



- (The) *Balaton* - Lake Balaton - „Hungarian sea”
- derive from the Slavic *blato* (meaning „mud” or „swamp”)
- the Romans called the lake *Lacus Pelso*
- the German name for the lake is *Plattensee*

it's

its

- located in the west of Eurasian
- the largest lake in central Europe
- also a determined part of Hungarian hydrography
- 77 kms long
- 1,3-14 kms wide
- very famous for its tourism
- surface is 594 km²
- the average depth is 3,2 m
- the deepest point is 3-3,6 m
- temperature is up to 28-29 degrees

the history of Lake Balaton

- Lake Balaton was formed mainly by tectonic forces 12 000 - 20 000 years ago
- the mountainous region of the northern shore is known

for its historic character

and a major wine region



- in the Ottoman era (16-17-th centuries) Transdanubia came under Turkish rule

the border ran along the Transdanubian Mountains and the southern shore of Balaton



- three European languages have words for wine that aren't derived from Latin:

Greek

Turkish

and Hungarian

- ancient Hungarians used words for wine derived from Turkic (there are two hundred Hungarian words - wine as well- that are of Bulgar-Turkic origin)
- → suggesting that the Magyars had contact with the first winemakers

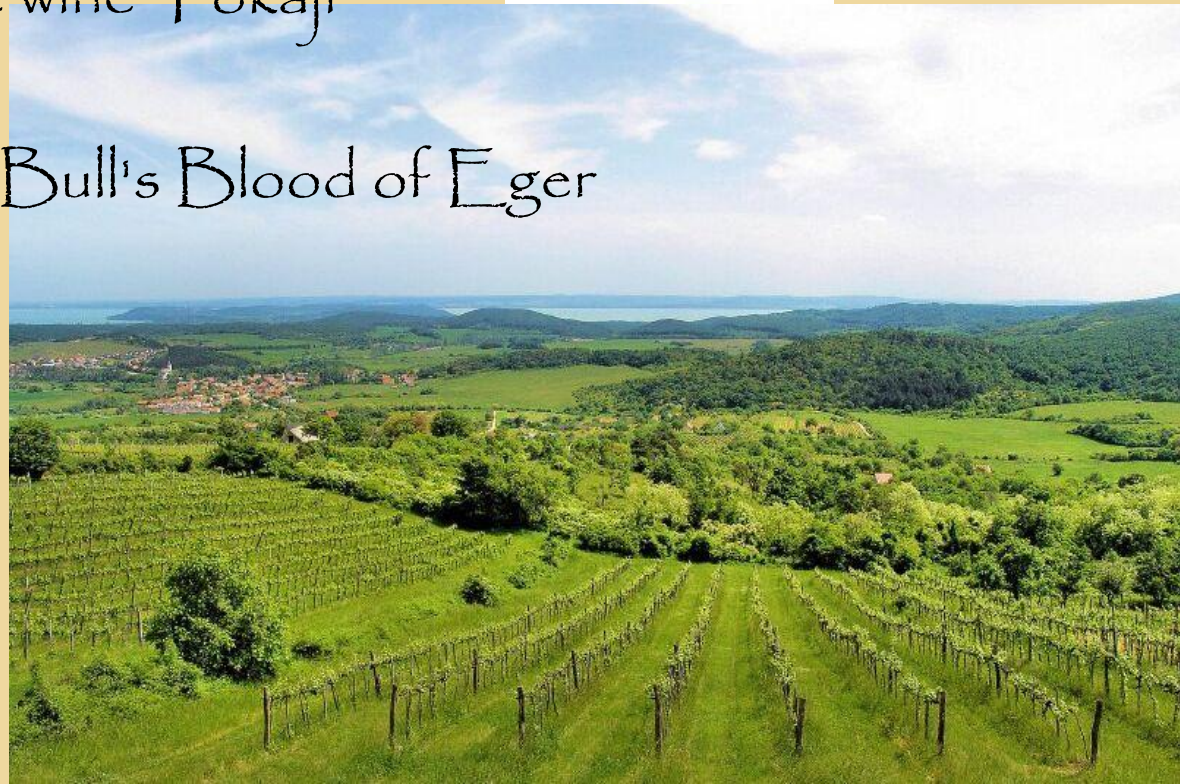


- Hungarian wine has a history dating back to at least Roman times

- the best-known wines are

the white dessert wine Tokaji

and the red wine Bull's Blood of Eger



it's good to know I.

- annually they organize the *Kékszalag Nemzetközi Vitorlásversenyt*

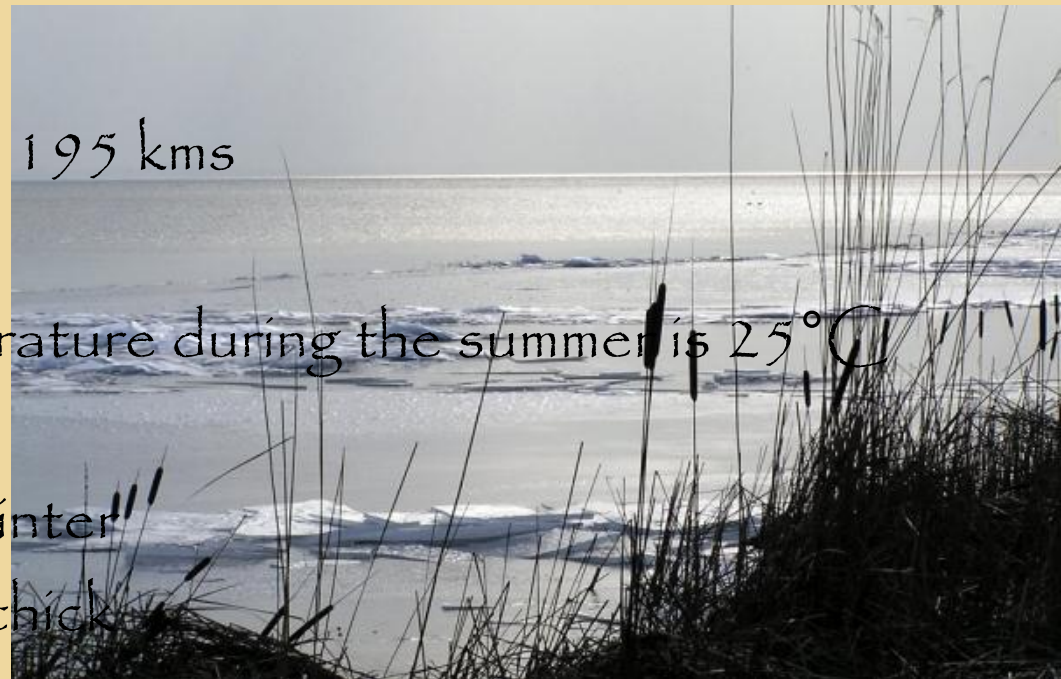


- the deepest part of the lake is 12,5 ms

- the length of the coast is 195 kms

- the average water temperature during the summer is 25°C

- the lake freezes during winter
the ice is 20-30 cms thick



II.

- the *BLKL* research facility keeps looking after the quality of the lake
- there are many mosquitos surrounding
- the water of the Balaton is sometimes foamy because of the mosquitos, but it's completely safe
- the water of the lake is crystal clear



Balaton then and now

- during the 1960s and 1970s, Balaton became a major tourist destination for ordinary working Hungarians

it also attracted many East Germans and other residents of the Eastern Bloc

West Germans could also visit, making Balaton a common meeting place for families and friends separated by the Berlin Wall until 1989



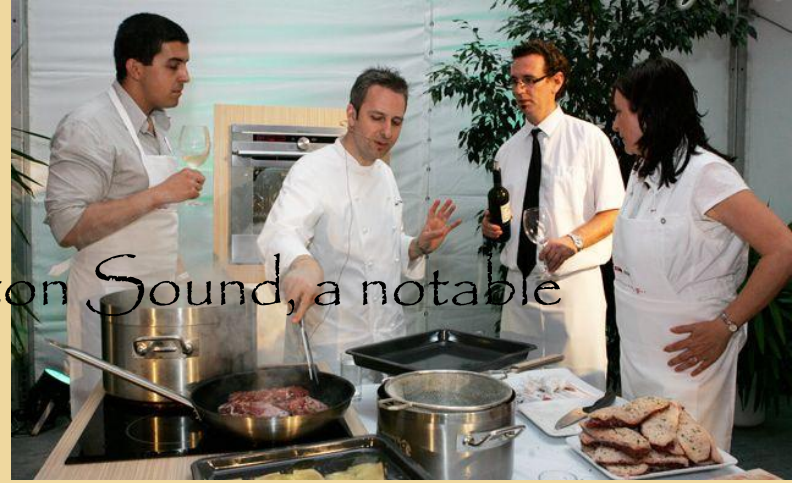


Tourism today

- the major resorts around the lake are
 Siófok („the capital city of summer”)
 Keszthely
 and Balatonfüred
- Siófok is known for attracting young people to it because of its large clubs (example: Coke Club, Palace etc.)
- Keszthely is the site of the Festetics Palace
- and Balatonfüred is a historical bathing town which hosts the annual Anna Ball



- Zámárdi has been the site of Balaton Sound, a notable electronic music festival since 2007



- Balatonkenese has hosted numerous traditional gastronomic events

- Hévíz is known for the worldwide famous thermal lake



- the Tihany Peninsula is a historical district



- Badacsony is a volcanic mountain and wine-growing region as well as a lakeside resort





thanks for watching!

by Laura Karmacsí

