

THE BEST TWELVE PLACES

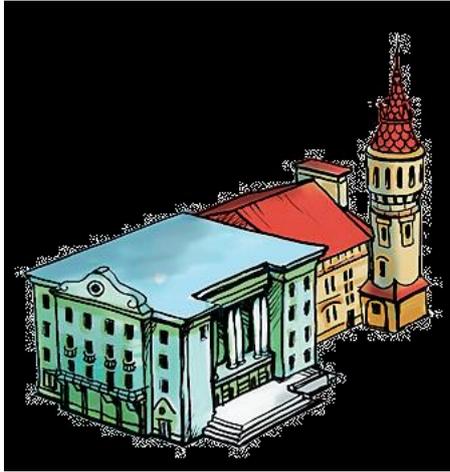


Downtown maze

The Market Square — all four sides of square block of buildings, and second-line streets around — are the basis of a spatial structure of the old city, which remains unchanged and standard despite reconstruction of buildings. The Market was the heart of social and economic life in the old city. Near the Market, in the remaining corner of the ancient Armenian quarter, the Armenian late baroque church is situated, as well as Armenian street (Virmenska Street) with several oldest stone houses, staying intact, when the Armenian community was the driving force of Stanyslaviv development.



Sheptytsky Square — the spiritual area of the city The closed space of the Square creates an isolated territory, separated from pragmatic activity. The Greek Catholic Cathedral is the most expressive building of old Stanyslaviv, embodiment of its soul. The Greek Catholic Cathedral and archaic premises of educational board counterbalance the single ensemble, turning the Square into a city inside the city.



Mickiewicz Square and Kurbasa Street

This perfect square, located outside the oldest block of buildings, corresponds to community image of care, comfort and attractions in the city, to the idea of staying outdoors in public. Kurbasa Street is one of a few streets entirely occupied by multistoreyed stone houses of the early 20th century.



City of comfortable design

Franko Street and adjacent side streets demonstrate the dream of quiet green area with plenty of private space and isolation from business rhythm of the city. Kopernika Street is the model of villa house-building system reflecting different decades of the 20th century. Hnatyuka Street is the only authentic street-complex of old bourgeois one-storey stone houses.



Dream of a socialist center

During Soviet time, in the part of Nezalezhnosti Street from the end of the pedestrian area to the bridge over a railway track, a new social-cultural center of the regional city popped up here. The first residential complex of the 60's, the hotel, the theater, venue for mass public events, the cinema are the monuments of city planning of socialist era.

The Memorial Square is another socialistic experiment, having been resurrected from the ruined necropolis.

Big city zigzag

Urban spirit of developed Stanyslaviv can be felt along the short route from «Dnister» hotel to the start

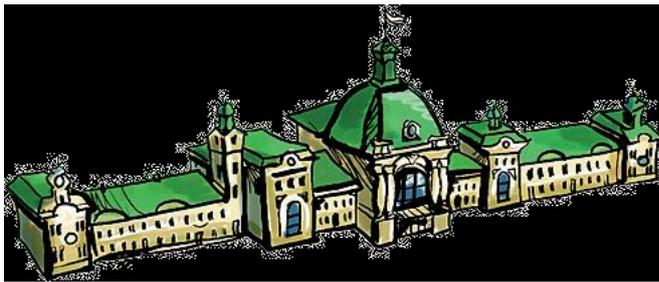
of Sichovykh Striltsiv street, taking a turn on Mazepy street and then — to the start of Korolya Danyla street. Large-scale dwelling houses of Austrian Stanyslaviv are concentrated in this part of the city.

Parks as settlement extension

Shevchenko Street, leading to the City Park, has always been perceived as a resort area. It is densely occupied by houses of different styles to showcase the idea of luxurious life of that period.

The park, being an accumulation of several epochs, ends with an artificial lake, the scale of which is considered to be ideal for a recreational zone.

Right behind the lake one can find an old Jewish cemetery and the territory of the oldest summer cottages.



Railway Frankivsk

There are extremely interesting authentic objects around the main railway station, being a unique memorial of industrial revolution technologies in total.

Geography of the city

Except a few sacred places, which are symbols and greatest treasure of the city — collegiate institute, the Cathedral and the Armenian Church — Frankivsk is rich in temples, the network of which gives some special feel of church polyphony. They are: Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the former Jesuit church near the railway station, the single survived synagogue-temple, the majestic church of eastern Byzantine style on Vovchynetska street, a monastery complex of Vasyliany Fathers in Mayzli (today's Redemptorist Cathedral), local churches at Hirka, Knyahynyn, Opryshivtsi, small Ave Maria church on Gordynskogo street, Russian church in the former kindergarten in Chornovola street, a unique church-chapel keeping the list of those who were buried in the old city cemetery, and church-monastery of Vasyliany sisters, built in the style of Ukrainian modernism and designed by brilliant Ivan Levytskyj.

City-Island

There is no place being washed by two mountain rivers. It's a kind of major genius loci. The best accessible routes to the rivers are: the bridge over the Bystrytsya in Tysmenytsya direction, from which one can see multistoried housing blocks of the city and countryside orchards; the picturesque promenade stretching to both sides of the bridge in Halych-Kalush direction, several kilometers of which connect two masterpieces of interwar industrial architecture — Margoshes leather plant and Lieberman distillery.

Longing for height

Since the greatest value of Frankivsk is its spatial structure and natural framing (interfluve, the Black Forest, the Vovchynets Hills), it is best to have a look at it from a hill at least. The most convenient observation points, unveiling the city secrets, are the restaurant terrace in «Pryzma» commercial centre near the Market place, observation balcony of the City Hall, any multistoried building roof you can get on, and

slopes of the Vovchynets Hills at the end of Vovchynetska street. Besides the city panorama, the Carpathians are seen from above, after all, giving Frankivsk some special sense.

City-fortress

Only one, but a true fragment of flawless fortifications, which were the primary essence of the city, survived by some miracle. It's on the western border of the old city, three hundred steps from the City Hall. The excavated and restored fortress houses now souvenir and gift shops, where you can feel the old city 'from the inside'.