

Medieval churches in Obere Wart and its surroundings



Most of the churches described in our guide are of the type of medieval Hungarian parish churches and were often built on the foundations of previous sacral buildings. They usually consist of a nave made of fragmented stone masonry with two windows on the south side, covered by a flat wooden ceiling. Joined to its east side is a vaulted choir. In later years the windows were often made larger, walls became higher and some of the small wooden turrets were replaced by massive towers on the west side. Almost no records exist regarding their construction (or destruction).

Some churches were decorated with wall paintings, for example scenes from the Old and New Testament in the nave or scenes from the lives of the 12 Apostles in the choir. The medieval paintings apparently did not appeal to later generations and thus were often painted over or disappeared under mortar. Luckily some of them were discovered towards the end of the 20th century and (partially) restored.




We should keep in mind firstly that this region was a contested borderland between Austrian and Hungarian rulers and secondly that ownership of these churches often changed from Catholics to Protestants and vice versa, and sometimes they were used by both denominations simultaneously. This historical background explains the fact that you may find two or more churches and churchyards even in small villages.










Another special feature of this region are the Protestant school houses (e.g. Aschau, Mariasdorf and Tauchen) from the 2nd half of the 19th century which were also used as houses of worship. Besides, in Stadtschlaining we can see the only remaining synagogue of Southern Burgenland.














We are happy that small groups of visitors, e.g. from Hungary, come here for sightseeing while at the same time receiving spiritual inspiration through prayers and songs.








-  The small churches are usually not open to the public. Services are held at irregular intervals. Information can be obtained from the parish (Pfarramt, Pfarrgemeinde).
-  Information on art history and architecture can be found in DEHIO, the standard directory of heritage assets.
-  Some of the links provided in this brochure lead to official or private websites. We take no liability for these links. For errors or additions please contact contemplom.

				
Aschau im Bgld.		This filial chapel (St Oswald) is situated on a wooded hillock above the churchyard. Medieval chapel with a saddle roof and a wooden belfry. Two plain Gothic windows. Building date unknown.	Gemeinde Oberschützen Description: Pfarre Bad Tatzmannsdorf	Röm. Kath. Pfarramt Bad Tatzmannsdorf phone: (+43) 03353 8289 Mail Website
Goberling		Built in the 13th century. During renovation in 1959 frescos (14th century) depicting traditional religious scenes were discovered in the apsis.	KulturAtlas	Evang. Pfarrgemeinde Stadtschlaining phone: (+43) 03355 22 12 Mail Website
Hannersdorf		Picturesquely positioned on a hill above the village, with its steep roof, it is a major landmark of the area. Late Gothic (15th century)	Description: Wikipedia pictures: Wikimedia	Röm. Kath. Pfarramt Hannersdorf phone: (+43) 03364 2234 Mail Website
Mariasdorf		Built in the late 15th century in Late Gothic style, it was turned into a baroque church, but regained its Gothic features around 1890 (Imre Steindl). High altar, pulpit and font are Neo-Gothic with ceramics from Zsolnay/Hungary.	Description: Diözese	The church is open during the day. Röm. Kath. Pfarramt Bad Tatzmannsdorf phone: (+43) 03353 8289 mobile phone: phone: (+43) 0676 88070 3115 Mail Website

Miedlingsdorf		The only wooden - yet not medieval - church in Burgenland. A small rectangular building, nave of roughly hewn beams resting on fieldstones.	Pfarre Großpetersdorf	Röm. Kath. Pfarre Großpetersdorf phone: (+43) 03362 2315 Mail Website
Neumarkt/T.		Parish church St Nikolas in a prominent position above the village at the end of an alley of lime trees. Nave baroque, choir gothic from the 15th century. Roman gravestones at the foot of the tower.	Description: Pfarre Neumarkt i.T.	Röm. Kath. Pfarramt Neumarkt/T. phone: (+43) 03355 2282 Mail
Oberschützen		St Bartholomew. Romanesque, formerly fortified church built in the middle of the 13th century. It witnessed many changes, even destruction. It has precious frescos from 1280 and 1400. It was used as a place of worship by Catholics and Protestants alternatively, sometimes simultaneously.	Kirchenführer / Church Guide / Templomi tájékoztató: <i>We look forward to welcoming you. We recommend you also visit the local museum.</i>	Catholic filial church of Bad Tatzmannsdorf. Visits / guided tours: Ludwig Leitner, +43 (0) 3353 7749 Emmerich Zechmeister, +43 (0) 676 5259587 Mail to Contemplom Website Contemplom
Siget		St Ladislaus. Situated on the village square opposite the Protestant church. First recordings from the 13th century, the present building dating back to the 17th century. Wooden gallery in choir, medieval pulpit made of stone, frescos in the choir.	Description: Volksbildungswerk pictures: Wikimedia	The keys may be picked up in the pub next to the church. Röm. Kath. Pfarramt Unterwart phone: (+43) 03352 34108 Mail
Stadtschlaining		Catholic parish church St Paul from 1460. Terracotta plates on the organ gallery, secco paintings depicting The Holy Kinship (16th century). Baroque altar by Styrian artist Cyriak Hackhofer. Next to the church the remains of the destroyed monastery of the Hungarian Order of Saint Paul the First Hermit.	Wikipedia Stadtschlaining	The church is open during the day. Röm. Kath. Pfarramt Stadtschlaining phone: (+43) 03355 2231 Mail Website
Wiesfleck		Filial church of St Erhard, situated in the Roman Catholic churchyard. Built in the 15th century, renovated in 1977. Ribbed star-vaulting in the choir. Two gravestones on the outer wall.	Description: Pfarre Pinkafeld	Röm. Kath. Pfarre Pinkafeld phone: (+43) 03357 42251 Mail Website

Willersdorf		Catholic filial church St Catharine, 13th century, plain style. Ribbed rib vault in choir. Two stained glass windows on south side of nave designed by Josef Mikl. UNESCO world heritage.	Oberschützen Pfarre Bad Tatzmannsdorf	Catholic filial church of Bad Tatzmannsdorf phone: (+43) 03353 8289 Mail Website
Surrounding areas (Southern Burgenland)				
Deutsch Schützen		Former Parish church St Martin, outside the village. A great part collapsed in 1945, except the Gothic-style presbytery. A memorial plaque on the wall commemorating the massacre of Jewish forced labourers in 1945. Pictures: Fugazi from Wikipedia, CC BY-SA 3.0, commons.wikimedia.org	Description: Wikipedia	Röm. Kath. Pfarramt Deutsch Schützen phone: (+43) 03365 2520 Mail
Maria Weinberg/ Gaas		Church of pilgrimage (Mary's Ascension). Presumably built in 1155 (this date is engraved in a triumphal arch) as a chapel in a castle which was part of the border fortifications of the Hungarian kings. Enlarged during the 15th and 16th century. It had already been a popular pilgrimage destination then. Picture: Ueb-at, CC BY-SA 3.0, commons.wikimedia.org	Description: Ma. Weinberg Diözese Weinbaumuseum	Geöffnet 25. März bis Allerheiligen täglich 9.30 Uhr - 11.30, und 14.00 - 17.00 Uhr. Von Ostern bis Allerheiligen an Sonn- und Feiertagen um 10.15 Uhr Hl. Messe. Wallfahrtstage: 25. 3., 15. 8., 8. 9., 8. 12. Röm. Kath. Pfarramt Gaas phone: (+43) 03324 2234 Mail Website
Zahling		Sensational discovery of an early 14th century wall painting: About ten years ago, large parts of the painting have been recovered in the apsis of this small filial church.	Description: Eltendorf	Röm. Kath. Pfarramt Königsdorf phone: (+43) 03325 2503 Mail
Lower Austria, Styria				
Wehrkirchenstraße NÖ		There is a string of fortified churches along the border to Burgenland, in the so-called Bucklige Welt (The Humpbacked Hills). Edlitz, Krumbach, Hochneukirchen, Bad Schönau, Kirchschatz, Lichtenegg, Hollenthon, Wiesmath, Hochwolkersdorf, Bromberg, Pitten, Lanzenkirchen, and Katzelsdorf. Picture: Trapmoth, CC BY-SA 3.0, commons.wikimedia.org	Bucklige Welt	

Karner in Hartberg Stmk.		<p>Charnel house from 1167- a round building with an ossuary and a chapel attached to it. The frescoes (about 1200 AD) were discovered in 1890 and completed according to contemporary standards.</p> <p>Picture: Marion Schneider & Christoph Aistleitner, CC BY-SA 2.5, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1333991</p>	<p>Description: Wikipedia</p> <p>Pictures Wikimedia</p> <p>Kirchenführer Hartberg</p>	<p>Stadtpfarre Hartberg phone: (+43) 03332 62279 Mail Website</p>
<h2>Western Hungary</h2>				
Csempesz kopács		<p>Romanesque church, 13th century. Wall paintings (figures of Apostles).</p>	<p>Pictures: Csempeszkopacs</p>	
Jak		<p>St George's is a church with a splendid facade. It is considered Hungary's most beautiful Romanesque church. Construction of this former Benedictine abbey started in 1220 - the beginning of an extremely interesting architectural history. Adjoined to it is St Jacob's Chapel (Rotunda, 1250).</p> <p>Picture: FOTO:FORTEPAN / Ebner, CC BY-SA 3.0, commons.wikimedia.org</p>	<p>Via Sti. Martini</p> <p>Pictures: Jak</p>	
Türje		<p>Formerly a church of the Premonstratensian monks, built in 1230. Late-Romanesque basilica with 3 naves in the so-called Arpad-style. A wall painting depicting the legend of St Ladislaus - something to be seen in only three other churches in Hungary.</p> <p>Picture: torobala - Indafotó, CC BY-SA 2.5 hu, commons.wikimedia.org</p>	<p>Description: Wikipedia</p>	
Velemér		<p>In this church we see frescoes from 1378 by Johannes Aquila. The Órség/Untere Wart is the region south of Körmend. Like the „Obere Wart“ it takes its name from its medieval border-watching function for the Hungarian kings.</p>	<p>Information on other works by Aquila</p> <p>Hungarian: Velemér Wikipedia</p>	

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