

National List of Protected Geological Sites of Slovakia (Proposal)

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The following list includes only the most important geological sites that should be taken under protection.

1. Pieniny Klippen Belt (tectonic, structural, palaeontological, geomorphic, archaeological).

At least six features from this unique geological unit are worth of protection, and namely:

- Vrsatec area (West Slovakia)
- Manin & Sul'ov area (Central Slovakia)
- Terchova & Zazriva area (Central-North Slovakia, partly in the National Park)
- Orava castle klippe (Central-North Slovakia)

— Pieniny Mts. (East-North Slovakia, boundary area together with Poland; Slovak and Polish National Parks)

— Jarabina & Litmanova area (East-North Slovakia).

2. Slovakia Karst (geomorphic, biological, archaeological).

Biospheric reserve in the South-East Slovakia (MAB project—Man and Biosphere, UNESCO), ca 600 km². Typical karst high-level plain with numerous karst structures (caves, avens, chasmes, ghylls, springs, etc.). Border area (together with a Hungarian National Park).

3. West & High Tatra Mts. (geomorphic, tectonic, stratigraphic, biological).

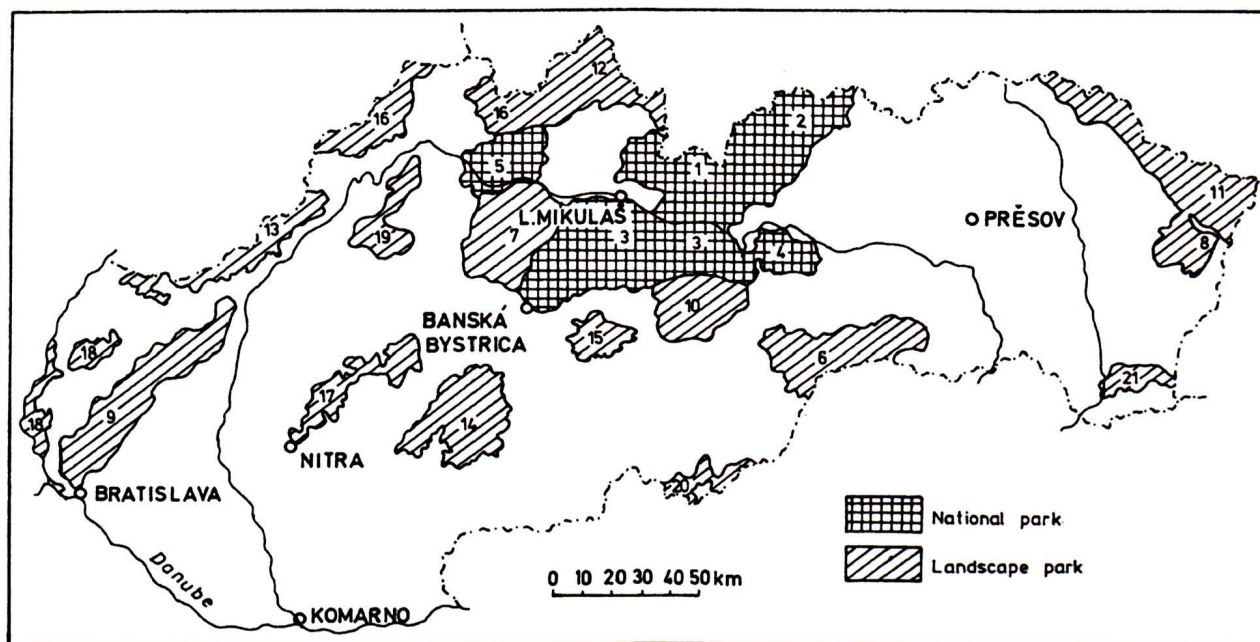


Fig. 1. Sketch of the national and landscape parks in Slovakia (most of them with geotopes):

1 — Tatry; 2 — Pieniny; 3 — Nizke Tatry; 4 — Slovensky raj; 5 — Mala Fatra; 6 — Slovenski kras; 7 — Vel'ka Fatra; 8 — Vihorlat; 9 — Male Karpaty; 10 — Muranska planina; 11 — Vychodne Karpaty; 12 — Horna Orava; 13 — Biele Karpaty; 14 — Stiavnske vrchy; 15 — Pol'ana; 16 — Kysuce; 17 — Ponitrie; 18 — Zahorie; 19 — Strazovske vrchy; 20 — Latorica

Border area with Poland; National Parks in the North-Central Slovakia. The highest-attitude mountain belt in the Carpathians (2 655 m). Glacial relief, igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks and stratigraphic sequences from Palaeozoic to recent; classical study area of cover nappes, biological endemic taxonomy.

4. Pol'ana Mts. (geomorphic, biological).

Biospheric reserve (MAB — UNESCO) in the Central Slovakia. The highest (1 458 m) and the best conserved stratovolcanic form of Upper Miocene volcano in the West Carpathians. Classical stratovolcano with caldera.

5. Demanovska dolina (valley); geomorphic,

tectonic, stratigraphy.

Fluvio-glacial valley in the Low Tatra Mts. (National Park), Central Slovakia. The longest (ca 30 km) cave system in the West Carpathians, developed in several morphologic levels. Classical stratigraphy of Mesozoic envelope sequence and Mesozoic Krizna nappe.

6. Spissky hrad (castle) and Drevenik Mt.; geomorphic, palaeontological, stratigraphy, archeological, historic.

Spissky hrad (castle), a part of the UNESCO — protected World Cultural Heritage, is situated on Pliocene — Holocene travertine flat table mountain (ca 150 m high).