



Culture and Traditions at Lake Balaton

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Association of Civil Organizations of Lake Balaton

12TH International Living Lakes Conference

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The surface area: 594 square kilometres,

Its average depth: 3,2 metres.

The water catchment area of the lake: 5,775 square kilometres.

The length of the shore is 235 km, of which 107 km is artificially built.



Short historic overview

- Prehistoric man
- Pannon tribes and Celts
- Romans – Lacus Pelso
- Huns
- Ostrogoths
- Avars
- Slavs
- Since 896 Hungarians



„**Natural Period of Lake Balaton**” when people had accepted the harmony offered by nature.

„**Socialized Period of Lake Balaton**” when Balaton people had to serve as hosts to persons of another world.



The harmony between people and nature has not totally disappeared but got wounded in the „Socialized period”.

What we can do?

We should **change the attitude of people to life** who live or spend their vacation here.

How can we do that?

The culture is one of the most effective way to make impression on the attitude to lives of people.



Proposals:

- Artists, scientists and environmentalists should organize or take part in more programs together.
- Artists, scientists and environmentalists should work on more projects together.



Examples:

- The work of the Association of Civil Organizations of Lake Balaton.
- The work of the Women for the Lake Balaton Association what was founded in 1995 with the objective of protecting the natural, environmental and cultural values of Lake Balaton.
- A new program: „Balaton, European Lake of Culture” what belongs to the other program: „Pécs, European Capital of Culture 2010.



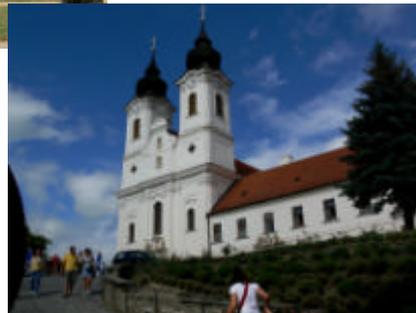
Viticulture and gastronomy



Architecture



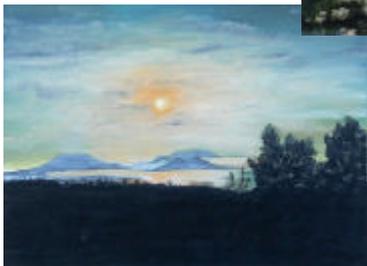
Architecture



Folk Arts



Fine art



Bathing culture



„Lake Balaton is fantasy and poetry, history and tradition, the collection of sweet-sorrowful fables, ancient nest for strange Hungarians, pride from the past and bright hope for the future.”

(Károly Eötvös writer)



Thank you for your attention!

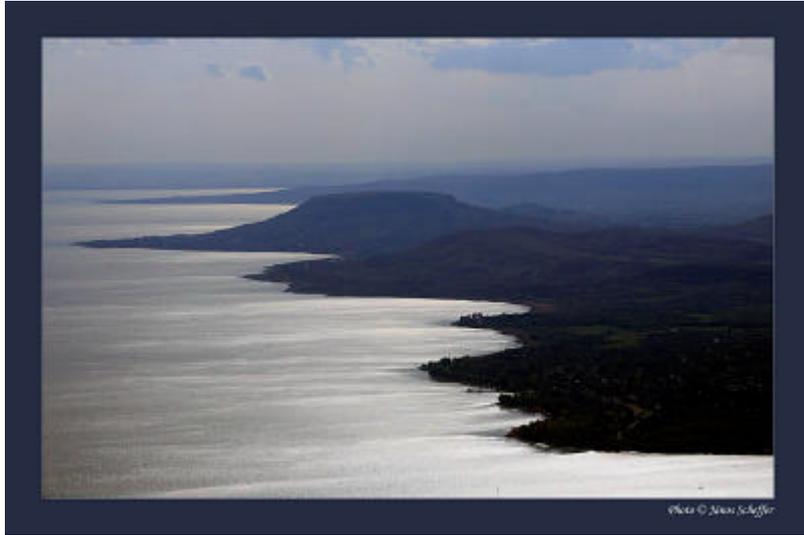


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