



**ŽILINA
KYSUCE
TERCHOVÁ
VRÁTNA**





Welcome to a breathtaking region that lies in northern Slovakia. The majestic peaks of Malá Fatra both dominate and protect it. Come and explore all three parts of our region.



TOP10 OF MALÁ FATRA REGION

**Let us introduce 10 attractions
of our region.**

Žilina – a gateway to the region and a metropolis of northern Slovakia – with its rich culture and 800-year tradition should be mentioned first. The historical Mariánske Square is a town monument reservation. Two picturesque castles, Strečno and Budatín, are situated in the immediate proximity of the town. Strečno is not only a jewel of the whole Považie (Váh River) Region, it is also a cultural centre that offers numerous interesting attractions during the whole season.

Budatín Castle lies only a few minutes on foot from Žilina centre. You can enjoy a walk in the beautiful castle park and a view of the reconstructed castle tower as well.

Kysuce. This picturesque hilly region with preserved nature features unique tourist attractions that are worth seeing. Vychylovka, an open air museum of Kysuce village depicting the traditional life in the region, lies near Nová



Historical town Žilina



Medieval Strečno Castle

Bystrica. It includes a narrow gauge historic forest railway with its unique technology that used to connect the Kysuce and Orava regions in the past.

Do you know what Stará Bystrica can be proud of? Its astrological clock; the first and the only one in Slovakia. Astrolabe is the heart of the astrological clock. Six of the most important Slovak personalities are depicted as six bronze sculptures. Seven saints, the fates of whom are interconnected with Slovakia, are depicted as wooden statues of Slovak apostles. Not only the astrological clock, but the whole square will impress you.

The Mala Fatra National Park is also called a Slovak natural jewel, one of



Jánošíkove Diery

the most precious territories in Slovakia or a tourist paradise. These are just few of its attributes. You can enjoy a hike along the ridge of the picturesque mountains or wander through secluded settlements in the surroundings. Do you need to relax and not to think of anything? A walk around numerous waterfalls in Diery canyon will certainly help you.

Do you know the folk music of the Terchová region? It has been added to the UNESCO cultural heritage list recently. The musicians from Terchová really know how to juice it up! Their music is a real burst of energy and joy.

Welcome to Jánošík's region.

Welcome to Malá Fatra!



Slovak astronomical clock
in Stará Bystrica





ŽILINA

ARCHITECTURE

When wandering through Žilina you can admire its beauty, but also buildings and structures that reflect the town's development. There are various styles, such as Renaissance, Baroque, Secession, Functionalism or Neo-classicism.





ŽILINA HEART OF MALÁ FATRA REGION

During its 800-year history a lot of important structures have been built in Žilina until it gained the current appearance.

It has become a centre of northern Slovakia and thus gained an important position.

Mariánske Square, a town monument reservation from 1987, is the historical heart of Žilina. You can get to the square by one of 9 streets that join it. Vaults and arcades and a perfect-square ground plan create a unique atmosphere.



Mariánske Square

Cathedral of the Holy Trinity is a symbol of the town and the most photographed monument as well. A view of the church from Andrej Hlinka Square is an unofficial logo of Žilina.

You can visit the Museum of Jewish Culture and its expositions in the premises of former women's section of the orthodox synagogue. The New Synagogue is undergoing a facelift, too – it is transformed into Kunsthalle Žilina, a centre of culture.

Žilina is also one of the Slovak centres of functionalism. Follow in the footsteps of important functionalistic buildings and let yourself be captivated by their beauty, simplicity and usefulness.

In Žilina you can also follow in the footsteps of elegant Secession buildings. No doubt Rosenfeld's Palace, a smaller imitation of Belvedere Castle, is the most beautiful Secession building. When wandering through the town you should not miss other buildings built in this picturesque style of architecture – Hotel Dubná Skala, the House of Artisans, Považská Gallery or the building of former University of Transport and Communications ("A" block).

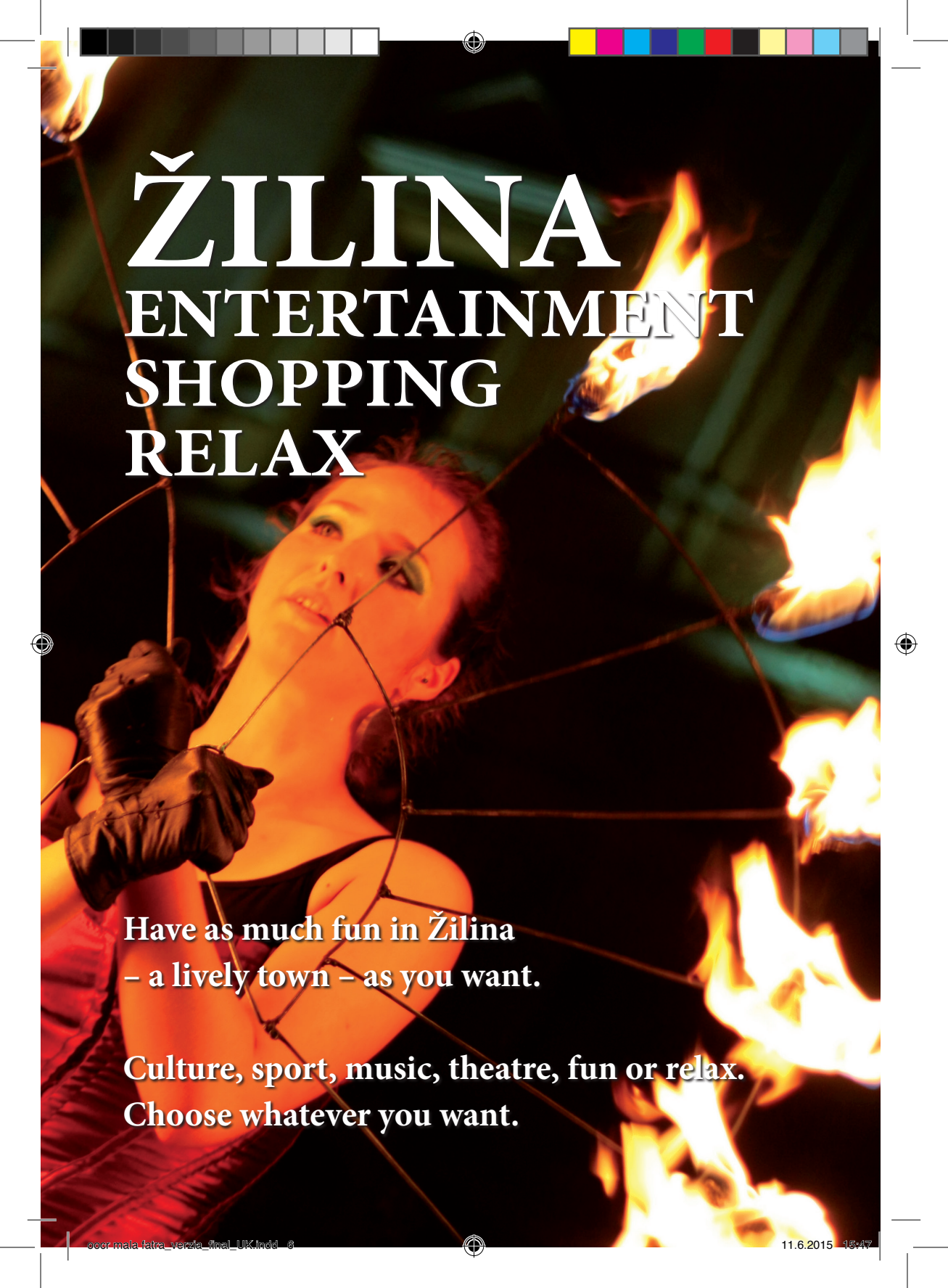


New synagogue



Žilina town centre





ŽILINA

ENTERTAINMENT SHOPPING RELAX

Have as much fun in Žilina
– a lively town – as you want.

Culture, sport, music, theatre, fun or relax.
Choose whatever you want.



ŽILINA ENTER- TAINMENT SHOPPING RELAX

Come to Žilina to have fun and to enjoy some culture. Popular events are organised in the town every year. Downtown Celebrations, Carnival Slovakia, Medieval Day, Fest Anča all have long traditions and good reputation in the wide surroundings.

The town can be proud of its State Chamber Orchestra, Town Theatre or Puppet Theatre. If you decide to visit a performance, it will be like a caress for your soul.



Relax Centrum
Hotel Dubná Skala



Downtown celebrations

Have you ever heard of Žilina-Záriečie Station? New Museum from New York included it in a list of 400 art spaces from all around the world. And rightfully, indeed! Great concerts, excellent theatre performances, discussions, workshops. There is always something happening at the Station.

Several shopping centres have been built in Žilina lately. They offer fashionable brands, restaurants, cafés and children's corners.

Malá Fatra region is the place made for a family holiday full of fun, relaxation and unforgettable experiences in particular. The perfect holiday should include fun, culture and a bit of relaxing as well. .

Enjoy some relaxation in the wellness centre of Dubná Skala hotel in Žilina. Or you can perhaps visit the gorgeous wellness centre of Rozsutec hotel situated in a picturesque environment of Malá Fatra. A pool

with a counter current is the main attraction. The wellness zone of Villa Nečas offers undisturbed relaxation with cosy lighting and soothing music.

Spend a day full of fun with your kids in an indoor children's fun centre Kongo in Žilina or in the newly built Jungle Park in Mojš. If you enjoy adventure, you should visit rope park Preles in Forrest Park Chrást' in Žilina, or ranch in car-camp Belá – Nižné Kamenec, where the kids can ride ponies or can watch and touch animals. You can swim or relax in a town indoor pool in Žilina that is open the whole year round.

A permanent exposition of works by artist Vincent Hložník and an exposition of the First Museum of Intermedia are installed at Považská Gallery of Arts. In its exhibition space the Gallery exhibits works by well established Slovak artists.



State Chamber
Orchestra Žilina



TRADITIONAL MALÁ FATRA

Traditions have to be guarded like
the apple of our eyes.

In our region we are proud of them!





REGION MALÁ FATRA TRADITION CULTURE



Crib service

Visitors of Terchová, Žilina or Kysuce are pleasantly surprised that local traditions are preserved with such enthusiasm and handed down to future generations. Crafts, music, dance, traditions and habits are really respected.



Sheep above Terchová



Night tour through Strečno Castle

Visit the spectacular Jánošík's Days in Terchová. There is always a lot of singing, dancing and food, and the Folk Music of Terchová, which is registered in the UNESCO world heritage list.

Do you like "halušky"? In Terchová you can enjoy this traditional Slovak dish at World Championships of cooking and eating "halušky" with "bryndza" (potato dumplings with salty soft sheep cheese).

If you are strong, you can show off in Terchová. A strongest man contest is held at the Farm Horse Contest and carnival mask parade in February.



Downtown celebrations

Come to light a bonfire with Kysuce inhabitants in Stará Bystrica and have a good time in Kysuce style for three days at the Sovereignty Celebrations. If you like open air museums you should not miss the events organized in the open air museum of Kysuce village from May to October. Gourmets praise the Cuisine of Grandmothers event. Train enthusiasts shouldn't miss the Railway Day. Traditional craft fans meet at events dedicated to blacksmiths or tinkers.

Artisans from the whole of Slovakia and from abroad as well meet at Mariánske Square in Žilina during the Folk Art Craft event in August. Pottery makers, tinkers, woodcarvers, blacksmiths, jewellery makers, gingerbread bakers and many other skilful masters participate in the event.



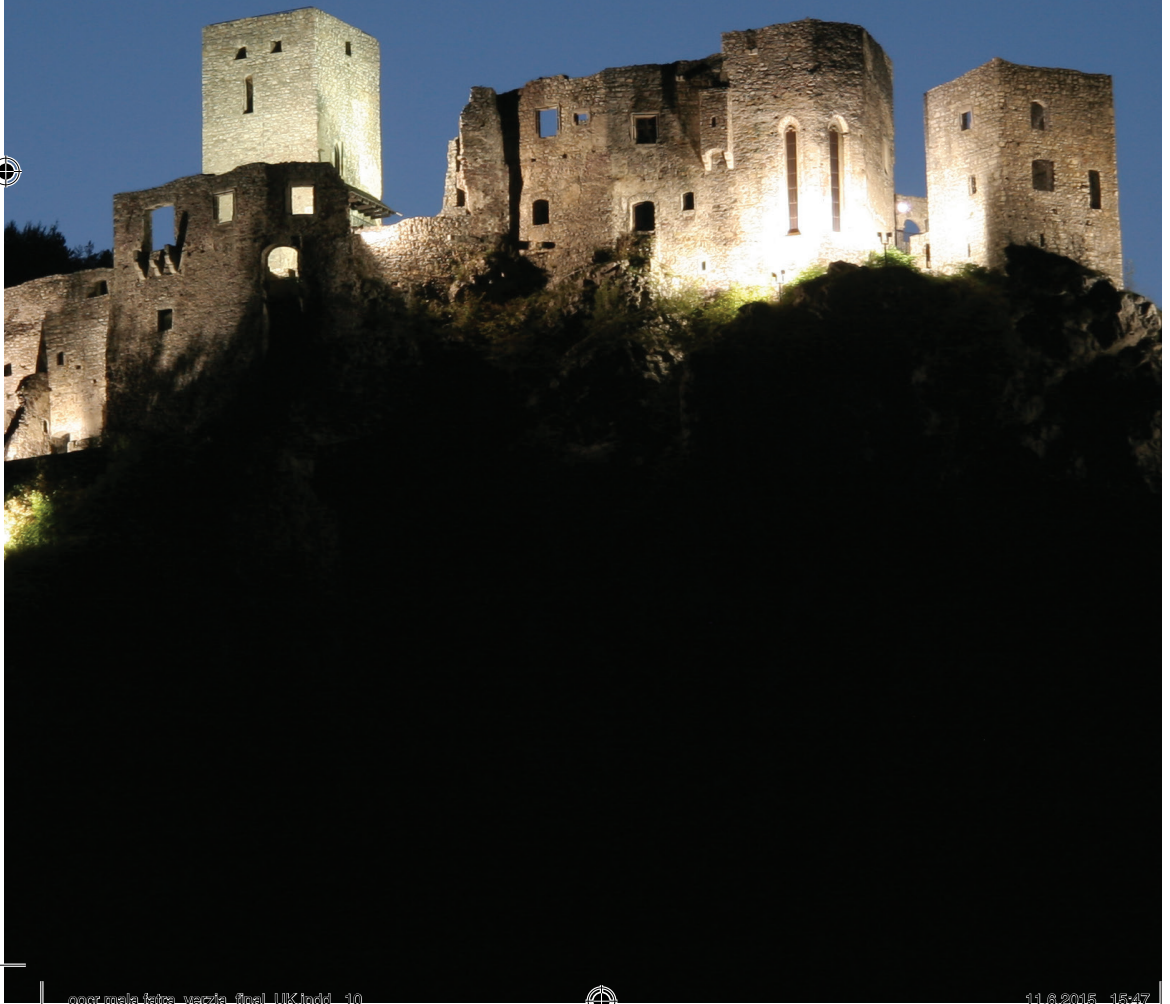
Farm Horse Contest





MEDIEVAL MALÁ FATRA

The Medieval period left a deep imprint
on our region. Come and enjoy the view
of ruins that proudly document
this historical period.





REGION MALÁ FATRA CASTLES

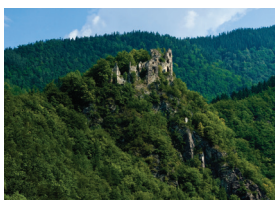


Budatín Castle

Who would not have heard of Strečno castle? It strikes everybody who travels to Žilina by train or by car. No wonder. Make a stop there and climb up the castle stairs to see an exhibition or simply to enjoy the panoramic view of Považie (Váh River) region.



Castle Days at Strečno



Starhrad Castle

Opposite Strečno, just across the water, there are the ruins of Starhrad Castle. It offers a unique view of the beautiful nature monument of Malá Fatra – Domašínsky meander.

A few minutes on foot from the centre of Žilina you can find yourself on the confluence of Váh and Kysuca Rivers, at Budatín Castle. From the Castle you can see Žilina from height or you can enjoy a walk in a beautiful English park.

A romantic walk to Lietava Castle near village Lietava will stick in your memory for a long time. The beautiful ruins are the largest ones in Slovakia and in the past the castle was considered to be very safe.



Lietava Castle





SUMMER IN MALÁ FATRA

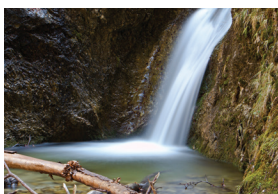


A new season! Enjoy the sound of water in
gorges and climb the peaks of mountains.
Gain new energy here in Malá Fatra.





REGION MALÁ FATRA TOURISM



Jánošíkove Diery

Our region lies amidst lovely nature and it is interwoven with many mountain paths. If you dream of a family holiday in Malá Fatra and some hiking, you found the perfect place.

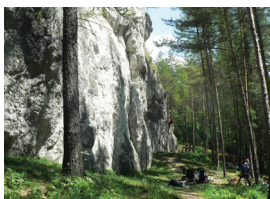
Enjoy the atmosphere of secluded dwellings around Terchová. An educational trail takes you through



Bobovec lookout tower

the region of Jánošík, through meadows full of flowers with panoramic views of Malá Fatra. One of the settlements is called Jánošíkovci (Jánošík's highwayman group). Don't you believe? Come and see.

If you like lookout towers you should not miss the beautiful one on Bobovec hill above the village of Radôstka, which is protected by statutes of angels. Along the ridge of Nocláhy you can get to the open air museum in Vychylovka.



Slnčné skaly Rocks



Ridge of Malá Fatra

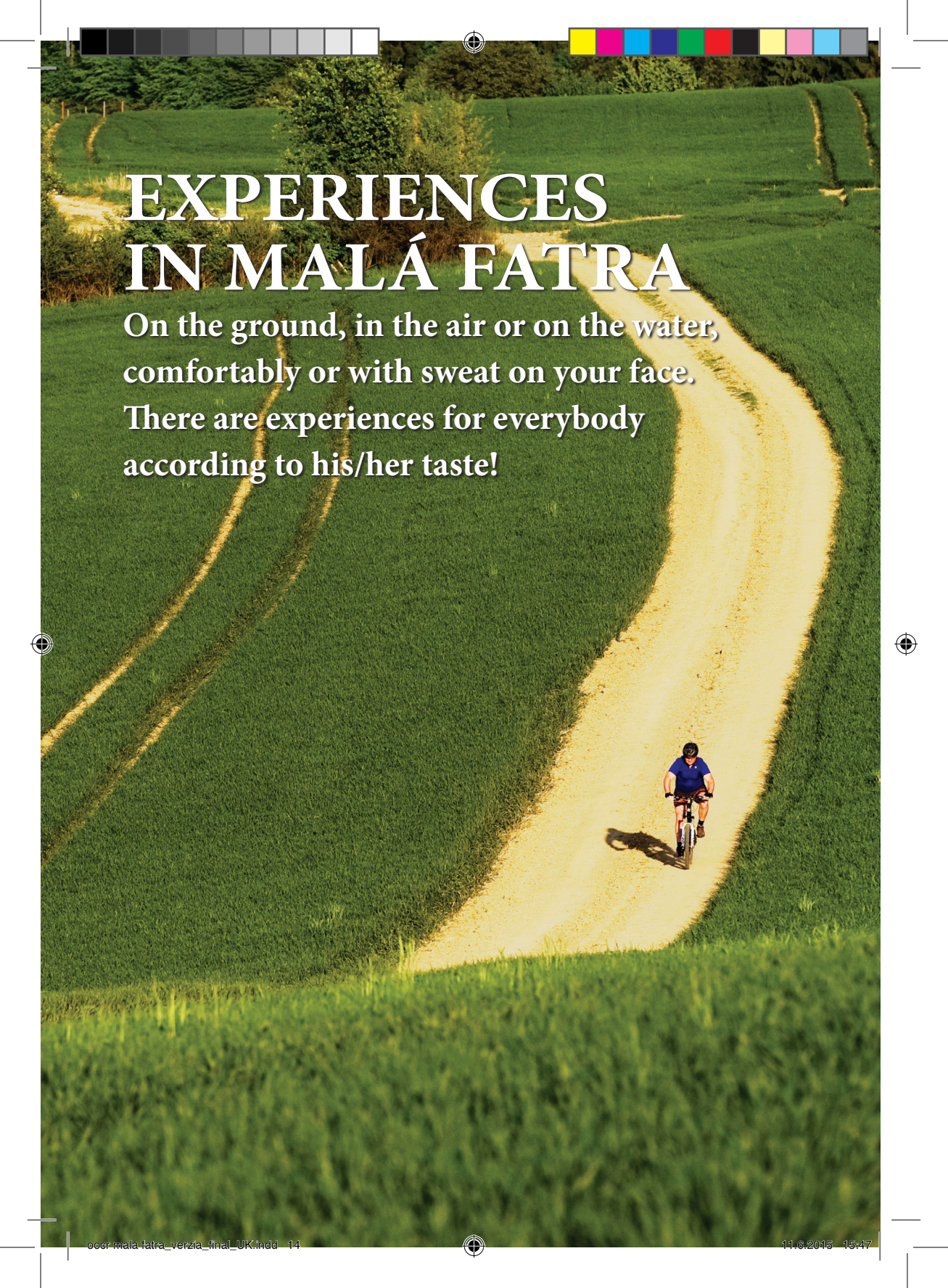
It would be a pity to be in Malá Fatra and not to conquer Jánošíkove Diery. Jánošíkove Diery is one of the most attractive tourist trails in Slovakia with more than 20 waterfalls.

Enjoy the energy of the mountains and climb to the ridge of Malá Fatra. Go as high as possible. Veľký Rozsutec, Stoh, Chleb and Veľký Kriváň are the most beautiful dominant features of the Malá Fatra Mountains. Wherever you go, do not forget how fragile and beautiful our nature is and therefore please protect it.



Cableway to the ridge of Malá Fatra



A high-angle photograph of a person riding a bicycle on a winding dirt path through a lush green field. The path curves from the bottom right towards the top left. The rider is wearing a blue shirt and dark shorts. The field is vibrant green with some yellowish-brown tracks from other vehicles. In the background, there are trees and a fence line.

EXPERIENCES IN MALÁ FATRA

On the ground, in the air or on the water,
comfortably or with sweat on your face.
There are experiences for everybody
according to his/her taste!



REGION MALÁ FATRA EXPERIENCES



Scooters in Tiesňavy

During a family holiday in Malá Fatra you and your family can enjoy a unique experience offered along the Váh, the longest Slovak river. Rafts guarantee fun. Jolly raftsmen dressed in folk costumes will take you for a 7 kilometre trip on the Váh. If you prefer sailing down the river without a guide, try the Rajčianka River at the village of Porúbka.



Narrow gauge forest railway



Rafts at Váh under the Old Castle

Have you ever used a cableway? Come to Vrátna and go up to Chleb using the cableway. Then you only have to conquer several tenths of metres at altitude to get to the peak. Or would you prefer hiking along the ridge? Explore our mountains in a more comfortable way.

If you would like to try a tandem paragliding flight, go to Straník. The hill is known far and wide for its excellent conditions for paragliding.

Excellent availability, in-line skate path, skate-park, cycling trail and

other sport places make the water reservoir of Žilina the place you should certainly not miss visiting during your family holiday in Malá Fatra.

If you belong to people who would like to spend their spare time on a bicycle, your two wheel steed will be pretty worn out after your holiday in Malá Fatra. Over 645 km of cycling trails are actually available to cyclists in Malá Fatra. We recommend the circle around Terchová district that is also suitable for older children.



Sailing down Orava River





WINTER IN MALÁ FATRA

When the white snow covers hills
and slopes, white joy and peace
fall on the country!





REGION MALÁ FATRA WINTER



Terchová in winter

Get comfortably to the height and then let the winter atmosphere of our mountains impress you. Our skiing centres are suitable for everybody. Slovak champions train in the Free Time Zone in Vrátna, so come test this centre, too!

Snowboard down the Chleb hill, ski up Poludňový Grúň hill, or go cross-country skiing on your own



Skiing

trail at the Kysuce artery or in the surroundings of Terchová. Enjoy the winter mountains as you wish.

Whether you enjoy free riding, mountaineering or cross-country skiing, or would like to try snowshoes, we will find a suitable trail for



Cross country skiing in
Tiesňavy

your adventure and we will equip you adequately in Vrátna. For good prices and with a smile indeed.



Snilovské Saddle

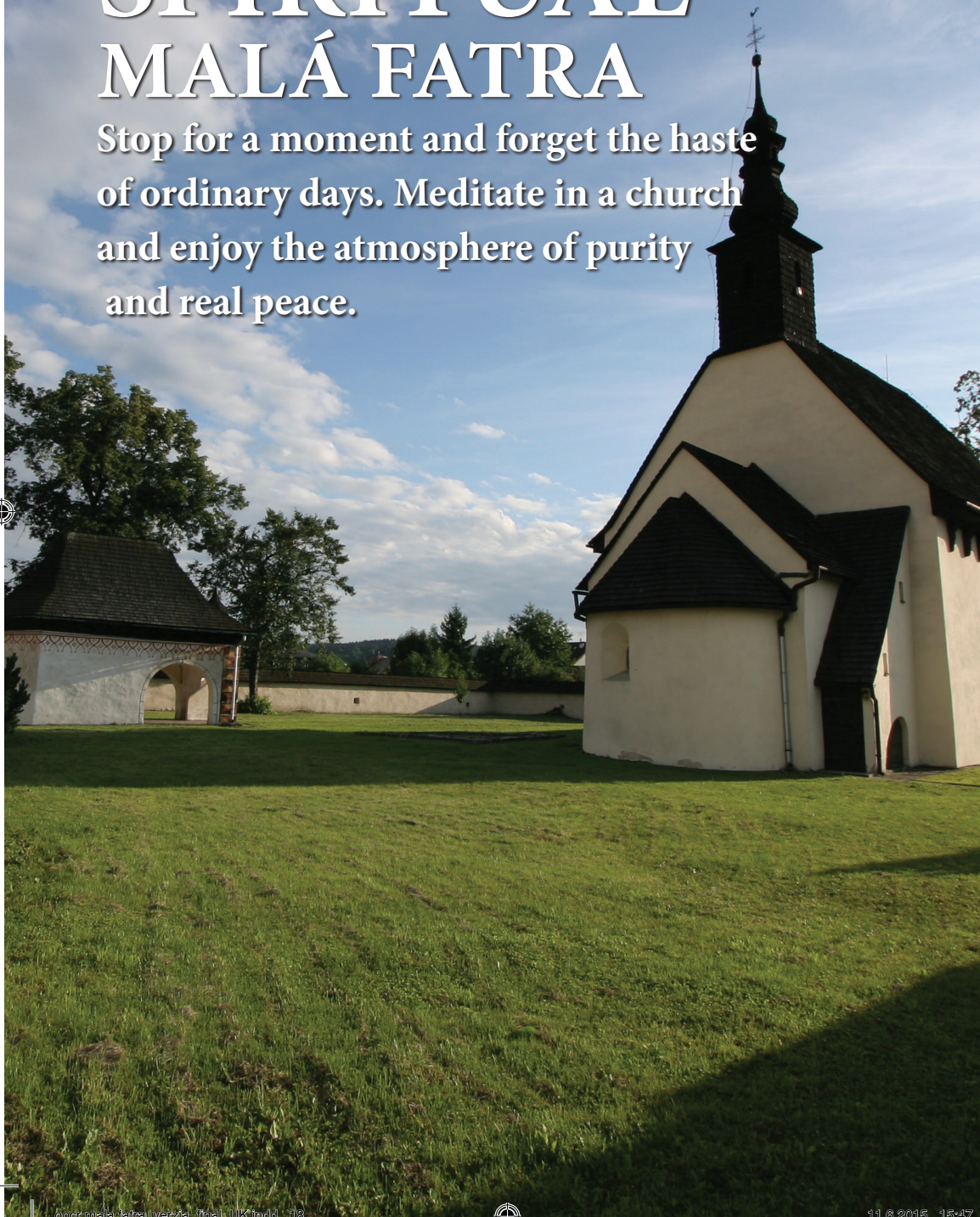


Winter sunrise at Veľký Rozsutec



SPIRITUAL MALÁ FATRA

Stop for a moment and forget the haste
of ordinary days. Meditate in a church
and enjoy the atmosphere of purity
and real peace.





REGION MALÁ FATRA CHURCHES MUSEUMS



Museum in Krásno n. K.

Sacral monuments (churches) belong to the most beautiful monuments that document the cultural heritage of our ancestors. Let us mention some of them.

Žilina is proud of its late-Roman church of St. Stephan King, one of the oldest buildings of its kind in northern Slovakia. The Roman-Catholic Church of St. Cyril and Methodius lies in Terchová. Unique wooden Bethlehem, the second largest one in Slovakia, is situated there. The foundation stone of the Church of St. Joseph, the worker in the village of Gbeľany was blessed by Pope Saint John Paul II in 1990.



Museum of Juraj Jánošík in Terchová

The Sistine Chapel of Kysuce lies in the village of Zborov nad Bystricou. Forty stain-glass windows by academic artist Vincent Hložník are a breathtaking dominant feature of the chapel.

Explore the history of our region during your holiday in Malá Fatra in a way that both you and your children will enjoy. Take visiting museums as a game.

Visit the beautiful Renaissance Chateau - the oldest cultural monument in the region - in Radola, the oldest village in Kysuce. A Female mammoth life-size replica is the main attraction of the museum in Krásno nad Kysucou. The Museum of Jewish culture in Žilina exhibits several ritual and sacral objects, archives, Torahs and textiles connected with the Žilina district. Exclusive private excursions of old traditions are offered in book binding of Lida Mlichová. There you

can learn about secrets of manual book binding and you can watch the process of book binding using the original binding technology before your very eyes.

Through the Tourist Information Centre in Žilina you can order a tour of underground spaces beneath the Church of the Conversion of St. Paul, the Apostle at Mariánske Square and a tour of Burianova tower. You will learn a lot of interesting information, for example that Jewish children hid in the church during World War II. You can visit the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity and Burianova bell tower that is only a step away from the catacombs and offers a beautiful view of the surroundings.



Jewish Museum



Church of St. George

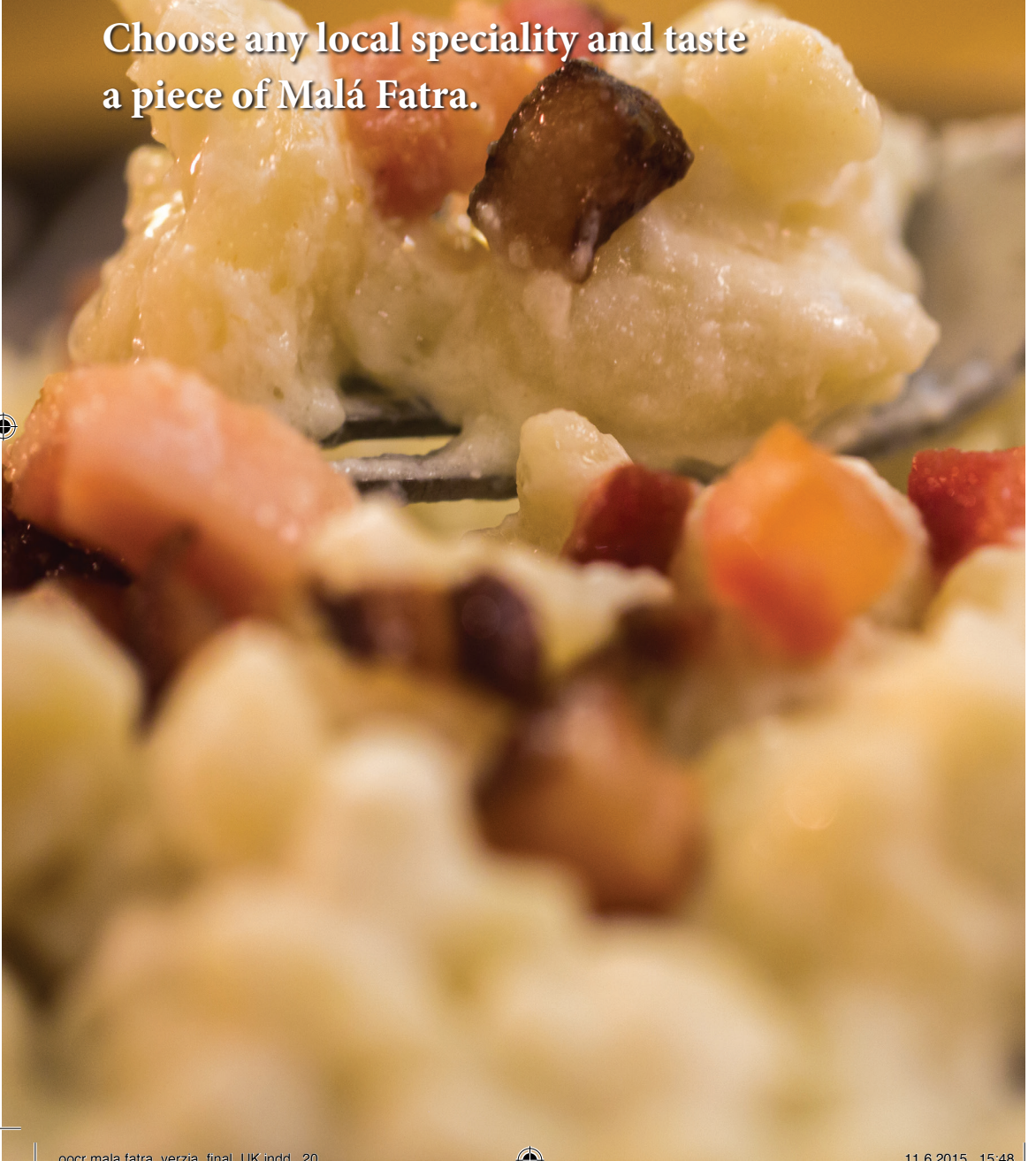
photo: M. Dudáš





GASTRONOMIC MALÁ FATRA

Choose any local speciality and taste
a piece of Malá Fatra.





REGION MALÁ FATRA TASTES AND AROMAS



Country Saloon Belá

Do you like tasting local specialities and traditional cuisines?

Or do you prefer modern gastronomy?

We will offer you plenty to eat until you are full. The local gastronomy includes in parti-



Hotel Rozsutec

cular, dishes of shepherd's origin that are really typical for this region. Cabbage, bryndza cheese, sheep cheese, potatoes, bacon, mutton. Our cooks can prepare delicacies from these ingredients. The restaurant of Villa Nečas offers first class gastronomy awarded by award Trend Top Restaurant 2011 in Žilina self-governing region. The restaurant of hotel Dubná Skala has a rich history and belongs to one of the most popular restaurants in Žilina. The restaurant of hotel Diery offers typical dishes of the Terchová region and it is known for its genuine home-made-like cuisine. It offers not only stylish environment, but also pleasant folk music and attentive staff. Hotel Rozsuec in Vrátna has a modern, cosy restaurant



Villa Nečas

with nice design and great atmosphere underlined by the panoramic view of Malá Fatra. Exquisite dishes and nice staff guarantee satisfaction.



Hotel Gavurky



Dubná Skala



Typical Terchová Evening in restaurant Diery





A WONDERFUL DAY IN THE REGION OF JURAJ JÁNOŠÍK

**A family, a couple, lovers, individuals, groups – come to us.
Enjoy an unforgettable day!**

ŽILINA

The town centre is not large. You can walk from one side to the other in a few hours and you still have time to enjoy the atmosphere of squares, in stylish cafés and restaurants.

You can learn about the most attractive places during sight-seeing tours. You can choose from Small Circle or Big Circle, Circle around the Functionalist Žilina or Jewish Žilina. In the evening you can visit a theatre, a concert or go shopping. Enjoy relaxation and peace in a wellness centre or while being massaged.

TERCHOVÁ

A mere drive to Terchová can be a nice experience if you stop for some popular ice cream in the village of Belá. Traditional pear brandy from Gbelany can be an original gift. You can start your day in Terchová on the ridge of Malá Fatra, which you can get to very comfortably and without any effort - by a cableway. In the afternoon you can visit the wooden Bethlehem in the Church of St. Cyril and Methodius or Museum of Juraj Jánošík, for example.

In the evening you can have fun in Terchová. You can sing or dance to the folk music of Terchová registered in the UNESCO list.

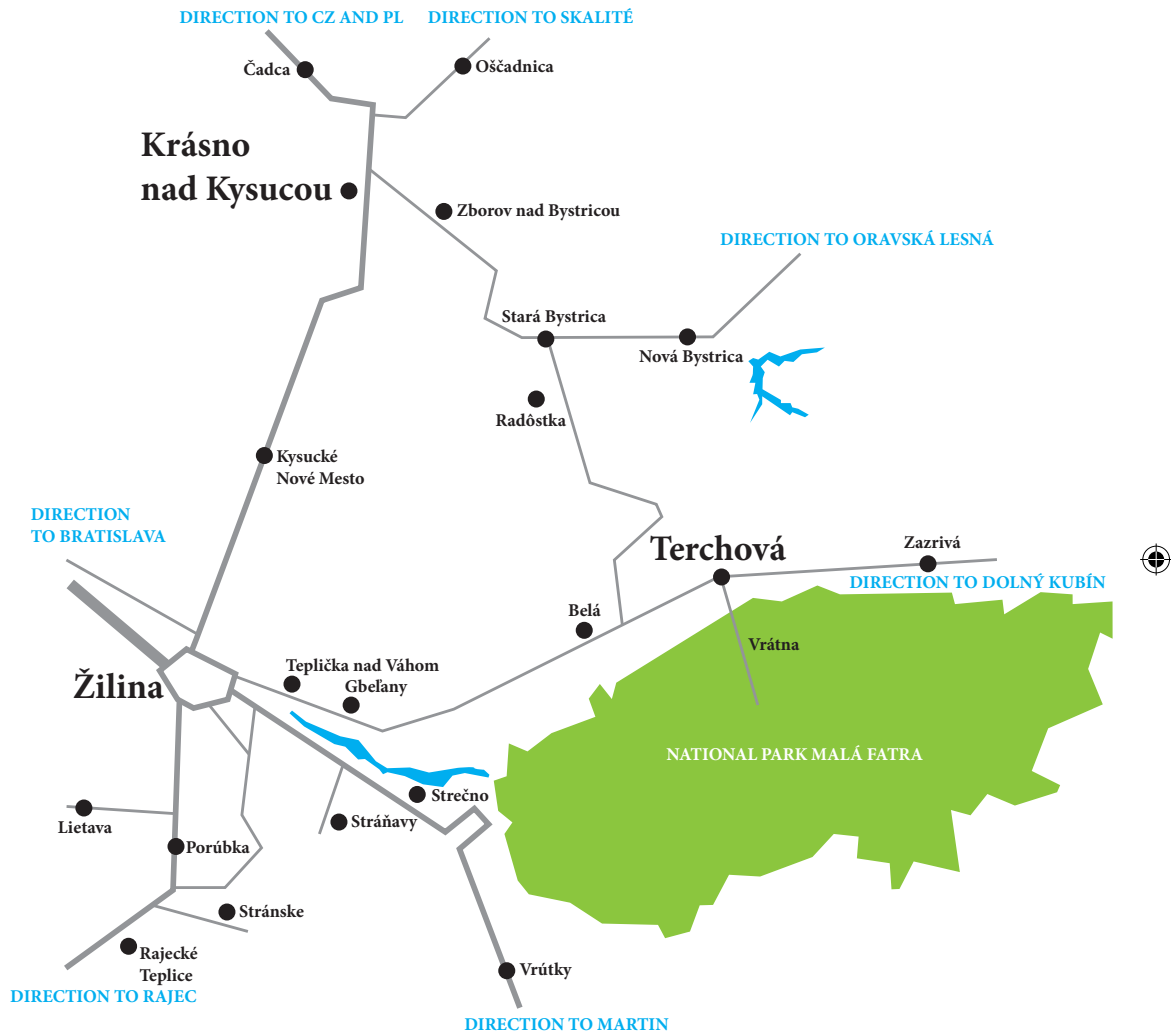
KYSUCE

If you choose to explore the secrets of Kysuce, we recommend starting the day with a climb to Bobovec lookout tower (altitude 720 m.) from where you can enjoy a breathtaking sunrise and a unique view. When wandering through Kysuce, you can stop at the Museum of Natural Sciences in Krásno nad Kysou. In Stará Bystrica you can visit the first and the only astrological clock in Slovakia, and near the town Nová Bystrica you can experience the history in the open air museum of Kysuce village - Výchylková. Historical narrow gauge forest railway goes through the open air museum. You can also hop on your bike and drive along a 21 km cycling artery.



Statue of Jánošík above Terchová







MALÁ FATRA
REGIÓN

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