

BARADLA CAVE, JÓSVAFŐ SHORT TOUR

In the first part of the tour, one may hardly see any formations; however, this wilder - rocky - side of Baradla Cave also contains some interesting artefacts: at this section, one may see folds, faults and rock layers. In the second section of the tour, the chambers become more and more decorated; the culmination of the tour, the Hall of Giants, is unforgettable not only due to the scenery, but also due to its unique acoustics.



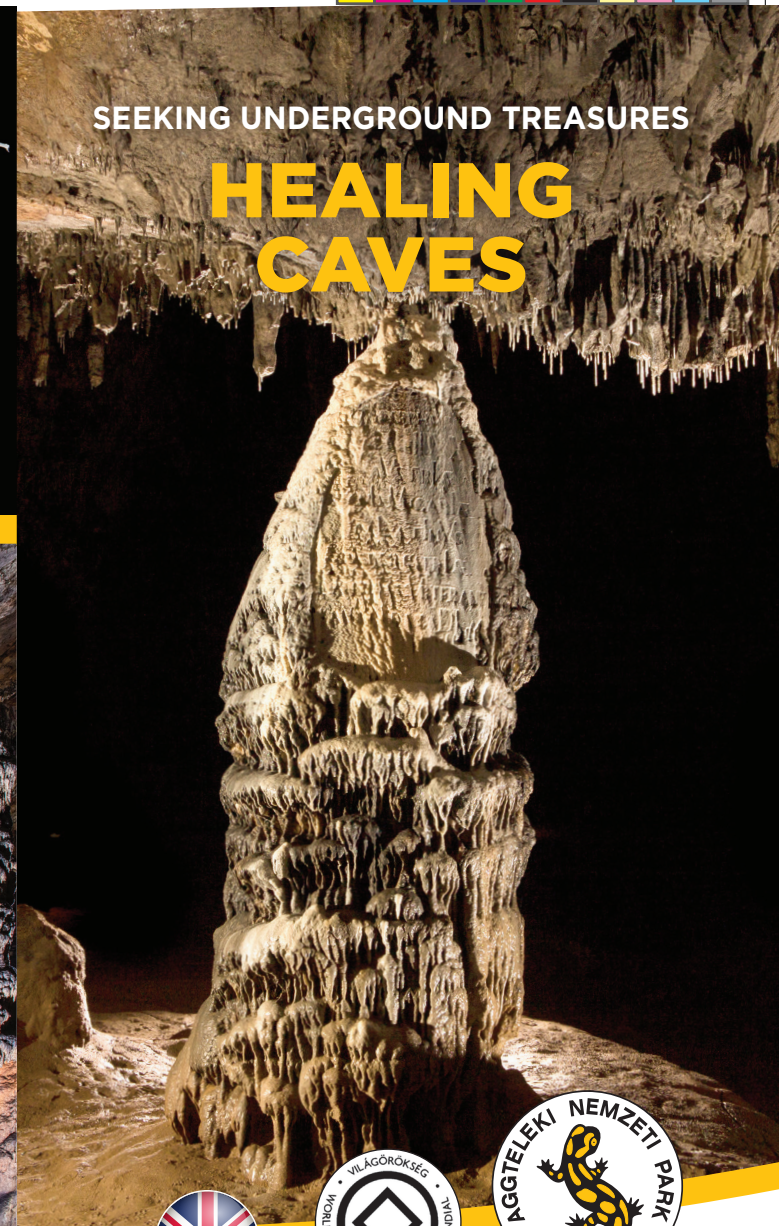
BARADLA CAVE, RED LAKE MID-LENGTH TOUR

This is the longest section of Baradla Cave open to the public, having electric lighting; the walk leads among colourful stalagnates, draperies, stalactites and stalagmites, including the highest stalagmite in Hungary, the 19 m high Observatory and the Hall of Giants, where one may experience also the chamber's unique acoustics.



DOMICA CAVE

It is situated on the south-western edge of the Silická planina plateau, in the territory of the Slovak Karst National Park and Biosphere Reserve. It is more than 8 km long. Its dripstone decorations are abundant, most significant are the dripstone drums and shields. In Slovakia, it is the most significant site of the Bükk culture. The cave was discovered in 1926 and opened to the public in 1932 - this is when the boat tour section was created.



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CAVES AS HEALING PLACES

The connection between the cave climate and the improvement of the health of patients suffering from respiratory illnesses was first examined in the 19th and 20th centuries. Today, this connection is undoubtedly proven and cave therapy, as a part of medical tourism, is becoming more and more important. After a ten-year research, cave therapy was officially started in Hungary in 1969.

WORLD HERITAGE

The caves of the Aggtelek Karst and the Slovak Karst were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee on 6 December 1995, as sustainable examples of geological and geomorphic processes. Due to the abundance, the complexity, the relative lack of disturbance and the concentration of formations in a small territory, the karst caves and objects of the Aggtelek Karst and the Slovak Karst are exceptionally significant. This area contains more than 1400 known caves.



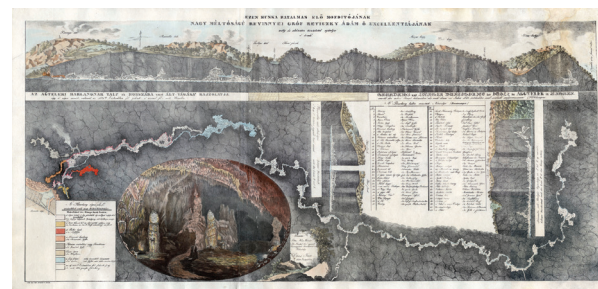
THE BARADLA-DOMICA CAVE SYSTEM

The more than 30 km long Baradla-Domica cave system – with the 8 km long Domica Cave, spreading under the territory of Slovakia – is the most significant representative of the underground world added to the list of World Heritage Sites.

The ever-open natural entrance of Baradla Cave is situated at the bottom of a 51 m high rock wall, near the village of Aggtelek; man used the cave as a shelter for ages, with evidence dating back to the Neolithic. Most of the thousands of artefacts, found during the archaeological excavations, come from this period. In addition to the countless fragments, many untouched items of the Bükk linear culture were discovered. These well-formed vessels with parallel lines were created by people living six to seven thousand years ago by hand, without a wheel.



The name of the cave is most probably of Slavic origin, coming from the word "bradlo", meaning "cliff". The cave was first mentioned in 1549 and was first explored by József Sartory in 1794. In 1831, a precise description and a map of the cave was published in Hungarian and in German, thanks to the work of Imre Vass, who managed to pass through the then known endpoint of the cave, the Iron Gate Pass, to discover the continuation of the main branch of the cave.



CAVE CLIMATE

Every cave has its own particular microclimate, even in spite of the fact that all have approximately the same conditions. These identical features include the relatively constant temperature – annual temperature changes do not exceed 1°C; The purity of cave air, since caves are free of dust, pollen and germs (at least the parts completely separated from the surface). The CO₂-content and the relative humidity exceed those measured at the surface. However,

the chemical composition of the vapour is unique, typical to the particular cave – it is also true that certain caves may contain fungi subspecies producing antibiotics contributing to the positive effect.

THE BARADLA-DOMICA CAVE SYSTEM AS A HEALING CAVE

During cave therapy, the self-cleaning processes of the body get initiated and intensified, which shortens the healing period. It is recommended to take a longer, 2-3 week long cure with 3-5 hours of therapy per day, which has not only a healing, but also a relaxing effect. All of this is available to those longing for therapy in a modern environment, in the brand-new Sanatorium established in the Fox-branch of Baradla Cave, as well as in Medicine Room of Domica Cave.



IF CAVE THERAPY IS NOT AVAILABLE TO YOU...

do not hesitate to take your hiking shoes and visit the World Heritage caves!

BARADLA CAVE, AGGTELEK SHORT TOUR

The tour passes mainly through chambers with stalagnates, stalactites, columns and draperies. The Concert Hall, with its exceptional acoustics, is a great venue of concerts and a source of unforgettable memories.

