

1020 years old heritage - Pannonhalma and its environs

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Abstract

In Western Hungary an outstanding asset dominates the landscape, fitting neatly into its environment: the 1020 years old Benedictine Arch-abbey of Pannonhalma. The monastery – together with its harmonious natural environment – was put on the World Heritage List in 1996. The monastery hill is highly exceeding from the region, it can be seen from hundreds of kilometers. The Abbey together with its wider ambience (farmsteads, fields, villages, etc.) recalls a time when the monks were self-sufficient. The cultural and architectural values are strongly connected with their environs, the monastery is surrounded by a 7052 hectare Landscape Protection Area, a not yet fully transformed remain of the limy sand plains of the Small Hungarian Plain. The sustainment of the world heritage area must be planned and managed in quite a prudent and complex (agrarian, urban, archeological, natural, etc.) system. The goal of the management is to create the World Heritage Area's land use structure, based on the natural and cultural values of the region.

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