



1. Tapolca

It is located 12 km's from the Balaton in the basin named after the town itself. A settlement was already formed here as far back as the Neolithic period. The Slavic originated word

Toplucha means thermal spring in Hungarian. The dynamically developing town was already a centre of this region in the 18th century. People used all the traditional means of production here. The provincial wines produced in the region and favoured by many all around Europe have been the main source of income for the local population for hundreds of years. The townscape shows obvious signs of the active trading, which took place here during the previous century. As a result of certain major developments around the turn of the century the town became the centre of traffic in this region. As the bauxite mines gained more importance during the 60s, the settlement, which was a village until then was declared a town once more. Since then the name of the town has become more familiar to travellers through the sights located around and in the town.

www.tapolca.hu



2. Cave Lake Exhibition Centre

The Cave, which is a unique spectacle in Central-Europe, can be found in the heart of the town. It was discovered in 1902 during a well-digging and ten years later it opened

to the visitors. The lower chambers and some parts of the upper corridors of the three-level cave shaped by karst water-are covered by 19 °C water. This is a 180-metre-long stretch which can be travelled around by boat. In the clear water the paths that lead to the lower chambers can also be seen. The healing power of the Cave's special climate has been known for a long time. The extremely clean air, the relatively constant temperature (14-16°C) and the 100% humidity are of great help in the treatment of the patients suffering from allergy, asthma or other respiratory illnesses. In order to be able to do this another branch the Hospital-cave is used. This was discovered in 1925.

www.lakecave.hu



1st World War. The Memorial can be approached through the „Székely-kapu” (székely: inhabitant of Transylvania, székely-kapu: a large gate with fretworks).



3. Republic Square

In the other former marketplace of the town the local government erected a monument to the memory of the „Large-Hungary”, the territory of which was roughly reduced as a result of the Trianon peace-treaty after the

4 School Museum

The school Museum can be found in the former cantor house. The greatest pedagogy historical collection of the Trans-Danubian region can be found here. The class that used to be a real school- reminds us of the lessons in the turn of the century. The school historical exhibition can be seen next door to the cantor teacher's room.

www.vktapolca.hu



5. Main Square

The Main Square, the place of the former markets and fairs functioned as a trade centre from ancient times. On the corner of the square stands the building of the sometime Hotel Pannonia where big wine-businesses

were made and balls, exhibitions were held until the 1st World War. The Statue of Holy Trinity was erected in the middle of the square in 1757. The statue, Little Princess (by László Marton) is also located here.



6. Mill Pond

The part of the town which has a very romantic and Mediterranean atmosphere is the Mill Pond and its surroundings. The Upper-Pond can be reached from the Main Square through a nice and small backyard. At the Pond the monument of János Batsányi a local born poet welcomes the visitors. The hot water springs that have their sources here, were banked up by the ancient Romans and used for the mill. Tapolca was given its name after these springs. Throughout the centuries the mill has been rebuilt several times, now it is used as a hotel. It has been named after Gabriella Baumberg the wife of János Batsányi. At the lake-side of the Lower-Lake the memorial of Gabriella and the Holy-Fount (with the Madonna by Erzsébet Udvardy) can be found. The Church-Hill which is located next to the Mill Pond is the historical base of the town, where people settled in the Modern Stone Ages.

7. Garden of Ruins

The medieval centre of Tapolca is located on the Church-Hill. The church was built in the 13th century in Roman style onto the place of an older chapel and was surrounded by the wall of the castle. It was rebuilt in Baroque style after the Turkish invasion in 1756. The slightly elevated wall of the medieval castle stands in front of the Roman Catholic Church. The artwork: „Our Past” (by László Marton) stands on the basic wall built by the ancient Romans. The gate and the „wolf-ditch” of the castle from the 17th century were excavated at the northern end of the present school building. The monument of King Saint István the „State-establisher” stands next to the Garden.

