



Dunakiliti is a village located at the river Danube, in Northwest Hungary. Its advantageous location stems from proximity to the borders of three countries (Hungary, Austria and Slovakia).

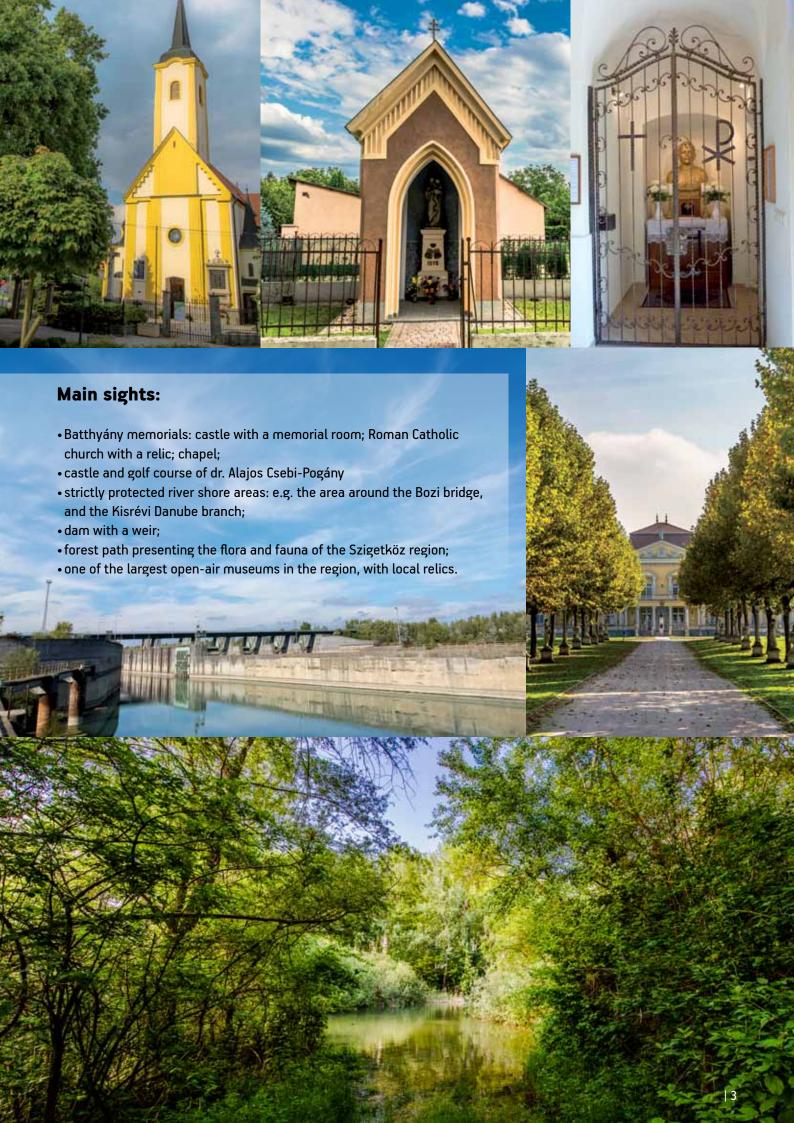
Dunakiliti celebrated the 850th anniversary of its establishment in 2015. The settlement was first mentioned in documents dating back to the 12th century. The origin of its name is unclear: the village may have been named after the first local landowner, or the patron saint of its first chapel. A third theory notes the Turkish word "kilit" (key) in reference to the key position of the community.

The residential part of the village covers 171 hectares, while the total administrative area including non-residential parts is 3,195 hectares. A neighbouring area called Tejfalusziget is part of Dunakiliti.

The region is characterised by the main Danube, the so-called Mosoni Danube branch, and crisscrossing minor river branches; collectively these create the fabulous water-world called Sziget-köz, which was as useful to fishermen in the Middle Ages as it is to water tourists in our days.

Dunakiliti took centre stage both domestically and internationally at the time of building a dam as part of the Bős-Nagymaros hydroelectric power plant (1984-1989). The construction project created an industrial zone of developed infrastructure, which in turn attracted a range of businesses and industrial plants to Dunakiliti. Now the village boasts over 2,000 workplaces, even though the number of its residents is just 1,900.







1. Development approach: an attractive village with modern industry and lots of green areas

Until 1984, Dunakiliti used to be a predominantly agricultural village with long-standing traditions of fruit and vegetable growing. The proximity of the markets in Bratislava and Vienna gave farmers good opportunities to sell their produce. Besides the local savings cooperative, the agricultural sector consisted of large farms and smallholdings before the political and economic changes in 1989. While some of the residents worked locally, the majority commuted to Mosonmagyaróvár or Austria even back then.

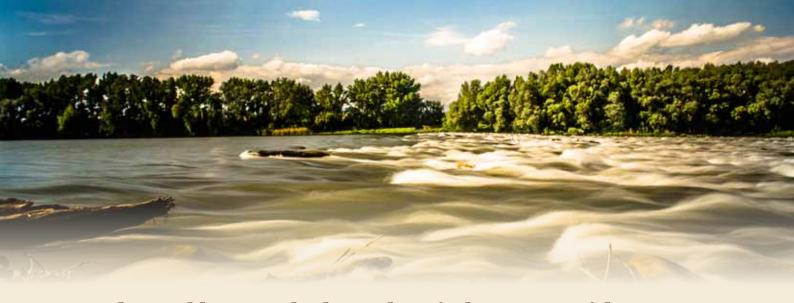
The situation changed in 1990 after the discontinuation of the dam construction. Aided by Hungary's transition to market economy, the existing industrial zone, and the proximity to three countries' borders, a number of industrial plants were built. The local municipality supported this with favourable taxation rules and zoning modifications. The development plans were focused at increasing the industrial zone in order to eliminate unemployment not only in Dunakiliti but also in the entire surrounding area.

Environmental protection aspects are also taken into consideration: green areas are to be protected, increased and better utilised, and their biological activity value is to be raised.

The village has a regularly updated environmental protection program. NGO experts have been involved in drafting the local environmental strategy. Activities involving the utilisation of the environment (burning, animal husbandry, drainage, logging) are regulated in a local decree.

The municipality and its institutions consciously protect the environment. A decree titled "peaceful co-existence", drafted in cooperation with residents, contains provisions on environmental protection as well (e.g. concerning green areas and garden care).





2. Embraced by Danube branches, in harmony with nature and the environment

Dunakiliti is located in a unique natural environment, with areas of Sziget-köz that are under various degrees of environmental protection. The village is almost completely surrounded by waterways (the main Danube, the Mosoni Danube branch, and several small braches of the river). In fact, the very land on which Dunakiliti is built is attributable to the river: the sediment collected in the Alps was unloaded by the Danube here, creating an island. Until 1884, Dunakiliti belonged to the county of what is now Bratislava, so the eastern part of the village, which is now considered its gateway, was called the "village end". In fact, that is how the locals still refer to it.

A rich and diverse flora and fauna make the surrounding forest and water shore popular excursion and hiking areas. Nearly 70 plant species under various degrees of protection are known to live there.

The residents of Dunakiliti consider it important to manage their natural resources so that the quantity and quality thereof are preserved or improved/increased for the next generations.





We place much emphasis on environmentally conscious education. Our "Small Forest Kindergarten" has been awarded the title of a "bird-friendly kindergarten" and a "green kindergarten". Several weeks a year are dedicated to environmental protection in the Dr. Batthyány-Strattmann László Primary School. The pupils, with the involvement of other residents, celebrate the World Day of Water and the Day of Birds and Trees every year, and plant trees on Earth Day.

Trees are planted regularly both in the residential area and on the outskirts of the village. Cleanliness is not considered as the job of municipal cleaning staff; the locals also deem it important to preserve and protect natural values.

Conscious efforts are made to safeguard and improve the quality of air; the municipality and its institutions employ heating and cooling solutions that cause relatively little air pollution.

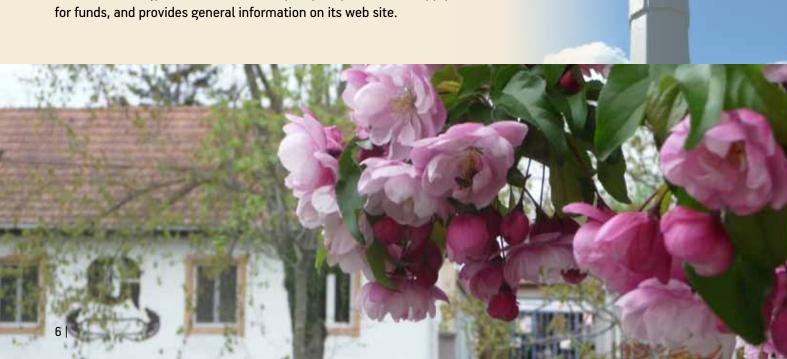
The area of Dunakiliti is environmentally sensitive, with strictly protected water resources due to an abundant and high-quality drinking water base. The land surface is rated very sensitive. A nature trail with information signs about the flora and fauna of the Szigetköz region has been built with support by the municipality.



Energy efficiency and recycling are key priorities in local developments. Public institutions are equipped with solar panels, a green waste depot is in operation, and selective waste management is in place at the local cemetery. Composting facilities are available for the organic waste produced by the municipality and its institutions, and the composted matter is utilised locally. Composting is a practice gradually adopted by residents. The due usage of selective waste collection facilities is emphasised, and the composting of household waste is promoted in education programs already in kindergartens.

Industrial plants employ energy-efficient solutions (heat exchangers, solar panels, wind wheels and turbines) in order to cut costs. Part of the hot water produced by the automotive parts manufacturing company Veritas Csatlakozástechnikai Kft is used for heating in the winter and washing in the summer; the excess water is released into the Danube after cleaning. Heat exchanging equipment is used in the milking house of Agrár Zrt to cool milk from 37 to 22 degrees Celsius, and to heat water. SP Industries has installed a wind wheel to decrease energy usage at the plant. Entrepreneurs started the construction of a solar panel park near Dunakiliti in the autumn of 2015. Hydroelectric energy will hopefully be produced from 2016 once a turbine is installed at the Danube dam.

Thanks to government subsidies, more and more households opt for renewable energy sources. The municipality helps residents apply for funds, and provides general information on its web site.





3. Protecting the heritage of our ancestors

Despite many centuries of history, Dunakiliti has always been a small settlement torn by floods and fire. No major historical event took place here, and it was only from the second half of the 19th cen-

tury that the village was a centre of a nobleman's estate. Consequently, our built heritage is not very old.

Wattle and daub houses were characteristic of the village; people lived in such houses all around waterways because these constructions withstood water; the daub was washed away but the wattle frame did not collapse. It was covered with mud again and whitewashed, and the residents could move right back in.



The built heritage of Dunakiliti is related to the Catholic religion (church, roadside crosses) and the historical past. Protected local facilities: the Batthyány castle and its garden, the former Németh villa from 1875, the Roman Catholic church from 1910, and the so-called Millennium Oak planted in 1986. These are protected by local building regulations.

Dunakiliti had been a typical single-street village until the end of the 18th century, but now it has a road network over 20 km long, leading neighbouring communities.

Both municipal and private buildings are well-maintained. A registry of the built values of the village is kept, and the items in it are carefully protected; these facilities are either in good condition or plans are in place for their renovation. The buildings are available to both residents and tourists to view. Their facades clean and

tastefully designed, and the furniture in the protected buildings has been selected with a uniform style in mind. Due to the multitude of job opportunities, there are no empty and dilapidated buildings in Dunakiliti.

Renovation works are ongoing in the Dr. Batthyány-Strattmann László Primary School located in the neoclassic Batthyány castle built between 1858 and 1862.

The exterior and interior of the village church had been renovated in 2010, and the main street leading to the post office was rebuilt in 2014; this stretch of road is called "walkway to the Millennium Oak". Both the exterior and interior of the Batthyány chapel was renewed in 2012 using donations from the public. This was followed by the reconstruction of the chapel on Tejfalusziget in 2015, eighty years after it had been built. An old school building was converted into the Community House, complete with a library and village museum, in 2013. The funeral home and the paving blocks in the local cemetery were renovated in 2015, and new candelabra were installed.

Another building of well-deserved fame in Dunakiliti is the Csebi-Pogány castle. Formerly a five-star hotel, it is now home to a famous jeweller, dr. Alajos Csebi-Pogány, and his family, who also have a chapel in the cemetery.



There are many examples of the respect and humility exhibited by the new owners in renovating historical facilities, and an increasing number of residents design their newly built homes in the style of old buildings.

Dunakiliti's holiday resort areas close to water shores constitute special parts of the village. The relevant construction rules are defined in the local building regulations which also ensure access to the shores.



4. In harmony with the surrounding landscape



The Szigetköz area in general and Dunakiliti in particular is a wonderland with a multitude of channels, river branches and ox-bow lakes, as well as floodplain forests and swampy meadows. The ancient forests around the plough-land had been mostly untouched until the end of the 19th century. Since that time, logging has changed the landscape, but Szigetköz is still romantic and beautiful.

The wonderful water shores are a major natural treasure. After major river regulation works at the end of the 19th century, the water flow in the main Danube speeded up, resulting in a deeper river bed. Consequently, less fresh water flows into remove dead-end channels, so these are filling up with sediment. The construction of the Bős barrage has compounded this issue; several areas of Szigetköz are drying out.

Nowadays several areas are intentionally flooded for two weeks between 1 April and 31 May upon the request of fishing associations if the water yield is at least 2,500 cubic metres per second at Bratislava, provided that the water temperature reaches 10 degrees Celsius. The land-scape is recovering, and a live floodplain area is created; special species are re-appearing.

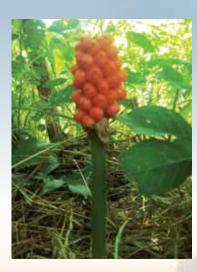
	Hungary	Szigetköz	%
Protected plant species	670	63	9
Strictly protected plant species	63	3	5
Protected animal species	829	298	36
Strictly protected animal species	144	53	37
	1000		

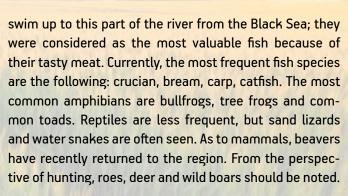


The most valuable species of flowers include the orange lily and two orchid species: the bee orchid and the fly orchid. More than half of all orchid species growing in Hungary can be found in Szigetköz. Forest ground is all white with snowdrops in the beginning of spring, interspersed with blue scilla, yellow gagea and deep blow violets. Several other plant species are blooming at that time of the year, such as the lungwort, the purple moor-grass, the lily of the valley, the sweet-scented bedstraw, and the ramson.









Dunakiliti lies in an area under general natural protection, with several specific locations that are strictly protected. This is indicated by signs. The area is managed by the Fertő-Hanság National Park Directorate. The village also boasts NATURA 2000 areas. A feasibility study on establishing a joint national park with Slovakia has been prepared, and a so-called Naturpark is also in the pipeline.

The original composition of plant and animal species is preserved in forests in a close to natural state. These are primarily low-lying, bushy willow groves usually located on the flood plains of the Danube. Hardwood groves situated in higher parts of the flood plain are less common and mostly found near the Mosoni Danube branch.

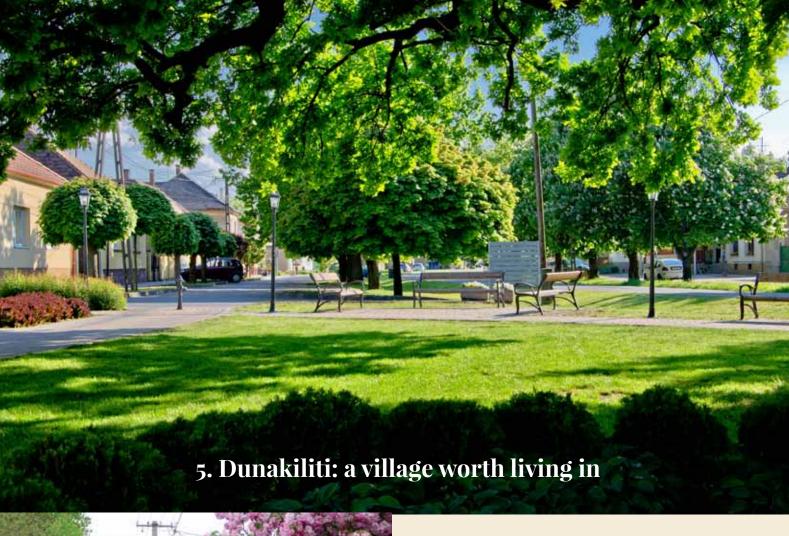
Bird species nesting in the area: purple heron, Eurasian bittern, little bittern, Eurasian coot, western marsh harrier, mute swan, mallard, great crested grebe, common white-throat. Great white egrets and grey herons are often seen as well. Further frequent visitors: common pochard, ferruginous duck, and white stork. Long-eared owls, redbacked shrikes, lesser grey shrikes, magpies and other singing bird species nest in willow bushes and trees.

The side-branches of the Danube have always offered water to fish species to breed in. Great sturgeons used to











Dunakiliti is a regionally significant and industrially developed community. The residents' quality of life has improved much, but Dunakiliti has remained a village with the attendant advantages: quiet, fresh air, water shores, recreation, and a relaxed atmosphere. The climate is moderately continental; the moderating effect of the ocean is more pronounced in this Western part of the country. The annual mean temperature is 10 degrees Celsius; the coldest and the hottest month is January (-1.5 degrees) and July (20.5 degrees) respectively. The average precipitation quantity is 591 mm p.a. As the region is rich in water, fog is frequent. Szigetköz is the windiest part of Hungary; the air is moving almost all the time.

Concerning parks and botanical sites, the Jánosi forest is worth noting. Most of the remaining forest consists of ashen and elm groves. An area called "alder marsh", located between Dunakiliti and Tejfalusziget, is strictly protected. Further botanically valuable sites: the so-called Small Forest walkway with a fitness park; the square in front of the church with the Millennium Oak; the park around the Batthyány castle, the park next to the Village House with its seven oaks, the community garden in the courtyard of the Small Forest Kindergarten, and the parks at roadside crosses.



The local sports centre boasts excellent green surfaces and an artificial grass field. The local school has an indoor gymnasium and a cinder track. A 14-hectare golf track is operated in the courtyard of the Csebi-Pogány castle; there is a skittle alley in the Club Kiliti and a bowling alley in the Diamant Hotel; and the Makay riding hall awaits horse riders.

Dunakiliti is a community where people help and take care of each other, and are ready for manual work to sustain their own living and ensure the development of the village. The co-existence of several generations is a tradition stemming from an agricultural past; hard work out in the fields necessitated cooperation between young and old. Senior residents are a cornerstone of local life; and support from the youth is required to maintain the population.

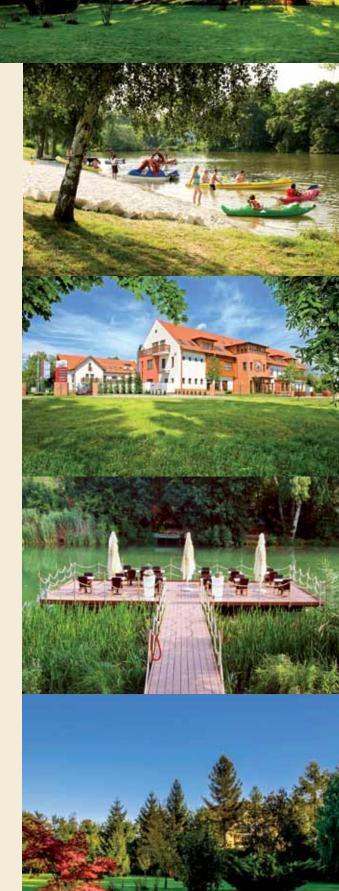
The community has two playgrounds (on Füzesi utca and Rév utca). Two more similar facilities are planned; the site of the first one is available, and land is about to be purchased for the second.

According to the local building regulations, the cemetery constitutes a special site. The residents used to be buried around the church several centuries ago, but that graveyard had been eliminated in 1775. The current cemetery was consecrated on 17 March 1776. The oldest monument is a statute of St. John of Nepomuk at the corner of Rajkai út. It was erected by Count János Illésházy, the local landlord of the time, on 24 May 1783. The large cross in the middle was installed in 1861.

The oldest remaining headstones stem from before 1900; their number is steadily shrinking, but we are making efforts to preserve them in recognition of their beauty and age.

The graves of local priests are located to the right of the big cross. Three priests born in Dunakiliti are buried here, together with Mihály Beöthy (+1902), a teacher decorated with a silver cross and a soldier who fought in the anti-Habsburg uprising in 1848, as well as several heroes who fell in the two world wars. Last but not least, ornithologist, ethnographic scientist and hunter Lajos Csiba (+1966), born in Tejfalusziget, was also laid to rest in our cemetery.

The fence of the graveyard and the funeral home had been built around 1970. The latter was internally and externally renovated in the summer of 2015. The roads in the cemetery were covered with paving blocks, and candelabra were installed to shed light in the evening hours as a sign of respect for the ancestors.





6. Regular and seasonal plantation; climate consciousness in the development of public spaces

Our ancestors planed walnut trees on both sides of the road leading to the Black Forest, and some sycamores (on Gyümölcsös utca and in the centre of the village). Linden trees dominate the area next to the cemetery. And there are chestnut trees at the church and in the courtyard of the Batthyány castle. The main street is lined by a number of circular maples. The street called Gyümölcsös utca has a unified and well-tended style thanks to the dark leaves of the cherry plum trees lining the even-numbered side. Rév utca boasts white cherry blossoms on both sides in the winter; and all the residents go there in the summer to taste the delicious fruits.



When new alleys are planted, draught-enduring species are selected that require little tending and spraying.

As residents are allowed to plant flowers and trees in public areas, the village-scape is quite varied in that respect. The deciduous and evergreen bushes and trees planted by the locals are carefully tended to by the residents. The choice of species is often in harmony with the plants on the adjoining private properties. From a land-

scaping point of view, homogenous tree species would be preferable, which is possible in new parts of the community but not on old and narrow streets.

Newly established green areas are designed and old parks are developed with climate-consciousness in mind (draught-enduring species, irrigation systems, shaded resting areas).

Upon an initiative of non-governmental organisations, seasonal flowers are planted on the streets and in parks every year. Benches and stools are installed in order to serve the needs of residents and visitors alike. Expert advice is sought about tending the green surfaces; irrigation systems have been installed, and local companies have supported the works.

The traditional fruit brandy manufactures Rácz és Rácz Pálinka Manufaktúra Kft show a great example of fruit orchard plantation and fruit processing. The fermentation building and the five-hectare farm around it are in family ownership. The visitors get an opportunity to get acquainted with lesser-known fruit species: wild cherry, rowan, choke-berry, mulberry, and red Williams pear. The cut grass is left under the trees, and sheep are kept on the farm. The owner's motto is "buy local, consume local". Hence the local procurement of the fruit to be processed, and the product, the brandy dubbed "the soul of Szigetköz", is also sold within the region. Besides alcoholic drinks, the company also makes home-made marmalade and syrup; these products are gaining popularity in the market.

The horticultural garden of agricultural entrepreneur István Ranyák is highly valuable; the farmer and his family grow paprika, tomatoes, cucumbers etc., not to mention a multitude of flowers, in greenhouses and outdoors.

7. Environmental education

Targeted environmental protection education is offered in the local kindergarten and primary school. Already in the former institution, the little ones learn about growing plants by tending small gardens. Signs have been installed in parks about in an attempt to educate the residents in environmental issues. Sustainability is promoted via several programs and initiatives.

The regional kindergarten is located in Dunakiliti, in the very heart of the Szigetköz area, and specifically next to the carefully maintained "Small Forest" which features a walk path. The facility was renamed "Small Forest Kindergarten" in 2008 because of the neighbouring wooded area, and in order to promote the environmentally conscious education of children, which is reflected by the attitudes of the staff. Ever since that time, the kindergarten's ties to nature have become stronger and stronger, and the children are educated to protect and improve their natural environment. The pedagogical program of the facility is based around the four main elements (fire, water, soil and air).

The staff consider it important that children should not only be observers but should be actively involved in conscious environmental protection. Varied activities have been defined to that end, in line with the ages of the children. From spring until late autumn, the kindergarten teachers and children jointly tend and observe the development of plants in the facility's community garden; in fact, they eat the fruits and vegetables grown there. Flowers and spices are also grown in the courtyard, and the little ones can learn about their usage. The staff make sure that there should always be colourful flowers in the windows or courtyard of the kindergarten.

A "corner of nature" is set up in every room, with pets and budding or growing green plants. Again, this presents an opportunity to teach the children about the development conditions and keeping of animals and plants. It is in these "corners of nature" where the children collect the "treasures" found during excursions and walks, or when playing in the courtyard. These objects are then used for creative purposes. The importance of recycling is emphasised as well. Excursions are organised, including three-day trips for five-year old children, so that they get used to being outdoors and get acquainted with their wider environment. The environmentally conscious education is also targeted at family members, who are invited to collect their household waste selectively. And standard containers for used batteries have been installed in the kindergarten so that parents become aware of the correct treatment of hazardous materials at home, too.

If children are conscious of their environment, the effect will hopefully be carried over to their families as the little ones apply at home what they have learned in the kindergarten or school. Our goal is to disseminate knowledge, which should constitute a basis for cleanliness as well as the protection and love of nature.



8. Community basis





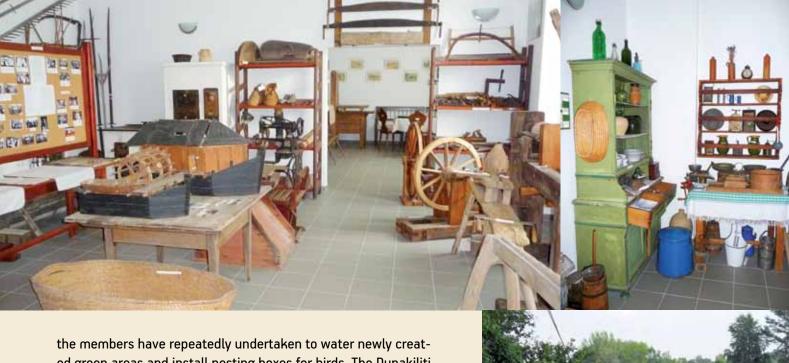
As many as 10 non-governmental organisations are in operation in Dunakiliti in order to promote culture, protect the village and its environment, create and protect local values, and support sports. These strong civil initiatives mean that the municipality has strong ties to the local people who can be involved in drafting, making and executing decisions, as well as organising community programs.

Waste collection programs are organised several times a year (on the Village Day, in the Advent period, and in the spring). On these occasions, donations are collected for noble purposes; in 2015, a defibrillation device was bought from the proceeds.

Dunakiliti proudly wears the title of a humanitarian community. We are active promoters of blood donation, and have been supporting a two-week camp for blind children organised by the Red Cross.

The local communities play an important role in shaping the environment of the village. Several generations have participated in the plantation of alleys in the past decades; the local non-governmental organisations regularly organise waste collection in parks and forests, as well as on water shores. Children like to participate in these initiatives.

The Village Museum of local traditions is operated by the Association for Dunakiliti; fishermen, hunters and water sport aficionados are actively involved in keeping water shores clean and tidy. The horse club takes part in all community events as well. We have a firefighters' association which, besides its primary task, performs maintenance in education institutions, streets and parks;



the members have repeatedly undertaken to water newly created green areas and install nesting boxes for birds. The Dunakiliti Sports Association promotes physical exercise; the local sports centre has recently been upgraded with a field covered with artificial grass, as well as with new dressing rooms.

A so-called canoeing marathon race held on the first weekend of September is a notable example of cross-border economic, cultural and sport programs.

Cooperation with citizens of the neighbouring Slovakia provides an example of openness to European values. Due to the proximity of the border, the number of Slovakian-language residents is increasing. We strive to contribute to an open Europe by getting to know their culture and language, and support these residents' assimilation by sending out leaflets and information materials in Slovakian language as well.







In addition to natural and built values, Dunakiliti places much emphasis on cultural heritage. The main goal is to preserve the heritage left behind by our ancestors.

Actively utilised cultural facilities (the Village House and the Community House) offer varied programs. Since 1994, a so-called Peter-Paul-Day Village Fest and agricultural show has been held on the last Saturday of every June. Theatre performances in the early spring carnival season constitute a 100-year tradition.

"If you want to be happy, make others happy." This advice was given by dr. László Batthyány-Strattmann, who was beatified in 2003. The village school was named after him, a Batthyány room was opened in 2000, and a Batthyány bust was unveiled in the year of his beatification. A Batthyány relic is displayed in the Dunakiliti church. His birthday and beatification anniversary, 23 March, is remembered every day.

Some of our festivities are religiously related: Easter procession, altar creation on the Lord's Day, parish feast with traditional programs. A traditional Lenten meal ("csiripiszli") is made in the evening before Palm Sunday, and a Passion play is performed on the following day. The firefighting association celebrates Saint Florian's day in the church, and a midsummer's night bonfire is lit to seek divine protection. Advent periods are organised with candle-lighting, and Christmas is celebrated by the village community.





These programs constitute important parts of our life, similarly to festivities and blood donation drives connected to noted days in the life and agricultural work of bygone eras. For the 13th time this year, the residents who fought and were captured in the Second World War are meeting on the last Sunday of May (Heroes' Day). Their memoires are described in a book.

An ancient practice in the Szigetköz region involved driving out the herds to a pasture on one of the Danube islands on Saint George's Day (24 April); once the grass there was grazed to the root, the animals swam over to the next island. This is how the herds were kept until they driven back to the village on Saint Michael's day (29 September). Men took care of the herds, and women brought them food and milked the animals. This tradition has been remembered by a festival in Dunaszeg for two years.

The municipality announced a Dunakiliti Award in 2006, handed over on 20 August to the person who did the most for the village and its community in the past year. Since 2007, a quarterly local publication titled The Dunakiliti Chronicles has been issued.

Dunakiliti has associations with the following foreign towns and villages: Kittsee and Lilienfeld in Austria, Rohovce, Dobrohost and Rusovce in Slovakia, and Balatonkiliti in Hungary.







Summer is clearly the season when the most people visit Dunakiliti to spend their holidays here. A range of accommodation options from simple to sophisticated are available: two camping sites, the DuNatura guest house, the Villa Hedi Inn and the Diamant Hotel await visitors seeking rest and recuperation all year round. Bicycle riders teem on the streets in the spring and autumn.

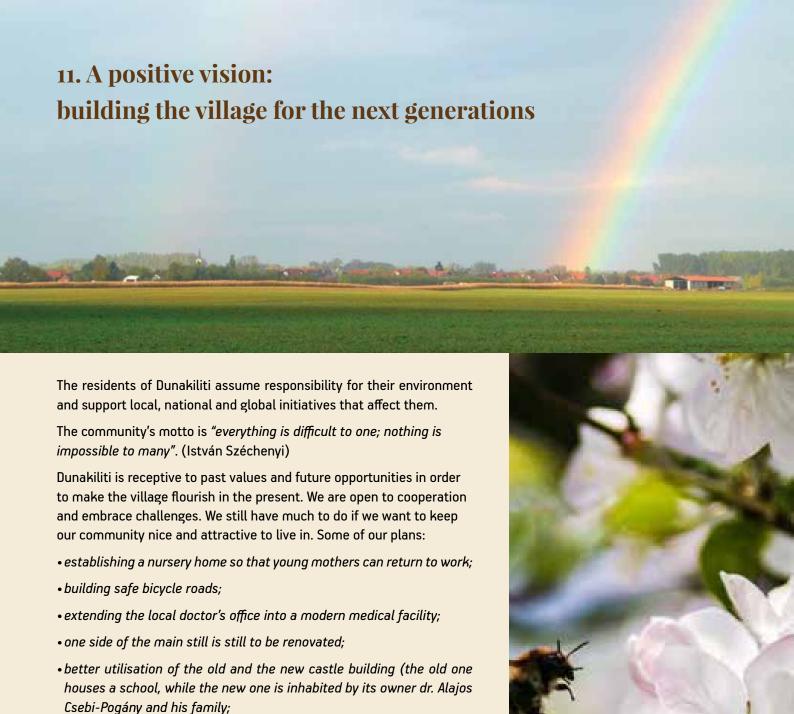
Dunakiliti is a great starting point to those who wish to discover the natural and cultural values of the region on foot, by bicycle, or by boat. Up to one-week tours are offered by the local camp sites. Fishing remains a traditional activity and offers excellent catch in all seasons. And the Pogány castle has a golf course that boasts a wonderful view.

The municipality intends to take advantage of the opportunities offered by Natura 2000 and the Limes line (the Danube as a world heritage).

As the area of Dunakiliti is under natural protection, the village is not connected to the railway system. Public transport to Mosonmagyaróvár and Dunasziget is available, and there is a bus connection from Rajka to Bratislava every hour. We are planning to have this line extended to Dunakiliti or even farther, to Mosonmagyaróvár.

A nature trail awaits hikers in the protected area. Thanks to steady development in the past 30 years, year-round recreation options are available to hikers, bicycle riders, bathers, golf players and horse riders alike. A bathing site is about to be established at the Kisrévi Danube branch; its licensing is underway.

The controversial Dunakiliti dam has given the village international "fame". The water reservoir and sluice system have remained unfinished but presents an interesting view to visitors.



• renovating the Villa köz in order to create another community area.

The overall objective is to ensure the development

of Dunakiliti, our shared treasure.

DUNAKILITI

HUNGARY

Entente Floral Europe 2016





