



Pieta in the old graveyard

in classical style. Today it is a privately owned hotel.

The ruins of a medieval church in Alsószőlát were still mentioned in 1829. The construction of the present-day **Roman Catholic Church** (title: Saint John of Nepomuk) was started by the widow Istvánné Farkas, a local landowner, in 1734. It was renovated several times in the 18th and 19th centuries. Its bell is the work of a master from Eger, Johann Justel, from 1807. A local landowner, Károly Vecsey, his wife, Terézia Badics and their daughter were buried in a crypt under the church.

The village has two statues, which are nice examples of the stone values in the Bükkalja region. These are both protected monuments. One is a carved stone on a stone pillar from the beginning of the 19th century in front of the old cemetery hill at Egri road 13. It is a rustic work showing the Holy Trinity (**Stone Cross with Pietà**). The other one is a late baroque style **statue of Saint John of Nepomuk** in front of Fő road 44., probably from the beginning of the 19th century.

The **old, traditional houses** of the village are also worth mentioning. These all have hipped roofs and long, narrow covered terraces.

You can also visit the **old wine cellars** and the **new line of cellars** in the village. The old cellars were cut in two areas: some –multi-storey- cellars at Egri road and others in Boros street to the north, including a cellar from the Turkish times. The new line of cellars was cut in the 80s near the lake at Árpád road. These 19 cellars next to the forest form a unique view, as they are all of a similar construction.

South of the village the **Egerszóláti lake** was dammed on Szóláti stream. Its flora and fauna is a significant natural value.

Bükkalja Rock-way Information Point Eger, in the yard of the Fellner block
bukkalja.info.hu

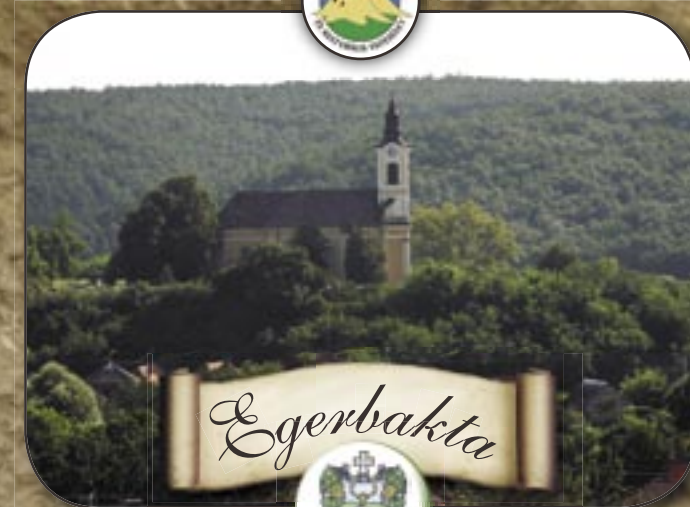
Mayor's Office of Egerbakta, Bátori str. 12.
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Mayor's Office of Egerszólát, Egri road 2.
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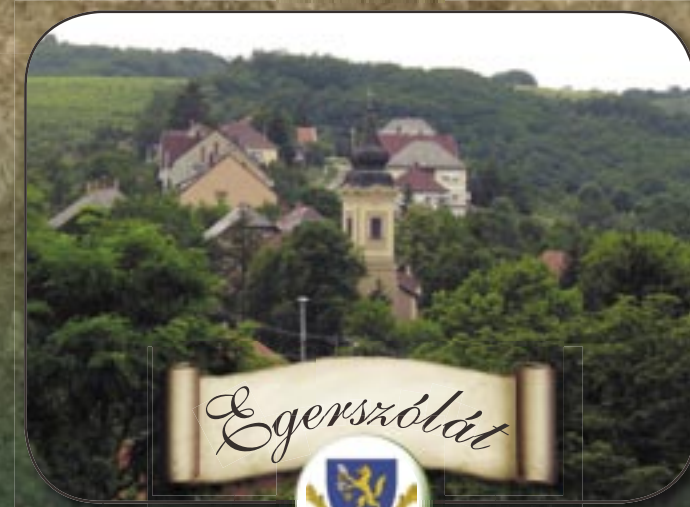


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Egerbakta



Egerszólát





EGERBAKTA

The village of Egerbakta is situated 8km north-west of Eger, between the Bükk and Mátra mountains, under Keselyű Hill, on the banks of Laskó stream. The area has been inhabited for a long time; there are ancient cairns around the village. The first recorded mentioning of the village is from 1261. In 1295 it was mentioned as villa Bagcha in a charter. In the end of the 15th century the community paid taxes in money as well as in products for the soldiers of the bishop's castle in Szarvaskő. During the 1552 siege of Eger the Turkish demolished the village. Its repopulation started in 1553 and in 1577 already 24 families lived in the settlement. However, in 1596, after the fall of Eger the village became depopulated again and it was deserted until the 1620s. The inhabitants ran away from heavy war taxation to the town of Eger. After the reconquest of Eger, in 1699 the village was populated again until a next depopulation following the great plague of 1710-1711 and the Rákóczi revolution. After 1712 a slow repopulation started with continuous increase in the number of inhabitants.

The Roman Catholic Church (title: Saint Catherine of Alexandria) is a protected monument. It was built between 1773-74 in baroque style on a hill above the village. According to documents from 1764 the parson of Egerszalók wanted to build a church similar to the one in Egerbakta, but without the chapel and the stairs leading to it. The rococo high altar is the work of Antal Steinhäuser from 1775 and the high altar picture was painted by János Lukács Kracker. We



The Roman Catholic Church



Carved gate near the church hill

can enter the churchyard through beautifully carved gate, made by Béla Birta from Egerbakta. In the graveyard we can see a stone cross from 1802 and a carved oak-wood cross from the beginning of the 19th century. The episcopate of Eger had the parsonage house – today a protected monument – built by János Povolni in 1790 under the church hill. The wine cellars of the village are also cut under the church hill.

On the western edge of the village we can find some beehive rocks in the Szent Valley (Saint Valley), a side-valley of the Rábca Valley. On the southern side of the valley there are 3 chambers and the remains of 2 more ones in the south-western wall of a huge rhyolite tuff ridge.

North-east of the village, in the Szén-kő Valley (Coal-rock Valley) the coal was discovered by Henrik Fazola in 1769. In 1770 it was already used for burning bricks and in 1796 it was also taken to Eger for the same purposes. The first mine opened in 1789 and the second one in 1796. Although these mines were short-lived, they draw attention the coal supplies.

Towards Bátor, at the first curve of the road, under the Reszél Hilltop there is an abandoned diabase mine used until mid 1900s. In the other, north-eastern side of the hill, a mine lake was formed in the place of the previous rock mine. This lake, situated in picturesque surroundings, offers angling and recreational facilities for visitors.

If we follow the red tourist towards Almár, after 20 minutes walking from the centre we will find the Egerbakta peat moss moor lakes. About 100 meters from Nagy lake, 280 meters above sea level on the slope of Tó Hill there is a small peat moss moor formed by landslide. Most plant species living here are otherwise very rare in Hungary: this is the only habitat of spread-leaved peat moss, the most beautiful and the biggest peat moss species, eastern marsh fern, the strictly protected bogbean (buckbean), blooming in early may, the golden yellow tufted loosestrife and slender cotton-grass in the whole country.



Beehive rocks in the Szent valley



EGERSZÓLÁT

The village of Egerszalók is situated 12 km from Eger between Mátra and Bükk mountains on the two banks of Szóláti stream at the feet of Préda and Farkas hills. The settlement was first mentioned in a charter in 1248 under the name Zowlak. Between 1412-1447 the village had two parts called Alszólath and Felewzólath (Lower and Upper Zolath). During the 1552 Turkish siege of Eger these were destroyed and the repopulation of Felsőszólát started only around 1699, while Alsószólát was still deserted. From the end of the 18th century the village was owned by the following families: Szerémi, Berthóti, Hügyei, Farkas, később a Szabó, Csernus, Adics, Vecsey, Mocsáry.

Several noblemen's mansions and country houses. The Andreánszky family built their one-storey classical style mansion (**Andreánszky mansion**) in the beginning of the 19th century at the end of the line of cellars starting in Egri road, over the village, detached from other buildings. The **Szórádi mansion** from 1864, standing in a 2300 m² grassy, wooded park at Fő road 56., is functioning as a guest house these days. The **Brazovay Castle** (previous Csernus Castle) at Fő road 62. was built in 1773 by Sándor Csernus,



The Roman Catholic Church of Novaj



The façade of the Brazovay castle