



## 12 FACTS ABOUT IVANO-FRANKIVSK THAT EACH TOURIST SHOULD KNOW

**1** An incontestible grandiose international biennale exhibition of modern art «IMPREZA», has been taking from 1989 to 1997 in Ivano-Frankivsk. It might be difficult to believe now, but 260 artists from 17 countries of the world took part in this first exhibition. Yurko Andrukhovych compared this event with the collapse of the Berlin Wall, because of its magnitude.

**2** Two of three Ivan Franko's beloved women lived in Ivano-Frankivsk. Olga Roshkevych was born in 1857 in suburban village of Uhornyky. After the arrest of Franko the parents of Olga hindered marriage of the couple and forced her to marry a priest. The second love of Ivan Franko, Yusefa Dzwonkowska, was born in 1862 in Stanyslaviv, but they were not destined to be together: Yusefa died from tuberculosis. She is buried at the cemetery in the modern Memorial Square in Ivano-Frankivsk. The poem «Love Appeared to Me Three Times» is devoted to the both women.

**3** «Marmalade fire» of September 28, 1868 caused huge damage to Stanyslaviv and «ornamented» the chronology of our city's history. The disaster was called «Marmalade fire», because, according to a story, one day a local lady began to cook marmalade in her yard and was so fascinated by the conversation so that she did not notice how the strong wind scattered ember around. As the roofs were made of wood and seaked with oil for better rain protection, the fire blazed up. In short, 75% of Stanyslaviv, including the Cown Hall, Vichevyi Square and many central streets were burnt down.

**4** During collapse of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire in 1918 Ivano-Frankivsk, though not for long, became the capital of Western-Ukrainian National Republic. The government was located in the premises of the modern House of Justice (Hryundvaldska St., 11). Symon Petliura, Mykhailo Hrushevskiy, Volodymyr Vynnychenko, Eugen Petrushevych, Dmytro Vitoskyi have been there. Frankivsk had time to be the capital till the middle of 1919 only, until Poland occupied Stanyslaviv again.

**5** Modern Ivano-Frankivsk Cown Hall is the only building in Ukraine erected in constructivism style. This is the fourth generation of the City Hall, renewal of which began in 1928. The very first City Hall was built in 1662. A cross lies in the modern building's base. The tower is finished with a roof resembling a helmet. The whole bulding height is 49,5 meters. The paradox, however, is that the city council has never been located in this fourth City Hall; there were shops and restaurants, and today the most area is occupied by the Regional Museum of Local Lore. The subterranean tunnels which, according to the legend, lead outside the city borders, but since nobody carried out any excavations yet, there are no reasons which confirm this fact so far.

**6** The train station in Ivano-Frankivsk was erected several years earlier than in Kyiv and Kharkiv. It was built in distant 1866. This date is recorded on metal pillars of the station's platform. Only after three years the first train went through Kharkiv and one year later the railway came to Kyiv. In due time the Emperor Franz Joseph came out on the platform of Frankivsk train station. It was possible to go to Vienna or Berlin directly from Ivano-Frankivsk by railway in 1930's. The building of the train station in Mauritanian style is just asking to be photographed.

**7** Inhabitants of Ivano-Frankivsk often call their native city Stanislav or Stanyslaviv. Ivano-Frankivsk was founded in 1662 by a Krakow castellan, later crowned hetman, Andriy Pototskyi. It is difficult to say who is responsible for the name Stanyslaviv because the father and son of Andriy Pototskyi had the same name – Stanislav. The Polish variant Stanyslaviv (Austrian 'Stanislau') held out till 1962 when the Soviet authority decided to rename the town on behalf of the famous writer Ivan Franko who has often been here.

**8** City-fortress without a fortress — this is Ivano-Frankivsk today. 350 years ago this town was built as a mighty fortress for defense against the Tatar attacks. Andriy Pototskyi surrounded the city in ramparts and a wall as well a wide ditch filled with water. In record-breaking short term — 5 months — the fortress appeared in hexagon form with additional bastions, redoubts and a fort that surrounded the palace of Potocki and the first town hall which served as a watchtower. Stanislav had also two entrance gates, none of which is preserved. The palace of Pototskyi requiring immediate reconstruction and the remains of ramparts (the Valy) remind today of the glorious past of the city-fortress. A single piece of fortress wall remained. Now it is part of the restored bastion with everything established for tourist comfort: shops, cafes, restaurants and galleries.

**9** An egg-shaped monument became the most famous monument of Ivano-Frankivsk after the visit of the presidential candidate Victor Yanukovych. Although the tourists call the fountain «Egg of Yanukovych», local inhabitants call it traditionally «Egg of Shkutyak» in honor of the former city mayor. This was long ago before the famous visit of Yanukovych during which a «blunt hard subject» was thrown at him; it turned out to be an egg. Every year before Easter the monument is decorated as painted Easter egg.

**10** The Stanislav phenomenon still gives birth to many discussions and questions regarding what it really was and whether it is still present now. Stanislav phenomenon is a one presented of a group of writers and artists, whose creative works embody distinct and refined traits of post-modernism. In wider aspect, Stanislav phenomenon is worth being considered a «specifically social-cultural situation» (Yuriy Izdryk interpretation) that occurred in Ivano-Frankivsk in 1988-94. First of all, this was striking openness after the fall of the «Iron Curtain» that gave birth to the modern Ukrainian literature of a new European quality. Creative works of writers Yuri Andrukhovych, Taras Prokhasko, Yuri Izdryk, Volodymyr Yeshkilev, Yaroslav Dovgan, Halyna Petrosaniak and Mariya Mykytsey, as well as artists Myroslav Yaremak, Yaroslav Yanovsky, Rostyslav Koterlin, Volodymyr Mulyk and Anatoliy Zvizhynsky, is attributed to the Phenomenon. As long as young writers who continue writing in style of post-modernism appear regularly in Ivano-Frankivsk, people use to speak of «continuation», or the «new wave» of Stanislav phenomenon. Though, as Taras Prokhasko noted, literature explosion that occurred in Frankivsk in the beginning of 90's and ended in 1994, belongs to the history of literature already.

**11** Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytskyi started his bishop work from Ivano-Frankivsk. In 1889 the Emperor Franz Joseph I nominated Sheptytskyi as Stanyslaviv bishop. In 1900 Sheptytskyi became Halych Metropolitan. Being the deputy of Halych Seim and the member of the House of Lords of the Austrian Parliament in Vienna,

Sheptytskyi lobbied the interests of Ukrainians in Halych Region actively. Due to his protection, the first Ukrainian gymnasium in Stanyslaviv appeared in 1905. The city inhabitants acknowledged the authority of Sheptytskyi at once for one more reason: nobody of his predecessors wrote the messages to Hutsuls in their dialect.

**12** An unique «Anti-Soviet» picture of the artist-dissident, laureate of Shevchenko Award Opanas Zalyvakha is stored in the building of the «Diamond» jewelry shop (4, Nezalezhnosti St.). The former «Bilyi Kamin'» cafe was decorated by Zalyvakha in the late 80's. In the huge picture of white stone, besides the figure of mother-keeper with ears of wheat, one can see a trident encrypted in mosaic— the artist allowed himself such jokes with the authority even in spite of 5 years spent in prison camps. Owing to interference of the local journalists, this mosaic picture succeeded not only to be saved from demolition during the reconstruction, but also to be announced the monument to culture of local value. With permission of shop guard it can be photographed.