



TRNAVA

HISTORICAL SIGHTS



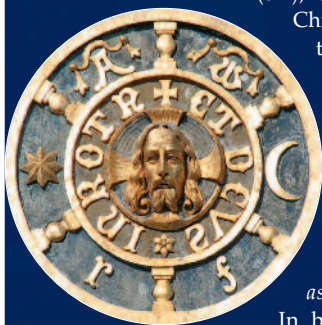
CITY CREST

City Crest – golden hexagram wheel in blue gable of late-gothic shape comprising of Greek letters I (iota) and X (chi), i.e. initial letters of the name Iesos

Christos. There is a Christ's head in the middle (Ruler of the Universe as on the Byzantine icons), in upper sections there are Greek letters Alpha and Omega, in middle sections there are Moon and Sun.

(Christ says about himself: *"I am Alpha and Omega, Sun as well as shining morning star, beginning as well as end"*).

In bottom sections there are letters **r** and **t**, (Regia Civitas – Royal City). There is a crown above the gable. Trnava crest is one from the most beautiful and a profound symbol in European heraldry and it was created in the first third of the 15th century.



WELCOME IN TRNAVA

*In fast tempo of present days we have no time
to stop for a while and look back.*

*Impassively and without any interest
we daily pass by small,
forgotten buildings as well as impressive ones,
stony witnesses of ancient times.*

*Often, there are ideas of well-known,
genial architects, artists
as well as arduous work of unknown masters,
builders, stonemasons and painters materialized
in these buildings.*

*Stop for a while
and join us at the historical sightseeing walk.
We are going to show you the traces of history in our town.
We will walk in ancient streets and squares,
have a look into the gloom of churches,
we will admire robustness of town walls.
Hopefully we will enjoy having a look
on undiscovered beauty
of details creating harmony.
We will listen to a silence
in which we can catch the words
of ancient legends and tales.*

Let's go!



HISTORY OF TRNAVA

Trnava is one of the oldest and most beautiful medieval towns in Slovakia. It is situated in a fertile plain under the Little Carpathians on the main commercial roads of Europe, near to other medieval towns in Central Europe.

It was probably founded at the end of the 9th century at the junction of important long-distance merchant roads as a small market village, named after the day when the market was held - Saturday. The first written reference of Trnava dates from 1211.

Trnava was the first town in the territory of Slovakia that was granted free royal privileges by the King Béla IV. in 1238. The original Bill of Privileges is deposited in the National Archives in Trnava. The privilege subordinated the town directly to the Crown and the assigned town rights enabled its fast development. The original agricultural center began to change gradually into a center of manufacture, trade and crafts. In the first half of the 13th century, the town built an extensive fortification system on an area of almost 60 hectares. It was one of the largest fortifications in Europe of that time.

The Kings of Kingdom of Hungary supported the town's chartered status with further privileges. Trnava became a place where the Kings of Kingdom of Hungary held important negotiations. It was a favourite city of King Louis I. who often stayed here and who died in Trnava in 1382. In the Middle Ages, Trnava became an important town with extensive gothic architecture, both sacral and secular. In this period, St. Nicolas Basilica, St. Helen's Church and the monastery complexes (Franciscan, of Poor Ladies, and Dominican) were built. The importance of Trnava grew in the 16th century, when it became an important trade center in Kingdom of Hungary. In 1543, the Archbishop with chapter from Esztergom moved into Trnava, and for almost 300 years, the town remained a cultural capital of Kingdom of Hungary. This was a significant impulse for development of education, arts and architecture in the town.

The renaissance contributed to the town silhouette with the Town



Tower. With the establishment of the university in Trnava, in November 1635 by Cardinal Péter Pázmány, Trnava became well known in the whole world as a cultural center. In 1777, as ordered by Maria Theresa, the University of Trnava was moved to Buda and Trnava lost its priority as the seat of a university. Almost half a century later, the Archbishop and the chapter moved from Trnava back to Esztergom. In the 17th century, the Pauline Church was built, that bears the marks of the Silesian renaissance.

The renaissance period was followed by the baroque period. It began with the construction of the Church of St. John of Baptist, the complex of university buildings and the monastic complexes of the Order of Poor Ladies and of the Franciscan Order. Many architects and artists were called to help with the construction of university buildings and they contributed much to the decoration of middle class houses. The interior of the town was enriched by many valued statues – the Holy Trinity Statue and St. Joseph Statue.

During the 18th century, two churches with monasteries were built in Trnava – the Church of the Holy Trinity (now the church of the Jesuits) and the Ursuline church. At the end of the 18th and in the first half of the 19th century, Trnava became a center of catholic intellectuals who contributed much to the awakening of national consciousness of Slovaks. Anton Bernolak was the most outstanding personality of this movement; he established the main office of the Slovak Educated Brotherhood here in 1792. Thanks to publishing press activities, it spread the new Slovak language standard and it also had a more significant cultural and agitating impact.

Trnava tried to maintain its cultural-social standard in the 19th century, during which the town experienced a vast economic development. Development of the town was accompanied by the new architectonic style. With the active support of the middle class in Trnava, a theater was built in 1831. The first horse-drawn railcars in Kingdom of Hungary began to operate between Bratislava and Trnava in 1846. During the time of oppression of nationalities, when Matica Slovenska was banned, the national consciousness of Slovaks was upheld by the Society of St. Adalbert, which opened its residence in Trnava in 1870.

Between the First and the Second World War, Trnava was the third largest Slovak town. The town grew beyond the fortifications. On the basis of decision issued by Pope Paul VI., Trnava became the first independent Slovak church province. The preserved historical part of the town was declared to be a municipal monumental reservation in 1987.

During the last administrative division of the Slovak Republic, Trnava became a seat of Trnava region.





TRINITY SQUARE



Trinity Square is the main square of Trnava, situated in the west part of historical centre. It was formed in the 13th and 14th century, a century later it overtook the role of the main town market and became a traditional meeting point of Trnavaers. It has been named after the statue of the Holy Trinity that was built in 1695 as an act of thankfulness for protection against the plague and epidemic.

The stone statue was disassembled in 1949 and its parts were stored in different locations. The square was partially reconstructed in 1993, when the statue of the Holy Trinity was rebuilt on the basis of request of Trnava public.

The second dominant feature on the Trinity Square is the renaissance Town Tower, a living symbol of the once glorious days of the city. It not only served as a watch tower but it was also an evidence of the prosperity and high development of the town. On the tower, a permanent watch guard was in operation. The watcher reported the time each quarter of an hour and during fires and storms, he rang the bell. A watch guard served on the tower a few years after the Second World War.

The northern side of the Trinity Square is occupied with houses built in the renaissance style reaching up to the building of the post office. In its original place, the royal curie was situated there until 1947. It was built by King Louis I. the Great. It was the favorite town of this Kingdom of Hungary and King of Poland King, who often stayed here and who died in the curie in 1382. The west side of the Trinity Square is occupied by the Theater of Jan Palarik. Today the Trinity Square is a busy centre of current social life.



TOWN TOWER

It was built in 1574 as a watch tower. After stepping up 143 stairs, from the balcony which is 29 m high, you can have a unique view of Trnava and the Little Carpathians. The total height of the tower is 57 m. On the top of the baroque cupola, there is a gilded statue of Virgin Mary - Immaculate. A curiosity of this sculpture is the face on both sides - in front and behind. It symbolizes that Virgin Mary has never turned her back on Trnava.

Another curiosity of the tower is its clockwork from 1729, which shows the time through a gear mechanism on five clock faces. The baroque bells in the lucerne ring each quarter of an hour and each hour. The balcony of the tower is decorated in the renaissance illusive embossing style. On the southern façade, there is a coat of arms of stone on the renovated renaissance alcove and the only sun clock in the town. In the interior, there is an exposition of the town history. The dominant feature of Trnava was gained after its reconstruction and resulted in more representative look.

A.D. 1574

1



THE HOLY TRINITY STATUE



It is one of the oldest and most beautiful statues in Trnava. On the four-edge corners of the statue foundations, there are statues of: St. Florian (protector from fire), St. Agatha, St. Anton from Padua, St. Francis Xavier (protector from plague).

In the crypt, the statue of St. Rosalia (patron of the people infested with plague) lies. On the top of the 4 m high pillar, there is the Holy Trinity Statue crowning Virgin Mary. In the middle of the cartouche, there are coats of arms of Trnava, the Kingdom of Hungary, and Virgin Mary Immaculate and of the Bishop Stefan Dolny.

A.D. 1695

2



TOWN HALL

The Town Hall was built in 1793. It is made up of a complex of buildings from the 16th and the 19th century. The corner building with an alcove on the corner of Radlinsky Street is a baroque building from the beginning of the 18th century with cross vaults and rich decoration, which is the work of Italian artisans. The main building of Town Hall was built in the baroque-classicistic style as a palace. On the front façade, there is a canopy standing on Toscanian pillars. A coat of arms of the town and a Latin chronogram decorate it; the writing says: Built from the foundations for public justice and security. Some of the buildings date from the 16th century. A part of the Town Hall is a classicistic chapel from the beginning of the 19th century. Under the Town Hall, there are cellars with arches, which date from the 14th century.

A.D. 1793



WEST WING OF THE TOWN HALL

Trnava Town Hall, a four-wing complex enclosing a courtyard, hides a rare and important building. Its west wing is a valuable example of an intact Medieval town hall. Surrounded by the other buildings but preserved in its original condition, the oldest building of Trnava's municipal government, from the turn of the 14th and 15th centuries, is unique in Slovakia. Its most precious feature from the time of the town's foundation is a Gothic three-light window. Also exceptionally valuable is the Gothic cellar, which was probably used as a prison with three groin-vaulted bays, and a Renaissance prison on the ground floor with preserved drawings and inscriptions by prisoners. Another valuable feature is the Baroque jail with its original vaulted cells and guard's quarters. The whole interior is decorated with replicas of the original furniture. The West Wing of the Town Hall presents not only the history of municipal government but also provides an attractive venue for art shows and concerts.

14 - 15 ST.

23





THE THEATER OF J. PALÁRIK

The city council decided that a theater should be built behind the Tavern at the Black Eagle. The theater and the superstructure of the tavern were built according to the plans of Bernhard Grün in 1831. The entire building received a unified look, the front and side façade bear marks of classicism.

In 1907, by joining the smaller rooms and two floors, a large hall - Pannonia was created, that was decorated with many mirrors, tapestries and renderings - now it is called the Mirror Hall. The theater has 548 sitting places. The theater hall and the stage were very large for its time. The first performance was held during Christmas in 1831 in German, while the first Slovak performance was held in 1869. On the face of the building, there is a Latin inscription: This stand of Thalia has been built by the senate and the citizens in common efforts.

A.D. 1831

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CHURCH OF SENIOR APOSTLE ST. JACOB

To the west of Trinity Square, at the western walls, the Franciscans built their monastery in the location of a church of a now unknown order, from which they took over the patronicum, which was not typical for the Franciscans (the Franciscan churches were consecrated to Virgin Mary). The church was rebuilt in the 17th century.

The four-square tower stands in front of the façade. On the edge of the gable stand, there are statues of St. Francis from Assisi and St. Anton from Padua. To the left of the entrance portal, there is an entry to the crypt. To the right of the portal, there is a chapel with the coat of arms of its donator - the Bishop Juraj Fenesi.

This church contains the most altars in Trnava, two in the sanctuary, one in the sacristy, ten in the nave and one in the chapel. The central altar painting is by Joseph Zanussi and it depicts St. Jacob with a gloriole on a cloud. The altar of St. Anton has a very peculiar architecture. It depicts ten paintings with scenes from the life of St. Anton; in the center there is a statue of Virgin Mary. To the north of the church, there is the Franciscan monastery.

A.D. 1712

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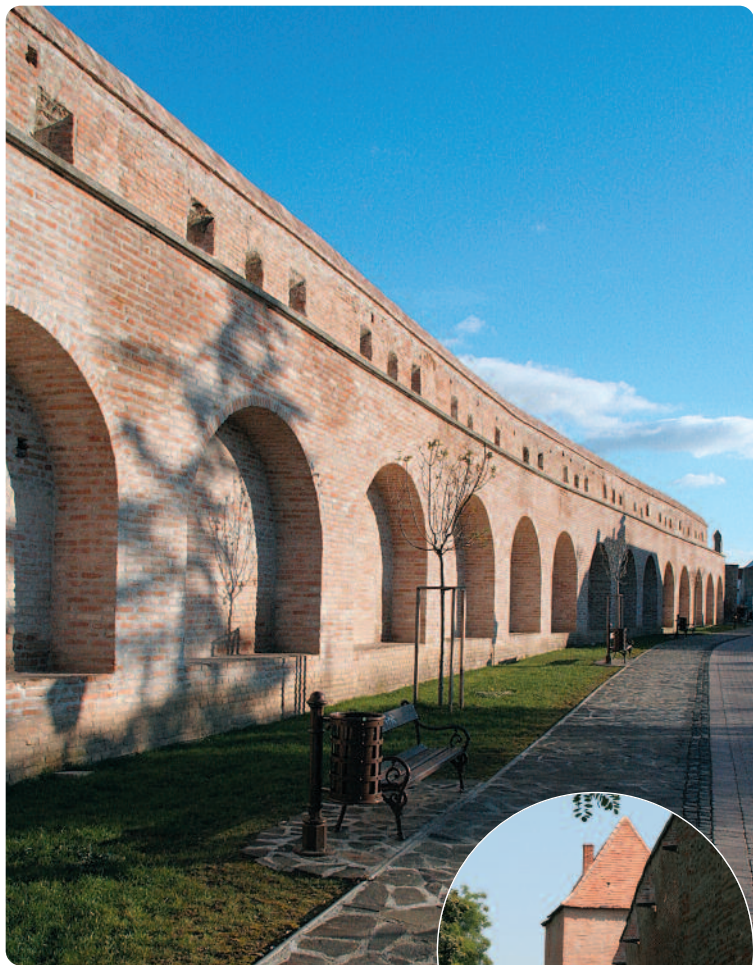
CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

It is situated to the north of Trinity Square. It was built as a monastic church together with monastery of the trinitaries (an order, which bought Christians back from Turkish prisons) in 1710-1729 with financial support of the Bishop János Okolicsányi - the coat of arms of the donator is located over the entrance portal. After the abolition of monastery by Joseph II, the church used to change its owners. From 1853, it was the property of Jesuits. The most important work of art in the interior is the painting on the main altar by the famous Austrian painter Franz A. Maulberstsch. It depicts the founders of the order of Trinitarians - John from Matha and Felix from Valois. On the southern side of the church, on the altar of Virgin Mary, the relics are located - two from the martyrs from Kosice, the priests István Pongráč and Melichar Grodziensky. They were martyred during the Betlen uprising together with Marek Krizin, when they refused to convert to the Calvinist fate. Pope John Paul II. canonized them during his second visit in Slovakia in 1995. In 1990, the Chapel of St. Joseph was additionally built to the church. The altar of the chapel is a fine piece of entail art.



A.D. 1729

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TOWN FORTIFICATIONS

Only very few towns in Slovakia can proud themselves with such long sections of well preserved town walls as Trnava has on the eastern and western side of the historical centre. The fortifications were almost a perfect rectangle with dimensions of 800 x 700 m. They protected the area of the town, which was 56 hectares, and in the 13th century made Trnava one of the largest towns in Central Europe. The first system of fortifications was palisades – palisades surrounded with moats filled with water. In the last third of the 13th century, bastions were built, which were connected with town walls, built on stone foundations. The most important reconstruction of the town fortification was carried out in the 16th century. The fortification of the medieval town had four gates, two on the southern and two on the northern side. Except these gates, the town also had a few smaller gates for people traveling on foot, on the eastern and western side of the walls. Only in the 19th century, the town began to grow beyond the walls.

A.D. 1220

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KOPPEL'S CASTLE

It was built by the family of the landowner Koppl at the beginning of the 20th century. After the nationalization, a day nursery was situated there. In 1990, the castle was acquired by the Gallery of Ján Koniarek.

After its reconstruction, the premises of the gallery were opened in 1992. Here you can find the exhibitions of art from the second half of the 20th century and exhibitions of older art and of local artists. In the additional building to the castle, an exhibition of Jan Koniarek was opened - the founder of modern Slovak statuary in 2007, together with an exhibition of classic Slovak art from the 20th century.

A.D. 1920

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ST. ANNE'S CHURCH



The Ursulinian church is located to the east of Trinity Square. The Ursulines came to Trnava in 1724. At the end of the 18th century, they built a church and a monastery. They were built from donations and dowries of the nuns.

The empress Maria Theresa strongly supported the monastery and she also visited it quite often. The Ursulinian nuns in Trnava chose St. Anna, the mother of Virgin Mary as their patron. The main altar is dominated by the paintings of Joseph Zanussi, in which St. Anna teaches Virgin Mary. In the nave of the church, there is another painting of Jesus on the olive hill. On the western side under the altar of Virgin Mary, there are finely decorated tin coffins of the martyrs from Kosice. The church has an elliptic ground plan; which is rarely seen in Slovakia.

A.D. 1776

3



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

The Calvinists began to build it in 1616. The church is characterized by its baroque architecture with elements of German (Silesian) renaissance and like other protestant churches; it was built without a tower. After the Paulines came to Trnava, the church went into their possession. In the 17th century, the Paulines rebuilt the church, at the beginning of the 18th century - a Loretan chapel and in the 19th century - a bell tower with a baroque decoration were built additionally. On the main altar, the painting of St. Joseph the Foster is located. The ceiling of the church is decorated with four oval cartouches with pictures from the life of St. Joseph.

A.D. 1616

Details



ST. FLORIEN
Holy Trinity sculpture



RELIEF
Bernolák Gate



DETAIL FROM FRONTAGE
Townsmen's house



GOTHIC WINDOW
Town Hall, Western wing



ST. JOSEPH
St. Joseph Church



UNIVERSITY SQUARE



It was built in the north-east part of the medieval town after 1635, when the Archbishop Péter Pázmány founded the University of Trnava. At first, it had only a theological and philosophic faculty, later the faculty of Law and last, the faculty of Medicine was added. With construction of remarkable and majestic buildings that should have served the only university in Kingdom of Hungary, the golden age of the city began. The town was to receive its modern European features as well as its characteristic baroque look. With help of Palatine Miklós Esterházy, the Jesuits began to build the massive university campus. In the location of original Dominican church of St. John of Baptist, the Italian architects Pietro and Antonio Spazo built a church inspired by the Il Gesu church in Rome. This church, with its value and meaning, exceeds far beyond the borders of Slovakia. To the north of church, the buildings of the original Dominican monastery were replaced by a palace complex for the needs of the university. To the south of the church, seminaries and convicts were built, intended for education and accommodation of a large number of students. With construction of the last faculty, a small square was created, of which three sides are occupied by the university buildings up to this day. The baroque university campus, thanks to its architectonic and artistic qualities, has no parallel in Slovakia. The University of Trnava was the largest and most important educational institution in Kingdom of Hungary.

At present, the University square changed its look. In front of the cathedral, a statue of Pope John Paul II. was erected. It commemorates his visit in Trnava. After the renovation of the University of Trnava, the square is usually full of students.



CHURCH OF ST. JOHN OF BAPTIST



The first early baroque building in Slovakia – the university church of St. John of Baptist belongs to the oldest early baroque buildings in Europe.

On the face of two towers, there is a Latin inscription, which reads: To the Holy John of Baptist, Count Nicholas Esterhazy, Palatine of the Kingdom of Hungary. The coat of arms of the donator of Jesuits - Nicholas Esterhazy is placed over the portal. To the north of the portal in the niches, there are statues of Joachim and Anna (the parents of Virgin Mary) and on the southern side from the portal of Elisabeth and Zachariah (parents of St. John of Baptist). The church has one nave that is 61 m long and 28 m wide. The sanctuary and the nave are of the same height. On the southern and northern side of the nave, there are three chapels, separated from the nave of the church with high arcades. The walls of the church, the arches and the arcades were richly rendered, by Italian artisans. They even rendered some of the middle class houses in the town.

A.D. 1629



Photo: Ing. Ján Tarábek

In the interior, there is an all-wooden altar that was completed in 1640 and it is considered to be the interior's jewel. This monumental piece of art is 20,3 m high and 14,8 m wide. Except the artisans from Vienna - Balthazar Knilling and Vavrinc Knoth, the artisans from Trnava Vit Stadler and Ferdinand from Cifer contributed to the work on it. The altar is decorated with three paintings, 27 bigger than life statues and many smaller ones. The smallest painting depicts the visit of Virgin Mary at St. Elisabeth, followed by the picture of birth of St. John of Baptist. The main altar painting depicts the Baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan. The first row of statues on the altar is made up of prophets from the Old Testament; the second row is made up of the statues of the apostles, church fathers, founders of the Society of Jesus, sitting evangelists, saints from the Hungarian royal dynasties and by favorite saints. On the top of the altar, there is the statue of Virgin Mary, queen of Kingdom of Hungary. On the dome of the church, there are four oval cartouches, the unique work of E. Grueber depicting the life of St. John of Baptist: John of Baptist at Herods court, the saint in prison, the decapitation of St. John and the handing over of his head on Herods feast.

On the side walls of the sanctuary, there are the mortuaries. Seven mortuaries contain the deceased Esterhazys, the eighth one contains Imre Ocskay. Under the church, there is a crypt, in which the members of the Society of Jesus and the family of palatine Miklos Esterhazy were put to rest.



THE THEOLOGICAL AND PHILOSOPHIC FACULTIES

The noble buildings construction of the first faculties of the University of Trnava began in 1640. They are bound to the northern side of university church. Part of them was formed by a printing room, an apothecary, a rich library, a theater hall, laboratories and an astronomic observatory, which was designed by the astronomer and mathematician of great European importance M. Hell.

A.D. 1640

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THE MEDICAL FACULTY

This classicistic two floor building housed the last faculty of the University of Trnava and it was built according to the design of F. A. Hillerbrand in 1770 -1772. The Medical Faculty had a botanic garden, which was accessible for the public. After the university moved from Trnava, the Royal Academy had its seat in this building. Today, it is the faculty of Medicine and Social work of the University of Trnava. In the corner of the building, there is the statue of St. John Nepomuk.

A.D. 1772

6



ADALBERTÍNUM

THE SEMINARY
OF ST. ADALBERT

It was founded by the Archbishop Péter Pázmány for the poorer students of the Jesuit seminar. The building was completed in 1623; then at the beginning of the 20th century, it was extended by its third floor. Except the school for the middle class, the building was used by the library and the first museum collection of the town. From the original building, all that remained is the early baroque portal with the statue of St. Adalbert.

A.D. 1623

7



RUBRORUM

THE GENERAL
SEMINARY

It was founded by Archbishop Juraj Lippai for the Hungarian theologians according to the similar seminary in Roma. The name comes from the red tunic of the clerics. The baroque building was, at the beginning of the 20th century, extended by one floor, the façade gained a new renaissance look. The original portal, built in the early baroque style with a Latin inscription remained intact. From 1853 on, it was the seat of the Archbishop, and later a state secondary grammar school.

A.D. 1649

8



MARIANEUM

THE MARIANEUM SEMINARY

It was originally a baroque building, built between 1667 - 1700, from which only the early baroque portal remained intact, bearing the coat of arms of its founder György Szelepcsényi and the statue of Virgin Mary. One of the theater halls of the university was located there. At the beginning of the 20th century, the building was radically rebuilt; the first floor was replaced by a large social hall, which was used for concerts and seminars. The music composer Nicholas Schneider - Trnavsky had many of his works performed here. On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Slovak church province in 2007, the Archbishop of Trnava dedicated the reconstructed hall to the public of the town.

A.D. 1700



NOBLEMEN HOSTEL



For the students of the University of Trnava from noble families, Maria Theresa had a palace complex built in 1747 – 1754. The grandiose three floor and four wing building was built in the style of high Viennese baroque according to the design of an unknown author from the civil engineering chancellery in Vienna. The front façade is decorated in the style of baroque and completed by the baroque basket grates in the windows. The main decoration of the front is a stone balcony standing over the pillars of the entry portal with statues of Fortuna and Grazia. A part of the southern wing is the Chapel of John the Evangelist, which is decorated on the top by a fresco of the Apocalypse from V. Mussingera, dated from 1758 and valuable wall paintings. Today, the office of the Archbishop is located there.

A.D. 1754

10



STEPHANEUM

THE SEMINARY OF ST. STEPHAN

It was probably built by Péter Pázmány for the students of the theology seminary which was founded by Miklós Oláh, since the original building didn't meet the requirements. In 1724, the was overbuilt to a two floor and four wing building, which was the work of the Viennese great architect J. L. Hillerbarndt. After the Archbishop moved back to Esztergom, the office of the Archbishop's vicar was located there, later the orphanage of the Archbishop was moved there.

The dominating element of the façade is a baroque portal with statues, which represent the royal dignitaries during the crowning of the King, probably St. Stephan.

Dominating element of the facade is a baroque portal with a figural relief showing cortege of Kingdom's dignitaries by the occasion of St. Stephen's coronation.

On tableau shows highest secular and church representatives of the Kingdom. Secular representatives are holding insignia of the King – scepter, crown and coat.

A.D. 1724

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Details



ST. VOJTECH
Adalbertinum



ESTERHÁZI CREST
St. John the Baptist Cathedral



ST. JOHN NEPOMUK
Faculty of Medicine



FORTUNA
Aristocracy convict



DETAIL FROM INTERIOR
St. John the Baptist Cathedral



ST. NICOLAS SQUARE



It is situated in the east part of the historical center. The oldest human settlement, established prior to municipality, was located there. The settlement originated at the junction of the Czech and the Amber merchant roads, on a plateau, according to the day when the market was held called Saturday. The first written reference about Trnava dates from 1211 and it is related to the church, which was the centre of marketplace. It was consecrated to St. Nicolas, the patron saint of merchants. In the location of the original Romanesque church, a new church was built during the reign of Louis I. and Sigismund in 1380, yet again consecrated to St. Nicolas. The municipal cemetery of the town was located next to the church until 1747. This square served as the town center and as the marketplace until the 15th century, when a new town center was formed – the Trinity Square. The St. Nicolas square and the adjacent Capitol Street came back to life after 1543, when the Archbishop moved from Esztergom to Trnava together with his chapter. Opposite the church, there is a vicarage building, to the north there is Oláh's Seminary, to the south there is the palace of the Archbishop, the west side of the square is occupied by canonic houses and in the middle, there is the sculpture of St. Joseph. The stagnant life in the eastern part of the town received a new impulse. The original marketplace of the town became an important religious center. The St. Nicolas Basilica was, until 1820, the main cathedral of the archbishop of Esztergom and the place where the diocesan meetings took place. St. Nicolas square is the only square in the town that has preserved its historic look to present days and except the busy town center, it is the only place where we can feel the spiritual heritage of our ancestors.



ST. NICHOLAS BASILICA

The foundations of the three nave basilica construction of Danube style were laid in 1380. The façade of the church consists of two towers, divided by gothic supporting pillars. Over the baroque entry portal with the statue of St. Nicolas (patron saint of merchants), there is the largest gothic window of the church, whose vitrage depicts St. Cecilia. On the sides, there are statues of St. Nicolas and Adalbert. On the southern tower of the church, which is older, you can see the well preserved gargoyles. The church is 60 m long, 31 m wide and the main nave is 18 m high. In the entrance hall of the church, you can see the original gothic wall paintings. The arch is decorated with the attributes of evangelists and the coat of arms of Trnava. The original gothic portal of the chapel of Gods Heart on the southern side is decorated with a rich stone tracery. The chapel of Archangel Michael on the northern side is richly rendered with the motives of plants and figures. In 1619 – 1629, the gothic character of the

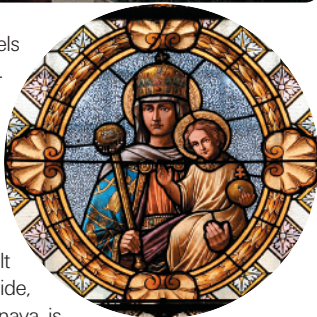


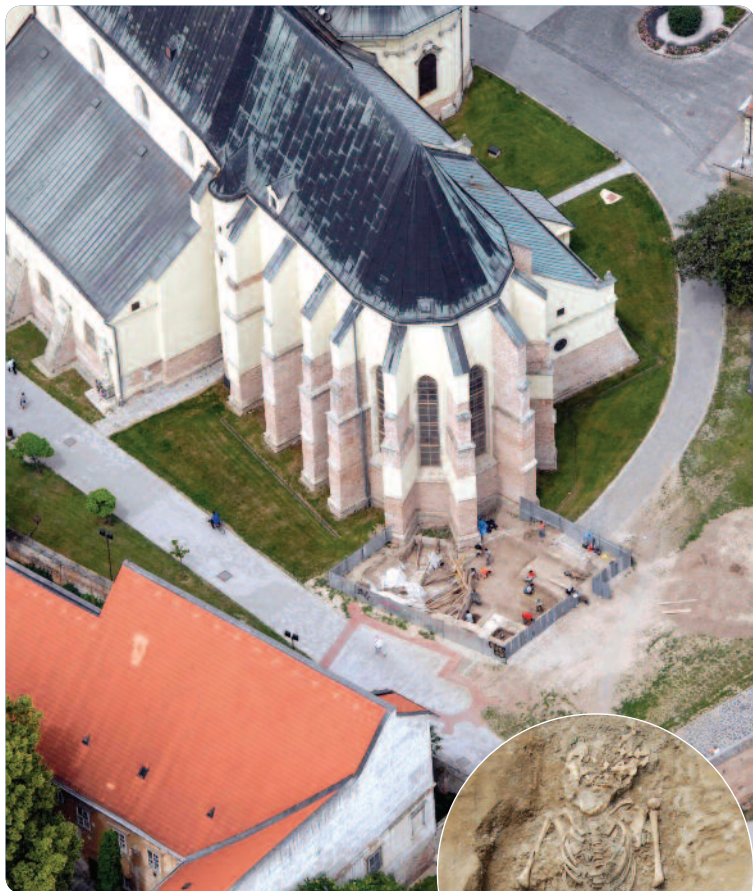
A.D. 1380

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church was violated with the erection of chapels in the northern and southern side of the church. In the side chapels, the unique renaissance and baroque tomb stones of the archbishops from Esztergom are located. Very valuable are the two gothic epitaphs from 1373 and 1386 on the western wall of northern side of the side nave. They originate from the cemetery near the church. In 1739–1741, Imre Eszterházy built an octagonal baroque chapel on the northern side, in which the painting of Virgin Mary from Trnava is located. After tragic events in the town, sweat and blood tears appeared on the face of Virgin Mary. From the original gothic decoration, only a few parts remained intact on the arches with the coat of arms of King Sigismund, Albrecht Habsburg and of the town of Trnava. The main altar in the sanctuary was built in 1815. The wall of the sanctuary are wainscot with wood and decorated with vases and busts of saints. The gothic windows are decorated with stone traceries and vitrines.





OSSUARY

On the southeast side of the presbytery of the St Nicholas Basilica has been found a Romanesque ossuary – the oldest sacral structure in Trnava. The ossuary was used to store human bones from the oldest graves. Two-storey circular buildings at cemeteries are found particularly in Bavaria and Austria. The construction of ossuaries in Slovakia is associated with the arrival of German migrants at the end of the 12th century. Ossuaries were usually part of a parish church, with which they were built in tandem.

Bones were stored on the lower floor of the ossuary with a chapel and apse altar on the upper floor. The lower floor was filled with a 320 cm layer of human remains, mainly long bones and skulls.

The building on a circular plan had an interior diameter of 650 cm, an external diameter of 850 cm; foundations of unfinished stone and brick reach to a depth of 560 cm. The lower floor was vaulted with an arch and ribs supported by a central column. The walls of the upper floor – the chapel – were lost when construction of the Church of St Nicholas began on the site.

The chapel was used for funeral masses; its patron is unknown.



OLÁH'S SEMINARY

Archbishop Miklós Oláh founded a seminary for the students from the archdiocese of Esztergom in Trnava. The seminary should have provided the education of priests in the spirit of the council of Trident, according to which each diocese should provide the education of priests in its own seminary. The buildings were built in renaissance style in 1561. After many fires and repairs, old priests were accommodated here. Today, it is a part of the Western Slovakian museum.

Next to the seminary, the building of roman-catholic vicarage is situated, which originated after the building from the 14th century had been rebuilt. The main façade is decorated with a portal in rococo style and a tympanum with the coat of arms of the city and of János Okolicsányi.



A.D. 1561

14



THE HOUSE OF MUSIC

It is a dominant building to the west of St. Nicholas Square. In this baroque building, built on foundations from the Middle Ages, the Hungarian royal crown was deposited here during the Betlen uprising. This is commemorated by a Latin inscription on the attic: "I, a foreigner have once dwelt under this roof." The main hall of the building is decorated with an illusive wall painting of an exotic land from the 18th century. Today, the building now known as the House of Music is administered by the Western Slovakian Museum in Trnava. The memorial room of Nicholas Schneider - Trnavsky, who lived and worked there and was the leader of the church choir in the St. Nicholas Basilica is located there. On the ground floor, there is a hall of the glory of Dobra – an exposition dedicated to the resophonic guitar Dobro, whose inventor was Jan Dopjera from Dolná Krupa.





ST. JOSEPH STATUE



As a sign of gratefulness for the ending of the plague epidemic in 1731, a statue by the sculptor from Trnava I. Melczer was built. There are the reliefs of St. Rosalia, St. Sebastian and St. Roch on the three-edge base. In the corners of the pedestal, there are statues of St. Nicholas, St. Charles from Boromeja and St. Catherine from Alexandria. Over the statues of the saints, there are angels with tools of artisans and the coat of arms of the town. On the top of the pillar, there is a plastic of St. Joseph with Jesus.

A.D. 1731



ARCHBISHOP'S PALACE



An important renaissance monument is located to the south of St. Nicholas Basilica. Miklós Oláh built his residence on the foundations of medieval houses in 1542 – 1562. He first built the street wing, later the court wing and an object for the archives and a library. After many reconstructions, the residence became a palace complex with a closed court. Over the entrance portal, there is a stone balcony, which was built in the 18th century. The baroque portal of the palace is decorated with the coat of arms of the archbishop Ferenc Forgács. On the façade, there are the coats of arms of Miklós Oláh and György Széchényi.

A.D. 1562

17



STATUS QUO SYNAGOGUE

The Status Quo Synagogue is an elegant two-towered building with characteristic exposed brick-work. It was built in 1897 to designs by Jakob Gartner, a prominent Viennese architect. The interior comprises an apse and a prayer room with a women's gallery supported by cast-iron columns. Above the prayer room is a dome which was originally glazed. The main façade is dominated by the projecting towers and a stone tablet symbolising the Ten Commandments. The reconstructed interior of the former synagogue now serves as an exhibition space for the Jan Koniarek Gallery. In front of the synagogue there is a holocaust monument built after the Second World War based on a design by the architect Artur Szalatnai-Slatinský.



A.D. 1831

18



ORTHODOX SYNAGOGUE

In 1881 a number of Orthodox families separated from the main Jewish Status Quo community and founded an Orthodox community with its own school and later its own synagogue. The tower-less building has an Ark at the east end in which the Torah scrolls were kept and the west façade is decorated only with the Ten Commandments tablets. The interior still clearly shows that it was built to strict orthodox criteria. At the west end there was an entrance hall from which men went into the main sanctuary and women went upstairs to the gallery. The gallery had a mejizah – a wooden screen that the women sat behind. The imposing interior combines preserved sections of the original synagogue with modern architecture. It is an attractive space used for various art exhibitions and chamber concerts. It is used mainly for visual arts exhibitions by major artists.



A.D. 1831

18

Details



HOLY MARY
Canonry Street



ST. HIERONYMUS
St. Nicolas square



STONY TRACERIES
St. Nicolas Basilica



**DETAIL FROM GOTHIC
WALL-PAINTING**
St. Nicolas Basilica



ST. ROSALIA RELIEF
St. Joseph sculpture



CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION OF VIRGIN MARY WITH A MONASTERY

The oldest monastic complex of the city was the monastic complex of the Order of Poor Ladies (monastery with a church). It was mentioned in 1239, when Pope Gregory IX. took over the patronage. The church was built in the 13th century. It has one nave with a presbytery on which the original rib arches stand. The nave was arched during the renovation of the monastic complex in 1690 - 1694. The reconstruction was completed with a rendering of arches and walls of the oratory with iconography of the torture of Christ signed by C. A. N. - Carl Antonio Neurone and dated 1690.

The church is a part of the Western Slovakian Museum in Trnava. There are exhibitions of natural history, archeology, ethnography and history of art.

A.D. 1239

20



ST. HELEN'S CHURCH

It is a remarkable gothic architectonic monument that was built together with the municipal poorhouse in the early 14th century. The main façade with the gothic portal is decorated with three sculptures of St. Elisabeth, St. Helen and St. Barbara. The central statue of St. Helen is a gothic work of art from 1400. To the north of the portal, there is a massive stone cross, the work of a stonemason from Trnava. Like other sacral buildings in Trnava, this one was reconstructed during the baroque period as well. From the original parts of the building, only the gothic cross vault and the pastoforium in the wall of the presbytery remained intact. In the sanctuary, there are windows with colorful vitrines. The main altar is dated from the 19th century; the other altars are dated from the 17th and 18th century. The oldest and only table altar in Trnava is located in the southern chapel and it was built in 1500.

A.D. 1345

21



EVANGELIC CHURCH A.D

The visitors of our town should visit the evangelic church, which has an amphitheatrical plan and diagonally located towers. This architecture is the work of Jozef Mark, dated from 1924. The central building structure received a modern soffit ceiling in 1974. The interior is amphitheatrically centered by a medieval altar with the statue of Christ. On the tower, there is a clock and a glockenspiel with five bells.

A.D. 1924

Open yourself to the charm of the town's sacral architecture and take advantage a unique opportunity to get to know the churches in the town's historic centre. Trnava's churches are open to the public from May to September. Information on opening hours is shown at the entrance to every church.

Get a bird's eye view of Trnava from the gallery of the Town Tower. All year round on working days from 09:00 to 17:00 and during the summer season (June, July, August, September) from Monday to Saturday from 10:00 to 18:00 and on Sunday from 13:00 to 18:00.

You are invited to a tour of the historic centre in Slovak, English, German, French, Hungarian, Polish or Russian. On the tour you will get to know the rich history of the town, its sacral and secular architecture.

The one-hour tour includes a look inside one of the town's main sights – the St Nicholas Basilica or the St John the Baptist Cathedral. The two-hour tour goes into both churches. It's up to you. The tour programme can be tailored to your requirements.

Besides the traditional tours, you are invited to the interesting Sunday Rambles around Little Rome, on a different topic every week. The rambles take place in the summer months July and August, every Sunday at 15:30.

More detailed information on tours, admission to the Town Tower and other attractions in the local area can be obtained from the information office:

Trnava Tourism information (TTi), Trojičné námestie 1, 91701 Trnava
Tel.: +421 33 323 64 40, e-mail: info@trnavatourism.sk

Opening hours:

Main tourist season	1.5. - 30.9.
	Mo - Sa 9:00 – 18:00
	Su 12:00 – 18:00
Out of season	1.10. - 30.4.
	Mo - Fr 9:00 – 17:00
	Sa 9:00 – 13:00

West Slovakian Museum in Trnava

Múzejné námestie č. 3, 918 09 Trnava, Tel. +421 33 551 29 13

Main building – opening hours:

Tu – Fr 8:00 – 17:00, Sa – Su 11:00 – 17:00

Literary Museum – Oláh Seminary, Námestie sv. Mikuláša 10

Opening hours: Tu – Fr 8:30 – 17:00, Sa – Su 11:00 – 17:00

For group tours during the weekend or if the guide is absent
call tel. +421 33 551 29 13

Mikuláš Schneider-Trnavský Music Museum,
M. Schneidera-Trnavského 5

Opening hours: Tu – Fr 8:30 – 17:00, Sa – Su 11:00 – 17:00

For group tours during the weekend or if the guide is absent
call tel. +421 33 551 29 13

Jan Koniarek Gallery in Trnava

Kopplova vila Zelený krížek č. 3, 917 01 Trnava, Tel.: +421 33 551 16 59

Opening hours: Tu – Fr 9:00 – 17:00, Sa – Su 13:00 – 18:00

Synagogue – Contemporary Art Centre, Halenárska 2

Tel.: +421 33 551 46 57

Opening hours: Tu – Fr 9:00 – 17:00, Sa – Su 13:00 – 18:00



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