

The monumental Mansion, hippodrome... are put in the middle of a large English park, to the north from Topolčianky.



Topolčianky Castle

Formerly Late-Gothic castle (15th - 16th century) was rebuilt in Renaissance and Baroque style with Classicistic extensions. The castle has a Baroque chapel, period furniture, china and large collection of books.

Originally the late-Gothic object (15th-16th centuries), after sever reconstructions it got the today's shape in Renaissance, Baroque and Classicism.



One it served as the summer residence of the Hapsburg family, later (in the years 1923-1953) it became a summer residence of Czechoslovak presidents. Now it shelters the Museum of Historic Furniture.



From the year 1951 are three Renaissance parts used as a hotel.

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The castle is national historical monument. Owner of this building is The Uniform property fond of trade unions (Jednotný majetkový fond odborových organizácií SR)

in Slovakia.

In its huge park is possible to admire about 300 of rare species of trees and shrubs are grown. Behind the park are situated two game reserves abound with game (deer, roe-buck, wild boar, fallowdeer, moufflon) – the Greater Game Reserve (11 131 ha) and the Lesser Game Reserve (738 ha) and a breed of Arab thoroughbreds, horse race facilities.



The National Stud Farm in Topolčianky

The National Stud Farm of Topolčianky, a state – run enterprise, is one of Europe's most important centres of purebred horse breeding.

The Stud Farm has been founded in 1921, focusing since then on the breeding of Arabian, Lipizzaner, Hucul and race horses and today the stud farm is not only a cultural treasure in Slovakia, but also a European rarity.

No other city on the old continent has a place for the cultivation of for different breeds of horses the way they do in Topoľčianky. The facility's importance is underlined by the fact that nowhere else in Europe four horse races are bred at the same place. The herd totals around 500 animals nowadays.



The National Stud Farm is an active member of all major European and international breeding organizations.



The natural scenery of the surrounding Trábeč mountain range and the noble beauty of purebred horses make this place of relaxation suitable for demanding clients. Horse riding as well as a horse carriage rides are available at all times, perhaps the most beautiful being the Hubertus drives in an open carriage through the autumn landscape.



Part of the Farm is located in the Mansion of Topolčianky, once the summer residence of Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, the first President of the Czechoslovak Republic (1918 – 1935). At the Farm, apart from its horse breeding, cattle for milk is also raised, some 300 heads, around 1000 hectares of feed plants and also some vine are being grown. The Equine Museum works in close cooperation with the Farm.

The Hippology Museum (Museum of Horse), founded by The National stud farm in 1989, remains the only of its kind in Slovakia. The greatest credit for its existence is to be attributed to Ing. Vladimír Hučko, CSc. an important Slovak equine expert and promoter of equestrian sport. The Museum's visitors gain an insight into the past of the stud farm, learn the most important promoters of horse breeding and their sporting successes.

The Museum is specially proud of several items, such



as the laurel wreath with a blue ribbon won by Arva, the foxily



coloured mare, in Prague's Veľká Chuchla in 1988 or the shirt of Jozef Čajda, who won the Great Steeple Chase of Pardubice in 1955 riding the thoroughbred stallion 19/51 Furioso XIV.

Children will be surely more interested in a collection of horse collars, saddles, harnesses, the equipment of a blacksmith's workshop etc. A collection of wagons and carriages is located on the mansion's patio.

Vinárske závody Topolčianky, s.r.o. (Vineyard company Topolčianky)

Year 1293 is the year of "birth letter" of the town of Topolčianky. The first record of vineyard growing in Topolčianky is dated in 1723. In the year 1750, a development of vineyard growing took place during era of Lord Keglevich de Busina. In this period, the Lord guided from his native Balkan land of Dalmacia qualified experts to Topolčianky.



In the course of years 1800-1830 the food-industry and vineyard growing was being developed by French specialist Gago. After the establishment of the first Czechoslovak Republic and appointment of the castle in Topolčianky for the summer seat of president T. G. Masaryk in the year 1920 the wines from



Topolčianky become not only a jewel on the president's table, but they quickly catch popularity in Prague winoteques and cafeterias. From this period also the trademark Château Topolčianky on the Topolčianky wines comes.



Wine production in Topolčianky continues also after 1948. The cellars here become part of monopoly whole-Slovakian producer and deliver wines mainly for bottling to the factory in Nitra.

As from 1993 the wine-cellars are private company with main aim to renew the glory of Topolčianky wines under the historical trademark "Château Topolčianky".

Since 1993 the cellars are owned by a private company which main aim was to renew the glory of Topolčianky wines under historical trade-mark "Chateau Topolčianky". Today, after many years of production development aimed mainly on establishing a modern prosperous company that produces wines, we can without any hesitation proclaim that the trademark "Chateau Topolčianky" is unchangeably established on the Slovak wine market.



The wine producing company Topolčianky had to invest huge amounts of money in this procedure in the period when successively becoming a technologically high-level company. All the investments aimed for improvement and expression of quality resulted in modernization of all steps of the technological procedure.



The company Vinárske závody Topolčianky has in its ownership or co-ownership many vineyards.

In vineyard regions varieties as Chardonnay, Rizling vlašský, Veltlínske zelené, Sauvignon, Rulandské biele, Svätovavrinské, Neronet, Feteasca regala, Rulandské šedé, Sauvignon, Tramín

červený, Rizling rýnsky, Irsai Oliver, Veltlínske červené skoré, Frankovka modrá, Müller Turgau, Dievčie hrozno, Rulandské biele, Cabernet Sauvignon, Alibernet etc. are grown.



Buffalo Park

There is only one place in Slovakia, hidden in beautiful oak forests surrounding the community of Topoľčianky, where one can see Europe's largest mammal, the European bison, "a close relative" of more known, the North American buffalo.



The Buffalo Park was founded in 1958 with the mission of saving the mountain buffalo from extinction, since only 150 animals of that species were left at that time. The Park covers 140 hectares, the breeding station itself covering 27 hectares, the rest is a protected area. In 1964, the whole buffalo breeding facility was declared a protected scientific site. Since its founding, the Park is run by Lesný závod Topoľčianky (State Forestry Station).



The mountain buffalo is Europe's largest mammal, in the average it becomes 2.7 metres long and 1.9 tall and an adult bull may have the weight of as much as 1.5 ton. The average age expectancy is 20 years, though some animals have reached 30 years of age. The mating season is in August and September and the



cow usually gives birth to a sole calf. According to an international agreement on buffalo breeding, all animals born in Slovakia receive names beginning with "Si-", such as Sibirka, Sivko, Silan, Silvo etc.

Today the number of buffaloes kept in captivity has surpassed the critical level necessary for maintaining the species, therefore it is no longer among the endangered species of the Red book and is now considered a protected species. The Buffalo park of Lovce has contributed significantly to this environmental success.