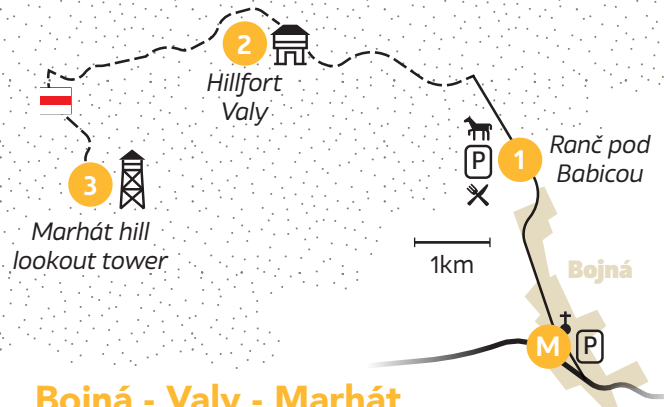
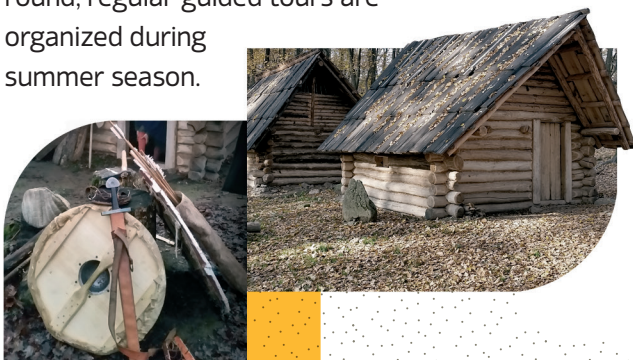


## Natural exposition

In addition to the permanent exhibition in the museum building, you can visit the **reconstruction of the Slavic settlement** directly in the locality of the Hillfort Valy. Hillfort Valy is open all the year round, regular guided tours are organized during summer season.



### Bojná - Valy - Marhát

The tourist trip starts at the **ranch „Ranč pod Babicou“** and continues along the gravel road to the **Hillfort Valy**. The route continues towards „Jelenie Jamy“ where it connects to the **red route** and ascends to the **tourist lookout tower** on the Marhát hill. The hike is of medium difficulty, suitable for cyclists.

Archeological museum → Ranč pod Babicou: cca 2,5km  
Ranč pod Babicou → Hillfort Valy: cca 6 km  
Hillfort Valy → Jelenie Jamy → Marhát hill: cca 5km  
Ranč pod Babicou → Valy → Marhát: cca 10 km (cca 3,5h)

## Tip for a great experience



### Cyril and Methodius Festival in July

Experience the first-hand story of Great Moravia during the traditional Cyril and Methodius Festival through a **guided tour of the hillfort** and have a glimpse into the period camp, or **taste the original dishes**. Try to **use weapons, old crafts** or **write in Glagolitic script** and find yourself 1200 years ago.

For current information about the event visit [www.bojna.sk](http://www.bojna.sk) and [www.visitnitra.eu](http://www.visitnitra.eu).



#### Contact:

Archeologické múzeum Veľkej Moravy  
Bojná 201, 956 01 Bojná

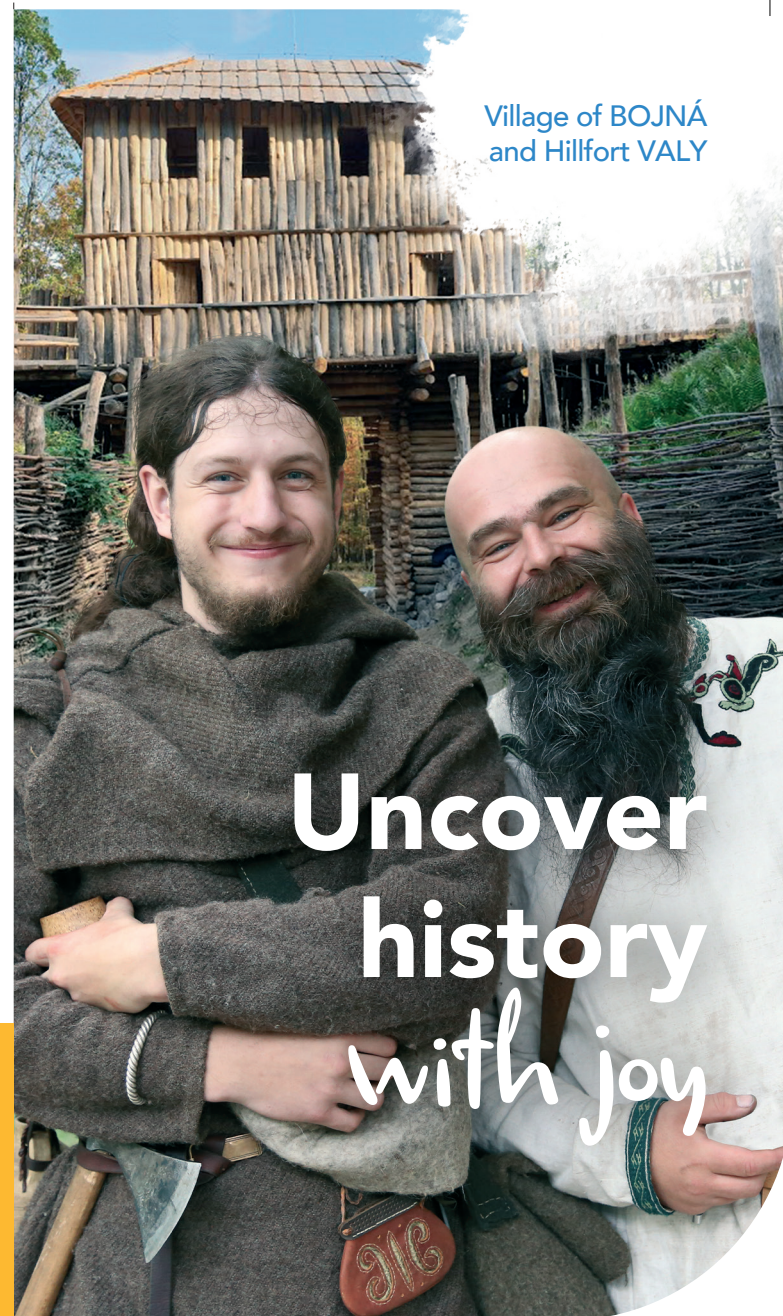
Phone: 0903 211 785, 038 536 4015

Mail: [muzeum@bojna.sk](mailto:muzeum@bojna.sk), [ocu@bojna.sk](mailto:ocu@bojna.sk)

Opening hours: po-ne: 10:00 - 16:00

For more information  
and other experience visit:

[visitnitra.eu](http://visitnitra.eu)



Village of BOJNÁ  
and Hillfort VALY

Uncover  
history  
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## The village of **Bojná**

The village of Bojná lies in the southern part of Považský Inovec in the valley of the Bojnianka stream and within the **settlement area with an old historical tradition**. The name of the village has its origin in the Old Slavic word "bojňa", which means a settlement at the place of the military garrison. An **important trade route from the region of Považie to Ponitrie** led through the place where the village is situated nowadays.



## Fortified **hillforts**

Today, several **archaeological** sites are known in the Bojná village cadastre, which are related to the beginning of our national history. Northwest of the village on the ridge of Považský Inovec, there is the **Hillfort Valy** (Bojná I) in an area of 12 hectares. It has a kidney shape and its ramparts from the outside still come up to an **impressive height of 10-12 metres**.

Above the Bojnianka valley there is a second fortified hillfort with a double line of moat and rampart (Bojná II). Another land fortification lies on the ridge of Žihľavník (Bojná III), again consists of two defensive lines of a moat and a rampart.

## Hillfort **Valy**

The most important archaeological site is the Hillfort Valy. In the period of Great Moravia, it was an important and heavily fortified centre of power guarding the trade route from the region of Ponitrie to Považie. **The hillfort experienced its greatest prosperity in the 9th century**. Unique findings from this locality expressly prove that the inhabitants adopted **Christianity** even before the arrival of St. Cyril and Methodius.



## Life in the Hillfort

The settlement of the area probably originated due to nearby iron ore deposits. During the **120 years of the hillfort's existence**, the inhabitants were engaged in **metalworking, agriculture** and also the military protection of the trade route.

The number of **weapons and equipment** found, together with the houses destroyed by fire, provides an evidence of the violent destruction of the settlement sometime around early 10th century.



## Plaques and bell from Bojná

Among the most famous findings belong **gilded plaques with sacral motifs** which were probably part of the portable altar. Short texts written in Latin are the **first evidence of the use of writing** by the Central European Slavs. The plaques were created at the turn of the 8th and 9th centuries in an environment of the Western European culture. The presence of the Christian liturgy in Bojná is also evidenced by the **unique finding of one of the oldest preserved Christian bells** in Europe, as well as fragments of other bells.

## Archeological findings

Hundreds of decorated or even **gilded artefacts or jewellery** proves the presence of the social elite. Discovered **tools** (hammers, saws, drills, blades, scythes, hoes ...) or **household items** (locks, keys, ceramics, nails ...) testify to advanced agriculture and also the crafts of the local community. Intensive blacksmith production is evidenced by the findings of tools and **iron talents**.

