



The millennial look-out tower

This is an artificial two-storey tuff cave, where local people used to get stone powder for scrubbing and also for selling.

In the streets of the village you can see many beautiful houses –with traditional long, narrow covered terraces– in original conditions. The **Farmer's House** shows the life of a medium sized landowner family in the beginning of the 20th century. The house has a long, narrow covered terrace on the side and

it was built in 1911 in traditional style. The memorial room of the famous son of the village, **Imre Cserépfalvi**, is also nearby. Originally his surname was Deutsch, but he changed it under the influence of his nice childhood memories. In 1936 he established the Cserépfalvi Book Publisher in Budapest. He was friends with Miklós Radnóti, Zoltán Szabó, Imre Kovács and György Faludy. The memorial room, built in the place of the house where he was born, truly presents the life of this legendary book publisher. Furthermore, there is a memorial column in front of the Culture House created by Gyula Pauer, a Munkácsy Prize winner sculptor, in 2000 on the centenary of Imre Cserépfalvi's birth. The **exhibition of Mrs. Barna Szegedy**, showing **her own embroidery** at 35. Kossuth L. street and the **Art Gallery**, exhibiting **ceramics and paintings**, are also worth a visit.

The church of the village is one of the tallest **Reformed churches** in Borsod–Abaúj county with its height of 54m. It has 1300 seats and was built in Neogothic style, on the Millennium in 1898. Its pulpit is from the 18th century.

Next to the Mész Hill, on the **Cserépi meadow** and **Hidegkút-lapos** the wooded pastures, with their hundreds years old Turkish Oaks and Sessile Oaks, have started to be overrun by bushes and trees after the acorning of hogs was ceased. Now, the Bükk National Park Directorate, in charge of the area, is working to set back this process. In the last few years a local businessman has also taken part in this work by grazing Hungarian Grey Cattle in the area.

Bükkalja Rock-way Information Point Eger, in the yard of the Fellner block

bukkalja.info.hu

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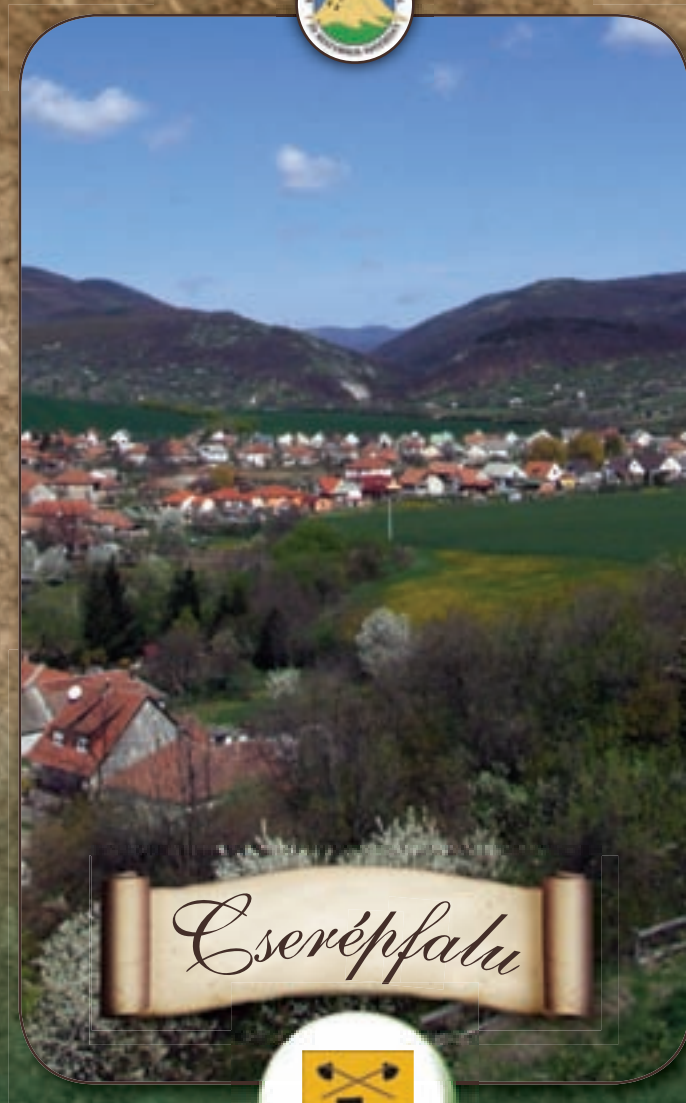


1. Suba-lyuk cave
2. Oszla country house museum
3. Mész Hill
4. Beehive rock – Ördögtorony rock
5. Túrbucka
6. Hideg-kút laposa

Photo: **Baráz Csaba, Hacsí Tamás, Havasi Norbert, Klein Dávid**

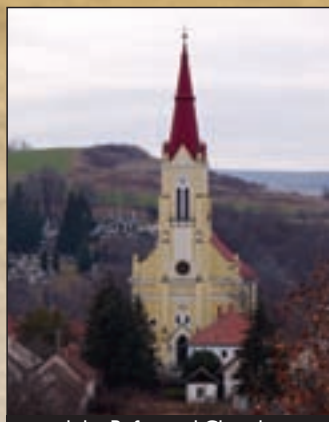
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The Catholic Church of Cserépfalu...



...and the Reformed Church

The village of Cserépfalu is situated 22km east of Eger, in the valley of the Hór stream. The first written record about the village is from 1248 under the name Charep, but its history can be traced back to the beginning of the 12th century. In the beginning of the 13th century it became the property of Bishop Katapán of Eger and at his death it devolved upon the Episcopate. From the age of Louis I the Great (or maybe even from Charles Robert I) the village was recorded as the property of the king. Its church from the Árpád age is mentioned for the first time in a document from 1332. The castle, called Cserépvára, was built in the Anjou age, and in the days of Sigismund it was still owned by the king. In 1443 Ulászló I. inaugurated István Pohárnok as the owner of the castle and the village, which both devolved upon the Rozgonyi family at his death in 1462. However, in 1495 the village was owned by Ferenc Hédervári, but in 1523 Louis II. gave it to the Báthory family, who converted the population to Reformed faith. After the Turkish conquest of Eger, in 1596 Cserépváralfa was also occupied by them, without resistance, but only for a short period. In the 17th and 18th centuries the village had many landowners. After the Nyári family from Bedeg, it was owned by Zsigmond Homonnai-Drugeth and his wife, Mária Eszterházy. They were followed by the Orlik, L'Hullier, Forgách and Eszterházy families. Ferenc Szalai Barkóczi, the bishop of Eger tried to get the village back in 1753, but he did not succeed. In the beginning of the 19th century, the village was the property of Ferenc Dessewffi and at his death it devolved upon the king once again. Later, as an entail, it was owned by the Koháry family, followed by the prince Gothai Szász-Coburg until 1945.

The village lies at the entrance of the longest mountain valley of

Hungary, called Hór Valley. This area has been inhabited since the prehistoric ages, as shown by one of the country's most important prehistoric quarries, the **Suba-lyuk cave**, which has been under protection since 1982. The remains of the skeletons of a woman and a three-year-old child were found here in 1932. They which belong to the Neanderthal man type from 60–70.000 years ago. In the village you can visit the **Suba-lyuk museum**, presenting the excavation, the archaeological importance of the quarry and the life of Neanderthal men as well as the first copies of the tools and bones found here.

Near the village there are other significant prehistoric quarries, too. 2km north-northeast of the village, on the **Mész Hill**, the remains of the fortification of a settlement from the **late Bronze Age or early Iron Age** (the so-called Kiyaticé-culture) can be seen. North of this place, in the sandstone mine of the Hidegkút-lapos Valley, pieces of crock pots, grindstones and wattle-and-daub were found. Furthermore, pieces of crock pots from the Migration age were also discovered in this valley. At the end of a narrow, rocky ridge above the Hór Valley we can come across the ruins of the Ódor Castle. The circumstances of its construction and demolishing are unknown; its only written recording is from 1351. A long part of its footing in the south is still standing. The ruins have a beautiful view of the mountains of the southern Bükk and the hills and villages of the Bükkalja region. At the side of the castle, 494m above sea level, there is the entrance of the **Hajnóczy Cave**, discovered with digging in 1971. The cave is very rich in stalactites and it has been strictly protected since 1982. It can only be visited with special permission and with suitable equipment. On a meadow in the Hór Valley, under the Ódor Castle you can visit the **Oszla country house museum** and see its



The three lines of cellar

exhibition about the foresters' everyday life, work and tools.

In Cserépfalu and its surroundings you can see all types of memories from the Prehistoric Age if you walk along the **Ördögtorony Educational Path**. Northeast of the valley on the western slope of the **Mész Hill**, under the edge of the plateau, there are a few tuff cones. One of these is a beehive rock, called **Ördögtorony** (meaning tower of the devil), which gave the name of the path. There are three beehive chambers in this rock. Near the tuff cone there are two interesting geological formations: the gorge of the Mész Stream and the so-called **Túr bucka**, a hill famous of its ignimbrite stone pillars.

Walking on the path towards the **Ördögtorony rock**, you will pass by the **"Cave Houses of Little America"**. This strange name was given by Reformed people out of irony referring to the fact that in the years of the Great Depression the rich inhabitants of the village emigrated to the American continent, while the poor carved their homes in the tuff rocks, so they only got as far as "Little America". Above the path there is the **Millennium Look-out Tower**, which was designed by György Csete, Kossuth prize winner architect. The shape of the tower is similar to a beehive rock, with windows resembling the chambers and with small holes in the shape of the Big Dipper (Plough) constellation. The old carved stones built in the dacite tuff walls commemorate the stone carvers of old ages.

There are a few lines of cellars in the village, which were built and restored in traditional style. The biggest one is the **Berezdalja line of cellars**, where there are three lines above each other making up a whole village of cellars. The most spectacular one of the nicely formed, carved and painted cellars is also here. This is the **Gacsó cellar** in the middle of the lowest line. Life-sized soldiers, armed to the teeth, are carved into both walls of the cellar. Late András Gacsó and Sándor Apostol spent all their free time between 1925 and 1928 carving these statues. The cellar of László Derda (**the wine chapel**) is also here, where you can see scenes from the Bible carved into the walls. From the third line of cellars you can walk to the **Kőporos cavern** (the so-called **Song Arena**) which houses music events in summertime.



The Ördögtorony rock