



## Pest County – County Hall

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### Pest County – County Hall

Although it is not located in the administrative territory of Pest County but instead in Budapest, the neoclassical County Hall—built in several parts between 1804 and 1841—is one of the county’s outstanding monuments. The building, which still serves the purposes of the county assembly and office, was designed by János Hild, József Hofrichter, and Mátyás Zitterbarth Jr. In its formal courtyard stood an over 100-year-old Canadian walnut tree; opposite to it is the Assembly Room, which in its original version looked as it does today; only the chandeliers were destroyed in World War II. and have been replaced by chandeliers from the old Parliament Hall in the castle. On the walls of the room are pictures of Count István Széchenyi (who was the County Governor of Pest County in 1831), Mihály Táncsics, Ferenc Rákóczi II, Lajos Kossuth (diet member for Pest county in 1847–48), György Dózsa and András Fáy (the founder of the first Pesti Savings Bank). The County Assembly still meets in this room. In the central courtyard of the County Hall, there used to be a gallows where death sentences were executed. For a time, the surrounding area was used as a prison and archives. Also, part of the building is the former prison chapel, which now has exclusive furnishings and stained-glass windows. Even today, the

County Hall still evokes the atmosphere of the reform era; it is no coincidence that scenes from many famous Hungarian films have been shot within its walls. For example, scenes from *The Case of the Nosty Boy's Affair with Mari Tóth*, *Men and Banners*, *The Bridgeman*, and *Sunshine* are all set here.



### **Pest County Heritage Register**

We invite you on an imaginary journey to Pest County. During our travel, we will visit many landscapes, towns, and villages—from the peaks of the Börzsöny to the plains of the Great Plain, from the Zsámbék basin to the Gödöllő hills, from the Danube Bend to the Tápió riverside. We can see well- and lesser-known sights, meet historical figures and places, and not least of all, we can enrich our knowledge and understanding with a wealth of interesting facts. Our journey through Pest County will be rich in values—during this virtual tour, we will visit the elements of our cultural heritage listed in the County Heritage Register.

The County Heritage Register has been collecting outstanding intangible, tangible, natural, and community values since 2013. Their uniqueness and role in the Hungarian national culture and



the life of Pest County justify that they should become known and better known not only to professional circles but also to the public. This exhibition attempts to achieve this. The values presented here form a kind of cross-section; during the selection process, we have endeavoured to ensure that the values included in the exhibition cover the entire area of Pest County and represent the aforementioned landscape, historical, and cultural diversity of the county. The visitor will encounter values that are nationally known: the Royal Castle in Gödöllő or the medieval church in Zsámbék—which is impressive in its size—are no doubt visited by many people, also no need to introduce the Vecsés sauerkraut. However, it is far from certain that the Blaskovich Museum in Tepiósztele, the oddly shaped Pál Csergezán lookout tower, or the Serbian church in Ráckeve are so widely known. And yet, each has its specificity. Our exhibition's unconcealed intention is to encourage people to visit and get to know our county. We invite you to wander around the county and discover our values!

You can find all heritage values here: <http://www.pestmegye.hu/pest-megye-ertektar>



Máriaosztra –  
Basilica of Our Lady of Hungary

Máriaosztra  
Penitentiary, the  
Former Pauline  
Monastery Complex

Börzsöny Forest Railway

Máriaosztra Prison Cemetery

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### Máriaosztra – Basilica of Our Lady of Hungary

In 1352, King Louis I (the Great) founded a Pauline monastery in the Börzsöny mountain, and the Church of Our Lady of the Hungarians was built at the same time—later, a village was built

around it, which was named Our Mary (Maria Nostra). The building fell victim to the Turkish ravages and was rebuilt in the 18<sup>th</sup> century; the Basilica was taking its present form between 1719 and 1738—preserving the original Gothic sanctuary. It also houses a copy of the miraculous Black Madonna of the Pauline Order (legend has it that the Apostle Luke painted it, although historians deny this). It is a popular pilgrimage site as part of the Mary's Way. The single-nave, 39 m long, 404 m<sup>2</sup> monumental church—with four chapel naves and a chapel—has been renovated inside and out by the Pauline Order.

### **Márianosztra Penitentiary, the Former Pauline Monastery Complex**

The building of the former Pauline monastery, with a long history, was leased by the government for 40 years from 1858 in the interests of justice and was converted into a penitentiary for women only. After the First World War, political prisoners were added to the prison's general population. In the 1930s, Viktória Földi, the assassin known as 'Pista the Pipe Smoker', was also imprisoned there. After the Rákosi era, the institution mainly housed political prisoners, this time as a men's prison and in the post-1956 reprisals, it "hosted" well-known personalities such as István Bibó, Árpád Göncz, Tibor Déry, and László Mensáros. After the so-called "small amnesty" in 1961, political prisoners were transferred to Budapest, and Márianosztra became once again a prison for ordinary prisoners, along with "deviants" of criminals. In the 1970s, mentally ill prisoners were also housed here. To ease the employment problems, a ball-stitching weaving workshop was set up next to the rope weaving one, and later, a book bindery. Mentally ill prisoners were engaged in stamp sorting and cable disassembly.

In 2012, exhibition halls were opened to the public, presenting the Order of Saint Paul and the history and present of the prison.

### **Mariánostra Prison Cemetery**

According to oral tradition, the prison cemetery was placed on the site of the ancient Pauline monastery cemetery. The nuns buried the inmates and children in unmarked graves, with only a bare mound of earth to indicate that someone was buried there. There is also a marked grave of a Pauline Father, the preservation of which is due to the Sisters. In 2011, the cemetery was almost completely restored and made accessible to visitors. Presumably from the 14<sup>th</sup> century, but certainly from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it functioned as a burial place until 1968 and is a common resting place for guardians and wards, unique in the country.

Márianosztra – Centuries-old  
Linden Avenue on the Calvary  
Hill in Márianosztra



Calvary of Márianosztra



View of the Kopasz Hill in Mariánosztra



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### Márianosztra – Centuries-old Linden Avenue on the Calvary Hill in Márianosztra

On both sides of the road to the Calvary Hill in Márianosztra, more than 250-year-old linden trees greet visitors, locals, pilgrims, and hikers. Their shady canopies shelter weary wanderers. The linden trees were probably planted by Pauline monks around the time of the chapel's consecration (1776) at a distance sufficient to prevent the trees of this wide-spreading species of *Tilia* from impeding each other's growth. During the flowering period (June–July), they are admired for their peculiar fragrance. The flowers are the main herbal remedy: linden tea is excellent for coughs and colds, has an expectorant and diaphoretic effect, is mildly soothing, and is also known to be of its great importance for beekeeping.

### View of the Kopasz Hill in Mariánosztra

The mountains of the southern Börzsöny are strangely conical and immediately attract the eye. Among these volcanic peaks, the Kopasz hill above Márianosztra stands out: the 538 m high peak is truly 'bald', with only a cross on its rocky and grassy summit, built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and restored in 1973. It is not easy to get to the top of Kopasz Hill, as its steep summit requires



several climbs. But those who take the trouble to climb the mountain can enjoy a magnificent view. From the summit, hikers can enjoy a stunning panoramic view, one of the most spectacular in the country, according to domestic tourism magazines. In addition to the Danube Bend, the Visegrád Hills, the Pilis Mountains, the Esztergom Basilica, and the Slovakian regions north of the Danube, you can see the distant Gerecse, the Cserhát, the Gödöllő Hills and even the Mátra range can be seen on clear days. The majestic Kopasz Hill, which stands out like an island from the surrounding mountains, also defines the landscape of Márianosztra.

### Calvary of Mariánostra

From the 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards, monastic orders have been promoting the construction of sacred landscapes on the outskirts of their settlements, evoking the Passion of Christ and the Passion of the Blessed Virgin Mary. As far as we know, the first Pauline Calvary was erected in 1667 by the convent of Sopronbánfalva /Wondorff/, followed by the convent of Máriavölgy and then by the convent of Márianosztra. In 1989, after the return of the Pauline Fathers, the Calvary regained its former splendour.



Kisoroszi – Historic Village Centre

## Island Tip in Kisoroszi



### **Island Tip in Kisoroszi**

One of the most unique and spectacular natural treasures of Pest County is the northern tip of the 31-kilometre-long Szentendre Island at Kisoroszi, an island peak extending into the Danube bend. It is a unique sight, a paradise for beach lovers and water hikers in summer. It is popular with water tourists because it has preserved much of its natural beauty: its sandy and pebbly shore is an excellent place for bathing in the Danube; the part just further inland is covered with wooded groves; and the natural environment is combined with a wonderful panorama, with the Börzsöny mountains on one side of the Danube and the Visegrád Mountains and the Citadel on the other. And from the end of the island peak, you can see almost the entire Danube Bend. There is no summer when the Island Tip of Kisoroszi is not crowded with wild campers, water hikers and beach-goers—but thanks to the long island peak, it is never overcrowded. This significant natural treasure of our county is part of the Danube-Ipoly National Park.

### **Kisoroszi – Historic Village Centre**

It is not an open air museum because it is alive and it is liveable because it is renewedly traditional. Walking around the village, you can feel the naturalness of the care that the natural beauty of the islands tip—which is part of the village—provides. The visitor is immediately attracted by the historic nucleus of Kisoroszi's Old Village (with its old houses, traditional double-window façades, special plasterwork and gables) which is of great value and a typical example of the so-called “comb” settlement structure. The Catholic church, built in 1719, and the Reformed church, built in 1803, are part of the overall appearance of the village, with its beautifully restored and renovated houses. The town is also home to the intellectual heritage of Miklós Mészöly and Alaine Polcz, also included in our heritage register.



Vác –  
Cathedral

Vác –  
Hétkápolna

Vác – Castle

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### Vác – Cathedral

St. Stephen founded the ecclesiastical centre here, and King Géza I had a Gothic cathedral built in Vác, which later served as his burial place. The present Assumption Cathedral, the seat of the Diocese of Vác and the parish church of Vác-Alsóváros was designed by Bishop Károly Eszterházy. The original plan was for an ornate, late Baroque, two-towered church with a colonnade of stone columns, similar to St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, to connect it to the ecclesiastical institutions on the square, the seminary and the bishop's palace, which were also built at this time. The cathedral—which was erected relatively quickly—is perhaps the only example of revolutionary architecture in Hungary that did not find a following. There are five bells in the towers of the cathedral.

### Vác – Hétkápolna

On the southern edge of Vác, on the border of Vác-Alsóváros, close to the Danube bank, stands the Hétkápolna chapel. The history of the shrine and the origins of the town of Vác is shrouded



in legend: the princes Géza and Ladislaus, who were at war with King Solomon, stayed here before the Battle of Mogyoród (1074). Ladislaus, the future holy king, had a vision: an angel appeared and indicated that the right to rule belonged to Géza. After the victorious battle, Géza, by his vow, built a church in honour of the Blessed Virgin, the site of which was marked by a stag with a light on its antlers. This scene was recorded by Mark of Kalt in his *Chronicon Pictum*, hence the medieval name of the shrine, *Maria de Cervo* or the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Deer. The church of St. Mary was built, and a chapel dedicated to St. Peter the Apostle was erected on the place of apparition.

### **Vác – Castle**

The castle of Vác, which played a central role as it situated in a bishopric seat and was also the residence of King Géza, provided protection for the inhabitants of the surrounding settlements during the Tartar invasion. The strategically important castle and the surrounding town were rebuilt in the 15<sup>th</sup> century with great splendour, with Italian masters rebuilding the town in the Renaissance style that spread from the royal court. Today, a small part of the original castle wall can be seen, adorned with a statue of King Géza I, and excavation and reconstruction work has recently begun.



Vác – Triumphal Arch



Vác–Kőszentes Bridge, Bridge over the Gombás Stream



Vác – Calvary



### Vác–Kőszentes Bridge, Bridge over the Gombás Stream

The bridge over the Gombás Stream is a unique historical monument, the only Baroque bridge still existing in Hungary. It is also colloquially known as the Kőszentes Bridge.

It was built between 1753 and 1757 by order of Bishop Michael Althann Károly in honour of St. John Nepomuk, the patron saint of bridges and harbours; the first statue of the bridge depicts him.

### Vác – Calvary

The Calvary of Vác was built in 1726, supposedly on the site of a small fortress. The Calvary, which has become a well-known pilgrimage site, was modelled on the Scala Santa in Rome. It consists of 28 steps and contains all the traditional elements of a Calvary: the Assembly Chapel, the Chapel of the Holy Sepulchre, the Holy Staircase, the Stations, the Calvary scene and the hermitage. The calvaries built later in the area, e.g. in Budapest–Józsefváros, were modelled on the Calvary of Vác.

## Vác – Triumphal Arch

The city is home to Hungary's only triumphal arch- or, as the locals call it, the Stone Gate- built in honour of Maria Theresa in the late Baroque style, designed by Viennese architect Isidore Canevale. Its construction was ordered in 1764 by Antal Migazzi, Bishop of Vác. According to an anecdote, it was built at a fast pace in just two weeks, which is why the Queen did not dare to drive her carriage under it. When she left a few weeks later, seeing it still standing, she calmly passed through the “Stone Gate”. Today, the free-standing structure has been restored and is illuminated with decorative lights, and as it has been standing for a long time, visitors can walk under it.



## Vác – Synagogue

The synagogue was built in 1864 in the romantic style, following the designs of Italian architect Alois Cacciari. It survived the devastation of the Second World War intact, and until 1962, it was a place of worship but thereafter it was used for a time by the city's General Consumer and Sales Cooperative (Áfész) as a warehouse and later became increasingly neglected and in danger



of collapse. In the early 1990s, the Jewish Community of Vác repurchased it from the local municipality and renovated—the fully restored building was inaugurated on 1 June 2008.

### **The Heritage of the Mummies of Vác**

The construction of the Church of the Whites in Vác began in 1699 by the monks of the Dominican Order. The church included two crypts in which they were buried between 1731 and 1838 and was mainly the burial place of wealthy citizens and church dignitaries.

During the restoration of the church in 1994, due to the climatic conditions of the crypt, 265 naturally mummified bodies were found, as well as the remains of 40 other persons, constituting a unique discovery in the world.

### **Vác – Monument Dedicated to Hungarian Defence Forces**

The first monument to the 1848-49 Revolution and War of Independence is the Hungarian Defence Forces Monument in Vác, built after the 1867 Compromise in 1868, based on the plans of master builder Alajos Caciari and drawing teacher Ferenc Krenedits. It was built by the Vác National Defence Forces Association under the leadership of Lieutenant Colonel Lajos Zambelly and Captain Alajos Degré and financed by public donations. Lajos Kossuth himself participated in the donation with 100 Hungarian forints. He sent the amount from Turin, but for “reasons of principle”—as his letter of the time reveals—he did not attend the unveiling ceremony of the monument. A contribution of 4,000 Hungarian forints was collected for the obelisk made of ore and decorated with cannonballs, and the melting of the necessary ore amounted to 3,600 Hungarian forints.



Ráckeve – Old Town Hall



Ráckeve – Serbian  
(Assumption) Church



Ráckeve – Floating Bogs and  
Wildlife in the Danube Branch

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### *Ráckeve – Serbian (Assumption) Church*

One of Ráckeve's most important monuments is the Gothic-Baroque Orthodox church, consecrated in 1487, which stands on the site of a monastery built in the early 12<sup>th</sup> century. The church has been intact since its consecration. During the Turkish conquest, an attempt was made to destroy it: a Janissary stabbed his spear into an icon, but when he left the church, he died instantly. Therefore, the Turks refrained from destroying the church—currently, the miraculous picture is on display in the Orthodox Museum in Szentendre. Later, the church survived the great fires that raged in the city; during World War II, a bomb hit its roof structure but failed to explode, causing only minor damage, and the church was renovated in the 1960s. Thanks to its rich history and favourable location, Ráckeve abounds in attractions and cultural, historical, and natural values. The only Gothic Serbian church in Pest County—and indeed in Hungary—is located here, consecrated in 1487 during the reign of King Matthias. The church was built in the 15<sup>th</sup> century by the Rascian settlers who fled from the Turks.

The medieval building is surrounded by a peaceful churchyard with a baroque bell tower, which stands separately from the church. Every square metre of the church and the chapel in its entrance hall is decorated with Byzantine and Balkan frescoes in Baroque style. Some paintings date back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and others were painted in the 1700s by the master Teodor Grundtovits. The iconostasis is in the Rococo style. On the frescoes, Old Slavonic letters are interspersed with Greek inscriptions, portraits of Greek Orthodox saints are depicted, and biblical scenes are brought to life. The interior of the Orthodox church is unlike anything else, strange, mysterious, and mystical—you can almost feel the atmosphere of the Middle Ages. The Serbian (Assumption) Church in Ráckeve is an outstanding monument of church and cultural history.

### **Ráckeve – Floating Bogs and Wildlife in the Danube Branch**

A floating bog is a special plant community that can be described as a “dry deposit” floating on the surface of living water.

Covering 700 hectares in the areas of Taksony, Szigetszentmiklós, Dunavarsány, Szigetcsép and the surrounding area, the floating bog is the second most extensive “floating dry land” in Europe. In terms of size, it is second only to the floating bog in the Rhône Delta.

It is home to many orchid and peat moss species, and also to rare and protected bird species such as the grey and dwarf egret, the Eurasian bittern, the spotted crane, the little crane, and the ferruginous duck, and fish species such as the weatherfish and the European mud minnow.

### **Ráckeve – Old Town Hall**

This town hall, defining the cityscape with its “Hungarian”, fire-towered, Hungarian Great Plane-style Art Nouveau elements, was built in 1901 on the site of the medieval town hall. Its wrought-iron fire tower draws attention from afar. From here, you can enjoy a magnificent panorama of magnificent nature from Angyali Island to the floating bog and the Kerekzátony, and the historic and new buildings of the town.





Ráckeve – Savoy Castle



Ráckeve – Ship Mill



Ráckeve – Árpád Bridge



### Ráckeve – Savoy Castle

This magnificent castle is the first monument of Baroque architecture in Hungary. It was built by Prince Eugene (Jenő) Savoy, the victor at the Battle of Zenta, and designed by Johann Lucas von Hildebrandt, the most famous architect of Eastern Europe at the time.

The Ráckeve Palace is a building designed as a part of the landscape. The carriage drive under the balustraded balcony looks out over the Danube. From the great hall, the viewer could once see the banks of the Great Danube: Hildebrandt designed the balcony to enjoy the view of the two Danube branches.

The castle had already lost its original function in the 19th century; it was a warehouse, a granary and in the 1960s was in danger of collapsing. The restoration, begun in the 1970s, relied on analogies and remaining elements for lack of contemporary plans.

### **Ráceve – Ship Mill**

Milling was the most important industry for the people of Ráceve living along the Danube. According to historical records, there were already five mills in the town in 1720. The number later increased, and they were still in operation in the 1950s.

Hungary's last ship mill with an outrigger boat survived in Ráceve until the winter of 1967–68, when the outrigger boat was destroyed by the ice, taking the houseboat with it. It was rebuilt on the initiative of the local population to revive the traditions of water milling in Ráceve. The mill was built based on original documents, photos, and drawings and can be visited during operation since 2010.

### **Ráceve – Árpád Bridge**

On the place of the current bridge was originally a dismantlable wooden bridge. In the 1890s, the town of Ráceve took a loan of around 100,000 crowns to build a new, permanent iron bridge. The bridge, completed in the millennium year, was inaugurated on 26 September 1897. The three-span arch bridge was designed by Szilárd Zielinszky and had an opening of 66 m. During World War II, on 3 November 1944, it was blown up by retreating Hungarian troops. The Soviet soldiers built a narrow pontoon bridge alongside the bridgehead, which served as a crossing until the 1948–49 reconstruction, during which the wreckage of a road bridge over the Tisza in Szeged was used. The bridge was rebuilt in 1993–94 to its present state.



Dunakeszi Late Roman Port Fortress

Dunakeszi Sport Airfield

Dunakeszi, Church Ruin from the Árpád Era



### Dunakeszi Sport Airfield

The airfield, which is still in operation today, was built in 1949 by the National Flying Association and was intended to serve gliding from the 1950s onwards. The aviation scenes of the film *2x2 is sometimes 5* (1954) were shot here. The area of the airport is part of the National Ecological Network, as it is home to one of Hungary's largest populations of wolverines and several protected species of flora and fauna, as well as the neighbouring horse racecourse, which is also included in the Pest County Heritage Register.

### Dunakeszi Late Roman Port Fortress

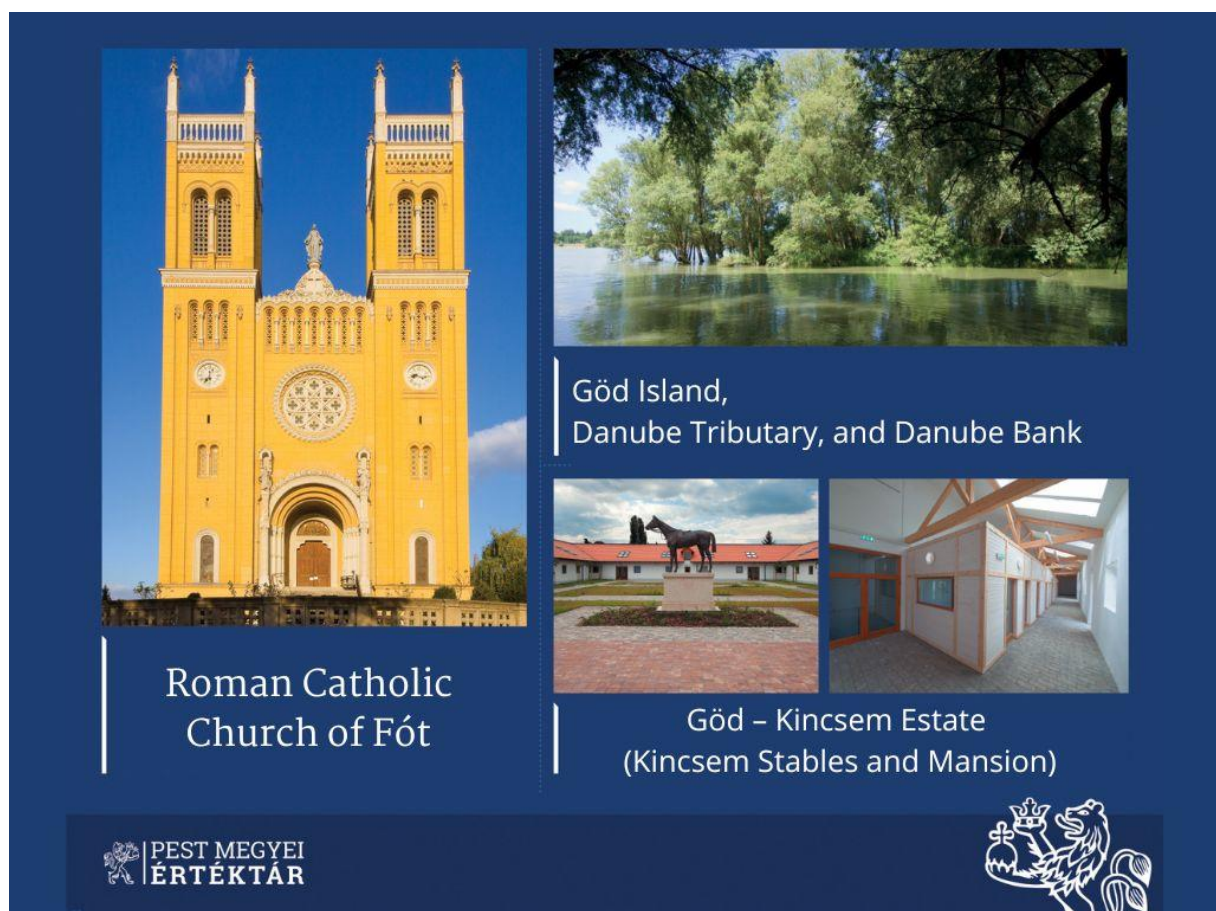
The building excavated by the archaeologists of the National Museum is unique in Hungary: the port fortress and the museum it houses are valuable pieces of our Roman heritage. The fortress walls were discovered in 2002 during the construction of a private house. The owner of the house, Attila Hirschberg, took on the extra costs, had the walls and the corner tower restored



in the basement and garden of his house and now has a small private museum where he presents the remains of the fortress, the findings and the history of the port fortress.

### Dunakeszi, Church Ruin from the Árpád Era

In Dunakeszi, in the territory of Alagi estate, you can also find a historical monument: the ruins of the Catholic parish church of the village of Alag—once part of the Pest County—dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The ruins of the church, revealed during the excavations, are in fact the remains of two churches: one is a round church, probably built at the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> century, and the other is the remains of a Gothic sanctuary built adjacent to the former church. The remains of a 3-metre high wall and the two shrines of the church are now on display.




**Roman Catholic Church of Fót**

Göd Island,  
Danube Tributary, and Danube Bank

Göd – Kincsem Estate  
(Kincsem Stables and Mansion)

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### Roman Catholic Church of Fót

One of the jewels of our county is the Roman Catholic Church of Fót, with its two-towered façade and bright yellow colour, which stands out from the landscape and the townscape. The beautiful building is one of the most important works of Hungarian romantic architecture. (The

other is the Vígadó in Pest.) The church, which can be seen from afar (for example, from the M3 motorway), was designed by Miklós Ybl and completed in 1855. It was built by István Károlyi, member of the famous aristocratic family of Fót. Entering the church is like entering a basilica. The interior has three naves, the central ceiling is coffered and has a gilded beam. In the undercroft, we find the tomb of István Károlyi and his family members. The real treasure of the church, if we may say so, is the relic of the martyr Saint Lucentius. The relic of the Roman soldier martyred in 304 was donated to the church by Pope Pius IX, who knew Count István Károlyi personally and rewarded the Count—who made great sacrifices for both the faith and the arts—with this relic. There are many other fascinating things to be told about the church in Fót, perhaps one of the most notable of which is that Ferenc Liszt played on its organ shortly after it was built.

### **Göd Island, Danube Tributary, and Danube Bank**

Göd, near the capital, became a popular resort and spa town between the two world wars. Nowadays, the small town of nearly 20,000 inhabitants has preserved part of the Danube bank in its original state. Göd Island, separated from the coast by the Danube tributary, a several hundred-metre-long inlet, is one of the most popular natural bathing areas on the stretch of the river between the Danube bend and Budapest, thanks to its sandy shore. The area is covered by floodplain forest. However, it is not the only thing that makes it so wild—it is also the fact that at high water levels when it is covered by the Danube, it can only be reached by wading through the waters of the tributary. Not far from the nationally protected island of Göd, the Danube bank in the Alsógöd part of the small town is home to rowing sports, boathouses and an open beach. Nearby are cosy restaurants. It is also easily accessible by train, as the Alsógöd train station is only a few minutes away. This part of Göd thus comprises two distinct parts of the Danube, one natural and one developed, but still well integrated into the landscape, which is part of the national ecological network.

### **Göd – Kincsem Estate (Kincsem Stables and Mansion)**

The building has a long history- it had been used as a horse-changing station and inn; and from the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century as a stable. In addition to Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna and her entourage, correspondents from the English sports papers also visited Göd in the 1870s. At that time, between 1874 and 1887, Göd was the centre of the horse-racing world,

where perhaps the most famous and successful horse of all time, Kincsem, was competing. The building—which had been neglected for years—has recently been beautifully renovated and revived as a community and cultural space.



### Royal Castle of Gödöllő

In the first half of 2011, Hungary played a major historic role: from 1 January to 30 June, Hungary held the rotating presidency of the European Union. During the Presidency, ministerial and expert meetings and protocol events were held in the representative venue of the Royal Castle of Gödöllő. Part of the castle, built in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, was renovated for the occasion (the building was renovated in several phases over the previous decades), and the building complex became a cultural centre. One of the most beautiful baroque castles in the country, it was built by Antal Grassalkovich. Once completed, the building served as a model for other Hungarian baroque castles thanks to its unique architectural solutions. Throughout its history, it has hosted not only the leading politicians of the European Union but also numerous monarchs and famous personalities. In 1751, Maria Theresa visited the castle. In the dualist era, it was the holiday



residence of Franz Joseph and Queen Elisabeth, and Governor Miklós Horthy spent his summers here. The magnificent building survived the Second World War without major damage. In the following decades, which were not kind to the former aristocratic palaces of Hungary, it was used as an assisted living facility. Thanks to renovations, it is now once again welcoming visitors, including many foreign tourists, in its former splendour.

### **Medieval Church of Hévízgyörk**

The medieval church of Hévízgyörk—significant for several reasons—is an Árpád-era monument of our county. The first church in the village was a small building with a semicircular sanctuary. The first documented mention of the building dates back to 1472. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the church was used by the Reformed and then again by the Catholics. In 1700, according to the church records, a church with a square tower, built of square stones, with a sacristy on the north side, stood in the village. The tower was struck by lightning in 1771; the collapsed part was later rebuilt and the building was in constant use from the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. However, the church has not been spared by the storms of the centuries—literally, it was so damaged by a storm in 1924 that it was not possible to hold services in it. Its restoration only began in 1985. Today, the medieval church is the jewel of Hévízgyörk, the main attraction of the traditional village known for its folk culture.

### **Gyömrő – Teleki Castle**

The castle, still standing today, was built in 1840–47 in the neoclassical style, as reported in the 19<sup>th</sup>-century magazine “Honderű”. The designer of the new, aristocratic castle no doubt followed the example of Versailles: a typical and very fine example of the building and its surroundings blended together in a composition. The visitor arriving from the village is greeted by a landscape of infinite space opening out through the garden between the small castle and the farm buildings. The castle park was arboretum with paths and unique plants.



Old Church of Isaszeg –  
Saint Martin Catholic Church



Kistarcsa –  
Former Internment Camp



Monument in Isaszeg Dedicated  
to Hungarian Defence Forces



### Kistarcsa – Former Internment Camp

The former internment camp in Kistarcsa was built in the early 1900s as a housing estate for the Gép- és Vasútfelszerelési Rt. The workers lived in separate colonies, and the housing estate provided for kindergarten and schooling, a post office, a clubhouse, a grocery shop, and a library. After the bankruptcy of the factory, the housing estate was placed under the administration of the Royal Hungarian State Police. The underclass and lumpen layer of Budapest at the time were segregated in a camp on the outskirts of the capital, which did not really resemble a prison but could be described more as a segregation ghetto. It functioned as an assembly camp for Jews captured during the Second World War, from where they were transferred to labour camps.

During the Rákosi regime, enemies of the regime of the time were imprisoned here: clergy, aristocrats, but also illiterate ordinary people. From 1950 onwards, the State Protection Authority (ÁVH) took over the detention and interrogation of prisoners, using cruel methods. In 1956, the camp was closed for a short time by order of Imre Nagy and then reopened after the

War of Independence. In 1957, the National Commissioner of Police opened a police school in Kistarcsa under the name of the National Police Headquarters Basic Police School of the Ministry of Interior. From 1989, a refugee camp was briefly run at the institution. Later, the former camp area was divided into two parts: one part was given to the Kistarcsa Local Government in 1998 and the other part in 2011.

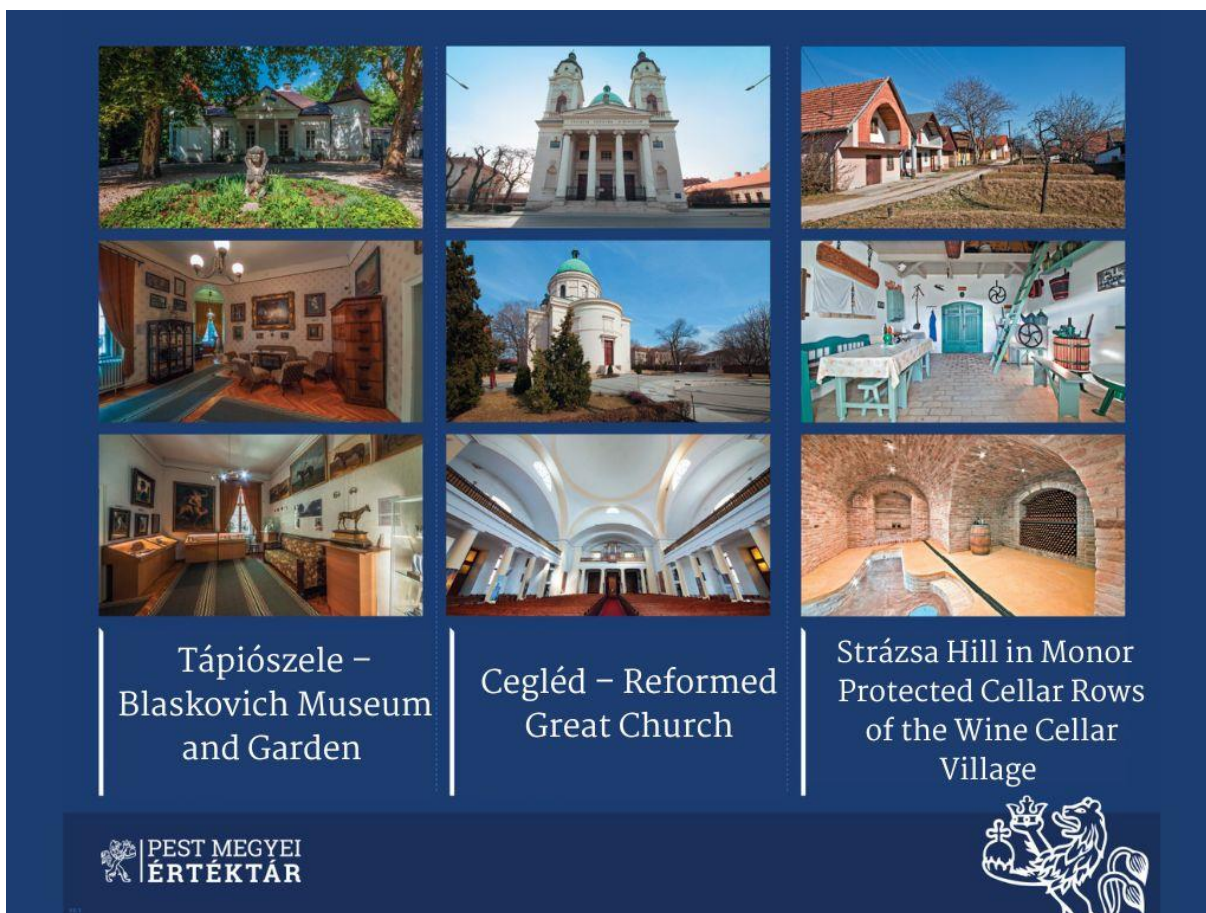
### **Old Church of Isaszeg – Saint Martin Catholic Church**

Travellers arriving in Isaszeg from any direction will see the jewel of the town from afar, the old Roman Catholic church of St. Martin, standing on a hill and steeped in history. Tradition has it that the first wooden church was built here on the orders of St. Stephen, and the round church was built on its site at the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The building, which has withstood the storms and ravages of the centuries, was professionally excavated and restored between 1968 and 1971. This work revealed the history of the church and its building periods.

### **Monument in Isaszeg Dedicated to Hungarian Defence Forces**

The monument stands on Szobor Hill (Liberty Hill), the site of the decisive battle of the spring campaign of 1849. It was built in 1901, on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle using national public donation by the sculptor Béla Radnay and criticised by the sculptor János Fadrusz.

The monument, surrounded by an iron fence, depicts a flag-bearing defender marching in period dress, and on its pedestal is a relief of the four leading generals, Artur Görgey, János Damjanich, György Klapka, and Lajos Aulich. A crypt has been built under the statue's pedestal, where the remains of those who died in the village's interior have been collected.



### Tápiószele – Blaskovich Museum and Garden

Mansion Museum—what does this term mean? To find the answer, we must go back in history. Two members of the Blaskovich family—an important rural noble family of the Hungarian Reform Era—moved from Nógrád County to Tápiószele in Pest County at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The brothers, György Blaskovich and János Blaskovich settled in a neoclassical mansion in the village. The brothers brought the furniture and furnishings their family had accumulated over the centuries and were also keen art collectors themselves.

Their mansion, set in an English-style park, was opened to the public in 1940. A few years later, their collection was bequeathed to the Hungarian National Museum, and in 1952, it became the independent Tápiószele Museum, called the Blaskovich Museum since 1967. This is how the mansion of two brothers—both enthusiasts of art and science—became a museum. The Blaskovich collection is outstanding in many respects: their hunting, weapons, and pipe collections are of national importance, their paintings include works by Miklós Barabás and



Károly Lotz, and the relics of the world-famous racehorse Kincsem—born in the Tápiószentmárton stud farm—are unique. Hungarian science also owes another major achievement to the two brothers: they initiated the archaeological excavation that led to the discovery of the famous Scythian golden stag of Tapiószentmárton—the shield ornament from the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC is now kept in the Hungarian National Museum. The Blaskovich family is of great importance, not only known as the owners of Kincsem but also for their passion for archaeology and the discovery of the Scythian golden stag. Their former home, the Blaskovich Museum in Tapiószéle, is the only mansion museum in the country to have survived the Second World War intact. The classicist mansion—situated in the middle of a botanically interesting park, now covering an area of 1.4 hectares—was built in 1906. The seven rooms of the Blaskovich Museum house an interior exhibition of the culture and artefacts of the progressive nobleman, collected through three generations. The English-style gardens are interspersed with curved paths with rest areas. There are plane, oak, sycamore, pine, lime, chestnut, and maple trees, with ornamental shrubs below and violets and lilies of the valley at ground level. The park's trees and shrubs are mostly contemporary with the mansion, which the family acquired in 1911. The garden has rich avifauna. Since 2011, it has been a Bird Friendly Garden.

### **Cegléd – Reformed Great Church**

One of the most significant works of church architecture in Hungary, the Reformed Great Church, rises in the centre of Cegléd. Designed by József Hild, its construction began in 1836 and was completed in 1870, but its dome was completed even later, in 1895–96. With its impressive dimensions—60 metres high, 44 metres long and with walls 2 metres thick—it is one of the largest Reformed churches in Central Europe. The impressive and imposing building's size is further illustrated by the fact that it has 2,400 seats and the same number of standing places, making it a church that can host almost 5,000 people. The Reformed Great Church of Cegléd also has a sad story: in 1936, the dome was destroyed by fire through human negligence and burnt down, and was rebuilt two years later. At the consecration ceremony following the restoration after the fire, the Reformed Bishop László Ravasz said of the building: “This wonderful building is a diadem of the Danube–Tisza Interfluve built in stone (...). Surely all these things were not created by themselves: the Spirit of God was here.”

## Strázsa Hill in Monor – Protected Cellar Rows of the Wine Cellar Village

The Wine Village of Monor is a significant and unique element of the built wine culture in Hungary, with nearly a thousand cellars. It is of considerable architectural value, covering a total area of about 300 acres (180 hectares), which is highly structured, with vineyards, orchards, fields, cellars, and press houses. According to historical data, the area has centuries-old viticulture and wine production traditions, with most of the vine varieties currently present being traditional, old ones (e.g. Kadar, Tótfekete, Mézes, Ezerjő, etc.). The recently created “Thousand Cellars Viticulture and Winemaking Educational Trail” (Ezer Pince Szőlészeti és Borászati Tanösvény) offers visitors a gastronomic and wine tourism experience: a walk to discover the beauty of the wine village, the local characteristics and the traditions of our country’s viticulture and winemaking.



Nagykőrös – Ash Trees of Toldi Miklós Vocational Training School and Residence Hall of Food Industry

Natura 2000 Site “Steppe Oak Woods of Nagykőrös”

Kocsér – Kutyakaparó Inn

PEST MEGYEI ÉRTEKTÁR



## Natura 2000 Site “Steppe Oak Woods of Nagykőrös” (Nagykőrösi pusztai tölgyesek)

Natura 2000 is an ecological network of designated sites for the protection of habitat types and species considered valuable by the European Union. The “Steppe Oak Woods of Nagykőrös” is

a special area of conservation and consists of several separate sub-areas, covering a total area of 3,312 hectares, of which 1,375 hectares are habitats.

Its habitats are Euro-Siberian steppe oak woods and Pannonian sand grasslands. Typical animal species are the stag beetle (*Lucanus cervus*), the cerambyx longicorn (*Cerambyx cerdo*), and the European earth-borer beetle (*Bolbelasmus unicornis*); plant species are the long-lasting pink (*Dianthus diutinus*), the sand saffron (*Colchicum arenarium*), and the sand iris (*Iris humilis* ssp. *arenaria*).

### **Nagykőrös – Ash Trees of Toldi Miklós Vocational Training School and Residence Hall of Food Industry**

The old Great Plain landscape was—according to contemporary descriptions—an area rich in small and large forests. Clearings, forests, and wetlands alternated. The climate here, with its abundant moisture, favoured ash trees.

The Latin charter of King Louis the Great from 1368 refers to the “predecessor” of today’s Nagykőrös as “KOERUS”. The local people were so attached to the ash tree that it appeared in their coat of arms—which was not granted by royalty or other dignitaries—on the basis of customary law. Over the years, the town’s coat of arms has changed several times, but the ash tree has remained.

In keeping with the town’s tradition, the school’s coat of arms also includes the ash tree, and the school has taken the initiative of planting a line of ash trees native to the country, with the aim of having the most complete collection of ash trees in the country.

### **Kocsér – Kutyakaparó Inn**

In the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, inns were irreplaceable buildings of the plain for travellers and herdsman. The most common name for this type of inn was Gugyori. However, thanks to Petőfi, the best known became Kutyakaparó, as he wrote the poem in January 1847 that made it known throughout the country, and János Arany also visited it several times during his stay in Nagykőrös. Later, the assassin Viktoria Fődi, known as ‘Pista the Pipe Smoker’, visited it often—dressed as a man.

The building which had been in use since the 1700s, burnt in 1926. The formerly thatched-roof inn has been rebuilt with a tiled roof, but this architectural monument still preserves its original function: it welcomes travellers and visitors.



Reformed  
Monument Church  
of Ócsa



Dabas – Tomb of  
László Kossuth



Ócsa Landscape  
Protection Area



### Reformed Monument Church of Ócsa

The construction of one of the oldest Romanesque churches in Hungary began in 1190, with the foundation of the French Premonstratensian Order under the direction of Villard de Honnecourt—according to sources. The construction works were completed in 1241, the year of the Tartar invasion. In the 1560s, the building passed to the Reformed Church. The unique Romanesque basilica with three naves, two towers, and a façade of quatrefoil (stone carved into a regular shape), won a Europa Nostra Award in 1996. Since its construction, the church has changed little, reflecting its 13<sup>th</sup>-century condition. In its main sanctuary, one of the most important ensembles of Árpád-era wall paintings was discovered in 1900. It contains two scenes from the legend of St. Lazarus and the Virgin Mary with the Child Jesus, surrounded by the Apostles, each in a niche. The church's organ, built in 1864, is still suitable for organ recitals. The surroundings of the Monument Church of Ócsa have changed several times over the years. Although the enclosure wall from the 1460s was demolished in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, it



was later rebuilt, creating a courtyard with ornamental plants and decorative lighting. Today, the church shows closely its original arrangement.

### **Ócsa Landscape Protection Area**

The village of Ócsa and the surrounding “Turjános” region (system of connected marshy, swampy lakes) are located about 35 km from Budapest, at the junction of the Great Hungarian Plane and the Gödöllő Hill Region. The Ócsa Landscape Protection Area was created here in 1975, covering an area of 3,575 hectares.

The Landscape Protection Area is one of the last remaining fragments of the former extensive marshland of the Danube–Tisza Interfluve. Its botanical and zoological rarities and values are due to the constant flow of water, which was preserved due to the ineffective drainage in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The whole area is characterised by a mosaic of open water, reeds, meadows, forests, and steppe, with traces of human activity. The fauna of the area is rich in both species and in overall volume.

### **Dabas – Tomb of László Kossuth**

The tomb of Lajos Kossuth’s father, László Kossuth, has a cultural and historical value that goes back centuries: it is part of the National Graveyard and has been classified as a protected memorial by the National Memorial and Tribute Committee. It is the foundation of the Kossuth traditions of Dabas and one of the embodiments of the Kossuth cult of Pest County.

The original red marble tomb was carved from a single stone slab. It is 122 cm high, the base tapers upwards and is 41 cm wide, the stone slab is on average 10.5 cm thick, and the damage on the slab is probably from the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



Pilis – Beleznay–Nyáry  
Castle



Sauerkraut – Vecsés



Pilis–Gerje Stream and its Headwaters



### Pilis – Beleznay–Nyáry Castle

The castle is one of the oldest ones in the county; local landlord János Beleznay had it built in the 1770s by an Italian master. There was good-quality clay in several parts of the village, which was used to produce the bricks of Pilis in the so-called “tyehlónyák” or brick kilns. It was from this brick that the magnificent new Beleznay building, the so-called Yellow Castle, was built.

The building is an outstanding example of the Baroque castle architecture of the Maria Theresa period. The main Baroque-style building, with its two storeys, is set in the middle of a park of considerable size and is surrounded by towers on two sides, with ground-floor side wings forming a charming inner courtyard.

Many writers have stayed at the castle, including József Kármán, who wrote his “Fanni hagyományai”, a subtle portrayal of the maiden’s soul. After the Second World War, the building was used first as a home for girls and then a boarding school; presently, it houses a primary school and a residence hall.

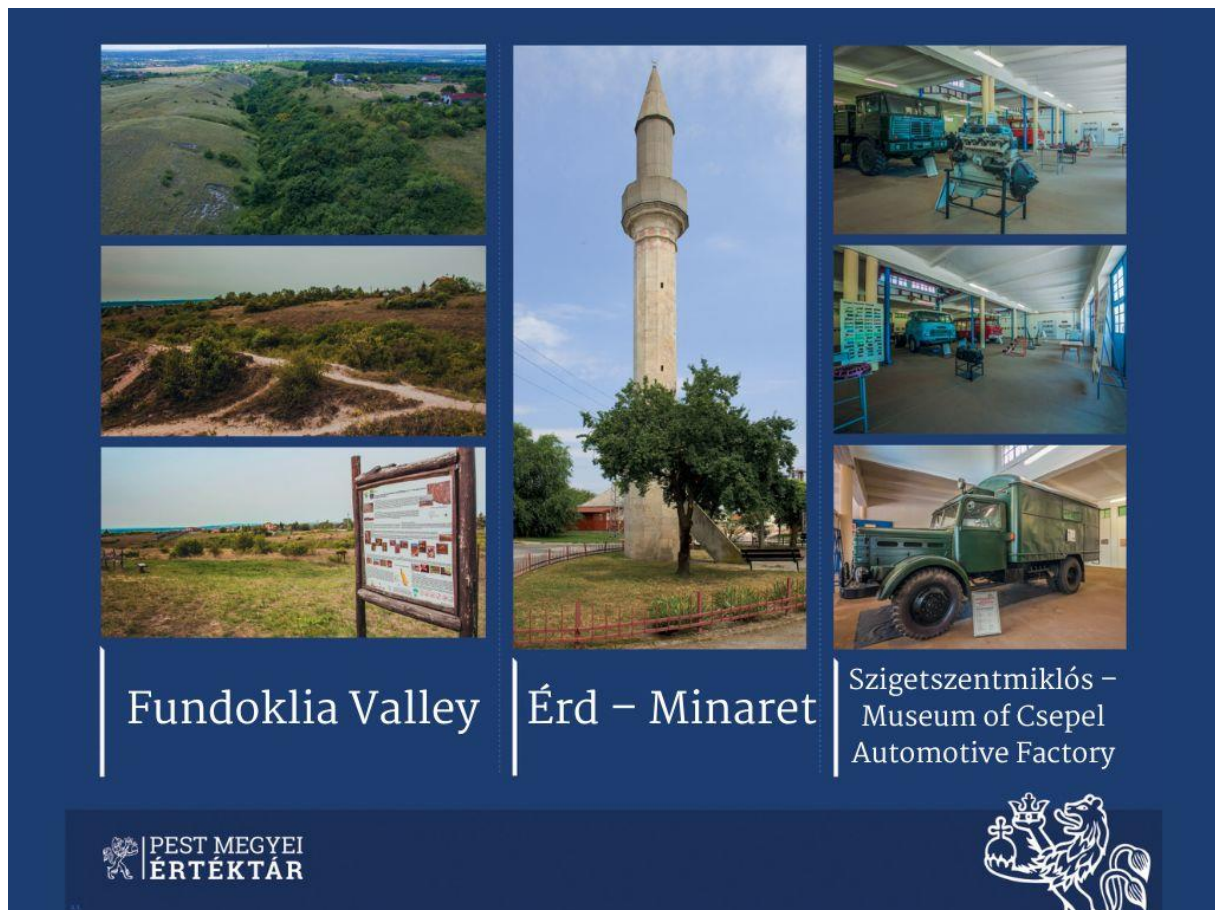
### **Pilis–Gerje Stream and its Headwaters**

The present Gerje stream was formed at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century as a result of the activities of the Gerje–Perje Water Regulating Association, founded in 1853. The present riverbed was created by connecting several former marshy areas and mill pits. In the Middle Ages, the part of it flowing from the Pilis was called “Csíkos” (Striped) Stream (Chykus), probably named after the striped fish that lived in it. Its waters flowed as far as Albertirsa. Several lakes were cut off from it, some of which were fishponds and others were reservoirs for water mills.

The headwaters are rich in natural values, with many protected waterfowl, and the wet, lush vegetation is home to a unique orchid species in Hungary and one of the largest continuous alder forests in Central Europe.

### **Sauerkraut – Vecsés**

The history of Vecsés sauerkraut is closely linked to the history of Vecsés. The town was depopulated during the Turkish rule, and at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, 50 families from the Ulm area in Germany moved here. The Swabians who settled here introduced cabbage growing to Vecsés, and the sauerkraut is still made according to their methods today. Vecsés sauerkraut is the basic ingredient of many cabbage dishes, including Székely cabbage (Székely káposzta) and sauerkraut stew (toros káposzta). Sauerkraut is a result of a particular pickling process: the vegetables are cut into 1,5–3 mm widths, salted, seasoned (with paprika, pepper, dill, coriander, and bay leaves), and then pickled and preserved by a process known as controlled lactic fermentation. The salt extracts the water from the cabbage tissues and the sugars are converted into lactic acid, giving the cabbage a pleasantly sour taste. The cabbage used to be stacked in wooden barrels, compressed, and covered with cabbage leaves on top and bottom. Vecsés cabbage gradually became known and widespread throughout the country. Its popularity was helped by the fact that—due to the short distance—it quickly reached the markets of Budapest, it could be preserved in winter, and its processing and use expanded: peppers stuffed with sauerkraut and mixed sauerkraut were sold and consumed. Today, thanks to significantly modernised techniques and technology, the cabbage is transported by conveyor belt from the high-performance stainless-steel slicers to several-metres-high tanks. In Vecsés, in addition to the vegetables grown in the surrounding fields, producers also receive cabbage with similar characteristics from the Great Plain, thus ensuring continuity in processing and production.



## Fundoklia Valley

In the immediate vicinity of the capital, on the outskirts of Érd, there is an archaeological, anthropological, botanical, and zoological site of natural rarity, the Fundoklia Valley. Its importance is due—among other things—to the fact that it is a world-famous prehistoric site: excavations have revealed traces of fireplaces and remains of prehistoric animals. The valley’s “two-faced” character is due to the bedrock and vegetation that make up the area: while the valley rim is a barren and rocky limestone surface, the slopes are covered by a dense forest belt and rich, varied vegetation. The Fundoklia Valley in the western part of the Tétényi plateau, about 3 km long and 10–30 m deep, is home to many protected species of flora and fauna. It is home to the highly protected white-seeded saw-wort and the *Dianthus plumarius* subsp. *regis-stephani*, while the animals of note include the European copper skink, the smooth snake, the little owl, and the European bee-eater. This site of European importance—protected under Natura 2000 (that is EU protected)—was supposed to be a landfill site in the 1980s, but this crazy plan was thwarted. Today, the Fundoklia Valley can be walked along a beautifully designed and well-marked educational trail.



## **Érd – Minaret**

The smallest of the three remaining minarets in Hungary—besides those of Eger and Pécs—is the 23-metre-high minaret of Érd. Prince Hamza built a palisade castle in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century, and as part of this, in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, a mosque was built for Turkish and South Slavic soldiers of the Islamic faith, of which only the minaret remains. For a long time, it was a ruin, but in 1970, its top was reconstructed, and today you can visit its balcony, from where the muezzin called for prayer. During a recent reconstruction in 1999, beautiful colourful motifs were discovered under the plasterwork beneath the balcony. Via the 53-step spiral staircase, you can reach the balcony, from where you can enjoy a beautiful panoramic view.

## **Szigetszentmiklós – Museum of Csepel Automotive Factory**

The Museum of Csepel Automotive Factory is located in the ÁTI-SZIGET Industrial Park. Five serviceable trucks and a bus chassis form the backbone of the exhibition, and along with them, vehicle main units, mock-ups of various vehicles, period photographs, and extremely detailed technical descriptions are on display. Some of the exhibits are owned by the Park, others by private collectors.



The Old Oak of Pusztazámor



The Hermitage of Pusztazámor



### The Hermitage of Pusztazámor

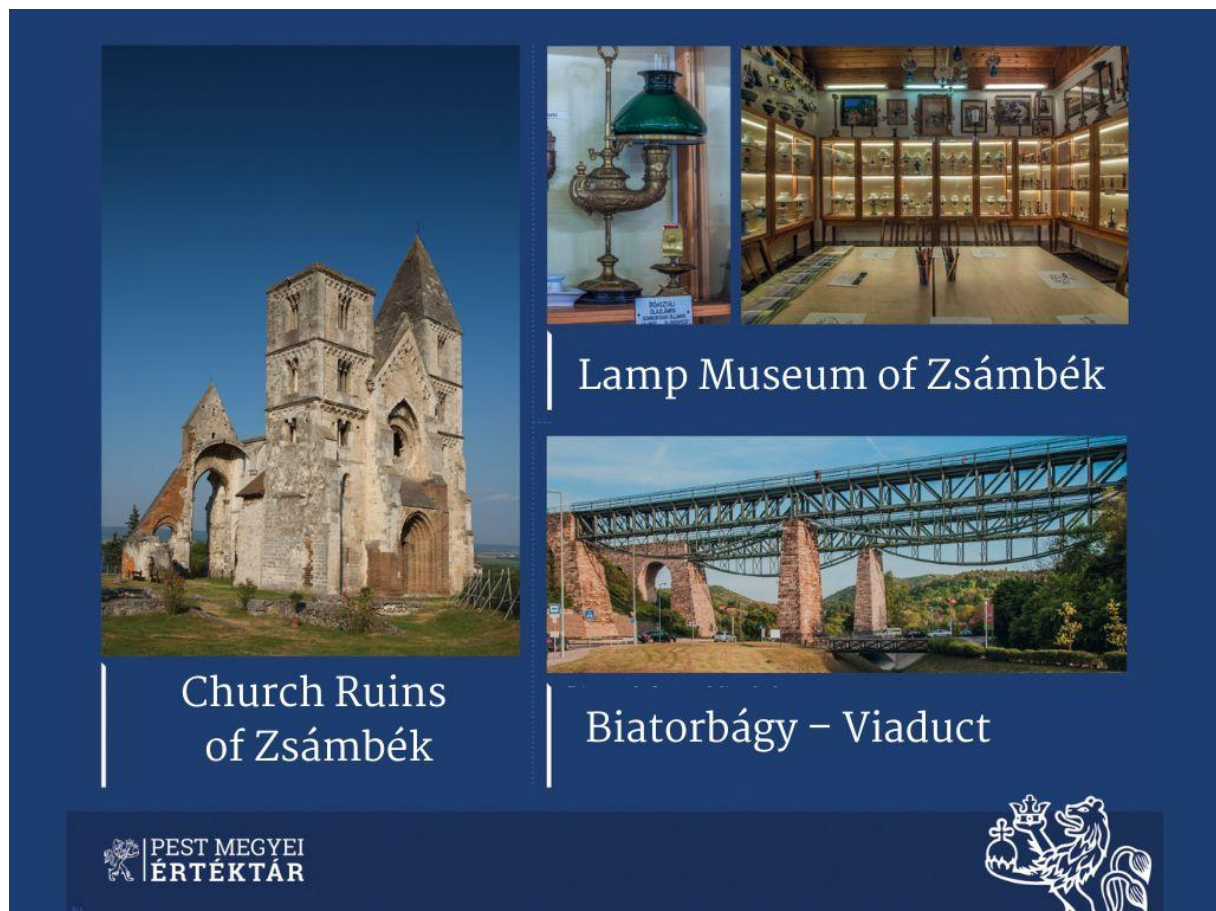
A lesser-known but rather interesting site in Pest County is the 18<sup>th</sup>-century hermitage of Zámorhegy at Pusztazámor, on the western border of the county. The hermitage chapel was built in 1758 for István Lenth, monk of the Franciscan Order—Father Jeromos. Father Jeromos had previously lived in a hermitage near Nagyszombat for twenty-two years. In Zámorhegy, he was allowed to settle down and beg in the villages of the area. Later, an Augustinian monk and, according to tradition, a Pauline monk lived here. The hermitage cells have been empty since 1818, and the building was later used as a parish church.

The existence of an earlier church on the hill of Zámor is attested by the remains of a 13<sup>th</sup>-century Romanesque church building, the stones of which were used to build the hermitage. The hermitage of Zámorhegy is surrounded by a cemetery—the view and the atmosphere are like walking through the hillside cemeteries of Transylvanian villages—and its oldest gravestones date back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

From Zámorhegy, you can enjoy a magnificent view of the Buda Hills and the Zsámbék Basin.

## The Old Oak of Pusztazámor

The old oak of Pusztazámor is a characteristic tree, which is not only a pearl of its surroundings but also one of the most significant oaks in Hungary due to its interesting shape, excellent health, and trunk circumference. There are approximately 300 trees in Hungary with a trunk circumference of more than 600 centimetres. These can be regarded as truly gigantic. In the three-hectare arboretum-like park surrounding the Barcza mansion- which was probably built in the 18<sup>th</sup> century—on the right-hand side of the large clearing, there is a 25 m high pedunculate oak with a 25 m diameter foliage which is estimated to be at least 200 years old.



## Church Ruins of Zsámbék

The church of Zsámbék, an imposing ruin, was built around 1220 in the late Romanesque–early Gothic style. It is an outstanding monument of Hungarian architectural history. Next to the church stood the monastery of the Premonstratensian Order. A change in the history of the church in Zsámbék occurred centuries later, which sealed the fate of the building: in 1763, during an earthquake, the side wall and the vault of the northern side aisle collapsed. The stones of the abandoned ruin were scattered by the local people. Nothing would have been left of the

ruin had not Rómer Flóris, a Benedictine teacher and art historian and Imre Henszlmann, an art historian, drawn attention to the need to save this precious monument in the 1870s. In 1889, Ágoston Trefort, Minister of Religion and Public Education, commissioned the architect István Möller to carry out the conservation work. His work has won worldwide acclaim. Later, in 1934, the architect Kálmán Lux excavated parts of the monastery wall attached to the north side of the church, which was built by the Palatines when they received the estate as a gift from King Matthias. Even in its ruined state, the church of Zsámbék is an impressive sight, dominating the landscape as it stands on a hill next to the town.

### **Lamp Museum of Zsámbék**

In the 1960s, Ferenc Borus used his collection of bottled drinks to set up a “Wine Museum” in his wine cellar and turned his attention to lamps when designing the lighting. He was so attracted by the beautiful pieces that he became a collector without even noticing it. He bought all the exhibits—with one or two exceptions—with his own money.

Currently the country’s only lamp museum has around 1000–1100 lighting objects. The collection includes candlesticks, candleholders, industrial, domestic, oil, and petrol lamps, a lamp made from an old Chinese vase, a Zsolnay majolica, a petrol lamp with a Meissen porcelain base, an oil-pump lighting fixture from around 1800, and many other special lamps.

### **Biatorbágy – Viaduct**

The Biatorbágy viaduct—a name made nationally famous by the assassination attempt of 13 September 1931—actually refers to two viaducts. The bridge on the right-hand track was built in 1884 when the main Budapest–Vienna line was built, and the viaduct on the left-hand track over the Füzes stream was built in 1898 when the railway line was extended to two tracks. The bridges were taken out of service in the 1970s, as the small radius curves of the railway line in their immediate vicinity slowed traffic considerably. In the early 1990s, conservation work was carried out on the two bridges, of which the right side is now used as a footpath and cycle path, while the left side has been closed. The Biatorbágy viaduct is notable for the fact that there is no other paired railway viaduct in the country. But perhaps even more so because on the night of 13 September 1931, at 20 minutes past midnight, a man named Szilveszter Matuska blew up the viaduct while a high-speed train from Budapest to Vienna was passing through it. The attack killed 22 people. Matuska was later convicted in Vienna and imprisoned in Hungary until he



disappeared from the Vác prison in 1944 when Soviet troops arrived. Sándor Simó made a film about the Biatorbágy assassination in 1982 entitled Viaduct.



### Páty – Csergezán Pál Lookout Tower

The highest point of the Buda Hills, the 558-metre-high Nagy-Kopasz is not that difficult to climb—you can go up from either Nagykovácsi or Budakeszi. Indeed, the road climbs steadily all the way, but it's not too steep. The hiking trails lead to a strangely shaped structure at the top of the mountain: the Csergezán Pál Lookout Tower. Its namesake was a famous nature and hunting painter who captured the wildlife of the area in numerous paintings. (He is buried in the forest not far from the lookout tower, near the Anna-lak hunting lodge.) The lookout tower—which most resembles a windswept swelling sail—was built in 2004–2005; there are around 100 steps leading up to its 23.5 m high observation deck. From the top, visitors can admire a magnificent panorama of the Pilis, Visegrád, Gerecse, Vértes, and Velencei Mountains, the Esztergom Basilica, the Tétényi Plateau and, on a clear day, the chimneys of the Dunaújváros

factories in the distance. The directions of the clearly identifiable sights are indicated by diagrams and inscriptions on the ledge of the viewing platform.

### **Cellar Hill and Cellars in Páty**

The cellar row of Páty are a testimony to the once-legendary Buda wine culture. Grape growing was practised in the area as early as Roman times, but the once flourishing wine production—which dates back centuries—was brought to an end by the phylloxera in the last decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The cellars of Páty were created in the early 1800s when a royal decree allowed wine growers to build cellars on land not used for other purposes. Farmers were then given access to the plots for free or a small fee. There are over one hundred cellars on the cellar hill in Páty, the oldest dating back to the 1820s. The vineyards have now been replanted, and the area belongs to the Etyek–Buda wine region. In Páty, one of the most uniformly preserved cellars in the Zsámbék Basin, the Páty Cellar Days have been held every June since 1994 with the participation of local wine producers.

### **Old Church of Budajenő**

On the outskirts of the Buda Hills, near the capital, in Budajenő, stands a medieval church with whitewashed walls, impressive in its purist simplicity. It is called the Old Church and it was built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century in Gothic style. It was first mentioned in documents in 1378 as the church of St. Michael. Researchers have suggested that it was built on the ruins of an earlier semicircular church from the Árpád era. Its surroundings deserve a special mention: the calvary leading to the church is from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and next to it is a cemetery dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The earliest gravestone here is dated 1787, and the latest 1869. The Scottish Benedictine monks who came to Hungary in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and were granted the Benedictine Abbey of the neighbouring settlement of Telk are buried here. Two local priests were buried in the Old Cemetery in Budajenő in the 1920s–1930s.