, and at my grandparents’ place east of Košice we still drink our own homemade pálenica (fruit brandy)” says Jakub G. from Košice. Blanka M. defends the drinking of pear brandy: “It’s our regular Christmas Eve toast,” says the proud East Slovak. Peter Jaco, Marketing Manager of Fusion Group Ltd. —which includes four facilities in the centre of Prešov and the

bar The Cuba Libre Rum & Cigar House at Kováčska 9 in Košice—confirms customers’ growing interest in high-quality Slivovica (plum brandy) and apricot brandy. “More demanding customers in our establishments order East Slovak apricot and pear brandy with 50–52% alcohol. These premium spirits are supplied by the local producer Grič Distillery from the Brezovica village near Sabinov,” Jaco explains. Their Slivovica won second place at the prestigious Craft Spirits Berlin 2024 competition. A perfect Slovak gift is the

Tatranská Hruškovica 42% produced by the Kežmarok-based company Karloff Ltd., which also produces the popular herbal liqueurs Tatratea. These are extremely popular in Eastern Slovakia—both Slovaks and foreign visitors drink them neat or with hot tea. That’s why they appear not only at Christmas tables but also accompany tourists on winter hikes in the Tatras. For an original gift we recommend the 0.7 l Tatra Tea Folklór Edition 52%, decorated by patterns of North Slovak ceramics.

A current specialty of the Frucóna Košice joint-stock company is its beloved peppermint

liqueur shaped like a glass Christmas tree (28%). The company also produces Gazdovská slivovica extra (52%), one of the most traditional Christmas drinks in Slovak households—often purchased by foreign visitors as a natural “remedy” and souvenir.

Among Slovak home-makers, “Tuzemský um” remains very popular. It is an essential ingredient in Christmas pastries and sweets. It tastes more natural than synthetic aromas and serves as a base for homemade egg, caramel, and chocolate Christmas liqueurs.

According to online data,



the most sold real rums in Slovakia at Christmas are La Maison Du Rhum, Rum Emi-nente, and Rum Canerock. All of these can be tasted in one place—The Cuba Libre Rum & Cigar House at Jarková 40 in Prešov. “This bar also offers a wide selection of cognacs,” says the Marketing Manager of Fusion Group. Survey results confirm that wealthier East Slovaks enjoy the luxury cognac Hennessy at Christmas.

A Century of Tradition: The Spirits of Stará Lubovňa

Spišská palenica a.s. (The Spiš Distillery joint-stock company) in Stará Lubovňa continues more than a century of distilling tradition. At the

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beginning of the 20th century, the Morgenbesser family expanded local distilleries by establishing a liqueur factory in Stará Lubovňa. They produced borovička, herbal liqueurs, egg and chocolate liqueurs, rum, and slivovica. Their exceptional recipes have been preserved and remain the foundation of production today.

The company launched a high-quality borovička under the brand Spišská borovička KOSHER, loved not only by Slovaks but also by visitors from Israel. The original brand Spišská KOSHER, including Original Spišská Borovička KOSHER, received the Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) award from the European Commission in 2008.



The distillery also offers an original gift set of five kosher miniatures (50 ml): slivovica, pear brandy, raspberry brandy, apricot brandy, and borovička—an excellent Christmas present.

The company uses modern distillation technologies: spirits mature in 300-liter oak barrels, with a total storage capacity of 150,000 liters. Five French oak tanks have capacities of up to 35,000 liters. Here the spirits

mature, harmonize, and develop their flavour. Every connoisseur finds something to enjoy, and the secrets of production can be discovered during a specialised guided tour in the traditional Spišská Krčma (Spiš Pub), where visitors can taste unique regional spirits. Tours can be booked at prehliadky@spisskapalenica.sk.

A tour and tasting of whisky and craft beer is also offered by Nestville Distillery in Hniezdne

near Stará Lubovňa, which— together with Spišská pálenica—belongs to GAS Familia Ltd.. Nestville Distillery has a wide portfolio of whisky types

East Slovaks enjoy trying new drinks, yet when purchasing alcohol, they prefer brands that have been used for many years.

and flavours, with annual revenues exceeding 14 million euros. In the tasting room, whose interior displays historic documents and maps of Slovakia's oldest distillery from 1746 visitors can taste the sample of the special Nestville Whisky Christmas Edition (40%), also available via e-shop. There is also a gift pack of the six-year-old award-winning Nestville Whisky Blended 6yo 40% with two branded glasses. A Christmas favourite is the Nestville Beer Honey Lager 14%.

The atmosphere is enhanced by lodging in the stylish Nestville Apartments, with loft apartments located directly above the Nestville Chocolate factory. During Christmas, visitors can enjoy the big Christmas tree, illuminated grounds, and a popular ice rink for children in the Nestville Park.

Vodkas and Liqueurs Survived Socialism - and They're Still "In"

GAS Familia Ltd. also produces Goral Vodka Master. Thanks to multi-stage distillation and seven-fold filtration, this vodka regularly wins international awards; in 2011, it received two gold medals among 700 beverages at the United Vodka competition in

Cannes. It also won a Gold Trophy in China for its market potential in Asia. Its elegant design makes this 40% vodka a great souvenir, and its base is

high-quality six-row spring grain. "At home we traditionally toast with Jemná Vodka on Christmas Eve," says Viera T. from Humenné. Extra Jemná Vodka from the long-established company St. Nicolaus has been one of Slovakia's

best-selling vodkas since socialist times. A 0.7 l bottle (38% or 40%) costs around €7.90–10.90. A small 0.2 l version makes a perfect souvenir. For foreign tourists, the half-liter Pure Star vodka (37.5%), sold in the TESCO chain for €4.80, is a bargain. Since 1967, St.



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Where Winter Becomes a Fairytale: Discover Nestville Park

Imagine a place where winter transforms into a living fairy tale — where every step leads you deeper into an enchanting story, and lights shine so brightly that even the frost on your cheeks becomes part of the magic. Such is winter in Nestville Park, located in the village of Hniezdne in Eastern Slovakia, where thousands of Christmas lights, freshly fallen snow, and the warm aroma of whisky create a world filled with unforgettable winter experiences.

At the heart of our grounds lies the Nestville Distillery Exhibition, where you can step behind the scenes of Nestville Whisky production, discover the history of our region, and finish your visit with a tasting of our craft in a beautifully hand-carved degustation room.

All lovers of chocolate and irresistible sweets are warmly invited to Nestville Chocolate, where we lovingly create artisanal treats that delight visitors of all ages.

Our park is also home to the Nestville Farm and Petting Zoo, where you can feed and gently pet animals of every kind and size. And for the more adventurous, horseback riding or a romantic carriage ride across the snow-covered fields awaits.

If you prefer active leisure, our open-air skating rink and ice track will captivate you with their stunning Christmas décor and an atmosphere unlike anything else in Slovakia. And only here will you see — with your own eyes — the largest Christmas tree made of whisky barrels in all of Europe! To save space in your luggage for souvenirs, feel free to leave your skates at home — we will happily lend you a pair right on site.

If you prefer active leisure, our open-air skating rink and ice track will captivate you with their stunning Christmas décor and an atmosphere unlike anything else in Slovakia. And only here will you see — with your own eyes — the largest Christmas tree made of whisky barrels in all of Europe! To save space in your luggage for souvenirs, feel free to leave your skates at home — we will happily lend you a pair right on site.

After a day full of adventure, you deserve a delicious lunch or dinner and a glass of chilled craft beer in our Nestville Taberna brewery and restaurant.

You might think that one day is not enough to experience everything Nestville Park has to offer — and we agree! Extend your stay in our modern Nestville Apartments, located directly within the park.

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Nicolaus company has produced the traditional liqueur Demänovka, sold in three varieties—bitter (38%), sweet (33%), and cranberry (33%). From herb blending to extract production, maturation, and bottling, the process takes at least six months. At Christmas, Demänovka with honey is also popular among East Slovaks. The company regularly offers egg liqueur, especially loved by women.

“What Paris Sets in Fashion, Šariš Sets in Beer”

At Christmas, many Slovaks treat themselves to beer - 40% of respondents associate the holidays with a light lager, which surprised marketing researchers. Based on supermarket availability and online reviews, Zlatý Bažant sells very well in the East, even though on Košice's Main Street only one pub offers it on tap. The producer launches a Christmas campaign every year for Zlatý Bažant 73. At TESCO you can find a premium gift pack of seven 0.5 l bottles of Krušovice Bohém with a stylish glass for around 9 euros.

In the East—especially around Prešov and the countryside—people traditionally toast with Šariš, and Smädny mních is also popular for its price and lightness. East Slovaks still remember the Šariš slogans: “What Paris sets in fashion, Šariš sets in beer” or “New York – Paris, always Šariš.” A tourist wandering into Slovakia's third largest city can taste Šariš 12° and Gambrinus 10° on tap at Staré dobré Mexiko at Jarková 63 in Prešov. Tourists also love the

tank-served Plzeň at Pilsnerka Novum in the Novum Shopping Centre at Námestie legionárov 1 in Prešov. Market surveys show that families wishing to add a touch of elegance to Christmas Eve often reach for bottled Plzeň, specially purchased for festive moments.

Local patriots enjoy beers from craft breweries. At Christmas, fans of the Herrwald Brewery in Malá Ida near Košice drink the semi-dark lager Jantár 13°, with a richer body and caramel-fruit notes—perfect for cold weather. Special beers include Sun

Distilled spirits like vodka and fruit brandy, a purchased or homemade liqueur, and high-quality Slovak or Czech pale lager belong on every Slovak's Christmas Eve table.

on Taj Mahal 14°, available also in some Kaufland stores, or stronger IPAs. From the Humenné brewery Medveď, suitable Christmas beers include Medveď 12°, Grizly 11°, Medveď Ležiak 12°, and the light refreshing Macko 10°, also available in selected Kaufland stores. Special honey or lavender beers can be ordered directly from the Medveď pub on Hlavná 54 in Košice, with delivery options available.

East Slovaks Sweeten Christmas with Tokaj and Mead—While Dreaming of Devín and Dunaj

Mead is an inseparable part of Christmas markets and the holidays. Visitors know both the light and dark Old Slovak Mead by Apimed, made from

honeydew and forest honey using a traditional recipe. The company also offers a gift set of 0.25 l mead, honey, and herbal tea for about €11. The mead by Arnika has received the Regional Product of the Košice Region award.

This award also went to the wines Dunaj and Dunaj Neronet. Award recipients include Pivnica Orechová, and for Dunaj rosé, Vinna Pivnica Lesná Ltd.. The Dunaj variety was bred in 1958 by the renowned Slovak vine breeder Dorota Pospíšilová and her research team at the Viticulture and Winemaking Re-

search Institute in Bratislava. It is a cross of Muškát Bouchet × Oporto × Svätovavrinecké, characterized by a dark colour and flavours of forest fruit and bitter chocolate. These award-winning wines are available in better wine shops in Košice. The owner of Cassovia Vínotéka & Alkotéka at Trieda SNP 88 in Košice explained the Christmas preferences of East Slovaks: “They especially buy Tokaj wines for Christmas Eve—usually 2, or 3 puttonyos. As gifts for the Czech Republic and abroad, tourists prefer Tokaj dessert wines with more puttonyos. Slovaks come during the Christmas season to fill up barrel wine Furmint; in our wine shop it costs €3.45 per liter.” Online reviews show that tourists appreciate this

barrel-drawn wine, taking it away in their own bottles or in carafes from the shop. Foreign visitors often want to give Devín and Dunaj wine as exotic Slovak gifts, since these varieties are unavailable in other countries. At Christmas, Slovaks also often drink white wines. People in the East appreciate the good prices of wines from Pivnica Tibava, also distributed by LIDL. Thanks to this chain, Tibava wines are enjoyed at Christmas by Czechs, Poles, and Bulgarians. Pivnica Tibava produces world-renowned varieties like Chardonnay, Sauvignon, Veltlínske zelené, and Pálava, as well as Slovak varieties like Devín, which won an international award in 2022. “Recently I quickly

grabbed a Tibava Cabernet Sauvignon in the supermarket for a great price. My Czech friends loved it,” says one of our editorial contributors.

On New Year's Eve, Slovak and Czech Sparkling Wines Flow—Russkoje Igristoje Adding the Sparkle

To conclude, we reveal our editorial team's own Christmas drinking traditions: Men prefer red wines like Primitivo or Port on Christmas Eve, light Plzeň, or whisky, while the magazine management toasts with Jägermeister. Women in the editorial team enjoy Baileys Irish Cream or its cheaper alternative - the Irish cream liqueur De Luxe, available in the chain LIDL only once a

year in December. We usually celebrate the end of the year with Slovakia's oldest sparkling wine Hubert, with Czech Bohemia Sekt, or with the Russian classic Russkoje igristoje. So all that remains is to wish our readers “Cheers!”—whether on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve. In times of consolidation, East Slovaks prefer to toast in the circle of family and friends. They rely on proven brands and they like to support local East Slovak production. Only then will all locals—and the foreigners visiting Eastern Slovakia—remain “East Slovaks at Heart.”

Author: Daniela Capcarová ©

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Spišská Pálenica (distillery): A Must See Place When Visiting the Spiš Region

The Spiš region is known for its mineral springs, legendary castles, the oldest Baroque stone distillery in Slovakia, unique natural formations, and the dramatic waters of the Dunajec River. Today, this historically rich area offers an entirely new experience – **Spišská Pálenica** in Stará Ľubovňa, the most modern distillery in Slovakia and one of the most advanced in Europe. It stands out not only for its design and top-tier technology but also for the centuries-old tradition that shaped its creation.

A Region Where the Present Is Born From the Past

Stará Ľubovňa received the right to serve alcohol as early as 1343. Alcohol production expanded significantly during the 15th and 16th centuries, occurring not only on noble estates but also in the town itself. The first written record of borovička dates back to 1778 from Spišská Belá, and historical documents indicate that this spirit was already being exported to Austria, Bohemia, and oth-

er European regions. Borovička soon became one of the most valuable trade commodities, helping Spiš rank among the wealthiest regions of its time. In the early 20th century, the Morgenbesser family further elevated local distilling by opening a liqueur factory in Stará Ľubovňa. They produced borovička, herbal liqueurs, egg and chocolate liqueurs, rum, and slivovica. Their recipes – which achieved exceptional quality – have been preserved and remain the foundation of production today.

A Unique Production and Tasting Experience

Spišská Pálenica has revived traditional formulas with the help of state-of-the-art technology. It now produces a full range of premium fruit spirits under the **Original Spišská KOSHER** brand, including **Original Spišská Borovička KOSHER**, which received the prestigious **Protected Geographical Indication (PGI)** from the European Commission in 2008. The distillery features two

modern distillation units capable of processing nearly 15,000 liters of mash per day. Selected distillates mature in 300-liter wooden barrels, while the highlight of the facility is a set of 35,000-liter French oak tanks – unique in the region.

A guided tour concludes with a tasting in the traditional **Spišská Krčma (Spiš Pub)**, offering visitors an authentic experience of the region's finest spirits.



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The National Theatre of Košice

Hlavná Street

The history of stagecraft 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.



ARTICLE
IN YOUR
LANGUAGE



Photo by Bartolomej Cisár

PROGRAM of the theatre performances see page 24-29

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.



Photo by Joseph Marčinský



Photo by Bartolomej Cisár

POUR FELICITÉR 2026



Ďakujeme za priazeň a spoluprácu v roku 2025
a tešíme sa na spoločné kultúrne a umelecké zážitky v roku 2026.

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Palace of Art

Moyzesova Street

The first synagogue of Jewish Košice originated in 1886 and was named Status Quo. Orthodox Jews did not like it because it was in the neo-gothic style and therefore they built their own synagogue next to it. Both these buildings were replaced in 1927 by one big neolog synagogue designed in oriental style by Ludovít Kozma. After the WWII it was modified in the style of socialist realism into the House of Arts (Dom umenia), the seat of the Slovak State Philharmonic Košice.



ARTICLE
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The Historical Town Hall

Hlavná Street 59

At the close of the 13th century, two rich burgher houses stood on the site where the former town hall stands today. Later, the houses were attached together and from the beginning of the 17th century they housed the town hall. The present palace-type building was being built between 1779 and 1780 in the Baroque-Classical style. The Košice City Hall used this building until 1928, when it was moved to a new city hall building on Hviezdoslavova Street. Since then the building was used as the library until 1995. Building also houses Municipal Information Centre on the ground floor.



In 1927, the Slovan cinema (Capitol cinema at present) was added to the rear wing of the building. The author of the extension project was the well-known architect Ludovít Oelschläger from Košice. Currently its premises are used as a cinema for film festivals, but also as a theatre hall.



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BRATISLAVSKÁ 46/A, KOŠICE

18 December 19:00
CHRISTMAS IS THE NUTCRACKER
 Enjoy the concert performance of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*.
 Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
 Martin Leginus – conductor
The House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

18 December 19:00
NABUCCO, opera
Giuseppe Verdi



*The National Theatre Košice
 Historical building, Hlavná Street*

19 December 19:00
A FLEA IN HER EAR, drama
Georges Feydeau
*The National Theatre Košice
 Historical building, Hlavná Street*

20 December 19:00
VIANOCE PRE VŠETKÝCH koncert
 Galavečer Národného divadla Košice s poprednými slovenskými a zahraničnými umelcami
*The National Theatre Košice
 Historical building, Hlavná Street*

20, 21 December 19:00
CHRISTMAS IS THE CZECH CHRISTMAS MASS
 The Christmas spirit will be brought to life by works of Mozart and the beloved *Czech Christmas Mass* by Jan Jakub Ryba. Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
 Martin Leginus, conductor; Košice Teachers' Choir; Collegium Technicum; Michaela Kušteková – soprano; Markéta Cukrová – mezzo-soprano; Peter Račko – tenor; Michal Onufer – bass; František Beer – organ
The House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

21 December 16:00
THE CIRCUS PRINCESS, opera
Emmerich Kálmán
*The National Theatre Košice
 Historical building, Hlavná Street*

29 December 19:00
GIRL ON AN ALTAR, drama
Marina Carr
*The National Theatre Košice
 Historical building, Hlavná Street*

1 January 19:00
NEW YEAR'S CONCERT
Dvořák – von Suppé – Lehár – Strauss Jr.
 Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
 Tomáš Brauner, conductor



House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

4 January 19:00
NOVOROČNÝ GALAKONCERT TERÉZIE ŠOFRANKOVEJ A JEJ HOSTÍ MELÓDIE SVETA




Old Town Hall, Hlavná 59, Košice

6 January 18:00
KOŠICKÝ TROJKRÁLOVÝ BEH
 5000m and 1100m run in Košice city centre
Immaculata Sculpture, Hlavná St., Košice

6 January 19:00
Novoročný koncert NA SRDCI MI HRAJ! plný hitov KAROLA DUCHOŇA

House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

11 January 19:00

KARLOVI GOTTOVI

House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

12 January M Aréna, PREŠOV 19:00

15 January 19:00
HAYDN, HAYDN, HAYDN
Four works by the great Joseph Haydn
 Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
 Peter Breiner, conductor, piano and harpsichord
House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

15 January 20:00
RAMMSTEIN SYMPHONIC TRIBUTE SHOW
Steel Arena, Nerudova Street, Košice

16, 17, 20 January 19:00
NOČNÁ SKÚŠKA - PRÍPRAVA NA MUZIKÁL, ballet



*The National Theatre Košice
 Historical building, Hlavná Street*

18 January 16:00
20 January 10:00
THE THREE VETERANS, drama
Ján Werich
*The National Theatre Košice
 Historical building, Hlavná Street*

21 January 19:00
NA KOHO TO SLOVO PADNE
Divadlo Astorka Korzo '90
 Lukáš Latinák, Juraj Kemka, Marián Miezga, Róbert Jakab a Vladimír Kobielsky
Old Town Hall, Hlavná 59, Košice

K
N
E
D

Národné divadlo
 Košice
 Balet

Ondrej Šoth

Nočná skúška

Príprava na muzikál

Premiéra

16. 1. 2026
 historická budova

80

1945
 2025



K
N
E
D

Národné
divadlo
Košice
Činohra

Hana, baba femina

Text a réžia Peter Cibula

Premiéra

20. 2. 2026
Malá scéna

80

1945
2025



21 January 19:00
THE SNOW QUEEN, opera
Sergei Banevich



The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

22 January 19:00
23 January 10:00

**DOBRODRUŽSTVO PRI
OBŽINKOCH**, činohra/drama

Ján Palárik
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

22 January 19:00
TRUMPET PAR EXCELLENCE

Dvořák – Weinberg – Vaughan
Williams
Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
Johannes Witt, conductor
Sergej Nakariakov, trumpet
House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

24 January 15:00, 19:00
DUST / KAASH, baller
Akram Khan



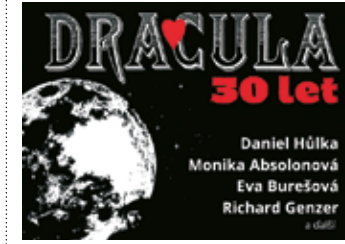
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

25 January 19:00
DIE FLEDERMAUS, opera
Johann Strauss



The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

26 January 19:00
DRACULA 30 LET tour 2023
musical



Steel Arena, Nerudova Street, Košice

27 January 19:00
28 January 10:00

PYGMALION, drama

Bernard Shaw
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

28 January 19:00

SOLO/DUO
Chamber concert – festival ARS
NOVA
Milan Paľa, violin
Andrej Gál, cello
František Výrostko Jr., double bass
Horia Dumitrache, clarinet
Chamber Hall of the House of Arts
Moyzesova 66, Košice

29 January 19:00

TOM, DICK AND HARRY, drama

Ray Cooney, Michael Cooney
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

29 January 19:00

CHRIS NORMAN & BAND
concert



Steel Arena, Nerudova Street, Košice

29 January 19:00

PARISIAN IMPRESSIONS

Ravel – Debussy
Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
Tomáš Brauner, conductor
Nicholas McCarthy, piano
House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

30 January 19:00
**MR PUNTILA AND HIS MAN
MATTI**, drama An epic comedy
Bertolt Brecht



The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

31 January 19:00

DIE HERZOGIN VON

CHICAGO, opera

Emmerich Kálmán



The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

1 February 17:00
3 February 10:00

DOCTOR DOOLITTLE, ballet

Ondrej Šoth, Adrián Harvan



The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

3 February 19:00

KRÚTNÁVA, opera

Eugen Suchoň
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

THE ONLY
CUBAN PARTY
*najväčšia oper air
latino party*

4 February 19:00
5 February 10:00
**DOBRODRUŽSTVO PRI
OBŽINKOCH, činohra/drama**
Ján Palárik
*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

5 February 19:00
NABUCCO, opera
Giuseppe Verdi
Opera in 4 acts in Italian
with Slovak subtitles

*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

5 February 19:00
PAPA PLAYS MOYZES
Moyzes – Martinů
Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
Ondrej Olos, conductor
Milan Paľa, violin
House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

6 February 19:00
**RICHARD RIKKON & FELIX
SLOVÁČEK - filmová hudba**

Old Town Hall, Hlavná 59, Košice

6 February 20:30
INEKAPE - 30 ROKOV
Colosseum, Vrátna 70, Košice

6 February 19:00
GIRL ON AN ALTAR, drama
Marina Carr
A play inspired by the ancient tale of
Agamemnon and Clytemnestra
*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

7 February 19:00
CARMEN, ballet
Georges Bizet, Rodion Shchedrin,
Deep Forest
Modern dance theater



*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

8 February 18:30
THE CIRCUS PRINCESS, opera
Emmerich Kálmán
*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

10 February 19:00
A FLEA IN HER EAR, drama
Georges Feydeau
*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

12 February 19:00
**MUSIC COLLECTION: SPRING,
SUMMER**
Cikker – Tchaikovsky – Schumann
Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
Aleksandar Marković, conductor
Johannes Moser, cello
House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

12 February 19:00
PYGMALION, drama
Bernard Shaw
*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

13 February 18:00
THE THREE VETERANS, drama
Ján Werich
*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

14 February 19:00
ROMEO AND JULIET, ballet
William Shakespeare
Exclusive dance theater



*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

15 February 19:00
**ESPERANZA SPALDING
jazz concert**
Old Town Hall, Hlavná 59, Košice

17 February 18:30
THE CIRCUS PRINCESS, opera
Emmerich Kálmán
*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

18 February 19:00
TOM, DICK AND HARRY, drama
Ray Cooney, Michael Cooney
Crazy situational comedy
*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

19 February 19:00
HOMELAND, ballet
Ondrej Šoth, Zuzana Mistríková
*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

19 February 19:00
WAGNER'S FEMME FATALE
Grieg – Wagner – Dvořák
Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
Petr Altrichter, conductor
Ester Pavlů, mezzo-soprano
House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

21 February 19:00
COURAGE EVERY DAY, ballet
Ondrej Šoth, Zuzana Mistríková
The Strange Pleasure of Living III.
*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

22 February 19:00
A FLEA IN HER EAR, drama
Georges Feydeau



*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

26 February 19:00
**JOHN FIORE: CONDUCTOR'S
SOLO**
Berlioz – Reger – Beethoven
Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
John Fiore, conductor
House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

27 February 19:00
28 February 16:00
THE MAGIC FLUTE, opera
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
*The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street*

12 March 19:00
**SCRIABIN AND PROKOFIEV:
SOUND EXPLOSION**
Prokofiev – Scriabin
Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
Aleksandar Marković, conductor
Aleksander Melnikov, piano
House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

19 March 19:00
**BEETHOVEN'S FATE
SYMPHONY AND YOUNG
TALENTS**
Beethoven – Works chosen by
soloists
Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
Dionysis Grammenos, conductor
Soloists – students of the Košice
Conservatory
House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

26 March 19:00
**NO. 8: BRUCKNER'S OPUS
MAGNUM**
Bruckner's Symphony No. 8 in C
minor
Slovak State Philharmonic Košice
Tomáš Brauner, conductor
House of Arts, Moyzesova 66, Košice

11. ROČNÍK
**BILLA
Žampa Cup**
SKI RACE 2026

17. 1. 2026
Pec pod Sněžkou [CZ]

28. 2. 2026
Białka Tatrzańska [PL]

28.–29. 3. 2026
Štrbské Pleso [SK]

SAVE THE DATE

HELENA VONDRÁČKOVÁ 60 ROKOV NA SCÉNE

Exkluzívna výstava
do 30.4.2026

Východoslovenské múzeum
v Košiciach

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VÝCHODOSLOVENSKÉ MÚZEUM V KOŠICIACH

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Berzewicz 30m high observation tower

„The newly built lookout tower on Stebnicka Magura resembles the so-called Berzewicz tower built in 1905 on the same site, which was destroyed during the First World War in 1918. The reconstructed and restored lookout tower will serve natives and foreign visitors and the entire Šariš region. The total height to the top of the tower is 29,627 m, at a height of 21 m above the terrain there is an observation platform. The tower is unique of its kind in Slovakia, it has a ferroconcrete structure, a metal staircase and is one of the highest towers in the Prešov region. To climb it, it is



necessary to climb up 104 steps,“ explains R. Jančošek.

The observation tower on Stebnicka Magura (899.9 m above sea level) is located near the current transmitter in the vicinity of Bardejovské Kúpele (Bardejov Spa). It is located on the main tourist route - the Road of Heroes of the Slovak National Uprising. It is possible to reach the top of Stebnicka Magura by hiking trail from Bardejovské Kúpele, Stebník, Zborov and Zlatý.

The first lookout tower on this site was the **Berzewicz Tower**, named after the then Minister of Education and Religion of Austria-Hungary, Albert Berzewicz (1853-1936, historian and politician). It was Berzewicz who officially unveiled the statue of Empress Sisi in Bardejov Spa on 16 August 1903 and thanks to his effort that the first wooden observation tower was built.

Lookout towers or rather observation towers are one of the most common infrastructure investments. In the north-east of Slovakia, the most famous is the **observation tower at Dukla** (49 m). It is located on the spot where in October 1944 the commander of

the 1st Czechoslovak Army Corps in the USSR, Brigadier General Ludvík Svoboda, had one of the command observation posts. Visitors can admire an imitation of a minefield there using finds coming directly from the Dukla battlefield, modern touch-sensitive multimedia equipment and a touch-sensitive multimedia desk.

The wooden lookout tower **Kamenná hora** was restored near Bardejovské Kúpele in 2017. At the end of 2021, a lookout tower with a shelter was put into operation in Svidník (above the former ski lift). The unique view from the tower shows the panorama of the city of Svidník from the Soviet Army Memorial to the forest complex of the Axis.

Lookout tower in Kružlová. At the end of November 2021, a unique lookout tower made of metal and wood, 13.65 metres high, was completed in Kružlová, in the Valley of Death, and its shape resembles a cartridge for a Czechoslovak VZ. 24 rifle. The tower provides magnificent views of the surroundings, almost the entire Death Valley, the surrounding villages, part of Svidník and, in case of favourable weather, the High Tatras mountains are visible from the tower. The lookout tower has the shape of a military cartridge.

Lookout towers near the Žobrák hill - Near the Žobrák hill, in the Čergov Mountains, at an altitude of 893 m, there are two wooden lookout towers. The towers also include tourist shelters (each can sleep about 5 people). The lookout towers commands beautiful views of the wide surroundings, including a view of the main ridge of the Čergov.



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The High Tatras Mountains of adventures

The beautiful high mountain environment of the High Tatras offers visitors a number of exceptional adventures during the winter season. Skiers have access to 24 km of slopes, but the Tatras also offer excellent conditions for other winter sports and high mountain hiking.

TATRA TEMPLE OF ICE

Hrebienok - High Tatras

The Tatra Temple of Ice enters its thirteenth season, this time paying tribute to two popes – Pope Francis, who passed away in 2025, and Pope Leo XIV, his successor. Symbolically, it marks the end of one era and the beginning of another, bringing a theme with spiritual as well as artistic depth. The most popular winter attraction at Hrebienok (1,285 m a.s.l.) welcomes visitors from 14th November 2025 to 19th April 2026, and as always, it is free of charge.

Basilica of Saint John Lateran – Mother of all churches

Built from 225 tonnes of ice and 1,800 ice blocks, this year's masterpiece is inspired by the



Basilica of Saint John Lateran in Rome – the main church of the city and the official seat of the Pope as the Bishop of Rome. The Lateran Basilica

holds the highest rank among Catholic churches and is often referred to as “the Mother and Head of all Churches of the City and the World.”

continue to page 35



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Lopušná dolina Resort

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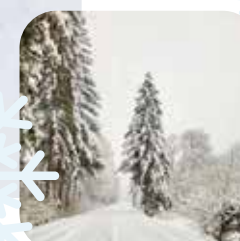


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www.skitatry.sk





Novelties in Tricklandia

Tricklandia does not stop and has again prepared a lot of news for its visitors. Tricklandia last time grew to 1,000m² and now added again some novelties. In the renovated premises you can find old famous trickart, but also new mirror rooms and exhibition with big video screens. The gallery uses trickart and optical illusions in its exhibition. You can also look forward to augmented reality, antigravity rooms and the most beautiful mirror maze. The individual exposures are so sophisticated that you will not believe your own eyes.

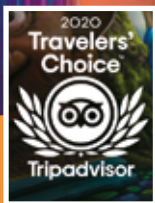


NEW ATTRACTIONS

It sounds like a cliché, but it's true. Tricklandia is an ideal place for the whole family. Thanks to the diverse exhibition, everyone will find something in it whether it's beautiful paintings, posing in front of the lens, a beautiful mirror maze or fighting against gravity.

Book your entry in advance

Reservations and price list can be found at www.tricklandia.sk



VYSOKÉ TATRY, Starý Smokovec (1:15 drive from Košice)

+421 911 733 840 (10:00-18:00)

Ice architecture and symbols

Under the guidance of chief sculptor Adam Bakoš, a team of 20 ice artists from Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Poland and Germany worked on the project. The ice basilica features typical Lateran elements – statues of the Apostles, the Holy Door, the Papal Altar and the Papal Chair (Cathedra Papalis), where a newly elected pope symbolically begins his Petrine ministry. The Papal Altar (Altare Papale) forms the spiritual heart of the entire basilica. In the real church, it stands above the relics of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, the apostles upon whose faith the Church was built. The Papal Chair or Throne (Cathedra Papalis), placed behind the altar, symbolises papal authority and spiritual leadership. The word cathedra (chair) also gave rise to the term cathedral – a temple where the bishop resides. It represents service rather than power – from this chair, the Pope teaches and guides the Church as the successor of Saint Peter.



NEW THIS SEASON

A brand-new feature this year allows visitors to walk through an ice tunnel leading directly to the main structure. As they emerge, they are greeted by the monumental façade of the Basilica of Saint John Lateran, crowned with statues of the thirteen apostles. On the right-hand side, visitors will find the Holy Door – a symbol of faith and hope, which, in the real basilica, is opened only once every 25 years during the Jubilee Year. 2025 is the latest Jubilee, giving this year's theme even deeper significance. On the left, the Papal Altar is surrounded by portraits of the six most recent

popes – Leo XIV, Francis, Benedict XVI, John Paul II, John Paul I and Paul VI, along with the Papal Chair. Together, they form a moving image of faith, tradition and service.

Details worth noticing

For observant visitors, there's a little challenge – to find five hidden Tatra edelweiss flowers carved into the icy structure. The dome cover measures 25 metres in diameter and is 10.7 metres high. The atmosphere is further enhanced by glass artworks by Achilleas Sdoukos, whose play of light lifts the ice architecture to an entirely new level.

Source: www.vt.sk



Day and night sledging in Hrebienok

Enjoy great winter fun in Hrebienok, Starý Smokovec. Day and night sledging is a sought-after attraction, popular with families and groups of friends. Take a comfortable funicular to Hrebienok and sledge down along a 2.5 km-long track. Day sledging tickets and day sledging rental are available every day from 9:00 to 16:30.

Night sledging

* in operation according to snow conditions
How about experiencing something special? Try night sledging! Zip down along the longest and lit sledging track from Hrebienok to Starý Smokovec at night and enjoy a unique atmosphere.



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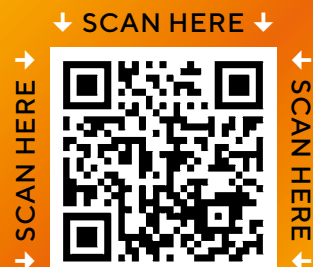
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