

DAY TRIPS FROM TRENČÍN



Malá and Veľká Skalka near Trenčín

Farský úrad Skalka nad Váhom, tel.: (+421) 032/658 42 40,
(+421) 0910 842 824, www.putnickemiestoskalka.sk

Skalka is known as the oldest pilgrimage site in Slovakia. Malá Skalka is a small two-tower church built in the Romanesque style. First mention of the church dates back to 1208 when the building was dedicated to St. Benedict. Veľká Skalka comprises an antique monastery, a small church built in 1224, and the original cave of hermits representing the oldest accessible cave in Slovakia. The cave is linked to a story about the life of St. Benedict, a hermit who was attacked by thieves while praying. As he immediately began asking God for help, he touched the rock and it opened up. Today, his hand's imprint may still be found on the rock at the cave's entrance.

Educational Trail of Malá – Veľká Skalka, in the length of 2.2 km, leads through the woods extends between Malá Skalka and the monastery at Veľká Skalka. Every July, thousands of believers from all over Slovakia and abroad meet at Skalka to make a pilgrimage and celebrate the memory of St. Andrew-Svorad and Benedict.

DISTANCE FROM TRENČÍN: 6 km. **ACCESS:** From Trenčín through Zamarovce, in direction of Nemšová. Monastery at Veľká Skalka may be seen on the left-hand side, still about 1 km away from the church at Malá Skalka. This distance can easily be walked on the road or along a marked path through the woods. By bus from Trenčín to Skalka nad Váhom, bus stop near Malá Skalka is on request. **GPS:** 48°54'22" N, 18°04'27" E



Spa town Trenčianske Teplice

Kúpele Trenčianske Teplice, tel.: (+421) 0905 841 061, www.kupele-teplice.sk



Trenčianske Teplice is known for its therapeutic spa facilities using natural thermal sulphuric water produced by five local springs. As each of the springs has a bathing pool built directly over it (with the exception of the Grand pool) water enters the pools directly, without being pre-heated or cooled. First mention of the springs appeared in 1247. In the 19th and the early 20th century, the spa represented one of the major spas in Austria-Hungary. One of the main sights is Hammam Pool – a unique construction built in 1888 in the original Maori style. In the past, the pool served as a luxurious bathing pool for rich noblemen.

Spa Park established in 1873 lets you taste the perfect atmosphere of this small town. One of the park's most precious features is the Swan Lake with a small island in the centre. The lake dates back to the times of Austria-Hungary and originally served for bathing. It is an easy walk to start in the park and reach Klepáč hill with a panoramic binocular installed on its summit. Just walk toward the hill along an educational trail with the interesting small Jánošíkova Cave. The route starts at the entrance to the spa park and is marked with red signs.

DISTANCE FROM TRENČÍN: 14 km. **ACCESS:** From Trenčín to Trenčianska Teplá and then turn right after crossing the railway track, in the direction of Trenčianske Teplice. **GPS:** 48°54'34.4" N, 18°10'05.5" E



Beckov Castle

Hrad Beckov, tel.: (+421) 032/774 27 27, www.hrad-beckov.sk

Beckov Castle is a majestic monument poised on top of a 60-metre steep rock massif above the village of Beckov. The castle, situated close to the Váh River, guarded the trade route through the Váh River region. Once home to kings, mighty noblemen and knights, the Castle withstood the raids of Tartars and Turks. Thanks to its excellent ability to defend itself, the town just below the castle flourished and by the 17th century had become a commercial, cultural and church centre. In the 18th century the castle was destroyed by fire, but in recent years there was a significant recovery of the castle and now many interesting events are held.



Ambrovec Mansion is located just below the castle and houses an exhibition of historical furniture taken from the interiors of noblemen's abodes, wooden sculptures, drawings of Ladislav Medňanský, and artistic craftsmanship. The backyard area exhibits antique carriages and agricultural machines.

DISTANCE FROM TRENČÍN: 20 km. **ACCESS:** From Trenčín via Trenčianska Turná, Trenčianske Stankovce, and Krivosúd-Bodovka to Beckov. From the centre of village walk for 5 minutes along the road up to the castle's entrance gate. **GPS:** 48°79'05" N, 17°89'91" E



Čachtice Castle

Obecný úrad Čachtice, tel.: (+421) 0903 715 406, www.cachtice.sk

The Čachtice Castle was built in the 13th century to serve as one of the guarding castles of the middle Váh River region. It became infamous thanks to the „blood-thirsty“ countess Elisabeth Bathory who lived in the late 16th and early 17th century. It is reported that the countess ordered to slay 600 young virgins and bathed in their blood to forever preserve her youth and beauty. The castle was conquered in 1708 and burnt down by the armies of Francis Rákóczi. Since then, the castle has gradually turned into ruins. After the renovation in 2012 – 2014, the castle is again open to the public.

Underneath the village of Čachtice is located the mysterious underground space of Čachtice. Originally used for storing wine, the cellar was later rebuilt into hiding places for inhabitants to hide from the Turkish armies. Thanks to the system of ventilation and storage of food, it was possible to stay underground for an extended period of time.

DISTANCE FROM TRENČÍN: 35 km. **ACCESS:** By car from Trenčín in the direction of Nové Mesto nad Váhom. Enter the village of Čachtice and park at a designated parking below the castle. From there, walk for 15 minutes toward the castle. By bus or train to Nové Mesto nad Váhom, then by bus to Čachtice. From the bus stop walk for 45 minutes to the castle. **GPS:** 48°43'26" N, 17°45'42" E



Miniatures Park at Podolie

Matúšovo kráľovstvo, Podolie, tel.: (+421) 032 743 75 05, www.parkminiatur.sk



The only of its kind in Slovakia, the park houses historic reconstructions of castles the way they looked some 300 to 500 years ago when still buzzing with life and witnessing the reigns of mighty feudal lords. Models of the castles have been made at the

scale of 1:150 and each of them represents a true copy of the original structure. Currently, the collection numbers 56 models of fortresses, castles, churches and view towers. Holíč Castle is the largest of the models and preserves the image it had when serving as a summer residence of Maria Theresa. The model's dimensions are 6 × 6 metres and its weight exceeds 40 tons.

In 2016, the collection grew by 7 family houses of significant Slovak persons: P. O. Hviezdoslav, Ľ. Štúr and others. You can enrich your visit of the miniature park in Podolie by visiting the Čachtice castle, mysterious Čachtice underground space, or a museum inside the Draškovič Mansion in Čachtice.



DISTANCE FROM TRENČÍN: 38 km. **ACCESS:** By car from Trenčín to Nové Mesto nad Váhom, then pass through the villages Čachtice and Častkovce and arrive in Podolie. The park is located near the centre of Podolie, just next to main road. Parking is possible right in front of the areal. By bus or train from Trenčín to Nové Mesto nad Váhom, then by bus to Podolie. **GPS:** 48°40'36" N, 17°46'18" E



Považský Inovec

Inovecká chata, Trenčianske Jastrabie 410,
tel.: (+421) 0948 830 333, www.inoveckachata.sk

Považský Inovec mountain range is part of the West-Carpathians area. Inovec (1042 m) is the tallest peak of the range with a 22-metre view tower built on its summit. The peak offers a nice view of the cities of Trenčín, Bánovce nad Bebravou and Topoľčany. If you hunt for more nice views, ascend a nearby peak called Palúch (1001 m) or the upper part of Inovec ski slope. When the weather is nice, the place offers a view of the northern ridges of Vršatecké bradlá (Cliffs of Vršatec), and the peaks of Vápeč and Baske.

A chalet called Inovecká chata built at the altitude of 840 m offers food and lodging for visitors. Besides, it has bowling tracks, artificial climbing wall, and a spacious playground for children. There is an asphalt road leading all the way to the chalet. Best access to the chalet is from the north, from the village of Mníchova Lehota, from railway station, following the red sign.

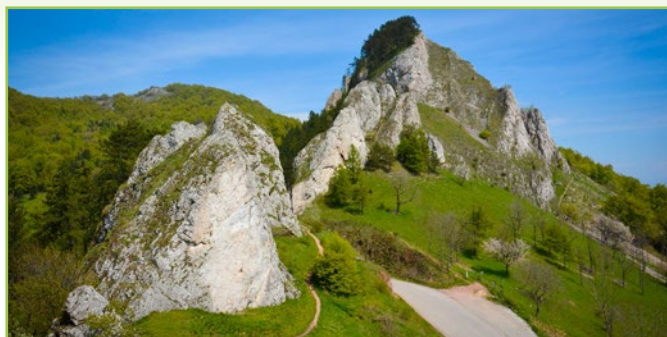
DISTANCE FROM TRENČÍN: 21 km. **ACCESS:** From Trenčín in the direction of Bánovce nad Bebravou. Make a right turn toward the village Trenčianske Jastrabie. Once in the village look for a board in front of the municipal office giving directions for Inovecká chata, with still 8 km to go. By bus to village Selec and then 3 hours walk along the green sign up to Považský Inovec. By train to Mníchova Lehota, then walk 2 and half hours along the red sign up to the top.
GPS: 48°47'07" N, 18°02'52" E



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Vršatecké bradlá and the Castle of Vršatec

Miestna akčná skupina Vršatec, tel.: (+421) 032 640 10 61, www.masvršatec.sk



Vršatecké bradlá (The Cliffs of Vršatec) is a massive lime formation that dominates the natural landscape of the middle Váh region. Being visible from far off the cliffs are hard to miss. The cliffs also offer a beautiful view of the surrounding regions. A nearby educational trail starts in the village of Vršatské Podhradie.

The Castle of Vršatec situated above the village belongs to the highest located castles and is a typical medieval castle built on inaccessible lime rocks. The castle belongs to the category of guarding castles once distributed along the borders of the former Hungarian empire. Because of its breathtaking altitude, the castle was naturally protected. First mention of Vršatec appears in 1244 making reference to a simple structure built before the Tartar invasion. The castle would gradually change owners and in the 14th century was owned by Matthew Czák of Trenčín. In 1708, at the time of the Rákóczi's uprising, the castle was destroyed and has been left in ruins ever since.

DISTANCE FROM TRENČÍN: 35 km. **ACCESS:** By car from Trenčín in the direction to Ilava, through Pruské to village Vršatské Podhradie. By bus or train to Ilava, then by bus to Vršatské Podhradie. From bus stop 10 minutes walk to ruins of the castle. GPS: 49°04'03" N, 18°09'11" E



Lubina Minifarm

Minifarma Lubina, Lubina 821, tel.: (+421) 0917 661 263, www.minifarma.sk

Lubina Minifarm is really a children's paradise. The farm specializes in raising pure-bred miniature forms of farm animals such as miniature sheep, miniature goats and miniature cows. Children are welcome to closely watch many domestic animals, touch them, feed them or just observe how they behave in their natural environment.

DISTANCE FROM TRENČÍN: 40 km. **ACCESS:** From Trenčín to Nové Mesto nad Váhom, then pass through Bzince pod Javorinou and enter Lubina. Follow the signs and find the farm approximately 5 km behind Lubina. There is a bus stop right in front of the Minifarm; however, the number of bus connections is limited. Remember to look for the bus stop called "Lubina – Barina", otherwise you risk a nice, long walk. GPS: 48°49'12" N, 17°42'15" E

View Tower in Trenčianska Závada and the Uhliská Farm

Gazdovstvo Uhliská, Nemšová, tel.: (+421) 032 658 92 12, www.uhliska.sk

View Tower in Trenčianska Závada provides panoramic views over the White Carpathian Mountains, Považský Inovec, and Strážovské vrchy. On days of good visibility, the tower offers a view of the Martinské hole mountains. Those hiking toward the view tower may enrich their experience with a visit to the Uhliská Farm located at a 20-minute walking distance from the tower. Once there, children can try riding a horse, watch and feed domestic animals and spend their day in the pleasant atmosphere of this family farm surrounded by nature.

DISTANCE FROM TRENČÍN: 19 km. **ACCESS:** Driving from Trenčín in the direction of Nemšová. Once in Ľuborča (part of Nemšová) make a left turn to Trenčianska Závada. GPS: 48°58'32" N, 18°4'24" E



Glassworks Skansen of „Glass Dream“

Spolok Sklený sen, Valaská Belá 20, tel.: (+421) 0907 198 433, www.sklenmysen.sk



Unique of its kind in Slovakia, Glassworks Skansen offers to its visitors live demonstrations of glass production, glass-blowing, shaping, and glass decoration. Skansen is situated in the region with long glassworks tradition dating back to 1747 when a glass

smelter was established in the Gápel settlement that was part of the village Valaská Belá. Glassmakers and craftsmen worked hard in the smelter to create many high-quality products that spread the fame of the place far beyond its territory.



Live demos and presentations at the skansen show the work of an independent glassmaker who creates various glass products and decorations. With the help of a small oven glassmaker shows the old traditional technologies of glass-making. Local gallery shows the various products that are produced at presentations and demos and are available to purchase. Glass-making oven is not in operation every day. Since it takes about 40 hours to ignite it, control the temperature and melt the glass, specific days and times for live presentations must be agreed in advance (calling the phone number shown above).

DISTANCE FROM TREŇČÍN: 47 km. **ACCESS:** By car from Trenčín, through Ilava, Homôlka to Valaská Belá. **GPS:** 48°53'14" N, 18°23'35" E



Romanesque Church in Haluzice

Obecný úrad Haluzice, tel.: (+421) 032/778 12 36, www.haluziceobec.estranky.sk



the outer walls, with near cemetery and surrounding uplands it make unforgettable place with a unique atmosphere.

About 1 kilometer from the church you can find the Gorge of Haluzice created as a result of erosion activities of the Haluzice brook. Other tourist attractions include the Hájnica view tower located on top of the nearby hill (341 m) offering a nice view of not only the church but also the surrounding villages situated along the Bošáca valley, the Castle of Beckov, Považský Inovec, or the Castle of Trenčín.

DISTANCE FROM TREŇČÍN: 24 km. **ACCESS:** By car from Trenčín through Trenčianske Bohuslavice, arriving in Haluzice. Make a left turn near the Municipal Office and see the information board. By bus or train to Nové Mesto nad Váhom, then to Haluzice. **GPS:** 48°49'16" N, 17°52'12" E

Small Church in Pominovec

Farský úrad Bolešov, tel.: (+421) 042 449 32 44, www.pominovec.webnode.sk

Legend says, that after a devastating flood that afflicted Pominovec, only four families survived. Their members were able to rescue seven sheep out of the wild water. The saved inhabitants would later build a new settlement and call it Sedmerovec (the name means "seven sheeps"). The only thing left of Pominovec has been a rare romanesque Church of St. John the Baptist from the 12th century, located on the plains surrounded by fields. At the end of each summer a cycling pilgrimage is organized near the church.



DISTANCE FROM TREŇČÍN: 23 km. **ACCESS:** By car from Trenčín through Bolešov and Slávnica to Pominovec. By bus to Nemšová, then to Sedmerovec. From the bus stop 10 minutes walk to the church. **GPS:** 49°0'15" N, 18°11'31" E

The Fishpond of Kulháň

Kulháň 298, Zlatníky, tel.: (+421) 038 539 16 51, www.kulhan.sk

Originally, the place offered only the possibility to catch freshwater fish. Later, offered services were extended to the sale of trout and carps. Today, visitors can also taste locally baked and smoked trout. Many people visit the fishpond, some would even come from as far as 100 or more kilometres. Visitors often enjoy watching other animals living in the local farm, while children have much fun with slides, carousels or swings.

DISTANCE FROM TREŇČÍN: 33 km. **ACCESS:** Driving from Trenčín through Trenčianske Jastrabie, Dubodiel and Zlatníky, as far as Kulháň. **GPS:** 48°42'18" N, 18°05'44" E

The Fishpond of Machnáč

Rybník Machnáč, tel.: (+421) 0919 298 064, www.rybnikmachnac.wbl.sk

Fishpond of Machnáč is a pleasant place surrounded by forests, ideal for family relaxation. Treat yourselves with gently smoked trout caught and prepared from the local fishpond. You may even catch your own trout. Children will enjoy playground and sports field, swings and a minizoo.

DISTANCE FROM TREŇČÍN: 25 km. **ACCESS:** Driving from Trenčín through Trenčianske Teplice, in the direction of Motešice. The compound is situated right next to the main road, on a meadow, below the hill of Machnáč, at the level of the village of Petrova Lehota. **GPS:** 48°52'13" N, 18°11'19" E

