



# Treasures of **EGER REGION**

- 05 Treasures of Eger region
- 06 5+1 unmissable experiences
- 08 Slowing down and speeding up in mountains and valleys
- 09 Green experiences with blue markers
- 10 Szalajka Valley: adventures in a fairy tale
- 11 Ancient caves and fresh fish in Miskolc-Lillafüred
- 12 Extreme adventures in the Bükk and Mátra Mountains
- 14 Refreshing experiences for body and soul
- 16 Quaint strolls in Eger, the city of the brave
- 18 World-famous villages where time stands still
- 19 City sightseeing and festival experiences in Miskolc
- 20 Characteristic wines from a distinctive landscape
- 22 Traditional flavours served up in classic and modern styles
- 23 Sights around the Mátra and Bükk Mountains
- 24 Discover the area around Tokaj!

**SZÉCHENYI** 



European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund



**INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE**



**EGER**

**BRATISLAVA**  
370 km | 3 h 30m

**VIENNA**  
400 km | 4 h

**BELGRADE**  
549 km | 6 h 40 m

**LJUBLJANA**  
630 km | 6 h

**BERLIN**  
0 km | 10 h 30 m

**BUDAPEST**  
138 km | 1 h 40 m

**SOPRON**  
377 km | 4 h

**ZAGREB**  
500 km | 5 h

**WARSAW**  
625 km | 8 h 40m

**PRAGUE**  
690 km | 7 h 10 m



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# TREASURES OF EGER REGION

A place where, even after a week of intense exploration, visitors still feel they need to come back to discover what they missed out on. After conquering the peaks of verdant castle ruins in the Mátra, you should return in the winter to the almost 2-km-long piste at Kékestető in your ski boots.

Go for horse-drawn sleigh rides through the snow-capped forest, while in the autumn you can drive around holding the handlebars of a giant scooter.

Sip some Egri Csillag wine on the terrace of a trendy wine bar on a summer evening and sample some Egri Bikavér in the depths of a warm, heated cellar carved into the hillside in the winter.

Explore the forest in Mátrafüred on a Segway, while even kids can ride an electric jet ski in the Sástó adventure park, while you enjoy the wonderful panorama views of the lake and Gyöngyös from the chairlift.

The beauty of Lillafüred and the Szalajka Valley, the rich history of the Eger Castle and the Medieval Pageant at the Diósgyőr Castle each warrant a separate afternoon.

The Easter Palóc customs of Hollókő are deservedly famous, yet the colourful, floral embroidery of Mezőkövesd is just as well-known.

In Eger, you can enjoy the wonderful thermal water under the golden dome of a 400-year-old Turkish bath, while if you choose to visit Miskolctapolca you can experience what it's like to bathe in a cave.

Our publication compiles all the key sights and services in the region. We hope it will help you decide when to visit and what to include on your bucket list.

Get ready - the rich selection of experiences that the Mátra and Bükk have on offer all year round will be the source of pleasant dilemmas!



# 5+1 UNMISSABLE EXPERIENCES



## CONQUER THE MOST MAJESTIC PEAKS ON THE BLUE HIKING TRAIL!

Take a deep breath at the country's highest peak on Kékestető, then continue your journey through the romantic landscapes of the Mátra and Bükk Mountains, where you take in scenic views of the valleys from lookouts and romantic castle ruins.

## IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE BEAUTY OF NATURE IN EGRSZALÓK!

After a pleasant warm soak in the spa's 24 pools, admire the snow-white salt hill, unique in Europe, which was formed by the 65-68°C thermal water emerging from the depths of the earth.

## LOOK FOR THE TRACES OF TURKISH CULTURE IN EGER!

Take in the view of the historic streets from the minaret's round terrace, immerse yourself in the history of the castle with its varied exhibits and guided tours of the dungeons, and finally indulge in a hammam massage with traditional perfumes at the 400-year-old Turkish Bath.



## PUT YOUR COURAGE TO THE TEST 30 METRES ABOVE A QUARRY!

Adrenaline junkies will enjoy the gigantic adventure park on the site of the Sástó Quarry between Mátraháza and Mátrafüred. The site features a 30-metre-high, 183-metre-long suspension bridge spanning the deep hollow and an alpine slide.

## INDULGE IN ICONIC EGRI BIKAVÉR AND EGRI CSILLAG WINES

If you'd like to find out more about the region's iconic wines, you can experience their rich flavours in a modern environment, at one of Eger's wine bars. Alternatively, you can also sample them at the various vineyards, for example at the excellent wineries in Noszvaj or Egerszalók.

## LIVEN UP YOUR TRIP BY DISCOVERING WORLD-FAMOUS FOLK TRADITIONS!

Discover world-heritage culture at the Matyó Museum in Mezőkövesd, where you can dress up in multi-coloured, floral patterned folk costumes for a photo. Then head over to the untouched Palóc village of Hollókő and discover its farmhouses with carved wooden porches as well as its charming customs and characteristic dishes.



1,014

metre-high mountain



132 km

long hiking trail section



6

waterfalls



4

light railways



19

ski pistes



3

wine districts



22,000

animal species



50

metre-high giant beech trees



unmissable experiences

365 days  
a year



# Slowing down and speeding up in mountains and valleys

The Mátra and Bükk Mountains are a magnificent landscape, yet you are free to discover them at your own pace.

If you are in search of peace and quiet, follow the route of the National Blue Hiking Trail and discover castle ruins and viewpoints on mountaintops, where the silence is only disturbed by the sound of twigs snapping under your feet or the sound of fresh snow crunching under your boots in the winter. Alternatively, seek out refreshment in the spring in the depths of the gorgeous Szalajka Valley with its caves, waterfalls and rest areas with trout snack bars. If you have done enough walking, you can board one of the light forest railways, a horse-drawn carriage in Szilvásvárad or the chairlift in Lillafüred.

Visitors in search of excitement can try the free-fall on a giant swing in Sástó; race through the forests from Mátrafüred on a special tricycle or pull on their ski boots on Kékestető to glide down the longest piste in Hungary.

The Bükk National Park gives you the chance to put both your physical and mental fitness to the test with an extreme cave tour, for example, in the Bolházi water sink cave, where you can wrestle your way through narrow passages, or crawl along the ground and climb ladders.

## MAMMOTH SKELETON IN THE CASTLE

When you are in Gyöngyös, don't settle for only visiting the Baroque churches, but make sure you visit the Mátra Museum as well: the Orczy Castle features an exhibition of local and hunting history as well as an interactive paleontological and mineralogical hall. It's also worth exploring the three-storey pavilion with its palm house and aquarium and going for a stroll in the two-hectare grounds.

## GREEN EXPERIENCES WITH BLUE MARKERS

The Bükk and Mátra sections of the 1,168-km-long National Blue Hiking Trail winding through Northern Hungary often prompt hikers to reach for their mobiles to capture the views from the 45-metre-high terrace of the Kékestető TV tower. This is the highest point in the country, where you can see as far as the Tatras. There is also a church to visit near the renovated lookout tower in Galyatető.

In fact, the mountainous countryside crisscrossed with valleys also features countless lookout towers and viewpoints, so you can enjoy the scenic views from castle ruins and castles dating back over 1,000 years.

Not only will hikers find worthwhile photo subjects on the mountain peaks, as you can also snap a picture of the beauty of a small lake surrounded by low hillocks at the Lázberc Reservoir, the "lunar" landscape of the Bélkő Hill quarry and the unusually shaped lava pillow at Szarvaskő.

## THE REGION'S MOST BEAUTIFUL VIEWS

1,014 m	TV Tower Lookout, Kékestető
964 m	Galyatető
950 m	Tar Stone
944 m	Piszkéstető Observatory
899 m	Sas Stone
815 m	Bél Stone
708 m	Világos Hill
625 m	Millennium Lookout
370 m	Kozmáry Lookout
350 m	Sástó Lookout
234 m	Avas Lookout

## TAKE A SPIRITUAL DETOUR AT THE FOOT OF THE MOUNTAIN!

Discover a truly unique site in picturesque surroundings at the foot of the 815-metre-high Bél Stone - the only intact medieval Cistercian abbey church in Hungary, the monastery of Bélapátfalva, built in 1232.



## Szalajka Valley: adventures in a fairy tale

Imagine a winding stream, running along an alder-lined riverbed next to a light forest railway, a riding school, a game park, a lake full of trout, an open-air museum, a cascading waterfall and a spring emerging from a cave that is worthy of being featured on a postcard. Such a place truly exists: it is called the Szalajka Valley and is the perfect destination for a family outing.

### CARRIAGE RIDES WITH FAMOUS HORSES

The famous Lippizaner stud was whisked away from Napoleon's armies and taken to Mezőhegyes and now resides in Szilvásvár, which you can visit even after a pleasant carriage ride. If you can't get enough of horses or history, you can even examine an entire carriage and equestrian history exhibition!

## FOLLOW THE SOUND OF THE RUNNING WATER TO THE BEAUTIFUL WATERFALLS!

### FÁTYOL WATERFALL

One of the most famous waterfalls in Hungary is located in the Szalajka Valley. What makes it particularly unique is the way the water trickles down wide limestone tuff steps from a height of 17 metres.

### ILONA VALLEY WATERFALL

Hungary's highest natural waterfall is the ideal destination for a gentle forest walk from Parádfürdő, a part of the Mátra Mountains dotted with meadows, rest stops and chestnut trees.

### LILLAFÜRED WATERFALL

In the summer, you can freshen up under the spray of water falling from a height of 20 metres, while in the winter, with a bit of luck, you can admire huge icicle formations in the hanging garden of the Palace Hotel.

Lillafüred

## Ancient caves and fresh fish in Miskolc-Lillafüred

Just as the Szalajka Valley, Lillafüred and its surroundings are a fabulous area to discover. Enjoy a pleasant stroll through the hanging gardens under the Palace Hotel before taking a selfie with the 20-metre waterfall and discovering some magnificent underground attractions: the limestone formations of the Anna Cave, the stalactites of St Stephen's Cave and the ancient monuments of Szeleta Cave. After admiring the gigantic, over 200-year-old Új-massa furnace and pleasantly tiring of boating on the tree-lined Lake Hámori, a few snacks prepared from freshly caught and prepared fish at the trout hatchery will go down even better.

### THE BÜKK MOUNTAIN'S FOLIAGE FROM THE AIR

Take the Lillafüred cable car racing high above the ground, to the sound of birdsong. The magnificent views guarantee that the 16-18-minute trip to the 606-metre-high Jávorhegy simply flies by.

### CAVE DWELLINGS IN THE BÜKK MOUNTAINS

In the 13th century, dwellings were hewn into the caves of the region's clay-like marl loess ridges in Egerszalók, Cserépváralja and Szomolya. At first, these were related to mining, yet by modern times, they had become the makeshift homes of the poor.

## DISCOVER THE DEPTHS OF THE FORESTS BY LIGHT RAILWAY!

### 1. FELSŐTÁRKÁNY STATE FOREST RAILWAY

In spring, when the snow is melting, you can see a karst spring bursting high into the air, while you'll also see mouflon and deer as you pass by the game park.

### 2. LILLAFÜRED STATE FOREST RAILWAY

The adventurous route winds through the mountains and along the lake shores as well as across valley bridges and through tunnels.

### 3. MÁTRA RAILWAY

You can reach the Kozmáry Lookout by light railway, with a boating lake, game preserve and geyser cone along its route.

### 4. SZILVÁSVÁRAD STATE FOREST RAILWAY

Explore the fabulous Szalajka Valley from the horse race course to the waterfall by the steepest light railway in Hungary.





# Extreme adventures in the Bükk and Mátra Mountains

Services that make the most of steep hillsides, bumpy forest roads, zigzagging caves and spacious areas offer year-round unforgettable diversions, from the modest to the most extreme, for all generations.

## A 145,000-SQUARE METRE TREASURE TROVE OF EXPERIENCES

All members of the family are guaranteed not to leave this adventure park created on the site of the Sástó Quarry without some exciting memories.

Practice your aim with a bow and arrow or a paintball gun, befriend placid small animals or real tanks, bounce along on a quad or electric jet ski, or put your courage to the test 30 metres above the quarry floor by traversing a suspension bridge or sliding along a zip wire.

## SPEEDING THROUGH THE FOREST

Hold on tight to the handlebars and set off on two or three giant wheels along the 700-metre descent from Mátrafüred via a 7-km-long forest track. If you are a fan of off-road biking, then the 1.5-2 hours spent on the most beautiful downhill track in the country will probably be the highlight of your trip to the Mátra. If four wheels is more to your taste, then try your hand at driving an electric quad or SUV across this terrain.

## FUN ON THE SLOPES IN BOTH WINTER AND SUMMER

Mátraszentistván's complex of ten ski slopes entices beginners with gentle slopes and more advanced skiers with exciting bends, while keeping the kids entertained with snow slides. What's more, in the summer, you can even slide down the 60-metre-long summer tubing track. Still, the true "pinnacle" is Kékestető's southern ski slope, where the entire family can glide down the 1.8 km descent to enjoy a hot tea or mulled wine 230 metres below.



## SPECTACULAR UNDERGROUND OBSTACLE COURSES

Most of the caves in the Bükk and Mátra Mountains can be explored with a gentle walk or guided tours, but if you are looking for something more challenging, you will not be disappointed. You can explore the Létrás Water Cave, the Bolhás Water Sink Cave and the Venus Cave, climbing ladders in the dark, often through vertical shafts and crawling through long passages. You'll need a helmet and headlamp for this!



## ADRENALINE TOP LIST

- 20 metres of freefall and a dizzying giant swing over a deep hollow
- 2.5-hour cave tour in vertical shafts, at 9-10 degrees Celsius, in the dark
- forest "rollercoaster ride" with a rudderless, rugged, three-wheeled e-coaster
- paintball battle, manoeuvring in mini tanks
- night-time snowboarding on an illuminated piste
- sleigh ride through the snowy countryside or dog sledding in good weather



# Refreshing experiences for body and soul

If you're seeking recovery or simply wish to relax or have fun, the answer is water. Fill your lungs with pristine air in the depths of a beautiful cave while soaking in 30 degrees Celsius thermal water, or take a deep breath and slide down a kamikaze slide in a modern aquapark!

Egerszalók

## MISKOLCTAPOLCA CAVE BATH, MISKOLC

This hundreds of thousands of years old natural cave system that has now been transformed into a spa that is one of a kind in Europe. Enjoy a massage from running water and the healing atmosphere; listen to the mysterious echo in the Star Chamber.



## THE EGER TURKISH BATH

Its quaintest feature is the large mirror pool, with a huge dome made of 200,000 gold mosaics shining above it and radon thermal water bubbling through the gaps between the stone slabs underneath it. When absorbed through the skin and by the lungs, it has an anti-inflammatory and general therapeutic effect.

## MODERN SPA COMPLEXES

In Egerszalók, families can recuperate, bask in bubbles and splash about in 24 outdoor and indoor pools while admiring the views of the monumental, terraced, steaming salt hill next to the spa. Another memorable place is the Demjén spa, where kids can enjoy rubber-ring rafting and the swimming pool, while the adults can relax in the subtle blue light of the 760-metre cave bath.



## TAKE A DIP AND THEN TAKE A SIP!

If you wish to recuperate and bathe in the waters, visit the spas in Bogács and Mezőkövesd. The latter is famed for its 60 degree Celsius water, which has the highest sulphur content of any medicinal water in Hungary. A glass of some of the region's medicinal waters, for example, those of Bükk-szék, are also good for stomach ailments.

## DID YOU KNOW?

About the famous healing climate of the Mátra and Bükk Mountains. Unwind by hiking in the crisp air of Lillafüred and the Szalajka Valley, while in Mátraderecske or Parádfürdő, you can try out the 'dry bath' - carbon dioxide vapours, or mofetta for short, which rise to the surface from 1,000 metres below the surface and whose healing effect is absorbed through the skin. Sample the healing gift of these dry mofettas, Parádi Csevice, which is simply sulphuric, carbonated sour water.



# Quaint strolls in Eger, the city of the brave

Although the city was made famous by its heroic defenders, Eger is much more than just a memorial to this famous battle. It is a Baroque jewel filled with enticing, winding streets, excellent restaurants and a lively festival scene.

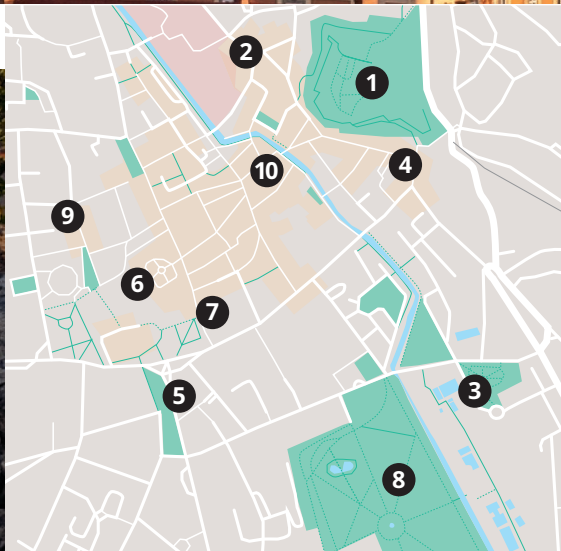
Enjoy the heavenly acoustics of an organ concert within the walls of Hungary's second largest church, admire the ceiling fresco of the

Archdiocesan Library depicting the Council of Trent, visit the noble halls of the archbishop's palace complex and walk along the chilly corridors of the underground city, the archbishop's cellar system.

Visit the city's inviting spacious squares in the bright sunshine, enjoy their statues and café terraces or have a picnic in the picturesque Archbishop's Garden.

## SIGHTS IN EGER

1. Eger Castle
2. Minaret
3. Turkish Bath
4. Valide Sultana Bath
5. Basilica of Eger
6. Archbishop's Palace Complex
7. Archdiocesan Library
8. Archbishop's Garden
9. Boating under the city
10. Dobó tér (Dobó Square)



## BATTLES AND EVERYDAY LIFE IN THE TURKISH ERA

The castle, still in excellent condition, offers thousands of experiences. Take a selfie with István Dobó and be the "guest" of the Sultan in the panopticon; shudder at grisly torture methods in the castle prison and set off on 3D time travel in the castle cinema.

You are also sure to spot the only intact minaret in Eger from the castle. If you have enough strength left, it's worth climbing the 97 steps for the view.

Study the ruins of the "Sultan's Mother" steam bath, where boys' mothers appraised the young girls, and then immerse yourself in the conquerors' culture in the 400-year-old Turkish Bath.

## THE REGION'S MOST BEAUTIFUL FORTRESSES

371 m

DIÓSGYŐR CASTLE

The site features the largest knight's hall in Central Europe

335 m

HOLLÓKŐ CASTLE

Its armoury features a display of 500 years of combat equipment, while its panopticon presents an array of 13th century clothing

296 m

SIROK CASTLE

You can learn more about its rich thousand-year history in the museum in the lower castle

190 m

KISNÁNA CASTLE

The Gothic church tower and the wine collection in the castle cellar are truly unique



## World-famous villages where time stands still

A colourful kaleidoscope of village life awaits you in Hollókő, which is featured on the UNESCO World Heritage List as the custodian of Palóc traditions, just like the Matyó embroidery that continues to inspire fashion designers, flourishing in Mezőkövesd.



### MEZŐKÖVESD

The Matyós are famous for their brightly-coloured embroidery rich in flowers, so the Matyó museum is bound to dazzle you with ornate tablecloths, aprons and sheets.

Put on colourful Matyó costumes for a picture and then take a look behind the scenes of 19th-century rural life in a beautifully restored listed building and the Agricultural Machinery Museum!

### HOLLÓKŐ

All the charm of the untouched countryside is brought to life in this village with only one road leading to it. Stroll past the shingle-roofed church among the farmhouses with their decorated porches and discover the tricks of ancient trades in the artisanal workshops.

You simply must see and feel what Easter is like in Hollókő! At this time, homemade strudel is served next to the pálinka to the sound of folk music being played on the street and girls in elaborate costumes running away from those trying to 'douse' them in water.



## City sight-seeing and festival experiences in Miskolc

### EVENTS MAKING SOME NOISE IN THE AREA

#### CineFest International Film Festival

The public, those in the industry and of course, the international jury cherry-pick the best films of the year at Hungary's leading film festival, many of which will be screened here for the first time in the country.

#### Bartók Plus Opera Festival

This series of events, which features world-renowned Hungarian artists, international opera stars and companies draws on more than just the works of Béla Bartók. "Plus" refers to the traditionally diverse repertoire of the Miskolc Festival, whose message is "Opera is for everyone!"

#### Medieval Festivities at Diósgyőr Castle

On the last weekend of July, nearly 200 reenactors ensure that the audience feel as if they're in the middle of a film about knights. Lances clang against armour in the knights' jousting field, professional archers' arrows and falconers' tame "disciples" zigzag across the sky, fair-ground performers keep everyone entertained and court orchestras set the mood for medieval dance performances.





# Characteristic wines from a distinctive landscape

What is truly unique about the 13,000-hectare Upper Hungary wine region is that the vines are mainly planted on 200-300-metre-high plateaus and mountain slopes, which also influences the character of the wines.

The Mátra wine district's aromatic wines with beautiful acidity offer complexity, elegance and playfulness, while the Bükk wine district offers vibrant white and red wines made in a modern style, which you can sample in the 300-400-year-old cellars of the Avas Hill in Miskolc.

The most important of these three is the Eger wine district, which boasts a thousand-year history. Its emblematic wines include the Egri Bikavér and its counterpart, Egri Csillag, a white blend of Carpathian Basin varieties. You can taste their unique flavours at outstanding wineries and wine bars as you stroll through the streets of Eger, while connoisseurs should definitely stop by Noszvaj, Egerszalók, Szomolya, Ostoros and Nagy-Eged Hill, where they can taste the local wines in cellars carved into the hillsides.

Eger wine region

## THE MOST FAMOUS WINES OF THE THREE WINE DISTRICTS

### 1. EGRI BIKAVÉR

Jenő Grőber was the first to make one of Hungary's most famous wines, Egri Bikavér - a Kékfrankos - based blend - in 1912. The rules state that it must be a blend of at least three varieties of black grapes and aged in oak barrels for six months. You can also choose the Superior and Grand Superior categories of Bikavér, with the best-known wines coming from the highest vineyards in Hungary on Nagy-Eged Hill.

### 2. EGRI CSILLAG

This accompaniment to Egri Bikavér was the idea of 60 local winemakers and is a blend of white Carpathian Basin varieties. Taste the fresh vintage at the Egri Csillag Festival and you'll instantly understand why it became so popular in record time!

### 3. MÁTRAI OLASZRIZLING

This richly aromatic wine with aromas reminiscent of reseda and flavours of bitter almond has now been reborn and has begun to show its most attractive side over the last few decades.

### 4. KÉKFRANKOS

This is the most significant and widely-planted black variety in both the region and the country. It yields surprisingly complex, fine wines ranging from refreshing rosé to full-bodied, vineyard-selected red wines.

### 5. IRSAI OLIVÉR

The Mátra wine region produces the greatest quantities of this grape variety. This is the best place to taste this fresh, fruity, greenish-yellow wine with flavours of Muscat and soft acidity.



## Traditional flavours served up in classic and modern styles



### TIP: WHITE ON WHITE

When working up an appetite in the fresh air of Szalajka Valley, you should try the crisply fried white-fleshed trout with potatoes and cucumber salad, and, of course, a glass of crisp Egri Csillag!



If you want to get acquainted with the local cuisine, as well as the deservedly famous rural hospitality, you should stop by a csárda, a Hungarian-style inn with carved chairs and bright tablecloths, and enjoy some sztrapacska, the local take on potato gnocchi. Thanks to Hungary's gastronomic revolution, you could also book a table in one of the modern upmarket restaurants, where you can discover, for example, how well duck breast goes with fruit pickled in wine vinegar.

If you are tempted by the simplicity of the richly-spiced Palóc dishes, it would also be a shame to miss out on this cuisine. This is characterised by a wide repertoire of thick soups - cabbage and mushroom soup is a real specialty as is the versatile use of potatoes. This is also the home of the famous Palóc goulash made with green beans as well as the flatbread, also known as potato lángos, and the crisp, fried tócsni, a variety of rösti.

If you're looking for something sweet, you should definitely try molnárkalács, a thin waffle, or pampuska, a type of doughnut which is typically eaten just before Lent - the ones with jam are the best.

## Sights around the Mátra and Bükk Mountains

### SPIRITUAL REPLENISHMENT AT THE HOLY WELL

Legend has it that water burst from under the ground here after St Ladislaus rode past by horse and restored the voice of a mute boy. A pilgrimage complex has now been built around the spring at this religious site in Mátra-verebély. After visiting the magnificently decorated Baroque church and churchyard, sit down on one of the pews of the enormous open-air mass space to contemplate the sacred images behind the altar.

### THE AGGTELEK KARST AND SLOVAK KARST CAVES

This cross-border World Heritage karst area, which features over a thousand different caves, preserves the history of tens of millions of years. Embark on an tour to discover the Baradla-Domica cave system. It conceals the longest active stream in the world's temperate zone and Hungary's most beautiful stalactites.

### UNIQUE FOSSILS IN IPOLYTARNÓC

Thanks to a volcanic eruption 17 million years ago, you can see excellently preserved shark teeth, leaf prints and primate footsteps at the Bükk National Park.

### SIGHTSEEING IN KOŠICE

When visiting the former cultural centre of the Highlands, be sure to climb the tower of the most beautiful Gothic cathedral in the Carpathian Basin. You can see the entire city from the top of Košice's cathedral. Cultural enthusiasts will be impressed by the State Theatre's gilded auditorium, decorated with scenes from Shakespeare's plays, while nature-lovers will enjoy the 1,742 square metre greenhouse in the Botanical Gardens.





# Discover the area around Tokaj!

## IN PURSUIT OF WINE AT SUNSET

If you'd like to discover the inimitable atmosphere of the Tokaj wine region, then don't miss one of the vineyard tours now offered by many wineries. Tokaj-Hegyalja is situated across hundreds of hills of volcanic origin, therefore the picturesque views are guaranteed. En route, taste the world-renowned Tokaji Aszú.

## RACING THROUGH THE HILLS

Speed down a 1,036-metre-long zip line between Szár Hill and Magas Hill at 80 km/h. This is unique in Hungary, as the only similar experience in Europe is found in the Alps. Try out various adventure pistes and climbing walks at the Zemplén Adventure Park in Sátoraljaújhely, race along the country's longest and fastest bobsled run, and glide down three ski pistes, one of which you can even use when there is no snow on the ground.

## TAKE SELFIES WITH AN ALMOST ONE THOUSAND YEAR-OLD BACKDROP

Boldogkő Castle's elongated, steep rocky ridge is a wonderful place to take some fun selfies. The fortress, which has an almost thousand year-old history, has become an integral part of Hungarian history and a heart-warming ancient legend over the centuries. Legend has it that King Béla IV commissioned a tradesman who lived from drying fruit to build the castle. He did this out of gratitude after the man hid him from the Tartars. The craftsman's daughters also helped with the work, therefore the king named the castle Boldogkő, or "Blessed Stone", after them, as the "seven little fairies" had the happiest times here.

## BIKERIDE TO THE MIDDLE AGES

Cycling along the Route of the Medieval Churches in the Upper Tisza region is an inimitable experience, with unique, little churches and beautifully preserved medieval frescoes in sites such as Csaroda, Lónya and Ófehértó.

## CANOE-RIDES IN BIRDSONG

Everyone should try paddling along the most popular water tour route in the Upper Tisza at least once. It's the perfect place for beginners to master the paddling technique, while the Tisza's countless bends and sandbars make the hours spent here a true adventure.

