



The running guards of Holy Justice

From the court books from 1388-1398, we know about several names of the Masters of Holy Justice. They were, among others: Nicolao, Michael, Climco, Martinus, Stephan, Magerlin, Mathias, Adam, Barthus, Clemens, Haneman, Thomas, Werner. Townspeople also went to the executioner for medical advice, who could adjust a knocked shoulder, a broken arm, a leg, he knew wounds, who was also considered an expert in skin diseases, and he also earned extra money as a dentist by pulling out aching teeth. On the other hand, from the books from the turn of the 16th / 17th centuries, we know how much Biecz was paying the executioner, but also how much the town earned on the fact of having the executioner. The fear of the executioner had to be overcome from time to time. It so happened that when people fell ill, they went to the "małodobry" master, because he was considered familiar with diseases. The powers and duties of the executioner included torture, sentence and execution.



Tasks carried out as part of the project Master of Holy Justice on the Carpathian Routes of the Beskid robbers Biecz-Bardejov.

- Multimedia exhibition in Turma, in the basement of the Biecz Town Hall.
- The silhouette of the executioner Jurek in front of the main entrance to Turma,
- Equipment with costumes and props (a wagon, a pillory and other accessories) for the reconstruction group "The executioner Jurek and Beskid robbers".
- Publication. "This way to the executioner on the Trails of the Master of Holy Justice"
- Participation of reconstruction groups:
 - "The executioner Jurek and Beskid robbers" from Biecz in: Bardejov Fair, Roland's Day, Greeting of the retro train, Ceremonial opening of the Town Hall Turma.
 - "Medieval Robbers" from Bojnice in: Bardejov Fair, Roland's Day.
- Information and promotion folder of the project and the emerging tourist product.
- Film reportage.

The tourist product is in line with: the Carpathian Convention, the Carpathian Brand Strategy, the Strategy for the Development of Sustainable Magical Tourism in the Land of the Lemkos and the people of Pogórze (Polish Uplanders).



MASTER OF JUSTICE ON THE CARPATHIAN ROUTES OF BESKID ROBBERS BIECZ-BARDEJÓW



The observance of the then law was supervised by the courts, and sentences were executed by local executioners. In our region, Sanok, Biecz, Przemyśl and Bardejov had the right of the sword. These cities made a special contribution to the enforcement of justice.

"God save us from the justice of Bardejov!"

The first place was undoubtedly taken by Bardejov, which was once famous for its severity and inventiveness in the craft. The book of judgments in the city archives gives us a lot of information on this topic. There is a mention of the penalty of death by burning for the theft of honey and destruction of the hive, beheading for the theft of brushwood during the fair in Bardejov, and even crucifixion for theft in the staroste's house. No wonder, then, that the saying: "God save us from the justice of Bardejov!" Was popular in the entire province of Saris. The Bardejov museum also has a threatening letter from Fedor Hlavaty's group of robbers from 1493, addressed to the townspeople, in which, under the threat of punishments illustrated with drawings, he demanded compensation for high penalties and the execution of his companions.



Town hall turma in Biecz

The town hall turma was established in the 14th century. It consists of: a small gilds room for women, a larger room where prisoners were searched and interrogated. A male dungeon where criminals and suspects waited for their trials or sentences. A large window recess, the so-called „Death row”, where those sentenced to death were closed for their last days.

The tour includes the silhouettes of the executioner (two image versions) and the prisoners in costumes from the Middle Ages.

In the torture room, a multimedia projector has been installed as a holographic system, presenting a storyboard animation with sound, related to the historic 17th-century trial of the guardian of the town hall clock, Maciej Mazurek. The animation based on the story of a martyred townsman is an interesting contribution to the history of the judiciary in Biecz. The exhibition has been supplemented with information boards presenting the history of the judiciary in Biecz in the Middle Ages.



Bardejov Fair

It is one of the most important cultural events in Slovakia, attended by exhibitors with handicrafts not only from the entire country, but also from many European countries. At the same time, various cultural events are organized, including presentations of reconstruction groups.



Roland's festival

The event is a pretext for historical presentations of many re-enactment groups representing various epochs and historical events in Slovakia and beyond.



The Executioner Jurek and Beskid robbers

The reconstruction group is equipped with the costumes of the executioner and his assistants, Beskid robbers, and prisoners from the medieval period, and a „movable” pillory and a horse-drawn cart used in the past, which allows you to participate in events promoting common fragments of the history of Bardejov and Biecz.



On the route of the trip there are other very interesting attractions in our region of the Magic Land of the Lemkos - Rusnaks and People of Pogórze, which can be visited.

Attractions of the Magical Land of Lemkos - Rusnaks and Pogórzans



A

Church of st. Michael the Archangel in Binarowa, UNESCO

Attractions of Biecz:

Corpus Christi Collegiate Church, Museum of the Biecz Region, House with Baszta, Kromerówka, Blacksmith Tower, Town Hall Turma, Town Hall, Exhibition of Jews of Biecz, Biecz Library.



B

Regional Museum of PTTK in Gorlice



C

"Dwór Karwacjanów" Contemporary Art Gallery in Gorlice



D

"Magdalena" Open-air museum of the oil industry in Gorlice



E

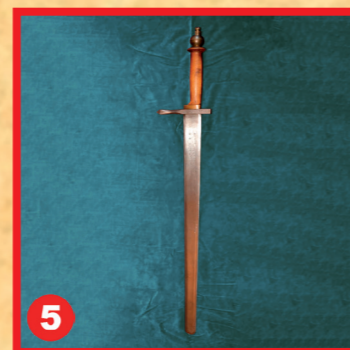
The executioner's bench in the Basilica of St. Idzi in Bardejov

The original medieval executioner's bench is located at the side entrance in St. Giles (Egida). Here the executioner with his family participated in liturgical celebrations (masses).



4

Regional Museum of PTTK in Gorlice



5

In addition to various exhibitions related to the history of World War I and the oil industry, you can see a replica of the executioner's sword, which according to Dembowski, was used by the Biecz executioner.

Executioner on the market square in Biecz

A symbolic figure that already arouses great interest among residents and tourists, and thus focuses attention on the history of the city that in the Middle Ages guarded the law in the Middle Ages.



6

A roadside shrine in Biecz



7

A roadside shrine in Biecz (at Bochniewiczza Street) on the route to Rożnowice. According to the legend, it is a place where sentences (by hanging) were carried out on the Beskid robbers.

When going on a trip in the footsteps of the Beskid Robbers, be sure to visit places and objects related to the application of the former law of the Bardejov and Biecz executioners.

Objects and places of interest

Executioner's house in Bardejov

His house at Vážničná Street, the seat of the city executioner, who interrogated and tortured the convicts, remained in the town.



1

Executioner on the market square in Bardejov



2

A symbolic figure that arouses great interest among tourists and thus focuses attention on the history of the city that in the Middle Ages guarded the observance of the law in the Middle Ages.

Kopfstock lamppost in Bardejov

In front of the former Upper Gate, there is still an old lamppost from 1500, the so-called Kopfstock, where criminals, very often often Beskid, robbers were executed.



3

The Długosz Palace in Siary



F



G

Church of St. Filip and Jakub in Sękowa, UNESCO

World War I Cemetery in Magura Małastowska



H



I

Ruins of the Castle in Zborów

Open-air museum in Kupele in Bardejov



J



K

Spa in Kupele in Bardejov

Attractions of Bardejov:

Bardejov Old Town, UNESCO, St. Idzi, the Saris Museum, the Jewish Synagogue, the Museum of Icons.



Trip suggestion: THE CARPATHIAN ROUTE OF BESKID ROBBERS, BIECZ - BARDEJOV

Two-day stay in Bardejov with one or two nights, visiting the attractions of Bardejov and the surrounding area, one day on the route between Bardejov and Biecz, visiting tourist attractions two-day stay in Biecz with one or two nights, visiting the attractions of Biecz and the surrounding area.

Tourist event:

5 days, 3 nights, meals (3 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners).

Other attractions as needed, e.g.:

- reconstruction group performance,
- a story about the legendary school of executioners in Biecz,
- stories about the achievements of the Beskid robbers during the journeys,
- stories about the Bardejov and Biecz executioners,
- regional dishes closely related to the Lemko and Pogórze culture,
- mini concerts of Lemko and Pogórze music.

The proposal of potential customer groups:

senior citizens in organized groups, students in cooperation with schools, tourist organizations.

Proposed target region:

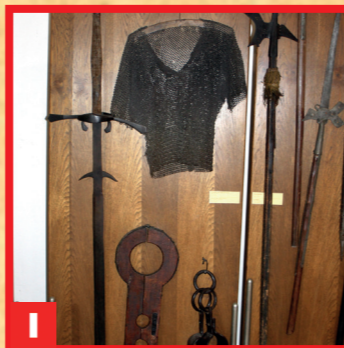
on the Slovak and Polish side, e.g. the Silesian Agglomeration.

The project implementation contributed to the preparation of a tourist product enabling the organization of trips - tourist events on the Polish-Slovak border, between Biecz and Bardejov.

Main tourist attractions

The Saris Museum in Bardejov

Court sentences were carried out by a city executioner who used various tools and torture techniques. Some of these instruments are a historical exhibition located in the medieval town hall. Executioner's sword, halberd chains, gunsmith's iron shirt and much more. Original documents are also the testimony of those times.



Museum of the Old Law "Legendary School of Executioners" in Biecz



The exhibition in the basement of Biecz, unique in Europe, exhibits illustrating the development of criminal law from Roman times until 1776. Visitors will learn about the origins of the legend of the „Biecz School of Executioners“. Each tourist will be able to experience first-hand whether or not she is a witch on the only „Witches' Scales" in Poland.

Museum of the Biecz Land in Biecz

Exhibits related to the application of the law are located in the tour. The house with the tower is a Renaissance tenement house with one of the oldest pharmacies. Pharmacy traditions, bourgeois culture, musical past and sacred art are presented. Kromerówka tenement house from 1519. Works by: Marcin Kromer and Wacław Potocki. The Blacksmith Tower together with a fragment of the wall is a remnant of the former defense system.



MASTER OF JUSTICE ON THE CARPATHIAN ROUTES OF BESKID ROBBERS, BIECZ-BARDEJOV

