



## Adventure Train REBLAUS EXPRESS

Every Sat., Sun. incl. Publ. Hol.  
from May to October

### Pilgrimage Church Maria Schnee

In the Spitals wood, not far from ZISSERSDORF and approximately a ¾ hour distant from DROSENDORF, is the pilgrimage church MARIA SCHNEE which is built over a spring, from whence flows „medicinal/healing“ waters. The chapel or church buildings date back to the 17th century, but the worship of the spring go way, way back in time.

It is a valid historical fact, that long before the building of the church, there was a cave near the spring in which a hermit celebrated the Holy Mass in a simple wooden chapel. A hermit lived near the spring also at the time when the first church in stone was built. The last recluse was forbidden to continue the hermitage, but continued to receive alms from the Drosendorf inhabitants, until one day he disappeared without trace. The hermit's cave apparently was transformed into a wine cellar, which is to be found in the wine bar near to the spring chapel.

The cause for the rebuilding of the spring chapel is based on the alleged appearance of a „White Lady“. The “White Lady” appeared in the twilight to an old farmer from the village of Elsern who was grazing his cows near to the spring, and requested via all sorts of gestures, the rebuilding of the church. After two more appearances of the lady in the same place (and even to an earlier evening hour), he took the hint and started a collection (money drive) headed by a citizen of Drosendorf. In a very short time a considerable sum was collected and after the wood, stone and other materials were provided, nothing more could stand in the way of the construction. The chapel was completed in 1867 and is 16 metres long and 5.5 metres wide.

The waters from the *Snow spring* (Schneebründl), the finest water source for miles around, are considered as beneficial. Pilgrims come here all the year round and some have attested to having experienced “wondrous” cures. Prominent pilgrimages come at different times of the year to the Snow spring from as wide as Bohemia and Moravia.

Until a few years ago, the walls of the inner chapel were covered over and over with dedications (in picture form), some with remarkable inscriptions. These were eventually removed. In one corner of the chapel is a wooden statue of the Madonna, who, at different times is festooned with various coloured pieces of donated clothing. At times, this rather „loudly“ clothed image, leaves a rather curious impression on the viewer.



**For detailed Information about the Reblaus Express please note the timetable.**

**We wish you a pleasant journey with the Reblaus Express!**

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