

Liszt Garden

Current name of the site: Liszt Garden

Category: garden

Type: historic

Location:

Located in the Bratislava Old Town district at 1 Klariská Street

GPS: 48.143693, 17.105970

Current owner/administrator: University Library in Bratislava

The garden adjacent to the late Baroque palace of Prince Leopold de Pauli is one of Bratislava's most significant historic gardens. The palace was built between 1775 and 1776 on the site of an older medieval house and was one of the few in the city to feature a formal courtyard and a large garden. The grounds also included a music pavilion, which was used for concerts, social gatherings, and the relaxation of the palace's owners.

The garden has medieval origins and is a remnant of the former royal garden from the 15th century. It gained fame during the coronation of Maximilian II in 1563, when a dance floor was built here for the noble guests. The garden once offered a beautiful view of Bratislava Castle. The palace is also associated with the world-famous composer and piano virtuoso Franz Liszt, who performed his first concert in Bratislava here at the age of nine in 1820. This event is commemorated today by a plaque on the palace and a statue of Liszt in the garden.

Today, the garden is landscaped in a geometric style that echoes the original Baroque layout. It features topiary boxwoods, a monumental horse chestnut tree, a fig tree, and clematis. The palace now serves as the University Library, and the garden offers a peaceful historic space in the heart of the city.