

KOŠICE



KOŠICE2013
EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE



Discover Košice

www.visitkosice.eu

Official
city guide



WELCOME TO KOŠICE

Try something new and undiscovered. A place where east and west meet, where history and human destiny mix with the present. Join us to discover the City of Košice – a unique Central European metropolis and European Capital of Culture 2013!

Košice is home to the oldest marathon in Europe, it boasts the largest heritage reservation in Slovakia, as well as the largest and most important gold treasure in Europe, but most importantly, it is a city where life is lived and enjoyed.

So come and sample a tasty coffee or the cocktail *Košické zlato* (Košice gold) at one of the street cafes on a Friday evening, when the people of Košice take to the streets and bars of the Old Town centre, or why not visit the *Východoslovenské múzeum* (East Slovak Museum) and admire the gold treasure (and secretly wish that you had discovered it), soak up the tropical atmosphere of the Botanical Gardens or just enjoy a stroll around the old streets of the city and drop into a restaurant or bar for a glass of excellent Slovak wine or some local delicacy.

So if you need some advice on where best to shop, eat, relax, have fun, or where to find those special places oozing of history or culture, or where you can do sports or enjoy an excursion, this guide that we have prepared for you reveals all. It will tell you just about everything you need to know about Košice, and what is worth seeing and experiencing to tingle all your senses. Oh, and don't forget, you can get information about the various events and offers available just now, or make an accommodation reservation, on the city's official portal for visitors at www.visitkosice.eu.

We look forward to welcoming you to the city that we love so much. We hope you have a pleasant stay in Košice!

Dr. Richard Raši – Mayor of Košice

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Discover Košice – Getting to Košice

Košice, the capital of East Slovakia. Situated right at the heart of East Slovakia region, Košice is the perfect starting point for trips all around. Getting to Košice is easy, as it has its own international airport, good rail connections direct from all Central European capitals, and it is connected up to the main European road and motorway networks. Once you are in the city, getting around the compact city centre is a piece of cake.

BY AIR

The international airport in Košice is just 6 kilometres south of the city centre. There are daily flight connections with the Slovak capital Bratislava. At present, Košice has regular international air connections with the likes of Prague or Vienna.

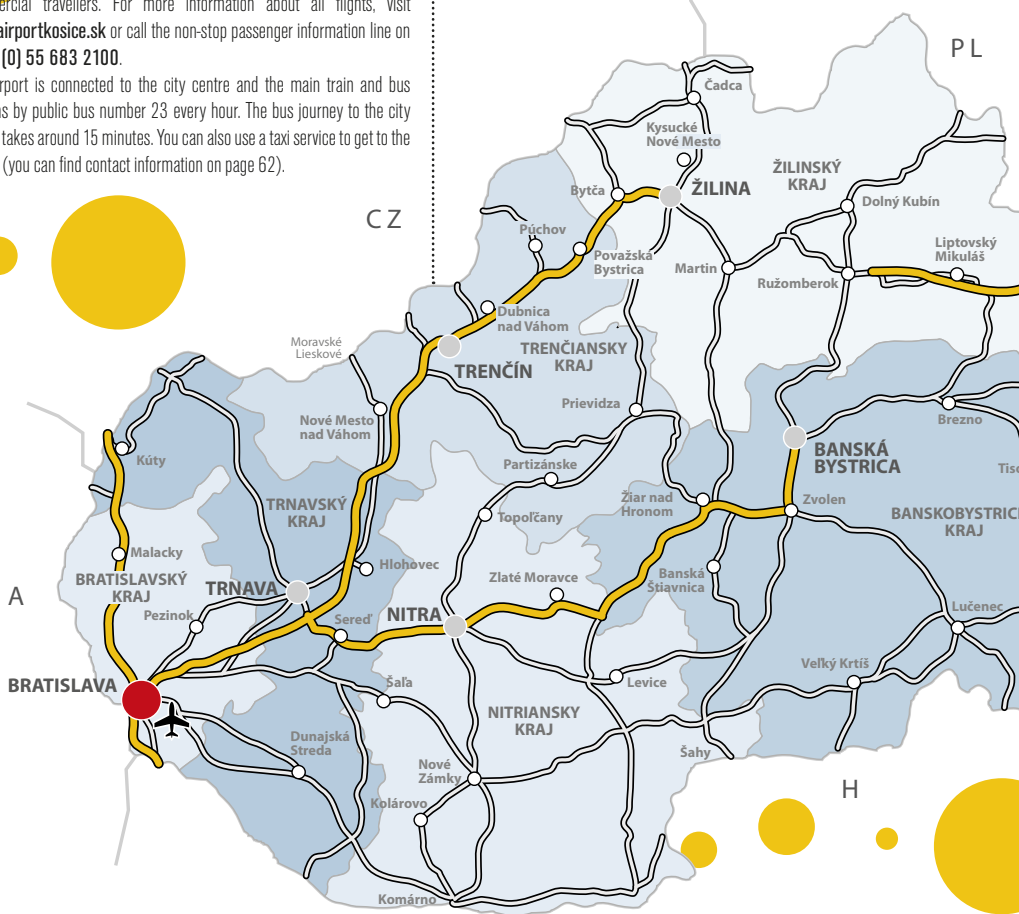
The airport Budapest Ferihegy is just three hours drive from Košice, and there are regular shuttle bus transfers between Budapest – Košice airports five times a day. Reservations: www.cassoviaexpress.sk, +421 (0) 915 115 555.

Košice Airport has a non-stop general aviation service for private and commercial travellers. For more information about all flights, visit www.airportkosice.sk or call the non-stop passenger information line on +421 (0) 55 683 2100.

The airport is connected to the city centre and the main train and bus stations by public bus number 23 every hour. The bus journey to the city centre takes around 15 minutes. You can also use a taxi service to get to the centre (you can find contact information on page 62).

BY TRAIN

Train connections from Vienna, Bratislava and Prague will take you right to Košice city centre. The comfortable journey by EC/IC train from Prague takes 8 hours, while from Bratislava it is just under 5 hours. If you travel at night, you can use the couchette or sleeping cars, or take a motorail train. Košice is also linked by rail to Budapest, with two direct connections – morning and afternoon, with the journey taking around 3.5 hours. Kiev is another destination that the city has direct connections with. For more information go to www.slovakrail.sk or www.cp.sk or call the information line +421 (0) 18 188.



BY BUS

There are direct bus links from Košice to numerous European capitals, i.e. Paris, Rotterdam, Brussels, London, Frankfurt, Berlin, Munich, Zurich, Geneva, Rome, Florence, Venice, Prague and Vienna. There are several connections daily between Bratislava and Košice. For more information, visit www.eurobus.sk or www.cp.sk or call the information line +421 (0) 972 250 305.

BY CAR

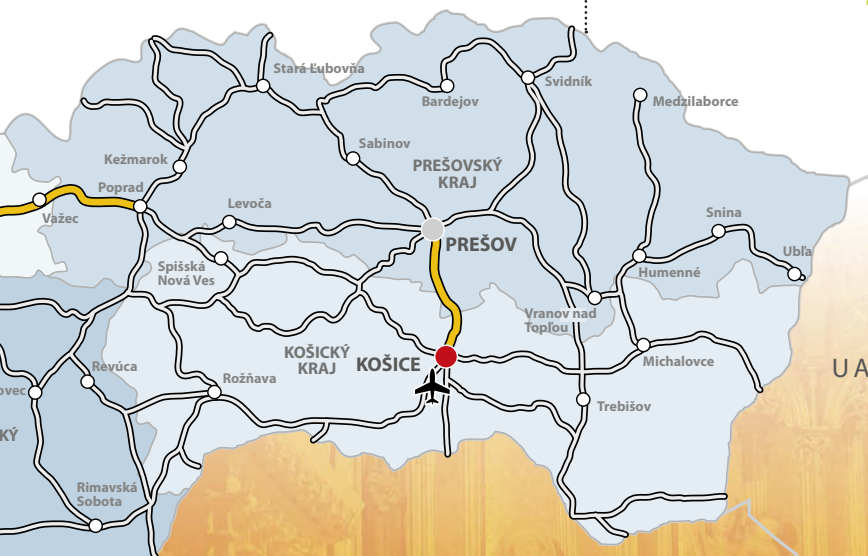
By its position at the north-south crossroads between Poland and Hungary and the east-west route from Bratislava/Prague to Ukraine, the city of Košice is easily accessible from every direction. You can get to Košice from Bratislava along the **E50** international route, most of which is by motorway. From Budapest you can go by motorway or by the **E71/E79** expressway. All routes connect up to the city ring road, from which you can cut off to the city centre, where you will find easy parking. Parking boxes are marked on the streets or you can use one of the car parks. Parking in the centre is charged (for more information about parking, see page 63).

Planning your journey

Košice boasts an excellent public transport system. If you need some help, we will happily give you friendly advice at our Košice Visitor Centre at Hlavná street 59, on the local info line at + 421 55 625 8888 or from the e-mail address visit@visitkosice.eu. We will also gladly prepare an itinerary for your stay and recommend what to visit when in Košice

In the city

Moving around Košice's historic city centre is simple. If you would like to get more acquainted with Košice, you can use public transport. Information about the tram, trolleybus and bus routes, as well as ticket prices, can be found at www.dpmk.sk or www.ke.imhd.sk. You can get advice and information from the Košice Visitor Centre **by calling +421 55 625 8888** or **by e-mailing to visit@visitkosice.eu**.





KOŠICE2013

EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE

Košice stands at the threshold of fundamental changes thanks to the growing significance of the city on the map of Europe and the need to put the past behind us and embrace natural development and the challenges of the 21st century.

www.kosice2013.sk

The city has a multicultural tradition since the times of the Austro-Hungarian Empire experienced major industrialisation in the middle of the last century, which fundamentally changed the social and cultural profile of the city. The era of communist dictatorship and its ideological urbanism created the usual problems seen in post-Soviet towns and cities, with their concrete housing schemes and deformed concept of public space. Thanks to its position as the second city in the country, its proximity to the Schengen zone frontier, and its position as the largest city in the Carpathian region (SK, PL, UA, HU, RO), the city has great potential to become one of the cultural hubs of Europe. The Project Košice INTERFACE 2013 offers a fundamental vision of the holistic development concept of the city,

which defines the processes and roles of culture in the life of the city. In its project of European Capital of Culture 2013, Košice concentrates chiefly on supporting creativity, talent, knowledge, reviving public spaces in the city and getting residents to use them actively, as they also participate in the cultural processes, which is a sure guarantee of success for this ambitious mission. We would like to underline the identity of Košice as a city belonging to Europe, a city with a rich history that lies at a cultural crossroads – but most of all it is a city for those who live here, a city prepared to meet new challenges, ready to develop, capable of thinking, and so reaffirm the city's European dimension, geographically and above all, culturally.

Discover Košice – Top Highlights

Enter Košice and discover a place full of passion, culture, hidden treasures, creativity, religion and sport.

Every step you take in Košice is a step in a city abundant in history. Looking at the buildings in the city centre, you will be taken back to a time cloaked in the cobwebs of the past. Entering the buildings you will step into the 21st century and experience an atmosphere of life as it is today – bustling cafes and stylish shops. If you venture out of the city centre, you will find so much more than you would expect. Summer relax at the lakeside, skating on ice rinks, shopping fever in the many shopping centres, private gallery with works of Andy Warhol or tranquil strolls or cycling in the parks or forest park of the city. You will experience the charm, excitement and vibrancy that the city of Košice has to offer as an ideal destination for a great long weekend.

Why not start your visit with a tour of the city? On the tour you will visit places showing traces left by Roman emperors, kings, presidents, the Pope, artists and writers. Sample the flavour of Košice on a culinary journey, step into the world of museums and galleries, or join the throngs of fans at some sporting event. After a nice dinner, you can spoil yourself at a spa or get sucked in by the busy nightlife. Take in a concert, an enchanting play at the theatre, dance the night away at a bar, go see a good film or simply enjoy a relaxing glass of fine wine. If you exhaust the possibilities of the city, the region of East Slovakia has so much more to offer, making extending your stay by a few days well worth while. We will gladly advise you about what natural beauties and works of human creativity you should not miss out on.

LONG WEEKENDS

Whether you are an adult, a child, a fan of culture, a gourmet, sportsperson, businessperson or are retired, Košice has something for everyone. Throughout the year the city has an excellent programme prepared for you to make your ideal weekend exactly what you expect it to be. Visit Košice for a cultural, sporting or culinary weekend. No matter when you come, we guarantee that your stay will be full of experiences.

ATMOSPHERE, ARCHITECTURE AND HIDDEN TREASURES

Košice is more than a main street full of fantastic monuments and attractions, which include one of the easternmost Gothic cathedrals in Europe and the largest in Slovakia, **Dóm svätej Alžbety (St. Elisabeth Cathedral)**. There are two more cathedrals in the city: Greek-Catholic and Orthodox, together with temples of 11 different faiths. The special atmosphere is enhanced by the little streets, alleyways and courtyards of the historical buildings in the centre, which conceal many exciting treasures. The many amazing buildings include those of the Jewish congregation – what is now called the **House of Art** or the **Synagogue** on Puškinova street, with its walls bearing the words of the large Jewish congregation that once used to live here. You should not miss out also on a tour of the remnants of the medieval city fortifications – **Executioner's Bastion**, the **Dolná brána (Lower gateway)**, the **Bastion on Krmanova street** and the **reconstructed bulwark on Hradbová street**. Other interesting sites include **Jakab Palace**, **Hrnčárska street**

– **Crafts Lane**, **Miklúš Prison**, the treasures of **Komenského street** or a visit to the **Monastery and church of the Dominican Order**, where under the carpets in the Presbytery we can find the ancient Indian swastika religious symbols (cult symbol in the shape of an equilateral cross). You can get to know the city also by its details – take a look at some of the beautiful balconies of the noble homes and buildings, for instance. They all have unique facades or their own special story to tell. Artistic works are complemented by sculptures (for example, the sitting **Sándor Márai** on Zbrojníčna street or the **Marathoner statue** on Námestie Maratónu mieru (Peace Marathon Square), plaques and commemorative notices on houses recalling renowned former locals and residents of the city, or simply praising their beauty. The Košice period of the Argentinean Recoleta – **Rozália cemetery** offers a walk among the other treasures of the “dead town” – amazing headstones of some of the city's admired personalities.

ATTRACTIONS

In terms of size, **Košice Zoo** in the Kavečany district is the third largest in Central Europe, with its pride and joy being the breeding of Przewalski horses. Feeding the animals is always very popular, as is watching the majestic brown bear, which gave birth to quintuplets and putting Košice Zoo into the Guinness Book of World Records. In the summer months the Zoo has a special programme called **Night at the Zoo** – at the seasonal scout camp in the children's Zoo. The largest botanical garden in Slovakia in terms of area is the **Botanical Gardens** on Mánesova street, which is home to over 4,000 species of plants. The temporary exhibitions of tropical butterflies, orchids and cactuses are truly inspirational. In the summer, the various events that you must see include a trip on the **Children's railway** in the Čermeľ valley, which is drawn by the oldest operating steam locomotive in Central Europe called Katka, or visit the **Watchtower** on Hradová hill offering a fantastic panorama of Košice, or try the original cocktail **Košické zlato (Košice Gold)**.

Košice breaths culture and sport

The title of European Capital of Culture 2013 encourages a visit to at least one cultural event in Košice. In traditional spirit you will be welcomed to the **State Theatre Košice** or the **State Philharmonic Košice**, for instance, or there is the unorthodox project **Košice 2013 at Kasárne/ Kultúrpark or Tabačka Kulturfabrik**. Košice lives also for sport. Join the many hockey fans for the electrifying atmosphere of the **STEEL ARENA**, support the basketball teams at the Infinity Arena or run the oldest marathon in Europe and the second oldest in the world – the **International Peace Marathon**. At the water-ski zone on Jazera lake you can find one of just three **water-ski tow areas** in Slovakia, where an excellent atmosphere is always guaranteed.

HERITAGE AND CITY WALKS – How to explore the city

The compact historic city centre boasts many monuments that catch your attention immediately by their impressiveness, but there are also many hidden in the shadows that need to be sought out. There is something for everyone, though. History, legends, amazing stories and something of interest on every corner – that is Košice, a city with which you will be in love at first sight. Mr. Róbert Pollák, director of the East Slovak Museum in Košice, gives you some good tips by revealing his own favourite monuments in Košice.

"We all have our own favourite cities and places in them where they like to return. Because Košice is my birthplace – "the little city", as I usually refer to it with people who haven't been here yet, I have a lot of favourite places in the city. But my **real favourite** I guess is **Hlavná ulica and the surroundings**. Find time to have a relaxing morning sat in the park between the **majestic House of Art and the Theatre**, which always fascinate me. I usually imagine how a century ago throngs of "Košičans" would move along the **bustling promenade** and surely debate over whether the new millennium would bring good or bad to them and the city. Try comparing

their possible imaginings with your own knowledge and experiences. It will be educational for sure. I can easily recommend yet another interesting experience – **a piece of Turkey in Košice**. From the theatre, passing through the street Premonštrátska ulička near Levoča House you go on until the Executioner's Bastion. It is not a mosque or minaret, but a true copy of the architecture from the ancient Turkish city of **Tekirdağ**, and what's more unique is that it houses also **original parts of the dining room, adorned with Oriental ornamentation** from the beginning of the 18th century and transported to Košice in 29 crates in 1906."



Five monuments we recommend

St. Elisabeth Cathedral

St. Michal Chapel

State Theatre

Jakab Palace

The Executioner's Bastion complex with the Rodošto,

Mikluš Prison and the Executioner's Flat



In the footsteps of famous figures – sculptures and plaques

Rodošto

Sándor Márai

Gerster House

Aurel Stodola

St. Nepomuk Chapel

Július Jakoby



Top city parks

Botanical Gardens of the J.P. Šafárik University

Park at the Singing Fountain

Anička Park

City Park



Stroll through the streets of Košice and enjoy the ever present beauty of the monuments. If you would like to know more, we have a few tips for you on how to recognise not just the facades, but also the history and legends. Set off on a walking or heritage tour or walk of the city.

GUIDED TOURS OF THE CITY

You can take a guided tour of the city any time you want. From the many tours on offer, we recommend four tours for you here, in particular. **Two of them take you to Košice's greatest treasures.** The first, a walking tour, covers monuments from the Must See category, while the second unveils other legends of Košice. For those interested in becoming more acquainted with the most interesting sites of worship, there is a **tour of the finest Košice sacral buildings.** Regarding the history of Košice, there is also a **thematic Jewish tour.** **You can book your tours in person at the Košice Visitor Centre** or by using the tourism portal www.visitkosice.eu, or a combination of the two. All the tours start from outside the Košice Visitor Centre at Hlavná 59.

HERITAGE TOURS OF KOŠICE

Another tour option for getting to know the city is a heritage tour, which often takes you to places that are not usually accessible to the public. They take place **on the first weekend of every month, with different theme and route every month.** Each heritage tour is devoted to a specific topic concerning the past or present of Košice and are in Slovak, Hungarian, English and Spanish. You can find out about the times, themes and tickets for heritage tours at the Košice Visitor Centre or from the website www.potulka.sk. The starting point for the tours is in front of the National Science Library at Hlavná street 10.

Popular tour themes: Košice during socialism / Symbols in Košice / Alleyway secrets / St. Michael's Chapel / Fires in Košice / Jewish Košice / Art Nouveau Košice / Underground Košice / St. Elisabeth Cathedral / Košice Hall of Fame. Dominican Church and monastery.

UNUSUAL TOURS

In addition to the traditional tours and heritage tours, you can also design your own tour. Just visit the Košice Visitor Centre, choose from the list of monuments that most interest you and so create your own route in Košice. For lovers of fine flavours, we have a culinary tour of the city just for you, by which you can get a true taste of Košice also through various specialties and dishes. Other tours include **Medieval Košice**, and the ever popular tour **In the footsteps of Sándor Márai**.

**Košice,
a city that appeals
to all your
senses.**



HERITAGE AND CITY WALKS – Top highlights of Košice

Discover the fascinating highlights of Košice with a spirit of history and famous legends. Visit the places where life has pulsed since the city was established, learn about a famous local, the city's patron, the place where the Košice government manifesto was drawn up, the local "radio", the harp theatre or the epitaph for the living. There will be no shortage of superlatives on this tour.

Tour information: the tour sets off from in front of the Košice Visitor Centre at Hlavná 59 and takes about 1.5 hours. The tour is led by an experienced guide in the language of your choice.

1 Dolná brána (Lower gateway)

The Dolná brána is so named for the underground museum complex with original gateway to the city and parts of the original town fortifications, which were established in the 2nd half of the 13th century. It was uncovered when the main street Hlavná street was being reconstructed in 1996. Today, thanks to its unique atmosphere, the complex is now a place of exhibitions, receptions, various events, including the traditional Košice Wine Festival in September.

2 Gersterou dom (Gerster House)

The name of this Košice native will mean nothing to many people, but we might recognise the names of his works from geography lessons. Just a short distance from the exit from the underground museum you can witness the statue of Košice-born genius engineer Béla Gerster – designer of well-known ship-ways, canals and railways, including the Panama Canal or the Corinth Canal.

3 Župný dom

One of the features of palaces in Košice is the placement of coats-of-arms above the main facing. The coat-of-arms of the former Abov-Turniansky territorial unit from 1558 adorns the Župný Dom building, which served as administrative centre for the unit from 1779. It is now home to the East Slovak Gallery, and in addition to premises for art expositions, the Gallery houses an exquisite meeting room and the smallest public cinema in Košice.



4 City Coat-of-Arms

As you come out of the Gallery, you enter a small park. At the south end there is a bronze statue of the current Košice coat-of-arms. On the bottom left you can also see the original coat-of-arms from 1369, which is linked to one of the oldest royal deeds of its kind in Europe – the deed of King Louis the Great granting the coat-of-arms to the city, the first in Europe to receive such a privilege.



5 Dóm sv. Alžbety (St. Elisabeth Cathedral)

The symbolism of the city's patron is evident as soon as you visit St. Elisabeth Cathedral. Construction work on the Cathedral started around 1380 on the site of an even older temple. It is one of the easternmost western-style Gothic cathedrals in Europe, as well as the biggest temple of worship in Slovakia. It houses the fascinating Altar of St. Elisabeth, a rare gothic double spiral staircase – one of just five of its kind in Europe (open to public), the crypt of the leader of the biggest anti-Habsburg uprising in the former Kingdom of Hungary, Francis II Rákóczi (open to the public), and also the outdoor sundial from 1477. The work of master stonemason Štefan, a local artist from the 15th century, adorn both the interior and exterior. Thanks to the fantastic view of the city centre, climbing the 60-metre high northern tower is well worth the effort. The latest research links the pompousness and logic of the construction of this church with the miracle of the Blood of Christ, which took place on these sites in the 14th century. The church has been visited for centuries by pilgrims from all of Europe and in 1402 Pope Boniface IX confirmed that the relic of the blood of Christ had been preserved here. The holy mass in Latin on Sundays at 9 a.m. provides an excellent mixture of medieval architecture, the language of Medieval Europe and Baroque music.



6 Kaplnka sv. Michala (St. Michael's Chapel)

The chapel, which can be found south of St. Elisabeth Cathedral, comes from the 14th century. It represents the culmination of the gothic period and is surprising by its stylish precision, intimacy and harmony. At one time it was surrounded by the city cemetery and contained an ossuary. This is why it is devoted to the escort of souls to the other side, Archangel Michael, whose medieval statue portraying the judging of the dead souls is placed above the entrance to the chapel. Masses are also given in English at the chapel, every Sunday at 11:00.



7 Urbanova veža (St. Urban's Tower)

The bell-tower that houses a copy of the Bell of St. Urban, while the original from 1557 is in placed in front of St. Urban's Tower itself. Under the porticos there are gravestones representing rare examples of Antiquity, Gothic and Baroque art. The 45-metre high tower also contains the only museum of wax figurines in Slovakia, which will reveal the city's history to you also via its personalities.



8 Park with singing fountain and bell chimes

Every hour on the hour the park resounds with distinctive bell chimes from twenty two bells. From May to October the singing fountain adds to its melodies, with shooting jets of water at the end (illuminated at night) in rhythm to the calming music.



9 Štátne divadlo (State Theatre)

Taking a stroll around the fountain, you will come across the impressive entrance to the State Theatre building designed by architect Adolf Lang. The theatre put on its first performance back in 1899. In addition to the Neo-Baroque exterior with Art Nouveau elements, visitors will be enthralled by the wavy interior in the shape of a harp, the intimacy and greatness of the theatre, while beautiful components of Art Nouveau and scenes on the ceiling from four plays of world-renowned playwright William Shakespeare, created by Peregrin von Gastgeb from Vienna. Apart from the Slovak National Theatre in Bratislava, it is the only triple ensemble theatre in Slovakia (opera, ballet, drama).



10 Immaculata (Plague Column)

Right behind the theatre you can find the Plague Column of the Virgin Mary from 1723 (Immaculata). The column is situated in a small park and commemorates the gratitude to Mother Mary for an end to the plague epidemic from 1709 and 1710. It is a fine example of a Baroque sculpture surrounded by later sculptures of saints and angels. According to historic documents, the bodily remains of St. Valentine were placed under one of the columns here.



11 Historická radnica (Old Town Hall)

The last stop on this tour takes in the historic town hall, which was built from 1779 to 1780 and has a distinct Košice coat-of-arms over the balcony. Inside we can find stunning halls and representational premises of the city mayor, with one of them containing an effigy to the first men of the city. Passing through the courtyard you will come to the former cinema Fórum/ Slovan, the reconstructed covered hall of which now serves for concerts and theatrical performances. The Košice Visitor Centre is situated on the ground floor.



St. Elisabeth Cathedral



HERITAGE AND CITY WALKS The Old Town Walk

An extension to the tour Top Highlights of Košice will take you to other places that are concealed from common tourists in the little side streets. You continue along to discover the medieval fortifications of Košice and the dungeon, the Košice house arrest prison for the unruly leader, the palace on the riverbank, the nooks and crannies of City Park, Košice's world renowned writer, the symbol and names of the winners of the Peace Marathon and the place where the golden treasure is to be found.

Tour information: The tour starts in front of the Košice Visitor Centre at Hlavná 59 and takes at about 2.5 hours. It is led by an experienced guide in the language of your choice.

12 Miklušova väznica (Mikluš Prison)

The original two gothic houses with well-reputed pottery workshop were converted in the 17th to the 19th centuries into a prison and torture chamber. In the adjacent underpass over Hrnčiarska street there is the Executioner's Flat (awarded as 2009 Exposition of the Year). Today it houses a museum with the exposition Košice through the centuries, where you can experience the mysterious medieval atmosphere. Every year during the event Night at the Museum, the prison comes to life with real walls and screams of prisoners and those being tortured.



13 The Executioner's Bastion and Rodošto Areál – commemorative house of Francis II Rákóczi

The most stunning example of medieval Košice bulwark and the largest bastion in Slovakia is the Katova bašta (Executioner's Bastion), which protected one of the entrance points to the city – Maľovaná brána (Painted Gateway). The grounds of the bastion are home to a copy of the Turkish exile home of the last leader of the anti-Habsburg uprising, Francis II Rákóczi, which is named after the former name of his place of exile Rodošto, and which brings a touch of the orient to Košice. If you are interested in your own commemorative coin, announce it in advance at the Rodošto mint and you will have a unique souvenir to take home from Košice.



14 Jakabov palác (Jakab Palace)

At the end of Mynska street opposite City Park, the site where the enchanting artificial brook called Mlynský náhon was originally created is now home to this charming palace. The palace was not the residence of some noble family, however, but the private house of well-known Košice builder Peter Jakab, who was also responsible for building the State Theatre building and the East Slovak Museum. In April 1945 the palace enjoyed its greatest heyday, when for over a month it was the residence of the president of the Czechoslovak Republic, Edvard Beneš.



15 Mestský park

The City Park covering over 11 hectares is the gateway to the historic centre. It was established in the 18th century, and today popular sports areas and the city's swimming baths are on its outer edge. The park is vibrant especially in the summer, when it comes to life with the multimedia street theatre Imaginacie, and in the first week of October during the Festival of Lights, Nuit Blanche (White Night).



16 Márai's sculpture

The little side streets leading from City Park bring you to the sculpture of probably the most famous local of Košice – world-renowned author Sándor Márai, who spent his childhood and part of his teenage years in the city. The interactive sculpture shows him as he was, deep in contemplation. Just sit next to him...



17 The Marathoner sculpture and the International Peace Marathon

At the end of Hlavná street lies Námestie Maratónu mieru (Peace Marathon Square), which commemorates the oldest marathon in Europe. Its symbol is a running man made by the sculptor Ľudovik Račko, together with the names of the winners of individual years. You can take on the 42 km run through the city every year in the first weekend in October together with thousands of other

enthusiasts. If you don't feel up to it, you can register for the half marathon or mini marathon (4.2 km). You will never receive as big an applause as when you run through the Košice streets.

18 Východoslovenské múzeum (East Slovak Museum)

Right behind the marathon runner sculpture there is a majestic New Renaissance building of the East Slovak Museum from 1896 to 1899. The most active museum in Slovakia in terms of the number of exhibitions, with numerous expositions, hides a true jewel in its vaults (when not travelling round the world), namely the Košice Golden Treasure.

Right behind the marathon runner sculpture there is a majestic New Renaissance building of the East Slovak Museum from 1896 to 1899. The most active museum in Slovakia in terms of the number of exhibitions, with numerous expositions, hides a true jewel in its vaults (when it is not travelling round the world), namely the Košice Golden Treasure.

Opposite the building of the East Slovak Museum we can find one of the most stunning buildings in the city – the building Divízie, which was built for the military leaders and adorned with military attributes. Today it is the seat of the Košice Autonomous Region and houses expositions of East Slovak Museum with gems from the Gothic, Baroque and Renaissance periods, as well as some unique natural items from the Carpathians.



HERITAGE AND CITY WALKS The religious Košice

Admirers of sacral buildings and those seeking pious and tranquil places for contemplation can take the specially prepared tour entitled Religious Košice. You will witness the beauty of the most visited temple, St. Elisabeth Cathedral, or the most highly revered St. Michael's Chapel, but that's not all. You will also be captivated by the many stories, curiosities and treasures of less-known religious buildings, which take you on a journey through various architectonic styles – from Roman style, Gothic, through Renaissance and Baroque to rondo cubism.

Tour information: the tour starts in front of the Košice Visitor Centre at Hlavná 59 and takes about 2 hours. It is led by an experienced guide in the language of your choice.

19 Kostol najsvätejšej Trojice (University Church of the Holy Trinity – Church of the Premonstratensians)

The most vibrantly decorated church from 1681 is bursting with colours with a cross-section of renaissance and colourful baroque interior. It is typified by more personal access to God, reified in the segregated side chapels with altars, which means everybody can pray in privacy. The church itself with annexed monastery and erstwhile university is interesting also for the illusion of the front wall by Erasmus Schrött, by a rare carved pulpit from the 17th century, or stunning ceiling murals with scenes linked to the founder of the order of premonstrants, St. Norbert.



20 Kostol sv. Antona Paduánskeho (Church of St. Anthony of Padua, referred to as the Seminary Church)

The longest and second oldest church in Košice was originally established by the Franciscans at the end of the 14th century. Firstly a church, then a weapons store, barracks, a food store, a temporary cathedral – the temple went through all these stages until eventually returning to the original function, while having the honour in 1995 of welcoming Pope John Paul II, who briefly wandered also in the adjacent building of the convent. In addition to holy masses all year round, you should not miss out on the Christmas concert if you get a chance, as it is a truly magnificent experience.

The church is equipped also with the largest mechanical **ruženec in Slovakia. Its carved figures move, gradually revealing individual secrets of the painful, joyful, ceremonial and **ba i ruženca svetla.

21 Dominikánsky kostol (Dominican Church)

From the temples of Hlavná street we move to the well-known Dominikánske námestie (Dominican Square) with market, which takes its names from the oldest church in the city from 13th century. Next to the church there was also a monastery, which in the 14th century housed a school and a renowned limner workshop. There are numerous curiosities here: the fascinating frescos on the walls of the church create the illusion as if it doesn't even have a roof, while its underground section was used for burials, but also as a hideaway at the end of World War II. Under the carpet you will find swastika symbols, and there are false cracks on the walls ...



5 Dóm svätej Alžbety (St. Elisabeth's Cathedral)

6 Kaplnka Sv. Michala (St. Michael's Chapel)

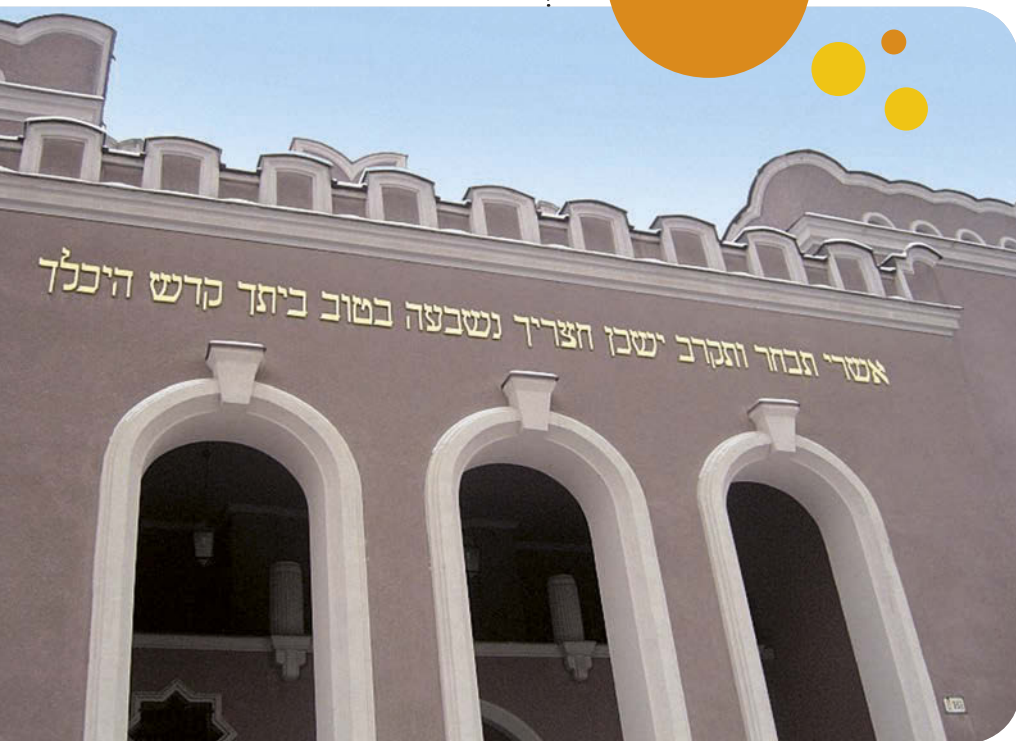
22 Synagogue on Zvonárska street with prayer room and mikvah – the Jewish congregation

Among the houses on the side street Zvonárska street stands the rather inconspicuous building of the oldest preserved synagogue in Košice from 1883 – a fine example of Moorish style. Right next to it, is the entrance to the Košice Jewish religious congregation and the prayer building. The courtyard contains the Rabbi's apartment, the premises and former flat for the shochet (the person who ritually slaughters the animals and sells the meat from them), a kosher canteen and the office of the congregation, as well as the oldest ritualistic pool, a mikvah, in Slovakia.



23 Synagogue and school on Puškinova Street

The whole tour culminates with the reconstructed orthodox synagogue and adjacent Jewish school. The buildings are the work of well-known Košice architect Ľudovít Oelschläger and the builder Hugo Kaboš from the end of the 1930s. The orthodox synagogue is a specific combination of historic elements, with touches of oriental architecture together with modern elements. The interior walls of the synagogue are inscribed in pencil with the comments of Jews who were gathered there before being transported to the concentration camps. It is the only synagogue in Košice to have served its religious purpose perpetually. In the basement of the adjacent school Talmud Tóry there used to be a well-known matzo bakery.



HERITAGE AND CITY WALKS – The Jewish Košice

Before the holocaust, the city of Košice was one of the biggest and most prominent Jewish congregations in present-day Slovakia. In 1930 it was home to over 11,500 Jews, who made up 16.4% of the total population of the city, while the Jews were not allowed to settle in the city until after 1840. Yet it took under three weeks in 1944 for almost the whole Jewish community to be shipped off in transporters to Auschwitz-Birkenau and other concentration camps. They left their monuments as a legacy, though, enhancing the city and telling their own sombre stories. By their beauty, atmosphere and uniqueness, the Jewish monuments make this tour a truly unique experience.

Tour information: The tour starts in front of the Košice Visitor Centre at Hlavná 59 and takes about 1.5 hours. **The tour is led by an experienced guide in the language of your choice.**

24 Dom umenia (House of Art – formerly the neological synagogue)

We set off on this thematic Jewish tour in front of the House of Art, which from 1867 was the site of the beautiful building of the first synagogue in Košice, which was eventually razed to the ground at the beginning of the 1960s. Between 1926 and 1927 a neological synagogue was erected next to it with a capacity for 1100 people and a huge elliptical dome with diameters of 21m and 24m, reminiscent of the Roman Pantheon, which has been preserved unchanged to the present day. Since being converted, it has served as the home of the State Philharmonic in Košice. An interesting feature is that the top of the dome was once home to a six-pointed star of David, which is now to be found on the holocaust memorial in the Jewish cemetery (on Rastislavova street). The star was replaced by a lute.



25 School building on Tajovského street

The school building was functionally linked to the synagogue on the first floor. It has a very impressive facade and its restored appearance can be enjoyed directly from the street. It was once an educational centre for some of the Košice Jews.



22 Synagogue on Zvonárska street with prayer room and mikvah – the Jewish congregation

26 The old puppet theatre – Jewish casino

In 1893 the Jews in Košice set up the Košice social circle, so-called Jewish casino and in 1910 they had a separate Art Nouveau palace built. It housed social rooms and a café. After the war and a conversion, from 1962 until the beginning of the 1990s it was used as a puppet theatre.



23 Synagogue and school on Puškinova street

If you are interested, the tour can also take you to the following three places:

Old and new Jewish cemetery

Every Jewish religious congregation had its own cemetery quite a distance away from the synagogue. The Košice one had its on Tatranska street, with it serving from 1844 to 1877. This is the burial place also of the parents of famous Jewish painter Leopold Holowitz. Today the cemetery covers an area of just 50 x 70 m. The new Jewish cemetery is located next to the public cemetery on Rastislavova street. In the middle of it stands a monument to the victims of the holocaust, which contains also a six-pointed star from the former Neological synagogue, now home to the House of Art.

Wartime Jewish ghetto

On what today is Bajzova street close to the bus station there was a transit Jewish ghetto during the war, where the Jews from Košice and the surrounding villages were congregated. The street was closed off and life was concentrated only on the space between the walls of the two square buildings with courtyards.





MUSEUMS AND ATTRACTIONS Košice museums

There is a rich choice of museums in Košice with something for everyone. For lovers of archaeology there is the underground below Hlavná street or the example of digging sites in Nižná Myšľa. Košice's position on key medieval trading routes, the golden treasure, period art and life, can all be found in the oldest museum in Košice, established in 1872. You can see famous personalities from history in life-sized wax figures at the only wax museum in Slovakia, and a memorial room for one of the city's best-known natives. In addition to an exhibition of the works of renowned Košice sculptor, the Vojtech Löffler Museum maps out the current direction of the contemporary art scene and gives space to young artists. Those visitors interested in science and research will be pleased with the only technical museum here, which in addition to the main building, offers many other interesting places to admire the stars, clocks or aircraft. The customs and folklore of the Abou county (historic territorial unit corresponding to Košice environs) are revealed in the unique ethnographic museum HUMNO. Submerge into the various worlds in Košice and get closer to nature, history or even the stars.

ARCHAEOLOGY FOREMOST

Right at the beginning of Hlavná street there is the **Underground archaeological museum**, which reveals one of the original gateways to the city from the 13th century, together with other historic fortifications, bulwark and buildings. You can be taken even further back in history by the **Nižná Myšľa Local Museum**, where you can find local digging sites from the settlement of primeval hunters of moose and mammoth and their graves from 3,500 years ago.



Underground archaeology museum – Dolná brána

An underground museum complex with original gateway to the city and original fortifications from the 13th to the 15th century, which were uncovered during reconstruction work on Hlavná street in 1996.

Location: Under Hlavná street in Košice

T: Košice Visitor Centre, +421 (0) 55 625 888

E: info@visitkosice.eu, **W:** www.visitkosice.eu

Opening hours: May – September: Tuesday – Sunday 10:00 – 18:00

Nižná Myšľa Local Museum

A museum situated in the building of the former Myšľa monastery can be found in the nearby village of Nižná Myšľa, where in 1977 extensive research was carried out on the Late Bronze Age settlement and graveyard – the oldest settlement in Slovakia. Don't miss out on a tour of the exhibits that moose and mammoth hunters had in their houses and which they used to bury with their loved ones. These include the likes of the best-known and oldest toy to be found in Slovakia – a clay cart. You can also investigate the underground catacomb of the monastery.

Location: Nižná Myšľa, 10 km from Košice

T: +421 55 (0) 698 01 24

E: info@niznamysla.sk,

W: www.niznamysla.sk, Culture section

Opening hours: open on request

NATURE, HISTORY, TREASURE, ART AND PERSONALITIES

You can find out about the nature of the Carpathians, the art and history of Košice, the historical figure of Francis II Rákóczi and the medieval prison with Executioner's Flat at the **East Slovak Museum in Košice**, which organises various thematic exhibitions in its four buildings in the historic city centre. Starting again in 2013, visitors to the museum will enjoy the exposition called Košice Gold Treasure. Wax figures of the most famous personalities of Košice make up the exposition at the only Slovak **Wax Museum** in St. Urban's Tower. The birth and life of world-renowned author Sándor Márai is recollected in his **Memorial Room** on Másiarska street. **The museum** of the excellent Košice sculptor and promoter of art Vojtech Löffler celebrates his artistic works.

East Slovak Museum in Košice

The underground safe for the Košice Golden Treasure, the all-wooden church in Kožuchovce, the resident exposition Nature of the Carpathians and Centuries of Art in the building at Hviezdoslavova 3, the oriental memorial house of Francis II Rákóczi – Rodošto, the metal foundry exposition, the bells in the Executioner's Bastion, and the walking tour and haunted tour Košice Through the Centuries in Mikluš Prison.

Location: Hviezdoslavova street 3, Košice

T: +421 55 622 30 61, +421 55 622 03 09

E: info@vsmuzeum.sk, **W:** www.vsmuzeum.sk

Opening hours: Tuesday – Saturday 9:00 – 17:00, Sunday 9:00 – 13:00



Wax Museum Košice

At the museum you can view 23 unique wax figures of famous personalities from the history of Slovakia and Košice, including the patron saint of the city St. Elisabeth Durínska, pop-art guru Andy Warhol, or the builder of St. Elisabeth Cathedral, master Štefan.

Location: Urban's Tower – Hlavná street, Košice

T: +421 55 622 30 61, +421 55 622 03 09

E: info@vsmuzeum.sk, **W:** www.vsmuzeum.sk

Opening hours: Tuesday – Sunday 10:00 – 18:00



Sándor Márai Memorial Room

The Memorial Room underwent complete revitalisation, with the outcome of a modern design and modern technological solutions. In addition to the writer's personal belonging, there are many new features. The biographical film "Proti vetru" (Against the wind) is screened on an interactive panel and we can hear some of the more famous citations from Márai's works. The exposition leads us to places in Košice and in the world, where the famous writer was active.

Location: Másiarska 35, Košice

T: +421 (0) 55 625 8888

E: info@visitkosice.eu, **W:** www.visitkosice.eu

Opening hours and admission: entry on booking



Vojtech Löffler Museum

The artistic core and community centre of contemporary art, which in addition to housing an exposition of the works of the sculptor Vojtech Löffler and unique auto portraits of the most prestigious Košice painters of the 20th century, also maps and supports the development of painting, providing space for the presentation of contemporary fine art and the new generation of artists.

Location: Alžbetina 20, Košice

T: +421 (0) 55 622 30 73, +421 (0) 55 622 32 34

E: lofflermuzeum@post.sk

W: www.lofflermuzeum.sk

Opening hours: Tuesday – Saturday 10:00-18:00

(free entry on Friday afternoons), Sunday 13:00-17:00

Glass Museum

A fascinating exhibition of the art of glassmaking, which you can view any time the cafe of Hotel Zlatý Dukát is open.

Location: Hlavná 16, Košice

T: +421 (0) 55 727 93 33

E: hotel@hotelzlatydukut.sk, W: www.hotelzlatydukut.sk

Opening hours: off-peak 11:00-23:00, summer season 10:00-22:00

EXPLORING AND TECHNICAL HERITAGE

Set off in the footsteps of Aurel Stodola – a major personality of Košice, creator of the theory of steam turbines and master of thermodynamics. It is a known fact that also Albert Einstein would also attend his lectures. Science and research, supported in Košice by the Technical University, is presented to visitors of the **Slovak Technical Museum**, the only one of its kind in Slovakia. Its latest exposition, **Museum of Aviation**, located on the grounds of Košice Airport, has an interesting collection of vintage aircraft. The Slovak Technical Museum also has a **Planetarium** and an exposition of antique timepieces in nearby Budimír.

Slovak Technical Museum

The only museum in Slovakia with many expositions mapping the likes of metallurgy, mechanical engineering, mining, artistic metalwork, the development of geodetic equipment and cartography, or the development of typewriters. It also includes the Aurel Stodola energy department and the Hall of electric charge.

Location: Hlavná 88, Košice

T: +421 (0) 55 622 40 35

E: stmke@stm-ke.sk, W: www.stm-ke.sk

Opening hours: Tuesday – Friday 8:00-17:00, Saturday – Sunday 12:00-17:00



Planetarium

Explore beyond the stars at the Planetarium.

Location: Slovak Technical Museum, Hlavná 88, Košice

T: +421 (0) 55 726 06 56

E: planetarium.stm@stm-ke.sk, W: www.stm-ke.sk

Opening hours: Tuesday – Friday 8:00 – 17:00, Sunday 14:00; programmes at the Planetarium are put on for groups of at least 10 paying persons. Programmes for the public: Tuesday – Friday and Sunday at 14:00; the Sunday programme should be checked in advance by calling +421 (0) 55 72 606 56 or +421 (0) 55 62 240 35.



Košice Museum of Aviation

The latest exposition of the Slovak Technical Museum presents over 30 airplanes, aircraft engines and the history of aviation.

Location: Košice Airport

T: +421 (0) 55 683 22 72

E: muzeumletectva@stm-ke.sk, W: www.stm-ke.sk

Opening hours: Tuesday – Friday 09:00 – 16:00, Saturday – Sunday 10:00 – 18:00; in the winter season from 15 November to 1 May the guided tours can only be booked in advance on +421 (0) 55 683 22 72 or +421 (0) 903 747 595.





AN UNTRADITIONAL REGION

Regional customs, traditional forms of livelihood, meals and dress, together with traditional artistic culture, can all be witnessed at the untraditional private ethnographic museum HUMNO. Get to know the Košice region through an evening of folk culture, for instance.

HUMNO Ethnographic Museum

Location: Cottbuská 36, KVP estate

T: + 421 (0) 903 905 903, bookings for folk evenings – Košice Visitor Centre +421 (0) 55 625 8888

E: muzeum@humno.sk, W: www.humno.sk

Opening hours: Monday – Thursday 15:00 – 19:00, Saturday – Sunday 9:00 – 12:00, 16:00 – 19:00

MUSEUMS AND ATTRACTIONS ATTRACTIONS FOR EVERYONE

Open your eyes and dream over a view of the whole of Košice, caress and feed the animals, enter a tropical world in the middle of harsh winter, see as far as the stars, stretch your strength to the limit, fly at a speed of 50 kph, feel like in the Middle Ages, or just sit over an ice-cream and watch a theatrical display of water and sound, sample the excellent taste and strength of fine wines or take a trip on a steam locomotive. The top attractions of Košice will appeal to all your senses, offering something special for everyone.

TOP TIPS:

AMAZING VIEWS

The Watchtower (page 36)

Flight by balloon and Balloon Fiesta (page 38)

ADRENALIN

Summer toboggan run (page 36)

MEDIEVAL SHOPPING

Ulička remesiel – Crafts Lane (page 51)

FOR THE LITTLE ONES

Čermel' Children's Railway (page 37)

FAMILY TRIPS

The brook on Hlauná ulica

Park at the Singing Fountain (page 9)

Košice Zoo (page 36)

Botanical Gardens, UPJŠ (page 36)

Sports-leisure area on Alejova street (page 38)

FOR SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS

International Peace Marathon (strana 33)

Waterskiing, Wakeboard and Wakeskate (page 41)

FOR THE FANS

Ice Hockey at Steel Arena (page 40)

FOR FOOD AND WINE LOVERS

Košice Gurmán Fest (page 44)

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SUMMER DAYS AND NIGHTS

Košice Gold cocktail (page 54)

Márai coffee

FOR INSPIRATION

Planetarium (page 20)

PICNIC

Bankov Forest Park (page 37)

Košice Castle (page 36)

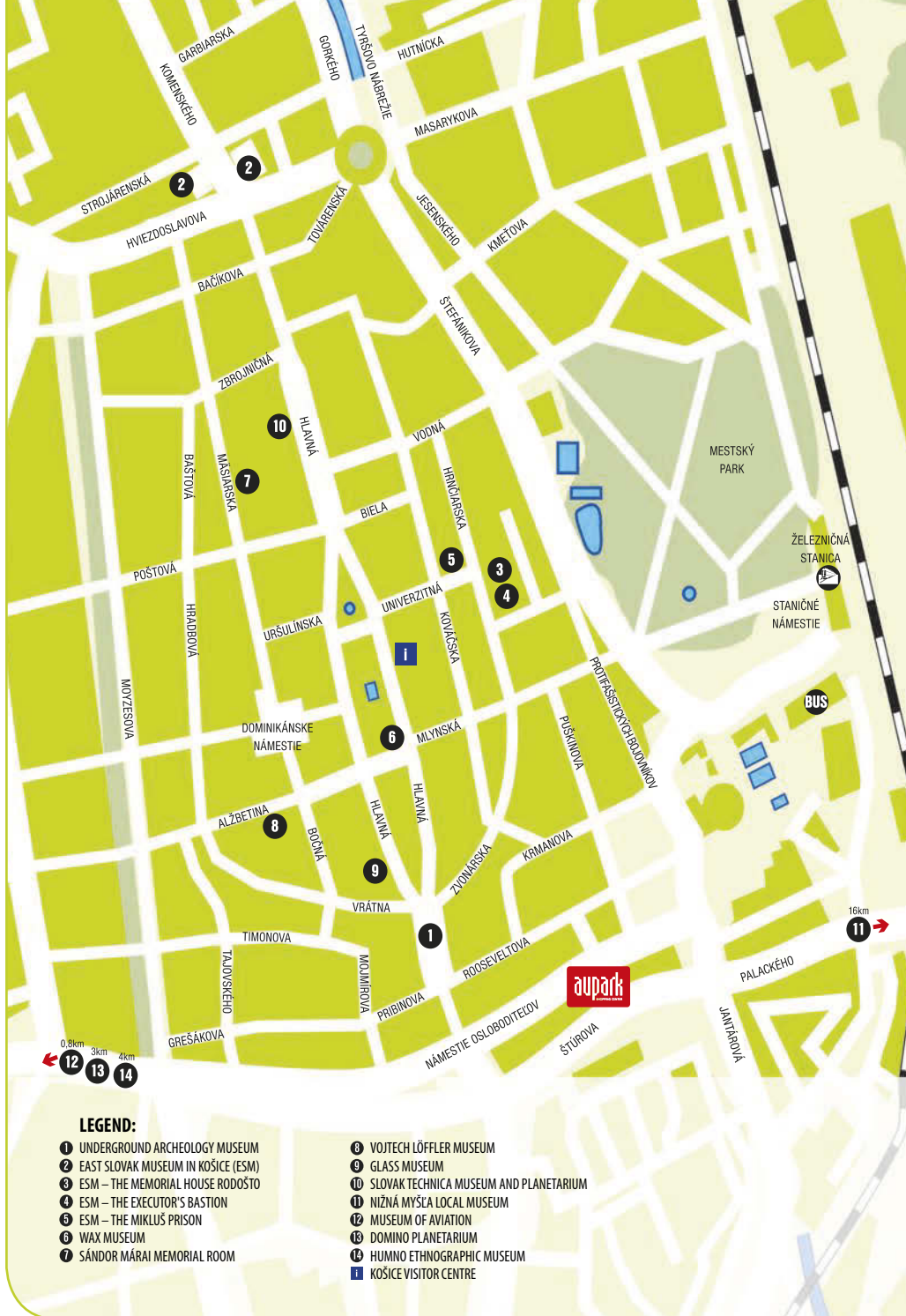
Alpínka – recreational area (page 37)

FOR A RAINY DAY

All museums and galleries (pages 18-20 and page 28)

Hockey match (page 40)

For more information
about all the attractions,
how to get there, opening
times, prices and current offers,
check out the visitor portal at
www.visitkosice.eu



LEGEND:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 UNDERGROUND ARCHEOLOGY MUSEUM | 8 VOJTECH LÖFFLER MUSEUM |
| 2 EAST SLOVAK MUSEUM IN KOŠICE (ESM) | 9 GLASS MUSEUM |
| 3 ESM – THE MEMORIAL HOUSE RODOŠTO | 10 SLOVAK TECHNICA MUSEUM AND PLANETARIUM |
| 4 ESM – THE EXECUTOR'S BASTION | 11 NIŽNÁ MYŠĽA LOCAL MUSEUM |
| 5 ESM – THE MIKLÚŠ PRISON | 12 MUSEUM OF AVIATION |
| 6 WAX MUSEUM | 13 DOMINO PLANETARIUM |
| 7 SÁNDOR MÁRAI MEMORIAL ROOM | 14 HUMNO ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM |
| | 1 KOŠICE VISITOR CENTRE |

ART SCENE AND CULTURE – Art scene

In terms of art and culture, Košice actively works on making sure it is a successful European Capital of Culture 2013. Proof of this can be seen in the whole range of developing artistic projects, new festivals, events and activities being organised in the city for 2013. The sheer quantity of international events, as well as the growing creative community, confirm that Košice has and will have a firm place on the creative map of Europe. Vladimír Beskid, Artistic director of the non-profit organisation Košice – European Capital of Culture 2013, will tell us why it is worth visiting Košice as the capital of culture.

“The key ambition and long-term goal of the project INTERFACE 2013 is to transform and develop the city through a powerful cultural injection, active co-involvement of residents from the city and the East Slovak region, while improving relations between them. This mostly concerns the creation of a core platform for co-forming a new creative and active place of culture at the turn of the 21st century, a new “hot spot” of culture in Central Europe. We revitalised many redundant buildings in the city and are breathing an atmosphere of creativity and fellowship into them. Today, we see the key moments as being the creation of a new cultural infrastructure, which brings a new model of institution to Slovakia (Kasárne/Kulturpark, Kunststhal/Hala umenia, SPOTS), the creation of a new “intelnet” (intellectual network), the natural mobility of artists and artistic thought, the many innovative projects and events of a European scale and with potential for further development.”

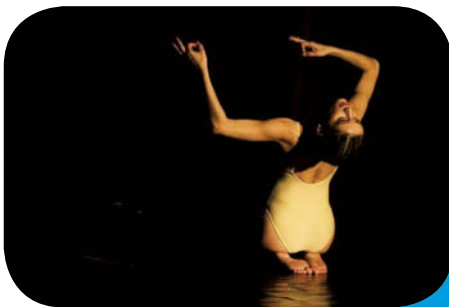


If you are looking for exciting cultural experiences in Košice, the dilemma is not about what to do, but where to start. The theatre or the gallery, modern or classic, pleasantly tranquil or a swinging party; if you are not sure what you want to experience, take a piece of advice – stay in Košice the whole weekend and try something from everything.

Opera, ballet and drama are all on offer at the **State Theatre Košice**, which in addition to the historical building also puts unique shows on at its **Mala scéna [small stage]**. The programme is full of quality performances (some with awards) and fantastic comedies, such as the continually sold-out performances of **Tom, Dick and Harry** starring the excellent actor Michal Soltész. The ballet troupe, currently ranked the best in Slovakia, offers classic and modern dance performances. Košice Opera also guarantees an unforgettable experience, often prepared by distinguished host directors. The **Thália Színház Theatre** and **Márai Stúdió** put on performances in Hungarian, including works of Sándor Márai. Not only children of all ages will appreciate the **Bábkové divadlo [Puppet**

theatre] with the unique performance of **Jorik**, where the performance is played out in the whole theatre hall, creating a different atmosphere every time. Irregular performances are put on by other theatre groups and scenes such as the **Staromestské divadlo [Old Town Theatre]**, **Cassia Dance Theatre** or the professional theatre of the Roma minority **Romathan**. The **Na peróne Theatre** is an independent theatre group that deals with new themes in an innovative way, and is involved in various projects at home and abroad.

The theatre scene in Košice will definitely charm you by its quality, but the city will also captivate you by its visual arts. The foundation of this is the **East Slovak Gallery**, which in two buildings (on Hlavná and Alžbetina streets) presents the very best of classical fine art (Košice modern and other) over a broad spectrum of genres, while also giving space to the new generation of artists. The gallery premises on Alžbetina street is right next to the **Vojtech Löffler Museum**, which is a gallery and museum. Among other things, it houses a collection of works from this highly esteemed sculptor. The thematic collection of works of a specific artist is also offered by the private gallery of the guru of pop-art Andy Warhol, the **Mihal Gallery**. Creative Košice also refers to **Kasárne/Kulturpark** and **TABAČKA KulturFabrik**. An interestingly creative venue is the **Rotunda**, which houses various exhibitions, foremost of the Academy of applied art. Contemporary art can be found at the **Panoptikum Gallery**, while photography is the topic at the **FotoGaleria NOVA**. You can go to view and even buy works of art at the **Unicon-art-gallery**, **DieloPlus.sk** or **KMG – ART**.



Košice has several places also when it comes to choosing film screenings. Set off to either the multiplex **CineMax** in the Optima shopping centre or **Ster Century Cinemas** in the Galéria shopping centre. You can also watch screenings at the cinema **Biograf**, which is part of the East Slovak Museum. Literary art is most present at the **National science library** and **Youth library**, which organises also various workshops and meetings. You can enjoy an untraditional excursion or lecture organised by the **State Archives in Košice**.

From eyes to ears: classical music is catered for by the regular programme of the **State Philharmonic Košice** (mostly Thursdays). Various concerts and performances take place at the **STEEL ARENA** (with some of the biggest stars, like Faithless, Andrea Bocelli or Lenny Kravitz), the **Infiniti Arena**, the sports hall **Cassosport**, **Agentúra GeS**, **Jumbo centrum**, **Old Town Hall** or at the club **Collosseum** (alternative music – from reggae to hardcore). The programme of exhibitions, concerts and other events is complemented also by the likes of the **Youth library** or the **Culture centre of Košice autonomous region**.

Get some
inspiration into the
latest cultural events
also from
www.visitkosice.eu!



ART SCENE AND CULTURE – Košice –

European Capital of Culture 2013

A new artistic chapter in Košice comes in the shape of the two cultural institutions Kasárne/Kulturpark and Kunsthalle, which embody the potential of creativity. They provide a platform for the development of artists, activities and all those who want to be part of the new cultural scene in Košice and the project European Capital of Culture 2013.

Kasárne/Kulturpark

With the transformation of the estate of the former barrack stores of Capt. Jaroš, a venue was established for various cultural functions that were lacking in the city. Kasárne/Kulturpark is the heart of the project Košice – European Capital of Culture 2013 and the premises have been transformed into a modern independent cultural and artistic centre for all fields of art and age groups. The mission of the Kasárne/Kulturpark is also to support local upcoming artists, to develop their artistic skills, provide space for presenting their works, while also creating the platform for creative co-operation between business and art in the East Slovak region, in line with trends of a creative economy of the 21st century. Kasárne/Kulturpark wants to go even further when it comes to the concept of developing creativity. It wants to convert the passive audience into active participants of artistic programmes and establish a Centre of Education in creativity and culture, and city exhibition premises.

Localisation: Kukučínova 2, Košice,
www.kulturpark.sk / www.kosice2013.sk



Kasárne (The Barracks)

The Kasárne, or barracks, is now home to the cultural centre Kulturpark – culture centre. Every month it prepares an attractive multi-genre programme made up of concerts, workshops, lectures, performances, screenings and exhibitions. Kulturpark enjoys co-operation in the creation of the cultural programme and its operation from various entities – civil initiatives, formal groups, or companies, such as Bona Fide, the Na pérone Theatre, Pectus publishing house, MakeUp collective, Kassabovs or Artarch. Kasárne/Kulturpark also hosts international events in the area of contemporary art.

Centre of Education in creativity and culture

The aim of the centre is to provide support to organisations and companies dealing with various kinds of creative activity and the creation of a synergic effect by concentrating them in one place, i.e. the reconstructed premises of the former barracks will be rented out cheap to upcoming and active artists, companies and other entities in the sphere of culture, art and creative industry, including media, and they will also serve for the presentation of works and for education in the field of cultural management.



City exhibition premises

This project focuses on the creation of a new municipal institution with specific programme, which complements the cultural infrastructure of the city by much needed modern premises. It will be split into a museum and a gallery, which will document the transformation of society toward democracy and human liberty, and its artistic manifestations, including reflection. The **Gallery** will be used for presentations of visual art from the Centre of Education in creativity and culture and for projects as part of the overall concept of the Kasárne/Kulturpark.

The year 2013 therefore means new cultural and artistic premises for Kasárne/Kulturpark, together with projects that will breathe a creative spirit into the abandoned army barracks, producing a special atmosphere. You should definitely make a visit.

Kunsthalle/ Hall of Art

The Kunsthalle project – the reconstruction of the old covered swimming baths resolves the establishment of a modern cultural and artistic space. From the perspective of focus, the project is targeted chiefly at international exhibitions of visual arts, artistic objects and new media. By preserving the water element, the Kunsthalle becomes a unique place. It strongly supports the creation and presentation of new original forms of art that do not have such an opportunity elsewhere in Košice or Slovakia. The old swimming baths is designed as the single operation of the Kunsthalle – a multifunctional cultural centre with different premises that can be mutually separated.



ART SCENE AND CULTURE – Art scene

Theatres

Štátne divadlo Košice/Hlavná 58/www.sdke.sk
Malá scéna/Hlavná 76/www.sdke.sk
Divadlo Thália Színház a Márai Stúdió/Timonova 3/
www.thaliaszinhaz.sk
Bábkové divadlo/Aižbetina 38/www.bdke.sk
Divadlo Cassia Dance/Masarykova 2 Jumbo centrum/
www.divadlocassia.sk
Staromestské divadlo/www.staromestske-divadlo.sk
Romathan/www.romathan.sk
Divadlo Na peróne/www.naperone.sk



Galleries

East Slovak Gallery/Hlavná 27/www.vsg.sk/
Opening times: Tuesday – Sunday 10:00 – 18:00
Vojtech Löffler Museum/Aižbetina 20/www.lofflermuzeum.sk/
Opening times: Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 – 18:00, Sunday 13:00 – 17:00
Open on request and during exhibitions:
Mihal gallery/Pri prachárni 5/www.hotelmuza.sk
Rotunda/Zbrojníčná 6/www.suvke.sk
Panoptikum Gallery/Dominikánske námestie 8
FotoGaléria NOVA/Hlavná 48/www.vkjb.sk
Make UP Gallery/Alvinczyho 18/www.makeupcollective.org
Pyecka Studio/Vitézov dvor, Hlavná 40/www.pyecka.com

Art sales

Unicon-art-gallery/Masarykova 2/www.unicon.sk
DieloPlus.sk/Poštová 2/www.dieloplus.sk
KMG – ART/Uršulínska 1/www.galeriobrazov.sk

Cinemas

CineMax/Optima – Moldavská cesta 32/www.cine-max.sk
Ster Century Cinemas/Galéria – Toryská 5/www.stercentury.sk
Biograf/Hlavná 27/www.bioke.sk

Multi-genre programmes

Kasárne Kulturpark/Kukučínova 2/www.kulturpark.sk
TABÁČKA KulturFabrik/Gorkého 2/www.tabacka.sk

Literature

Štátna vedecká knižnica (National Science Library)/Hlavná 10/
www.svkk.sk
Ján Bocati Public Library/Hviezdoslavova 5, Hlavná 48/
www.vkjb.sk
Knižnica pre mládež (Youth Library)/Tajovského 9/
www.n.kosicekmmk.sk
State Archives in Košice/Južná trieda 82/
+421 (0) 55 685 57 23

Music

State Philharmonic Košice/House of Art – Moyzesova 66/
www.sfk.sk
STEEL ARÉNA/Nerudova 12/www.steelarena.sk
Infiniti aréna/Pri jazdiarni 1
Cassosport/Pri prachárni 11/www.cassosport.sk
Agentúra GeS/Námestie L. Novomeského 13/www.ges.sk
Jumbo centrum/Masarykova 2/www.jumbocentrum.sk
Historická radnica (Old Town Hall)/Hlavná 59
Coloseum/Dominikánske námestie 35





LEGEND:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 1 STATE THEATRE | 11 ROTUNDA | 21 TABAČKA KULTURFABRIK | 31 COLOSEUM |
| 2 SMALL SCENE | 12 GALLERY PANOPTIKUM | 22 KASÁRNE/KULTURPARK | 32 MAKE UP GALLERY |
| 3 THÁLIA SZÍNHÁZ THEATRE | 13 NOVA PHOTO GALLERY | 23 NATIONAL SCIENCE LIBRARY | 1 KOŠICE VISITOR CENTRE |
| 4 MÁRAI STÚDIO | 14 UNICON-ART-GALLERY | 24 YOUTH LIBRARY | |
| 5 PUPPET THEATRE | 15 DIELOPLUS.SK | 25 SLOVAK STATE PHILHARMONIC KOŠICE/HOUSE OF ART | |
| 6 THEATRE CASSA DANCE/JUMBO CENTRUM | 16 KMG – ART | 26 STEEL ARENA | |
| 7 ROMATHAN | 17 CINEMAX | 27 INFINITI ARENA | |
| 8 EAST SLOVAK GALLERY | 18 STER CENTURY CINEMAS | 28 CASSOSPORT | |
| 9 EAST SLOVAK GALLERY – ALŽBETINA | 19 PYECKA STUDIO | 29 AGENTÚRA GES | |
| 10 VOJTECH LÖFFLER MUSEUM | 20 BIOGRAF | 30 OLD TOWN HALL | |

A CITY FOR ALL SEASONS – Don't miss

Whether it is spring, summer, autumn or winter, it is simple to find something that you enjoy. From music festivals to a medieval marketplace, festivals of food and wine, theatre and film, through to happenings and street performance. And so much more! To make sure you don't miss out on anything, here is a sample of what goes on in Košice every year. You are warmly welcomed to Košice by city mayor Richard Raši, who shares his personal favourites and tips here.

"For me, as a native to Košice, foremost Košice is home. I am proud to be from the city, which in 2013 will carry the title of European Capital of Culture. I am pleased with the challenges and opportunities to develop, which this prestigious European award to Košice brings with it, because it creates space also for new events. I personally love the sport-charged atmosphere of the **International Peace Marathon**. Every year I go with my family also to the **Christmas Market**, where we have stirred the special **Angels' Sauerkraut Soup** cooked on Hlavná ulica in 300 litre cauldrons. As the Mayor, I look forward to the **Košice Open Doors day** and as a gourmet I recommend the **Košice Gurmán Fest**, when the best restaurants and hotels in the city show off their skills. You also shouldn't miss the **Košice Wine Festival**! Among the new events prepared by the Košice 2013 team, I was enchanted by the **Nuit Blanche – Festival of Lights**. I recommend the **Use The City** festival not just to the young, while all generations will enjoy the month of unique multi-genre events as part of **Summer in the Park**. Theatre and classical music lovers are sure to enjoy the **Central European Theatre Festival** and **Košice Musical Spring** – an event with over fifty years tradition. I would like to invite you already this year to an appetizer of what awaits you in You will be warmly welcome in Košice anytime of the year!"



RECOMMENDED – DON'T MISS:

Cuisine

Košice Gurmán Fest
Košice Wine Festival

Traditional folklore

Cassovia Folk Fest

Theatre and dance

Central European Theatre Festival
Art Dance

Abstract art

Use the City festival
Biela Noc (Nuit blanche)
Andy Warhol in the streets of Košice
ISCM New Music Days
Košické imaginácie (Košice Imagination)
BaZZart – festival of original brands
Festival Street Art Communication
New Dance Days

Adrenaline

Balloon Fiesta
EVIL Wake Camp

Classical music

Košice Musical Spring
International Organ Festival
Quasars Ensemble&Košice
Festival Konvergenzie (Convergence Festival)
International Organ Festival of Ivan Sokol

Multicultural places

Mazal tov – festival of Jewish Culture
Festival FEMAN
Days of French Culture
Days of Czech Culture
Days of Spanish Culture

Not just for the kids

Košice Days
Night at the Museum
Haliganda Country
Summer in the Park
World Cosmos Week

Religious

Festival of Religious Art

Ecumenical Passion Procession on Good Friday

Historical

Medieval Košice

SPRING

Days of French Culture (March – April) www.afke.sk

Multi-genre festival organised by the French Alliance of Košice, which has traditionally presented French culture in Košice from various perspectives via concerts, exhibitions, theatre and also culinary delights.

Ecumenical passion procession (Good Friday)

Clearly the largest ecumenical procession in Slovakia, stopping each year in front of one temple of worship of almost every religion present in the city. The start of the procession is in front of Jakab Palace at 13:00.

**Košice Musical Spring /end of April – beginning of June/
www.sfk.sk**

This international music festival, which is among the oldest music festivals in Slovakia, is the culmination of the concert season of the State Philharmonic in Košice. The dramaturgy presents classic and contemporary classical music.

Košice Days/start of May/www.kosice.sk

The celebrations produce one of the busiest festivals in Košice, commemorating the awarding of the first municipal coat-of-arms to the city of Košice (7 May 1369). The whole city springs to life with traditional arts and crafts, with events like the VSE City Run, concerts, knight festival, seasonal opening of Košice Zoo. There is also the traditional waking up of the steam locomotive Katka, which runs on the Children's Railway in the summer.

Night at the Museum /mid-May/www.visitkosice.eu

Night at museums and galleries is a Europe-wide event organised under the auspices of the Council of Europe with the aim of presenting cultural heritage to the maximum extent, something to which Košice also contributes actively. Don't miss out on a visit to Mikluš Prison, for instance, which comes to life on this night, with the spirits of past inmates manifesting themselves.

Use the City festival /end of May/www.kosice2013.sk

A new festival of street art that challenges all citizens to utilise the city fully, to get into the streets, get actively involved in public life and start communicating with culture and art. The city comes to life and opens up dialogue with street artists.

Košice Imagination /June/www.staromestske-divadlo.sk

"Imagination" is conceived as a multi-genre plenary site-specific presentation with incorporation of the historical realities of the city. The use of natural scenery and city architecture for creating a special night atmosphere that boosts the visual impact of the presentation.

Convergence Festival /June/www.konvergencie.sk

International festival of chamber music as a small celebration of open hands.

Virvap Puppet Festival /June/www.bdke.sk

Košice puppet theatre hosts its partners from abroad.

Balloon Fiesta /June/www.balon.sk

This fantastic festival of ballooning with years of tradition gives you the chance

in June every year to get a unique experience flying above Košice, with the attractive night-time inflation of the balloons and accompanying programme. See what it's like looking at Košice from an altitude together with tens of other air balloons on the horizon during Balloon Fiesta.

Zlatý žobrák (Golden Beggar)/June/www.festival.sk

The first international festival of local television in Europe, started back in 1995. The focus is on themes supporting local democracy.

**Košice Gurmán Fest – festival of exquisite flavours /June/
www.visitkosice.eu**

An exceptional culinary festival where the best restaurants in the city converge in one place. Top chefs will prepare culinary specialities as part of a hosted public cooking show. Come along and get your teeth into the very best of food.

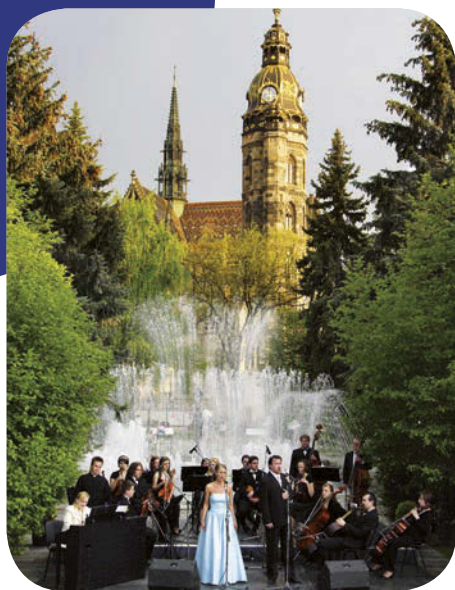
CASSOVIA Folk Fest /June/www.folkfest.sk

The festival follows on the long tradition of folklore events in the city at various podiums. The festival presents true traditional culture not just of the region, but also of Slovakia and other European countries. Buy a traditional souvenir at the old crafts market, join in a torchlight tour or try your hand at a traditional dance in the dance hall. You will see folklore from all around Košice.



A CITY FOR ALL SEASONS – Top events

SUMMER



Mazal tov – Festival of Jewish Culture/July/www.mazaltov.sk

The MAZAL TOV Festival, which could be loosely translated as "Good luck!", is the only festival of Jewish culture in Slovakia. Over the course of the second week in July, Košice and the public will have the chance to enjoy a good sampling of the highly rich Jewish cultural heritage. The programme includes city walks on a Jewish theme, concerts, an exhibition, workshops, film and literature evenings, as well as lectures.

3x3 Film Festival/end of June/www.visitkosice.eu

An original and untraditional film festival that makes the walls of certain old buildings in the historic centre of Košice come to life to become huge film screens. Interesting documentaries of Slovak filmmakers on a specific theme are projected onto selected buildings.

AMF0/June/www.stm-ke.sk

Regional competition and exhibition of amateur photography for photography lovers

Kultúrne leto v Košiciach [Summer of Culture Festival]/July – August/www.kosice.sk

Friday concerts, Sunday events in City Park, meetings at the singing fountain, theatre and dance performances to liven up your summer afternoons.

Summer in the Park/August/www.kosice2013.sk

The festival Summer in the Park means a whole month of unique events for everybody in city park zones. A series of film Thursdays, musical Fridays and Sundays for families with children, is enriched with theatre performances and other open-air concerts and films.

Andy Warhol in the streets of Košice/August/www.visitkosice.eu

A celebration of Andy Warhol's birthday in grand style – a street gallery together with DJ-ing and hidden figures will turn Košice into one big birthday party.

BaZZart/August/www.bazzart.info

BaZZart is a platform of market brand. In this unique way, the public get the chance to see prestigious brands at a unique venue in the centre of Košice, in the spirit of innovation, originality, quality and sustainable values.

Festival Street Art Communication/august/www.pyeckka.com

The idea of the festival is to use art to communicate and touch people right on the street, in public spaces. It is the only festival in Central Europe that brings the works of acknowledged artists to the streets of Košice, who mostly create in the streets and exhibit in prestigious galleries.

EVIL Wake Camp/August/www.evilsklub.sk

International wakeboard camp has a long tradition and takes place at the water-ski tow area TRIXEN in the Nad jazerom district of Košice. The aim of the camp is to perfect those riding skills, exchange experiences and skills between riders, but also to promote and popularise wakeboarding and wakeskating among the public.

Inšpirácie v kove Košice [Metal Inspirations]/August – September/www.stm-ke.sk

International workshop and exhibition of artistic works of young designers.

Central European Theatre Festival/September/www.kosicefest.eu

The most interesting and contemporary trends influenced by the performances of national theatre groups of Central Europe will be presented to you now in Košice. The festival includes international conferences, lectures and workshops.

Retro Air Show/September/www.retroair.sk

A weekend full of air displays, attractions for children and an exhibition of vintage airplanes.

International Organ Festival of Ivan Sokol/September/www.sfk.sk

Virtuosos perform classic and contemporary pieces on new and historic instruments.

Košice Wine Festival/September/www.kosice.sk

This unique festival echoes the long wine-making tradition of the city and the region, where interesting Slovak and international wineries will present their products at the Dolná brána gateway and on the street Pri Miklušovej väznici. Wine-tasting with traditional music in historic premises is a special experience!

Staromestské trhy [Old Town Market]/September/www.kosice-city.sk

The Košice Wine Festival is accompanied by a market of traditional handicrafts in the main street Hlavná ulica, which helps add that special atmosphere to the feast.

Quasars Ensemble&Košice/September/www.quasarsensemble.sk

The project Quasars Ensemble & Košice focuses on presenting world and

Slovak classical music and Slovak interpretations. Enjoy a range of pieces of the unorthodox chamber groups in a myriad of instrumental combinations.

AUTUMN

Festival FEMAN – European festival of nations and nationalities/September/www.feman.sk

European cultural festival of nations and nationalities with a traditional final gala concert called European Night of Nations presents various nationalities living in Košice over the full scope of culture, from art to gastronomy.

International Organ Festival of Ivan Sokol/September/www.sfk.sk

The oldest organ festival in Slovakia making use of the unique historic organs in the region. Do not miss the heavenly music and atmosphere created by organ music, so much loved also by W.A. Mozart.

International Peace Marathon/first Sunday in October/www.kosicemarathon.sk

The International Peace Marathon is synonymous with the greatest sport celebration in Košice – the oldest marathon in Europe with an attractive city circuit and the second oldest in the world after the Boston Marathon. Apart from the main competition, you can enjoy a rich cultural programme, a half-marathon (21 km) or even the popular mini marathon (4.2 km) which may inspire the children or mums with prams to join in.

Biela noc (Nuit blanche)/the first October weekend/www.biela-noc.sk

The unique project Nuit Blanche presents the contemporary art of local artists in unusual places of the city centre and at unusual times on the eve of the marathon. The festival will guarantee you will not fall asleep! Get enchanted by street art, light and visual installations and projects to be experienced individually or along a thematic route.

International Jazz Festival/October/www.ges.sk

Every year the popular festival brings a quality selection of jazz music from all over the world to the town's unusual premises and clubs.

Moon ride/October/www.tabacka.sk

A rather unorthodox festival of contemporary art focusing on presenting the independent international scene of young artists in various fields of art.

World Cosmic Week/October/www.stm-ke.sk

A week full of explorations with a rich programme and sky observations for the public, film and video projections in the Planetarium, lectures on the latest astronautics news, Jupiter observation, and fairy-tales about the constellations for the little ones.

Days of Spanish Culture/first week in October/www.gpm.edupage.org

The festival brings the Spanish spirit to the city of Košice, with performances in Spanish, expositions of Spanish authors, holy mass and Open Doors day of the largest Spanish language grammar school in Slovakia, Park mládeže 5.

Days of Czech Culture/October/www.kosice.sk

Another festival presenting one of the biggest minorities in the country through interesting exhibitions, concerts, films and other events.

Art Dance/November/www.brellart.sk

A unique international festival in Košice focusing on the current dance scene, something you should definitely not miss.

ARS NOVA CASSOVIAE – Contemporary Art Festival/November/www.sfk.sk

A festival of contemporary art presents the latest creations in classical music. Visitors can enjoy chamber or symphony concerts or exhibitions, while professionals can attend musicology conferences.

Festival sakrálného umenia (Religious Art Festival)/November/www.kosice.sk

The only festival in Slovakia presenting various all kinds of Slovak and European religious art from different faiths, thereby underlining the ecumenical character of Košice. An elevating experience that can be found only in Košice.

WINTER



Christmas market and Košice Christmas/December/www.kosice.sk www.visitkosice.eu

The people in Košice know how to celebrate and enjoy life. The Christmas market proves this perfectly by its festive Christmas atmosphere and programme prepared by the whole city. Food specialties, mulled wine, mead, a hot drink known as Košice Gold, original souvenirs and a beautifully carved wooden nativity scene are synonymous with a Košice Christmas.

ISCM New Music Days/December/www.iscm-slovakia.org

An international festival of contemporary music that you have never heard before, organised by the Slovak section of the International Society for Contemporary Music (ISCM). It focuses mostly on diversity, cooperation, and also communication between professional musicians, music students and children.

DJ at WORK/December/www.kosice2013.sk

An educational presentation project on electronic music with workshops by DJs and producers, seminars, lectures, a DJ battle and evening after-parties.

New Year's Eve in Košice/December/www.kosice.sk

Traditional bringing in of the New Year with concerts and an amazing firework display.

FUN FOR FAMILY – Fun for family

Košice with its interesting attractions and events is a fun place where you can do sports, discover new things and enjoy good food... No wonder children love Košice. Explore it and have fun with them! Košice can offer more than appears at first sight. Roman Sorger, founder of the children's project Haliganda Country, will convince you of this.

"Our friends coming to Košice with their children envy us for many things they do not have in other towns. The **Jazero** lake, here you can take a stroll, skate in winter or summer, swim or try out water-skis. Sundays in the city centre combined with a visit to the **Puppet theatre**, **State Theatre**, **chocolate house**, **strolling along the pedestrian zone with an ice-cream at the singing fountain**, are all great ends or beginnings to the week. Many families with children from Košice and the surroundings seek out events capturing the local atmosphere of the city, such as **Summer in the Park**, with theatre performances, concerts and creative workshops, **Nuit Blanche** full of lights and unusual installations in the city, **Night at the Museum** with the unforgettable atmosphere of the city at night and museums full of parents and children, and our festival **Haliganda Country** full of exhibitions, unusual concerts for children, creative workshops, theatre performances from Poland, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Hungary, as well as various **Town Walks**.

Košice is a fantastic place with **many little secrets** that are worth exploring with the kids. A bus can take you to the city suburb of Šaca where you do not look for US Steel, however, but explore **two manor houses** with your children, especially **the old mill** with preserved mechanisms. Different public transport connections will take you on a visit to the **archaeological site in Nízna Mysľa** with local museum. If you spend more time in the city, definitely visit some of the **maternity centres** that organise programmes for the whole family alongside their other projects."



Having arrived in Košice, places for children are situated only a little apart. Plan your exciting day or weekend. Whether it is raining or the sun is shining, whether you have a curious little person at home or a demanding teenager, Košice is the ideal place to spend your time together.

An ideal to start **your city walk** is "**The most beautiful gems of Košice**" thematic tour, which will take you and your children through the most beautiful places of the main street in a quick way that will not bore you. If you prefer a new experience from the very start – go to the **East Slovak Museum** to see the exhibition of **Carpathian Nature**. The

old prison **Mikluš Prison** with wax figures of prisoners and an authentic torture chamber, as well as the **Executioner's Flat**, voted the best Slovak exhibition of 2009, promise an educational experience, or will at least scare the small rascals a little bit. Older children and little explorers will be thrilled at the displays of **Slovak Technical Museum**, in particular by its **Sieň elektrických výbojov** (Chamber of electric charge). You can choose from various directions from the centre: to the north for the **Botanical Gardens**, where great exhibitions take place every month (from orchids or butterflies to spiky cacti) or to **Kavečany** where you will find **Košice Zoo**, the **dry toboggan run** and an **entertainment centre** (trampolines and monkey bars). Heading in this direction, you can stop and explore the grounds of **Košice Castle**, which is **1.5 times more extensive than Spiš Castle**, and marvel at the view from the **Watchtower**.

You have two choices in the direction of **Čermel'**: either hop on the amazing old **Children's railway** and be transported to the recreation area **Alpínka**, a beautiful forest park with children's playground and high rope park Tarzania, and a **golf course** for the more mature of us. Or you can climb a hill to the traditional relaxation spot of the people from Košice – **Bankov**, where you can play mini golf, take a stroll to the **spring** and the **chapel**, sit on the terrace around a children's playground or swim in the pool of the **oldest Slovak hotel**.

In the north-east of the city the Hornád River borders the popular park **Anička** where you can find a children's play area with mini golf, playgrounds, a **maze** and **children's motorbike rental**. A festive spring ritual to "**unlock the waters**" takes place in the park in April on Earth Day.

In the opposite direction to the south, young sports enthusiasts can head off to the **Sports and Entertainment Centre** on Alejová street where there is a **children's traffic playground**, the most modern and professional concrete **skate park** unparalleled in Slovakia, an **ice-rink** and other **sports fields**.

Further south the **Aviation Museum** is situated near the airport. You can plan your visit with children in September, for instance, for the **Retro Air Show** combined with an **air show by vintage planes**.

Another ideal place for relaxing and doing sports is situated to the south of Košice, in the suburb called Nad Jazerom – a lake area with more playgrounds, sports fields, a cycling trail that can also be used for in-line skating along the Hornád River, a **high rope park**, a **beach** and a **water-ski tow line** where children can try out water skiing or hydro-skiing.

Enjoy adrenaline and more fun with a **hot air balloon flight over Košice**, a **graffiti ride**, by **historic or devilish tram**, and horse riding at the ranch **Ranč Ortáše** and in **Zelené údolie** near **Alpinka**, or a hiking trip to the chalet **Lajoška**.



You can come to Košice with your family for specific events: for the little ones we recommend the **Bábkové divadlo (Puppet Theatre)**, as well as workshops, playrooms and meetings in the maternity centres **Haliganda** or **Stonožka**, creative workshops for promising artists in the **East Slovakia Gallery** or events for children such as **Košice Days**, **Košice Gourmet Fest**, **Summer in the park**, **International Peace Marathon** (you can run a mini marathon with your children) or the **World Cosmic Week**. The **Domino free-time centre**, libraries and the **State Theatre Košice** also prepare programmes for older kids. On a rainy day you can take them to the cinema in the shopping centre **Optima** to see a 3D film.

Teenagers might like and get inspired by **Use the City** festival, the **skate park** on **Alejevá street**, **hockey matches** in **STEEL ARÉNA**. If your child likes classical music, they could very well enjoy **festivals of classical music** (Košice Musical Spring, the International organ Festival or the Contemporary Music Festival).



FAMILY AND CHILDREN-FRIENDLY RESTAURANTS (WITH PLAY AREA OR BABY-CHAIRS):

City centre

Olive Tree (Doubletree by Hilton Hotel), Allegro (Boutique Hotel Bristol), Maraton Cafe – Restaurant, 12 apoštolov, Le Colonial, Villa Regia, Med Malina, Central Park, Pizzeria Calabria

Other areas

Lujza and Garden Restaurant (Bankov Hotel), Alpinka, Baránok



Košice Zoo

See almost 150 species of animals that you can adopt or feed, take a pony ride or enjoy the many activities for children or the accompanying programmes (Halloween at the Zoo, Zoo Christmas, Night at the Zoo). All highly popular attractions of the largest zoo in Central Europe by area.

Average visiting time: 4 hours

Široká 31, 040 06 Košice – Kavečany/www.zookosice.sk/

+421(0) 55 796 8011/zoo@zookosice.sk

Opening hours: every day/

January, February, November, December 09:00 – 16:00;

March and October 09:00 – 17:00;

April to September 09:00 – 19:00

Access: by no. 29 bus from city centre (from railway and bus stations) in the direction of ZOO, last stop.



Botanical Gardens

Fascinating university gardens where over 4,000 species of plant are cultivated, including 1,200 cactuses and their cultivars, which is the largest collection of its kind in either the Czech or Slovak republics. You can soak up the tropical heat of the greenhouses and get a feel of what it is like in a rain forest, and enjoy the expansive outdoor gardens. When visiting the botanical gardens you should definitely try to see one of the thematic exhibitions such as the magical exhibition of orchids, tropical butterflies, cactuses, carnivorous plants or the ever popular presentation of Bonsai.

Average visiting time: 2 hours

Mánesova 23, 043 52 Košice/www.bz.upjs.sk/+421 (0) 55 234 16 67/botgard@upjs.sk

Opening hours: 9:00 – 15:00, or until 16:00 during exhibitions; summer (May – October) outdoor part open until 18:00

Access: tram no. 7 from the city centre (from the Dom umenia (House of Art) or at the Main Post Office on Kuzmányho ulica) in the direction of the Technical University Stadium, last stop, then a 5 minute walk.



The Watchtower and Castle

At the northern edge of Košice on Hradová hill (castle hill), a 21-m high watchtower has jutted out above the city since 1986. Once you overcome the 99 steps, you will be rewarded with a truly inspiring panorama of the whole of Košice. The remains of the medieval castle cover an area of 6.2 hectares, which is 1.5 times more than the area of Spiš Castle. The locality of Hradová near the Watchtower and the surrounding forest park are ideal spots for a picnic or barbecue, with specially designated places for this and for making fires.

Average time needed for a visit: 2 hours

Above the town on Hradová hill, in the direction of Kavečany/

www.visitkosice.eu/+421(0) 55 625 88 88/info@visitkosice.eu

Opening hours:

April and October: Saturday – Sunday 10:00 – 16:00;

May and June: Tuesday – Sunday 10:00 – 18:00;

July to September: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 – 18:00

Access: bus no. 29 from the city centre (railway and bus station) in the direction of the Zoo, get off at the stop called Vyhliadková veža (Watchtower) and continue along the learning trail.



Toboggan ride and Kavečany centre

For adrenalin freaks who want to rocket 800 metres downhill, twisting and turning on a stainless steel toboggan ride at speeds of up to 50 kph, the toboggan run is open for you every day from 9:00 to 19:00. Don't worry, it's safe because you have control of the brakes! But the euphoria of the speedy ride is well worth it!

Average time needed for a visit: 1.5 hours

Kavečany, near Košice Zoo/www.kavecany.sk/okolie.strediska.htm/+421(0) 55 633 49 01

Opening hours:

April – October 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.; November – March 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Access:

bus no. 29 from the city centre (railway and bus station) in the direction of the Zoo, get off at the last stop.

Čermel' Children's Railway

The oldest steam locomotive in Slovakia from the days of Austro-Hungarian kings will take you along an exciting 4.2 km long track from Čermel' to the Alpínka excursion area, where you can spend a special morning or afternoon. The train runs in the summer season from the beginning of May to mid-September.

Average time needed for a visit : 2 hours (for the ride only, not including time spent at Alpínka)

Košice – Čermel' / +421 (0) 905 496 426/ www.detskazeleznica.sk/
kezeleznica@gmail.com

Operating times: Trains run from the end of April till the beginning of November, always on a Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday
<http://www.detskazeleznica.sk/-cestovny-poriadok-kdz>

Access: tram no. 2 from the city centre (get on at Dom umenia (House of Art) or at the Main Post Office on Kuzmányho street) in the direction of Havlíčkova, where you change for bus no. 14 in the direction of Bankov or Jahodná; get off at the stop Čermel'.

Alpínka – Recreational area

Čermel'ské údolie (Čermel' valley) has several beautiful spots for a picnic at Čermel' brook and near the children's railway line.

Average visit: 3 hours

Čermel'ské údolie 8/+421 (0) 55 633 15 28, +421 (0) 915 859 363/
aldistro@hotmail.com

Opening hours:

Monday – Friday 10:00 – 22:00,

Saturday – Sunday 9:00 – 22:00

Access: tram no. 2 from the city centre (get on at Dom umenia (House of Art) or at the Main Post Office on Kuzmányho street) in the direction of Havlíčkova, where you change for bus no. 14 in the direction of Jahodná; get off at the stop Alpínka.

Bankov – recreational zone (mini-golf, learning trail, picnic area)

A traditional place of relaxation for Košice locals offering excellent possibilities for a picnic or a rejuvenating walk in nature, such as along the entertaining learning trail to Jahodná. The stylish terrace of the oldest hotel in Slovakia – Hotel Bankov – is a great and pleasant place to spend a Sunday afternoon.

Average visit: 4 hours

Bankov – Košice / +421 (0) 905 386 884, +421 (0) 907 869 764/
www.visitkosice.eu

Opening hours: April – November 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Access: tram no. 2 from the city centre (get on at Dom umenia (House of Art) or at the Main Post Office in Kuzmányho ulica street) in the direction of Havlíčkova where you change for bus no. 14 in the direction of Bankov, get off at the stop Dolný Bankov (for hotel and nature trail) or Horný Bankov (for mini-golf and picnic area).



Anička – children's area

Average visit: 3 hours

Pod Šiancom, 040 01 Košice / www.detskyareal.sk/
+421 (0) 903 46 99 66 / +421 (0) 55 632 30 86 / info@detskyareal.sk

Opening hours: Monday – Sunday 9:00 – 21:00

Access: bus no. 27 from the city centre (railway and bus station) in the direction of Madričská, get off at the stop Pri Hati (south of the park); or bus no. 16 from the city centre (railway and bus station) in the direction of Podhradová, get off at the stop called Vodárenská – change for bus no. 14 in the direction of Železničná zastávka Ťahanovce, get off at the stop called Anička (north of the park).

Alejoú Sports-Leisure Area

An ice rink, children's traffic park, excellent concrete skateboard park and other sports areas (tennis, basketball, volleyball) await you and your family.

Average visit: 2 hours

Alejoú 2, 040 01 Košice/www.kosicejuh.sk/

+421 (0) 55 642 07 45, +421 (0) 918 340 182/info@visitskosice.eu

Opening hours: Monday – Sunday 9:00 – 19:00

Access: bus no. 15 or 16 from the city centre (Námestie osloboditeľov square) in the direction of OC Cassovia, get off at the stop called Železníky.



Nad Jazerom

Try out water-skiing, wakeboard or wakeskate on the water-ski tow line on Jazero lake. There are only three places in Slovakia where you can enjoy such an exhilarating experience, and you can hire water-skis, board and wetsuits directly on site.

Average visit: 3 hours

Recreational zone, water-ski tow line Trixen, Nad Jazerom /

www.trixen.sk/ +421 (0) 903 623 112

Opening hours: April – December 12:00 – 22:00, operating times of the tow is different; you can check times here www.visitskosice.eu

Access: tram no. 3 or 7 from the centre (the square Námestie osloboditeľov) in the direction of Nad Jazero: Vážecká; get off at the stop Dneperská.



Balloon trip and Balloon Fiesta

An amazing experience from the perspective of a balloon guarantees a unique experience flying above the capital of the east at any time of the year. An annual tradition in Košice is the Balloon Fiesta in June, with the attractive night-time inflation of the balloons. You are so close to an unforgettable experience. Experience Košice a little differently.

Average flight time: 1 hour

Average visit to Balloon Fiesta: 2 hours

ADS Ballooning, s.r.o., Jačmenná 10/www.balon.sk/

+421 (0) 556 748 426, +421 (0) 421 911 166 333/balon@balon.sk

Flights start in the City Park and can be booked throughout the year.

Balloons take off only in good weather.



Ride in a graffiti, vintage or devilish tram or vintage bus

Graffiti tram invites people to the Use The City Festival and runs throughout the year on route no. 6. The vintage tram and bus run occasionally; more info at www.visitskosice.eu; the devilish tram runs with Santa Claus and the little devil around 6th of December.





LEGEND:

- 1 KOŠICE ZOO
- 2 BOTANICAL GARDEN OF P.J. ŠAFÁRIK UNIVERSITY
- 3 WATCHTOWER
- 4 KOŠICE CASTLE
- 5 TOBOGGAN RUN – KAVEČANY
- 6 CHILDREN'S RAILWAY – START
- 7 ALPÍNKA
- 8 BANKOV
- 9 ANICKÁ
- 10 SPORT AND RECREATIONAL AREA (ALEJOVA STREET)
- 11 NAD JAZEROM – LAKE AREA
- 1 KOŠICE VISITOR CENTRE

SPORT – Get close to the action

Košice lives for sport. Whether you want to root for professionals or do sports actively yourself, Košice offers a wide range of possibilities. Popular Košice hockey personality Peter Bartoš will tell you about his tips of where to go for sports.



"Košice is a big city and I am glad that our team could bring success to it. We have excellent conditions created here and our fans are amazing! To play in front of a sold-out STEEL ARÉNA is inspiring and a responsibility, but the feeling of joy when I lifted the championship cup over my head for the third time is indescribable! In addition to demanding hockey training, I try to spend my free time with my family. We like skiing. Near Košice we go with the children to Jahodná or to Kavečany. In the summer we like to go on bike trips, and we like most the surroundings and forests at Bankov, in Čermeľ and the route alongside the River Hornád.

Choose any sport you like, you will be thrilled how close you are to a sports event in Košice. Be it hockey, basketball, handball, skiing, tennis, the beach or water skiing – you find everything in the city!

Fans make true sport

Košice is a dream destination for any hockey fan: not only was it host to the Ice Hockey World Championship 2011, but the city also has the most loyal fan base in Slovakia – electrifying matches of the local **HC Košice in Steel Arena** (Nerudova 12/www.steelarena.sk) are attended by around 6,000 spectators, which is one of the top thirty attendance rates in Europe! The modern Steel Arena is child-friendly, tickets are reasonably priced and the atmosphere is always amazing! HC Košice is known for rewarding the support of its fans – it became Slovak champion in the 2008/2009, 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 seasons.

Speaking about the great atmosphere, why stop at hockey and miss the European matches of **Košice women's basketball team** at the **Infiniti arena** (Pri jazdarmi 1), the **water-polo team** at the public indoor swimming pool **Mestská krytá plaváreň** (Protifašistických bojovníkov 4) or the **men's handball team** at the city handball hall **Mestská hádzanárska hala VŠA** (Alejová 2). You can come and root for the unbelievable **marathon runners** at the **International Peace Marathon**, or support **rally** champions in Košice competitions, as well as **water-skiers**, **wake-boarders** and **wake-skaters** who rank top in Slovakia, Europe and even the world.

If watching games and sport performances is not active enough for you, take your kit and find your own sport experience in Košice. Here is a choice of the best:

Hockey and ice-skating

You can enjoy public ice-skating and hockey at the public ice-rink in the Sport and Entertainment Area at **Alejová street 2**, or play it big and rent an hour at the **STEEL ARENA** for you and your team.

Skiing

Winter sports are very popular in Slovakia and so there are many skiing centres in towns around. The natives of Košice often spend time at the ski centres of **Kavečany** (www.kavecany.sk) and **Jahodná** (www.jahodna.sk) or Skipark Erika just 20 km away at **Kojšova Hoľa** (www.skiparkerika.sk), which has cross-country tracks as well. Kavečany and Jahodná are also suitable for beginners.



Golf and mini-golf

A **nine-hole golf course** at **Alpínka** is surrounded by the beautiful scenery of the Čermeľ Valley. The course is characterised by its narrow fairways and difficult putting. It is an ideal place to relax after a hard day at work. Golf enthusiasts will enjoy hole no. 3, which is a coastal design with water obstacle to the hole. **Another golf course is under construction in Malá Ida** near Košice. In winter you can try out a golf simulator. **Mini-golf** can be played in **Bankov**, **Anička Park** and at **Rastislavova street 8**.

Cycling and mountain bikes

The beautiful forest parks of Košice and the banks of the Hornád River provide tens of kilometres of bike trails for your pleasure. Town bikers can have fun riding through the main street Hlavná ulica, stopping for an ice-cream or on the new cycling lane in Moyzešova artificial park, while more ambitious cyclists might prefer a ride to Bankov or Jahodná, in the direction of Kojšova Hoľa, Bukovec or southwards to the Slanské vrchy hills. You can get cycling tips at www.visitkosice.eu.

Squash and tennis

Košice offers a number of courts with different surfaces, like at the **Cassosport Sports Centre** (Alejová 11), **Sport and Leisure Centre** (Alejová 2), **Tennis Komplex** in the KVP suburb (Wuppertálska 4), **Tennis club BD** (Gemerská 3), in summer near **TRITON** swimming pool (Rastislavova 69) and at the city swimming pool **Mestská plaváreň** (Rumanova 19). Squash enthusiasts can enjoy a game at several clubs, the biggest being **Arcadia Sport Club** in the Ľahanovce suburb (Americká 19).

Swimming pools

Ideal places for swimming and sun-bathing in the summer include the beach at **Jazero** lake, the city swimming pool **Mestská plaváreň** in the centre close to the City Park, the swimming pool **Ryba** near Anička Park (Pod Šiancom 6) and the swimming baths **Triton**. The indoor pool **Mestská krytá plaváreň** with an Olympic-size swimming pool is open throughout the year. The little ones can enjoy the pool at the **Via vitae** wellness centre (Diamantová 1) with slightly salty water or a pool at **Barca** and Hotel **Bankov**. Anglers can enjoy the beautiful countryside not far from the city at the **water reservoir Bukovec**.



Hornád River Trips

Even in Košice and the surrounding area you can get your adrenalin going with an adventurous trip down the river in a canoe, kayak or raft. Everyone can find something different in the water – a desire to discover, to spend time at places you would otherwise not reach, to get an unparalleled view, or just to enjoy the flow of the river and get some active relaxation with some light activity. Even though the river Hornád is suitable for beginners, it should not be underestimated. An experienced team of Košice experts will prepare you for the trip and accompany you for the whole journey. Once you get enough experience, you can take on a more demanding river next time.

For more information and bookings: **Košice Visitor Centre** or www.splavujeme.sk.

Water-ski /Wakeboard/ Wakeskate/ Windsurfing

The **water-ski tow line** area in the **Nad Jazerom** district is home to the Trixen water-ski club and the Evils club of wakeboarders and wakeskaters. Every year various competitions are held here. The tow is open in the summer and anyone can give it a try – there is an equipment rental available as well. A friendly tow-attendant will instruct you how to set off correctly and survive your first round successfully. Do not get discouraged by professional jumps and the tricks of local talent; the atmosphere around the tow is supportive and friendly. Košice is home for well-known windsurfer and Olympic contestant Patrik Pollák. Another favourite place where you can enjoy these sports is the gravel lake **Geča**. It is not far from the city and is known for its excellent wind conditions.



Skateboarding

Košice is home to Slovakia's most modern skate park on **Alejová** street and several smaller skate parks (in Ľahanovce). Skateboarding is part of the **Use the City** street-art festival.

Parachuting

Paraklub Košice offers trainings, jumps and sightseeing flights. Book by phone on +421 (0) 905 630 796 or +421(0) 904 314 795.

Bowling

Bowling has become a popular pastime in Košice, proven by the several high-quality bowling clubs where you can spend a pleasant evening: **Admiral Bowling** (L. Novomeského 7), **Bowling spot** (Čermelská 1) **Bowling Vegas Club** (OC Galéria) or **Club Ležiaca bosorka** (Bardejovská 26).

So come along
and enjoy the city
that loves sports just
as you do!

INDULGENCE – Treat yourself!

Whether you wish to shop till you drop or get pampered in spas and beauty salons, show yourselves off or just indulge in the best, most luxurious, most savoury or most libertine pastimes, Košice will make your secret dreams come true. You will be surprised at just how much luxury you can get in Košice! Charming Nina Hengelyová, an excellent local dancer, gourmet and lover of life will unravel places that are worth indulging in.

"If you wake up in the morning and decide to have a self-indulgent day, I can tell you how I would usually spend it in Košice. I would certainly drink my **morning coffee** at **Cavearia Theatru**. The very best Latte Machiatto! I would read my newspaper with no hurry, sitting in the morning sun. Nowhere are the first sun beams as pleasant as here at this café. It immediately spirits up my mood. As I start getting hungry, I walk for **breakfast** either in typical Slovak style at the **Delikatesa** store on Másiarska street or I buy a croissant at the small **bakery** on **Dominikánske námestie square**. I would take a pleasant stroll through the main street **Hlavná ulica**, and enter a second-hand shop with **artistic metalwork** on **Hrnčiarska street**. For girls like me who only want the best things for themselves, I would recommend continuing with a visit to the **fashion parlour** of designer **Odette Fedorová** or **Lujza Flešár Kafka**. I would then shop for more ordinary clothes in **Optima**. Of course, I would get hungry again, so where to go for lunch? There are many possibilities, **Med Malina**, **Piano Café**, a light sandwich at **Jazz Pub**, or **Le Colonial** for a chat with my friends. I would get pampered after lunch. I always have my hair cut exclusively at **Victor's** in **MB Royal** on **Mojzešova street**, and my evening makeup done at the **Envy Beauty Salon** on **Nerudova street**. I would then treat myself to some great **relaxing moments** at the **Via Vitae centre**, where I would savour their services, which are highly recommended. Why not pass the time with a glass of champagne in the outdoor Jacuzzi pool. I would go straight home from there to dress up and then head downtown for a drink. I would start at **Piano Bar**, continue to **Cosmopolitan** and finish in **Retro**. You would fall asleep just like me – with a feeling of a truly carefree day!"



Six tips for getting pampered (Wellness and spa)


Ayurvedic Spa Rasajána in Golden Royal Boutique Hotel****/Vodná 8
Roman Spa in Bristol Boutique Hotel****/Orlia 3
Roman Spa SPQR in Privilege Hotel/Werferova 3
Dharmachakra Day Spa/Bočná 6
Royal Thai Massage/Kováčska 57
Spas near the city: Spa Štós/Štós 235



Luxury accommodation

Hotel Doubletree by Hilton Košice/Hlavná 1
Yasmin Hotel/Tyršovo nábrežie 1
Bankov Hotel/Dolný Bankov 2
Bristol Boutique Hotel ****/Orlia 3
GOLDEN ROYAL Boutique Hotel ****/Vodná 8
Ambassador Hotel /Hlavná 101
Maraton Boutique Hotel /Strojárska 21





RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE MOST DEMANDING PLEASURE-SEEKERS

Chocolate: Bon Bon In, in the courtyard, Hlavná 20

Coffee: Cavearia Theatru, Hlavná 76
(Slovak Café of the Year 2010)

Tea: Amana tea house, Alžbetina 55

Food: Olive Tree Restaurant, Hlavná 1

Stylish living: Home art, Optima Shopping Centre

Jewellery: ALO diamonds, Hlavná 1

Place to be seen: Retro Cult Club, Kováčska

Time to be seen: ball season

Best disco: Ibiza Club, Ladislava Novomeského 7

DELICIOUS KOŠICE – Culinary scene

Having seen the sights, absorbed the culture and had fun with your family, it is time for something good to eat. One thing is certain – you will never get tired of eating in the restaurants of Košice. The standard of gastronomy has been on the rise in Košice and we are going to introduce you to the local stars, and much more. Food and wine festivals, markets on Dominikánske námestie square, the best menus, healthy food and local cuisine definitely belong among the city's attractions. Peter Škripko, a highly regarded gourmet and sommelier will tell you more about the culinary scene of Košice.

"After years of fumbling and various more-or-less successful attempts at enhancing the choice and standard of services in our city, today we can say that gastronomy in Košice has begun to shape its own image and has been heading in the right direction. Even if the steps are still uncertain and awkward, as often happens when creating new ideas and approaches, the Košice inhabitants cannot be rebuked for one thing – the fact that the city has an **increasing number of attractive places** where to drink a well-prepared espresso or cappuccino with whipped-cream-like milk foam, where to have your favourite cocktail mixed, eat lunch prepared by an inventive chef from first-rate, fresh and seasonal ingredients, or experience the unrepeatable atmosphere of a gourmet dinner. An increasing number of restaurants seem to understand that they have to fight for their guests and so they compete in spoiling and pampering them. This is good because life is too short to eat bad food or be limited in discovering new tastes due to the dull imagination or experience of the cook.

As many restaurant owners share the same view and care about the positive image of their city, just as every other Košice native, this gave the incentive for cooperation, quite unique in Slovakia, with the **common aim of turning Košice into a bastion of top-quality gastronomy of European significance**. We all believe that in order to fulfil this difficult objective, we have to join forces to make the quality of our services yet another gem of Košice which will make visitors want to return again.

I would therefore like to extend a heartfelt invitation to the annual culmination of our efforts and the greatest celebration of food under the open sky – Košice Gourman Fest. Together with thousands of people from Košice, you can look forward not only to new tastes, as there are plans in future to invite some exciting international stars of the cooking world. If June is too far away for you, don't hesitate to enter our restaurants, where you are welcome and awaited all year round. Savour our food and let us know whether your expectations were met. We can only do what we like best thanks to you and your opinion."



EVENTS / FESTIVALS OF FOOD AND WINE

Košice Gurmán Fest

Exceptional gastronomic festival that takes place in June and is a true celebration of good, with presentations and tasting of top Košice cuisine, with the participation of the best restaurants and chefs. Don't miss out on this inspirational modern cooking show and the exceptional atmosphere of the festival area.



Rose Fest

A festival of light rose wines perfumes the summer terraces of restaurants and wine cellars from the end of May till the beginning of June.

Košice Wine Festival

A festival that follows in a long tradition of feasting, winegrowing and winemaking in the region. Every year in September the Košice Wine Festival is linked to the traditional crafts market. The Premises of Dolná brána and the street Pri Miklušovej väznici are transformed into a mass presentation of well-known winemakers, where you can sample all kinds of wines from girls in traditional dress, cheery winemakers and experienced sommeliers. The atmosphere is complemented by the traditional folk artists and musicians.



A SELECTION OF FANTASTIC RESTAURANTS WITH SPECIAL ATMOSPHERE / A CULINARY TOUR THROUGH THE CITY

Olive Tree Restaurant, Hotel Doubletree by Hilton Košice, Hlavná 1

The best restaurant in the Košice region according to Top Trend 2010. The restaurant for demanding patrons offers delicious Mediterranean cuisine prepared exclusively from fresh ingredients and a regularly changed and highly inspiring seasonal menu.

Maraton Café – Restaurant, Strojárska 21

A stylish restaurant invoking English elegance, with a menu full of culinary specialties and exquisite wines.

Le Colonial, Hlavná 8

You will step back in time into faraway countries with a tint of French charm and excellent cuisine.

CAMELOT, Kováčska 19

A stylish restaurant furnished as the legendary place of the Celtic Britons during King Arthur's reign, with cuisine relying mostly on original recipes and combinations of food. You will simply love the tartar steak, beef steak or grilled meat in this unique restaurant. A tank drawn Pilsen beer in a typical "Pilsen" pub definitely goes down well after a meal.

DIPLOMAT, Hotel Ambassador, Hlavná 101

A pleasant and clean business restaurant where food does not lag behind the elegance of the interiors.

Lujza Restaurant, Hotel Bankou, Dolný Bankou 2

An elegant and stylish restaurant of the oldest Slovak hotel. A lacunar ceiling, crystal chandeliers, fine atmosphere and international cuisine following the motto of "Beauty in simplicity".

GOLDEN ROYAL Restaurant, Vodná 8

The place combines an airy conservatory full of flowers and stylish dining rooms serving culinary delights.

Med Malina, Hlavná 81

Imaginative interior in a homely style serving traditional Polish cuisine and run by an energetic owner.

Villa Regia, Dominikánske námestie 3

A stylish restaurant reminiscent of period Košice with original dishes.

Dália Restaurant & SAVOY Café, Eco friendly Hotel Dália****, Löfflerova 1

A restaurant where European cuisine rules, with Italian charm and French inventiveness, but also no lack of the best delicacies of Slovak cuisine.

ALLEGRO, Boutique Hotel Bristol, Orlia 3

Cosy restaurant offering Italian delicacies right in the very heart of the city centre.

Piano Café, Hlavná 92

A modern brasserie on the busiest part of Hlavná street, with three separate premises that cater for all moods.

Hotel & Restaurant PRIVILEGE, Werferova 3

Boldly designed premises and attentive staff, for those seeking a pleasant place to revel in some excellent food.

Hotel Roca, Južná trieda 117

Elegant design restaurant of Hotel Roca is ambitious, talented and surprising. The focus here is on quality and fresh ingredients.

Restaurant Cafe Bar Yasmin,

Tyršovo námestie 1

The pleasant atmosphere of this cosy design restaurant is complemented by the international dishes on offer.

ROSTO Steak House, Orlia 6

Cosily decorated establishment for those who enjoy a good steak, oriental specialties, fish dishes and salads.

Special service for private functions:

EMER Servis – Event & catering services

Modern, creative and trendy approach to gastronomy and to organising social events.



OTHER PLACES:

12 apoštolov (Kováčska 51), Iris Restaurant (Hotel Zlatý dukát, Hlavná 16), European Restaurant (Hotel Múza, Pri prachárni 5), Grill Pub (Timonova 13), Pablo restaurant (Hrnciarska ulica), Meditteran (Alžbetina 24), Maiko Sushi (Hlavná 1), Bamboo Restaurant (Hlavná 78), Baránok (Barmelská cesta 67), U anjela (Jesenského 25), Santa Lucia (OC Tip Top, Československej armády 18), Da Vinci (Žižkova 13), C33 (Čajakova 2), Jazz (Kováčska 39), La Ventana (Hlavná 90), Zlatý Zvon (Zvonárska 4), Viccolo (OC Optima – Moldavská cesta 32), Ázijská reštaurácia Grace (Šušrova 33), Kelt (Hlavná 80), Irish Pub (Hlavná 92), Levočský dom (Hlavná 65), Redstone (Mlynská 25), U Leva (Alejová 2), Krčma Letná (Letná 1), Rokoko (Gorkého 9), Iron club (Rastislavova 80), Passage 2 India (Kováčska 23), Burekas (Vrátna 58), Góvinda (Hlavná 117).

DELICIOUS KOŠICE – What's on the menu?

Try various flavours at any time of the day or a lunch menu, savour delicious ice-creams and cakes, have a cup of coffee in one of the many cafés (on a summer terrace, if possible) and join the self-indulgent people of Košice. Crown your evening with an excellent glass of Slovak or imported wine combined with cheese snacks, feast during the Košice Gourmet Fest or sample wines in an underground museum during Košice Wine Festival, and cheer your mood on a Saturday morning with a flood of colours and sweet scents at the market. These are the best ways to relish Košice! Don't hesitate and get stuck into your experience.

A DIFFERENT FLAVOUR EVERY DAY – CHOOSE BY YOUR MOOD

Day one – Slovak cuisine

Start with some traditional Slovak dishes. At least you will find out whether our cheeses and especially bryndza sheep cheese, are a nice one time treat or if they become a favourite for the rest of your life. The most popular meals made from bryndza sheep cheese are "bryndzové halušky", sheep-cheese gnocchi and "bryndzové pirohy", ravioli-style pasta filled with bryndza. Do not forget to sample a soup, because no Slovak lunch is complete without it. Check if the menu offers a Christmas sauerkraut soup, bean soup with smoked meat, or less known but still excellent mushroom soup called "mačanka".

Where to pop in? **Villa Regia** – Dominikánske námestie square no. 3 (sauerkraut soup, traditional Slovak soup "mačanka", bryndza spread, "bryndzové halušky" or "bryndzové pirohy", "šúľance" gnocchi), **12 apoštolov** – Kováčska 51 ("bryndzové pirohy", "bryndzové halušky"), **Camelot** – Kováčska 19 (sauerkraut soup, bryndza spread with salmon, chicken leg stuffed with bryndza cheese, a selection of Slovak bryndza and other Slovak meals for three), **Restaurant Maraton** – Strojárska 21 ("bryndzové halušky", "bryndzové pirohy"), **Med Malina** – Hlavná 81 ("bryndzové halušky"), **Le Colonial** – Hlavná 8 (chicken fillet stuffed with bryndza cheese), **Golden Royal** – Vodná 8 ("bryndzové pirohy"), **Koliba** – Za priekopou 1, Myslava (all traditional meals in a traditional ambient atmosphere), **Stodola** – Dopravná 5 ("pirohy", "bryndzové halušky", "strapačky", "šúľance"), **Karczma Mlyn** – Hlavná 82.



Day two – Czech, Hungarian and Polish cuisine

Continue your exploration of Central European cuisines. First in line is our neighbours, in the Czech Republic with the steamed dumpling "knedla", spicy Hungarian cuisine and meaty Polish dishes.

Where to pop in? Czech cuisine: **Budvarka** – Hrnčiarska 25, **Česká hospoda** – Moyzesova 22, **Pivovar Golem** – Dominikánske námestie 15; Polish cuisine: **Med Malina** – Hlavná 81; Hungarian cuisine: **Reštaurácia Faraón** – Jesenná 3.

Day three – Mediterranean cuisine

After a caloric shock you would need a day of taking it lighter. Even in Košice you can find simple Mediterranean cuisine full of excellent tastes.

Where to go? **Olive Tree** – Hlavná 3, **Mediterran** – Alžbetina 24 and **La Ventana** – Hlavná 90 and **Le Colonial** – Hlavná 8.



Day four – European cuisine

The majority of restaurants serve European cuisine. Choose by your mood or where you are at any particular moment.

Where to stop and eat? Make a route through the city and try out various establishments. A number of them serve excellent European cuisine. Get inspired with the culinary trail of the city (page 45).



Day five – Italian cuisine and pizza

Popular Italian cuisine can be found in many places in Košice in its original and naturalised variations. It's up to you to choose.

Where to pop in? True Italian cuisine: **Ristorante Italiano XXV** – Hlavná 24, **Riondo** – Jesenského 15, **Olive Tree** – Hlavná 1, **Forma de Gusto** – Žriedlová 11; naturalised but still fabulous: **Piano** – Hlavná 92, **Jazz Garden Restaurant** – Kováčska 39, **Zlatý zvon** – Zvonárska 4, **Da Vinci** – Žižkova 13, **Viccolo** – OC Optima Moldavská cesta 32, **Pablo Restaurant** – Hrnčiarska ulica and **Via Roma** – Letná 42.



Day six – Vegetarian cuisine

As time goes on, now almost every restaurant in Košice serves also a selection of meals for vegetarians, and you can find also exclusively vegetarian restaurants here.

Where to go? Traditional and Mexican at **Ajvega** – Orlia 10 and Indian at **Góvinda** – Hlavná 117.



Day seven – less traditional cuisines

Greek at **Korfu Gril** – Pribinova 2, partly Oriental at **Emir** – Hlavná 92 and Israeli at **Burekas** – Vrátna 58, an Asian restaurant serving sushi: **Grace** – Štúrova 33, pasta from various parts of the world at **Noodles** – Hotel Yasmin, Tyršovo nábrežie 1, ranchers' food in **Grill Pub** – Timonova 13. Other restaurants usually have special days dedicated to different global cuisines.



LUNCH MENUS

In Košice you can typically find table d'hôte menus in restaurants during lunchtime (usually between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.), with lunch or business menus at advantageous prices. Many restaurants try to offer a selection of several meals. You can therefore enjoy many great delicacies in the best restaurants at better lunch prices.

DESSERT TIME

Delikatesa/Mäsiarska 9

Fabulous cakes and pastries – try out the fruity ones with jelly. Delicious!

Zákusky od Babičky/Hlavná 60

Traditional Slovak cakes and pies – apple pies, curd cheese pies, strudels and much more.

URBAN CAFE/Vrátna 4

Amazing cakes and excellent ice-cream, best served in an ice-cream cup.

Aida/Hlavná 44 a 81, Komenského 24 and OC Optima – Moldavská cesta 32

Four confectioneries with the same name, offering cakes and ice-creams in the city. We recommend trying the one near the Singing fountain.

COFFEE TIME WITH STYLE

Ambassador Cafe/Hlavná 101

Bristol/Oriľa 3

Caffé Bel Tempo/Hlavná 90

Café Camelot/Kováčska 19

Café Retro/Kováčska 49

Cafe Terria/Kováčska 44

Caffe Trieste/Uršulínska 2

Cavearia Theatru/Hlavná 76

Forma de Gusto/Žriedlová 11

Garibaldi's/Hlavná 68

Intermezzo/Bočná 4

Jazz Pub – Café/Kováčska 39

Piano Cafe/Hlavná 92

Retro Cult Club/Kováčska 49

Metropolitan Retro Cult Club/ OC Galéria – Torská 5

Schalkhaz/Hlavná 74

Smelly Cat/ Zvonárska 6

A GLASS OF WINE PERHAPS?

Vinotéka Villa Cassa/Pri Miklušovej väznici 2

The Villa Cassa wine bar run by charismatic wine lover with a big heart, Vladimír Čuchran, will gain your favour with the pleasant atmosphere, excellent choice of wines and professional service.

KuBo Select/ Torská 5 (OC Galéria)

The best selection of exclusive alcohol, chocolate, coffee, tea, designer accessories and gift baskets in the city.

Caffé Bel Tempo/Hlavná 90

FOR BEER LOVERS

CAMELOT Plzeňská hospoda

In 2011 the restaurant and café CAMELOT was extended to include the bar "Plzeňská hospoda" with tank drawn beer, imported straight from Plzeň, tapped direct from copper tanks.

Budějovická hospoda/Hrnčiarska 25

The only place to savour the unique Budvar ringed and non-pasteurised lager. The best "12-proof" beer in town!

Česká hospoda/Moyzesova 22

It justly ranks among the best "10-proof" beers in the city, with the non-pasteurised Moravian "cellar 10-proof" beer tapped to your mug by a compressor just like in the good old days.

Bar Madrid/Vrátna 30

Non-pasteurised beers from the small Kaltenecker brewery in Rožňava. The best specialties in the city served by season. Bavarian lager, dark beer Brokát, Marzen, Weizen, Bock, Ale, Indian Pale Ale...

Pivovar Golem/Dominikánske námestie 15

Now the only place where beer is brewed, even if the beer-brewing tradition goes as far back as the 15th century.

MARKETS

Every morning from spring till autumn the square **Dominikánske námestie** and the marketplace **Trhovisko Hradbová** come to life, full of fruit, vegetables, flowers and other homemade products (as well as on other occasions – for instance, before All Saints' Day or before Christmas). The best market takes place on a Saturday morning.



Enjoy the Taste
of Košice!



31 HOTEL ROCA
32 EMER SERVIS
I KOŠICE VISITOR CENTRE

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP – Buy yourself something special

Košice is definitely the best shopping place in the whole region. There are several shopping malls and centres throughout the city, just waiting for you to enter. The main street **Hlavná ulica** is inviting for a promenade, as well as side streets hiding designer label shops and souvenirs, together with some special places, posing as the shop window of the city and giving you a different shopping feeling. Don't hesitate and buy yourselves something special to remind you of your visit to Košice!

SHOPPING MALLS

The people of Košice love to shop and spend their free time in shopping malls. These shopping centres house shops of all major brands of your interest – from bijouterie through underwear, shoes, sportswear and equipment, bookstores, house accessories to toys. If you want to join the natives at their favourite shopping spots, go to **OC Aupark** (Námestie osloboditeľov), **OC Optima** (Moldavská cesta 32), **OC Galéria** (Torýská 5) or **OC Cassovia** (Pri prachárni 4).



SHOPPING CENTRES AND PASSAGES OF THE MAIN STREET HLAVNÁ ULICA

Specialised furniture, house appliances and electronics shops are very popular. There are also shopping centres full of smaller shops on the main street (**Dargov** – Hlavná 2, **OD Tesco** – Hlavná 111) or in the passage near **Doubletree** by **Hilton Hotel** (Hlavná 1).

HLAVNÁ ULICA (MAIN STREET)

The main street and the passages of its buildings are full of shop windows with jewellery, designer and other clothes and shoes, books, music and other interesting or useful things.

SIDE STREETS – SEEK THEM OUT

Sometimes you have to search for quality, and the same is true of Košice. Small streets hide ateliers of city designers and charming little shops.

SPECIAL PLACES

Occasionally, you can buy nice things at unusual places or at various events. Once a month on the Saturday nearest to the 15th of the month, an **Antique fair** is organised in the village of Budimír five kilometres away from Košice, then there is the **Hlavná, Staromestská** and **Christmas markets**, and in August there is **BaZZart** – a festival of original brands and design...

OPENING TIMES AND NON-STOP SHOPPING

Shops in the city centre are usually open from 9 a.m. or 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. during workdays and from 8 a.m. till 12 a.m. on Saturdays. They are mostly closed on Sundays. Shopping malls are open from 10 a.m. till 9 p.m. on week days and from 9 a.m. till 9 p.m. at weekends. Hypermarket **Tesco** is open non-stop, just in case you need something urgently.

KOŠICE, FASHION AND CLOTHING

Local fashion designers

Lujza Flešár Kafka, Módný ateliér, Hlavná 20

Odette Fedorová, Módný ateliér, Hlavná 58

Jitka Mikulová, Fashion Studio JKlett, Zvonárska 18

Ida Sandor, Obrancov mieru 2

Gabriela Sýkorová Hyllová, www.gabrielasykorah.com

(on-line presentation)

We are not sisters, wearenotsisters.com

(on-line presentation, also on Facebook)



Best brands: OC Optima, OC Cassovia, Hlavná ulica

Nicest shopping street: Poštová

Fashion shows: www.visitkosice.eu

Stylish sportswear: Štúrova ulica, OC Optima, OC Cassovia,

Vitezov dvor – Hlavná 40, OC Galéria, OC Aupark

Equipment for the mountains: OC Optima, Mlynská ulica

FROM KOŠICE WITH LOVE

Buy something to remind you of your time in Košice

Souvenirs

Košice Visitor Centre, Hlavná 59 /new, design and classic souvenirs, souvenirs of Košice 2013, publications/

MIC Košice, Hlavná 2 /classic souvenirs/

Ulička remesiel (Crafts Lane), Hrnčiarska ulica /traditional craft souvenirs/

Books (printed guides, publications about Košice and Slovakia, books in foreign languages)

ARTFORUM, Mlynská 4

PANTA RHEI, Hlavná 72, OC Aupark – Námestie Osloboditeľov

Typical glass and porcelain ware (Slovak and Czech made)

SKLO PORCELÁN, Hlavná 59 and Mlynská 22

BOHEMIA, Hlavná 26

MEDIEVAL SHOPPING

Who wouldn't like to take a break for a while from the busy supermarkets and try shopping in the Middle Ages? Košice makes this a real possibility. The enchanting historic Crafts Lane with its period paving and tiny houses is attractive not just to our little ones. Buy some bread in the aromatic bakery, herbs for medicinal or refreshing tea from the herbal specialist, get your leather bag fixed at the bag makers ... You can buy an original souvenir from the artistic metalworker or at the pottery, get inspired by the works of the artistic carpenter or choose a protective precious stone from the precious stone shop, all at a place where traditional crafts come back to life.

Find more tips about places and events that will surely put you into a shopping frenzy at www.visitkosice.eu. Enjoy Košice in a shopping frenzy and treat yourselves to the very best!



CITY NIGHTS – Great night guaranteed!

Whatever idea you have about a perfect evening out, Košice will make it happen. The city full of energy, ease and creativity can satisfy everybody. No wonder people from the whole region come to the city to have fun. Why not join them and try for yourself? We guarantee you will recall your night (at least vaguely) in the morning (or lunchtime) with a smile.



A CALM EVENING OVER BEER OR WINE

If you are in the mood to sit down with your friends there are several possibilities and places where you will feel good.

If you want a beer, why not try **Golem** (Dominikánske námestie 15) where they serve their own brewed beer and snacks, **Buejovická hospoda** (Hrnčiarska 25) where you can also watch sports matches, the original **The Beer House** (Hlavná 54), **Pub u kohúta** (Hrnčiarska 23) with summer terrace, **Irish Pub Diesel** (Hlavná 92) serving the Irish specialty Guinness, underground **AMSTERDAM** (Štúrova 33 opposite STEEL ARÉNA) and **Česká hospoda** (Moyzesova 22), the small pub **F Caffé** (Baštová 11) or historic-style **Keltská krčma** (Hlavná 80), **Villa Regia** (Dominikánske námestie 3) and **Camelot** (Kováčska 19). The afternoon number one in the summer is **Cambridge** (Komenského), of course, besides the many summer terraces on the main street **Hlavná ulica**, the terraces of **Blue Bell** (Hlavná 22) and buffet stalls near the **Jazero lake**.

You can revel in good wine in stylish wine cellars. The wine cellar **Vinotéka Villa Cassa** (Pri Miklušovej väznici 2) will offer you various delicacies to go with their excellent wines (cheese, heavenly olives, prosciutto) and where wine tasting evenings are organised throughout the year. Restaurants **Camelot** (Kováčska 19), **Mediterran** (Alžbetina 24) and **Zlatý dukát** (Hlavná 16) also have interesting selections of wine in their lists.

Other pleasant places include **Tarantino** (passage at Hlavná 22), **Madrid** (Vrátna 30) and **Barista** (Mlynská 25). **Pokhoi** (passage at Hlavná 20) has its many loyal "fans" and organises various events that follow on from the famous alternative establishment Khoi-Khoi.

COCKTAIL OR CHAMPAGNE WITH... CHARM AND STYLE

The local bars are stylish, have a party atmosphere and you never know how the evening is going to end... Even so, you should mostly count on a relaxed mood! You can choose from the trendy bars **Piano** (Hlavná 92), **Retro Cult Club** (Kováčska 49), **Jazz Garden** (Kováčska 39) and **Garibaldi's** (Hlavná 68), or easy-going bars **Little Havana** (Kováčska 13) and **Intermezzo Café** (Bočná 4). **Glamour** (Dominikánske námestie 3) is more intimate, while foreign visitors favour **Cavearia Theatru** (Hlavná 76). **Cosmopolitan** (Kováčska 9) will take you into a cocktail heaven and **Cactus Pub** (Zámočnícka 1) into tequila bliss.

GO "OUT ON THE TOWN"!

If you are planning a night out on the town, Košice is the ideal party city and club heaven of Eastern Slovakia. Spend a night in party style in luxurious and refined clubs: **IBIZA CLUB** (Laca Novomeského), **EXIT CLUB** (Mäsiarska 8), **RETRO CULT CLUB** (Kováčska 49) and **JAZZ CLUB** (Kováčska 39). Another place to stop by for a disco, but more remote, is the **Energy music hall** in Čaňa. **BOBA BAR** (Juzná trieda 2/A) will guarantee a classic party. A great programme and Latino parties are organised also by **Agentúra GeS** (Laca Novomeského 13).





A NIGHT OF MUSIC

If you feel like going to a concert, choose from the evening programmes – a big event in **STEEL ARENA**, **Infiniti Arena** or **CASSOSPORT**, classical music in the **State Philharmonic Košice**, or some other known or new music projects at **Kasárne/Kulturpark**, **TABAČKA KulturFabrik** or **Collosea** or any of the one-off concerts. Just follow the **CONCERT PROGRAMME** at www.visitkosice.eu to get an overview of things to do in Košice tonight!



Events to be marked in your diary

Use the City/May – includes parties and film screenings on building walls.

Rose Fest/May – July – popular festival of light summer wines

Košice Gurmán fest / June – festival of exquisite flavours

Summer in the park/August – programme full of concerts and film evenings.

Andy Warhol on the Košic streets/August – DJ-ing in the city and a grand birthday party.

Košice Wine Festival/September – celebrate and taste... in wine cellars and bars till the morning.

KOŠICKÉ ZLATO

(KOŠICE GOLD) – A UNIQUE DRINK
WITH A SECRET RECIPE SOLD
EXCLUSIVELY IN KOŠICE,
NOT TO BE MISSED!

www.visitkosice.eu

**Keep in touch
with us at
www.visitkosice.eu**

and check the current **PARTY PROGRAM**
and **CONCERT PROGRAM** (in the section
What to see and experience).





ACCOMODATION – Choice for everybody

Košice has plenty to offer: accommodation in stylish and designer hotels, the oldest hotel in Slovakia, boutique hotels, business and apartment hotels directly in the city or more modest hotels and boarding houses at good prices. Whatever suits you, you are sure to find it here together with good food, excellent offers and a friendly welcome. Marián Miškov, owner of Hotel Bankou – the oldest Slovak hotel – confirms that good care will be taken of you.

"Košice has great potential to become a centre of congress tourism as well as a destination for tourists coming to see the cultural and historical heritage, so-called "heritage travellers". The title Košice won for 2013 – the European Capital of Culture, puts all those working in the tourism industry before a great challenge, as we want to find ways to build long term on this opportunity. I personally see **constant cooperation, enhancing of quality and extending of services as the only way to success.** We follow this also in our hotel. As it is a historic hotel situated in a beautiful forest park on the outskirts of the city, we tend to host a wide variety of guests; from business travellers through to romantic couples and foreign tourists. Besides comfortable and stylish rooms, we offer them all the services of our Relax Centre and the top gastronomy of our Lujza Restaurant. The quality of our cuisine is one of the attractions that lures our guests here. Nowadays, if a hotel wants to be successful on the market, it has to provide a wide range of additional services. In cooperation with the Košice Visitor Centre and other hotels in Košice, we organise guided city tours and various trips, arrange for transport, tickets to cultural or sporting events, or prepare cultural programme and entertainment for corporate and private functions. We look forward to you making use of our services in Košice and firmly believe that you will enjoy your stay."



HOTELY ****

Hotel Ambassador/Hlauná 101/www.ambassador.sk

Hotel Bankou/Dolný Bankou 2/www.hotelbankou.sk

GOLDEN ROYAL Boutique hotel & SPA/Vodná 8/
www.goldenroyal.sk

Boutique Hotel Bristol/Orlia 3/www.hotelbristol.sk

Doubletree by Hilton Košice/Hlauná 1/
www.kosice.doubletree.com

Boutique Hotel MARATON/Strojársená 21/
www.hotelmaraton.sk

Hotel Privilege/Werferova 3/www.privilege.sk

Hotel Yasmin/Tyršovo nábrežie 1/www.hotel-yasmin.sk

Hotel Zlatý Dukát/Hlavná 16/www.hotelzlatydukat.sk

DÁLIA Eco friendly hotel *+/Löfflerova 1**/
www.hoteldalia.sk

HOTELY ***

Hotel Alessandria/Jiskrova 3/www.hotel-alessandria.sk

Hotel Best Western TELEDOM/Timonova 27/www.hotel.teledom.sk

Hotel Centrum/Južná trieda 2/A/www.hotel-centrum.sk

City Hotel/Vodársená 6/www.cityhotelkosice.sk

Hotel Ferum/Železiarsená 49, Šaca/www.ferum.sk

Hotel Gloria Palac/Bottova 1/www.gloriapalac.sk

Hotel MÚZA/Pri prachárni/www.hotelmuza.sk

ROKOKO HOTEL/Gorkého 9/www.rokoko.sk

HOTEL ŠEBASTOVCE/Šebastovská 4/www.hotelsebastovce.sk

Hotel U Leva/Alejová 2/www.penzionuleva.sk



HOTELY **

Hotel Akadémia/ Južná trieda 10/www.hotelakademia.sk

City Residence/Bačíkova 18/www.cityresidence.sk

GUEST HOUSES ***

Barca/Gavlovičova 1/www.pensionbarca.sk

Beryl/Mojmírova 2/A/www.penzionberyl.sk

Grand/Kováčska 65/www.penzion-grand.eu

Horse Inn Pension/Zvonárska 17/www.horseinn.sk

SET/Trieda SNP 85/www.penzionset.sk

SLOVAKIA/Ortľa 6 / www.penzionslovakia.sk

VILLA REGIA/Dominikánske námestie 3/
www.villaregia.sk

ZLATÝ JELEŇ/Bankou 7/www.zlatyjelen.com

GUEST HOUSES **

GAZDOVSKÁ PIVNICA/Čajkovského 4/www.gazdovskapivnica.sk

HRADBOVÁ/Hradbová 9/www.penzionhradbova.sk

PLATZ/Dominikánske námestie 23/www.platz.sk

GUEST HOUSES *

COLOSSEO RESIDENCE/Štúrova 2/www.colosseo.sk

KRMANOVA/Krmanova 14/www.krmanova.sk

NAD BANKOU/Kováčska 23/www.penzionnadbankou.sk

CAMPING

SALAŠ BARCA – Autocamping /Alejová 24/www.visitkosice.eu

Other
accommodation
www.visitkosice.eu



GATEWAY TO EAST SLOVAKIA – Trips to the region

Having arrived as far as Košice, we advise you not to leave without seeing the beautiful surroundings of the city. Košice is the gateway to the region, which is rich in numerous unique natural or cultural and historical sights. Take a trip back into mysterious medieval times, climb into majestic castles and manor houses, marvel at the underground kingdom of UNESCO-protected caves, nature reservoirs or traditional folk arts and crafts. Sample some delicious Tokaj wine directly at the vineyards and unparalleled medieval cellars, which conceal the secrets of its production. More tips by Miška Maciková from the family winery Tokaj Macík.

"The Tokaj region where I grew up is unique for me. Why? The TOKAJ wine-making region is a special and unique area of the world where the sun and earth unite so that men can produce great wine. The climatic conditions and the unique character of the region located at the confluence of the two rivers Bodrog and Tisa has been known since the 13th century thanks to the delicate beverage called Tokaj. I love the region, there is still plenty to discover, many marvellous places to experience and visit. You should therefore not skip visiting the medieval cellars combined with wine tasting, a tour of the manor house of the Andrassy Family, a boat trip on the River Bodrog and the unique experience of watching European pond turtles in the national nature reserve **Tajba**. I am glad I was born here. The region is close to my heart with the vineyards spreading over the slopes of the Zemplínske vrchy hills and large medieval cellar realms underneath, where wine silently matures in oak vats. The wine is rare not only thanks to its age, but mostly because of its composition and volume of antioxidants, vitamins, flavanoids and antimicrobial substances which are products of the refined fungus *Botrytis cinerea* Persson. It will be an unforgettable experience to visit Malá Trňa, the very heart of the Tokaj region and taste Tokaj wine underground. No wonder French King Louis XIV awarded the village the title VINUM REGUM, REX VINORUM / Wine of kings, king of wines."



Take an organised one-day or half-day trip from Košice through the region. An absorbing commentary from your guide will help you learn about the legends and stories; you will taste local specialties and leave full of new experiences. We have prepared trips to **UNESCO Monuments of the Spiš region, Castles and UNESCO caves of the Gemer region, Unique Tokaj cellars and vineyards**, as well as trips to the national parks **Slovenský raj** and **Pieniny**, and a tour of **Wooden Churches of Eastern Slovakia**.

1. UNESCO MONUMENTS OF THE SPIŠ REGION

A visit to the Spiš region will definitely be one of the highlights in your travel tales. Embraced by the Tatra mountains and Slovenský raj national park, the region can boast several cultural and historical monuments added to the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Our journey begins in the medieval town of **Levoča** with its treasure of the historical centre protected by a well-preserved fortification. You will get an insight into the life of the famous **sculpture Master Pavol of Levoča** or the mysterious **White Lady of Levoča**. Our route leads directly from the picturesque religious town of **Spišská Kapitula** (also referred to as the Slovak Vatican), where you can admire Roman and Gothic architecture, to **Spišský hrad (Spiš Castle)** which is one of the most remarkable monuments in Europe. At the end of the day you will take delight in the unique preserved frescos from the 14th century in the church **Kostol sv. Ducha (Church of the Holy Spirit)** in the village of **Žehra**.

Trip duration: 10 hours



2. CASTLES AND UNESCO CAVES OF THE GEMER REGION

Explore the Gemer region, a landscape interwoven with old legends. Experience its rich mining tradition, the history of famous ruling families and forget your earthly life for a while in the underground kingdom of caves.

Krásna Hôrka, one of the few preserved castles in Slovakia, stands on a stony hill not far from the town of Rožňava. A tour of the castle will lead you through dozens of chambers where you can admire historic photographs and furniture, weapons and false coins. The tour ends in a chapel with the **mummified remains of the Duchess Zsófia Serédy**. The trip continues to the chateau in **Betliar**, a family hunting lodge of the aristocratic Andrassy noble family. Learn about the life of the family and enjoy their original furnishings, precious library and rich collections, including a four-thousand-year-old **Egyptian mummy**. After the tour you can walk around and relax in one of the most beautiful **English-style parks** in Slovakia.

Now comes the time to explore the underground world of caves in the national park Slovenský kras. In **Domica** cave you can take a subterranean boat trip under a stalactite arch. The unique aragonite cave **Ochtinská aragonitová jaskyňa** will surprise you with a sky full of stars made of white crystal aragonite. If you like adventure, the cave **Krásňohorská jaskyňa** is the perfect place for you. In full speleologist's equipment you will reach one of the biggest stalactites in the world.

Trip duration: 10 hours



3. UNIQUE TOKAJ WINE CELLARS AND VINEYARDS

Tokaj wine – this delicious aromatic gold-coloured dessert wine was enjoyed already in the 17th century by Louis XIV at his royal court. It was first made by **Sepsi Laczko Maté** in 1650. We invite you to wine tasting directly in a medieval wine cellar in the world's acclaimed wine-making region of Tokaj. You will learn about the history of winemaking, the technology of Tokaj wine production and, what's more important, taste a wide assortment of unforgettable wines. Besides, you can also enjoy local specialities of the Zemplín region and Slovak or Hungarian cuisine.

Trip duration: 5 hours



4. SLOVENSKÝ RAJ NATIONAL PARK

The national park Slovenský raj has been included among **the most beautiful national parks of Central Europe** thanks to its unique natural beauty. The trip will take you to **deep ravines with waterfalls**, you will walk on a vast plateau and see unforgettable karst phenomena. Besides magnificent nature, you will visit the historic **medieval town of Levoča** – the gateway to the park, and you can end your active day by relaxing in the **thermal swimming pool Vrbov**.

Trip duration: 12 hours



5. PIENINY NATIONAL PARK

A trip to the nostalgic part of north-east Slovakia, where you will travel back in time. You will be enchanted by **the surrounding nature's beauty** where several historic films have been shot, as well as by a visit to the ancient monastery **Červený kláštor**, where the legendary "flying" Cyprian monk lived and where monks ran a much sought-after pharmacy since as early as the mid-18th century. After a walk in the surroundings of the monastery, you will start your adrenaline-packed **rafting on the River Dunajec** (a river border shared with Poland) through a breathtaking rocky canyon, seated in **traditional rafts**. From the border of Slovakia and Poland, the trip continues on to take you to the town of **Stará Ľubovňa**, into the region best known for two attractions – the castle **Ľubovniansky hrad** and the traditional shepherd-style restaurant **Salaš u Franka**. You can savour both during the trip. After a hard day, a few relaxing moments in **the natural thermal swimming pool Vrbov** will round things off just nice.

Trip duration: 12 hours



6. UNESCO WOODEN CHURCHES AND FOLK ART

Ladomírová, Bodružal, Hervartov, Ruská Bystrá – all four villages in the north-east of Slovakia have one unique thing in common. They are home to four of the eight impressive wooden churches situated in the Slovak part of the Carpathian mountain arch, all of which have been registered in the UNESCO World Heritage List. You can admire them also from inside. Besides a tour of wooden churches, the trip will take you also to another UNESCO heritage site – the **town of Bardejov**, known thanks to its **Gothic square and fortifications**. The folk art and life of a traditional Slovak village is presented in the nearby **open-air folk architecture museum – Múzeum ľudovej architektúry** within the grounds of Bardejovské kúpele (Bardejov Spa).



Trips can be booked on the web site www.visitkosice.eu in person at the KOŠICE Visitor Centre or at hotel receptions. Do not miss the magic region of Košice.

More information and itineraries:

Košice Visitor Centre

T: +421 (0) 55 625 8888

E: visit@visitkosice.sk

W: www.visitkosice.eu

Other tips for a trip:

www.visitkosice.eu

Jasov – a Baroque Premonstratensian monastery and cave / Herliansky gejzír – the only cold-water geyser in Europe (besides Iceland) / the Štós Spa known thanks to speleo-therapy / the canyon Ždielsky kaňon / the castle Turniansky Castle / the mining village of Medzev / the lake Morské oko in the mountains Vihorlat – the largest dammed volcanic lake in Slovakia / the lake Vinianske jazero and Viniansky Castle / the national nature reserve Tajba – a dead channel of the River Bodrog and home to protected European pond turtles / the Greek-Catholic wooden church Kostol sv. Mikuláša (St. Nicolas' Church) in Ruská Bystrá.



Information about the Košice region also at www.regionkosice.com



WEEKEND TIPS – Be inspired

Has Košice captured your interest? Have you decided to spend a weekend but are not sure how to plan it? Here are a few ideas on how to plan your visit so that you see as much as possible and have most fun. Be inspired by the programme prepared for you by the Košice Visitor Centre.

A FAMILY WEEKEND IN THE SUMMER

Day one: After arriving in Košice and checking-in, there is no point losing time. Head straight to the city centre for a **city sightseeing tour**. For children with families we recommend the **Most beautiful Gems of Košice** (see page 8). Have your dinner at one of the family-friendly restaurants (page 35). Then you can have an ice-cream cup on a café terrace and wander the main street till sunset.

Day two: After a rich breakfast, we recommend a **ride by Children's railway from Čermeľ to Alpínka** (page 37), the Tarzan high rope park, golf and a train ride back. Stop for lunch in the nearby restaurant Baránok, which is on the way. Then go to Kavečany and walk around the Košice Castle, where you can climb up to the Vyhliadková veža (Watchtower, page ...). Do not miss a visit to **Košice Zoo** (page 36) while in Kavečany, and don't forget to bring carrots and apples – the small goats are always hungry. Finish your day by an adrenaline **toboggan ride** (page 36) jumping on a **trampoline** and an excellent dinner. If you have bigger children, you can take them to the cinema. We recommend starting **day three** by visiting the historical prison **Miklušova väznica (Mikluš Prison)** and the executioner's house **Katov byt** (Executioner's Flat, page 19). Before lunch, you will still have time for the **Slovak Technical Museum – the Chamber of electric charge** (page 20). Afternoon is the time for doing sports. Come to lake **Jazero** and try **waterskiing** (page 41).

A SPECIAL TIP: Stay one more day and set out for a trip to the surroundings of Košice. Children might enjoy the tour Castles and UNESCO caves of the Gemer region (page 58), or the Pieniny National Park (page 59).

WINTER WEEKEND FOR THE FAMILY

When visiting with your family during winter – replace the second day with a trip to the surroundings of Košice to the Castles and UNESCO caves of the Gemer region (page 58), and spend the afternoon of the third day in the Botanical Gardens (page 36), at Košice Zoo (page 36) or the Planetarium (page 20).

AN ACTIVE WEEKEND

Day one: Arrival in Košice, a thematic sightseeing tour of the city “**The most beautiful gems of Košice**”, and climbing the tower of St. Elisabeth's Cathedral (page 8), a concert / sports match in STEEL ARENA (page 40), in the evening and a spa (page 42).

Day two: A trip to the **Castles and UNESCO caves of the Gemer region** (page 58) in its adrenaline version – entry to the cave Krásnohorská jaskyňa in speleologist's equipment. An evening spent as recommended in A great night out (page 52).

Day three: Skiing/ tennis/ swimming in the indoor swimming pool in the morning (pages 40 and 41), lunch in a great restaurant (page 45), waterskiing (page 41) /hot air balloon flight above Košice (page 38). /parachuting in the afternoon (page 41).

PACKAGE-TOUR WEEKEND / WEEKEND FOR SENIORS

Day one: Arrival in Košice, accommodation check-in and transfer to the Košice Visitor Centre, where the thematic sightseeing “**Old Town Walk**” begins (page 11). A dinner in one of the **top restaurants** (page 45), a **concert of the State Philharmonic Orchestra / a performance in the State Theatre** (page 28). We recommend a glass of wine or the special cocktail drink **Košice Gold** (page 52) after the performance.

Day two: A morning walk in **Bankov** (page 37) or a visit to the Botanical Gardens (page 36), an afternoon **trip to the Tokaj region** – unique wine cellars (page 59). Return back to Košice in the evening and relax in the spa with a massage (page 42).

Day three: Morning thematic sightseeing “**Jewish Košice**” (page 15) or “**Religious Košice**” (page 13), a culinary lunch (page 45), a coffee or dessert in a café (page 48). An afternoon visit to the **Slovak Technical Museum** (page 20), the **East Slovak Gallery** and the **Vojtech Löffler Museum** (page 28).

SPECIAL TIP: Stay one more day and set out on a trip to the surroundings of Košice. UNESCO Monuments of the Spiš region (page 58), or Wooden Churches and Folk Arts (page 60) are ideal tips.



USEFUL INFORMATION AND MAP – Visitor Centre, Essentials and Getting Around

Náušteunické centrum Košice – (Košice Visitor Centre)

Official information centre of Košice

HLAVNÁ 59, 040 01 KOŠICE

Open:

Monday – Friday: 10:00 – 18:00

Saturday: 10:00 – 15:00

Sunday: 10:00 – 15:00 (April – October)

E: visit@visitkosice.eu

T: +421 (0) 55 625 8888

W: www.visitkosice.eu

The friendly, well-informed and very helpful staff at the Košice Visitor Centre will make sure you spend a wonderful time in Košice. The centre is where you should ask for advice about everything you need so that you don't have to lose time or money for your own research. Stop by, make a call or simply send an e-mail.

Do you need help? Rely on us to

- search and book accommodation and restaurant tables for you
- arrange for city sightseeing tours and trips around Košice
- book and sell tickets to the theatre, concerts, cinema or sporting events
- give you recommendations about adventurous weekends
- search current special offers
- help with local transport, parking fees, reservations, car rental
- give advice about great presents, books and souvenirs for your friends and family.

Other information centres in the city

Mestské informačné centrum (City Information Centre) OD Dargov

– Hlavná 2, OC Cassovia – Pri prachárni 4

USEFUL INFO AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Exchange offices: OC Aupark, railway station, banks (do not risk exchanging your money in the street, but rather make use of official exchange offices and banks)

Car hire:

Košice Airport: Avis Rent a car (+421 (0) 55 671 34 81), +421 (0) 55 685 36 18) / Alimex Slovakia (+421 (0) 911 911 190) / HERTZ (+421 (0) 55 789 60 41) / SIXT (+421 (0) 55 623 4949) / Rai Internacional (+421 (0) 908 513 000) / Buchbinder (+421 (0) 55 683 2397)

Post office: Poštová 1, Komenského 30, Thurzova 1

Pharmacy: Hlavná 40, Hlavná 116, Mlynská 1, Mlynská 26

Emergency medical service and non-stop pharmacy: Torýská 1

Internet clubs: Hlavná 48, Poštová 3

International press and magazines: BP PRESS, Hlavná 102

Lost passport: Oddelenie cudzineckej polície Policajného zboru Košice (Foreigners Police Department), Trieda SNP 35,

Non-stop linka +421 (0) 961 931 208

TRAVEL AGENCY

Cestovná kancelária KOLUMBUS Košice, Tyršovo nábřežie 1

(Hotel Yasmin), + 421 (0) 55 622 18 34, + 421 (0) 55 622 79 72,

www.kolumbus.sk, letenky@kolumbus.sk, zajazdy@kolumbus.sk

USEFUL NUMBERS

Emergency medical service 155, 112/**Fire brigade** 150, 112/

Police 158, 112/**Municipal police** 159/**Information** 12 111

TAXI

Payment by card or in cash:

EUROBUS BMW TAXI +421 (0) 55 17 707/

AMERICAN VIP TAXI +421 (0) 55 16 500

Payment in cash:

AB TAXI +421 (0) 917 551 280/**ABe TAXI** +421 (0) 917 551 080/

CENTRAL TAXI +421 (0) 55 16 060/**CITY** +421 (0) 55 16 222/

CLASSIC +421 (0) 55 16 880/**CTC** +421 (0) 55 16 666/

ELÁN +421 (0) 55 16 116/**EASY TAXI** +421 (0) 902 122 224/

EXPRES TAXI +421 (0) 55 16 400/**FUN** +421 (0) 55 16 777/

LUCKY TAXI +421 (0) 55 633 00 00/**MAXI** +421 (0) 55 16 555/

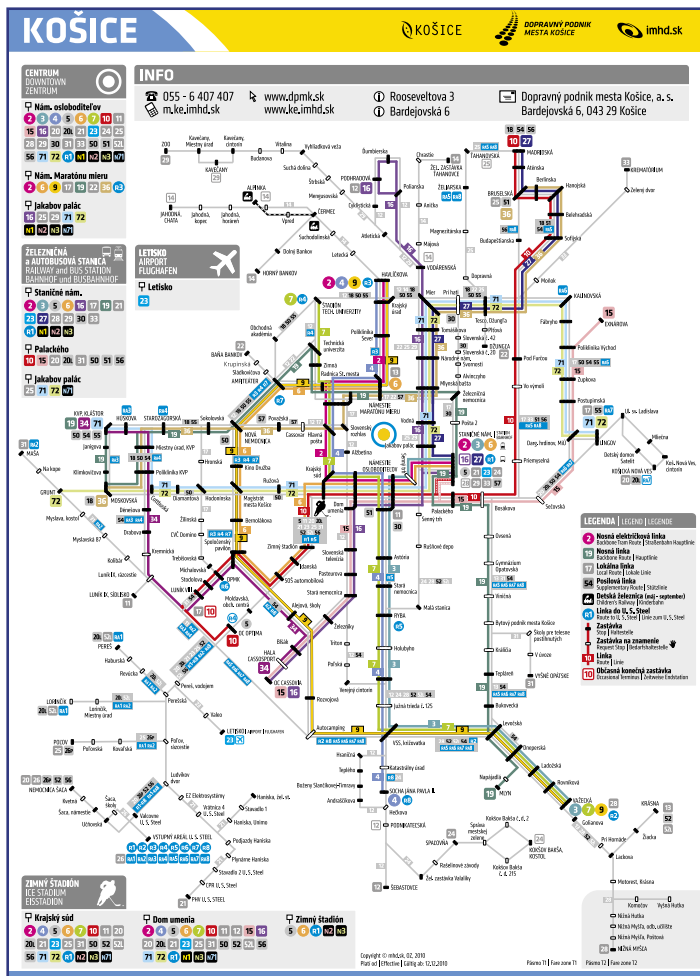
RADIO +421 (0) 55 16 333/**ROCKY TAXI** +421 (0) 902 551 115/

SLOVAN +421 (0) 55 17 666



GETTING AROUND KOŠICE

Public transport



Trams, trolleybuses or buses will take you to places more distant from the city centre. You can buy tickets (no-transfer ticket for four stops, transfer ticket for 30 or 60 minutes, 60-minute night ticket, 24-hour or 7-day ticket). They are available at newsagents, ticket machines or from the driver for € 1. A 60-minute ride can also be paid by sending an SMS message to 1166 (only Slovak mobile operators), and the ticket and price have to be confirmed by a return message before getting on. From May 2013 you can make use of free travel by buying the city discount card **Košice Welcome Card**.

By car / Parking

Driving a car in Košice is simple. If you just need to pass through, there are two circuits. The historic city centre is a pedestrian zone and car access is allowed only according to special rules. Please pay attention to one-way roads close to the centre. Parking in the city centre (in designated parking zones) is charged – in streets as well as attended parking lots. You can tell a paid parking space by the blue vertical signs showing a parking meter. The fee is **1€/hour** or **8€/day**. You can pay at a parking machine, which will give you a receipt, or you can buy a half-hour or hour parking card at sales points. Place them in a visible place in your car. You can pay for parking also by sending an SMS message in the form “KE (space) name of the parking zone (space) registration number of the parked vehicle” to the telephone number 2200 (a return text message will confirm that you have paid for one hour of parking). The parking fee is payable on Mondays – Fridays from 7.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturdays from 7.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. At other times of the day, on Sundays and holidays, parking in the city centre is free of charge. Fees are not paid all week by people with severe physical handicap and those over 70. You can make use of three hours free parking at the shopping centre OC Aupark on the square Námestie osloboditeľov.

KEY:



CENTRAL TRAIN STATION



BUS STATION



INFORMATION CENTRE



PARKING



POST OFFICE



PHARMACY



ATM



MONEY EXCHANGE



LUGGAGE STORAGE ROOM



TOILETS / RESTROOMS



DIRECTION TO AIRPORT

HOTELS ****

- 1 BOUTIQUE HOTEL BRISTOL
- 2 BOUTIQUE HOTEL MARATON
- 3 DÁLIA ECO FRIENDLY HOTEL ****
- 4 DOUBLETREE BY HILTON
- 5 GOLDEN ROYAL BOUTIQUE HOTEL & SPA
- 6 HOTEL AMBASSADOR
- 7 HOTEL BANKOV
- 8 HOTEL PRIVILEGE
- 9 HOTEL YASMIN
- 10 HOTEL ZLATÝ DUKÁT

HOTELS ***

- 11 CITY HOTEL
- 12 HOTEL ALESSANDRIA
- 13 HOTEL BEST WESTERN TELEDOM
- 14 HOTEL CENTRUM
- 15 HOTEL FERUM
- 16 HOTEL GLORIA PALACE
- 17 HOTEL MÚZA
- 18 HOTEL ŠEBASTOVCE
- 19 HOTEL U LEVA
- 20 ROKOKO HOTEL

HOTELS **

- 21 HOTEL AKADÉMIA
- 22 CITY RESIDENCE

GUEST HOUSES ***

- 23 BARCA
- 24 BERYL
- 25 GRAND
- 26 HORSE INN PENSION
- 27 SET
- 28 SLOVAKIA
- 29 VILLA REGIA
- 30 ZLATÝ JELEŇ

GUEST HOUSES **

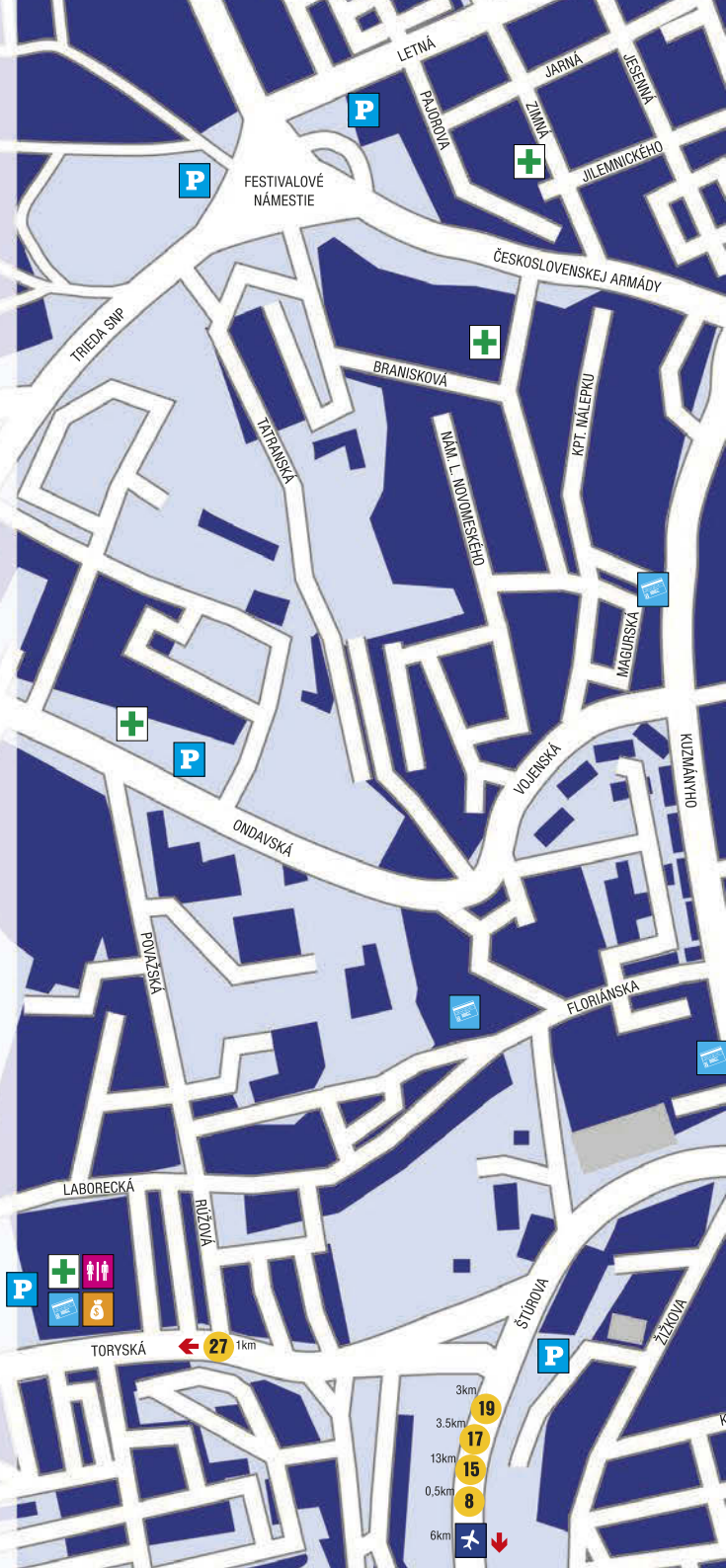
- 31 GAZDOVSKÁ PIVNICA
- 32 HRADBOVÁ
- 33 PLATZ

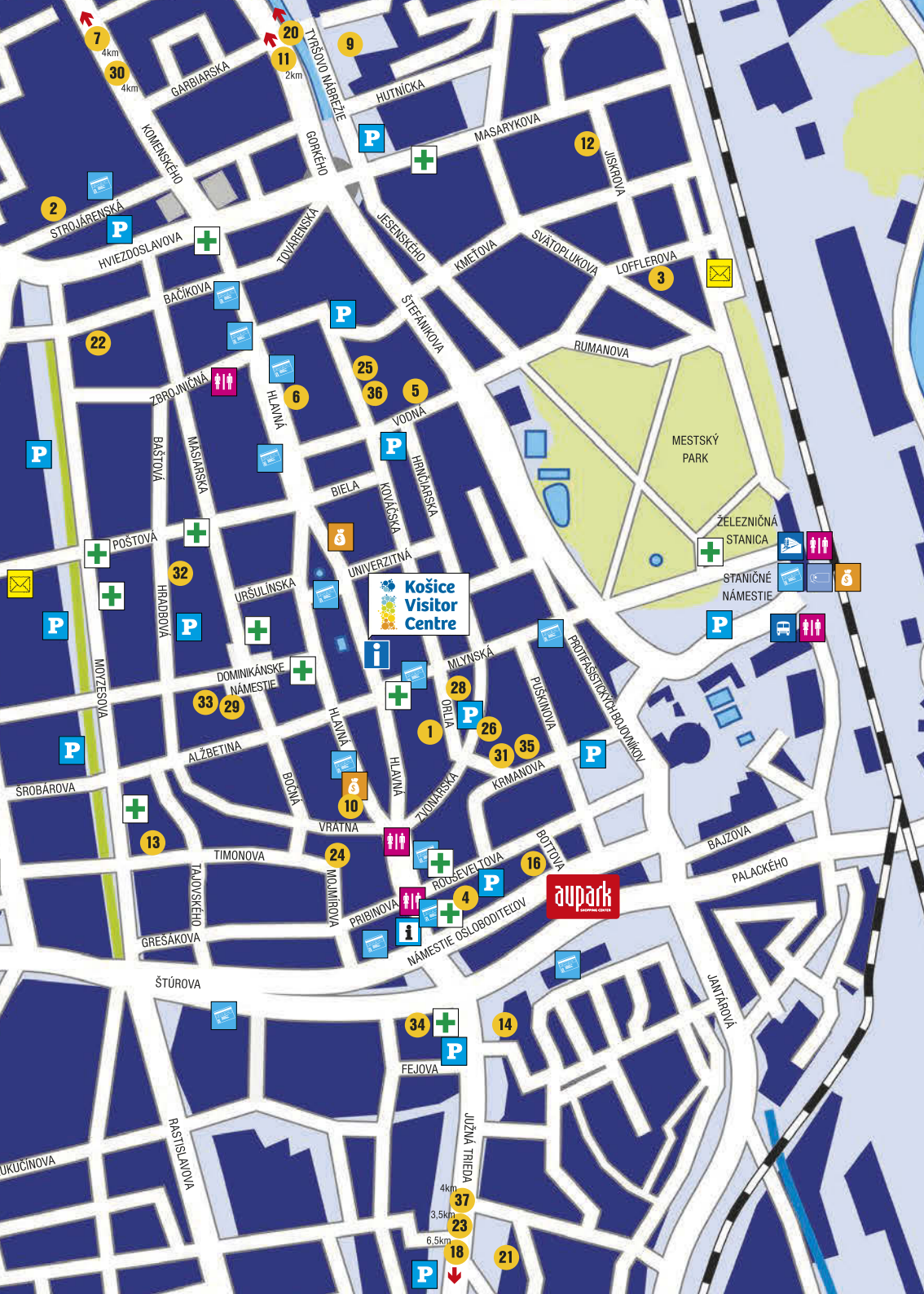
GUEST HOUSES *

- 34 COLOSSEO RESIDENCE
- 35 KRMANOVA
- 36 NAD BANKOU

CAMPING

- 37 SALÁŠ BARCA - AUTOCAMPING





Košice
Visitor
Centre

aupark

www.slovakia.travel

www.visitkosice.eu



EUROPEAN UNION



OPERAČNÝ PROGRAM
KONKURENCIESCHOPNOSŤ
A HOSPODÁRSKY RAST

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