





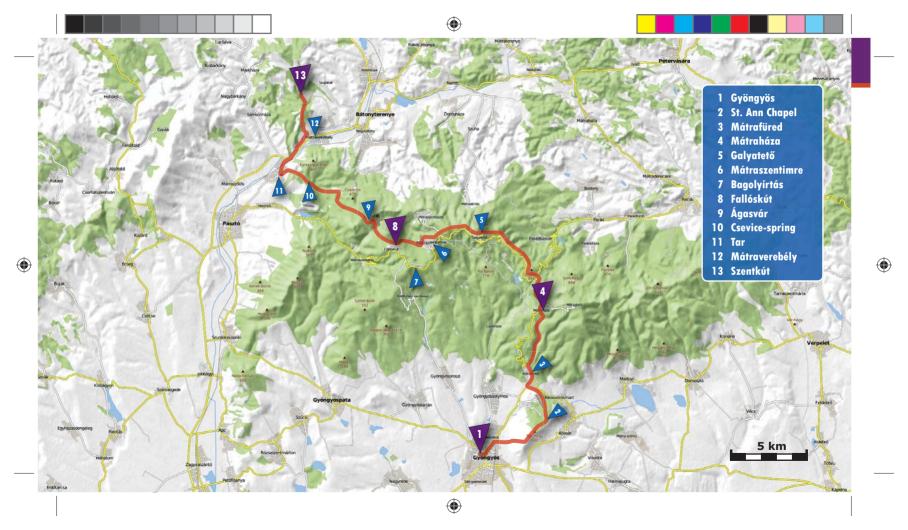


Pilgrimages for student groups along the Way of Mary

















### **Foreword**

The pilgrimage is not simply a tour or an excursion. The steps of the pilgrimage are mainly inner steps towards the sanctuary of the human heart, towards the source of living water, God's mercy. The Way of Mary connects the main shrines and sacred places of our people. Built since the early 2000s – it is the sacred path above all of the Central European people, offering the possibility to get deeply acquainted with each other, to find each other, to start to love each other and to develop into a community. Crossing the Heart of Europe, Hungary and the Carpathian Basin, the pilgrimage connects the Austrian Mariazell, the Transylvanian Csíksomlyó, the Polish Czestochowa and Medjugorje in Herzegovina, and the places of Virgin Mary shrines located along the main roads like a network. The Way of Mary connects us with God and with each other as well. It helps us, our youth and our people to strengthen our spirit and to recover. In everyone's life there are decisive crossroads, such is our journey from the carefree students' years into the adult existence. It is far from indifferent the way our children

step into the adult existence. During the pilgrimage they get close not only to the nature due to the wonderful landscapes of Mátra but also to themselves because of the internal

stillness, to their peers because of meaningful hours spent together and at the same time

they get close to Christ, who is the way himself, the truth and the life.

### Content

Section 1	4
Section 2	5
Section 3	6
Service providers	7



For more information about the Way of Mary visit the website: **www.mariaut.hu** about the pilgrimage visit: **zarandokturizmusert.hu** 





# Section 1, (17 km) From Gyöngyös to Mátraháza

Whether we arrive to Gyöngyös by bus or by train we don't have to take too many steps to the first stage of our journey, to the house and church of the Franciscan Order. After our program we walk along the main signal path M1 of the Way of Mary, along the Mátra road, and then opposite the Károly Róbert College we walk uphill along the hump of Sár-hegy on the ,yellow' indication common with our road. It is evident that we have a serious test of strength ahead of us, as proved by the numbers; we have to overcome 320 m altitude difference. But the effort is not in vain, descending from the mountain peak; we arrive at the region's most beautiful pilgrimage site, the Saint Ann Chapel. We reach a crossroad at the Chapel, from here starts the Way of Mary's M10 marked arm towards our National Shrine, Mátraverebély-Szentkút. We

continue our pilgrimage along this path towards the Pilis Mountains. We pass the sailplane airport, going round the mountain, along the trail of the old narrow-gauge railway; we arrive to Mátrafüred next to the forest school. Leaving the settlement we find the shrine of Máriácska at the beginning of the Kalló-valley. We continue our climb to Mátraháza. On the top we glimpse the Catholic church of Mátraháza built of natural andesite stone.





Accommodations and services for pilgrims: See on page 7

**Stations:** wooden headboard at Cseplye-tető, Saint Ann Chapel, Gliding airport, church of Mátrafüred, Máriácska.





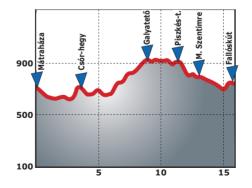


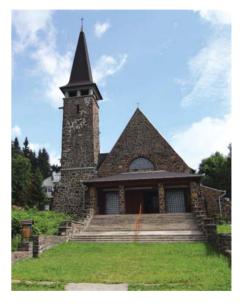


# Section 2, (16 km) From Mátraháza to Fallóskút

Following the high-Mátra mountain ranges, our hiking trail leads along beaten path. After the six kilometres we have a beautiful view discovering the Tarna creek valley and Parádsasvár. Reaching Galyatető, we arrive to Nagyszálló, the highest point of the Way of Mary in Hungary. Walking a short detour from the hotel's parking spot we have a magnificent panoramic view. Occasionally even the High Tatras can be seen from the observation tower. Here we have lunch and then after the Catholic church we leave the village. The church in Galyatető is as if it was the big brother of the one at Mátraháza. After leaving the biathlon centre's Székely gate that had seen better days (once even hosted the junior world championship) an easy hike awaits us at the top of Mátra. We pass by the observatory

standing at the Piszkés-tető and then we begin descending. At the bottom of the mountain we cross a causeway and after crossing the Bögös meadow we reach Mátraszentimre. During the last kilometres of our daily pilgrimage we cross the Csörgő stream's valley and then we reach the best known pilgrimage site of upper Mátra's churches, the Mary's chapel of Fallóskút from the side of Gubola-houses.





**Stations:** Galyatető, Observatory at Piszkéstető, Mary's Chapel.

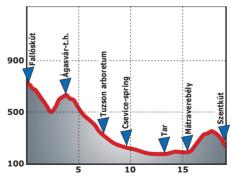




# Section 3, (20 km) From Fallóskút to Szentkút

Our daily pilgrimage mostly leads along wellworn tourist routes, but around the settlements it runs along causeways from the Mátra down through the wide valley of the Zagyva to our National Shrine. We have to descend on a nearly 10% slope 2.4 km into the valley of Csörgőcreek. From here we climb up 130 m to the tourist house at Ágasvár. During the walk we can take fresh spring water at Vándor-spring. Then we begin to descend again until we reach the Tuzson arboretum after 3.5 km walk. Following a further half-hour walk we get to the carbonated water of Csevice-spring. We have only two kilometres left until the next settlement, Tar. We leave the Mátra Mountains in the valley of Szalajka (Csevice) creek. In order to be able to visit the ruins of the Tar Lőrinc mansion and the medieval church -





dedicated to St. Michael - in Tar our pilgrimage route has to take a big turn. Leaving the village we walk over to the other side of the Zagyva and cross the main road No. 21. From here we continue along a narrow asphalt road until the "Nagyboldogasszony" parish church at Verebély. To reach our final destination, Szentkút (Holy source) at Mátraverebély we need to venture into the mountains of Cserhát and have yet 120 m altitude and 3.5 km distance to overcome.



**Stations:** Tuzson arboretum, Csevice-spring, Tar, church at Mátraverebély, Szent László (St. Ladislaus) spring.



















For us Hungarians, this is the valley where there is the place prepared by God for the Woman (cf. Rev. 12.6), the Virgin Mary. The desert was turned into a paradise garden with her help, into a place for the encounter with God. This is the reason why the Hungarian Catholic Bishops' Conference declared our pilgrimage place a national shrine.



Location	Food and Lodging	Contacts
Gyöngyös	Koháry Restaurant	+36 30 493 2543
Mátrafüred	3200 Gyöngyös, Koháry út 26.  Benevár Restaurant 3232 Mátrafüred, Parádi út 10.	info@koharyetterem.hu +36 37 320 261 info@benevaretterem.hu
Mátraháza	Magyar Alverna House 3233 Mátraháza, Hrsz 7123	+36 20 770 4671 alverna-haz@ofm.hu
Galyatető	Kilátó Guesthouse and Restaurant Galyatető, Kodály Zoltán sétány 17.	+36 30 436 2781 galya68@freemail.hu
Bagolyírtás	Stella Catholic Church Resort 3235 Mátraszentimre-Bagolyírtás, Jókai út 1.	+36 30 598 9731
Fallóskút	Tourist House Fallóskút 3235 Mátraszentimre-Fallóskút, Óvár utca 13.	+36-20-385-6364 greman_jozsef@freemail.hu
Tar	Mária Mosolya Pilgrim's House 3073 Tar, Petőfi út 5.	+36 20 828 0950
Szentkút	Pilgrim's House Szentkút 3077 Mátraverebély. Mátraverebély-Szentkút 14.	+36 32 471 559 szentkut@ofm.hu





### Organized and guided pilgrimages along the Way of Mary

Choose our Roman Catholic pilgrimage - from April to October-for groups of 15-20 students or classes, nevertheless it is open for anyone. Pilgrimage guidance and coordination of the daily activities is suggested for the good of the age group and in order to achieve the pilgrimage's objective. The program is recommended from the age of 14, however also younger students can walk the pilgrimage but in smaller groups. According to the three internal, spiritual processes of the pilgrimage, there are three thematic days along the Way of Mary. Each day has its own themed game and mobile application (cultural history detective, cashing landscape value, Legend Production).

The pilgrimage increases self-awareness, the feeling of togetherness and the respect for each other's feelings within the group, the love of nature, endurance and it guides onto the way of peace and amicability.

Our partners and supporters:







**Along Values** 

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In the frame of the project entitled "Development of attractions and services related to the Northern Hungarian section of the Way of Mary - Via mariae". supported by the European Union and the Hungarian government Mary Gardens were established, in which there are rain shelters, payerdesks and Mary statues to be found. As part of the project a GPSbased mobile tour guide application is available for smartphones. As part of the interactive Internet Portal of the premium section of the Northern Hungarian Way of Mary, the Interactive tourism database assists the orientation of pilgrims. A pilgrim booklet with maps, promotional leaflets and a pilgrimage book have been prepared for the project. The amount of the support is 166.27 million HUF, which covers 94% of the full investment. Implementation of the project started on 23.09.2014. The project was finished on 30.06.2015.



