

Report_hjb_AIR

Krems an der Donau

04. 10. 2022. - 04. 31. 2022.

SYNOPSIS

PK Panther is a real tow with existing territory mark, and most likely she is still in service on the Danube. The Author aims to find the tow and learn her story, which is most likely possible on venue only. The first part of the story would present the circumstances of the investigation to find the boat, introducing the reader into the navigation of the River Danube, and the cities of Budapest and Bratislava.

The second part of the plot would take place on rivers Tisza and Duna, thus fictionally connecting the “water-circulation” of the countries. The novel would picture the close and broad environment of the people who live by the banks – the so called Central European region, the existence of which history tries to reject and ignore from time to time.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

1. Budapest: data collection and beginning with the writing (ok.)
2. Bratislava: finding the tow and investigation of its job (ok.)
3. Publication novel Danube history (Danube history I.). 2020. (ok.)
4. Krems: researching relations, and following the river Danube, and writing novel (Danube history II.) (ok.)
5. Budapest: Summarizing and finalizing the novel; finish!
6. Preparation for the issue with a publishing agency
7. Publication: 'Festival of 'Book-week' 2023. Budapest (Tiszai história)
8. Translation of books into German/English (maybe...)

In Krems an der Donau – at the Residence

1ST WEEK

Exploring the city and the Danube bank – mostly by bicycle. I went to Mautern on the first trip. The weather here is ideal for long trips. The Krems river took me to the city center. I visited the churches, my favorite was the Piarist Church – I returned there several times. Once a boy was playing the horn there, he was practicing. We had a good conversation, I recorded him playing music.
The Middle Ages ‘touched’ me!

In the meantime, I always wrote Danube history II. (Tiszai história) in the Residence.

Excursion to Dürnstein town by bike. Oh, the blue church! I've only seen it from the water so far.

Trip to Götweig Abbey – by bike – I climbed very high hills!

I would have liked to meet my old friend, the ship captain Jan Bencik. I called him on the phone, but unfortunately he broke his shoulder. That is why it is no longer sailing this year.

I went out to the Danube river every day. It's so beautiful. And I went out to Wachau, to the vineyards. It's so beautiful! (We have 12 vines branches in the garden. They are only one year old – I can learn viticulture here).

2ND WEEK

Discovery of the loading dock. Elizabeth, the drill-ship, was doing a hardwork. I met a Dutch bargeman, he knows Budapest well and the ship called PK Panther, which I want to catch.

Exhibition: Susanna Wenger – Foundation, Kunstmeile. Fantastic woman, fantastic life and work in Africa!

Roaming in the city center. Time and time again I returned to the Piarist church. So natural!

I visited four museums during the rainy weekend:

Forum Frohner

Dominikanenkirche

Karikature Museum

Landesgalerie Niederösterreich.

In clear weather, I spent a whole day at the harvest (grape-picking) in Zöbing – Hungarian Facebook group invited me. We had fun!

3RD WEEK

Another long bike ride, this time on the other side of the Danube, to Dürnstein. The mountains are also amazing!

In the meantime, I was constantly writing the Krems-chapter of the book. Meanwhile, I stared at the Danube from the window - thanks for the room with a view!

I followed a rower boat on a bicycle and accompanied him to the boathouse.

Do you want to row? They asked.

Of course!! I answered.

I wrote all day on the rainy days. The book is almost ready.

I attended on performance by James (also creator, musician), and another performer played a strange instrument. There I met Heide Thurner – she lives in a very charming house. She is also an artist, a painter.

I took part in the exhibition opening of the Czech artist Bretislav Maly. After that we went to dinner (Wiener Schnitzer – fine like at home). I got to know the co-creators, it was nice to be with them. Everybody told stories about where they came from and what they're doing here.

This week there were many visits to the Danube again.

Visiting the hidden places of Krems: courtyards, stairs, benches, interesting people. I picked flowers.

4TH WEEK

Excursion to Melk. I saw Melk from the Danube for the first time, five years ago, when I traveled on a barge from Bratislava to Linz – during the writing of Danube History I.

Excursions: Burgruine, Aggstein Castle, Kloster Schönbühel and Schönbühel Schloss, Melk Abbey; St Pölten.

I visited art venues:

Dominikaner Museumkrems

Kopriva Galery.

I went back to previously visited museums (e.g. Forum Frohner, Karikature Museum).

Excursion to Tulln – sightseeing and view the statue of King Attila. (You can read about it/him in Danube History I.)

Meetings in Krems an der Donau with new acquaintances: drinking coffee, ice cream, walking, talking.

Today I found one of the longest words: ‘rechtsschutzversicherungsgesellschaften’.

I went to the freighter port again, where are the boat docks – at the end of this book, the female main character buys a barge. This port was a great study trip for this scene!

On the weekend farewell to the Danube, farewell to the vineyards...

SUMMARY

I completed the plan. I wrote the relevant chapters – also about Krems. A friend translated a part of it (attached). I took a lot of photos and videos.

The experiences of the four weeks in Krems gave me strength and inspiration.

Thank you on behalf of the readers, I hope that one day the experiences will be available in German and/or English.

The vines turned almost completely yellow in a month. The mountainside became like a golden pillow, I will never forget it.

Thanks for everything!

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Interview with hjb, about Artist in Residence:

<https://kultura.hu/petofi-a-hetyke-bajszu-latnok-interju-horvath-julia-borbalaval/>

<https://www.facebook.com/magyarirorezidencia/posts/pfbid02vHMKoy6xJDWiiTEw2ie1uWAehYhP9ESKEJSYBhD66WtdFwBPio96KZkVJek8Phol>

PHOTOS

