

Marekov Dvor

1. Einführung

Der Familienbetrieb von Marekov Dvor befindet sich in der Nähe von Drábsko, in Sedmák, Veporské hory, etwa 1000 Meter über dem Meeresspiegel, im Zentrum der Slowakei. Marekov hat eine 6-köpfige Familie, von denen drei auf dem Bauernhof arbeiten. Sie bieten eine erlebnisorientierte Unterkunft - Gäste können sich direkt an den Arbeiten auf dem Bauernhof beteiligen. Dies ist nicht nur für inländische, sondern auch für ausländische Besucher interessant. Der Bauernhof bietet typisch slowakischen ländlichen Agrartourismus, der in der Slowakei noch sehr selten ist. Besucher können auch Reiten und Pferdetraining genießen (in Zusammenarbeit mit der NGO Vydra Čierny Balog).

2. PROFIL DES PROMOTERS



Vorname

Viera Marekova &

Familiennamen, Nachname

Pavel Marek

Geburtsjahr

1961

Geschlecht

Weiblich

Ausbildung

Secondary

3. Betriebsprofil



**Adresse**

976 53 Drábsko 112, Slovensko

Land

Slowakei

Fläche des Bauernhofs in ha

25.00

Gründungsdatum des Betriebs

1999

Datum, seit dem der Betriebsleiter den Betrieb führt

Fr., 01.01.1999 - 12:00

NUMBER OF WORKERS	FAMILY MEMBERS	EXTERNAL WORKERS
Full time	0	1
Part time	0	2

Betriebsbeschreibung

The farm is located in the vicinity the of Protected Area Poľana. Marekovci family established the farm in 1999, following their dream. The farm is situated in highlands, in a natural environment offering many options for agritourism or hiking in the countryside. The farm is located to the east of the famous stratovolcano Poľana and belongs to the cultural and geographic region of Podpoľanie. The scattered settlement, although typical for Podpoľanie, is a rare urbanistic structure in Slovakia. Due to natural conditions, especially short vegetation period and cold long winters (800 - 1000 m. a.s.l.), limited agriculture and peculiar settlement patterns in the past caused that the region was slow to develop (18th and 19th century). The primary reason for the area colonization was wood processing, which is still reflected in the architecture of folk buildings. The farm has several business activities - horses riding, breeding of cows small domestic animals and pets, preservation of the surrounding landscape (predominantly pastoral land). Accommodation services at the farm are available from 1st May to 31th October. The current landscape adds value to farming activities taking place at the farm. Extensive pastures are great for horse riding. Views of the Low Tatras or Poľana from the nearby mountains is a breath-taking experience during all seasons of the year.

Website und Social Network-Links

www.marekovdvor.sk

www.drabsko.webnode.sk/products/marekov-dvor/

Facebook

4. Multifunktionale / nachhaltige Landwirtschaft und europäische Agrarlandschaften (EAL)

Stichwörter: Multifunktionale und Nachhaltige Landwirtschaft

Social farming

Cooperation

Tourism and recreation related to EAL

Traditional buildings

Traditional land use

Freier Text

The family lived in the countryside where they had gained some farming skills. Then, the family moved to the city and for a certain time live there. The urban life helped them to understand what people living in a city expect from rural agritourism. When Marekovci family returned to the countryside and established the farm, they decided to pursuit typical Slovakian rural agritourism and create a homely and friendly atmosphere for the visitors visiting this remote rural region. The family bought a homestead on a traditional farmland next to the pastoral mountainous landscape with scattered settlements, an ideal place for livestock and horse breeding. The family takes good care of the surroundings (mowing and weeding). These activities prevent the agricultural landscape from being overgrown by woody plants, thus and helping to maintain its character since it is the landscape that attracts people to this remote rural region. The high-quality local agritourism is the key to their success and it is the main reason why visitors are happy to come back. The farm is far away from the main road but thanks to visible information boards it is not difficult to find it.

Rat und Empfehlung

"We are care for and maintain the surrounding landscape as real "landscape gardeners" and the farm is an integral part of the landscape's character. We love to make our guests to feel like at home here and we like to share the spirit of this landscape with them."

5. Einschätzung, notwendige Fähigkeiten, Fragen

Allgemeine Überlegungen

Marekovci family went through several educational activities focused on good farm practices and farm success. However, they had to master business models and business strategies all by themselves without any kind of support. Since the family could compare the life in the city with the life in the rural area they were able to set up the business model and find the right locality for the farm – the traditional farmland with pastures located in the remote rural region. Their agricultural activities help to preserve the landscape character that is the main visual attraction for tourists. The family had to overcome various economic problems. Besides difficulties connected with natural conditions and hard accessibility due to weak infrastructure, bureaucracy, unwillingness of competent authorities to solve problems, maladjustment of financial aid and lacking or vague legislation for small and family-run farms ("gazdovský dvor" - a small farm officially does not exist in Slovakia) further limit the development of small and family-run farms. Endless discussions pointing to the system's shortcomings are not a solution when money for real support for farmers tend to get lost somewhere on the way. The approach must be changed. Competent people in charge of supporting skillful and active farmers in regions should firstly come and see the farms in person and then decide on further steps. Without work of farmers and traditional agriculture these remote rural areas would disappear into forests.

Strengths	Weaknesses
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