

World War I Memorial 4 Lions on Murman's Hill

Current name of the site: World War I Memorial (4 Lions)

Category: Memorial

Type: Historical

Location: Murmanova výšina, Na Baránku 4529, 811 04 Bratislava – Staré Mesto

Elevation: 266 m above sea level

Current owner/administrator: **owner:** the land belongs to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, **administrator:** Marianum – Bratislava City Funeral Services

Murmanova Hill (273 m above sea level), located above Mountain Park, is a lesser-known historic site in Bratislava offering views of the city and a solemn atmosphere. The name derives from the Murmann family, who once owned land here. In 1875, the Bratislava Beautification Society built an observation tower here, which was demolished after 1945. This site was once among the most beautiful vantage points in Bratislava.

After World War I, there was a need to create a shared memorial site for the fallen citizens of Bratislava. Thus, in 1925, the “Four Lions” memorial was erected on Murmanova Hill, designed by architects Franz Wimmer and Endre Szőnyi. The symbolic stone sarcophagus is supported by four lions carved by sculptor Alojz Rigel from granite salvaged from the demolished monument to Maria Theresa. Inside is a casket containing the founding charter and a poem by Dora Wimmerová.

The monument was ceremoniously unveiled on November 2, 1925, and became a place of remembrance for the victims of war. In 1930, it was also visited by President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk. After World War II, the site lost its original significance, but the monument has been preserved to this day as an important reminder of World War I and Bratislava’s historical memory. It has been a national cultural monument since 2002.