

TRIPS BY CAR

1st tour: Discovery of the Outer Somogy

Kaposvár – Gölle – Igal – Andocs – Karád – Rádpusztá – Látrány – Balatonboglár – Szőlőkislak – Szőlősgyörök – Lengyeltóti – Buzsák – Lengyeltóti – Somogyvár – Somogyvámos – Somogyvár – Kaposvár

● **Kaposvár** [🗺️] has been the centre of Somogy county since 1749 and it is the second largest town in the southern Transdanubian region. Local inhabitants say it was built on seven hills as was Rome. The town lies on the two banks of the river Kapos at the meeting of External Somogy and Zselic. The castle of Kapos emerges in documents in the 14th century and after the Turkish reign it was blown up on the order of the War Council in Vienna. Real proliferation started from 1830 (the Reform era) and continued after the Compromise of 1867. Economic development at the end of the 19th century created the basis of the modern industry. Touristic attraction of the city is given by its cultural values: the museum of Rippl-Rónai, the theatre Gergely Csiky, The Rippl-Rónai mansion [🗺️]. The genuine ornament of the town is the western side of the Walking street (the pedestrian area) with Kossuth square at its end. The newest sport establishments of Kaposvár are the Icehall and the Flower Bath.

You leave Kaposvár on the road No. 61 towards Dombóvár. Having arrived in Baté (15 kms) you turn left to Igal and follow this direction to Kisgyalán (23 kms). At the cemetery, the road turns to right to Gölle. In the centre of **Gölle (27 kms)** [🗺️] turn right to Árpád street where the memorial house is to be found on the left side about 100 metres from the church.

● **Gölle** and its surrounding was a well known agricultural area in the past. As a consequence of the elimination of pusztá (small, isolated settlements), the number of inhabitants gradually decreases. Well known son of the village is the writer István Fekete who spent his early childhood here. A memorial house was opened in 1994 where his life and works were presented.

On getting back to Kisgyalán (31 kms) you continue your tour northwards, crossing the villages Fonó, and Kazsok and you get to **Igal (44 kms)**. The road here meets the Kaposvár- Szántód public road on which having done 400 metres you get to the **Roman Catholic church**. Starting right from it and following József Attila and Mátyás Király streets you arrive at the **thermal bath** on the eastern side of Rákóczi square.

● **Igal** [🗺️] is one of the most significant municipalities of the External Somogy. After the Osman era it was the estate of the family Batthyány and the Episcopate of Veszprém. It was a market town until 1886. While drilling for oil, 81 degree warm alcalic chlorid hidrogenecarbonate water with iodine ions was found, which is suitable for bathing treatment and drinking. On account of its versatile healing impact a **thermal spa** was built and in the last 30 years it had become one of the most fa-



vable resorts of the nearhood. After the original Gothic style **Roman Catholic church** had burnt down it was rebuilt in the Baroque style in 1756.

From the bath you get back to the western side of Rakóczi square. Budavár street starts here on which you can get again to the principal Main road and set off to Szántód. Having arrived at the top of the Kánya hill, a lovely perspective view opens up around the second telecommunication tower. When the weather is nice even the surface of the lake Balaton can be seen. Having gotten down the hill, you cross the Koppány bridge and after the Nagykónyi junction following the valley of the **Andocs** brook you arrive at the village. The **church** is found in the village centre (59 kms).

- **Andocs** [🏰] has been a known shrine from the 17th century, its Roman Catholic church was consecrated in 1747. The statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary has been dressed every two weeks into different dressings from that time.

Now you set off to Látvány, leaving Andocs on the rising Rákóczi street. Cross the Szólád valley and the Kaposvár-Siófok railroad and you will arrive at the centre of **Karád (69 kms)**.

- At the end of Turkish domination after Kaposvár the more than 900 years old **Karád** were considered as to be the most significant settlement and important prairie town of Somogy County. Its flowering was broken after dispersing diligent smallholders of the village, after 1945 The settlement is famous of its popular art. In the **county museum** you can admire the embroidery of Karád women.

Cutting across vineyards and forests you arrive in Visz (77 kms). Directly after the village we turn right on the new road 67, afterwards we leave the road at the next crossroad to the direction of **Rádpusztá**. (85kms)

- **Rádpusztá** [🏰] is part of the settlement Balatonlelle. Excavated ruins of a late Romanesque style church from the 13th century offer historic curiosity in Rádpusztá. Visitors are welcome with original Hungarian atmosphere and hospitality in the recently built horse center.

We get back to the crossroads of road 67 at Visz but this time we turn to the direction of Látvány. It is worth stopping 1700 meters after the cross to take a walk on the left side on the ancient lawn of Látvány Pusztá.

- This is the largest uninterrupted naturelike swampy meadow. Due to the plant rarities on the sanddrift, numerous animal species and characteristic values of the sandy steppe landscape there was founded **the Nature Protection Area of Látványpusztá**.

Proceeding on you reach the old road No. 67, turn northwards and passing thorough Látvány you reach the main road No. 7 in the centre of Balatonlelle (103

kms) and leave the roundabout in the direction of Nagykanizsa. A lovely prospective of the Várdomb opens up when you arrive in **Balatonboglár (106 kms)**. Before it you turn left at the surgery in Gaál Gaszton street. Avoid the playground and start upwards Lejtő street before Március 15. square. The first street on the right leads us to the **Gömbkilátó** (a spheric outlook tower). Go back to the crossing, turn right Lejtő street, right into Árpád street and at the first junction after you can find parking places at the **Blue and the Red Chapels**.

● **Balatonboglár** is a town a rich historical heritage. Its hills are the remains of a million-year old volcanic eruption. It was populated as early as the Stone Age, the remains of the system of earthwork from the Iron Age can be seen on the Vár hill. A document from 1211 witnesses Hungarian ancestors. The **Gömb tower** [📍] was named after the scientist János Xantus; the black pine protected forest falls under natural protection. **The Blue and the Red chapel** [📍] on the Temető hill were built in the 19th century in the Neogothic style - home nowadays to exhibitions.

Go southwards in Árpád street, leave the town after the crossing on Miklós Zrínyi street. The coming wine combine is surrounded with vineyards and soon you will arrive at Szőlőkislak (112 kms). After the right curve, follow the roadsign. After the church, turn left and get to the **Fazekas house**.

● The **Légli ceramic pottery house** works with manufactural methods, they handpaint the majolica homeware pottery which production secrets can be learnt by close observation in the workshop.

We get back to the main road, go further South and through Szőlőgyörök we reach Lengyeltóti. (121kms) In the center of the town turn left to the direction of Hács to make a roundabout tour to the church. [📍].

● **Lengyeltóti** is in the Csalogány valley surrounded by gentle slopes. It was owned by the Lengyel family in the Middle Ages. It has had a status of a city since 1992 and it is a centre of the microregion of Pogányvölgy. The Roman Catholic listed monument **church** dates from the 12th century. It was rebuilt in the Eclectic style, a nice Way-of-the-Cross leads to it.

We come back to the centre and set off towards Kaposvár in Zrínyi street. But before it make a by-pass to **Buzsák (125 kms)**. Traversing the Pogányvölgyi-víz and the railroad you reach the ethno-house.

● **Buzsák** [📍] is a famous centre of folk art. The village is the name given to a type of embroidery characterised by geometrical motives, varying stitching techniques and frequent usage of applied ornaments. In the **ethno-house** on Fő square you can often admire women's dextrous use of needles. A constant exhibition of embroidery awaits the visitors throughout the year.





On the known way you go back to Lengyeltóti (130 kms) and at the junction head to Kaposvár. At the roads in the undulating countryside leaving back the crossings to Kisberény and Öreglak you climb up to **Somogyvár (141 kms)** where taking the first street and then again the first street to the right you drive to **Kupavár hill**. Back to Várhegy street in the western direction you can visit the Koppány monument and the waterspring.

● *The memorial historic site of **Somogyvár** [📍] used to be the quarters of Koppány (Kupa) chieftain where from he started his rebelling campaign against King István. Nearly 100 years later St. László founded a Benedictine Abbey and built a monumental dome here.*

We proceed on the main road to the centre of Somogyvár where you make another detour, this time to **Somogyvámos**. The path bends southwards from the Somogyvár -stream, we arrive in the village on Csepregi street and continue straight on Mihály Tompa street. Dózsa street leads us from the valley of the Vámos stream to the **Pusztatorony (146 kms)**.

● ***Pusztatorony** [📍] is one of the most significant medieval monuments – remains of the early Gothic church from the 12th century.*

You set off again from Somogyvár (152 kms) to Kaposvár. Trees of the Bréza forest cast shade on our way out of the village. After the crossing to Pamuk we traverse the Vámos stream again and we snake on among the houses of Osztopán (158 kms). After Somogyjád we cross the Kaposvár – Fonyód railway and a long hill ridge road leads us to Juta (174 kms). Finally crossing the Juta ditch we arrive at Kaposvár (180 km) through the Tüskevár district of the city.

2nd tour: Headway Inner Somogy

Kaposvár – Juta – Hetes – Csombárd – Bodrog – Somogyfajsz – Pusztakovácsi – Nikla – Marcali – Mesztegnyő – Böhönye – Segesd – Nagyatád – Lábod – Petesmalom – Mike – Kadarkút – Bárdudvarnok – Kaposmérő – Kaposvár

We set off north -westwards, through the village of Juta. Arriving here, we should go on to **Hetes (11 kms)**.

● ***Hetes** was once a market town, it is well worth seeing the Roman Catholic church from 1769 and the protestant church from 1847–48, both listed monuments. In the former castle of the Somssich family we find a primary school today. The artificial 25 hectar lake of Pogányvölgy was created in 1961 and it is visited by an increasing number of tourists.*

Before we would reach the border of the village we should turn right northwards and touch villages Csom-

bárd and Bodrog. On the linking road between Osztopán and Somogyfajsz we turn left to Kürtöspuszta and **Somogyfajsz**. We find a castle in the centre of the village (28 kms). We have to make a 1.5 km detour and turn left before the link to Libickozma to see the ancient furnace.

● **Somogyfajsz**: the village was named after the prince Fajsz who had established one of his centres nearby in the 10th century. Béla Kund a known hunter built a castle in Eclectic style in 1872 in the centre and today it functions as the centre of organisation for Nature Protection "Somogy". In the outskirts of the village there is the St. Vendel's chapel, erected in the Classicist style, named after the patron saint of shepherds and environmentalists. Near the castle we can find the arborescent pasture. Acidic, dry and sandy symbioses of grass alternate with damp hayfields or occasionally open surface swamps. Here also nest bee-eaters and if you feel like walking you will probably observe a herd of grey cattle. Archeological excavations uncovered an iron furnace workshop from the 10th century. Over it there was a museum of **palaeolithic metalurgy** [🏛️] and a memorial site of the conquering Magyars.

After this detour let's proceed towards Pusztakovácsi, the former Márffy castle – today functioning as a hotel – is stretching beyond the village centre on the right. Leaving Pusztakovácsi we will soon reach the road linking Marcali and Lengyeltóti (37 kms). Where we head to **Marcali (49 kms)** through **Nikla**.

● **Nikla** [🏛️]: once it was a settlement on the shore of the lake Balaton, today it is 20 kilometres far from it. The name of the village got famous by the greatest Hungarian ode-poet, Dániel Berzsenyi who lived here between 1806 and 1836. His mansion is a memorial museum today. The building is embraced with a 2.8 hectare park - a nature conservation area. In the garden we can still find the horse chestnut trees planted by Miklós Wesselényi and Dániel Berzsenyi. The poet's grave is observable in the local graveyard.

● **Marcali** already had market town rank in the 15th century, its landlords were the Marczalis. In the Osman era it gradually became depopulated but after the collapse of the Empire the new owners, the Széchenyi family evolved it into a manorial centre and again into a market town by the end of the 17th century. Arriving at Marcali from Nikla in Lajos Kossuth street we can find the Aurél Bernáth museum, which exposes oeuvre of the Munkácsy and Kossuth prize winner painter. It is worth visiting the Neobaroque Széchenyi castle (a hospital today). Its park is a protected arboretum. Among the giant plants we can find oaks, purple beeches, plane trees, silky pine, black walnut. An other monument of the town is the Roman Catholic church in the centre which was originally built in Gothic style in the 15th century. After the Osman era, only the walls remained, so it was rebuilt in the Baroque style around 1730. Its Art Nuoveau chancel dates from the 19th century. The Saint Trinity statue standing in front of the church was erected in 1884. You can also find the Museum of local history in the centre where we can see the natural, ethnographic and fine art collections of this microregion.



We leave the city in the southern direction on the road No. 68 and passing through Kelevíz we reach **Mesztegyő (59 kms)**. It is best to get out of the vehicle and explore the natural values of the Boronka landscape protection area on foot or by the narrow gauge railway. If you feel like travelling by the railway you should turn left when you enter the village because it starts from the railway station. It is advised to set off on the tour route from the village community house.

● **Mesztegyő** [📍] : Pál Rockenbauer's Southern Transdanubian Blue tour path passes through the village on which we can wander in the Boronka landscape protection area. Besides the blue markings, the yellow ones also lead the walker to the protected area. Listed monuments of the village were built in the 18th century. The Franciscan monastery and the church (1750, a primary school today), the Roman Catholic school (a village community house today). The altar paintings were painted by István Dorfmeister senior. There is a local history exhibition in the community house. Every summer, since 1999 a strudel festival has been organized attracting numerous tourists to the village.

Leaving Mésztegyő we are still running on the main road up to Böhönye (72 kms). If we turn left in the village centre we can get back to Kaposvár on the road No 61 but we can also proceed on to Nagyatád on the road No 68. **Segesd (81 kms)** is the first village after Böhönye where we can make a little detour (right from the main road) to the **castle** and **the Roman Catholic church** (left from the main road).

● **Segesd** [📍] was a royal estate in the Medieval era and also the permanent place of the royal household. The oldest Franciscan monastery of the county was founded here in 1294. Segesd lost its franchises of a town in 1414. After the Turkish era it became the estate of the Széchenyi family, they built the castle in Romantic style, presently functioning as a home for old people. Another sight is the Franciscan monastery and the church from the 18th century in which you can see artworks of István Dorfmeister.

Ötvöskónyi [📍] comes after Segesd and then we arrive in **Nagyatád (94 kms)** where it is worth staying here for a longer time.

● **Nagyatád** [📍] is mostly known for its 90 year old thermal bath stretching in its central park. The park preserves numerous tree species, including spruce, Scotch fir, birches, etc. The former Mándl castle was built in the Classicist style. Its protected park represents an outstanding botanical value. The oldest group of buildings of the city are the Franciscan monastery and the church. The monastery was built in 1740 and the church in 1761 in Baroque style which were reconstructed into Eclectic style in the 19th century. Touristically spectacular spot is the Park of sculptures where 64 workpieces of monumental sizes are displayed but many of them can be seen on public buildings and public places in the city. You can get acquainted with the his-



tory of the city in the City Museum of Nagyatád which opened in 1996.

Now we follow the road number 68 up to **Lábod (102 kms)**.

● The name of **Lábod** is first mentioned around 1200, it had franchises of a free royal town in 1416, from the end of the 17th century it was an estate of the family Széchenyi. It is a favourite hunting field because of its rich game stock. The 2.9 hectar park in the centre is under municipal protection Interesting to see is the ethno-house which preserves the values of the folk architecture, a 13th century chapel built in the Catholic cemetery of Hosszúfalva.

Having observed the monuments of Lábod we get off from the road No 68 and go northwards soon turning right to Mike and Kadarkút. On this road you can turn right to the natural **reservation of otters in Petesmalom**.

● The system of lakes of **Petesmalom** [📍] were built more than one hundred years ago and it still provides natural biohabitat for an ample fauna of the microregion including the protected otters. If we are lucky enough we can glimpse an osprey and a black stork. Observational stations along the educational path help us in getting acquainted with the living world.

After the detour to the above park we reach **Mike (112 kms)** and **Kadarkút (119 kms)**.

● **Mike**: the castle -waiting for its renovation- and a mausoleum was built by the Somssich family in the 19th century. Monuments are the St. Vendel statue and the old mill. The region is famous for its potatoes.

● **Kadarkút**: we can find a beautiful Catholic church in the centre of the village built between 1834 and 1840, it is a listed monument. In Vóta (outer part of the village) a detour to be done there is a social welfare home, originally built as a hunting castle of the Somssich counts. There stretches a protected row of linden trees in front of its entrance.

Leaving Kadarkút we take our way right to **Bárdudvarnok (133 kms)**

● **Bárdudvarnok** is a municipality with the largest administrative surface since sixteen villages hamlets belong here. During our tour we touch **Bárdibükk** where we can see the **Goszthonyi castle** with its park of seven hectares. Opposite this castle there is the internationally functioning plant of glass art in the former **Goszthony mansion**. On the outskirts of the village we find a tree kilometre long protected row of old horse chestnut trees.

A kilometre after Bárdudvarnok we reach the road 61 (at the roundabout) where having turned right through Kaposmérő and Kaposújlak we arrive back to our starting point – Kaposvár (144 kms).



Third tour – Around the Zselic

Kaposvár – Cserénfa – Kaposgyarmat – Gálosfa – Bőszénfa – Boldogasszonyfa – Szentlászló – Almamellék – Ibafa – Almamellék – Szigetvár – Somogyapáti – Somogyhárság – Magyarlukafa – Somogyapáti – Lad – Kadarkút – Bárdudvarnok – Szenna – Patca – Szenna – Kaposszerdahely – Kaposvár

Leaving Kaposvár on Pécsi Street in the eastern direction through the district Kaposszentjakab where we can walk up to the ruins of the **Benedictine monastery** from the 11th century.

For the details of the monastery: see the 5th tour.

Having parted the city we turn right to Sántos and about 1.8 kilometres after the village we go right to Cserénfa [📍]. Soon we will reach Kaposgyarmat (17 kms). The village stretches right along the road.

● **Kaposgyarmat**[📍]: in the fields of the village we can find a rare natural formation, the stalactitic wall which provides an extraordinarily beautiful sight in any period of the year.

We leave from Kaposgyarmat to Gálosfa (24 km) through Hajmás and it is worth visiting the latter.

For details about Gálosfa: see the tour No 6.

Coming back from our trip we get in Bőszénfa (29 kms) where we turn left to the road No 67 and we proceed to Szigetvár in this direction. But before it we can make a detour to a **deer farm** (westwards from the main road along Malom street or walking to **the nature protection area** (the green-red cross tourist mark, left from the main road after the village).

● *Breeding of deers has been present on the confined area since the 1980es. Walking 1.5-2 kilometres on a path of concrete starting from Kisbőszénfa we can observe deers as well as wild boars. It is advised to take along binoculars!* **The Forest Nature Protection Area of Farkaslak:** see the tour No. 6.

Proceeding on the main road we cross the county border. The next municipality is Boldogasszonyfa (37 kms) but it is in Baranya county. It is well worth seeing the memorial exhibition of János Hoffer in Kossuth street where we can see the famous Ormánság born woodcarver's engraved objects of wood. You can find the museum opposite of the church. Later we arrive in Szentlászló (41 kms) after which we take our way left to **Almamellék**.

● **Almamellék:** the hunters' castle of Sasrét can be reached by a narrow gauge railway or by walking. There is a path which starts at the Youth Hostel of Sasrét [📍] to the protected 8.4 hectar palaeal oak forest, which contains 200 year old trees, one of the last relatively naturally developing stand. On the pasture



next to the castle you can see the also protected 150-200 year old English oaks.

Leaving Almamellék (45 kms) we continue our trip. At the junction after the village, turn right to **Ibafa (50 kms)**.

● **Ibafa** [🗺️]: the nationwide known sightseeing is the Pipe museum where a collection of pipes can be seen here since 1800. Besides the collection it is worth visiting the church from 1895 but we shouldn't forget to catch a glimpse of an old plane tree behind the pub.

On the already known way, touching Almamellék again we get back to the road No 67 and travel as far as **Szigetvár (69 kms)**. Before the city we can observe **the memorial monument of Miklós Zrínyi and Suleiman the Great**. In the town we turn right to József Attila street and then right at Zrínyi square and reach the **fortress**.

● **Szigetvár** a town with a long historical heritage was founded in the Middle Ages and was erected on a loess hill rising from a swamp. The town was besieged twice by the Ottoman troops. Their second attack was in 1566. During the month lasting fight the Hungarian defenders fell, so the town and the fortress were overtaken by the Osmons. Sziget was taken by the Austrian Imperials in 1688-89, after 112 years of Turkish domination. The town preserved more characteristic memorial buildings of the strenuous past. The **fortress** [🗺️] and the Suleimans mosque are home to a historic exhibition. The reconstructed mosque of Ali Pasha is the parish church on the Main square. You can see the dome fresco of István Dorfmeister from 1789 in it. In the fields of the town along the road to Kaposvár there was opened a symbolic **Park of Hungarian-Turkish friendship** [🗺️] in 1994. Thermal bath, library and the newly erected community cultural centre satisfies the cultural and the touristic needs of the environs.

After the visit to the fortress we proceed straight on the József Attila street and soon we get on the road No. 6. We leave Szigetvár in the northwestern direction. We turn right from this road towards Somogyapáti (77 kms). Leaving the previous village we turn right and head to Somogyviszló and Somogyhárságy (86 kms). Here we can make a little detour to **Kishárságy** where we can visit the **castle** and the house of **Antal Kapoli sen**. Getting back to Somogyhárságy we go right and continue the trip to Magyarlukafa. The cemetery of the village can be seen on the edge of the village.

● **The castle of Kishárságy** - which belongs to Somogyhárságy municipality- was once built by the Zichy family The famous woodcarver **Antal Kapoli** lived here and his grace can be found in the local cemetery. At the site we can find a mausoleum of the Festetich family from the 17th century. The Roman Catholic church was built in the same period.



Magyarlukafa (94 kms) – it is well worth dropping into the ethno-house (for which you have to enter the village) and here you can make yourself familiar with the traditional folk trades. After go further to Vásárosbéc. Reaching the village turn left and after a long straight walk, through Dióspuszta and Adorjánpszta get back to the road coming from Szigetvár. We get back to through the villages of Somogyhatvan and Patosfa thus reaching Lad (115 kms).

● **Lad:** a former castle of the sea-captain Miksa Hoyos and a park of 30 hectares stretch in the village centre. There are also three hundred year old trees in the park. There are protected mammoth redwoods in the cemetery yard and the here we can see one of them most beautiful Ways of the Cross of the county.

We leave Lad in northern direction to **Kadarkút** meanwhile we drive through **Hencse (122 kms)**.

Kadarkút: see the second tour

We leave Kadarkút (126 kms) towards Kaposvár and after the village you turn right and drive to Bárdudvarnok (135 kms).

Bárdudvarnok: see the second tour

Before the end of the village you turn right to **Kaposszentbenedek** and arriving at the **church** then right again to Szenna.

Kaposszentbenedek: see the 4th tour

Having arrived at Árpád street you take right and go up the hill on the road bordered by loess walls. We continue our way to the crossing to Patca (**144 kms**) where we take the direction to this village which is one of the smallest in the county.

Patca: for details see the tour No. 4

We get back to **Szenna (148 kms)** and then along Árpád street we arrive at the centre where we can find the **village museum** and the **Protestant church**.

Szenna: for details see the tour No. 4

On the way back to Kaposvár stop at **Kaposszerdahely**, if your strength is not failing.

Kaposszerdahely: for details see the tour No. 9

We arrive in Kaposvár (157 kms) from the south direction, on Egyenesi street.

Tour No. 4 – In the outskirts of Kaposvár

	distance (km)		elevation (m)	
	sub-total	total	sub-total	total
Kaposvár, railway station				
Cycle path – Deseda	5,3	5,3	100	100
Kaposfüred	3,8	9,1	55	155
Juta	3,6	12,7	30	185
Hetes	3,8	16,5	40	225
Kaposmérő	7,1	23,6	15	240
Kaposszentbenedek	3,3	26,9	10	250
Bárdudvarnok	1,6	28,5	40	290
Kadarkút	12,0	40,5	70	360
Bánya	7,2	47,7	60	420
Kaposszentbenedek	7,3	55,0	10	430
Szena	3,9	58,9	80	510
Kaposvár, railway station	9,3	68,2	75	585

We leave eastwards from the railway station then turn left immediately at the Rákóczi square. Climbing up Anna street you first pass by the city market, then at the end of the street you can see the building of the Kodály Zoltán Musical Primary school. Cross Fő street carefully and go straight along Tallián street. On the right there you can see the buildings of the Kaposi Mór county hospital then you traverse the alley of Németh István. Silver linden trees were planted here in 1904 and 150 of them still cast shade and supply the passers by with oxygen. Stay in Tallián street, traffic islands on the road No. 61 help the pedestrians and the cyclists getting over. Hegyi street should also be crossed carefully, the intersecting traffic has the priority. At the end of the street go left and after a short sloping section we arrive the Zaranyi housing estate. We find a bicycle service, if something happens they will surely be able to help you. Turn right and 100 metres later we reach the road sign for the cycle path. Turn to it and passing over a smaller hill you traverse the bridge of the Kisgáti ditch. Hit your stride because now you have to climb to the steep of the Zaranyi plateau. We get a nice view to south-southeast from here. You pass by the cropdrier of Ózarany on the left then you pedal over the flyover of the ringroad around Kaposvár. Soon we reach the Kaposvár – Kaposfüred highroad on which you go left and we can make a detour to the lake Deseda which is already observable from here.

Lake Deseda: see the tour No.10

Having arrived at Kaposfüred, don't go as far as the road No. 67 but take Rezeda street on the right as soon





as possible and go along it. This street leads into Rozmaring street in which you should turn left and left again at the next crossing at Szőlőhegyi street. You leave the building of the church on your left and - having crossed the road- the school on your right. You leave Kaposfüred on the mild slopes of Állomás street, cross the Kaposvár – Fonyód railroad and after the valley of the Juta ditch we reach Juta. Füredi street ends at Rákóczi street here turn left to Kaposvár then arriving to Hősök square after 400 metres take right to Hetes. The village cemetery stretches on the left, after passing the bridge of the Hetesi ditch you get into the village. Right turn left to Petőfi street and you soon reach the narrow highroad leading to Kaposmérő. Turn left here and leave Hetes in the southern direction. You traverse a smaller valley and the Pati forest follows your route. On the left you pass by the Ebédvesztő-puszta and on the right the houses of the Gyula manor and then you repeatedly cross the ringroad around Kaposvár. You get into Kaposmérő traversing the Kaposvár-Gyékényes main railway. Drive 350 metres along the Hunyadi street, take Dózsa street on the right; it is parallel with the road No. 61. Pedal along it and turning left you reach the main road by Vörösmarty street. Go 250 metres on it, and carefully turn left a bit before the end of the village. The subsequent approx. 1 kilometre is to be covered on a sandy path. Ride slowly, especially during drought since the wheel can easily sink. Here you cross the streamy river Kapos, pass by the fishpond, then comes the bridge of the Bárdi stream. A narrow stripe of asphalt helps us from here in forwarding to the equestrian archery field of Lajos Kassai. Staying on the cycling path you leave Kaposdada and you will soon arrive in **Kaposzentbenedek** in the shade of the huge poplars. Turn right here and having crossed over a stream there you will find **the Roman Catholic church** on the right hand and a **monastery** behind it.

● **Kaposzentbenedek:** is a cosy part of Bárdudvarnok. Its Neoroman **Catholic church** was built in 1778 on the site of a former church from the age of the Árpáds. In the early 1990s a Scandinavian style **Benedictine monastery** was erected and nuns live here.

Turn left at the church, right in the next two crossings, finally climb Bárd street to reach the road to Kadarkút. Be very careful while turning left at the crossing. Soon you will arrive at the **Goszthony Mansion**, which stretches on the right side.

Goszthony mansion: see the tour No. 2

We continue pedalling towards Kadarkút, the road is encircled with ambient horse chestnut trees. 200 metres above the sea level on a mildly undulating but mainly even road you pass through Szendpuszta, Nagypuszta and Somogyzentimre and arrive in Kadarkút. Take the



first street on the left - Körmendi street- and leave the village along it. A yellow line tourist marking also helps you in orientation from the crossing to Bányá. Drive carefully on this section because the path is full of bumps. At the border of Vóta (this is the highest point of our tour – 215 metres) the road parts in a Y shape: the right section leads to the transmission tower. Going the other direction you arrive to the shabby houses of the municipality. Turn left at the next crossing at a relatively new path. To leave Vótapuszta turn right then left, and go in northern direction. In the fields of Bányá you can take a delight in the sight of the little village built in a valley. Turn right as soon possible. Using the brakes and drive slowly you soon reach the next crossing where you can leave the yellow strip marking. Turn sharply right and stroll down to the village and having crossed over the Piszi valley turn left. Leaving the village you pass by the Panoráma Pansion built on the top of the hill. Opposite there are the Stork valley ponds, an eye resting forest provides relaxation on the eastern horizon. After a short climbing you arrive to another crossing, turning left we will soon reach Lipótfa. On a mild slope the path bends left, immediately after it a cycling path sign attracts your attention. Yield to the temptation and continue the trip on the bicycle path.

● *There was a railway operating between Kaposmérő and Középrigóc (near Barcs) between 1905 and 1979. The **cycling path** [🚲] lies on its track.*

The path is fairly narrow, it is squeezed by vegetation. Drive carefully since besides the oncoming bikers domestic animals (eg. a tied goat) may appear. You cross the public road which is parallel with the cycling path to Zsippó, ambient ponds and willows offer the sight. After passing the old train station slow down to see the water reservoir on the place of the old embankment. New line of bicycle way goes around the lake from the eastern side. Finally you end in Kaposzentbenedek. Go right in the crossing to Szenna. After surmounting a smaller gradient you catch a glimpse of the **Petörke valley**.

● *The **Petörke pond** was created by damming up the surrounding streams. A resort was opened where fishermen and swimmers spend their leisure time.*

After the ponds a steep gradient leads you to the Barát hill, don't torture your bike, get off it and push it up. It is worth looking back. The asphalt stripe is meandering among the gardens and plough land, there is a nice outlook in all directions. The path to **Szenna** is very steep, descend slowly. Arriving into the village turn left to Árpád street, on its eastern side a cycle path has been built. Follow it up to the **Protestant church**.

● ***Szenna** is one of the characteristic villages of Zselic and it has a growing rate of tourism. This is due to the Europa Nostra*





prize winner **village museum** [📍] which displays the frame houses and the wooden bottom houses as well as the tools of the past village life. The open air museum was built around the **Protestant church** from 1785. It was built in the folk Baroque style with painted ceiling, with wooden cassettes and it is the most valuable monument.

Leave Szenna on the main road. At the end of the village, after the distillery you can observe a high loess wall. Bee eaters nest here from May every year. The Berki stream and the valley of the Ropoly ditch protrude kilometres into the forests southwards before **Kaposszerdahely**. You enter the village on Rákoczi street, traverse the Berki stream, pass by the church and the centre and leave the village on Kossuth street.

Kaposszerdahely: for more information see the tour No. 9

You pass by the link road to the Tókaj forest park and reach the edge houses of Kaposvár by a steep gradient. You bypass the building of the observatory and continue toward north on Egyenesi road. A right and a left sharp road bendings lead us along the **Cseri park**.

Cseri park: for more information see the tour No. 9

After another sharp right turn the slope road becomes milder and after a long straight section you get to the river Kapos. Stop after the river, push your bike over a street crossing and a rail crossing. Turn right in the subsequent crossing and go back to the initial railway station on Áchim András road.

Tour No 5: A tour around the northern part of the Zselic

	distance (km)		elevation (m)	
	sub-total	total	sub-total	total
Kaposvár, railway station				
Church of the Heroes	1,5	1,5	30	30
Szentjakab, ruins	3,4	4,9	50	80
Sántos	4,7	9,6	10	90
Forestry road, entrance	1,1	10,7	5	95
Csuka-Garden	7,6	18,3	125	220
Road No. 67	5,7	24,0	130	350
Ropolypuszta	6,4	30,4	65	415
Kardosfapuszta	4,1	34,5	100	515
End of forestry road	6,3	40,8	20	535
Patca, Katica Tanya	2,5	43,3	35	570
Szenna	4,1	47,4	50	620
Kaposvár, railway station	9,3	56,7	75	695

You leave the railway station in Kaposvár in the eastern direction and turn left immediately at the corner of Rákóczi square. Climbing up Anna street you bypass the local market, then you can see the building of the Kodály Zoltán music primary school on the left hand. Go right to Fő street on its northern part where you can observe the central building of the Kaposi Mór county hospital and the house where Imre Nagy was born. Approaching Hársfa street eastwards the road starts to slope, the **Church of Heroes (Hősök temploma)** fulfils the scenery. From now on starts the Pécsi street, where there is the mill and the Jewish cemetery are stretching on the left and the football stadium of the Rákóczi Football Club on the right.

● *The Neoroman **Church of Heroes** was consecrated in 1928, bearing its name since 1932 for the memory of all the fallen soldiers from Somogy. The largest bell named of Jesus' heart has a weight of 1280 kilograms. The Eastern cemetery stretches behind it.*

You continue the tour on Pécsi street. On the right hand you can see the buildings of the Sugar factory. After the railway intersection there are the buildings of the slaughterhouse on the left and the block of the Ivánfa hill on the right in front of you. Then you proceed on a mild gradient and the street bending to left leads you to the castle hill (Várdomb). You can push your bike up to the hill to the ruins of the **Benedictine Abbey** of Kaposszentjakab on the eastern side, on a newly built asphalt path.

● *The **Benedictine Abbey of Kaposszentjakab** is the oldest built monument of the town. The Benedictine monastery was founded in 1061. It has been renovated recently and it is worth taking a look from the lookout tower on the peak to the valley of Kapos. There are performances on the summer stage.*

You get back to Pécsi street and you leave the town along it. You are followed by the sight of the Nyárszói forest. In the subsequent crossing you go right arriving at the road No. 66 where you head for Pécs. You reach Sántos pedalling in the valley of the Surján stream. If you have not enough drinking water on you make sure you get some here, the next possibility is only in Zselickisfalud. You can find the cemetery of the village on the right of the road, there are countless snowdrops blossoming in spring. After a mild right bending road-curve the landscape opens up lefthand, in one of the sidevalleys of the Surján you can find a farm. Turn right to the linkroad of the Forestry at the next crossing on the southern side of the valley. **Drive very carefully on the subsidiary roads since their quality is rather questionable due to the woodfelling. The asphalt sometimes entirely disappears under the woodshavings and the mud. In addition, you should not**



forget that forestry vehicles drive here daily at a high speed. You continue the trip westwards in the valley. A little stream is meandering by us. There are hornbeam and oak forests on both sides. A colourful flowercarpet is waiting for us in spring before blossoming. The most frequent flower species are snowdrops, chorydalis, dotted lungworts, windflowers. You can tear off some fresh forest vegetable – melilots for the sandwich. Then you cross over the brook and very soon arrive to the parting of the ways where the left one should be chosen. Now the path is gradually rising and after a sharp left and a right curve you reach the 230 metres high hilltop. After a short horizontal section and a bar you start descending. Having arrived to the valley you pass by two right-diverting paths. Later, traversing two brooklets you reach the Csuka garden where you again face a road parting: go right. After a long gradient you reach the top over Simonfa. The meandering asphalt path is following the line of the hill ridge. By the sight of the village, in the distance you can observe the houses of Kaposvár. After another bar you get to the road No. 67 where turn right and soon you will reach the look-out tower which was inaugurated in 2008. [📍]. After having proper look around turn back on the road. After 1300 meters turn right at the sign of Hotel Kardosfa egy újabb erdészeti útra kanyarodunk. After a pleasant slope and a right curve you find yourself again in a forest entering the **Nature Protection Area of Zselic**.

Nature Protection Area of Zselic – see the route No. 8

You again follow the zigzaggy line and the unlevellings of the hillridge. Here you reach the highest point of this route, you have to climb up to 275 metres. The protected symbiosis of silver linden trees and the beechtrees follow you on both sides. After a longer slope and a sharp right curve you arrive at a crossing, and you can make a detour to the right, to **Ropolyuszta**.

● *As early as the age of the Árpáds there was the castle Villa Rupul of the Monoszló clan in the heart of the forest near **Ropolyuszta** [📍]. There cannot be found any ruins today, only the resting house of the University of Kaposvár.*

Rolling on towards the Ropoly ditch you get out of the forest and cross over the previous ditch and you will find a bar immediately after it. You are now passing through the characteristic Zselic valley, forests embrace the pastures. There you will pass by a pond and after it you will start to rise steeply. There is a chestnut tree alley, visit it in autumn to pick up some chestnuts. The hill line ends at Kardospuszta, nicely maintained hunter's lodge is waiting for the guests. Next to it there is a recently built hotel for relaxing guests with swimming pool and tennis court. Still going northwards you

will take a rest on a long pleasant slope but be careful in the path bends. Now you pass by another bar after the bridge on the Berki brook. The first houses of the village Zselickisfalud will start to appear on the left, we turn right and after a gradient, at the next parting you will head for **Patca**. After a short rolling you fare through this cul-de-sac- village and at the bus stop you the end of the village the **Katica farm** will appear.

● **Patca** is the smallest municipality of the county with a local authority and about fifty permanent residents. **Katica farm** [🏠] was built between 2001 and 2003 and it had radically changed the life here. A tourist hostel, a camping site and a demonstrative farm where you can see several domesticated animals and take part in playful programmes.

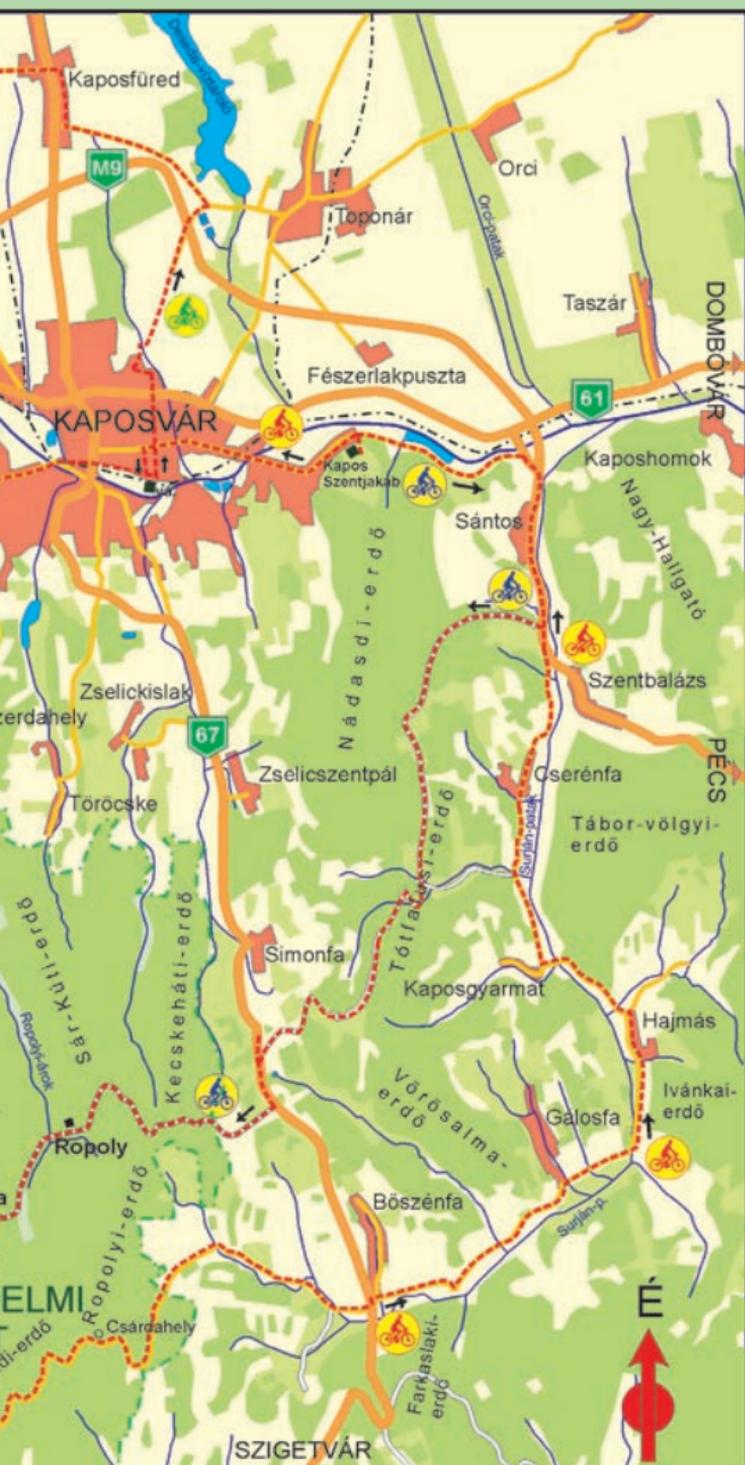
Go back to the parting to Patca and turn left. Pedal up a steep ridge. Take a look at the beautiful panorama of the Berki stream. You will reach the top near the plant site and roll on a steep downslope into **Szenna**. From now on the route of the tour is identical with the route No. 4.

Tour No. 6: A circle tour to the heart of the Zselic

	distance (km)		elevation (m)	
	sub-total	total	sub-total	total
Kaposvár, railway station				
Szenna	9,3	9,3	95	95
Kaposszentbenedek	3,9	13,2	70	165
Lipótfá	6,1	19,3	5	170
Forester's lodge of Denna	6,0	25,3	40	210
Vitorág, turnout	4,6	29,9	80	290
Kisbőszénfa	15,3	45,2	155	445
Gálosfa, church	5,6	50,8	65	510
Kaposgyarmat	6,7	57,5	15	525
Cserénfa	3,2	60,7	15	540
Sántos	4,2	64,9	20	560
Szentjakab	4,7	69,6	55	615
Kaposvár, railway station	4,8	74,4	40	655

Leave the Kaposvár railway station westwards on Áchim street. There are the Petőfi square and the bus station on your right. Pass under an overfly of the road No. 67. Go left at the first crossing and roll your bike over the railroad intersection. You get to Cseri road, turn right here and cross over the river Kapos. Soon the





Kaposszerdahely: for more information see the tour No. 9

You get into the village on a twisting Kossuth street and after the church and the bridge of the Berki stream you leave the village on Rákóczi street. After a short horizontal section you roll into **Szenna** where you can reach the bicycle path on the right from the first side street. Follow it to the **Protestant church**.

Szenna: for more information see the tour No. 4.

The bicycle path twists to the left side of Árpád street from the protestant church. Towards its end you get back to the public road at the bus stop. Here you go right, to Bárdudvarnok. You leave Szenna on very steep ascending arrive to the Derék-hill. The narrow



high road is meandering among the vineyards and the ploughland on the top and there is an ample prospect in any direction. Similarly to the other side of the hill ridge you get to the picturesque **Petörke valley** on a steep downslope.

Petörke valley: see the tour No. 4

After the last dam of the lake you roll a bit and reach the **bicycle path** between Kaposmérő and Bánya, onto which you get by going left.

The bicycle path: see the tour No. 4

Unfortunately there is a water reservoir on place of part of the railway embankment, so new line of the bicycle way goes around the lake from the eastern side. The path is frequently narrow, it is being squeezed in by vegetation. Ride carefully since besides the oncoming bikers domestic animals (eg. a tied goat) may appear. Buildings of old railway stations creep out the embracing green in several places. At Zsippó you cross the public road which is more or less parallel with the cycling path, ambiente ponds and willows offer a pleasant sight. Finally having arrived in Lipótfá you leave the path, go left and follow the track of the public road. It is absolutely necessary to get enough water here because the next opportunity will be in Bószénfa. Beyond the village you can observe the chain of ponds of the Stork Valley and the houses built on the heights of Bánya and which are merging into the scenery. You go straight at the crossing to Bánya do the next long section on a forestry high road. **Ride very carefully on the subsidiary roads since their quality is rather questionable due to the woodfelling. The asphalt sometimes entirely disappears under the woodshavings and the mud. In addition, you shouldn't forget that forestry vehicles drive here daily at a high speed.** Soft meadows follow you in the first part of your forest adventure the block of the forest of Denna is jutting over you. You leave the border of the **Zselic Nature protection area** at a bar.

The Zselic Nature protection area: see the tour No. 8

We ascend gradually from the valley, there is the swampy part overgrown with trees, later the smart and tidy forester's lodge creeps out from the thick of the forest. The fragrance of the greening wild garlic fulfils the observation of the nature from March to May. Your way is getting steeper and more meandering, you reach the top at the Göbecsi forest at the height of 255 metres. Turn decisively southwards and you will soon arrive to the crossing at Vitorág, the feeding road leads you to Kardosfapuszta, you proceed straight on. Going down, the forest becomes thinner, you can see the desolated

grounds of Vitorágpuszta. At the bottom of the slope, after a sharp left curve we traverse over the Gyöngyös brook, meadows of Márcadó stretch here northwards. You zigzag among the characteristic meadows of Zselic and then the way starts to rise in the Enyezi forest. On the top you arrive to a known spot – **Csárdahely**.

● *Along the former post track, on the border of counties Baranya and Somogy there stood a csárda (wayside inn) in the 18th -19th century. According to the rules of the time the gendarmes were not allowed to cross the county border so it became the rascals favourite resting place. It was a “double inn: one room was in Somogy county and the other one in Baranya. Thus the highwaymen could easily escape to the territory of the other county. The building does not exist any more but the spot has been named **Csárdahely** since then.*

Two bands later you arrive to the highest point of your tour (260 metres), after it you start a long ascending section. Another bar requires attention at the end of the forest and you find yourself in the Szenttamási valley. The subsequent kilometres you pass along the corridor made by the fences. Left hand on the greening hill sides you can see red deers and wild boars on the right, on a swampy riverside. After a smaller hill you cross over the Surján brook. Its valley follows you at the subsequent approx. 20 kilometres. Approaching the village the farm building starts to creep out, some buffalos are browsing in the fields. You get to Bószénfa on Malom street, carefully cross the road No. 67 and crossing the opposite Szigetvári street you reach the road driving to Gálosfa where you turn right. You go eastwards on a slightly wavy road parallel with it there is the track of the **former railway**.

● *The **railway line Kaposvár – Szigetvár** was opened in 1900, but it was closed in 1977 during the extensive railway track liquidations.*

A highroad leads us right to a sawmill. It is worth making a detour to the **forest of Farkaslak**. Cross over the Surján brook and pass by an old building of the former railway stop. The protected area begins about 100 metres later.

● ***Farkaslaki Nature Protection Area** was created because of the very rare plant species for example the beautiful dog's tooth violet which blossoms in late March. Beyond that one can find forest cyclamens, ferns, etc.*

Continue northeastwards. The Surján brook was dammed into a chain of fishponds, where you can observe several waterbirds in every season. On the left you pass by the parting to the Vörösalma hunter's lodge, opposite it you can find the deeply protruding, ambient valley of the Lukafa stream. Soon you will reach **Gálosfa** where the path bends right after the building





of the former railway station, but it is suggested to visit the centre of the village.

● **Gálosfa** hides among the hills covered with forests. After the Osman reign, the village belongs to the Festetics family who built the late Baroque style castle in the 18th century. The spacious main square of the village is surely dominated by the late Baroque church.

Go back to the crossing and continue in the valley. The public road takes you to the right side of the Surján, you first pass by Kistótváros then you arrive to the end houses of Hajmás. A forest squeezes again the valley and a bit later you reach **the crossing to Kaposgyarmat**.

Kaposgyarmat: see the tour No. 3

Proceed northwards from the village, the public road, the old railway track and the Surján stream run parallel. A forestry link leads to the Ira-valley where spacious pastures try to burst open the hills. You pass by the cemetery again and Cserénfa village starts from here. You can take a rest at the small belltower and then continue from here. Westwards from the village you can find the motorbike cross circuit out of use and a drive-in cinema. Soon you reach the road No. 66, and in eastern direction you can see the row of houses in Szentbalázs along the main road in the long stretching Surján valley. You depart to Kaposvár. The road section along the Surján ends in Sántos. Immediately after the village take the old main road and the same in the next junction. You roll in Kaposvár on Pécsi street. The lookout tower is showing the Várdomb which top hides the ruins of **the Benedictine Abbey**. You can roll your bike to the ruins on a newly built asphalt path.

The Benedictine Abbey of Kaposzentjakab: see the tour No. 5

You zigzag in Pécsi street, later reach the bridge of the Kapos river on a straight section. Before it the block of the Ivánfa hill is jutting over you. After the complex of the meat factory and a railway crossing you can see the buildings of the sugar factory on the left and before the junction of Mező street the Heroes church (Hősök temploma).

Heroes' church (Hősök temploma): see the tour No. 5

You will reach Fő street moving westwards, the mild upslope stretches between the stadium of the Rákóczi Football Club and the mill. On the western side of Fő street observe the house where Imre Nagy was born and the main building of the county hospital. At Anna street you pass by the Zoltán Kodály Music Primary School and finally the pedestrian area dams the way. So you go left to Dózsa street and rollingly arrive to the initial point – the railway station. Meanwhile you check

the **Csiky Gergely Theatre** and the monument of the **44th Infantry regiment of Somogy**.

● **The Csiky Gergely theatre** was built in 1910 in Art Nouveau style. Then it was the most modern and the biggest provincial theatre building with its 1400 seats. It plays a significant and a decisive role in the cultural life of the county. Southwest from the theatre there is the **monument** for the memory of the 44th Infantry regiment of Somogy. It depicts Hercules fighting a lion. The monument was dedicated in 1932 to the memory of 8000 soldiers from Somogy who fell in the First World War.

WALKING TOURS

Attention. Direction signs of the walkin path are 50 meters or where it is necessary, e.g. at crossroads, less than 50 meters far from each other. No sign over 200-300 meters means you are lost. Get back to the latest sign and find the right way.

There are many ticks in the forests. After getting home examine your body and clothes. It is also useful to examine your legs during the tour too.

Tour No. 7 – A long route to the heart of the Zselic

Kaposvár – Gyertyános-valley – Zselickislak – Ropoly-puszta – Töröcske – Kaposvár

Blue cross, blue stripe, red stripe, yellow stripe blaze	distance (km)		elevation (m)	
	subto- tal	total	subto- tal	total
Kaposvár, railway station				
Gyertyános-valley	3,1	3,1	75	75
Zselickislak, church	2,6	5,7	60	135
Kecske-hát	2,3	8,0	105	240
Ropolypuszta	7,0	15,0	155	395
Töröcske	9,6	24,6	135	530
Lake Töröcskei, monument	3,2	27,8	35	565
Kaposvár, railway station	3,6	31,4	60	625

Leave the railway station in Kaposvár westwards, following the yellow, green and the red sign on the pedestrian overfly. Pass by the **Jókai park** and walk over the river Kapos.

Jókai park: see the tour No. 8

Find the blue cross sign, it will be your torch on the route. In the junction of the four streets you take the



second on the left, Zrínyi street. At the first crossing go right to the twisting asphalt of Kálvária street. After a short climbing you reach the **Kálvária** (Calvary) church.

● **Kálvária church:** *this Eclectic building was planned by Sándor Bereczk and consecrated in 1893. The stations of the cross carved of yew tree are standing on the church brick stairs.*

On the top of the Kapos hill you arrive at Géza street. The red path sign meets you here on the right side and leads you as far as the Gyertyános forest. You pass by the water tower then you go on an uncovered path turning right at the cul-de-sac road sign. Arriving to the Kaposvár-Töröcske road taking left you reach the crossing with the road No. 67. Cross it carefully and go along the fences and you arrive to the corner of the forest. Turn right here to Jácint street and 50 metres later you get into *the Gyertyános valley*. Here turn right to Jácint street and turn left into the Gyertyános-valley at the information table.

The Gyertyános valley: *see the tour No. 9*

Under the high-tension line the way gets brushy because all trees were cut recently. The blue cross sign will again separate from the red stripe and it bends down left to a valley. You are going in its side then after the top of the hill carefully ascend on an extremely steepy path. Crossing a brook you arrive again to a parting. You can get refreshed at the spring of Four Brothers 60 metres left from the blue square sign or in **the Gyöngyvirág youth hostel** [E] 250 metres from here. The blue cross sign turns right to west and again separates from the red strip. Go southwards in a sidevalley and the surrounding is gradually becoming romantic. Where ditches cross climb up to the opposite hummock. Go parallel to the ditch going south and after around 100 meters turn up and right at a ditch-cross to the direction of the houses. Unfortunately many signed trees are cut here but houses are good orienteering points. At last get into Árnys Street and signs go further west into Mandula Street. At the cross of Mandula and Galagonya streets turn left. At the end of Galagonya Street the way narrows into a path, afterwards there comes a cart way both from left and right, but go straight to south. At last passing a ruined house and a big tree reach Zselickislak bus turn-around place. Go across the valley of the village and the Zselickislak-stream to east. Passing the church on the right and the vicarage on the left reach the table signing the end of the village. The blue cross sign directs you up the grapewine hill, the Öreg hill. Zigzagging on its ridge a beautiful prospect opens up and you can observe the hills of Zselic stretching in the north-south direction.



Reaching a crossroad turn left and go up again. Slowly there is an 'Y' crossing at the end of vineyards where take the right branch of the it. After a sandhill way goes down again. Pass the young locust-trees on the right, sign is on an old tree among. Go further to South over a 'S' bend. On the left side there are locust-trees, on the right side there are plough-lands. At last there are no more locust-trees on the left and you arrive to the top of a sandhill and turn right. Some steps to the West and turn again to the South. After 50 meters enter into the forest of **Zselic Landscape-protection Area**, go further on the ridge.

Zselic Landscape-protection area: see the tour No. 8

Soon you reach the blue and the yellow stripe sign again and a fence. Go right and follow the blue stripe to Ropolypuszta which starts to stretch on a sharp crest of the Kecse ridge. The yellow stripe now disappears and the blue mark is also turning right and descending on a steep aperture. And you get into the **Pölöskei meadow**.

● **The Pölöskei meadow** which embraces the Zselickislak stream is one of the most beautiful hayfields of Zselic. Old willows are lining up along the riverside grown up with yellow irises in June. Advancing gets difficult after the thawing of the snow and heavy rains because the grass becomes squelchy. Unfortunately pasturage has been less frequent recently, thus forestation of the are has started.

Turn left on the meadow and you tread on a cart track to its end. Here you should enter the forest, find the sign and arrive to **the old post track** twisting in a beautiful beech forest.

The old post track: see the tour No. 8

You can see the blue cross sign from the direction of the Herczeg hill but you take your way southwards. After about 2kms there are tall trees rising into the sky in the middle of an extended deforestation area on the right side. Here the blue signed path turns right and the blue-cross signed path goes straight to the South. The gently sloping path later goes into a seedling forest which ends in a forestry highroad. Go right and following the red stripe sign you get to **Ropolypuszta**.

Ropolypuszta: see the route No. 5

After a little detour you advance on the high road and turn right before a bar as the red stripe indicates. The high road goes 5 kilometres along the Ropoly rift valley. First go to the North next to the stream, than leave the bed of the stream and go up along on the eastern side of the long meadow. (If the path is too muddy, parallelly there is a path in the forest after around 100 meters on the eastern side. You can choose this path too,





but take attention to turn left to the forest at Kútalja meadow.) After reaching the end of the meadow there is a huge oak tree on the left signing the beginning of a new path. At last this meadow narrows and a high-stand and a weedy part separate it from the Kútalja meadow. Leave the path leading on the edge of the meadow and turn left at the high-stand into the forest. Follow the red stripe sign. In the shady forest you can only trust in the signs, but after it you reach a pot-holed cart way at the North-west part of the meadow. Follow the cart way to the North. Soon there comes a better way. Hold direction and go along. Afterwards you reach the corner of another meadow again. Go careful, do not follow the path but stay on the East side of the meadow next to the forest and watch the signs. On the left a better way comes again. Follow it till forest disappears on the right. Opposite to you there is a sign and an arrow painted on a high-stand. Go half around the high-stand and at its backside sign of a gate leads into an aperture in bushy role of trees. Go along in this aperture. At an enormous tree red stripe sign turns right sharply. Go up to the Töröcske roof. Up there you get out of the forest, join the North-South ridge path on Töröcske roof and turn left. When there are no more plough-lands on the left and brushy crossroads appear on the right, the red streak sign turns right and goes down from the vineyards on a sloping way till Fenyves Street.

Töröcske: see the tour No. 8.

On the main street of **Töröcske** the sign turns left and goes straight on till the end of the village. In the meanwhile the yellow stripe sign joins from the right and from this point the two signs lead together. Pass the small waterworks at the end of the village opposite of the place where buses turn back, hold your direction to the North. The red and yellow stripe signs arrive on a very pot-holed way into a crossroad where a big valley opens from the left into the valley of Töröcske stream. The red stripe sign turns left but you turn right following the yellow and green stripe signs. The path reaches Töröcske stream after a right and a left turn. Go across the bridge and further along while crossing a cart way. Go parallel to the stream to North and pass a nice role of trees. The path bends by the lake and goes up to a small rise. Get out of the forest at the rump of the small rise. A role of thuja bushes leads to the Environment-friends' monument. Turn left onto the cart way and follow the red-yellow-green stripe signs. Go ahead 20 meters and turn right. Climb up on the escarpment through a teeny-weeny path. Up on the top you reach the cart way again. Turn right and follow the 3 stripe sign. At the end of Körtönyebükk Street you reach first houses of Kaposvár. Follow the yellow-green stripe

sign. At the beginning of the street step on the narrow concrete pavement which leads into the cross of road 67 and Madár Street. Signs lead further on Rózsa Street. At the Iszák Street turn right and get back to the take-off.

Tour No. 8.: Yellow tour round Kaposvár

Kaposvár – Lake Töröcskei – Töröcske – Simonfa – Nádasdi-Forest – Kaposvár

Yellow stripe blaze	distance (km)		elevation (m)	
	subtotal	total	subtotal	total
Kaposvár, railway station				
Lake Töröcskei, monument	3,6	3,6	95	95
Töröcske	3,2	6,8	30	125
Herceg-domb	2,4	9,2	80	205
Simonfa	4,8	14	105	310
Green stripe blaze	2,7	16,7	100	410
Szent Donát chapel	5,0	21,7	25	435
Kaposvár, railway station	2,5	24,2	10	445

Start westwards from the Kaposvár railway station, cross the passenger's overfly with the help of the red and the green stripe. Pass by the **Jókai park**, then walk over the bridge of Kapos river.

● **Jókai park:** this is the area where the first public park was built between 1840 and 1845 after the regulation of the river in 1836. Here you could find the Gillice mill which was demolished after the regulation. On the other end of the park you can find the Ferenc Csik Swimming Pool and the Thermal and Flower Bath.

Turning right in front of the Saint Cross church we leave the red stripe and the blue cross markings and reach the main road No. 67 through Iszák, Rét, János and Rózsa streets. Cross the road and leave the town walking along the left bank of the Töröcske stream. The yellow and the green markings again meet the red one coming from the opposite direction at the end of the inhabited area. Here turn to the **Töröcskei park forest**. Following the triple marking crest to the top of the hill. Here your way leads into a cart track on which you go 90 metres and then suddenly turn left to a narrow and very steep path. Going down very nice view of the **Töröcskei lake** opens up. Get again on the cart track and it leads you to **the monument of the Environmentalists**.

● **The Töröcskei park forest** was converted from a pasture and an open woodland in 1981. The area comprises of hund-



reds of English oaks, Austrian oaks, beeches and wild pears. The nature gradually reconquers the free spaces among the huge, scattered trees earlier used for pasturing. One of the most popular fishing ponds of Kaposvár the Töröcske lake was dammed up near the park forest. **The Environmentalists' monument** was erected in 1982 on the plans of József Merendy on the 70th anniversary of the foundation of the friends-of-the-nature movement. Every May hikers gather here to depart for a memorial tour of Töröcske.

Cut across the meadow westwards on the and follow the yellow and the green markings along the path meandering on the eastern shore of the lake. Your way goes to south, it bends at the end of the forest and you cross over the stream. 150 metres later there is a crossing again. The green stripe marking goes on westwards to Kaposzserdahely but you go left and reach **Töröcske** on a well beaten path joining the red stripe marking again.

● **Töröcske** – a dynamically developing district with a separate local government was connected to Kaposvár in 1973.

In the centre you leave the red marking again and turn left to the main road leading to Kaposvár. Having arrived to the top of the hill and opposite you can glimpse a cross. Turn right sharply and get on **the old post track** going to the south.

● **The old post track:** According to the tradition one could reach Szigetvár cresting on hills. The traffic of this traditional road –used by highwaymen as well- significantly decreased when its successor, the road No. 67 was built.

First you walk among the vineyards. The way continues in the forest from a cross standing by the road. Here you enter the **Zselic Nature Protection Area** and your direction is still to south.

● **The Nature Protection area of Zselic** was established in 1976. Its surface is 9042 hectares out of which 140 hectares are strictly prohibited. Majority of the area is covered by forests, the most characteristic groups are oaks and horbeams. The north positioned valleysides are frequently covered with subalpine beechwoods mingled with silver lindens. In some spots of the grass thorny berries and horsetongue-shaped berries can be found. The streams are followed by groves of different alder, oak elm and ash groves. Hayfields with rare orchidea species can be found instead of the cleared forests.

Go about 350 metres straight on the Herczeg hill. Your sign goes down to left from the post track, the blue cross is to be followed from here on. The east-southeast path descends slightly, more crossings require your attention. Finally the marking gets off the way a twisting path leads to the valley of the Zselickislak stream. Only the markings can aid you here, so be careful, please. Cross over the stream and you will arrive to a clearing. Proceed on its western side to south, let the shrubs



not take your enthusiasm away! The yellow marking climbs up eastwards the weedy gradient found on the southern side of the clearing. Having entered the forest the path modifies into the south eastern direction and after a sharp left curve reaches the crest of the Kecské ridge. Turn left to the north together with the blue stripe marking. The wide, well beaten forestry path mildly bends right. The left diverication signed by the blue cross goes to Kaposvár. Before starting to ascend to the valley of the Zselic stream you pass by the nicely maintained Kecskéháti forester's lodge. Cross over the bridge and climb up to the road No. 67 and turn right on it. Soon you reach the municipal farm and getting off the main road we head to **Simonfa**.

● The name of **Simonfa** first appears in the diplomas from 1403. The village is surrounded by forests and it was not depopulated even in the Osman age. It is one of the centres of the walking tours around Kaposvár; there are two hostels at your disposal and a look-out tower was built on the hill above the village.

Leave the blue marking in the centre of the village at the bus stop turn left into a side street and using the help of the green stripe -coming from the opposite direction- climb up on the Banya gully track. Turn left northwards to the dirt road on the crest. The green marking is parting right at the game hide over Zselicszentpál but you should continue walking on the edge of the forest to north. Having entered the Nádasdi-forest [📍] you will soon reach a Y crossing. Choose the less well-beaten right track here. The forest is followed by the plough and a huge clearing. In its southern end there is a yellow ruin marking leading you to Kaposzserdahely. 600 metres after the hunters' hide go left to the forest. This path is sometimes ploughed, but you should find the next marking in the forest. Cutting across the forest of Szénavölgy you will be going among the vineyards of Ivánfa hill to north. Keep the direction up to the **St. Donát chapel**, behind it you will start to ascend from the hill.

● The listed **chapel of St. Donát** was already erected in 1778 but at that time it was a simple building with a wooden tower. It was renovated in 1832 and 1930 and the wooden tower was replaced with the one made of bricks. Its interior is decorated with frescos depicting the old Kaposvár.

At the end of the steep gully track you get to the end of Béla király street and you should go on it. Having traversed the bridge of the river Kapos and the railway you get to the initial point - the railway station.



Tour No. 9: In the park forests of Zselic

Kaposvár – Gyertyános-valley – Lake Töröcskei – Kaposzserdahely – Tókaji Park Forest – Kaposvár

Red stripe and red cross blaze	distance (km)		elevation (m)	
	subtotal	total	subtotal	total
Kaposvár, railway station				
Gyertyános-valley	3,3	3,3	85	85
Lake Töröcskei, monument	2,7	6,0	110	195
Red cross marking	2,0	8,0	15	210
Kaposzserdahely	2,3	10,3	80	290
Tókaji Park Forest	2,3	12,6	15	305
Cseri Park	1,9	14,5	50	355
Kaposvár, railway station	1,9	16,4	0	355

Leave the railway station in Kaposvár towards west and cross the passengers' flyover following the yellow and the green markings. Pass by the Jókai park and traverse the bridge of the Kapos.

Jókai park: for more information see the tour No. 8

Start on Bartók Béla street leaving the yellow and green stripe marking and the St. Cross church righthand and the blue cross marking lefthand. Take Géza street which steeply climb the Kapos hill. The blue cross marking meets you at the water tower which will follow you to the Gyertyános forest. The asphalt way is over but there is a cobbled shingly way going South on the top of the hill. Turn right at the cul-de-sac sign. Having arrived to the Kaposvár-Töröcske road turn left and you will reach the crossing of the road No. 67. Cross it carefully and go to the edge of the forest along the fences. Turn right here into Jácint Street and left into **Gyertyános-valley** at an information table.

● It stretches on the surface of 44 hectares on the southern edge of Kaposvár. It is a humpy park forest richly tailored by streams, gully tracks. Its woodstock is characterised with the young growth hornbeam trees. Little ponds have been dammed in its narrow valleys. The **Gyöngyvirág youth hostel** on its shore and the other establishments for the tourists service were opened in 1973. Parkforest is cared by Zselic Forestry. Tourists' house, resting places and information tables are renewed recently.

Under the high-tension line the way gets brushy because all trees were cut recently. The red stripe marking will again separate from the blue cross and it bends leftwards to a valley. At the end of the valley the blue cross sign joins in again from the right and crosses the brook. Having crossed over it you repeatedly arrive to a

pathcrossing. You can refresh yourself 60 metres left on the blue square marking at the spring of Four brothers [☞] and have arrest at the **Gyöngyvirág hostel** 250 metres from the spring. The red stripe marking goes right to west and a bit later again leaves the blue one. Getting over the steep gradient you will again reach the concrete path leading you to Töröcske. Go left as long as you arrive to the end of the gardens. You can see the next bus stop when you turn right from the asphalt to a little path. At the cart way turn right and left into the forest after 20meters. Follow the beautiful path northwards in the right side of the valley. Meanwhile you pass by the Eszperantó and the Cserkész [☞] watersprings, red circle markings show you the way to them. Having descended to its bottom the path leads you across a weedy clearing and leaving the forest you will see the end houses of Kaposvár. You observe the yellow and the green markings coming from the opposite direction and following them you turn left to the **Töröcskei park forest**. Trailing the triple markings you ascend the hill and the path converges on a cart track. On the top of the hill go half around the Northern headvalley and go North along. Go careful because soon you have to turn left onto a sheer tweeny-weeny path into the valley. Signs are painted onto enormous oak trees. Descending on it a nice view of the Töröcskei lake will open up. You will get to the cart track again which bending southwards leads you to the **Monument of the Environmentalists**.

Töröcskei lake: see the tour No. 8

The red marking shows you the way on the eastern bank to the dam. Passing over it you continue your trip south on the western shore. Getting out of the forest you pass among ploughland on both sides. There are no signs on this part of the tour but it is not possible to loose the way. The subsequent crossing is shown by the opposite forest and a valley opening on your right. You should change the marking here: go right trailing the red cross and the green stripe. There is a way going onto the top of the hill branching to the North but go further on the muddy path. Getting into an 'Y' junction go further in the valley on the left beam of the 'Y'. Red-cross sign is on a weak tree opposite of you. At the next junction turn right. Go across a watery meadow and up to the opposite hilltop. After some steps red circle sign leads to the Eastern-fountain but climb up on the sharp ridge to Kaposszerdahely roof. The highest point of the tour is on this roof. (234m). The sign pulls apart. Follow the red cross on the right. Go West 250 meters across some upgrades. Turn right at the first possibility from the sharp ridge. Red signs are on weak trees. Unfortunately most of the trees are eradicated alongside the

way, some signed too but there is no junction so just go downway into the valley. At last on Árpád Street you reach the houses of **Kaposszerdahely**.

- **Kaposszerdahely** has been an independent municipality since 1920, till then belonged to Szenna as a puszta. You can find the workshop of the woodcarver János Horváth-Béres, the creator of the path named Zselici vadvirág (the wild flower of Zselic). There are wood carved statues of the protected wild flowers of Zselic along the road from Kaposvár to Szilvásszentmárton. You also bypass some of them.

Having arrived at Kossuth street, turn right and go along the road to the crossing of the **park forest of Tókaj** [📍] and take it.

- The surface of the **park forest of Tókaj** is 141 hectares and it comprises of forests, clearings and five ponds. The area contains non-indigenous species as red oak, spruce, and the Douglas pine. Rainshelters, fireplaces, a forest playground, and other services are at tourists' disposal.

You are twisting on the asphalt road until you turn right to a path in front of the shooting gallery. Take this path up to a shaky bridge. Cross it very carefully. After the excitement of the traversing climb up the last hill and reach the **Cseri Park** on Tókaji and Egyenesi streets.

- The **Cseri park** was an army shooting gallery earlier. Imre Varga's Jubilee monument was erected in 1975.

Following the path of the park and bypassing the restaurant you get out to Cseri road. Proceed straight and crossing over the Kapos bridge and the railway you get to the starting point of the tour – the railway station.



Tour No. 10 – Let's go to Deseda

Kaposvár, Sport Hall – Zaranyi Forest – Lake Deseda – Deseda, Arborétum – Watersports center – Kaposvár, Sport Hall

Red stripe, red cross blaze	distance (km)		elevation (m)	
	subtotal	total	subtotal	total
Kaposvár, Sport Hall				
Zaranyi Forest	1,3	1,3	0	0
Bicycle road	3,3	4,6	155	155
Red cross blaze	1,0	5,6	5	160
Arboretum	7,6	13,2	70	230
Walking in the arboretum	2,0	15,2	40	270
Watersport Center	6,1	21,3	105	375
Red cross blaze	2,2	23,5	20	395
Kaposvár, Sport Hall	3,7	27,2	70	465

Go on Zaranyi street from the Town Sports Hall to the shooting gallery up to the Zaranyi housing estate. Here you can see the red stripe marking, so turn right. Getting out of the housing estate you will be going straight northwards on the wavy path. At the water pump the marking bends right and about a kilometre later turn southwards. Follow the marking through an aperture and then across a grove. Here you get on the bicycle road to Deseda - turn left and go on. Pass over the flyover and the link road between Kaposfüred and Toponár. Immediately after having arrived to the valley of the **Deseda** turn left at the red cross sign which is leading you along the western shore of the lake.

● **The Deseda lake** was created by damming a stream in 1975. It is 8 kilometres long, 300–500 metres wide. You can be on the beach on the eastern side. The lake is the paradise not only for the swimmers but for the fishermen and the boaters as well.

Avoid the dike keeper's lodge and you will get back to the water at the end of the fence. Walking along the shore following the red cross marking the way leads us along the ploughs and across the forests. You also have to cross the iron bridges over the bays. You arrive at the red marking at the crossing with the road No. 67. Cross it very carefully and proceed on the western shore up to the pedestrians' bridge at the arboretum.

● **The arboretum of Deseda** [📍] reaches into the lake as a peninsula. Its terrain and agricultural conditions are exceedingly diversified. It has a surface of 26 hectares. Here you can find west and east positioned hills, damp sometimes swampy spots. There was an acacia forest at the place of the present-day arboretum, the planting began in 1978. It was opened to public in 2003.





After the visit to the arboretum, go back to the road No. 67, cross its bridge and follow the red stripe markings to the south. The way is leading you on a path on the shore the you will turn up a hill in a forest. Reaching the top go right on the ridge path then turn down on the left, cross a shaky bridge in the valley and turn right immediately. Crossing across forests and ploughs you will reach the vineyards of Toponár and the watersports centre, finally to the beach. Going along the beach and passing by the dam you again reach the bike path on which you get back to the initial point – the Town Sports Centre.

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In the places marked with  you find geocaching points. Description of these points can be downloaded from www.geocaching.hu.

Vocabulary (by number of the tour):

Almamellék 3	Lad 3
Andocs 1	Látrányi Puszta 1
Balatonboglár 1	Lengyeltóti 1
Bárdudvarnok 2 (3, 4)	Marcali 2
Buzsák 1	Mesztegyő 2
Csárdahely 6	Mike 2
Cseri park 9 (4, 6)	Nagyatád 2
Csiky Gergely Színház 6	Nikla 2
Desedai Arborétum 10	Patca 5 (3)
Deseda-tó 10 (4)	Petesmalom 2
Farkaslaki-erdő: 6 (3)	Petörke-völgy 4 (6)
Gálosfa 6 (3)	Pölöskei-rét 7
Gölle 1	Pusztatorony 1
Gyertyános-völgy 9 (7)	Rádpuszta 1
Hetes 2	régi postaút 8 (7)
Hősök temploma 5 (6)	Ropoly 5 (7)
Ibafa 3	Segesd 2
Igal 1	Simonfa 8
Jókai liget 8 (9, 7)	Somogyfajsz 2
Kadarkút 2 (3)	Somogyvár 1
Kálvária-templom: 7	Szarvasfarm 3
Kaposgyarmat 3 (6)	Szena 4 (3, 5, 6)
Kaposszentbenedek 4 (3)	Szent Donát kápolna 8
Kaposszentjakab 5 (3, 6)	Szentjakab 5
Kaposszerdahely 9 (3, 4, 6)	Szigetvár 3
Kaposvár 1	Szőlőisklak 1
Karád 1	Tókaji-parkerdő 9
kerékpárút 4 (6)	Töröcske 8 (7)
Kishárság 3	Töröcskei-tó 8 (9)
Lábod 2	Vasút (Szigetvár-Kaposvár) 6
	Zselici TK 8 (5, 6, 7)



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