



**Tourist Path of Köcsi Pond:** This study path of 400 metres marked with yellow T we can find samples of natural endowments of the vicinity of the pond: the fauna living on red sandstone, and the rock formations on an prehistoric sandbank (gravel and sandstone).

Walking further on the path towards the lookout **Tower of Csere-hegy** we can find a newly restored popular excursion spot with places to build fire and a refreshment bar. From the top we can admire the panorama of the eastern basin of Lake Balaton.

It is worth having a look at the rock formation of the nearby **Nagy-Kő-orra**, which reminds of the **nose of a legendary giant**.

The place is easy to reach along the path marked with a yellow stripe.

#### **Green Stripe Round Tour:**

The distance to walk is 11.5 kilometres and it takes about three hours to cover. the route: the railway station of Balatonalmádi – Széchenyi promenade – Martinovics Street – Kompolthy Monument – Remete valley – Vödör Valley – Kő Hill. At the junction of the green mark we can reach the neighbouring village of Szentkirályszabadja. The other direction leads us to the Mill Valley to meet another path marked with blue. On our round tour we get back to Balatonalmádi.

**Mill Valley:** This place is located in Vörösberény and it can be reached along the

tourist path between Sátor Hill and the steep Vár Hill. The valley itself is also steep where a place to build fire awaits tourists. The name of Mill Valley was borrowed from the nearby mill built on a brook called the Berényi Séd which gushes forth from the Ferenc Spring and it used to be blessed with rich water-output. On the southern sunlit slopes of the Vár Hill there is a rich pasque flower vegetation. Across the valley we can reach Szentkirályszabadja and we can climb the **Ember-szikla** [Human Rock] on Kő Hill.



From the **Remete Valley** we can go up to the top of the 321 metres high **Felső Hill** where there is fine view of the eastern basin of Lake Balaton and the Bakony Ranges.

**Vödör Valley** was recommended for protection by the Balaton Uplands national Park. Its hornbeam and oak forests hide rare flowers and herbs.

**A Balaton-felvidéki Kék Túra útvonala** 12 km-en keresztül érinti Balatonalmádi területét is.

**Gyalogtúra a Kék túra Ny-i irányában:** 21 km

**Balatonalmádi vasútállomás –**

Csere-hegyi kilátó – Alsóörs (kék Δ jelzésen juthatunk fel a Somlyó-hegyi kilátóra) –

Csákány-hegy, Endrődi Sándor-kilátó –

Csopak, Nosztori-völgy – Péter-hegy –

Tamás-hegy, Jókai-kilátó, Lóczy-barlang –

Balatonfüred, Vörös templom.

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## Our Natural Endowments



BALATON  
ALMÁDI

## Our Natural Endowments



The 7 km long, crescent-shaped lakeshore of Balatonalmádi is encircled by **varied ranges and gentle hills**, which run down to the stretch of water. The **flora** of the region is specified by the climatic influences of Lake Balaton and the Bakony Ranges. Lakeside reedy **areas** are protected and form parts of the National Park of the Balaton Uplands. The surface of the water covered by seaweed, swampy parts and willowy groves provide a shelter for a rich **fauna**. The lake is rich in fishes and gives a fine habitat for waterfowls, reptiles, amphibians and numerous mammals. Woods and gardens by the lakeside can also boast of a rich animal world.



### Recommended tourist paths and our most important natural endowments.

*The Red Sandstone Path is a municipal study path stretching to a distance of 6 kilometres, and it takes two hours to walk. The round tour marked with blue triangle gives us an excellent opportunity to visit our architectural and natural relics. Full description of this tour can be found in another publication.*

**Old Park:** It was the scientist Dezső Véghely, who initiated the landscaping of the locality at around 1882. The place of the 10-hectare large park was declared a **natural conservation area** in 1977. At the north-eastern entrance to the park we can find common ash, black maple, white maple, grey-poplar and Italian poplar that encircle a playground there. Along the promenade we can see plane-trees, linden trees and brambleberry trees, but the 15-20 metres high specimens of old white mulberry trees and holly-trees. Across the Bridge of Sighs there is an alley of plane trees leading us to the south-western gate of the park. These trees were planted from, and the most precious ones were planted at 1903 including the candle-shaped sycamore maple, the double rows of orange-reddish willow, the red oak and the giant redwood tree. Among the



foliated and acicular trees we can find a juniper tree, white and black poplar trees, an alder tree, a bald cypress, a black walnut tree, a saddle tree and a thuya tree. The ancient maidenhair tree, the Ginkgo and the American sweetgum tree.

Typical stone is the local **sandstone** which colours the scenery on the eastern slopes of the Öreg-Hill and in the vicinity of the **Óvári Lookout Tower**. It used to be quarried at quite a few places as testified by forlorn quarry holes in the Quarry Park and the Köcsi Pond, support walls, stone buildings, viaducts, tombstones and monuments.

### Geological excavations marked with tablets:

- along Road No.71 we can find the red sandstone crumble.
- along Veszprémi Road we can find Triassic carbonated layers of formations with fossils in the cut of the Megye Hill.
- in Vadvirág Street there is another cut which unfolds the limits of Palaeozoic and Mesozoic periods.

**The Forest of Káptalanfüred:** its dominant tree is the Turkey Oak alongside with the Austrian Pine, the Ash and the Maple. The flora of the Balaton Uplands is unique in the respect that it as far as the northern shore of lake Balaton to join the willowy groves in the Káptalan Pass.

Walking along the path marked with yellow cross we arrive at the **Köcsi Pond** without an outlet and bordered by woods which was artificially formed while digging for clay. Two of its plant communities are the calciphilous oak forest and the local representatives of the acidiferous oak. The pond itself has swampy and reedy vegetation. Its rare plant is the bluish-green sweet grass, which can only be found here within the Bakony Ranges. Among the lesser Pond Sedge growing on the impermeable layer close to the surface we can recognize specimens Hedge Hyssop and Hungarian Meadow Brome. In their bordering zone we can find Water Plantain, Marsh Bulrush, Common Spiky Rush, Marsh Speedwell and approximately 200 stems of protected Winged Orchid. Farther on we can even see Round Meadow Rush and Jointed Rush farther on the drier parts. The pond also offers feeding and breeding opportunities for quite a few species: fire bellied toad, common spade foot, marsh frog, grass snake, European pond terrapin and moor hen nesting there. Some insects also abound in the marshy parts: brook damselfly and rare ground be