

# SUNRISE IN PARADISE

1-DAY TRIAL LANTERN EXPEDITION  
TO EXPERIENCE THE SUNRISE IN SMOLENICE



NECESTOU(KA) FOOTOUR  
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# PREPARATION ABOVE ALL

1. **Ideal time:** in the morning 2 hours before sunrise: [find your sunrise](#)
2. **Difficulty:** moderate
3. **Distance / elevation:** upto 10km/548m
4. **Duration:** 6 hours (depending on breaks taken to enjoy the lush views)
5. **Is it for you?** An adventurous expedition, suitable for individuals, small groups, couples, and for adventurous families with children who are not afraid of the dark and enjoy watching the sunrise.
6. **Footour specialty:** The expedition begins under the cover of the night, in front of the church of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary in Smolenice. Let us know how many explorers go on the adventure with you and we will prepare lanterns in a designated place to illuminate your journey
7. If you are a group of people, you can book a group **tasting of our local Včelovina**. Write to us at least one day in advance at [info@footour.org](mailto:info@footour.org).
8. **Leave a positive footprint.** Bring a bag for rubbish, if you find any on your way, take it with you.
9. **What to pack for the expedition:** breakfast to your liking, 2 litres of water / person, fruit, sweets, blanket, spare t-shirt, small first-aid kit (just in case) special tip: cooker and "kořogo" with coffee :)
10. **It is always good to have a reliable map.** We recommend downloading [mapy.cz](http://mapy.cz)





# THE FIRST CLUE

Be in front of the church 2 hours before sunrise

## THE FIRST STEP EAST TO PARADISE

Your first steps in Smolenice begin under the cover of the night, the stars and the moon will reveal your path, just like on that night, when a lone "Smoliar" (*English: unlucky and clumsy person*) carried tar (*Slovak: "smola", also meaning bad luck*) on his carriage through a deep forrest. As he went along the forest road, a beautiful deer jumped out in front of him, which the local lords were hunting for. His horse got frightened and all the tar spilled out all around. The poor *Smoliar* could do nothing but shout „*smole nic!*“ (*English: the tar is gone*). And so people began to call this place *Smolenice*. The lords took the *Smoliar* into their service and made him the guardian of the surrounding forests. They paid him for his losses and built him a house here. Gradually, more houses were built here and so Smolenice has become as we know it today.

At least that's what our people say.

# YOU ARE THE FOREST

When you walk through the forest, become its guardian for a while. Listen to its sounds, the rustling of the leaves of mighty beeches, tall oaks, playful hornbeams, maples. Inhale the intoxicating scent of spruce, fir and pine. If you become one with the nature, you may be lucky enough to meet deer, muflons, or spot a shy fox.

*(Did you know? My sme les, in English We are the forest, is a civil society initiative to stop wood logging in Slovakia).*

# THE SECOND CLUE

Walk upwards alongside the cemetery, you will pass 3 glowing Franciscan monks brought from *Dobrá Voda*, the chapel and tomb of the Pálffy family, continue through the dark grove to a star-lit meadow. The path will take you to the Smolenice castle.

Look for the **beginning of the blue sign**.





# WANT TO EXPLORE MORE?

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Go whenever and with whoever you wish.

