

Pezinok is the birthplace several important personalities or a place where they lived and worked. Some of them are buried in the local cemetery. Among them are music composer Eugen Suchoň (author of operas Krútnava and Svätopluk), Ľudovít Rajter, conductor and founder of Slovak Philharmonic and Jozef Ľudovít Holuby, botanist and ethnographer and pedagogist Ján Zigmundík. There is also still preserved birth house of a well-known Baroque painter – portraitist Ján Kupecký (1666 – 1740).

Partner towns

Partner towns with which Pezinok signed agreements on co-operation are Mladá Boleslav in the Czech Republic (1994), Mosonmagyaróvár in Hungary (2000), Neusiedl am See in Austria (2000) and Izola in Slovenia (2006). The purpose of the cooperation is to support and extend cross-border contacts in culture and build permanent friendly connections. It is also demonstrated at the level of various interest groups (retired persons, athletes, schools). There have been several events held among partner towns.

Sport

The city has a rich sport tradition and there are still dozens of sport clubs, unions and associations active there that provide opportunities for both, recreational and professional sports. Many of the clubs prepared Slovak representatives and they compete in top national and international leagues. The most successful sports in Pezinok are men's' basketball, women's'

volleyball, table tennis, football, karate-kickbox, judo and cross-country running. Amateur and recreational athletes can use many sport facilities, such as indoor swimming pool, summer swimming pool, playgrounds with artificial surface, hockey ball field, horse riding range in Rozálka, tennis and squash hall, ice hockey arena, downhill and cross-country skiing in Pezinská Baba.

Tourism

The city is interesting thanks to its historical landmarks, well known cultural events, unique museum and artistic exhibitions: viticulture – wine making exposition in Malokarpatské múzeum, archaeological exposition of Pezinok and its vicinity, historical and technical landmark with preserved mill in a reconstructed Schaubmar mill with preserved milling equipment, Galéria Štefana Prokopa (Štefan Prokop Gallery) and, last but not least, its wine tourism programme, wine and astronomy tasting as well as traditional wine events held all year round.

The surrounding of Pezinok provides opportunities for winter and summer hiking and relaxing – marked tourist paths or cycling paths in Small Carpathians, horse riding, sledging and skiing (downhill and cross-country) terrains with artificial snow in Pezinská Baba or near Zochova chata (Zoch Challet). Visitors can also enjoy walks and discovering multiple interpretive trails focused on learning about the nature, history and local traditions.



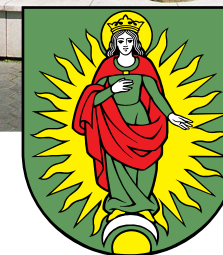
Z verejných zdrojov podporilo Ministerstvo dopravy
a výstavby Slovenskej republiky.

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Pezinok
Centre of the
Malé Karpaty Region

Dear visitors,
We are pleased to welcome you in our picturesque city of Pezinok – city of wine and culture. We believe you will like it here and that you will be coming back with pleasure; either to visit your family, friends or just for a while, to sit over good wine and tasteful gastronomy. Or, visit one of many of events held in our town.

Briefly about Pezinok

Pezinok lies 18 km to the north-east of Bratislava, the capital city of the Slovak Republic. Its area covers 7,276 hectares at the foot of Malé Karpaty (Small Carpathians), with the elevation of 156 m above the sea level. It is a district town and it is a part of the Bratislava Region. It borders on the Bratislava, Senec, Malacky and Trnava districts. The nearest border crossing to Austria is only 25 km and it is approximately the same distance to Hungary too. The proximity of the capital city, easy accessibility by road and rail, dominant tradition of viticulture and winemaking as well as specific gastronomy attract growing numbers of tourists and everyday visitors to the town. Based on current data, the population of Pezinok is 24,740.



History of Pezinok

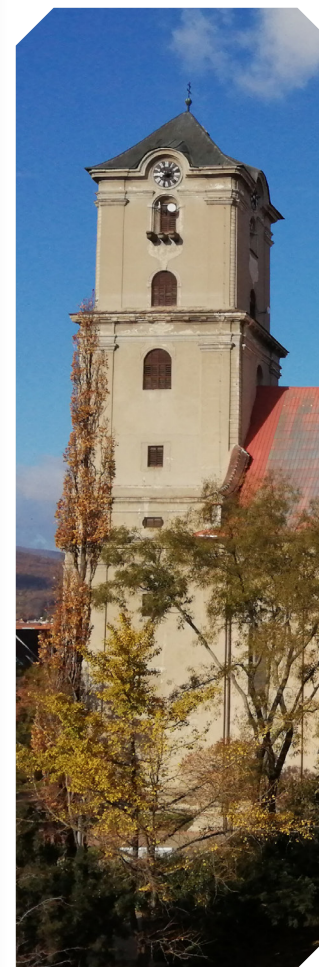
For the first time, the area where the city of Pezinok is located now was referred to in a document of 1208 as “terra Bozen”. In the centuries that followed, Pezinok was continuously changing, thanks to its owners, earls from Svätý Jur and Pezinok, from an unknown inhabited territory to a village and then to a town with a significant level of independence, with developing viticulture, trade and crafts. The effort of Pezinok inhabitants to achieve the highest possible self-governing position was successfully accomplished on 14 June 1647, when King Ferdinand III. Granted the privileges of a free royal town to Pezinok.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, Pezinok experienced its biggest bloom and was one of the richest towns in then Hungary. Its prosperity was based on production of high-quality wine. The 19th century was marked with continuous industrialisation of the town. The first factory for production of sulphuric acid in Hungary was set up there. Along with that, also a factory for production of needles and a big brick factory. A temporary boom in the 19th century was also influenced by finding gold in the area of Pezinok and build-up of the railway, thanks to which, Pezinok became an important centre of Malé Karpaty wine region. In 1870, the

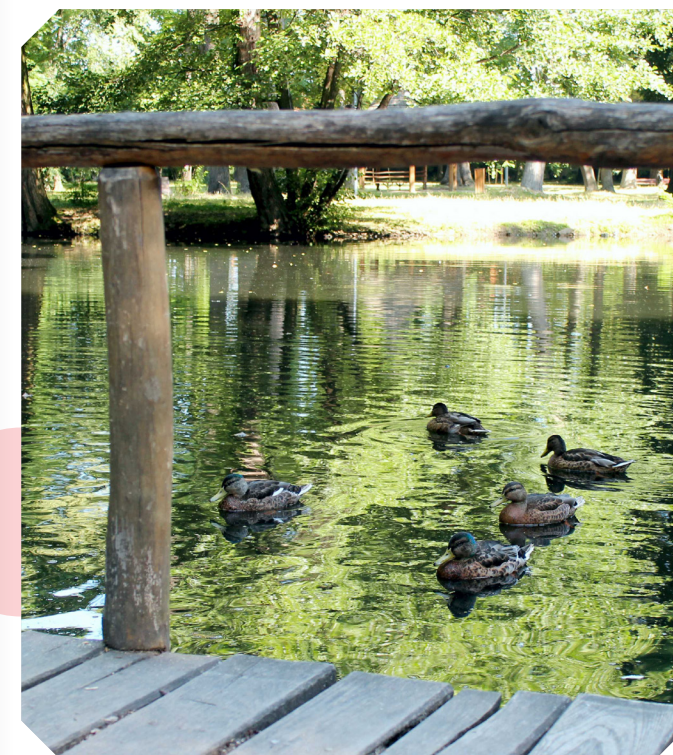
city was granted the title of municipal town, which put it to the level of the county. The first half of the 20th century, infamous for its world wars and great depression, led to a decline of the town. At that time, there was no bigger industrial company in Pezinok, which, along with the decline of wine making production, cause massive emigration to America. In the period of years 1949 –1960, Pezinok was the district city. It resumed its status of the district city again in 1996 and has remained so.

Pezinok today

Today, Pezinok is a modern district town with developed industry, high-quality viticulture and wine making, extended commerce and interesting historical landmarks. Main economic sectors at present at trade and services.



The characteristic feature for the city is its historical centre with typical burghers' houses, street with rectangular layout and remains of original fortifications. Among the most important historical landmarks are the castle (13th century) together with the Castle park, Roman Catholic Parish Church of Virgin Mary Ascension (14th century), late-Renaissance lower church of the Transfiguration of the Lord (17th century.), Baroque monastery church of the Holy Trinity and the Capuchin monastery (18th century), Renaissance Town Hall (17th century) and Renaissance-styles “Kaviak” house (17th century), which is now the seat of the Malokarpatské múzeum (Small Carpathians Museum). Besides them, there are more than 70 cultural landmarks preserved in the town, including Schaubmar mill, which is part of the Slovak National Gallery.



Culture and personalities

Cultural life in Pezinok is built on rich traditions. Currently, there are several cultural institutions working in cooperation with the municipality on preparing various events, among them, the most important ones are Pezinské kultúrne centrum (Pezinok culture centre), Mestské múzeum v Pezinku (City museum in Pezinok), Malokarpatské múzeum v Pezinku, Malokarpatská knižnica (Small Caprathian Library). There are significant cultural events held in the town of local as well as regional, Slovak and even international importance. Let us mention few of them: Pezinské vínne pivnice (Pezinok wine cellars, February), Vínne trhy (Wine Fair, April), Festival pouličného divadla (Street Theatre Festival, June), Keramické trhy (Ceramic Fair, June), GrinavankaFest, Pezinský Permoník (August), Fyzulnačka (August), Deň otvorených pivníc (Open Cellars Day, November), Vianočné trhy (Christmas Market, December). It is worth to pay special attention to traditional annual September harvest festival – Vinobranie Pezinok. It is not only a celebration of wine but also a presentation of the cultural potential of Pezinok and its vicinity.

