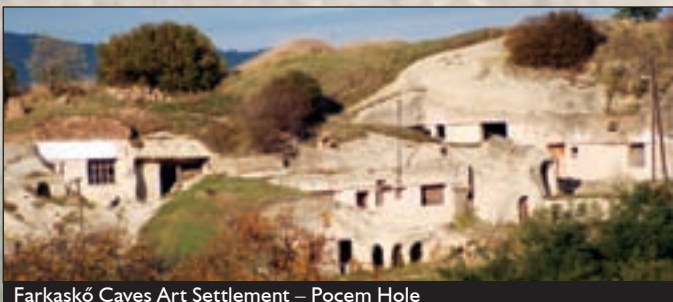


seen in Eger, at the Gothic Palace of the István Dobó Castle Museum. However, copies of the most typical pictures of the ceiling are also exhibited here, in the church.

East of the village, but still within its boundaries, there are five beehive chambers in a rock, next to the **Dóc Hill**. And there are two more chambers west of the road towards Szomolya, in a rock on the slope of the **Pipis Hill**, right above the old stone bridge over Kánya Stream.

East of the village, in the picturesque valley of Kánya stream, surrounded by beautiful woods and mountains, lies **Síkfőkút**. The tourist facilities of the area were built out in the 1930s, initiated by the tourist association of Eger. The chalet was also built in these days, although it has been redecorated several times since then; and the present look of the upper lake was also formed then. Nowadays Síkfőkút reaches to Noszvaj, with all its private weekend houses and company holiday homes waiting for those who would like to relax. If we follow the green sign the trail takes us first to the Attila spring, and then to **Várkút** (its name means the well of the castle) under the 669m high Várhegy (meaning Castle Hill). The spring of Várkút is the highest one in the area of the Kánya stream. It has long history: on the hilltop above the spring there are the remains of a prehistoric fortification (from the late Bronze Age or early Iron Age, the so-called Kiyatice-culture) and also the ruins of some walls probably from the Middle Ages.

From the top of Imány Hill, at the centre of the village, we can have a beautiful view of the village. And it is only an easy walk up there, starting on Bartók Béla Street opposite the Reformed church. The hill has one more unique sight: a **huge monument set of stones in the shape of Great Hungary**.



Farkaskő Caves Art Settlement – Pocem Hole

Bükkalja Rock-way Information Point Eger, in the yard of the Fellner block

bukkalja.info.hu

Mayor's Office of Noszvaj, Kossuth Lajos str. 1.
Phone/Fax: 36/463-055 • www.noszvaj.hu



- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The De La Motte castle and its park | 5. Beehive rock – Pipis Hill |
| 2. Galassy Castle and Crypt | 6. Síkfőkút |
| 3. Farkaskő Caves Art Settlement (Pocem) | 7. The monument showing Great Hungary inaugurated at the Millecentenary |
| 4. Beehive rock - Dóc Hill (Pocem) | |

Photo: **Havasi Norbert, Klein Dávid**

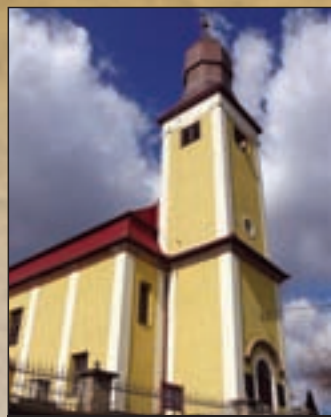
Published by Kaptárkő Nature Protectional and Cultural Association, financed by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism for Hungarian NGOs.

www.kaptarko.hu



Noszvaj





The Reformed Church of Noszvaj

The village of Noszvaj is situated 10km from Eger, on the southern slopes of Bükk Mountains, at the foot of the Várhegy (meaning Castle hill) in the valley of the Kánya stream. The first written record about the village is from 1248 under the name Nozuey. It was owned by the episcopate of Eger until 1457 when Bishop Péter Rozgonyi gave it to the Carthusians in return for Felsőtárkány and Bükkszérc villages. During the siege of Eger

in 1152 the Turkish burnt down the whole village. At the end of the Turkish domination it became the property of a rich Turkish wine trader who changed his name to Ferenc Noszvaj. In 1782 the village had new owners again: Baroness Anna Vécsey (the widow of Antal Almásy) and her second husband, Marquis De La Motte, the emperor's French-born colonel. They made the final developments on the **De La Motte Castle**, built in Louis Seize style. The construction of the castle was started by Sámuel Szepessy between 1775 and 1779, but he could not finish the work because of his heavy debts. After the death of Marquis De La Motte in 1800, the castle was inherited by the five children of Anna Vécsey from her first marriage and it was owned by the Almásy family until 1852, when they sold it to István Steinhauser, a merchant from Eger. At the marriage of Steinhauser's daughter, the castle became the property of the Galassy family. The



The De la Motte castle



Line of cellars



A Pocem Hole cave house

castle was restored between 1958 and 1960 and today it is a national monument. The building is surrounded by a 9-hectare English park where special garden trees and shrubs can still be found today, like Yew, Magnolia or Cypress Oak.

Between Noszvaj and Szomolya there is another nice building, the **Galassy Castle**, which was built in 1900 in late eclectic style. It was burnt down in 1953 but rebuilt in 1959 as a holiday home. On the other side of the road, on the slope of the hill east of the building, there is a chapel carved into the tuff with a burial vault on each side. It is called **Galassy Crypt**.

The village belongs to the historic wine region of Eger. The area of Noszvaj is considered one of the best grape-growing places in the region. The village has two famous wineries. One is the previous manorial 2000 m² **cellar system**, from more than a century ago, which is now owned by the **Thummerer** family. In 2004 it was extended with a further 2200 m² cellar system. The other famous one is the **cellar and granary** built by Earl Almásy and his family in 1790. It is now a protected monument. Furthermore, inhabitants of the village also had and still have many cellars used for different aims. These **cellars** are in different areas of the village. The cellars of the rich were in two lines in the first part of the Szomolyai road, while those of the poor were on the western and southern slopes of the Nagyimányi hill.

In the south-eastern part of the village there are some **cave houses** carved into tuff. In the previous centuries this hill and its immediate surroundings were called Farkas-kő-dűlő. However, in the twentieth century the area was renamed Pocem or Pocem Hole. Today most of the cave houses are uninhabited and many of them

are home to the **Farkaskő Caves Art Settlement**. There is also a beehive chamber in this area.

Some houses of the village are **protected monuments**, because they are memories of the local traditional architecture. These buildings are the following: 10. **Alkotmány Street, 78**. **Kossuth Lajos Street, 20**. **Deák Ferenc Street** and the **Farmer's House** at 40. Deák Ferenc Street, which houses the museum of local history. Both the outside and the

furnishing of the house show the way of life its inhabitants led in the end of the 1800s and their handmade tools which prove their skill and artifice. The Farmer's House is also the place for most events of the village. On these occasions traditional delicacies are prepared in the two fireplaces of the house and on the "Plum-day" at the end of each August the tricks of cooking plum jam are also presented here.

According to written records, back in 1248 there was already a small Romanesque church in the village, which became Reformed at the second half of the 16th century. From 1596 the village had its own Reformed congregation. In 1928 the previous church from the Árpád era was pulled down and a new, wider and longer church was built in the same place using the old materials, too. This new **Reformed church** is a protected monument. The painted boarded ceiling of the old church from 1734, which is an art rarity, can be



The door of an old wine press house



The façade of the Farmer's House...



And its kitchen