

SUMMER 2026

Košice City Guide

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SEVEN DAYS OF CINEMA IN JUNE:

THE 32ND IFF ART FILM RETURNS KOŠICE TO THE HEART OF SLOVAK FILM

Anna Šišková at Kunsthalle, Fatih Akin at Kulturpark, Richard Müller at the Historical Town Hall. Three honorary awards, four competitions, two dozen premieres and an accompanying programme spread across the city centre – from 19 to 25 June 2026, Košice once again becomes the focal point of Slovak cinema. The 32nd edition of IFF Art Film brings guests from leading world festivals to the metropolis of eastern Slovakia and revives the city's most prestigious venues.

The festival will take place across five venues in the centre of Košice – Kunsthalle on Rumanova Street, Kulturpark on Kukučínova Street, the Historical Town Hall on Hlavná Street, Kino Úsmev on Kasárenské Square and Kino Veritas on Dominican Square. The Kulturpark park will host family events under the open sky, while the festive Hlavná Street will accommodate the leisure-time accompanying programme.

KUNSTHALLE: THE ACTOR'S MISSION AWARD FOR ANNA ŠIŠKOVÁ

The festival's gala opening will be hosted by Kunsthalle Košice, whose 550-seat capacity provides a worthy setting for the presentation of The Actor's Mission Award to Anna Šišková. The Slovak actress with a Czechoslovak career – winner of the Czech Lion for her role as Mária in *Divided We Fall* (the film was nominated



for an Oscar) and a two-time laureate of the Slovak theatre award DOSKY – ranks among the most respected actresses of her generation. Anka Šišková was born in Žilina, grew up in the Vrátna Valley, and has been a permanent member of Bratislava's Astorka Korzo '90 Theatre since the 1990s. The award places her alongside figures such as Emília Vášáryová, Zuzana Kronerová, Zdena Studenková, and last year's laureate Antónia Lišková.



KULTURPARK: THE GOLDEN CAMERA FOR FATIH AKIN AND A PROGRAMME FOR FAMILIES

The festival's largest venue – the former barracks district Kulturpark – will this year be home to the Industry Programme, masterclasses, premieres and the youngest audiences. The highlight of the professional line-up will be a masterclass with German-Turkish director Fatih Akin, who will receive the Golden Camera award in Košice for his outstanding contribution to world cinema. Winner of the Golden Bear at Berlinale for *Head-On*, the Best Screenplay Award at Cannes for *The Edge of Heaven*, and the Golden Globe for *In the Fade*, Akin is among the few European directors honoured at all three of the world's most significant festivals. The festival will screen his newest film *Amrum*, which had its world premiere in the Cannes Première section at the 2025 Cannes Film Festival, as well as the drama *In the Fade* starring

Diane Kruger. Kulturpark will also open its doors to families: the Movies for Kids section will welcome young viewers aged 7 to 15, and the Kulturpark park will host a family event with the storybook duo Mojko a Kajka, presented by TV Jojko.

HISTORICAL TOWN HALL: THE MILAN LASICA AWARD IN MEMORIAM TO VLADO MÜLLER

The Baroque-Classical Historical Town Hall on Hlavná Street will be the site of the year's second honorary tribute. Singer Richard Müller will accept the Milan Lasica Award in memoriam for his father, an icon of Slovak film acting, Vladislav Müller (1936 – 1996). To mark the 90th anniversary of the actor's birth, the festival will revisit his exceptional performances from films including *Obžalovaný / The Accused* (1964, winner of the Crystal Globe at the Karlovy Vary IFF), *Medená veža / The Copper Tower* (1970), *Orlie pierko / The Eagle's Feather* (1971) and the war drama *Signum Laudis* (1980). From his father's rich filmography, Richard Müller personally selected the drama *Smrt šitá na mieru / Tailor-Made Death* (1979) for the festival programme. The award builds on the legacy of the festival's long-standing president Milan Lasica; the first laureate of the Milan Lasica Award in 2025 was Ivan Mistrík.

FOUR COMPETITIONS, NINE ADDITIONAL SECTIONS

The programme of the 32nd edition consists of four equal competition sections, each awarding the festival's main prize – the Blue Angel. In the International Competition of Feature Films, eight films from five continents compete for the awards – including Kristen Stewart's directorial debut *The Chronology of Water* and the Czech-Slovak film *Wirbel* by Tomáš

Hubáček, which will open the festival. The International Competition of Central and Eastern European Films will present another eight titles, including Tomáš Krupa's documentary *We Have to Survive* and the Polish tragicomedy *Altar Boys* by Piotr Domalewski. The festival will also feature the International Competition of Short Films and the competition for the FIPRESCI Award, presented by a jury of international film critics.

"This year's programme is built on dialogues – fresh festival titles from Cannes and Berlinale alongside digitally restored gems from the Slovak Film Institute's Golden Fund, debuts next to established auteurs, local stories versus global themes. It is precisely in this breadth of vision that I see the strength of the festival – to show that good cinema knows no borders," explained the festival's artistic director Martin Palúch.

In addition to the competition sections, the festival will offer nine non-competition programme lines. Panorama brings together the latest world cinema from Cannes, Berlinale and Venice. In the *Light of Shadows* focuses on female protagonists – audiences will see the French drama *Couture* starring Angelina Jolie, the film *Rose*, winner of the Silver Bear at Berlinale 2026, and *Calle Málaga* by Moroccan director Maryam Touzani. Slovak Season presents Slovak premieres in the personal presence of their filmmakers, and the genre-driven Late Night Show offers adrenaline and cult films for after-dark viewing. The new Oscar vs. blockbuster section confronts an Oscar nominee with the most-watched film of the same country; the section SFI: Our Family Film Treasures will present digitally restored films from the Golden Fund of Slovak cinema; and the strand The Best of FAMU marks the 80th anniversary of the renowned Prague film school.

BEYOND THE CINEMA SCREENS

The festival days will also be enlivened by an extensive accompanying programme. A special edition of the talk show *Večera s Havranom* (*Dinner with Havran*) featuring Richard Müller, the popular *Bez šepkára* by Milan Kolcun, and the satirical show *w* by JOJ Television are among the most anticipated events. The programme is complemented by a concert by the Mike Parker Trio, the soundtrack listening session STRDVK at Tabačka Kulturfabrik, the book launch of *Via Slovakia*, slam poetry, fashion shows, autograph sessions, the morning yoga session Breathe & Bite, and a Day with the Košice Region Film Office. For film professionals, the Industry Programme runs in parallel, offering masterclasses, panel discussions and networking – accessible with the Film Professional accreditation.



Cinepasses and individual tickets for the 32nd edition of IFF Art Film are on sale at aff.cinepass.sk, and complete information about the programme and accompanying events is available at iffartfilm.com.

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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.



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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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Wooden and UNESCO Churches of Eastern Slovakia

A Journey through Time and Sacral Architecture

by Daniela Capcarová
photo by Bartolomej Cisár



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Churches are the places where the faithful meet God, and in a sense it helps and aids all believing to experience the faithful who have always designed sacred buildings with great care and great love. Master craftsmen and folk expressed faith through architecture, art, and craftsmanship. Across centuries, sacred buildings in Slovakia were created with remarkable care and devotion, reflecting both religious identity and cultural diversity.



Slovakia is the country of remarkable religious diversity. The majority of the population is Roman Catholic (55.8%), followed by Greek Catholics (4.0%), Evangelicals of the Augsburg Confession (5.3%), Reformed Christians (1.6%), Orthodox Christians (0.9%), and a small Jewish community. For centuries, these communities lived side by side, shaping not only religious life but also architecture, language, and visual culture.

There is nowhere more visible the fact than in Eastern Slovakia, a region renowned for its exceptional wooden sacred ar-

chitecture. They are more than 300 wooden churches standing across the landscape; today, around 50 ones have survived. Built mainly between the 15th and 19th centuries, they reflect Roman Catholic, Greek Catholic, and Protestant traditions. Alongside them, UNESCO-listed monuments such as the Church of the Holy Spirit in Žehra and the Articular Church in Kežmarok demonstrate how architecture evolved under the influence of faith, historical change, and legal restriction.

What makes these churches truly extraordinary, however, is their interior. Behind modest wooden exteriors lies a world of intense colour and symbolism: richly carved and painted iconostases, monumental altar structures separating sanctuary and nave, and layers of sacred imagery that transform small rural churches into spiritual microcosms. The Iconostases are filled with icons painted in tempera on wood, following Byzantine tradition and Slavonic inscriptions in the Greek Catholic churches. In

Roman Catholic and Lutheran churches, wooden altars and painted galleries often carry German Gothic (Schwabacher) and Latin inscriptions, while some regions preserve rare Hungarian Stations of the Cross. Together, these elements form one of the richest examples of multicultural sacred art in Central Europe.

The Route

Our journey begins in Kežmarok, the locality of one of the most famous Articular wooden churches in Slovakia, built in 1717 and inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Constructed under strict Habsburg regulations issued in 1681, the Lutheran church had to be built entirely of wood,

without nails, stone foundations, belfries or bells, and outside the city walls. Despite these limitations, it became a masterpiece of wooden engineering and religious expression.

The interior is dominated by a finely crafted wooden ceiling painted with biblical scenes and symbolic ornamentation. Galleries encircle the nave, their panels inscribed in Gothic Schwabacher script. The central altar, created in the 18th century by master craftsman Ján Lerch, reflects the theological clarity of Lutheran tradition, where the Word and image work together in disciplined harmony. The result is a space that feels both restrained and deeply expressive, shaped

by faith under constraint (www.ecavkk.sk).

The Kežmarok route leads about 25 kilometers southeast from Kežmarok to Levoča, a former free royal town and one of the most important centres of Gothic art in Slovakia. The Church of St. James, dating from the 14th century, contains an extraordinary collection of 14 Gothic and Renaissance altars, making it one of the largest ensembles of its kind in Europe. The church's artistic heart is the monumental high altar created by Master Paul of Levoča between 1508 and 1517 — the tallest wooden Gothic altar in the world.

The altar's carved figures of Christ, the Virgin Mary, and

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the apostles reveal an exceptional level of late medieval woodcarving, combining realism with theological symbolism. Originally Roman Catholic, the church was also used by the Evangelical community during the Reformation before returning to Catholic use in the 18th century. It forms part of the UNESCO “Levoča, Spišský Hrad and Associated Cultural Monuments,” inscribed in 1993, and the church has been protected as a national cultural monument since 1950 (www.chramsvjakuba.sk).



Continuing southward, our route reaches Žehra, where the Church of the Holy Spirit stands as one of the most significant Romanesque-Gothic monuments in Central Europe. Dating from the 13th century, its greatest value lies in its extraordinary cycle of medieval frescoes, which cover nearly the entire interior. These paintings depict biblical narratives, saints, and theological themes, forming one of the most complete medieval pictorial programs in the region. The iconographic system transforms the small rural church into a visual Bible, where every wall surface contributes to a continuous narrative of salvation history. The church's tower, later modified, is crowned by a distinctive onion-shaped wooden dome, blending architectural layers from different centuries.

The next stop 45 kilometers south-east from Žehra, is the second biggest city of Slovakia - Košice. The East Slovak Museum preserves a wooden Greek Catholic church relocated from

Kožuchovce in 1927, originally built in 1781. This three-part log structure — narthex, nave, and sanctuary — follows traditional Eastern Christian architectural logic. Its most valuable feature is the interior painting cycle from 1785, created by an unknown folk artist. These wall paintings depict scenes from the Old and New Testaments in a vivid, narrative style, combining local artistic expression with Byzantine iconographic tradition. The result is a rare example of popular religious art, where theology is communicated through colour, gesture, and storytelling rather than academic painting techniques. The church was declared a national cultural monument in 1963 (www.vsmuzeum.sk).

The journey continues 20 kilometers northerly to Prešov, the third-largest city in Slovakia and an important centre of Eastern Christianity. The Greek Catholic Cathedral of St. John the Baptist (Hlavná

1) preserves the relics of Blessed Bishops Pavol Peter Gojdič and Vasil Hopko, placed in the Chapel of the Holy Cross after their beatification in 2001. The cathedral also contains a copy of the Shroud of Turin, linking local devotion with global Christian heritage (www.katedrala.sk). Nearby stands the Gothic Co-Cathedral of St. Nicholas, whose tower offers panoramic views of the - centre. Inside, the church preserves valuable altars and sculptural works that reflect the long development of Gothic architecture in the region. (<https://presov.rimkat.sk/>).

About 35 kilometers north-west of Prešov lies Hervartov, the locality of the only Roman Catholic wooden church in Eastern Slovakia inscribed on the UNESCO list. Built in the late 15th century, the Church of St. Francis of Assisi contains rare medieval and Reformation-era wall paintings. These include biblical scenes such as

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Adam and Eve, accompanied by Latin and Czech inscriptions — a rare combination of visual storytelling and multilingual theological commentary.

Just a short distance away lies Bardejov, one of the best-preserved medieval towns in Slovakia. The Basilica of St. Egidius (14th–16th century) contains a remarkable set of Gothic altars, including works ascribed to Master Paul of Levoča (www.visitbardejov.sk/en/pamiatky/kostoly). The nearby Museum of Icons presents a rich collection of Eastern Christian iconography, offering deeper insight into the symbolic language found in wooden churches across the region (www.muzeumbardejov.sk/expozicie/ikony/).

In the nearby spa area of Bardejovské Kúpele, an open-air museum preserves the Greek Catholic wooden Church of St. Nicholas, originally built in 1706 in Zboj. Its most valuable feature is the richly decorated Baroque–Rococo iconostasis from 1766, considered one of the finest preserved in Slovakia. The multi-tiered imposing edifice is filled with icons of Christ, the Virgin Mary, saints, and feasts, arranged according to strict theological hierarchy.

Fortyfive kilometers north-east northeast lies the Ladomírová village, where the Greek Catholic Church of St. Michael the Archangel (1742) stands as a UNESCO-listed masterpiece of wooden sacral architecture. Built entirely without

nails, the church is dominated by a powerful iconostasis filled with icons arranged in hierarchical rows, reflecting the Eastern Christian vision of the heavenly order. The belfry with three bells and the surrounding wooden fence complete the traditional village sacred ensemble. The village itself was heavily damaged during the Carpathian–Dukla Operation in 1944.

One of the oldest wooden churches in Slovakia which is on the UNESCO World Heritage List, the Church of St. Nicholas from 1658, stands, as if out of sight, nearby Bodružal village. Its three-square log structure represents early Ruthenian architectural tradition. Inside, a richly decorated iconostasis and painted interior reflect centuries of continuous liturgical use. Between 1965 and 1995, the church served both Greek Catholic and Orthodox communities, symbolising religious coexistence in the region.

The journey continues approximately 75 km south-east to Humenné, where the open-air museum of the Vihorlatské múzeum preserves the Church of St. Michael the Archangel. Originally built in Nová Sedlica in 1764, the church was relocated in the 1970s to protect it as part of Eastern Carpathian wooden heritage. Its interior is dominated by a multi-tiered iconostasis filled with icons painted according to traditional Greek Catholic iconography, where each register represents a different level of sacred history (www.muzeumhumenne.sk).



The final stop is in Ruská Bystrá, 80 kilometres further east. The Greek Catholic Church of the Transfer of the Relics of St. Nicholas (1730) is the easternmost UNESCO wooden church in Slovakia. Its iconostasis is exceptional for its spatial composition, extending beyond the central wall onto side walls and even the ceiling — creating an immersive sacred environment. The sanctuary contains a rare icon of the Crucifixion, forming the theological and visual climax of the entire journey.

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End

Východoslovenské múzeum v Košiciach East Slovak Museum Košice

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St. Elizabeth's Cathedral

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



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The National Theatre of Košice

Hlavná Street

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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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.



ARTICLE
IN YOUR
LANGUAGE

Calvinist church

Hrnčiarska Street

This Calvinist church as built on the place of former medieval city gate in fortifications called Maľovaná (decorated). Its tower is situated exactly instead of it. The church started to be built in 1805 and was consecrated in 1811. At that time it was lacking the tower which was built in two parts, in 1853 and in 1895 when the metal cock was placed there as a symbol used since the 16th century when Calvinists owned the Cathedral in Košice. The neo-Romanesque architecture of the church is very simple.



ARTICLE
IN YOUR
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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. Priests were later sainted as became martyrs of the city. Architecture of the Church represents combination of Renaissance and Baroque style.



ARTICLE
IN YOUR
LANGUAGE

Wanders of the city of Košice

are the best way to discover the most interesting parts of the town and all the hidden and undiscovered places.

If you are in the town and also want to see less touristic spots of the town, don't miss out on the monthly organized city wanders with the six tour guides ready to teach you more about the beautiful Kosice. Four days in a month there is a chance to check out new spots not just in the old town but also in other parts of the city.

Tickets are available for 5,99 € (for seniors, over-60 and voluntary blood donors), or for 6,99 € for adults. Children up to 18 years old are free to join if they come with their parents.

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Find out more about the upcoming events on www.potulka.sk



MiKOŠICE
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Viac než len obyčajná turistika: Prečo filmový chodník Košického kraja zmení váš pohľad na cestovanie



ARTICLE
IN YOUR
LANGUAGE

Bežná turistika vás zavedie na pekné miesta, no filmový turizmus vám umožní do nich priamo vstúpiť a prežiť ich vlastný príbeh. Predstavte si, že kráčate monumentálnou Zádielskou tiesňavou a zrazu stojíte na rovnakom mieste, kde Owen Wilson bojoval o prežitie v hollywoodskom trháku *Za nepriateľskou líniou*. No uznajte, neznie to ako skutočné dobrodružstvo?

Na rozdiel od unifikovaného masového turizmu stavia tento novodobý trend na rýdzo individuálnom zážitku a silnom emočnom pute. Pre moderného cestovateľa už samotný pekný výhľad často nestačí, keďže hľadá hlbší zmysel, príbeh a autenticitu. Hlavnou motiváciou prečo sa vydať touto cestou je fascinujúca túžba porovnať ilúziu vytvorenú strieborným plátnom so skutočnosťou pozorovanou na mieste. Keď stojíte na presnej filmovej lokalite, farby, zvuky a špeci-

fická atmosféra prostredia vo vás prebudia expresívne emócie. Obyčajný výlet sa rázom mení na osobné dobrodružstvo a pátranie po skrytých klenotoch, ktoré ležia ďaleko od všedných a vyšľapaných chodníkov.

Krajina okom režiséra

Človeku táto forma cestovania prináša jedinečnú príležitosť vnímať krajinu okom slávnych režisérov či filmových architektov. Na filmových chodníkoch Košického kraja sa stopy minulosti

prelínajú so súčasnosťou už od roku 1958, kedy filmári v Stratenej odštartovali éru snímkou *Smrť v sedle*. Návštevník tak môže na vlastné oči sledovať, ako sa jednotlivé miesta pod vplyvom času zmenili s odstupom celých desaťročí.

Tento rok navyše oživa hneď niekoľko okrúhlych filmových výročí, a to štvrtoročie od hollywoodskeho trháku *Za nepriateľskou líniou* natáčaného v divokom Zádieli. V neďalekej obci Háj pri tom dodnes stojí rekvizita v podobe obrovskej sochy anjela. Tento rok uplynie tiež tridsať rokov od nakrúcania fantasy filmu *Dračie srdce*, dvadsať rokov od nakrúcania *Eragona* na ikonickom Tomášovskom výhlade či dekáda od obľúbeného historického seriálu *1890 s Jánom Koleníkom v hlavnej úlohe, ktorý sa nakrúcal v kaštieli Betliar*. Putovanie po stopách rozprávok *Sol' nad zlato* a *Popolvár*



najväčší na svete, či drsných novodobých filmov *Čiara a Vojna policajtov*, vdychuje slovenskej prírode neopakovateľný a hmatateľný *genius loci*.

Ak turizmus, tak filmový

Pre samotný Košický kraj je tento rastúci trend obrovským vizionárskym prínosom. Organizácia Košice Región Turizmus ním totiž cielene propaguje trvalo udržateľný rozvoj cestovného ruchu celého regiónu. Namiesto preťažovania kľúčových

turistických bodov láka rozhladených objaviteľov do tajuplných, menej známych zákutí. Tým efektívne pomáha lokálnej ekonomike a zároveň chráni panenskú prírodu národných parkov či bezprostredné okolie pamiatok zapísaných na zoznamy UNESCO.

Kraj sa tak úspešne zviditeľňuje doma i vo svete nie ako pasívna destinácia, ale ako živé, pulzujúce kultúrne javisko. Vďaka terénnym klapkám s QR kódmi a modernej bezplatnej aplikácii *Smart*

Guide s textami odborníka Tomáša Galierika navyše získava náš domov neoceniteľný imidž technologicky vyspelej a atraktívnej lokality. Ak vás do metropoly východu privádza prebiehajúci ročník prestížneho festivalu Art Film Fest, urobte krok z červeného koberca priamo do terénu. Filmový chodník s viac ako stovkou unikátnych lokalít vám dokáže, že v Košickom kraji neobjavujete len krajinu, ale prežívate skutočné príbehy.

Košice Región Turizmus



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Cinemas under the stars

For several years now, the open-air cinema has been an integral part of the city. This summer program attracts families, teenagers, couples, and friends. Thanks to frequent screenings of American films in their original language, this attraction also draws foreign visitors. We have not just one, but two such unique cinemas. The amphitheater, designed by architects Gabrini and Malinovský, is among the largest venues of its kind in Slovakia, with a current capacity of approximately 5,000 seats. The outdoor cinema is older than it appears: construction began

as early as 1955, and official screenings kicked off on June 19, 1965, as part of the Workers' Film Festival (FFP). The first film screened was the Oscar-winning movie *The Shop on Main Street*, which drew a record 20,000 viewers at the time. The Amfik cinema has been enjoying a resurgence in popularity since 2020. The Garden cinema (Záhradné kino), located in the courtyard behind the former Partizán cinema in the passageway near the Malá scéna on Hlavná Street, operates in a similar way. Firstly opened

in 1956 and screened films until the mid-1980s. It had to wait until 2021 for its rebirth, since when it has been operating under the management of Kino Úsmev. You'll often feel like you're traveling back in time while watching a modern film.

Ester Ritter



ARTICLE
IN YOUR
LANGUAGE

Ester Ritter | +421 907 583 538

ig: @guruesterke

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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.



ARTICLE
IN YOUR
LANGUAGE



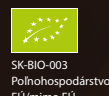
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Mapa centra Košíc MAP of Košice Downtown



WHAT'S ON the guide to top events SUMMER 2026

19 June 19:00
Vasilij Sigarev:
DETEKTOR LŽI, drama
Olhová, Stanke, Kostelný
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

19 June 21:00
Steven Spielberg:
Deň odhalenia, Open Air movie
Amphitheater, Festivalové nám., Košice

19 - 25 June
IFF Art Film
International Film Festival
Košice downtown cinemas

20 June 21:00
Toy Story 5, Open Air movie
Amphitheater, Festivalové nám., Košice

21 June 18:00
Spirit fashion meets Art
 Spirit fashion meets Art is a prestigious multi-genre festival in Košice, which annually transforms the historic city centre into an open catwalk and art gallery.
Hlavná Street, Košice

21 June 19:00
Stanislav Šteпка
TVÁR Z BILBORDU
Radošinské naivné divadlo
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

21 June 21:00
Scary Movie, Open Air movie
Amphitheater, Festivalové nám., Košice

22 June 19:00
Michael Frayn:
SARDINKY NA SCÉNU,
PROSÍM!, comedy



The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

24 June 18:30
Emmerich Kálmán: CIRKUSOVÁ PRINCEZNÁ, opera



The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

25 June 19:00
Giacomo Puccini: TOSCA, opera



The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

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25 June 21:00
Supergirl, Open Air movie
Amphitheater, Festivalové nám., Košice

26 June 21:00
Toy Story 5, Open Air movie
Amphitheater, Festivalové nám., Košice

28 June 21:00
TOP GUN 40, Open Air movie



Amphitheater, Festivalové nám., Košice

29 June 21:00
Star Wars: Mandalorián a Grogu,
Open Air movie
Amphitheater, Festivalové nám., Košice

30 June 21:00
Mimoni a monštrá, Open Air movie
Amphitheater, Festivalové nám., Košice

3 July 19:00
PARA & JANA KIRSCHNER
koncert
Kasárne Kulturpark, Kukučínova 2, Košice

10 July 20:00
Show The Duchon's 2
Dance-music Show
Kasárne Kulturpark, Kukučínova 2, Košice

11 July 20:30
Ďurovčík: Zvonár u Matky Božej,
modern ballet
Kasárne Kulturpark, Kukučínova 2, Košice

31 July 19:00
Silné reči - stand-up comedy show
Open Air
Kasárne Kulturpark, Kukučínova 2, Košice

2 August 19:00
Mária Čírová s kapelou
Open Air Concert
Kasárne Kulturpark, Kukučínova 2, Košice

12 August 19:00
Divadlo KEUD: Chujava nau
Open Air Theatre
Kasárne Kulturpark, Kukučínova 2, Košice

21 August 19:00
Peter Lipa & Band
Open Air Concert
Kasárne Kulturpark, Kukučínova 2, Košice

4 September 19:00
KRÚTNÁVA, opera
Eugen Suchoň
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

7 September 18:00
Najstaršie remeslo - komedy
Paula Vogel
Old Town Hall, Hlavná 59., Košice

12 September 19:00
DUST / KAASH, ballet
Akram Khan
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

13 September 19:00
TRAJA VETERÁNI, drama
Jan Werich
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

16 September 18:30
Emmerich Kálmán: CIRKUSOVÁ
PRINCEZNÁ, opera
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

17 September 19:00
COCO & TINA - detektívna
komédia
Old Town Hall, Hlavná 59., Košice

17 September 19:00
Michael Frayn:
SARDINKY NA SCÉNU,
PROSÍM!, comedy
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

19 September 19:00
Stanislav Šteпка: V ADAMOVOM
RÚCHU, drama
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

21 September 19:00
PYGMALION, drama
Bernard Shaw
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

22 September 19:00
Giuseppe Verdi: LA TRAVIATA,
opera
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

23 September 18:00
Pavol Dobšínský:
CHUDOBNÝCH RODIČOV
SYN, ballet
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

24 September 19:00
NABUCCO, opera
Giuseppe Verdi
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street

26 September 19:00
LABUTIE JAZERO
SWAN LAKE, ballet
Peter Iljič Čajkovskij
The National Theatre Košice
Historical building, Hlavná Street



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V regióne, ktorý tak, ako každý má svoju unikátnu atmosféru a jedinečné miesta, ktoré dokážete svojou návštevou premeniť na zážitok a krásne spomienky. Na východe ležia dve z troch najväčších miest na Slovensku, Košice a Prešov, ktoré od seba delí iba 30 minút cesty po diaľnici a o niečo pár minút viac vlakom. Kým Košičanov prezývajú "Vraňare", my v Prešove sme si v minulosti vyslúžili prezývku "Koňare", nakoľko Prešov bol v minulosti jedným domovom kráľovského žrebčína v čase monarchie a zároveň sme ako mesto dosahovali zaujímavé výsledky v jazdeckom športe.

Prešov roku 2026 je však predovšetkým mestom s bohatou ponukou kultúry, hudby, gastru a športu. V úvode júna sme už stihli zažiť náš tradičný Trojičný jarmok a Dni mesta Prešov. Tým však naša kultúrna ponuka na leto nekončí - do Prešova sa oplatí prísť hocikedy. Už 24 júna v našich uliciach odštartuje trojdňový pouličný art festival PREŠOVSKÝ MON-TMARTRE, ktorý prinesie

počas troch dní jedinečnú atmosféru plnú hudby, divadla, výtvarného umenia a kreatívnych workshopov. Len o dva dni na to sa 28. júna začína obrovský formát Prešovské kultúrne leto, ktoré bude ponúkať hudobné koncerty, výstavy, akcie pre deti, tvorivé dielne, či minifestivaly až do 3. septembra. Počas viac ako dvoch mesiacov si v rámci Prešovského kultúrneho leta určite nenechajte ujsť naše letné kiná a burzy starožitností a kuriozít. Samostatnou kapitolou sú jednoznačne podujatia s nezameniteľnou atmosférou, akým je napríklad aj The only cuban party počas 14. augusta, kedy sa naša Jarkova ulica premení na temperamentný latino festival. V rovnaký deň u nás v Prešove štartuje aj 3-dňový pivný festival Prešovské pivobranie priamo na Hlavnej ulici. Do toho všetkého sa v centre Prešova 15. augusta navyše spustí aj dvojdňový minifestival revivalových kapiel. Špecialitou v rámci Prešovského kultúrneho leta je aj samostatný program v našej ortodoxnej synagóge, kde po-

čas leta ponúkame 4 hudobné koncerty a jedno divadelné predstavenie.

Okrem tradičných vecí prichádzame toto leto aj s novinkami. 6. augusta môžete byť svedkami úplne prvého ročníka medzinárodného folklórneho festivalu FESTIVAL KRAJÍN A TRADÍCIÍ, kde sa predstavia folklórne súbory z Litvy, Bulharska, Ukrajiny, Poľska a samozrejme aj zo Slovenska. Naozaj rušné leto u nás vystrieda jeseň, ktorej začiatok sa bude niesť v duchu futbalu. Náš Štadión Ladislava Pavloviča (Futbal Tatrán Aréna), ktorý je najmladším prírastkom do rodiny štadiónov kategórie UEFA na Slovensku, bude dejiskom jedného zo zápasov Ligy národov. Slovenská reprezentácia sa pred (nielen) domácim publikom predstaví v Prešove v zápase proti Moldavsku.

V Prešove neriešime dilemu, či máme kam ísť, ak chceme niečo zažiť. My si už len vyberáme čo chceme zažiť.

Budeme radi, ak do nášho mesta zavítate a vyberiete si tiež. V Prešove ste vždy vítaní.

Ing. František Olha
primátor mesta Prešov



Plaza Beach Resort – A Holiday Atmosphere Near Košice

Looking for a place where you can enjoy summer relaxation, quality services, and the atmosphere of a seaside resort without travelling far? Plaza Beach Resort is one of Eastern Slovakia's most popular summer destinations, offering a unique combination of leisure, gastronomy, and comfortable accommodation.

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Koils beds with natural mattresses, designed to provide outstanding support and a truly restorative sleep experience. During the autumn, winter, and spring seasons, guests can also relax in the wellness centre, which operates from October to May and has been an integral part of the resort since 2017.

A recent addition to the complex is **Plaza One****, a modern four-star hotel that expands the resort's accommodation capacity and services for both leisure and

business travellers. Thanks to its high-quality facilities, the resort is also a popular venue for corporate events, weddings, celebrations, and team-building activities.

Plaza Beach Resort combines a holiday atmosphere, comfort, and professional service in one unique destination. If you are visiting Košice and the surrounding region and looking for relaxation by the water, quality accommodation, or a memorable experience, Plaza Beach Resort is a place worth discovering.

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Discover the Royal Treasures of Šariš



Some places cannot simply be visited. You need to listen to their stories and experience their unique atmosphere. One such experience is the route called the Trail of Kings, which connects exceptional stops across the Šariš region – from the mysterious underground world of the opal mines, through the majestic Šariš Castle, to the imperial elegance of Bardejov Spa and the colourful artistic world of pop art. Join us on the trail of kings and experience Šariš, a region full of royal treasures, for yourself.



ARTICLE
IN YOUR
LANGUAGE

Opal, the Stone of Kings

Our journey begins underground, where one of the rarest treasures of the Šariš region lies hidden - *the Opal Mines in Dubník*. Their bluish tunnels still echo the former glory of

gemstones once worn by royal families. Discover the mysterious stories of the miners and admire the captivating shimmer of opal, a stone that draws you into a world of legends.



Did you know...?

The precious opals from Dubník adorned the necklace of Isabella Jagiellon, which she received as a wedding gift from her future husband, King John Zápolya of Hungary. These opals were also part of Queen Victoria's Oriental Cirlet Tiara, a gift from Prince Albert. Opals were said to be among the prince's favourite gemstones.

Šariš Castle, the Seat of Kings

From the depths of the mines, the route rises above the town of Veľký Šariš, where one of the great symbols of the region stands proudly - the 13th-century royal Šariš Castle. The walk up to its ruins rewards visitors with breathtaking views and the feeling of stepping into a place where medieval history was made - a world of kings, knights and important trade routes. Šariš Castle is an ideal stop for those who enjoy easy hiking, fascinating history and a touch of adventure.



Did you know...?

Šariš Castle was once a county, or *comitatus*, castle. Unlike neighbouring guard castles, its role was to oversee important regional and trade routes leading towards Spiš and Poland, especially the route through the Torysa Valley. The castle is known for its 14 bastions and its restored donjon tower, which offers sweeping views of the region and, in good weather, even neighbouring castles.



Bardejov Spa, the Springs of Empress Sisi

After the grandeur of the castle comes a moment of rest and refinement. *Bardejov Spa* is a place of healing mineral springs, peaceful spa atmosphere and parks that invite vis-

itors to slow down. Its story is closely linked to Empress Sisi, giving every walk through the spa grounds a touch of imperial elegance.



Did you know...?

Sisi, Empress Elisabeth of Austria and Queen of Hungary, stayed at Bardejov Spa in 1895. During her visit, she lived in the Deák Hotel, today's Alžbeta spa house, and drank water from the Lobogo spring, now named Alžbeta in her honour. Her stay is still remembered through a statue, a memorial room, the Sisi educational trail, an apartment, a café and the spa house bearing her name.

Still have energy for more discovery after three royal stops? Then your journey can continue to *Medzilaborce*, the land of the Ruthenians and the birthplace region of the "king" of pop art, Andy Warhol. On the way, do not miss *Miková*, the native village



of Andy's mother, Júlia Varcholová, where a memorial room presents a number of rare objects and artefacts.

Set out on the Route of Kings and discover Šariš - a region filled with royal treasures.

www.regionsaris.sk



Implemented with the financial support of the Ministry of Tourism and Sports of the Slovak Republic.



Article and photos by:
Oblasťná organizácia cestovného ruchu (OOCR) Región Šariš



Zemplínska širava otvorila sezónu: zvedaví návštevníci a skvelá nálada

Zemplínska širava má za sebou úspešný štart letnej sezóny. Už počas prvých dvoch dní po otvorení nových zón a atrakcií prišlo počas soboty a nedele (30.-31.mája) niekoľko tisíc návštevníkov, ktorí zaplnili Medvediu horu, Kamenec aj okolie Thermalparku. Návštevníci prichádzali predovšetkým z Košického a Prešovského kraja, ale aj zo vzdialenejších oblastí Slovenska, čo potvrdzuje rastúci význam Širavy ako rodinnej a zážitkovej destinácie. Informuje o tom Tibor Tabak, výkonný riaditeľ ZOOCR Dolný Zemplín.

„Tohtoročné otvorenie sezóny bolo výnimočné tým, že si pripomíname 60. výročie vzniku Zemplínskej širavy (1966 – 2026). Atmosféra počas víkendy bola výborná – hudba, regionálne jedlá, tokajské vína, detské atrakcie a celodenný program vytvorili energiu, ktorá pripomínala najlepšie roky

„slovenského mora“. Záujem verejnosti potvrdil, že tento typ podujatí zameraný na celé rodiny dokáže priťahovať záujemcov a každý si tu nájde to svoje. Zároveň ukázal, že región je stále viac pripravený na návrat medzi top slovenské destinácie,“ zhodnotil T.Tabak. Na slávnostnom otvorení sa stretli zástupcovia štátu, Košického samosprávneho kraja a oblastného cestovného ruchu, ktorí deklarovali spoločný záujem na systematickom rozvoji Zemplínskej širavy. Vyjadrili pritom záujem o štátnu podporu cestovnému ruchu. V sobotu slávnostne otvorili interaktívne náučné ihrisko „Mokradkovo“ na Medvedej hore, ktoré približuje históriu a prírodu Zemplínskej širavy.

Mokradkovo má priťahovať deti a rodiny

Predsa Košického samosprávneho kraja Rastislav Trnka vyzdvihol, že prepojenie



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ubytovacích kapacít s novými aktivitami, konkrétne s novým detským ihriskom Mokradkovo, má prilákať návštevníkov aj deti do danej lokality a podporiť aj ďalšie miestne služby a cestovný ruch.

„Tento projekt bol podporený z výzvy, ktorá by mala rozvíjať existujúce kapacity a doplniť ich o ďalšie aktivity ktorými by mohli prilákať návštevníka. Myslím si že táto kapacita Medvedia hora-Anima je jednou z tých ubytovacích lokalít ktoré by sa dali ešte trochu pozdvihnúť,“ uviedol R.Trnka.

Zároveň zaželel Širave ďalších ešte úspešnejších najmenej 60 rokov tak, aby dosiahla návštevnosti presahujúce milión návštevníkov ročne, ako to bolo v rokoch po napustení.



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DOLNÝ  ZEMPLÍN

Nová éra: Moderná a atraktívna destinácia

Predstavitelia cestovného ruchu zdôraznili, že budúcnosť Šíravy stojí na spolupráci štátu, kraja, samospráv aj podnikateľov. Prioritou je modernizácia infraštruktúry, budovanie ekologických a zážitkových projektov, rozšírenie možností pre rodiny s deťmi a zvyšovanie kvality služieb pre domácich aj zahraničných návštevníkov. Postupne sa darí región premieňať na modernú celoročnú turistickú destináciu. Významnou súčasťou rozvoja bude aj prepojenie Zemplínskej šíravy s vinohradníckou oblasťou Tokaj v rámci projektu „Šírava bez hraníc“, ktorý má vytvoriť spoločný turistický produkt spájajúci oddych pri vode, gastronómiu, tradície a tokajské vinárstvo.



Štyri projekty pre novú éru Šíravy

Strategický plán rozvoja sa opiera o štyri hlavné projekty. Prvým je výstavba unikátnej

vodnej promenády nad hladinou vody, ktorá prepojí strediská Kaluža a Klokočov od hotela Glamour až po Thermalpark Šírava.

Druhým projektom je koncept „Šírava bez hraníc“, prepájajúci Zemplínsku šíravu a Tokaj do jedného turistického regiónu. Treťou líniou je rozvoj nových zážitkových atrakcií

a moderných foriem ubytovania pre rodiny. Súčasťou tejto vízie je napríklad stanové mestečko v Pútnickom centre Klokočov, smart kapsulové domy či otvorené interaktívne náučné ihrisko „Mokradkovo“ na Medvedej hore.

Štvrtou oblasťou je podpora ďalšieho rozvoja infraštruktúry a projektov miestnych samospráv a podnikateľov, ktoré majú prispieť k premennej celej oblasti na moderné rekreačné centrum.

Pripravenosť stredísk a bezpečnosť

Pred sezónou prebehla kompletná revízia pláží, sociálnych zariadení a brehov. Posilnila sa aj vodná záchraná služba. Jubilejný rok priniesie sériu kultúrnych, gastronomických a historických podujatí, ktoré pripomenú šesť desaťročí „slovenského mora“.

www.dolnyzemplin.eu

HLAVNÉ LETNÉ PODUJATIA – DOLNÝ ZEMPLÍN & ZEMPLÍNSKA ŠÍRAVA

18. – 21.6. **Zemplín Veterán Rally** – 10. ročník Michalovce, veľké motoristické podujatie

20.6.2026 **Tokaj Unplugged** – Tokajské pivnice Hudba & víno

20.6.2026 **XXIII. Tokajský festival** Kaštieľ Borša – Vlajková akcia Tokaja

26. – 28.6. **Zemplínske slávnosti** – folklórny festival Michalovce

26. – 27.6. **Open Summer** – Otvorenie leta na Šírave Kamenec

27.6.2026 **Jánske ohne nad Šíravou** – Vinné

5.7.2026 **Kriminálne príbehy zo Zemplína** Zemplínske múzeum Michalovce

6. – 10.7. **Letný tábor v múzeu** (I. turnus) Zemplínske múzeum Michalovce

18. – 19.7. **Vihorlat Cup** – Šport na Šírave Yacht Club Michalovce

19.7.2026 Koncert – **Tatiana Hajžušová / Jiří Rajniš** Zemplínske múzeum Michalovce

26.7.2026 **Večerná prehliadka** – Nočná prehliadka Zemplínske múzeum Michalovce

1.8.2026 **Deň s jachtármi na Šírave** – Rodinné podujatie Yacht Club Michalovce

2.8.2026 **Vihorlatský pohár** – Klokočovská 5 Klokočov – Športové podujatie

10. – 14.8. **Letný tábor v múzeu** (II. turnus) Zemplínske múzeum Michalovce

14. – 15.8. **Zemplínsky jarmok** – Najväčší jarmok regiónu Michalovce

15. – 16.8. **Eparchiálna odpustová slávnosť** Klokočov – Najväčšia púť regiónu

29.8.2026 **Deň otvorených pivníc** – Tokaj Tokajské pivnice – Vinársky highlight

30.8.2026 **Večerná prehliadka** – Nočná prehliadka Zemplínske múzeum Michalovce

Zemplínska šírava

Príbeh slovenského mora, ktoré zmenilo tvár Zemplína



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V roku 2026 si pripomíname 60 rokov od sprístupnenia Zemplínskej šíravy – vodného diela, ktoré sa stalo symbolom Zemplína, významným rekreačným centrom a zdrojom nezabudnuteľných spomienok pre celé generácie návštevníkov. Dnes ju poznáme ako „slovenské more“. Výstavba epochálneho diela socializmu začala začiatkom 60. rokov minulého storočia. Prestahované boli desiatky domov, preložili sa komunikácie, zanikli niektoré objekty a zmenil sa charakter celého územia. Historický deň prišiel 12. augusta 1966, kedy bola vodná nádrž slávnostne odovzdaná do užívania. V tom čase niesla názov Vihorlatská Slňava.

Pri príležitosti 60. výročia sprístupnenia vodného diela pripravilo Zemplínske múzeum v Michalovciach výstavu „Šesť desaťročí Zemplínskej šíravy“. Návštevníkom ponúka jedinečný pohľad na

históriu výstavby, rozvoj cestovného ruchu, kultúrny život i každodenné spomienky generácií rekreatantov. Súčasťou výstavy sú dobové fotografie, archívne dokumenty, plagáty, propagačné materiály, predmety spojené



s rekreáciou pri „slovenskom mori“ a množstvo zaujímavostí približujúcich atmosféru obdobia najväčšej slávy Zemplínskej šíravy. Výstava vznikla v spolupráci

Zemplínskeho múzea v Michalovciach a Zemplínskej oblastnej organizácie cestovného ruchu – Dolný Zemplín. Predstavuje nielen historickú retrospektívu, ale aj poctu miestu, ktoré sa počas šiestich desaťročí stalo neod-

deliteľnou súčasťou identity regiónu.

Výstavu si návštevníci môžu prezrieť v priestoroch Zimnej záhrady múzea až do 30. augusta 2026.

📍 Kostolné námestie 1, Michalovce
☎ +421 566 441 093
✉ info@zemplinskemuzeum.sk

📘 Zemplínske múzeum
📷 [zemplinske_muzeum](https://www.instagram.com/zemplinske_muzeum)
🌐 www.zemplinskemuzeum.sk





Zborov Castle

The village is situated 10 km northerly of Bardejov. Scenery above the village is dominated by ruins of the Zborovský castle, which was used to serve as “a guardian” of the road to Poland. Originally a Gothic Castle was probably built on a site of former Slavonic fortress. **The first mention about**

it is from 1250. It was the year when Belo IV. donated the castle to a nobleman Mako, and that’s why the castle and the adjacent manor area were called Makovica. In 1548 King Ferdinand I. donated the castle to a captain from Košice, named Juraj Šeredy. Thanks to Šeredy family the castle was rebuilt and fortified. Last owners - family Rákóczi left the castle after its destruction by the imperial army in 1684 and moved into a mansion in the village. Only the St. Zofia Church remained preserved until nowadays.

An important monument is the St. Margaret Church, originally a Gothic one, with later Renaissance and Baroque redevelopments. Main altar of St, Margaret is from 1635 and was built in the styl of the German Renaissance. Interior is decorated in Renaissance and Baroque styles. In the village there are military cemetery from the WWI., the memorial of the WWI. dedicated to 28th Prague regiment, and military cemetery from the WWII.



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Bardejov

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At present, the rampart is one of the best preserved fortification systems enrolled in the **European Found of Cultural Heritage**. The old town (historical centre) was proclaimed Protected Urban Area as early as 1950s. Bardejov is a town with more than 770 years old history. The town with historical centre created by uniquely preserved urban complex with a structure of highly developed medieval town. The town with world-famous spa, beautiful natural surroundings and undisturbed environment.

Bardejov is situated in the north-eastern Slovakia, it spreads on both sides of the Topľa river in the western part of the Low Beskids and the Ondavská vrchovina highlands. It is located at the crossroads od tourist routes - the West-Eastern one from the Tatras via Stará Ľubovňa in the direction of Svidník and Dukla, crossed from the south by route from Hungary through Košice and Prešov until the border with Poland. The Bardejov district has 60km long common border with Poland.



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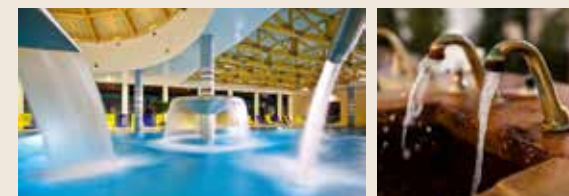
Hotel Dukla je výnimočný hotel, ktorý spája historickú eleganciu s moderným komfortom a jedinečnou atmosférou Bardejovských Kúpeľov.



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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.

UNESCO
World Heritage Site



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).

for 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).



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Explore the Historic Heart of Humenné and the Shop from an Oscar-Winning Film

Humenné, a town in eastern Slovakia, offers more than just scenic views – it hides rare sights, fascinating history, and a touch of culture you might not expect.

The town's main landmark is the Roman Catholic Church of All Saints, the oldest Franciscan church in the Prešov region. Its roots go back to the 14th century, and what makes it truly unique is the internation-

al collaboration of the artists from diverse countries, such as Josef Rifesser, the Austrian sculptor, who crafted the main altar and Mikuláš Klimčák, the Slovak iconographer, who created beautiful stained-glass windows with apostles in Roman Catholic Church. Mikuláš Klimčák (1921–2016), born in Humenné, was a Slovak painter, iconographer, and monumental artist. He graduated



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from prestigious art schools in Bratislava and Prague. He has created beautiful paintings of the Stations of the Cross in front of the Greek Catholic Church in Humenné.

Several well-known Slovak personalities hail from Humenné, including composer Peter Breiner, the fashion designer Lýdia Eckhardt, world-renowned photographer Yuri Dojc, academin sculptor Jaroslav Drotár and musicians siblings Lubica and Marián Čekovský.

A walk down Lipová Street will take you to a Greek Catholic church, decorated with Klimčák's modern frescoes. Nearby, on the outer wall of House of Culture you'll find a memorial plaque dedicated to Ladislav Grosman, the author of the novella *The Shop* on Main Street, which inspired to create the only Slovak film which has been awarded an Oscar Prize. The real shop of Mrs. Lautmannová stood right there – next to the general post office in Humenné.

For the lovers of history and nature, the surrounding area features the ruins of Jasenov and Brekov castles.

Humenné – a small town with a big story.

Come and discover it!

Author: Daniela Capcarová ©



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HOTEL ALIBABA HUMENNÉ

Hotel Alibaba is a modern 3-star hotel located in the heart of Humenné, ideal for both business travelers and families.

Its excellent location in the heart of the Upper Zemplín region makes it the perfect base for exploring the surrounding natural beauty. Due to its proximity to the city sports hall, ice rink, swimming pool, tennis courts, and football stadium, the hotel is also an excellent choice for sports clubs and individuals.

Our hotel restaurant offers a wide variety of dishes, the lounge bar with the scent of shisha creates a pleasant atmosphere, and the lobby bar is the perfect place for a morning coffee or business

meeting. We also offer modern conference rooms equipped with the latest technology, spacious parking, and excellent catering services.

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Haravara: Keď sa obyčajný výlet zmení na dobrodružstvo



Poznáte ten pocit, keď plánujete víkendový výlet a zaznie otázka: „Kam pôjdeme tentoraz?“ Niekedy pritom tie najväčšie dobrodružstvá neležia stovky kilometrov od nás, ale doslova za rohom. Stačí ich len objaviť.

Práve na tom stojí Haravara – nová interaktívna pátračka, ktorá premieňa cestovanie, objavovanie a spoznávanie regiónu na zábavnú hru plnú pokladov, výziev a zážitkov. Nie je to však len ďalšia aplikácia v mobile. Je to pozvánka stať sa pátračom.

Pátračom, ktorý vyráža za novými miestami, zbiera pečiatky, získava Ducháty a postupne objavuje, koľko zaujímavých lokalít sa skrýva v kraji – často bližšie, než by čakal.

Myšlienka Haravary je jednoduchá. Vyberiete si lokalitu, pridete na miesto a začekujete sa v aplikácii. Pri nie-

ktorých miestach môže byť súčasťou hry aj naskenovanie QR kódu, no všetko potrebné aplikácia vždy vysvetlí priamo na mieste. Nejde o zložité pravidlá ani komplikované úlohy. Dôležité je jediné – vyraziť von a objavovať.

A práve v tom spočíva čaro celej hry. Miesta, okolo ktorých človek možno roky prechádzal bez povšimnutia, sa zrazu menia na ciele výprav. Menej známe zákutia dostávajú nový význam a obyčajný výlet získava nový rozmer.

Každá navštívená lokalita prináša odmenu. Pátrači získavajú pečiatky, ktoré im pomáhajú postupovať cez jednotlivé úrovne. S každou ďalšou úrovňou sa približujú k novým odmenám, pokladom a bonusom. Čím viac miest objaví, tým ďalej sa dostanú.

Popri pečiatkach zbierajú hráči aj Ducháty – špeciálnu menu pátračov. Každá lokalita má svoju hodnotu a niektoré miesta prinesú viac Duchátov než iné. Tie následne rozhodujú o pozícii v rebríčku pátračov, ktorý počas sezóny ukazuje, komu sa darí objavovať najviac. Rebríček však nie je iba o súťažení. Je predovšetkým motiváciou vyraziť na ďalší výlet, objaviť nové miesto a nazbierať ďalšie zážitky.



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Veľkou výhodou Haravary je, že hrať sa oplatí každému. Nezáleží na tom, či sa do pátrania pustíte od prvého dňa alebo sa pridáte neskôr. Okrem postupu cez úrovne a zbierania Duchátov sa hráči počas sezóny zapájajú aj do žrebovaní o hodnotné ceny. Šancu tak má každý pátrač.

To najdôležitejšie na Haravare však nie sú pečiatky, rebríčky ani odmeny.

Je to dôvod vyraziť z domu.

Objaviť miesto, ktoré ste doteraz nepoznali. Naplánovať rodinný výlet. Ukázať deťom nové zákutia regiónu. Stráviť spoločný čas inak než pred obrazovkou.

Haravara vznikla preto, aby motivovala ľudí objavovať kraj hrovou formou a ukázala, že dobrodružstvo nemusí byť ďaleko. Niekedy stačí len otvoriť aplikáciu, vyraziť na cestu a zistiť, že poklad bol celý čas bližšie, než sme si mysleli.

Pretože Haravara nie je len hra. Je to dobrodružstvo, ktoré začína prvým krokom.

Košice Región Turizmus

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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 con-

tinued 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.



Association of mountain leaders

www.tatraguide.sk
+421 905 428 170



POLIANKOVO

A Digital Oasis in the High Tatras

If you are planning a trip to the High Tatras, make sure to include Poliankovo in Tatranská Polianka on your itinerary. This unique digital gallery and café is a true “balm for the soul,” where cutting-edge technology meets mountain poetry. Using augmented reality and large-scale projections, it offers a fascinating escape for families and art lovers alike.



Don't Miss: The Tatra Joker Cards

The current highlight is a captivating exhibition by **Katka Cermanová**. Her “Tatra Joker Cards” series brings legendary personalities of the High Tatras to life through delicate, playful illustrations. These “Tatra Queens and Kings” and mountain icons represent the history and spirit of the region in a modern, interactive way.

Whether you are seeking a break from hiking or a dose of inspiration, Poliankovo blends folklore with digital art for an unforgettable experience in the heart of the mountains.



LOCATION: Tatranská Polianka (near Starý Smokovec)
(1:15 drive from Košice)

WEB: www.poliankovo.sk
Open: Daily 09:00 – 18:00





FASCINATION AND MAGIC OF ALPINE CHALET

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 minimuseum 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 Velká 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

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.

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 ricochet 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 Velká Lomnica. Here you can experience unforgettable moments with family or friends and play the driving range, chipping and putting green. 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.



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