

How to survive in Dolný Kubín



The best tips for live in DK

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Who we are

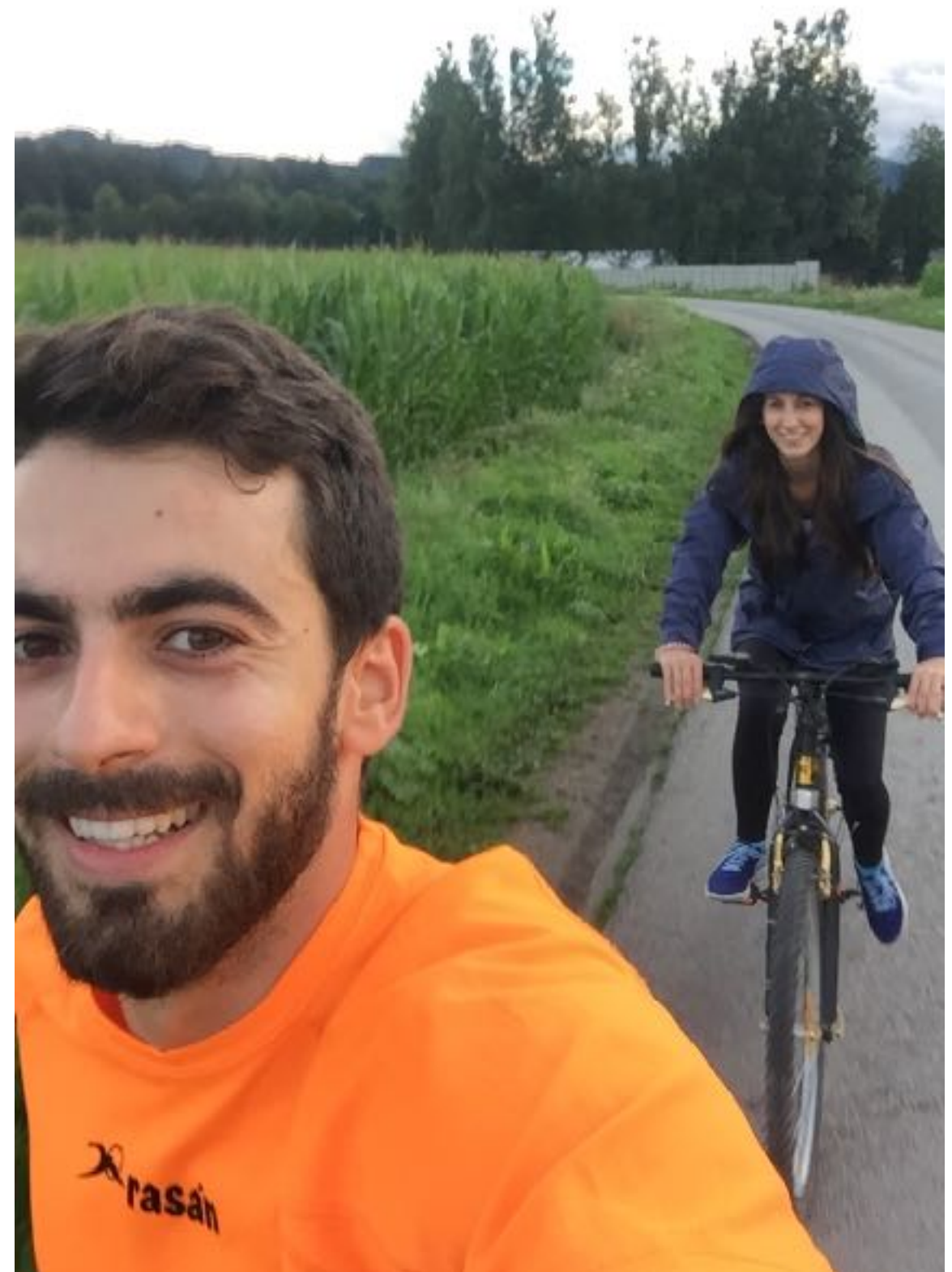
Jorge Domenech Chornet

Maria Iñigo Chambó

Hi everybody!!

We are two guys from Spain who were the first Mladiinfo's volunteers in DK in 2017 for 1 year. We want to give you some places and tips to go or spend time in Slovakia.

Feel free to add more at the end if you discovered new places.
Also some presentation about you





Let's start with the city

Dolný Kubín is a small city compared with cities in Spain, is not strange if in fall-winter everything is close at 18:00 and few(or nobody) is on the street, in spring-summer it looks more full of life, and more people go outside.

When we arrived was summer, and mostly of the persons were on holidays, it was hot, not like Spain but very good weather, we loved this weather. It's time to travel, hiking and enjoy the good weather with other volunteers or your Slovak's friends.

The winter was a bit hard for us, specially on January-February, at the end of February was super cold here, but people here enjoy the cold weather. We survived so, you also can. The best of winter here is the snow, we expected a lot of snow, 2-3 meters, but don't worry that isn't going to happen. The snow is beautiful the first week, but then it became black with the traffic and also it start to melt, so it wasn't cool. Now it's time to try ski or snowboard but we speak about that latter.

Dolný Kubín

Activities

Hiking

If you are hiking lover, Slovakia and Dolný Kubín have many places for go, you can take good shoes or a bike and enjoy the beautiful places here.

First we want to show you **Kubínska Hoľa**, nice place to go walking or by bike and climb the mountain, we recommend go walking, you can follow the road that Google Maps say or find new roads crossing the mountain

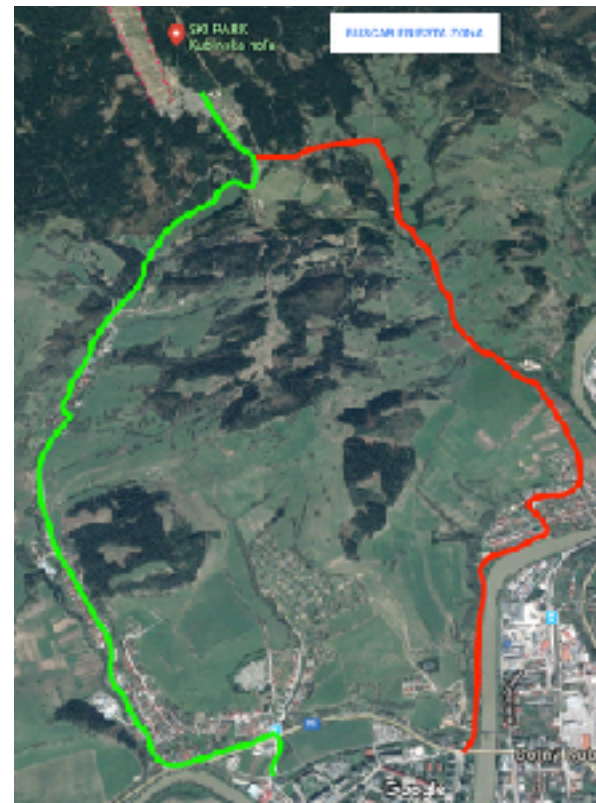
Other near mountain is **Veľký Choč**, you can go walking from Dolný Kubín or take the bus and stop in Vyšný Kubín or Jasenová. We never were there but you can check the routes.

Also very nice place is **Vysoke Tatry** or **Malá Fatra**. We recommend go at least once. Check in the web sites for routes.

Hiking in Slovakia, roads and cottages - <https://hiking.sk>

in English - <https://spectator.sme.sk/c/20059736/best-hiking-trails-in-Slovakia-top.html>

Hiking in Slovakia - <https://www.outdooractive.com/en/hikes/slovakia/hiking-in-slovakia/1433978/>



Kubínska Hoľa



Veľký Choč



Vysoke Tatry



Malá Fatra

Activities

Go for a walk

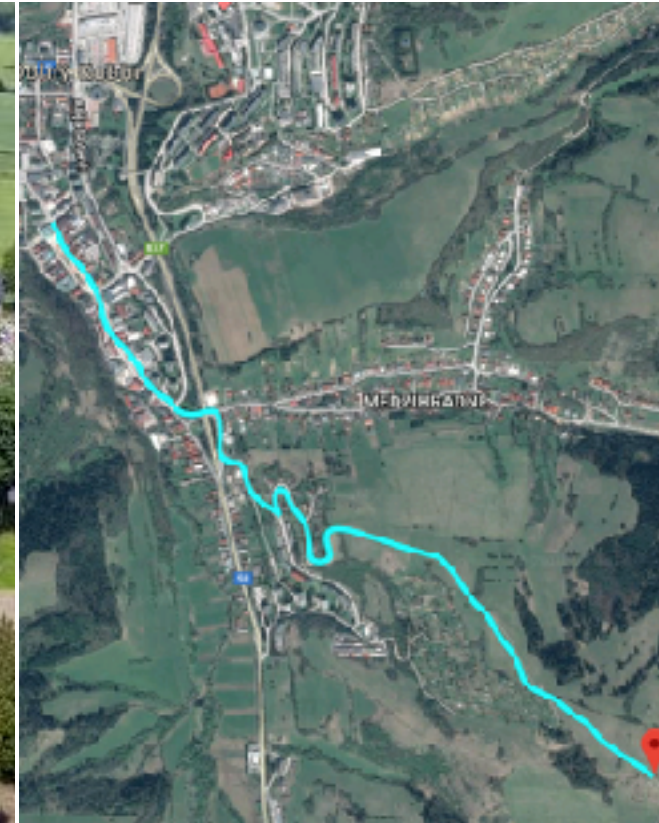
If you don't like the adrenaline just walk in a flat road and relaxed, **Camp Tilia Gacel** it's your place, walk next to the river cross the fantastic pendant bridge and walk until Gacel. Very nice for spring, summer and fall.

Also you can explore the **Kuzminovo** area, just go up from Koliba restaurant and explore the mountain very beautiful in fall.

Other fantastic route is the **Cyrilometodský kríž ekumenickej jednoty**, we just call "**The cross**". It's a easy route from Dolný Kubín maybe 30 min from the center. There you have definitely the best views to DK and also Vyšný Kubín if you continue a bit more. We recommend these route for boring days, take pure air and be in touch with nature.



Camp Tilia Gacel



"The cross"



Kuzminovo

Dolný Kubín

Activities

Sport/Gym

In these area we only can recommended **MAXIMUS GYM**. It was our 2^o home and Slovak family, they were super nice with us.

If you like do Crossfit and functional training you must go there, these is your place, you have at your disposal a great qualified trainers. They are very active in Crossfit competition and Spartan Race. They are absolutely a Spartans.

You can training by yourself in the WorkOut next to the river and Koliba. But in winter is very cold so... it's up to you..



Spartan Race



MAXIMUS GYM



WorkOut

Activities

Ski parks

Near to Dolny Kubin is **Kubínska Hol'a Ski park**.

Nice place to ski or snowboard in winter, it isn't so big, from my point of view, but for spent a day there it's fantastic. The only big problem is how get there. There aren't bus, only taxi, I think too much expensive (you have to ask), or if you have any friend with car or a school trip in winter is the cheap form to go.

By the way, there are other ski parks near, **Donovaly**, bigger than Kubinska Hol'a and for more range of level. To get there you can take the bus from Dolny Kubin to Donovaly and it leave you in the center of ski park, very easy.



Kubínska Hol'a Ski park



Donovaly

Activities

Bowling

In the Hotel Park you can go for spend a great afternoon/evening with friends playing bowling and drink some tasty cocktails. The price it isn't too much expensive it's 12€/hour only 1 lane.

Also you can play pool (billiards) and darts. Nice place to spend winter afternoons.



Bowling

AquaPark

If you are looking for a water experience AquaPark in DK is your place. It's a few expensive but is good for relax and swim. If it is small for you check other in all Slovakia.

Tatralandia is the biggest, at least close to DK, is located in Liptovský Mikuláš.



AquaPark



Tatralandia

Dolný Kubín

Restaurants

Koliba it's a traditional Slovak restaurant, everything build in wood, you can taste the best traditional Slovak food inside. We recommend this restaurant for try Halušky, they cook it very well.

Pizza Il Veliero, good Italian restaurant in the middle of the main square. All pizza and pasta are really good there.

Oaza is located in the Martina Kukučina's park. Good place for eat pizza or pasta, it isn't too much expensive.

Next to Cultural center in Bysterec is **Centrum Pub**, you can eat a big burger pizza there, it's the unique restaurant have burger (I think) and it's good, also the beer and the other food is good.

If you like exotic food, in my opinion like Chinese, go to **Sen Bistro**, the food is really good, the big problem in these restaurant is the close time in the evening, 19:00.



Koliba Restaurant



Pizza Il Veliero



Oaza



Centrum Pub



Sen Bistro

Dolný Kubín

Bar/Club

Now let's start with the important places, where drink beer.

First **Severan**, nice place next to the river with pretty views. It's the most modern in all DK. They organise some parties (check the Facebook page) and the atmosphere is good.

Crossing the wood bridge, in the Bysterec's side, is located **Rio Bar**, there you can play pool, darts or spend time drinking beer or cocktails with friends or other volunteers.

In front of Business academy, up to the Pizza Mama, entrance for the picture's door there is a bar with the cheapest beer, these bar is completed different to the others but the beer is cheap and also you can play darts. We don't know the name.

More like a Club or Disco in the night is **Ilúzia klub**, in the main square entrance for a narrow street. These place open until latter and it's a bit dark but for drink something or go for a party is good.

If you like drink good cocktails in a terrace, with sun shining (when there is sun in DK) **TOPKA** is a nice place for it. It is next to post office, up to Kia cars. There also you can smoke shisha.



Severan



Rio Bar



Pizza MAMA



Ilúzia klub



TOPKA

Dolný Kubín

Coffee/Sweets

Cukráreň is the name of the place where you have to go if you like the sweets.

In front of Hotel Park the place is called **Cukráreň Arcada**, they have really good sweets and coffee, and also is cheaper than the other.

Moja Kaviarnicka is a new place in front of the primary school for eat and drink sweets and coffee but is more expensive.

The best and cheapest ice cream in DK are between coop and orange, in front of Hladny Vlk, definitely was our place for eat ice cream.

We want to advertiser you that sweets here in Slovakia sometimes looks good, but the taste isn't really good. For example some are made with Poppy seeds but looks like chocolate.



Cukráreň Arcada



Moja Kaviarnicka



The best ice cream

Organizations

There are more organisations here in Dolny Kubin where you can go to help and collaborate.

GARÁŽ klub. In this youth club always are open to do news events, workshops and whatever you wish. This club is free alcohol smoke and drugs. There always have German volunteers and the owner Roman is really friendly. We went every Thursday to make Spanish conversation and they want do it with all languages.

Edukos is a organisation which work with Gipsy children. They do different activities with them and try to help families with necessities. It's sited down of this building.



GARÁŽ klub



Edukos

Curiosities for us

The first shock was when we arrive to our flat, they leave the shoes outside home, we never do it at home. Then when we get in we saw that they have the bathroom separated to the toilet, although in our case was more estrange, for go to the bathroom you have to pass for the toilet.

On the sunrise, you will understand this. They don't have blind, they have a kind of shade witch doesn't cover completely the sun. So in summer this is definitely the worse for to start the day.

In Spain we are used to see many people in the street, in the bars, here in DK the shops close very soon, more or less at 18:00, and it's strange see people walking after this time, mainly in winter, nobody is in the street after 18:00 or before. And the people speak very softly in the street, but there are times that they are very loud...when they are drunks.

Also the lunch and dinner's time. Very awful for Spanish. They lunch's time is between 11:30 and 12:30 and dinner 19:00 to 20:00, depend of people, luckily we cook at home so we could eat at Spanish time.

Other thing that is very normal in the whole Europe, it's the greeting between boys-girls or girls-girls. In Spain is usually give two kisses, although you didn't know the other person, here only if he/she is your friend.

Slovakia

More

Slovakia is a small country but they have many places, mountains, castles.... And all of them are beautiful.

Near to DK is **Orava Castle** in Oravský Podzámok. Very beautiful figure from outside.

Slovakia is full of castles. For me the most beautiful castle in Slovakia is **Bojnice**, nothing more to say.

Other nice city not far from here is **Žilina**. Is bigger than DK and there are shopping centres for everything.

Other city a bit far is **Banská Bystrica**, but is really nice city.

The second biggest city in Slovakia, **Košice**. You can't lose the opportunity to visit this city.

The capital city, **Bratislava**. Also have a nice old town that you have to visit. Ask to the Bratislava Mladiinfo's volunteers if they can host you and what can you visit and everything.



Orava Castle



Bojnice castle



Žilina



Banská Bystrica



Košice



Bratislava

Slovakia

More

Slovakia is plenty of wood's churches which are really beautiful building. Even though you aren't believer, this building are really nice. The nearest DK is in **Leštiny**. Check in internet the schedule because maybe it's close some days.

In Slovakia it's full of **Nacional parks, Caves, Castles and Geoparks**, if for you it's interesting this field you can't lose the opportunity for go and watch all of this beautiful places.

For more places, sports, activities, spa travels and a big etc. please search this web it is all explain and also in English.

slovakia.travel

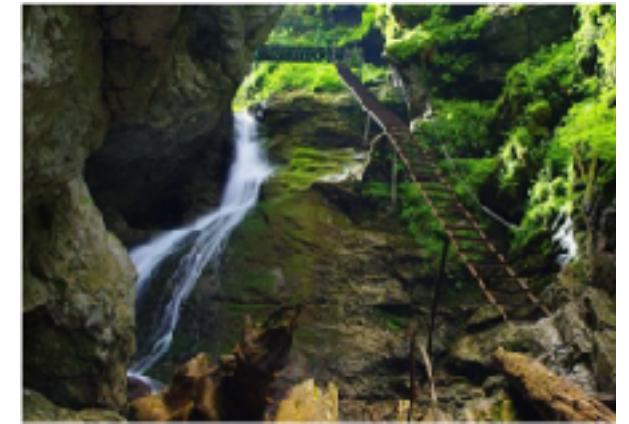
<http://slovakia.travel/en>

All of this is very useful but if you don't know how to travel is good-for-nothing. So we recommended **cp.sk**, it's a page for know every connection of train and bus. Also it have a **app for mobil phone**.

For travel to Krakow, Prague Budapest, DK have good connections by **FlixBus**, is a cheap bus company that you can take it for travel. But the time from DK are really awful, at 3:30 a.m.



Wooden church



National Park of Slovenský raj



Demänovská ľadová jaskyňa cave



Banská Štiavnica Geopark



FlixBus

Enjoy your

