

Press release

Visegrad Folk Dance Gala in Kapuvár

Visegrad Folk Dance Gala will be held on 25th July in Kapuvár, where the ensembles of the Polish, Czech and Slovakian partner towns of the Rábaköz town will present themselves. Kapuvár has organized the colourful traditional bustle with the financial assistance of the International Visegrad Fund.

Beside the Kapuvár Folk Dance Group there will be performances of the dance groups from Jeseník, Czech Republic, from Debica, Poland and Nagymegyér, Slovakia at four o'clock in the MEDOSZ Sports Ground. After the presentations dance house will be held.

The Markovice Group from Czech Republic presents the Moravian traditions, the "Igloopolanie" Folk Dance Group from Debica, Poland presents polkas, mazurs and polonaises, Megyer Dance Group from Nagymegyér, Slovakia presents the Slovakian Hungarian traditional dance in the implementing program with the financial assistance of the International Visegrad Fund.

A few words of the cities, the partnertowns of Kapuvár, where the performers came from:

Poland, Debica

Debica is a modern city that combines its 650 year old historical charm with its industrial character. It offers good opportunities for active relaxation and its unique events over Poland attract a lot of tourists. The most famous citizen of Debica is Krzysztof Penderecki composer. In addition to well-known artists, musical and theatrical artists and scientists a lot of excellent athletes started their career here because the city is one of the most important sports centers in Poland. Debica is open for visitors and investors and new cooperation and for those too who are looking for new business relations or business partners.

Debica has more than 48,000 inhabitants. The city is situated in the south-eastern part of Poland, in the west of the Province of Podkarpackie at the foot of the Carpathians, near the Slovakian Ukrainian border. The city is divided into two parts by the River Wisłok. There are plenty of natural attractions which are visited by those who long for recreation and relaxation.

Jeseník, Czech Republic

This little town with a population of 12,000 is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Czech Silesia which is surrounded by high mountains on all sides. Among them Prácheň is one of the highest Czech mountain peaks. The town is a tourist oasis in winter and in summer because the nearby mountains are great ski resorts and they are great places to visit in spring and autumn and they attract the

walking and the cycling visitors as well. In addition, it has a great spa which focuses on health treatment and healing based on the methods of their worldwide known doctor Dr Priznitz.

Nagymegyer, Slovakia

Nagymegyer is a little town rich in history in Lower Csallóköz. The settlement is an economic and agro-industrial center. Its most important economic sector is the tourism which is centered around the year-round open thermal bath. The CORVINUS thermal spa is one of the most visited spas of Slovakia.

According to the legend the town was named after one of the reigning prince Árpád's second in command, Megere whose people settled down in Csallóköz after the Hungarian conquest. Nagymegyer got a market-town legal status with the right of having three national market days and the power of life and death from King Matthias in 1466.

After the First World War the town was annexed to Czechoslovakia and received a new official name, the translation of its original name - Veľký Meder. In the last decades of its history in addition to its thriving agriculture it has developed industrially thanks to the thermal waters spa which was established in 1974 and it has been well known all over the country due to its curative effects.

Kapuvár, Hungary

Kapuvár is a thousand year old town with a population of 11,000 in the western part of Hungary near Austria and Lake Fertő, in the heart of Rábaköz. It is the gate of Fertő-Hanság National Park. More and more people arrive at the pristine natural environment by bicycle thanks to the infrastructural investments. The town's healing carbonic acid gas treatment is considered unique all over Europe so it is called Mecca for patients suffering from angiopathy. The medicinal water of Kapuvár is also remarkable especially patients suffering from locomotor diseases can enjoy its beneficial effects.

The town is not only known as a medical tourism center. The old Kapuvár people's traditional costume is one of the most beautiful and the richest Hungarian costumes. The Kapuvár folk songs and folk dances are known all over the country. Among them the wedding dance and the recruiting dance are outstanding and several folk dance groups of the country try to perform them with similar authenticity.

We thank the International Visegrad Fund for contributing their support to the implementation of the programme.

The events are free.