

Underground tour – Adventure “Level zero – The roads of the old crews”

This tour is a kind of expedition in which the consumers “dive” into the underground of fortress Petrovaradin. You’ll experience the 300 years old underground, smell the soil and clay, inhale dust and spirits of ancient warriors. You will hear the heartbeats of those close to you and you will touch the walls of one of the most beautiful masterpieces of fortifications.

We are going to an adventure which is a creative workshop of the association “3D World – UGRIP” who is exploring the underground and struggling for its preservation. Ahead of us lie more than 25 kilometers of tunnels of which only 900 meters are officially explored. The maze of the tunnels is shaped in four levels of defense with more than 10 floors of galleries one beneath the other. If you heard about the stories of dragon who is feasting with curious tourists and treasure hunters, about hidden nazi train, about the tunnel beneath the Danube river, about the tiger, and finally about the forbidden love of Maria Bruckner, and lot more you are at the right place, to explore them with us.

[EXPLANATION]

During this workshop you will get a brief course in history of the fortress, about its parts, fortification elements and names, about the counter-mining warfare, levels, floors and levels of defense, secret of numbered plates and military mapping used during the ages, signs and graffiti, blind, communication and mine galleries.

You’ll get a glimpse of the underground which was prepared for six garrisons of soldiers and you’ll see the daylight through one of the 1200 embrasures and ventilation holes. We’ll step into the hallways which were inaccessible for decades. By passing through all four levels of defense we’ll arrive to the Kaiser well where the emperor of Holy Roman Empire Josef the 2nd drank water. You’ll hear about the legends and you’ll have an opportunity to guide us through the tunnels at the head of our column. We can play a famous game of old explorers (optionally) in which the lights are switched off and the consumers get the task to reach the end of the tunnel in a complete dark, it’s called the “touching or tapping”. In a total dark with the rest of the expedition you’ll be able to hear the ancient ghosts of the fortress builders of which, sometimes, 70 a day died during fortress construction.

[PLAN and PROGRAM]

- 1. MEETING** – Meeting 10 minutes before the actual arranged time.
- 2. A WELCOME GIFT** - Association “3D World – UGRIP” prepared present for you, it is a unique map of the fortress and its tunnels which was a top secret for centuries.
- 3. GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER** - We are getting known to each other and also with the fortress and its history, its elements, purposes and the counter-mine system.
- 4. THE PLAN of TOUR and THE TASK** – We are developing the strategy, plan of the tour through the underground galleries, we are planning our time management a set few tasks that we have to do.
- 5. CHECKING** – Final checking of lights, batteries and additional equipment is performed. The rules for the behavior in the insides of the fortress are introduced.
- 6. START and “THE DIVE”** – Now when the preparations are finished we are ready for the “dive” and we are going to the location of the entrance to the tunnels.
- 7. THE INSIDES OF THE FORTRESS** – During the “dive” we are behaving according to the rules presented before. Also, we are adopting to the terrain, environment and to the conditions about which we talked during the meeting. The rules of the tour are enclosed in special document “rules” and terms of behavior during expedition.

8. MEDAL OF HONOR – After the successfully finished tour every consumer get a “medal of honor” in form of one of the symbols of Fortress Petrovaradin. Depending on the tour, every medal has its own meaning, and represents the level of your experience in the underground tunnels and it shapes your next the next tours through the underground. We are offering more than fifteen different tours through the underground.

[EXPEDITION]

Expedition “Level zero” is held by experienced explorer and lover of the fortress called JFM UGRIP which has more than hundreds of entrances, which means more than 5000 hours spent in the underground tunnels. These guides know by hearth the system of more than 25 kilometer of tunnels. The guide has acquaintance – a “Splinter” who is additionally taking care of You and helping to better enjoy the expedition.

[LINKS]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VrB9nqb9Oal&t=925s> – TV show “Kvadratura kruga”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dsNdJ8F_Td8&t=238s – TV show “Marka Žvaka”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Xofgl3HEqM&t=191s> – TV show Tv Most

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bO9_4IJvnAY&t=931s – TV show Tv Most

[RULES]

1. [PARKING and MEETING]

- 1.1 If you`re coming by car you can park the car in the foothil of the fortress in front of the restaurant Trag Rode i Mačka. However, if you`re coming up to the fortress you can find a space for your car in front of the museum of Novi Sad.
- 1.2 Meeting is at the agreed location 10 minutes before the agreed time of the tour start. The tour is going to be (can be) held regardless the weather, snow, rain, sun...

2. [TIME MENAGEMENT]

- the tour lasts from 2 to 3 hours, but of course it can be shorter.
- the tour can be arranged in the morning, during day and during night

3. [CLOTHING]

- 3.1. Beside the comfortable shoes and casual clothing (we are not going to the disco) it is recommended to dress up in levels of clothes (t-shirt short and long), because the temperature in the tunnels is usuallz in the range of 12 to 15 °C. During the summer it is fresh down there and the temperature varies around 16 °C while in the winter 12 to 15 °C is commonly expected, but sometimes it can be even 21 °C regardless of the minus temperatures outside.
- 3.2 It is recommended to wear a huddie and to tie your hair. Hats and baseball hats are not recommended to wear in the tunnels because they obstruct your perception of the space around you and consequently you can hit your head to the top of the tunnel.

4. [LIGHTS, CAMERA, VIDEO]

- 4.1 - It is good to have a mobile phone with you, for making photos and as a source of light (torch). Down there, mobile operators signal is out of range so the mobile phones are useless for the calls.

4.2 - If you have a hand light bring it with you, you can buy them really cheap for few EURs. However, the light source from the mobile phones are quite well for the experience.

5. [FOOD and DRINKS]

- bring a sandwich if you want, some sweets are always welcomed and bring a bottle of water with yourself

6. [ATTENTION]

5.1 – you are attending the tour on your own responsibility!

5.2 – we are going to a place with a total darkness, in there you can just at some places see the daylight through the embrasures, ventilations and casemates

5.3 – if you're claustrophobic or you are prone to panic and you hardly deal with fear, please don't hesitate and don't go with us to this adventure - creative workshop

5.4 – if someone during the tour becomes frightened and wants to go out, we can get you out in two or three minutes from any stage of the tour

5.5 – during the tour it is important to move cautiously and easily . Listen to all of your senses, especially where the tour guide (JFM) calls for attention

5.6 – It is VERY important, that when you pass through some tricky part of the tunnel (a part with holes, low tunnels, bumps, mud, water, bats) to pass the message to the other consumers of the tour. This is important for avoiding accidents and injuries.

5.7 – taller people have to take special care, pay attention and be cautious in the downhills to avoid head hitting and serious injuries.

5.8 – beside bricks, dust, mud and water at some rare locations you can see some cans, plastic bottles and trash which are inevitably part of our stern reality, and unfortunately we still didn't managed to pick it up (after more than 100 tons that we cleaned there)

5.9 – a lot of tunnels are covered with graffiti of treasure hunters and curious guys.

7. [IT IS ALLOWED]

7.1 - to smoke a cigarette during our stop breaks

7.2 - if someone can't stand it or he has to go to toilet please say that to the guide and he will get you outside

8. [IT IS NOT ALLOWED]

8.1 - to get on the tour drunk or tipsy

8.2 - to consume alcohol during the creative workshop

8.3 - it is strictly forbidden to throw away any kind of trash. We have to pick it up all and bring it out

UGRIP - VIRIBUS UNITIS