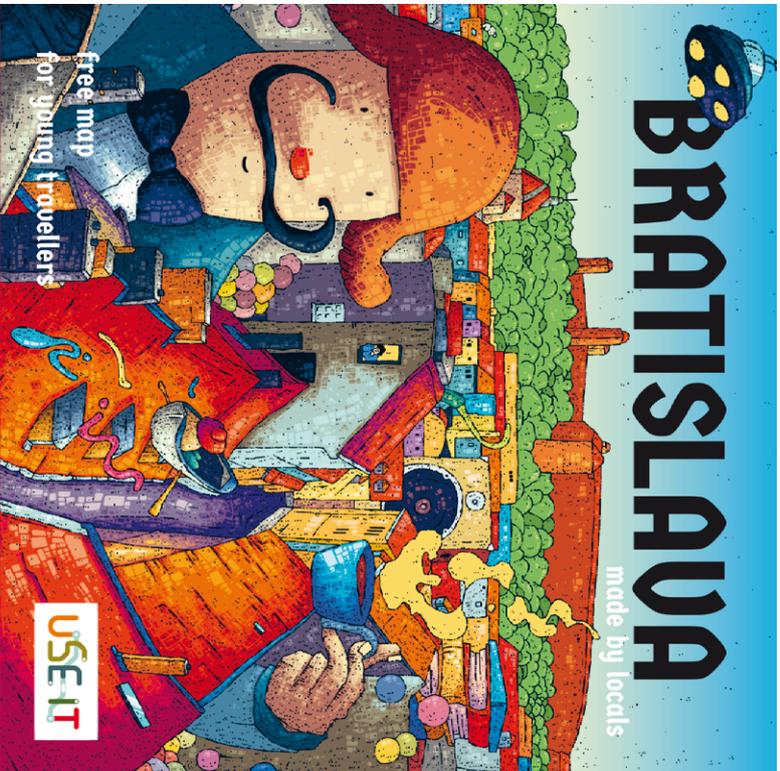


# BRATISLAVA

made by locals



free map  
for young travellers

USE IT

## Hire like a local

Bratislava is surrounded by nature and locals take full advantage of this privilege. Check out the tips with a yellow sign, and discover new places. Besides hiking you can go swimming in the scattered lakes, or sledging and cross-country skiing during the two days of snow we get a year. If you're more on the chill side, join in a barbecue for grilled sausages 'spekdák' with bread and mustard.

## Short History

### 8 Vydrlica / Podhradie

Bratislava grew around a natural fort in the Danube banks to the Celts, ever the strategists, who settled and fortified the area. This idea was seconded by the Romans, who expanded the Limes Romanum further north, and later by Slavic tribes, who also thought it was a splendid idea to expand their new Slavic state, Great Moravia, over here too. What came next can be seen on tangible artefacts from Medieval to modern history all over town. The oldest continuous visible memory of a settlement is the ruin of the Water Tower (Vodná veža, dated 1256), a fortification below the castle hill. The settlement in front of the Medieval city walls housed communities of Germans, Hungarians, Jews, Slovaks and Czechs as well as Roma. Their availability or progress (and a limited view of the value of the area) in the 1970s tore down these houses that guarded the city walls for centuries to make way for an alien design connecting the two banks of the Danube. Progress precedes to this day and the new modern buildings will mark another era in the city's future. Stop by for a swirl of history in stones and concrete.

## WHAT TO SEE

### 9 Bratislava Castle and the castle hill

Take the steep stairs or winding streets up to the castle and stop for a drink at one of the cafes with a view over the town. Look down at the building construction site, once a German and Jewish quarter that has been empty since WWII (and became a 'red-light district' for a short period, too). Saunter among the terraces on the castle hill and make a stop at the witch statue by Tibor Berky. Gaze across the Danube at the massive collection of panel buildings, or 'panelák', in Petržalka. Bratislava Castle is perched on a lookout hill, with traces of settlements dating back to the Celts and the Limes Romanus. The castle was originally built with one tower and gained its current shape over the centuries. It has seen some bad days in the past, almost facing complete demolition to make way for a university quarter in the 1940s. Luckily, only the surrounding houses were torn down during the construction of a new bridge. Most SNP The last survivor of the original quarter is 'Dom u dočiaro pastiera', currently killing time as a museum of clocks.

### 10 Kapitulska

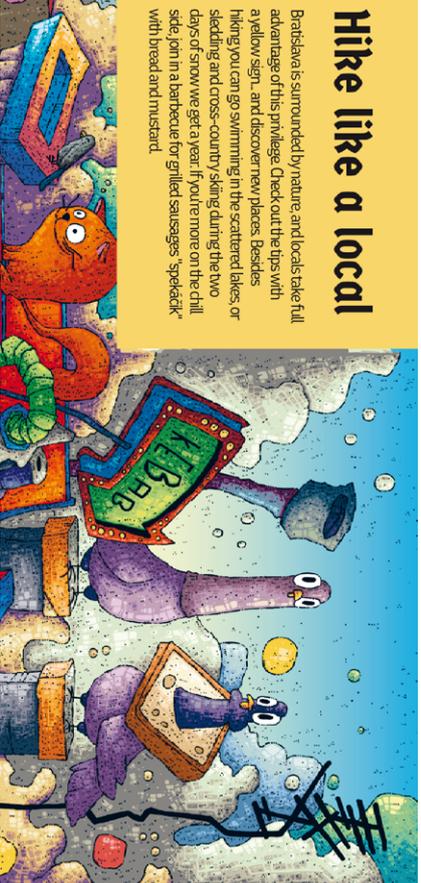
One of the oldest streets in town definitely looks the part. Winding down this street is like traveling back in time. Look for small brass plates with a crown icon to walk in the steps of Austro-Hungarian kings and queens (Maria Theresa among them) after their coronation to the Main Square. Immerse yourself in

### 13 Klarisky - Clarissine church

This beautiful Gothic building, a former church, currently serves as an event and gallery space. Legend has it that a nun fell in love with the constructor of the church's breathtaking tower and committed suicide when the Mother Superior expressed her disapproval. Once the Order of the Poor Clares was dissolved in 1782, the church with the adjoining monastery was repurposed as a school. This Gothic beauty is a looker to this day and is also the go-to spot for one of the most scenic views of Bratislava Castle in the entire town.

### 14 Michael's Gate

Beware the hangman's path or you'll be a head shorter! That's right, convicts were executed in front of Michael's Gate, some of them even women accused of witchcraft. A plaque in their memory has been installed at the entry to the historic centre. A bridge above the former city moat, now a delightful park, leads you to the last surviving city gate. If you're superstitious, better hold your breath for good luck when you walk under it. For lighter entertainment, visit one of the many small museums in the gate's vicinity. We recommend either the Museum of Pharmacy just below the gate or the exhibition of Medieval armor in the gate's tower (to be reopened in 2022). Climb a few more stories up and enjoy the breathtaking view of a Medieval city captured in time.



Sights

Drink

Eat

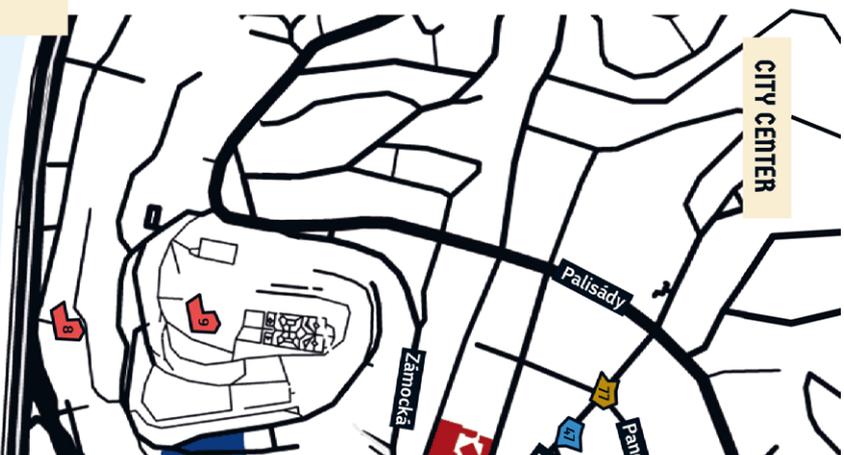
Art

Coffee and tea

Shop

Chill

CITY CENTER



1:200

### 21 Blue Church neighbourhood

Bratislava downtown just follow Dunajská river. The Blue Church on Bezmilcovna Street is the oldest in the city. It was originally part of the nearby gymnázium area and brought with it a breath of fresh air. The church is a beautiful example of expanding city centre atop one of the Danube channels. Successive buildings surrounding neighbourhood stand out among buildings built in the era of M. Functionalism that followed, such as hospital and maternity ward, but the 'best' award still thanks to the manor

# Welcome!

This city, the capital of the Slovak Republic located near the border with both Austria and Hungary is full of history, having been inhabited by diverse cultures, occupied by diverse regimes, and witnessing multiple shifts in power. Yet as long as there's water in the Danube, this city welcomes all to walk its narrow streets and enjoy its various delights.

## Buy from locals

### 1 Place Store

Home to a variety of local designer goods, accessories, and everything nice for you and your loved ones.

### 2 Miletičova market

The legendary open marketplace, set up right next to a former slaughterhouse, is the platform for regional farmers to sell their produce and for resellers who try to make a profit from products of dubious origin. Playing Guess what this is! is a favorite pastime for visitors. Take a stroll in a maze of quirky textile stalls of Asian vendors and fragrant bouquets for any occasion, courtesy of the charity florists. We do not recommend Ukrainian cigarettes but the food is

### 4 ÚUVV shop

If you're looking for authentic souvenirs, visit the place where craftsmen keep folk arts and crafts alive. You can purchase a traditional souvenir with a modern twist or sign up for a course at their headquarters on Obchodná Street.

### 5 Slávica

Contemporary local brands and designs with a fresh take. Stop by and you may come across a piece that speaks to your soul.

### 6 Kompot

Fun and provocative exploitation of popular designs

to make a profit from products or dubious origins. Playing Guess what this is is a favorite pastime for visitors. Take a stroll in a maze of quirky textile stalls of Asian vendors and fragrant bouquets for any occasion, courtesy of the chatty florists. We do not recommend Ukrainian cigarettes but the food is surprisingly good!

## 3 Stará Tržnica - Old Market Hall

The building of the downtown market is a popular meeting place, especially during farmers' markets on Saturday when it becomes the hub for quality local produce and a book and vinyl records flea market, with an accompanying program for kids. The rest of the weeks is dedicated to occasional sales of hand-made products and a variety of public or private events.

# Drink and eat like a local

Slovaks drink alcohol. A lot. And some even take pride in this activity. The orange-wine-centered culture of Bratislava has shifted towards beer drinking with a surge of breweries. What hasn't changed is the collective fondness for hard liquor. Be wary of any word ending with the sound 'tes', fruit spirits like *čerešňovka*, *malinová* or the delightful sounding *borovička*. Worse still are *ľahá* (leah) and *Dennáňovka*, which disguise their true selves behind innocent names and sweet flavors. They taste especially good when chilled to top the list off, we must mention the mother of all alcohol - bread found in every stand during the Christmas market period. *Nazdravie!*

The gastronomy scene in Bratislava has become more international in recent years. But many locals stick to the recipes with which their grand- and great-grandparents welcomed them at every visit. Look out for these dishes for an authentically Slovak experience: *Bystrzovce halušky*, potato dumplings covered in *bystrzovca*, a salty sheep cheese, best served with fried

Contemporary vocal brands and designs with a mesianic take. Stop by and you may come across a piece that speaks to your soul.

## 6 Kompot

Fun and provocative exploitation of popular designs and slogans. Ask for a translation of the jokes and pick the one that tickles your funny bone.

## 7 Twiggy

Give little artknicks to peek you up, like pottery, decorations or anything else. This place has them.

bacon. If you don't try this, it's like you've never even been to Slovakia. *Vynazany/syr* or fried cheese, usually served with French fries and tartar sauce is one of the unhealthiest and most common meals in Slovak households. The more carnivorous should try *spekákovica* (not a drink), a beef fillet with a carrot and sour cream sauce, or *guláš*, pieces of meat boiled together with a bunch of ingredients, variations depending on regional or family traditions. The local go-to fast food item is *teska*, a cold salad in mayonnaise, always eaten with a bread roll. This Bratislava invention is a food for the masses and an absolute must-try. The pastry and cake line is endless, but be sure to try *bratislavské rožky* with poppy seed or walnuts. When shopping, grab a couple of *Sedra* branded wafer biscuits (*čokolka*, *Milka* or *Lina*) and a bottle of *Kofola*, the cola drink consumed behind the Iron Curtain. Some love it and some hate it, but it's so popular that you'll get it on tap in most places as the non-alcoholic alternative with lots of sugar.

## 11 Vstupiščina

One of the oldest streets in town definitely looks the part. Walking down this street is like travelling back in time. Look for small brass plates with a crown icon to walk in the steps of Austro-Hungarian kings and queens (Maria Theresa among them) after their coronation to the Main Square. Immerse yourself in the quiet street with a long history of clerical life. Don't forget to look for a narrow street and stairs which lead to the Medieval dry walls. At the end of this cobbled street stands the renovated *Albrechtov dom* (Albrecht's house), home to a family of musicians and which is now a classical music venue. This street is the perfect spot to snap a picture through a medieval lens.

## 14 Medieval City Walls

Old meets new at the intersection of the old town walls and Socialist bridge, topping it all off with a highway right through the historic downtown. Is it true though? While built in the 13th century, in the 16th century the walls were stretched upwards and connected to St. Martin's Cathedral for better protection against the attacks by the Ottoman Empire. To complicate matters more, the remaining stretch of the walls from the cathedral were actually built anew during the 1970s. You might think the "Medieval" walls are a sham, but if the Medieval toilet in the cathedral's stairway won't convince you of the walls' authenticity, we don't know what will.

## 12 St. Martin's Cathedral

The replica of the crown of St. Stephen on the tower top is said to be as large as a Volkswagen Beetle. Though not entirely true, it is still quite massive! 11 Hungarian and Austrian monarchs were crowned in this humble cathedral between 1536 and 1830, including Maria Theresa of Austria. What with the Turks invading Budapest, Bratislava (or *Pressburg* in Hungarian) was the safest bet close to the Venetian court.

when you walk under it, for lighter entertainment, visit one of the many small museums in the gates vicinity. We recommend either the Museum of Pharmacy just below the gate or the exhibition of Medieval armor in the gate's tower (to be reopened in 2022). Climb a few more stories up and enjoy the breathtaking view of a medieval city captured in time.

## 15 The Old Town Hall

This picturesque mishmash of buildings served as the town hall for centuries. You can make out the layers of the building's history as well as that of Bratislava itself, as it is home to the Bratislava City Museum. The Old Town Hall has two entrances, each elaborately decorated. See if you can find a dragon, a coat of arms or markings of reference lengths. Be sure to check out the many exhibitions the museum has to offer and fishy your turn with a view from the top of the tower.

## 16 Most SNP (aka UFO Bridge)

If you are in dire need of four-long debates with locals, strike up a conversation about Bratislava's probably most controversial structure. While on the one hand, the bridge is a unique construction and an engineering masterpiece of the late 1960s, on the other, it is a display of Communist hubris towards historical sites and monuments. Larger parts of the historic downtown, including a synagogue located next to St. Martin's Cathedral, were torn down to make way for the new construction. For an entrance fee you can visit the top of the bridge and take a 360 view of the city, and maybe take a stance on the matter.

## 17 Janko Kráľ Park

Meave at the view of the downtown waterfront from one of Europe's first public gardens. Get active biking playing outdoor games or just chill at the nearby *Týrsovo nádvorie* in any season of the year. Take a picture under the park's very own Gothic gazebo in the center of the park. Originally part of the Franciscan church downtown, the tower was moved after an

legendary 13 train. Built by Antonín Honzík and František Kautz in Prague in 1962, this Czechoslovak export glided on tracks all over the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe with more than 14,000 units made. This feat landed the factory, Prague's KřD *řetra Smíchov*, a spot in the Guinness Book of Records in 1996 as the world's largest train manufacturer. The iconic plastic seats perfectly fit all shapes and sizes of behinds and have a well-designed place in the Czech National Technical Museum. In Bratislava, one of these tramcars serves as a one-stop shop for culture with quite the alternative program and location. But this type of train won't get you to Peřezálie on the newest tram trail anymore. Your best bet is to get hold of a bicycle and park right at *Cyklus Kuchynka* (Bike Kitchen), a popular meeting spot for bicycle lovers.

## 19 The Duck Fountain

The Duck Fountain at Štefánikovo Square across the street from Comenius University's Faculty of Law was inspired by a tale about the "vodník" (a man living in water, aka waterman) and three boys. According to the tale, the boys taunted and lashed the waterman with a whip they used to herd their ducks. They made the well-natured waterman's blood boil so much that he snatched the whip from them and turned the boys and four of their ducks into stone one by one. Fun fact: The model for the young boy, Christian Ludwig, became the architect who built the first skyscraper on SNP Square in 1934.

## 20 Manderlák

The first Bratislava skyscraper was built in 1934 by Christian Ludwig (Does the name ring a bell? Here's a hint: boys and ducks). Ladies selling their cabbage produce at the nearby market were horrified at the time that the building was going to fall on their heads! Luckily, the building stands to this day, posing no threat to innocent ladies. Modes in height by today's standards, Manderlák or "Manderlák" for the locals, is still a fine example of modern architecture, from street level to the top. The building is at the edge of the new

expanding city center atop one of the Danube channels. Scarcely is building surrounding neighborhood stand out among buildings built in the era of Mik Fonctionalism that followed, such as hospital and maternity ward, but they hasn't dwindled thanks to the many to spot. How many can you find?

## 22 Bank building Square

One of the most progressive Function Bratislava was built by Slovak architect contracted by his brother, *řonás*, the former *Municipal Savings Bank* in 1934 facade and the golden ornate interiors day are worth a closer look.

## 23 The President's

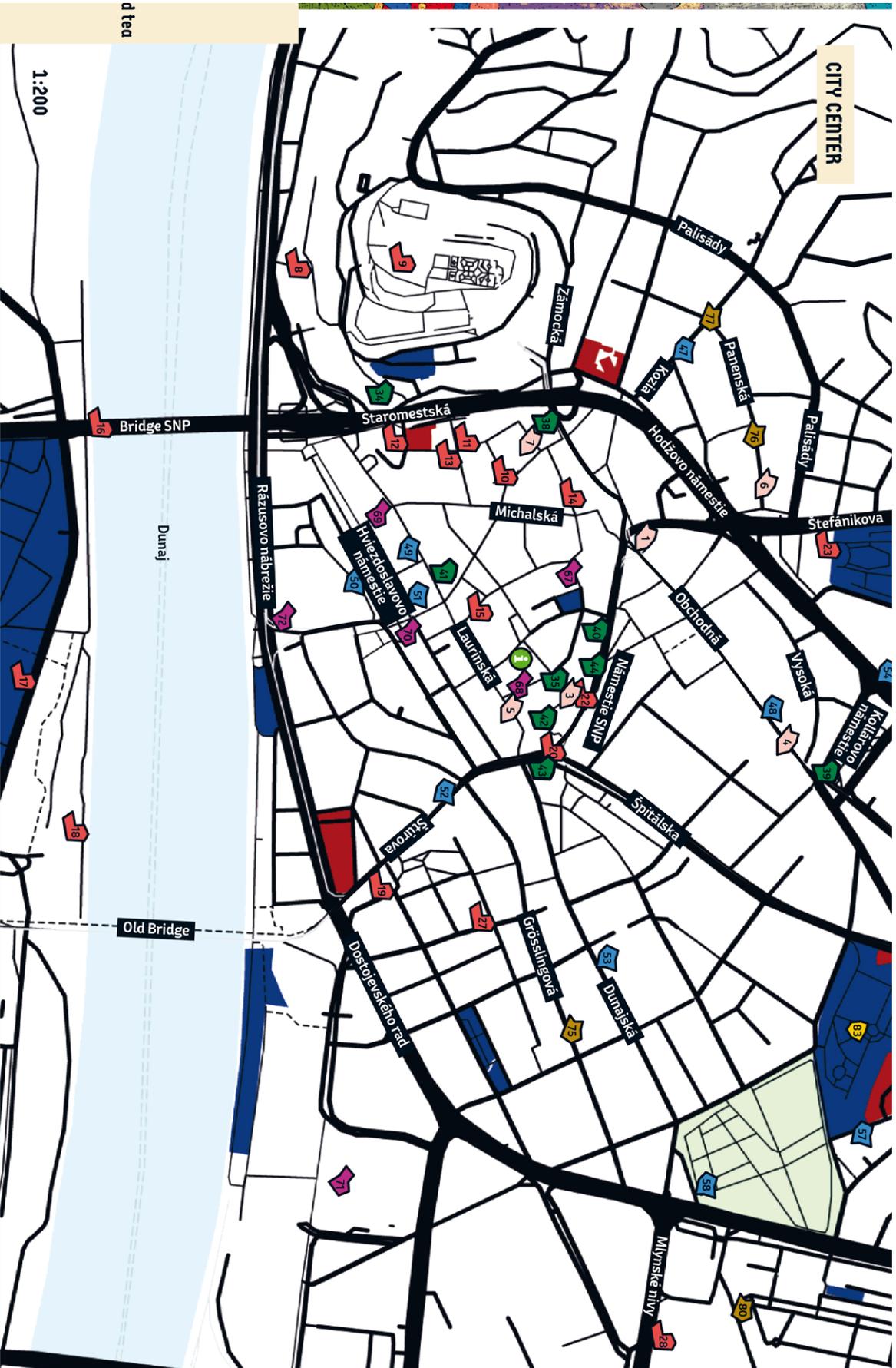
The outskirts of the original Medieval populated by several palaces and the in the 17th and 18th centuries. The pro Slovakian resides in one such building, *Grassalkovci Palace*. It's easily accessible city centre and can be visited on special garden however is open to the public and offers an especially refreshing st

## 24 The Slovak Rad Building

The upside-down pyramid is home to broadcasting organization. It must be light those studios, but it certainly call by's attention. Fun fact: In 2007 Alan French Spider-man" climbed the pyramid minutes without using any safety eq

## 25 Slavín

Bratislava is big on its lookouts and 5 the must-see spots. Recognizable by



## CITY CENTER

1:2000

72 and was replaced by a neo-Gothic tower. Talk about old-timery monument picture or selfie here or walk away from the defence trenches part of the park. These were many of the unsuccessful sieges of olden Bonaparte's army.

## am

they you can still see or even ride the tram. Built by Antonín Horzák and in Prague in 1962, this Czechoslovak tracks allow the Soviet Union and with more than 14,000 units made the factory, Prague's OKD later the Guinness Book of Records in

## 21 Blue Church neighbourhood

Bratislava downtown, just follow Dunajská Street to compare this side of the river kids on the block. The Blue Church on Bezručova Street is a tourist favourite. Built in 1909, this Secessionist building was originally part of the nearby gymnázium (high school) area and brought with it a breath of fresh air into the expanding city centre to one of the dead up Danube channels. Secessionist buildings in the surrounding neighbourhood stand out especially among buildings built in the era of Modernism and Functionalism that followed, such as the former hospital and maternity ward, but their popularity hasn't diminished thanks to the tram, details there are

## 25 Avion

at its centre, the location is a cemetery for fallen soldiers of the Soviet army who died in Bratislava at the end of WWII. The monument enjoyed a controversial beginning not only due to the turbulent political events of 1968 but also because the tower of the church on the opposite hill had to be dismantled to clear the way for Stalin. Regardless of the circumstances, this solemn spot is dedicated to paying respect to the dead.

**29 Devin area & Café Eden**  
A village in the city and a ruin of a Medieval castle Devin Castle towers above the confluence of the Danube and Morava rivers, while Devin - the village - pleases both the casual visitor and regular hiker alike. Take a trip to appreciate the charming streets and a home-baked cake in the cosy backyard of Café Eden next to an old fire station. Take a hike to the Devínska Kobyla nature reserve or walk along the natural border that is the Morava river. This site offers not only a stunning view but bears historical traces of the regime responsible for the Iron Curtain.

**29 The Petržalka hood**  
Petražalka used to be the small village near Bratislava right across the Danube with a couple of factories, a bunch of apricot trees and frequent changes to the border zone with Austria. When it became part of Bratislava, the Socialist government decided to change all that. In 1977 Petržalka welcomed its first paněák and its tenants, moving in from the Bratislava centre and all across Slovakia. Soon this became Bratislava's largest borough (sídlisko) and the area with the highest concentration of concrete-and-iron Lego buildings in all of Central Europe.

**29 Mark Twain**  
Visit this quirky open-air bar that operates a small boat anchored at the river bank, just behind their compact street. Serving beer and Kořalka (a local non-alcoholic beverage) on tap, and an assortment of typical snacks, Mark Twain is a popular spot to chill on make-shift seats.

**29 Hidden Bar**  
Part of the Cultural venue, studios Nova Cernooka, Hidden Bar is open every day from lunch, serving a wide range of beverages from coffee, home-made lemonades, local beer and wine, to classic and signature cocktails to quench your thirst for an honest drink. But most importantly, they host the

beers are on tap and always sourced from local brands with a varied selection that can never go without the local favourite Pilsner type. Ask for a bag of a roadside chrumky and dig into this local guilty pleasure of salty, peanut crumble covered corn deliciousness.

## 27 KC Dunaj

KC stands for culture centre when in fact this club with a bar is a regular party base. You can have an afternoon drink or stay until late evening to join one of the regular themed parties, or electronic parties. Getting in can become a hurdle if you can't find the dingy elevator and when you do, you press the button for the wrong floor. But eventually you're rewarded with an exciting environment with the best terrace view in town. Be sure to get there during the golden hour when the light hits the Bratislava rooftops just perfectly.

## 27 Baudelaire

This chic bar named after the Decadent French poet serves some seriously decadent shots named after famous writers. Located in the Old Town and designed in the Art Deco style, this establishment indulges the artists in you with a shot named after Rudolf Štichoba, a Slovak literary giant who, among other things, repeatedly visited rehab. The mixologists will not be sold short either as a regular deskáky (10-degree beer) and complementary mini-prezels are served, too.

## 27 Fuga

A cultural space for the more daring electronic, rock, metal and jazz performances located in a beat-up place in proper underground fashion. Quite the surreal experience and definitely worth a visit.

## 29 Steinfeldplatz

Another successful toilet-to-pub makeover. Although the terrace feels like it's in the middle of traffic, you're sure to have a good view of your surroundings. While it is prohibited to smoke inside most establishments, especially if food is served there, this place throws any such notion out of the window - if it had any. A great place to grab infinite amounts of artisanal chrumky (see Kolarňo for a definition), great drinks and to enjoy a guilt-free cigarette.

## 29 Shenk

Enjoy the lively ambience of the Stará Tržička (Old Market Hall) area under the flickering lights of this busy, meaning spot with a cold beer brewed just a few metres below the ground.

11. Built by Antonín Horáček and s in Prague in 1962, this Czechoslovak tracks follow the Soviet Union and with more than 14,000 units made the factory, Prague's OKD later the Guinness Book of Records in its largest tram manufacturer. The is perfectly fit all shapes and sizes of a well-deserved place in the Czech Museum. In Bratislava, one of these

as a one-stop shop for culture with the program and location. But this it get you to Petržalka on the nearest. Your best bet is to get hold of a right at Oko Kuchyns (Bike Kitchen), a great spot for bicycle lovers.

## Duck Fountain

In at Štefánikovo Square across the rnuis University's Faculty of Law was about the "vodník" (a man living in man) and three boys. According to turned and bathed the waterman used to herd their ducks. They made waterman's blood boil so much that whip from them and turned the boys back into stone one lash at a time. led for the young boy, Christian Ludwig, tect who built the first skyscraper on 34.

## tenrlák

a skyscraper was built in 1934 by (Does the name ring a bell? Here's a ds). Ladies selling their cabbage arily market were horrified at the ding was going to fall on their heads g starts to this day, posting no t leaders. Modest in height (by today's erla, or "Mantelák," for the locals, is e of modern architecture from street e buildings is at the edge of the new

expanding city centre atop one of the three up Danube channels. Secessionist buildings in the surrounding neighborhood stand out especially among buildings built in the era of Modernism and Functionalism that followed, such as the former hospital and maternity ward, but their popularity hasn't diminished thanks to the many details there are to spot. How many can you find?

## Bank building on SNP

### Square

One of the most progressive Functionalist buildings in Bratislava was built by Slovak architect Juraj Hrončák, contracted by his brother Tomáš, the director of the former Municipal Savings Bank in 1932. The glass facade and the golden ornate interiors preserved to this day are worth a closer look.

## The Presidential Palace

The outskirts of the original medieval city were populated by several palaces and their lush gardens in the 17th and 18th centuries. The president of Slovakia resides in one such building - the Grassalkovitch Palace. It's easily accessible from the city centre and can be visited on special occasions. Its garden however is open to the public all year round and offers an especially refreshing stroll.

## The Slovak Radio Building

The upside-down pyramid is home to the Slovak broadcast organization. It must be a nightmare to light those studios, but it certainly catches the passer-by's attention. Fun fact: In 2007, Alain Robert, "the French Spider-man" climbed the pyramid in under 17 minutes without using any safety equipment.

## Slavin

Bratislava is big on its lookouts and Slavin is one of the must-see spots. Recognizable by the monument

Built at a time of unforeseen technical progress, Avion with its open facade remains the architectural jewel of the Flunmental area. Josef Marek, one of the young Czech architects in Bratislava, finished the building in 1931 at this former edge of the town. The stores on the ground floor helped finance the original mortgage and today, still in the collective ownership of the apartment owners, they subsidize maintenance costs. It's been 50 years, and Avion still remains Bratislava's son of a former architect.

## The first "panelák"

The first block of flats in the entire Czechoslovakia was built using prefabricated panels in 1956. It took 3 months to finish a building which accommodated 36 families and began a new trend of living in a "panelák." Although sensation that spread through Bratislava and the whole of Slovakia like wildfire between the 1950s and '70s. Most locals spent at least some part of their lives in one of these. Check out Petržalka with the largest concentration of this type of housing.

## Bratislava downtown

Beginning with the site of the Eurovea shopping centre, this new city district has become the skyscraper hub of Bratislava. Changes in the skyline stretch all the way to the former industrial area of Myšinské úvly. The location of 19th century manufacturers and the Apollo refinery have received a huge makeover. These days, Eurovea's height pales in comparison to the white oval towers of Sky Park by the world-famous Zaha Hadid studio and other high-rise buildings. With Eurovea 2, however, Bratislava will get its highest tower yet. Still, our favorite bits are the hidden gems, such as the delicately reconstructed power plant at the heart of Sky Park, designed by Dusan Jurkovic in the 1940s. The other is Zavin, the site of the Bratislava Thread factory, a reconstructed building from the beginning of the 20th century. Also called "Cvornaková" (Cvornas is the word for thread), this place has recently become the posh landmark.

located in Bratislava's unworldly river. It is the site of the first on a stunning view, but bears historical traces of the regime responsible for the Iron Curtain.

## Devín Castle hill & Cafe Ahoj

The ruin of Devín Castle has some amazing views to offer. When you walk up the hill, you can either take a peek at the small exhibitions or cut straight to the chase and go for the view from the top balconies. The view of the Danube and Morava rivers from this spot is just splendid. This one is definitely photo-worthy one. The open-air theatre built further down the central hill above the bank of the Danube during WWII exploited this aesthetic feature. The controversial structure has been a ruin itself for decades now, but hopes for a renewal are not completely off the table. Once at the foot of the hill, be sure to taste the local speciality - currant wine, either bottled or at Cafe Ahoj, which offers stairs for sitting and a vista of the Danube. Currant wine is best drunk right after descending the steep hill, when the sweet alcohol kicks right in.

## UFO 20

Perhaps we can all agree that Bratislava is too cool for just one UFO - so this has two! If you want to see something off the beaten path, take a trip to the outskirts. Check out the less famous unidentified flying object, its located in the Il, city district, Pödlungské Biskupce, and it is the creation of sculptor Juraj Honorka

## Petržalka bunkers

Bratislava has a rich history as a "town on the borders" and with its fortifications, city walls and castles, all classic signs of a defensive network of bunkers. During the rise of fascism in 1933, Czechoslovakia began constructing a massive border defence system. The defence plan was cut short under the Munich Agreement and the region fell into Nazi hands as part of the appeasement policy. Well-preserved

change all that. In 1977 Petržalka welcomed its first panelák and its terraces, moving in from the Bratislava centre and all across Slovakia. Soon this became Bratislava's largest borough (štrábsko) and the area with the highest concentration of concrete-and-iron Lego buildings in all of Central Europe, boasting over 100,000 residents in 29 km<sup>2</sup>. There is certainly a lot to love and hate about this place. Take a look for yourself! How these once very basic, quickly built residences changed over time. Just don't get lost in the confusing labyrinth of colourful buildings!

## Small Winery Wine Cellar & Wine Cellar

Veclia, the Slovak name for wineries, has had a strong presence in the Bratislava hospitality portfolio of yore. These days this chain is all the rage among small wine makers in the Little Carpathians region. Each of their venues offers traditional and international sides to pair with your favourite type of wine but they boast individual personalities, if you will. Visit them at Kosická street (4), Smeň Trnava (The Old Market Hall) (2), or Blumental (3) with its backyard or Veclia pool in radom (1) overlooking the Danube. Just pick one or bar-hop through all of them.

## černý pes

The feel of a Medieval tavern makes this little "kernál" a favorite spot for many. Great beer on tap, nice wines and honey/mead are always available. Plus the locally sourced sausages and snacks are worth trying.

## Kollarko

Bratislava is being successful in turning its underground public toilets into stylish pubs. This one has since become the flagship for beer lovers. With its terraces spread around and on top of the building Kollarko reigns over the eponymous square. The

Part of the Cultural venue & studios Nova Cvornokva. Hidden Bar is open every day from lunch, serving a wide range of beverages from coffee, home-made lemonades, local beer and wine, to classic and signature cocktails to quench your thirst for an honest drink. But most importantly, they host the "Park na súd" terrace with a great culture program.

## Soupa

Slovak and vegetarian food in a French bistro? If you're in the neighborhood, you might as well try it. A variety of soups and hearty dishes, as well as sweet and salty pastries served in a welcoming and chic interior.

## Quinsboro

Always opt for a feel like going global instead of local. It's a happy meal on a tray made with delicious locally sourced ingredients. Banks among the top burger places in town over and over. Sorry, no rotisserie!

## Pasteleria

Let your inner child gush over the pastries and cakes. This place has to offer. Originally located in the historical downtown, this coffee and dessert shop is home to some of our favourite pastries from punčový rez, linecke koláče, šarkanka to krémeš. You're visiting a sugar rush just by looking at their display. As if this wasn't enough, they have opened a new spot on Laurinská with an adjoining zany art shop.

## Koun

A surefire sign of a good ice-cream parlor is a queue so long you can't see where it starts. Though well-hidden, look for Koun for its inviting ice-creams, mouth-watering cakes and proper coffee, served in hand-made cups to take as a souvenir.

## 51 Zylinder & Verne

If you want to experience the quintessential Bratislava - Pressburg - Pozsony line up of dishes, try the poser Zylinder on Hviezdoslavovo námestie (Hviezdoslav Square). Locals like to visit this establishment on special occasions or take tourists on a time travelling "foodexperience" for fun - of - the 20<sup>th</sup> - century cuisine.

With a reputation quite contrary to our first entry, the nearby Verne is an artsy restaurant with an underground feel. You'll travel forward in time to the Bratislava of the 90s. This establishment caters to its customers with food staples of the time, including the much beloved but incorrectly dubbed "Französiske zemľaky" (French potatoes), a broad selection of "red or white wine", a mood, waiting staff, and yet still a cosy atmosphere guaranteed to get the crowds in to fill the last out-of-place chair and sofa.

## 52 Fleur Bakery

This bakery has your back when the need to munch on a tasty croissant, pizza or other doughy delicatoussness strikes your famished tummy. It's some of their best takes on local specialties like zemička, silance, or other seasonal culinary experiments. Enjoy the view over Starova Street, or take the tasty catch to a bench in a nearby park or the Danube promenade.

## 53 Otto!

Traditional Slovak cuisine meets global trends in this bistro. Whether sipping up a regional wine with a modern twist or taking a local dum on a trendy dish, the popular eatery also offers to-go options and runs a deli shop. The menu is updated seasonally, but favourite culinary concoctions are always up for grabs.

## 54 Balans bistro

Besides being super vegan, eco, local and alternative, this vegetarian bistro managed the unthinkable - turning typical Slovak dishes into delicious vegetarian or even vegan options. Meals like bryndzové halušky and fried cheese are heavy on meat and dairy, but they Balans the flavours perfectly. Meat eaters don't mind eating here either.

## 55 Moree

Moree's industrial interior is best enjoyed with international cuisine in inventive combinations. Located near Bratislava Main Railway Station, this is a safe haven amidst the haphazard neighbourhood perfect for a long wait for the next connection.

## 56 Funus

This place has everything: sausages, pastry and greasy goodies best paired with cold beer.

## 57 Omama

This pub redefines the meaning of local. Sure, you've got your regular beer on tap together with beloved Slovak and Czech dishes, but the collection of interior details covering the walls, the nostalgic interior design and cunningly hidden backyard terrace just knock it out of the park. A pub like no other. Also, omama is old Bratislava slang for grandma.

## 58 Bistro U Orhána

You're sure to catch a whiff of škvarková (cheese) can't sauce) in the best Slovak canteen town. It is where white collar meals blur together and meals are exclusively eaten at high standing tables, as was the custom back in the day. You'll find that most meals are meat-based, after all the restaurant is also a butcher's. If you'd prefer to eat in a seated position and a less meat-saturated air, take a short walk and have a picnic on a bench or on the grass in the Medical Garden.

## 59 Roxor Burger

Some people swear by the burger joint. The supposedly best burger in Bratislava prides itself on gigantic portions, well-balanced bun crumbliness and premium quality meat, cooked to perfection. Sure, it gets crowded and for good reason. The easy-going staff always make up for it by promptly taking your order and making a quip or two. You can also take your meal to the nearby park on Račianske nýto. The colourful mix of visitors will be an added experience point.

## 60 Phong Nam Bistro, Miletčova

Far from traditional Slovak, this Asian bistro hidden in the angle of stairs at the local marketplace has become extremely popular thanks to its pho's healing powers after a hard night out. Those unafflicted with a slightly stomachy love to explore the rest of the menu, though mostly referring to the menu items by their numbers rather than their original titles.

## 61 Langošeria at Miletčička

Street food is typically fried or just plain fried. But if you want to try it done well, visit this wooden stall on the left of the market's main entrance. Ask for a langos, salty fried dough dunked with garlic and topped with one of the following combos, subject to ever-lasting disputes among locals: ketchup and cheese, sour cream only, or (and this goes to all the vendors out there) tartar sauce. Or try oškvarková paštička, a baked pastry with bacon paired best with wine. If you have a sweet tooth, ask for the delicious Marashevý koláč. Go ahead and give it a try, but be sure to munch on your food in a pigeon-free area.

## 62 Market on Žilinská & street food

Visit this disappearing local oddity in the heart of the city. Take in the atmosphere of the colourful stalls of local farmers selling their home-grown produce. Enjoy a drink on one of the scattered terraces or nibble on the vast street food options - fried langos and škvary (the local doughnut alternative) at the old-school Langosären u Kafky or at Street Food & Cafe Possunn around the corner, home to several interesting food vendors. Madev with a veggie favorite, DOKAL Unas, offering burgers and hummus or Asian options, and also stocked with all sorts of coffee, wine and beer on tap!

## 63 Palacinka Lacinka

Pancakes on a budget in a damn highly practical setting. This place has existed for decades and luckily has changed very little. The extent of the menu may seem overwhelming at first sight, but to simplify things - you can get any pancake-worthy

combination in mind. Sweet? Done. Salty? Done.

Both? No problem. Just think of a combination. The price of a plain pancake is incredibly low and you'll be surprised how little the toppings add to the final price. Calculating that can turn into an improvised "The Price is Right" game but if you leave it to the pros, they'll have the correct amount for you within seconds. And if you're having trouble translating the Slovak menu, the staff has an English menu handy.

## 64 SLUK restaurant in Rusovce

If you're tired of the run-of-the-mill touristy places but still yearn for a typically Slovak menu, visit SLUK. The acorny seats for the Slovak Folk Art Club and lovers of folklore will appreciate the no-nonsense traditional dishes and drinks. Just slip through the wire list and you are bound to be impressed. If you're lucky, you might catch the occasional folk dance and music event. But sitting on the terrace is just as pleasant with the view of the Rusovce Castle ruin with its strange history reflected on its walls.

## 65 Dvanást' Dusi

This is a self-proclaimed "collective of cooks" who enjoy fashioning vegetarian dishes, with a choice of vegan and gluten-free alternatives or meat from local farms always available. They also offer natural wine and the haunting feel of a wildly upgraded school canteen. Open during weekdays.

## 66 Šinweg

A cozy bistro with proper home-cooked meals, refreshing drinks and a honey atmosphere. Featuring a Bernese Mountain Dog as a mascot.

## 67 Bratislava City Gallery

Stop by for an experience tour. While the exhibitions vary, the interior has been stuck with a dusty '90s feel. However, a warning is in order - don't get lost rearing between the lines in the book tunnel.

## 68 Nedbalka

If local art is your thing, Nedbalka Gallery is the right place to visit. Also dubbed the "Slovak Guggenheim" due to its circular interior resembling the Guggenheim Museum in New York, the gallery is home to five storages of exhibition space occupied by a collection of paintings and sculptures by the most remarkable Slovak artists. Anyone up for a condensed lesson of Slovak art history?

## 69 Kino Mladost

Literally "Youth Cinema" this is normally the oldest operating cinema in Bratislava. This tiny cinema employs almost exclusively older ladies who always make sure that no-one interrupts your movie experience with late arrivals and noisy snacks.

## 70 The nation's two theatres

Slovak history is bookended by the two buildings of the Slovak National Theatre. The old theatre from the times of Austro-Hungarian reign nobly stands out at the edge of the Medieval city, overlooking a lively square, while the new one has been a monumental work in progress for decades. In arted in the middle of

building, some rooms still remain furnished with chemistry lab equipment, almost strangely accompanying the free-spirited art studios and cozy living spaces.

## 71 Literama Gajovna Teahouse

There are several teahouses in Bratislava that offer specialty teas, but the teahouse on Górska ulica will give you a teagasm. Sourcing their tea selection directly from small farmers in Asia as part of their field work, the expert staff provide lectures on the different tea varieties and proper tea etiquette. Housed in a former tailor's shop, the old sewing machines are reused as tables and the shelves are filled with thematic books. Visit this island of peace for a little bit of zen.

## 72 Next Apache

What happens when an expert with a penchant for wordplay opens a café with a library? A libressa called Here you aren't Slovak or how it sounds to him - Next Apache ("Next sa pači") A fantastic place to sift through English and Slovak books and newspapers, drink hot or cold beverages, and if you're lucky, even catch a blues concert.

## 73 Artforum

Mainly a bookstore, this establishment is part of a Slovak chain of stores that also offers coffee and delicious cakes. The store possesses a distinct vibe as enviable many a visitor leaves this place with a souvenir under their arm.

## 74 Keč's Moskovská

A regular meeting point, this café serves great coffee, delicious croissants and a view of passersby. A bit of Italy on a Bratislava street corner.

## 75 Good Times

Do you drink coffee exclusively from the best selection of roasted beans? Looking for a place to stock up your supply? Maybe looking for a new grinder? Stop by Good Times, drink a cup of premium espresso and get into a passionate discussion with the owner about your shared love of caffeine-infused magic beans.

## 76 Pan Kráľiček Priestor

When the sudden urge to get a warm cup of joe creeps up, look for a trichide with the logo of Pan Kráľiček, a mustachioed gentleman in a bowler hat and bunny ears. You will find several of these in and around the city centre. The brick-and-mortar home base also offers tasty snacks and a pleasant atmosphere and it's just around the corner from the central bus station. So hop in to satisfy your cravings.

## 77 The "Horsky" Park and the Prúger-Wallnerova záhrada

Encounter a piece of the woods in the middle of the city with a gamekeeper's lodge serving as a café. Try walking to the highest point to take a swing and maybe enjoy a walk in the outdoor gallery on the hill nearby. Find the secluded Prúger-Wallnerova záhrada (garden) and make the most of the visit by strolling

extraction of excess gravel and putting the Gabčíkovo Dam in operation in the 1980s caused a massive rise of the lake's water level. Since then Dráždák has been the unofficial neighbourhood beach. The high-voltage cable passing above the middle of the lake has contributed to the lake's surface salinity. Despite the inherent danger, the amount of summer-loving daredevils is shocking. Even if you don't fancy a swim, enjoy the holy trinity of Slovak beachgoing - a tasty langos, beer and/or kofola.

## 78 Rusovce park and mansion

Like many parts of Bratislava, Rusovce was a separate village until the mid-20th century. The small houses in the centre still hark back to the 16th century, when Croatian migrants fled here from the oppressors of the Ottoman Empire and a museum in the village reminds the visitors of the area's past as the Roman settlement Gemlata. Take a detour from the museum and through the floodplain forest to the mansion in the village park. The Rusovce mansion has a long history of ownership changes and remains a living example of what politics and conflicting ownership rights can do to a gem of historical and sentimental value. Though closed to the public, it's still an impressive site from the outside. Bonus attraction: In the summer you can join the locals for a swim in the nearby lake and even enjoy the first ever Bratislava FKK (nudist) beach. The lake is in a natural environment, so just bring along a towel and enjoy.

## 79 The Waterworks museum and Karloveská zátočka

Sewer pipes as decorative elements of a park? The Waterworks garden has pulled it off to great effect. Along with the Waterworks museum, it is located in Bratislava's water sports hub - Karloveská zátočka, a well-hidden cove protected by dense trees. Discover the offering of water sports and snacks, or chill in a place with an attitude at Mark. If you're a fan of DIY outdoor cuisine, feel free to make an opekadka (barbecue) on the backdrop of the Družba domovity's Socialist architecture. This place really has it all.

## 80 Rača vineyards

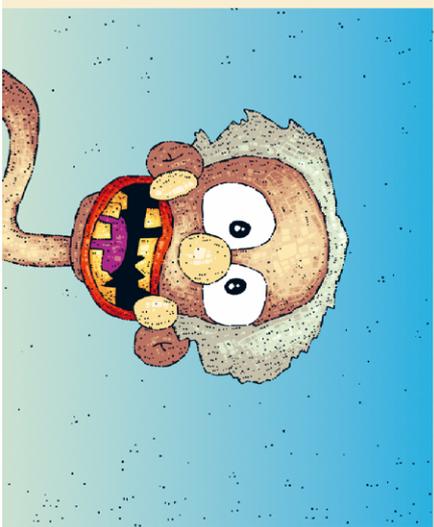
Along time ago, vineyards sprouted at Bratislava's hills and those of nearby Pálffyovce collection in the 1950s. Land were left neglected and gradual Thanks to the newly rediscovered past when makers, the sun-wining vineyards a revival of wine-making traditions among visitors. The formerly separate village you on a time-travelling journey by the heyday of wine making. Take the cesses and walk up the hilly road until gardening colony, hiding the many art vineyards on your right. Time your many wine tasting events, organised often with astonishing views of the w stop by Šinweg.

## 81 Kamzik hill

Kamzik is without a doubt the popular that it has its own traffic signs, expect winter. And yet, you can reach the hill one of the many hiking and biking trails. Before you ride a bobbed take a lookser round the street food bottle-shaped TV tower hosts a view overlooking the local vineyards. You a little deeper to afford a meal here a view of the surrounding nature, so be special, like a fancy date, or heck, a full

## 82 Železná stupa and cableway

If you are up for a pleasant walk in the Železná stupa, it is a great choice. It is from Peťo Bridge, which welcomed train in Bratislava in 1848. Walk along of the Vydrica river until you reach the station. If you're a fan of higher altitudes, the ride to the top of the nearby Kam popular during the winter time, when sled fanatics riding downhill on their most part, however, it's the mountain popular the woods year-round.



drive to cover things in reverse, use it as a guide in the design and damn right, hidden backyard terrace just knock it out of the park. A pub like no other. Also, omanas is old Bratislava slang for grandma.

**Palatína Lavína**  
Pancakes on a budget in a charmingly practical setting. This place has existed for decades and luckily has changed very little. The extent of the menu may seem overwhelming at first sight, but to simplify things – you can get any pancake-worthy

## www.use-it.travel

USE-IT is tourist info for young people: made by locals, no-nonsense and up-to-date. Want to be the first to know about our new maps? Then like [www.facebook.com/USE-IT](https://www.facebook.com/USE-IT)

usemaps  
@useit  
Printed in Bratislava  
April 2022  
©All rights reserved



Thank you to all those who made it happen: Barbora Škvrňková, Julia Itri and Luca Šestáková for the content! Kristína Šobón as ASIL project patron and graphic designer! Klara Bodóová for making the map a reality via A Henkel employee grant! Peter Gála and Juraj Píkulič for choosing Eniac as illustrator! And Bratislava Tourist Board for (not only) printing the maps! Implemented with the financial support of the Ministry of Transport and Construction of the Slovak Republic



## UTILITIES

Slovak history is bookended by the two buildings of the Slovak National Theatre. The old theatre from the times of Austro-Hungarian reign nobly stands out at the edge of the Medieval city overlooking a lively square, while the new one has been a monumental work in progress for decades, located in the middle of a shopping and business area. Performances at both buildings offer a different experience. Since the Old SND (Slovenské národné divadlo) is currently under reconstruction, try to visit at least the new one.

### 72 SNG

The Slovak National Gallery – SNG is located on one of Bratislava's busiest boulevards along the Danube. The oldest part of the gallery complex, one part Water Barracks (a former city police building) and one part neo-modernist Bridge (designed by Vladimír Dedáček and finished in 1977) is closed for reconstruction. The Baroque Eszterházy Palace is however admission-free and open to the public. Besides a permanent exhibition, the gallery regularly makes space for temporary thematic exhibitions from photography, through fashion, to 3D installations. Be sure to check out their bookstore and return in future to see the renewed gallery in all its new glory!

### 73 Danubiana

You're a lover of modern art and would go to the end of the world to visit a museum dedicated to your guilty pleasure? Well, might just have the thing for you. The Danubiana Modernism Art Museum in Čunovo exhibits Slovak as well as international artists. Besides the unconventional setting by the Gabčíkovo Dam on the Danube, the gallery rooftop offers a helluva view of the local landscape!

### 74 Nová Cermovka

A community space for artists and cultural events. This jumble of studios, original shops, hospitality options, even a community garden are simply worth a short trip by the tram. Being a former high school

## ZÁHRADA

Encounter a piece of the woods in the middle of the city with a gamekeeper's lodge serving as a café. Try walking to the highest point to take a swing and maybe enjoy a walk in the outdoor gallery on the hill nearby. Find the secluded Prúger-Mallnerova záhrada (garden) and make the most of the visit by stopping by at the terrace of Finus, the oldest pub in town.

### 82 Calvary

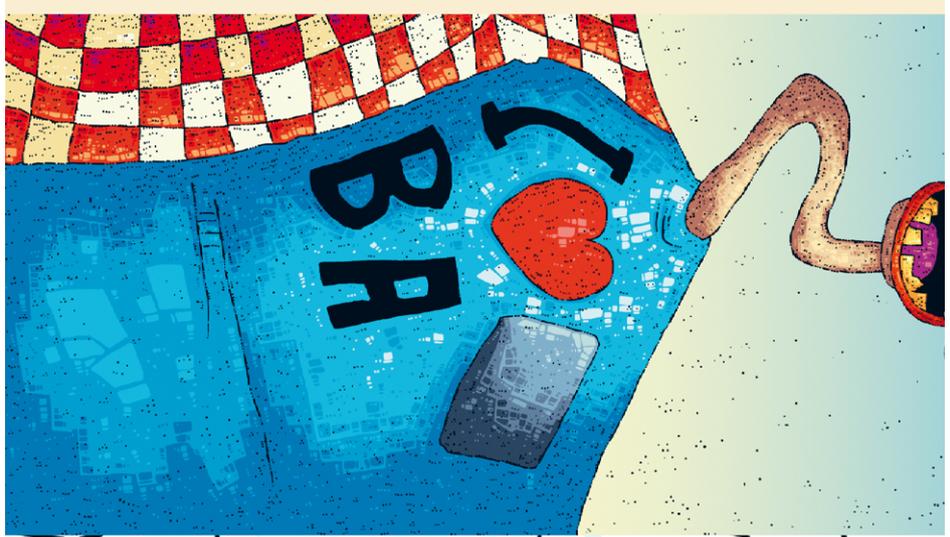
Take a walk around the calvary and the church, which borrows power to a view of the Slavn, and the cave of Our Lady of Lourdes. Stop at the several scenes of the Way of the Cross and enjoy the serenity of this religious place.

### 83 Medical Garden

Within walking distance from the central bus station, this public garden is popular among locals and tourists alike. On weekdays, you'll spot the students of the neighbouring Faculty of Medicine, which is where the park got its name from. Mostly though, you'll find people running around with their kids, playing frisbee, practicing yoga, smoking shisha or just enjoying a picnic in the park's Baroque setting. This is an ideal place to spend a low-cost afternoon in the fresh air. And if you need a quick pick-me-up, head to the little house in the centre of the park for a coffee and cake or ice-cream.

### 84 Chorvátske rameno and Draždiak

Petržalka owes its huge area to the many dried-up Danube channels on top of which it grew. The only remaining one has become a regularized channel, known as Chorvátske rameno. Get off at the last tram stop and walk under the shade of the greenery growing along this stream towards the centre of Petržalka. As you approach the next water attraction, Lake Draždiak, you'll meet more and more cyclists and parents with their best-loved toddlers. The



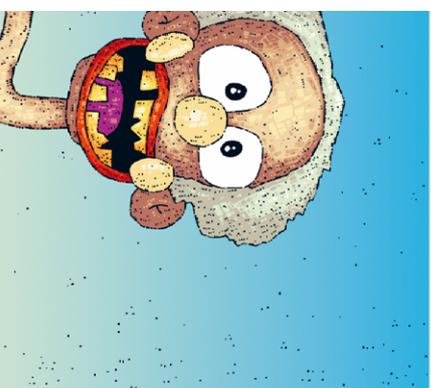
ss gravel and putting the Gajčíkovo in the 1980s caused a massive rise in level. Since then Dvazická has been a phiboot beach. The high-voltage cables in the middle of the lake have e lakes unofficial status. Despite the amount of summer-flooding. Even if you don't fancy a swim, hly of Slovak headgearing — a tazy or Koliba.

## Ice park and

n of Bratislava, Ruzovce was a and the mid-20th century. The small re still park back to the 16th century, grants lead here from the oppressors mpire and a museum in the village s of the area's past as the Roman ara. Take a detour from the museum he Ruzovce mansion has a long hip changes and remains a living politics and conflicting ownership gion of historical and sentimental sed to the public. It's still an impressive dle Bonus attraction. In the summer xis for a swim in the nearby lake e first ever Bratislava FK (ruks) in a natural environment, so just el and enjoy.

## Laterworks and

skâ zâtoka reative elements of a park? The en has pulled it off to great effect tern works museum, it is located in 'sports hub' - Katovská zátoka, a protected by dense trees. Discover iter sports and snacks, or chill in a tude at Mark Tivain. If you're a fan of ne, feel free to make an opakadka e backdrop of the Dvazda dominy's ture. This place really has it all.



## Pača vineyards

Along time ago, vineyards spread across most of Bratislava's hills and those of nearby villages. Following collectivisation in the 1950s, vast plots of land were left neglected and gradually disappeared. Thanks to the newly rediscovered passion of local winemakers, the surviving vineyards are enjoying a revival of winemaking traditions and an abundance of visitors. The formerly separate village of Pača takes you on a time-travelling journey by giving you a taste of the heyday of winemaking. Take the tram to Pekna cesta and walk up the hilly road until you reach a gardening colony, hiding the many entrances to the vineyards on your right. Time you visit for one of the many wine tasting events organised by the vineyards often with astonishing views of the whole city, or just stop by Širaveg.

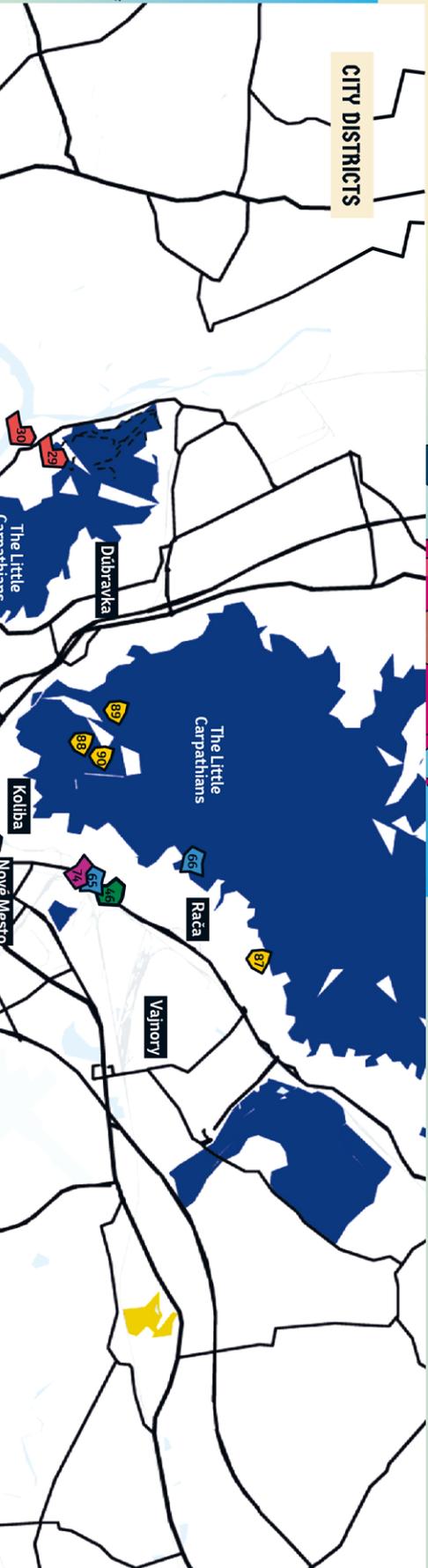
## Kamzík hill

Kamzík is without a doubt a popular spot. So much so that it has its own traffic jams, especially during winter. And yet you can reach the hill by bus, or taking one of the many hiking and biking trails, or even the cableway. Before you ride, a hot food offering. The bottle-shaped TV tower hosts a revolving restaurant overlooking the local vineyards. You will have to dig a little deeper to afford a meal here and get a 360° view of the surrounding nature, so better make it special, like a fancy date, or heck, a full-on proposal.

## Železná studnička and cableway

If you are up for a pleasant walk in the city woods, Železná studnička is a great choice. You can approach it from Red Bridge, which welcomed the first steam train in Bratislava in 1848. Walk along a small stream of the Vydrčana river until you reach the cableway station. If you're a fan of lighter altitudes, you'll enjoy the ride to the top of the nearby Kamzík hill. It's also popular during the winter time, when locals become sled fanatics riding downhill on their sledges. For the most part, however, it's the mountain bikers who populate the woods year-round.

## CITY DISTRICTS



# DICTIONARY

**Bratislava, Pressburg, Pozsony, Blava, Bratiska**  
Yes, these are all referring to one and the same city. To cut a long story short, see our Short history for your own safety through just use Bratislava.

**Ahoj, Dobré ráno, Dobry deň, Dobry večer**  
Hi. Good morning. Good afternoon. Good evening.

**Nazdravie**  
Cheers (or Bless you if anyone sneezed!)

## Ako sa máš?

How are you? **WARNING:** We actually mean this question and want an honest answer. If we don't ask we don't need to know and want to keep polite conversation to basic greetings. Also don't be intimidated if we provide a convoluted and potentially explicit answer. We are not trying to over-share it's just the way we do small-talk here. Even if it consists of complaining, don't be too concerned.



# TRAVEL TIPS

## Bus - Tram - Trolleybus

► **CITY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION (MHD)** consists of buses, trolleybuses and trams. The daytime "transport operators from approximately 7 am until 1 am and covers the city in several zones. "Night-bus" routes cover the time between every hour and are marked with "N" (these may get confusing - basic rules: most of them start at Hlavná stanica/Main Train Station). Before boarding a bus/trolleybus, from you must purchase a ticket at one of the kiosks or vending machines near the stop, or send a text message a few minutes ahead of the expected arrival of your mode of transport.

## Bikes

Bratislava has a great network of outdoor bike paths, such as the Bratislavská hradza. When it comes to riding in the city, beware the many obstacles in your way from the quality of roads to careless car drivers. Not the worst, mind you, but surely not the easiest or safest. ► **SLOWMART BIKE** (yellow branded) - Rent at one docking station, return at the next. You'll find them in Staré Mesto, Petržalka, Nové Mesto and Ruzinov. ► **REKOLA BIKE** (pink branded) - to use these bikes, you need to register with the Rekola app. When you no longer need the bike, park it in a designated pink zone.

## Scooters and mopeds

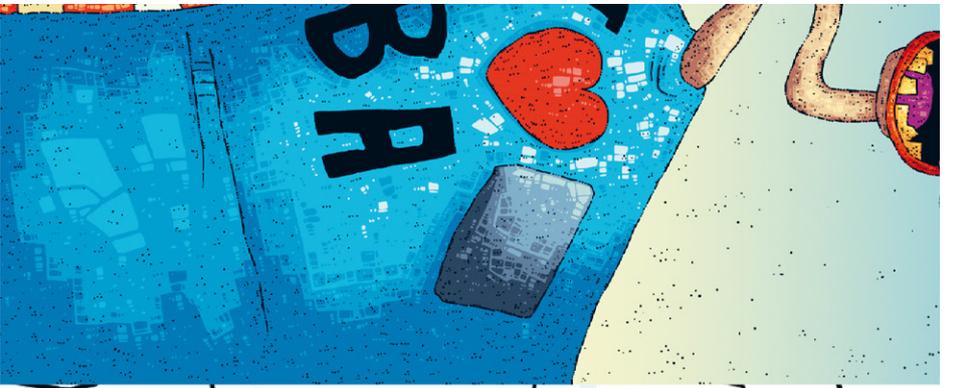
► **blinkedoty** - an electric moped rental service. Download the app, register, find the nearest moped and off you go. ► **Green Bolt** - scooters cater for an affordable, easy, ride around town. Get the Bolt app, unlock an available scooter and ride off into the sunset. But the bird and park it next to the sidewalk instead of in the middle of it. Everyone will thank you!

## Taxi

► **TAXI** - It's highly recommended to hail one by calling or using an app as opposed to getting in a waiting one. It's a lot more convenient and definitely cheaper.

## Tourist Information Center (Klobučnická 2)

Begin your tour here to collect a printed version of your USE-IT map and more useful prints and tips.



1:2000