



**FALL IN LOVE WITH BOJNICE**





Dear readers.

I'm glad this booklet got into your hands. My goal is to acquaint you with one of the most beautiful cities in Slovakia, Bojnice.

This magical town is an amazing destination for your stay in Slovakia. I will introduce you to its cultural, entertainment and leisure attractions. Choose according to your taste, but if you like all three of them, do not hesitate to stop in this lovely town for a few days and enrich yourself with cultural, fun and relaxing time.



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# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

## STATE:

Slovakia

## THE FIRST WRITTEN MENTION:

year 1.113

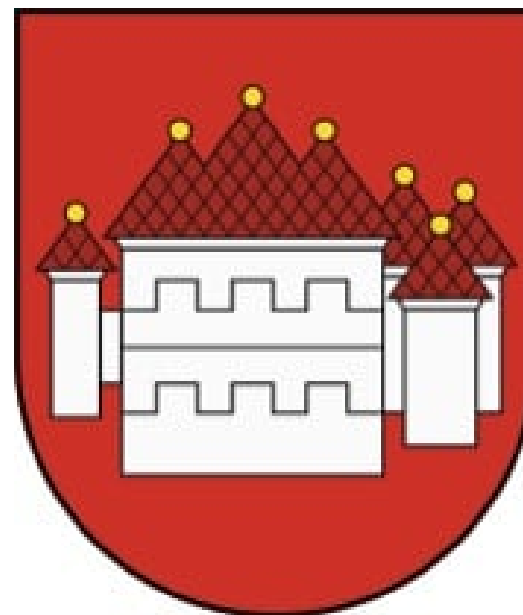
## POPULATION:

Over 5.000

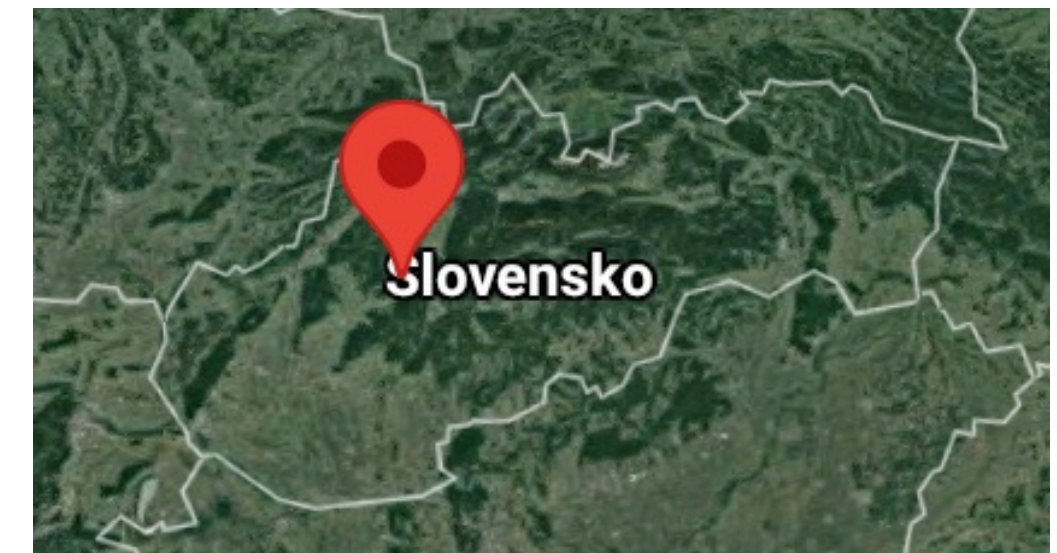
## RIVER:

Nitra

## COAT OF ARMS:



## LOCATION:





# BOJNICE CASTLE



## HISTORY:

Bojnice Castle is one of the oldest and most important monuments in Slovakia. It stands on a travertine hill above the city. The first written mention of the existence of the castle is from 1113 in a document of the Zobor abbey. It was originally a wooden castle and evolved from an older fort. Gradually, during the 13th century, it was built of stone as the property of the Poznan family.

At the end of the 13th century, significant nobleman Matúš Čák Trenčiansky seized Bojnice and the castle belonged to him until 1321. After Matúš Čák, other aristocratic families - the Gileth family, the Leustach family and the Noffry family - took turns in Bojnice in the 14th and 15th centuries.

The architect of the neo-Gothic reconstruction was Jozef Hubert. But the architect apparently became just an instrument in the hands of his customer with a highly refined artistic taste. The count Pálfi (to whom the castle later belonged) himself drew, designed and directed all the work. This last neo-Gothic reconstruction lasted 22 years (1889 - 1910).



# THE MUSEUM

The idea of establishing a museum in the castle in Bojnice was considered by its last aristocratic owner, Count Ján František Pálfi. In his will of November 14, 1907, he expressed the wish that the castle be opened to the public and that the works of art remain in their original places and that the exhibition be made available to all interested parties.

He would therefore be proud and satisfied if he saw that his wish had finally come true, and that the museum at Bojnice Castle is today one of the most visited museums in Slovakia.

The Bojnice Museum is known for its unconventional activities. The most famous of these is the International Festival of Ghosts and Haunts, which takes place every year at the turn of April and May. Other events take place throughout the year - Valentine's weekend, Easter walks through the castle, Fairytale castle, Knight's days or Christmas at the castle and others.





# THE BOJNICE ZOO



## HISTORY:

Following the example of many zoos in the Czech Republic and in the world, the first zoo in Slovakia was established on 1 January 1955, and it was opened to the public on 1 April 1955.

In the first years of the zoo's existence, help came to Bojnice from many companies, factories, cooperatives, scientific institutions, schools. For example, the employees of Kovosmalt Trnava made a mesh for a zoo enclosure, the Prievidza State Property provided a regular supply of vegetables to the zoo, a young wild boar from Bojnice traveled to the Zoological Institute of the University of Forestry and Wood in Zvolen, and donated a wild cat from Šafárikov to Bojnice. Close cooperation was established with the University of Agriculture in Nitra, the Institute of Helminthology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Košice.





## BASIC INFORMATION:

Bojnice National Zoo is the oldest and most visited zoo in Slovakia. Its current area is 41 hectares, of which more than half is the exhibition part. The zoo is located in the recreational environment of the spa town of Bojnice. Bojnice National Zoo is the only state zoo in the Slovak Republic.

As part of its activities, it exhibits live exhibits, breeds endangered animal species, educates and educates the public in the field of environment and biodiversity protection, manages the national detention center for confiscated and seized animals. care for handicapped animals within the operation of a rehabilitation station for injured rare animals from nature and, last but not least, it provides visitors with relaxation and rest.



# ANIMALS

Bojnice National Zoo presents a unique collection of animals from around the world in more than 360 species with a total of more than 2,700 specimens. It is the largest collection of all Slovak zoos. Approximately 280 species from this collection exhibit as the only zoo in Slovakia, e.g. African elephants or bongo antelopes. As part of the breeding of rare and endangered species, 33 species included in the EEP (European Rescue Programs), 39 species included in the ESB (European Stud Books) and 14 species included in the ISB (International Stud Books) are involved in the breeding.





# THE BOJNICE SPA



## HISTORY

The first written record of the Bojnice thermal baths is preserved in a document of King Koloman from 1113, which is stored in the Diocesan Museum of the Nitra Diocese in Nitra. The thermal springs in Bojnice are mentioned in this document as fons fervidus (hot spring). Already at this time, spas were used for treatment.

Bojnice Castle has had a rich history since its founding under King Koloman through Bela IV., Matúš Čák Trenčiansky, Ján Korvín, Thurzov and Pálffyov. Of these feudal lords and castle owners, Alex Thurzo of Betlanovce was the first to build a spa in the first half of the 16th century.

At the turn of 19.-20. The last castle lord, Count Ján Pálffy, carried out the reconstruction of the chateau and spa in the 19th century. The modern development of the spa began in the 1930s, when Ján Baťa was the owner of the spa.

Bojnice was granted the status of a spa on June 17, 1959. Since then, we have provided spa care not only to domestic patients, but also to patients from abroad.





## BASIC INFORMATION

The Bojnice Spa in the heart of Slovakia is a peaceful place which, due to its location, climate and composition of thermal waters, creates ideal conditions for the healing processes, regeneration and relaxation of its guests. They lie in the Upper Nitra Basin, at the eastern foot of Mala Magura at an altitude of 297 meters above sea level. They are protected on three sides by mountains with rich deciduous and coniferous forests, so they have favorable climatic conditions with an average daily air temperature of 9 °C and 2000 hours of sunshine a year. Those who are tired of the daily hectic of living and looking for rest for body and soul will find the right thing here. Thermal springs and charming nature have been creating harmony here for centuries. The basis of the treatment procedures in the Bojnice Spa is a natural, medicinal, bicarbonate-sulphate, calcium-magnesium hypotonic acratotherm with a temperature of 28 - 52 °C, which springs from 9 springs with a yield of 40 liters per second from a depth of 1200-1500 m. Acratotherm improves metabolism and immunological reactions in cells, tissue function, their oxygen supply and thus the overall condition of the body. The healing water has a positive effect on the autonomic nervous system, especially its parasympathetic part.





I hope

that the previous pages were  
able to excite you and interest  
you so much that you decide to  
visit this beautiful location and  
enjoy a unique experience in the  
heart of Slovak nature.

Enjoy!



Michaela