



Discover places for relax

Surrounded by beautiful countryside, the inhabitants of Michalovce and its visitors have in plain sight flowering meadows, golden vast stretches of cereals as far as an eye can see from every angle of our lowland. Zemplínska Šírava - “the Slovak Sea” lures to seek harmony and rest on its beaches. So does Vinné Lake situated under the ruins of a castle bearing the same name and proudly towering over it. Impressive beauty is unfolded by the lake of Morské Oko showing a colour changing palette in every season under the Vihorlat Hills. Breath-taking sunsets over the lands reflect sweet wine grapes of the wine yards over Šírava. Every new morning is welcomed by the birds nestling in the Bird Paradise where the sun rays struggle to find their way through the branches of majestic treetops, and rustling leaves evoke a pleasant feeling of rejuvenation.



MICHALOVCE
srdce zemplína

1. NÁMESTIE OSLOBODITEĽOV SQUARE

The main street in Michalovce originated in the medieval Nemecká Street. Its housing development is varied - it features buildings from the 19th century, the beginning of the 20th century, buildings from the period between the two world wars, Socialist era buildings, as well as modern buildings. The high street of Michalovce received its current aspect after a recent complex reconstruction carried out in 2002 and 2003.



2. NÁMESTIE SLOBODY SQUARE

Another square of Michalovce with a small park forming its part is from the West side enclosed by a high-rise office block - one of the town's dominant features. This public open space changed its aspect after a complex reconstruction carried out in 2010 and 2011 when an attractive pavement Rainbow Fountain and a Giant Chessboard were added.



3. RAINBOW FOUNTAIN

During a complex reconstruction of Námestie Slobody square, a fountain originally forming its part was replaced by a pavement Rainbow Fountain. Its unconventional system of water discharge, alternating colour lighting and landscaped surroundings with benches eventually became a popular relaxing spot for the elderly, as well as young families with children.



4. TOWN PARKS AND SMALL LAKE OF BAŇA

Kerta Park belongs to the oldest parks in the town. It was planted in the second half of the 19th century. Until recently this popular place for relaxation was owned by The Sztáray Family forming an inseparable part of the Manor House surroundings. It also features a rare tree species - a 25-meter high and approximately 370 years old English oak. The park contains up to 60 species of precious and interesting woody plants.

Another relaxation zone in the town is Chestnut Park with various oversize travertine sculptures. A revitalization project also included the rescue of the precious horse chestnut tree species. Peace Park is the central town park with St Mary of the Rosary Chapel situated in its centre. A small lake which the local people call “Baňa” is situated in the calm residential area of family houses called Stráňany. It is a favourite destination for walks, fishing, and ice-skating. In the recent years its surroundings have been renovated by the installation of new benches, as well as other landscaping elements.



5. ZEMPLÍNSKA ŠÍRAVA LAKE

Zemplínska Šírava, situated under the Vihorlat Hills near Michalovce, is the second largest water reservoir in Slovakia and the 12th in size within Europe. This reservoir was built in the 1960s. One of the historical curiosities connected with its origin is that during WWII its site was a location of a Luftwaffe airport serving the joined Slovak-German attack on Poland. Nowadays Šírava is a favourite tourist destination with various recreational resorts located on its banks. The reservoir is used for bathing, water sports, and fishing.



6. THERMAL PARK ŠÍRAVA

A modern Thermal Park is constructed on the banks of Zemplínska Šírava in the village of Kaluža. It is situated on a beautiful peninsula called Medvedia hora which is considered one of the most beautiful spots of Zemplínska Šírava. The water world consists of three main swimming pools: a wave pool and swimming pool, a relaxation pool, a massage pool, and a pool for children under the age of 5. The complex also features a spa centre with numerous saunas and other wellness facilities.



7. VINNÉ LAKE

Vinné Lake is a beautiful holiday resort situated in the vicinity of the village of Vinné near Michalovce. In addition to swimming or sailing the lake also offers fishing opportunities. The lake surroundings are ideal for walking and hiking.



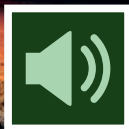
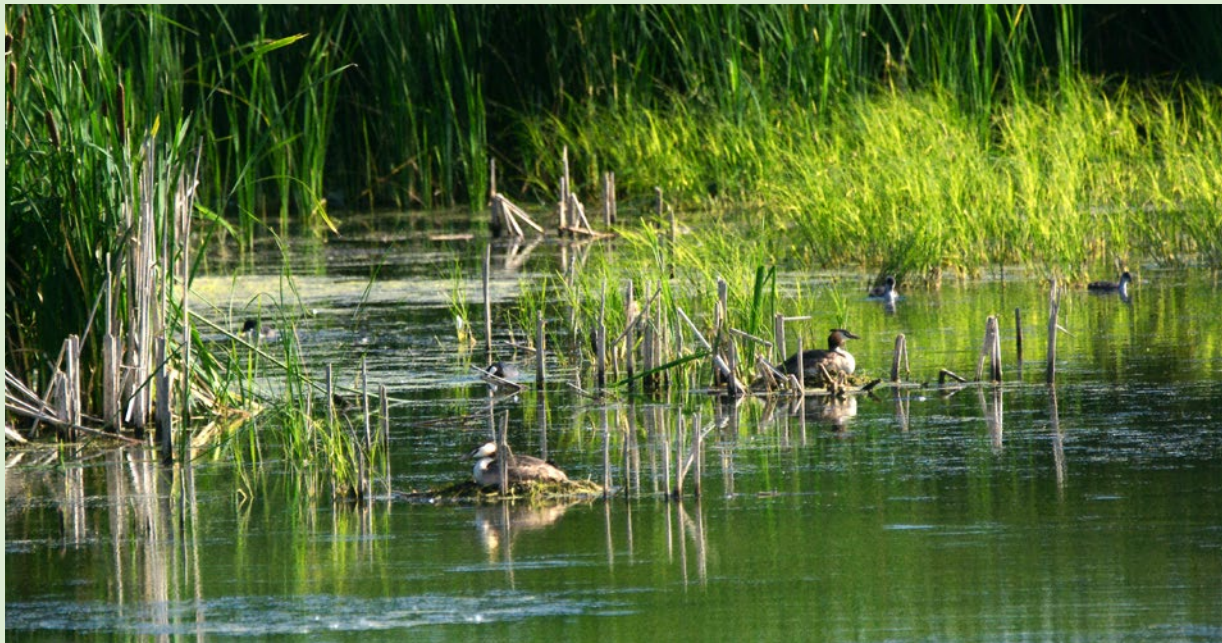
8. MORSKÉ OKO LAKE

The lake of Morské Oko, which literally means “The Eye of the Sea”, is the largest volcanic lake in Slovakia. It is hidden in the deep beech forests to the north of the village of Remetské Hámre. As the area is the home of several rare species of plants and animals, the lake as well as the surrounding forests have been declared a national nature reserve. Its location in a beautiful, secluded and pristine environment makes Morské Oko Lake an ideal tourist spot. However, swimming, sailing, and fishing in the lake is strictly prohibited. Taking a hike along the educational trail around the lake, the visitors can learn about the surrounding nature - both organic and inorganic. In addition to the lake, there are also other tourist spots in the area - Sninský kameň, a rock formation on a hilltop offering fascinating views, as well as a smaller lake called Malé Morské Oko. From the village of Remetské Hámre a hiking trail marked by blue colour leads to Morské Oko Lake.



9. SENNÉ PONDS

Senianske or Senné Ponds is a protected bird area and one of the most important bird locations in Central Europe. The area consisting of a network of lakes, meadows, and wetlands features an education trail with watchtowers along the route starting at the village of Senné. Alongside common bird species the visitors can also spot some rare species such as: sea eagles, great cormorants, Eurasian spoonbills, great crested grebes, as well as little crakes. Some of the ponds offer the tourists fishing opportunities.



10. BENATINA TRAVERTINE

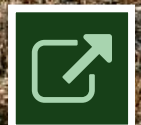
Beňatina Travertine is a natural site in the landscape protected area of Vihorlat. Located at the foothills of the Beskid Mountains in the Ublianska Pahorkatina Hills, the site has been declared a national nature reserve as the easternmost travertine in Slovakia with the occurrence of shellfish fossils. On one of the quarry's limestone cliffs, a bright red colored rock takes the form of a giant fish locally called The Whale of Beňatina. The bottom of the quarry is filled with underground water, which results in ongoing formation of travertine. The artificially created small lake with clear emerald green water is commonly called Benatina Lagoon.



11. MOUNT VIHORLAT

1076 METRES ABOUT SEA LEVEL

Mount Vihorlat is the highest peak of the eastern Slovakian volcanic mountain range called the Vihorlat Mountains. It belongs to very beautiful and precious natural spots. Its upper part covered with primeval forests with some trees as old as 250 years, as well as several other rare plant species has been declared a national nature reserve. Mount Vihorlat is a favourite tourist destination popular for group climbing organized on regular bases, as well as practising hang-gliding. The starting point of Vihorlat hiking tours could be the villages of Poruba pod Vihorlatom, Remetské Hámre, Zemplínske Hámre, or Morské Oko Lake.



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SLOVAKIA - UKRAINE: COOPERATION ACROSS THE BORDER SLOVENSKO - UKRAJINA: SPOLUPRÁCA NAPRIEČ HRANICOU

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