



# HORTOBÁGY

„Where the sky meets the earth”

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## Visitors map

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|---|---|--|---|--|
|  <b>Információ</b><br>Information             |  <b>Világörökségi emlékkő</b><br>World Heritage memorial stone |  <b>Mosdó</b><br>Toilet                         |  <b>Látványpont</b><br>Photo point                 |  <b>Lovaglás</b><br>Horse riding          |
|  <b>Látogatóközpont</b><br>Visitor centre     |  <b>Vízisínpad</b><br>Open-air stage                           |  <b>Akadálymentes WC</b><br>Barrier-free toilet |  <b>Csónakázás</b><br>Boating                      |  <b>Kerékpárkölcsönzés</b><br>Bike rental |
|  <b>Hortobágy Infó</b><br>Tourist office      |  <b>Madárkórház</b><br>Bird hospital                           |  <b>Étterem</b><br>Restaurant                   |  <b>Halastavi kisvasút</b><br>Narrow-gauge railway |  <b>Pusztajárat</b><br>Pusztajárat        |
|  <b>Pásztor múzeum</b><br>Herders' Museum     |  <b>Elsősegély</b><br>First aid                                |  <b>Jegyváltás</b><br>Ticket                    |  <b>Bankautomata</b><br>ATM                        |  <b>Kiállítás</b><br>Exhibition           |
|  <b>Hortobágyi csárda</b><br>Hortobágy Csárda |  <b>Pusztai állatpark</b><br>Hungarian Rare Breeds Park        |  <b>Ajándék</b><br>Souvenir                     |  <b>Szálláshely</b><br>Accommodation               |  <b>Helyközi busz</b><br>Coach stop       |
|  <b>Kilenclyukú híd</b><br>Nine-arch Bridge   |  <b>Hortobágyi vadaspark</b><br>Hortobágy Wild Animal Park     |  <b>Parkoló</b><br>Parking                      |  <b>Tanösvény</b><br>Nature trail                  |  <b>Kerékpárút</b><br>Bike route          |
|  <b>Kézműves vásár</b><br>Handicrafts market  |  <b>Kalandpark</b><br>Adventure Park                           |  <b>Játótér</b><br>Playground                   |  <b>Szekértúra</b><br>Horse-drawn carriage tour    |  <b>Főút</b><br>Main road                 |



## Welcome to Hortobágy, Dear Visitor!

The Hortobágy Puszta is one of Europe's largest natural grasslands, shaped by herder societies. It still carries the traces of traditional land use that dates back thousands of years, with shepherding as one of the oldest professions. The title of a World Heritage site suggests much about the uniqueness and richness of this landscape. A wide range of attractions awaits you, with stories about the connection between nature, grazing livestock, and people, their interdependence, and their harmonious coexistence. Discover this ancient yet vibrant landscape! Find your own initiation, and uncover your personal story here. We offer further assistance in this endeavour, with the comprehensive development of the reception area, thought-provoking and emotion-conveying printed and exclusive, sometimes monumental multimedia content, as well as interactive, playful tools to facilitate engagement. We hope to inspire you to embark on a journey through the puszta, equipped with this intellectual and emotional travel kit. We have strived to make exploring the site easier with an outdoor and indoor information system, a digital exhibition guide that also handles foreign language access, and the introduction of an online ticketing system.

### „Designed by nature for animal husbandry“

The old wagon stand, restored to its early 20th-century condition, now known as the Herders' Museum, along with the building of the Csárda and the Nine-Arch Bridge, constitutes the historically authentic and original centre of the puszta. The Herders' Museum serves as the primary space for initiation into the world of the puszta, a spiritual and intellectual gateway for understanding and embracing this unique landscape.

From the entrance to the exit, the exhibition's story unfolds in interconnected 'theme islands' overarching the times of drive-out and drive-in that reveal the connections between nature and herder's life.

Herders are the key players in land use, and the exhibition's contents offer the opportunity to identify with the Puszta through their eyes.

Caution: the strong visual and auditory experiences will change your perspective, at least about this ancient Puszta.

## The Starting Point for Puszta Journeys

 Hortobágy Info is the arrival point from everyday life and the starting point for Puszta adventure trips. It serves as an information and transportation hub, offering tour information services as well as local products and souvenirs. You can purchase tickets for all attractions here. Traditional and electric bus routes to the Wild Animal Park depart from the building. The renovated 'Víziszínpad' (Waterside Stage) offers excellent views of the historic Nine-Arch Bridge, the old wagon stand, and the procession of drive-in and drive-out celebrations from its grandstand.

 You can follow the herders' daily routine on the sun clock diagrams next to the Herders' Museum.

 To explore the river's wildlife, boat tours depart from the bridge area. North of the bridge, the Csárdakert (Csárda's Garden) provides a shaded, landscaped resting place. The permanent pavilions at the market square await with a colourful selection.

 In the Bird Hospital, injured or orphaned individuals of protected and strictly protected bird species are rescued. The hospital building features a bird rescue exhibition, and you can observe recovering birds in the recovery rooms.

 The Hortobágy Csárda [inn] invites enthusiasts of local gastronomy with the atmosphere of several centuries, and its history comes to life in its exhibition.

## World Heritage Treasury

 Another initiation site and educational space is the Visitor Centre of Hortobágy National Park. On the ground floor of the 'Nature of Hortobágy' exhibition, the landscape development of Hortobágy and its well-known and hidden natural treasures are revealed. You can also try a virtual bird watching experience to then be inspired to experience it out in the field. Upstairs, we tell the stories of cranes, extinct species and newcomer species. Passing by the information desk on the ground floor, you can reach the café through the gift shop. The exhibition in the

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„Ahol az ég a földet éri“

'Puszta Treasure Chest' is about 'the utility of livestock,' focusing on crafts based on raw materials from pastoral animal husbandry. There is also a playhouse and a historical costume gallery here. Finally, in the last room, you can experience a realistic VR adventure of a wagon journey.

## Head to the Pasture!

 If you want to feel the scent of the wildflowers on the puszta, see the mirages dancing in the summer heat, the all-year-round herds appearing in the distance, the invisible forces guiding the flocks of Racka sheep left and right, or the buffalo cooling off in the mud, then make your way to Máta-puszta. While touring in a horse-drawn carriage, you can get to know our traditional Hungarian domestic animals. During the horse-herding demonstration, you can marvel at the perfect harmony between the horsemen and their horses. In the reception building, you'll find a gift shop, a buffet, a horse history exhibition, and a carriage museum. You can take a peek into the workshop of the potter from Nádudvar, stroll through the stables of the Máta Stud Farm, and enjoy refreshments at the Nyerges Café, separated by a glass wall. In the ambiance of a traditional peasant farm, the Puszta Animal Park showcases our old Hungarian domestic animals with an interactive trail. Beyond the petting zoo, you can get up close to the animals on the bridge of the buffalo washing pool.

## On the trails of Nature

 In addition to the grassy Puszta, the 'Nature of Hortobágy' includes the wildlife and the fishponds created from the former marshes. In the Wild Animal Park at Malomháza, you can encounter the 'wild faces' of Hortobágy, such as wolves, vultures, pelicans, and today's animals like foxes, deer, wildcats, cranes, and White-tailed Eagles, which lived in this area before the arrival of humans. If you seek further adventure, the extra safari program will take you close to the Przewalski's horses and the reconstructed aurochs. To rediscover the world of water, the Narrow-gauge Train of Hortobágy Fishpond will provide an opportunity, which is set to be renewed by in the near future. While travelling on the five-kilometre long track, you can spot various bird species en route. Keen observers may see kingfishers, herons, wild geese, ducks, Black-headed Gulls and colonies of marsh terns. At the final station, you can disembark from the train and walk along a 500-meter boardwalk to view the birdlife in the fishpond. By ascending the observation towers, you can admire the picturesque landscape. In the autumn, thousands of cranes gather to roost in the pond near the terminal station of the Narrow-gauge train. During organized tours, witnessing the cranes appearing in the sunset offers an unforgettable experience. With your entrance ticket, you can explore designated exhibition areas on foot or by bicycle. Trail signs and e-books are there to assist you.

