

Valea Viilor Village – German rural architecture in a picturesque area

Valea Viilor is a small and picturesque village in Sibiu County, Transylvania, Romania. Here are living in harmony Romanian, German and Hungarian citizens.

The village has also German and Hungarian names: the German name is *Wurmloch* and the Hungarian name is *Nagybaromlak*.

The village is placed in the North of Sibiu County, at 14 km far from Medias town. The area is well known as an important wine-growing area, that's why the Romanian name of the village is Valea Viilor meaning „The Wineyard Valley”.



Archeological diggings prove that the area was lived since the neolithic period. First mention is made in 1263 as *possessio Barwmlak*. Also, the archeological site is included in the list of monuments protected by UNESCO.

The Church

In the Valea Viilor Village is an 19-th Century fortified German Church, formerly having Saint Peter as titular Saint. Since 1999 The Church is included in the list of UNESCO Monuments.

It seems that on the place of the present fortified Evangelic Church existed before an older Romanic Church, whose remainings could be observed under the Sacristy floor.

In the 14 Century were started the works to the Church dedicated to Saint Peter, in Gothic style. Starting with 16 century, the Church suffered modifications meaning that it was fortified.

Near the St. Peter Church there is a Chapel dedicated to Saint Cyriacus in 1446



Fortification

The Church is surrounded by a solely oval inwall inside of which there is only one arched alleyway for entrance, placed on the west side. This arched alleyway could be closed if needed. Still exist three bastions on the flanks, which were placed on the four cardinal points. The walls are 6-7 m high and they have ramparts and dropping chops pillared by console.

Tourism

Due to the specific architecture of the village there is a high potential for agro-tourism and recreation.

Main monuments can be visited in Valea Viilor Village are

- German Evangelic Church, built in [sec. XIV-XVI](#)
- Orthodox Church having "Sf. Arhangheli Mihail și Gavril" as Protector Saints
- Composer Marțian Negrea Memorial House
- Heroes Monument – dedicated to the Romanian Hiroes from the Second World War.

Important to be mentioned here are the folk festivals and the existing multi-cultural atmosphere which combine the customs of the three ethnic groups which harmoniously live together.



Pleasant landscapes together with specific German old village atmosphere offer to the village a warm invitation to be visited

Economie

Economy of the village is based on: activities in the field of civil engineering and construction materials, wood primary manufacture industry, auto spare parts production, milling and bread manufacture, trade, tourism. Main activity is agricultural, based on cultivation and animal husbandry.

