

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Vlkolínec

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- Slovakia

Type of Property

cultural

Identification Number

622rev


Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

1993

1.3 - Geographic Information Table

| Name | Coordinates (latitude/longitude) | Property (ha) | Buffer zone (ha) | Total (ha) | Inscription year |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Vlkolínec | 49.039 / 19.278 | 4.9 | 320.7 | 325.6 | 1993 |
| Total (ha) | | 4.9 | 320.7 | 325.6 | |

1.4 - Map(s)

| Title | Date | Link to source |
|---|------------|--|
| Vlkolínec reservation of folk architecture, delimitation of the World Heritage site | 14/12/2007 |  |

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

Comment

Monuments Board of the Slovak Republic Cesta na Červený most 6 814 06 Bratislava Slovakia

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Zuzana Liptayová
Regional Monuments Board Žilina, office in Ružomberok
Art Historian / Conservator

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

Comment

www.vlkolinec.sk

1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Comment

The World Heritage Committee adopted the retrospective definition of the outstanding universal value of this site by its decision No. 38 COM 8E.

2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed

(iv)(v)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised

The World Heritage Committee adopted the retrospective definition of the outstanding universal value of this site by its decision No. 38 COM 8E.

2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

| | Name | Impact | | | | | | Origin | |
|---------------|--|-----------|----------|----------|--------|---------|--|--------|--|
| 3.1 | Buildings and Development | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.1 | Housing | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.4 | Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.5 | Interpretative and visitation facilities | | | | | | | | |
| 3.2 | Transportation Infrastructure | | | | | | | | |
| 3.2.1 | Ground transport infrastructure | | | | | | | | |
| 3.2.4 | Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure | | | | | | | | |
| 3.3 | Services Infrastructures | | | | | | | | |
| 3.3.4 | Localised utilities | | | | | | | | |
| 3.3.5 | Major linear utilities | | | | | | | | |
| 3.4 | Pollution | | | | | | | | |
| 3.4.4 | Air pollution | | | | | | | | |
| 3.5 | Biological resource use/modification | | | | | | | | |
| 3.5.4 | Livestock farming / grazing of domesticated animals | | | | | | | | |
| 3.5.5 | Crop production | | | | | | | | |
| 3.5.10 | Forestry /wood production | | | | | | | | |
| 3.7 | Local conditions affecting physical fabric | | | | | | | | |
| 3.7.1 | Wind | | | | | | | | |
| 3.7.5 | Dust | | | | | | | | |
| 3.8 | Social/cultural uses of heritage | | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.1 | Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses | | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.2 | Society's valuing of heritage | | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.4 | Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system | | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.5 | Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community | | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.6 | Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation | | | | | | | | |
| 3.9 | Other human activities | | | | | | | | |
| 3.9.1 | Illegal activities | | | | | | | | |
| 3.9.2 | Deliberate destruction of heritage | | | | | | | | |
| 3.10 | Climate change and severe weather events | | | | | | | | |
| 3.10.1 | Storms | | | | | | | | |
| 3.11 | Sudden ecological or geological events | | | | | | | | |
| 3.11.4 | Avalanche/ landslide | | | | | | | | |
| 3.11.6 | Fire (wildfires) | | | | | | | | |
| 3.13 | Management and institutional factors | | | | | | | | |
| 3.13.1 | Low impact research / monitoring activities | | | | | | | | |
| 3.13.3 | Management activities | | | | | | | | |
| Legend | Current | Potential | Negative | Positive | Inside | Outside | | | |

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

| | Spatial scale | Temporal scale | Impact | Management response | Trend | |
|-------|----------------------------------|----------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------|--------|
| 3.8 | Social/cultural uses of heritage | | | | | |
| 3.8.2 | Society's valuing of heritage | restricted | frequent | minor | medium capacity | static |

| | | Spatial scale | Temporal scale | Impact | Management response | Trend |
|--------|--|---------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------------|--------|
| 3.8.4 | Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system | extensive | on-going | significant | medium capacity | static |
| 3.8.6 | Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation | widespread | on-going | significant | medium capacity | static |
| 3.11 | Sudden ecological or geological events | | | | | |
| 3.11.6 | Fire (wildfires) | restricted | one off or rare | significant | low capacity | static |

3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

3.17.1 - Comments

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is a buffer zone

4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are **known** by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

Culture-historical values are safeguarded by a buffer zone declared pursuant to the Act on the Preservation of Monuments and Historic Sites. It was re-declared in 2007 and the terms of protection were further specified in response to a legislative change. The protection of the WHS natural framework is based on the Act on Nature and Landscape Protection as a part of the Veľká Fatra National Park.

4.2. Protective Measures

4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 (2001-2006) Section 2

Source: [Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 \(2001-2006\)](#)

Submitted on Friday, October 28, 2005

• Question 6.02

– Basic legislative instrument in the field of protection of monuments and historic sites is the Act No. 49/2002 Col. on protection of monuments and historic sites

– Basic legislative document in the field of nature and landscape protection of the Slovak Republic is the Act No. 543/2003 Col., on Landscape and Nature Protection

– Building Act No. 50/1976 Col., as amended and others /see Periodical report I/.

– Specific:

– Decision of the Government of the Slovak Socialist Republic No. 21 of 26.1.1977 declaring Vlkolínec as Monument reservation of Folk Architecture,

– Edict of the MC SSR No. 8/1974 Col., establishing protected landscape area of Veľká Fatra

– protective zone of the reserve forms National Park (former Protected Landscape Area) of Veľká Fatra, whose boundaries are determined by the Edict of the MC SSR No. 8/1974 Col.,

– Resolution of Council of Municipal Office Liptovský Mikuláš No. 113/74 of 19.7.1974 ,declaring 74 cultural monuments in Vlkolínec,

Charter of municipal part Ružomberok-Vlkolínec, approved by Town Council in Decision No. 361/97 of 17.9.1997,

– Revival of MRFA Vlkolínec – recovery projects as part of programme of revival of Slovak localities listed in the UNESCO World Heritage List for period from 2003 to 2006, town of Ružomberok, June 2003,

– Developmental plan of Ružomberok-Vlkolínec town zone, approved on 26.2.1997 by Municipal Council Ružomberok, Decision No. 288/97; elaborated by the Slovak Environmental Agency, regional branch Banská Bystrica, Appendix to developmental plan of zone MRFA Vlkolínec from the year of 1996, Accompanying report + graphic enclosures, Vladimír Paško, Tulska 97, Iveta Kavčáková, March 2000 and others.

Comment

Institutionalized protection is ensured by the Monuments Board of the SR and the Žiina Regional Monuments Board and regulated by Act No. 49/2002 Coll. on the Preservation of Monuments and Historic Sites under which the whole WHS territory is protected as a conservation reserve and the valuable architectonic objects are protected as national cultural monuments. Conservation and maintenance are ensured by the owners and regulated by the Preservation Principles of the Conservation Reserve.

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the

Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone provides an **adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is **acceptable** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies remain

4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

Preservation Principles of the Vlkolínec Conservation Reserve (1990, update 1995) as the basic instrument set the conditions for the protection, restoration and preservation of its values and serve as expert material for regulatory land use measures. A Statute of the Ružomberok Borough – Vlkolínec was adopted through resolution No. 184 of 2008 of the Town Council and the Council for Vlkolínec as the advisory body was created in order to strengthen the protection and improve the WHS management.

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 (2001-2006) Section 2

Source: [Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 \(2001-2006\)](#)

Submitted on Monday, October 31, 2005

• Question 5.02

Sterling group or similar management committee has been set up to guide the management of the site

• Question 5.03

Set up date: 1990

Function: Department of administration of cultural monuments and Vlkolínec

Mandate: The Municipal Board of Ružomberok town established Department of administration of cultural monuments and Vlkolínec, which executes following activities: a) protection, restoration and maintenance of cultural monuments and objects in the territory of Monuments Reservation of Folk Architecture, their registration and documentation b) execution of state construction supervision c) fulfillment of conception and principles of development of territory in accordance with approved developmental plan for zone d) cooperation with state administration bodies, other organizations and state funds in fulfillment of goals of restoration and viability of Vlkolínec municipal part e) coordination of requirements and advisory services for citizens in connection with provision of funds from the town's budget or from state sources and from abroad f) procurement of needed basic documents and engineering activities. g) organization of tourism and administration of Information center in Vlkolínec

Constituted: legal

• Question 5.05

Overall management system of the site

- Management by the State Party
- Management under protective legislation
- Other effective management system

Administration of protection of monuments and historic sites is primarily performed by state administration bodies – regional monuments boards at the regional level, Local Branch of the Board in Ružomberok at local level and the Monuments Board of the Slovak Republic, which was founded by the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, at the national - state-wide level.

Interdepartmental Committee for Rescue of Localities Listed in the World Cultural Heritage List has been established at the national level. – **comment to 5.05**

Since June 2000, all the territory of the locality pertains under territorial competence of the Administration of National Park Veľká Fatra that is an organizational unit of the State Protection of Nature SR in Banská Bystrica.

The self-governmental region of Žilina and Ružomberok town's Department of administration of cultural monuments and Vlkolínec actively participate in process of protection. Their participation directly arises from the The Act No. 49/2002 Col. on protection of monuments and historic sites. They:

- a) supervise over owners of cultural monuments in order of ensuring the owner act in accordance with the Act on protection of monuments and historic sites,
 - b) coordinate development of technical infrastructure of settlements with monuments territory,
 - c) co-act in realization of adjustments to street interior and facades street, small architecture, historic greens, public lighting and advertisement objects in order of keeping them in compliance with plans for maintenance and application of values of monuments territory,
 - d) support initiatives of citizens and civic associations in protection of monuments and historic sites,
 - e) keep records of monuments and historic sites in the territory of municipality on the basis of extracts from the central registry.
- The Act on protection of monuments and historic sites and the Act on protection of nature and landscape impose on owners /administrators and users/ of particular cultural monuments and their parts clearly determined obligations with respect to protection of cultural and natural heritage, which was exactly described in Periodical Report I.

Comment

Hierarchy of management: National level: Commission Coordinating Tasks Related to the Protection of the World Cultural Heritage at the Ministry of Culture; Monuments Board Regional/local level: Žilina Regional Monuments Board, Ružomberok branch office; Administration of Veľká Fatra National Park, Town of Ružomberok, Vlkolínec Civic Association Their actions are coordinated by the Council for Vlkolínec comprised of representatives of organizations and individuals related to WHS Vlkolínec.

4.3.2 - Management Documents

Comment

Management plan of the Vlkolínec Folk Architecture Conservation Preserve (03/2009) http://www.pamiatky.sk/Content/Data/File/unesco/Vlkolinec_A5_final_20_5_2009.pdf Vlkolínec Folk Architecture Conservation Preserve – Conservation Principles (1990, update 1995) Statute of the Ružomberok Town Borough-

Vlkolínec (06/2012) Land Use Plan of the Town of Ružomberok (03/2012) Land Use Plan of the Vlkolínec Folk Architecture Conservation Preserve (02/1997)

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local / municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is coordination between the range of administrative bodies / levels involved in the management of the property **but it could be improved**

4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system / plan is **fully adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is being **fully** implemented and monitored

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **most or all activities** are being implemented and monitored

4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Local communities / residents | Fair |
| Local / Municipal authorities | Good |
| Indigenous peoples | Not applicable |
| Landowners | Fair |
| Visitors | Fair |
| Researchers | Good |
| Tourism industry | Fair |
| Industry | Not applicable |

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities **directly contribute** to some decisions relating to management

4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

No indigenous peoples are resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone

4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is contact but only **some cooperation** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone

4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

Comment on management: To support the effectiveness of local management the town of Ružomberok established the Council for Vlkolínec, whose members are appointed by the mayor from the representatives of organizations, business entities, civic associations and individuals in WHS Vlkolínec. In order to coordinate the entities operating in Vlkolínec and protect its values, the Council, which meets at least twice a year, submits proposals and elaborates standpoints regarding the intents of the town

4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective measures and management arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report


2007 – declaration of the buffer zone of the Vlkolínec Conservation Reserve 2009 – design of the site management plan 2012 – update to the Statute of the Ružomberok Town Borough-Vlkolínec 2014 – passing of Act No. 104/2014 which amends and supplements Act No. 49/2002 Coll. on the Preservation of Monuments and Historic Sites as amended

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

| | |
|---|-----|
| Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc) | 0% |
| International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc) | 5% |
| Governmental (National / Federal) | 60% |
| Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State) | 0% |
| Governmental (Local / Municipal) | 5% |
| In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc) | 10% |
| Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.) | 20% |
| Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.) | 0% |
| Other grants | 0% |

4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

| Title | Year | Amount | Link to source |
|-----------------------------|------|----------|---|
| Rehabilitation of Vlkolínec | 1996 | 10000.00 |  |
| Total | | 10000 | |

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **acceptable** but could be further improved to fully meet the management needs

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding **are secure** in the medium-term and planning is underway to secure funding in the long-term

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

There is **some flow** of economic benefits to local communities

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **some** equipment and facilities but overall these are **inadequate**

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

There is **basic** maintenance of equipment and facilities

4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

Monument restoration, visitor and promotion services are funded through programs of the state, EU projects, Slovak Tourist Board, local government and private foundations. The owners are responsible for funding building restoration and maintenance; they may request aid through Let us Renovate Our House - a special subsidy scheme of the Ministry of Culture. The town of Ružomberok is responsible for the renovation and maintenance of public roads, public spaces, vegetation and infrastructure.

4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

| | |
|-----------|------|
| Full-time | |
| Part-time | 100% |

4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

| | |
|-----------|------|
| Permanent | 100% |
| Seasonal | |

4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

| | |
|-----------|------|
| Paid | 100% |
| Volunteer | |

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

A range of human resources exist, but these are **below optimum** to manage the World Heritage Property.

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Research and monitoring | Good |
| Promotion | Fair |
| Community outreach | Poor |
| Interpretation | Fair |
| Education | Fair |
| Visitor management | Fair |
| Conservation | Fair |
| Administration | Good |
| Risk preparedness | Fair |
| Tourism | Fair |
| Enforcement (custodians, police) | Fair |

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Research and monitoring | High |
|-------------------------|------|

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Promotion | Medium |
| Community outreach | Low |
| Interpretation | Medium |
| Education | Medium |
| Visitor management | Medium |
| Conservation | High |
| Administration | High |
| Risk preparedness | Low |
| Tourism | Medium |
| Enforcement (custodians, police) | Medium |

4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is in place and **partially implemented**; some technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally **but most of the technical work is carried out by external staff**

4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

Žilina Regional Monuments Board, Office Ružomberok employs architect-conservators and art historians who provide help for owners of monuments and local government. Monuments Board provides professional help through the nationwide project "Pro Monumenta – Prevention by Maintenance" aimed at ensuring the maintenance of monuments (training, diagnostics, practical examples). Training focused mainly on traditional customs and handicrafts are secured by the Liptov Region Museum in Ružomberok.

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient**

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is **considerable** research but it is **not directed** towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared with local participants and some national agencies**

4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

Národné kultúrne pamiatky na Slovensku – okres Ružomberok. Pamiatkový úrad SR a SLOVART, 2008
 HUDEKOVÁ, Z. a kol.: Manažmentový plán Pamiatkovej rezervácie ľudovej architektúry Vlkolíneč. Vlkolíneč, 2009.
 DVOŘÁKOVÁ, V.: Svetové kultúrne dedičstvo UNESCO.

Dajama ,2009 KRIVOŠOVÁ, J.: Slovenská ľudová architektúra. Trio, 2012

4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

Research projects and studies which serve as materials for the decision-making of state administration authorities for monument protection and restoration preparation, and the processing and updating of land use documentation and other strategic documents of local and regional governments are continuously carried out at the WHS.

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In **many locations and easily visible** to visitors

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Local communities / residents | Average |
| Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property | Average |
| Local Indigenous peoples | Not applicable |
| Local landowners | Average |
| Visitors | Excellent |
| Tourism industry | Excellent |
| Local businesses and industries | Excellent |

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is a planned education and awareness programme but it only **partly meets the needs** and could be improved

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has influenced education, information and awareness building activities, **but it could be improved**

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

The Outstanding Universal Value of the property is adequately presented and interpreted **but improvements could be made**

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Visitor centre | Adequate |
| Site museum | Adequate |
| Information booths | Adequate |
| Guided tours | Not provided but needed |
| Trails / routes | Adequate |
| Information materials | Adequate |
| Transportation facilities | Poor |
| Other | Adequate |

4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

The Vlkolíneč Civic Association, in cooperation with the Liptov Region Museum and the Town of Ružomberok, organizes cultural events oriented on folk traditions and customs. In 2012, an association of municipalities with the WH sites entitled "Slovenské dedičstvo UNESCO" /Slovak UNESCO Heritage/ was created with a view to creating conditions for the development and marketing of the WH sites.

4.7. Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Last year | Minor Increase |
| Two years ago | Minor Increase |
| Three years ago | Static |
| Four years ago | Static |
| Five years ago | Minor Increase |

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

| |
|------------------------------|
| Entry tickets and registries |
|------------------------------|

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

The following documents adopted by the Town of Ružomberok deal with the issues related to the increasing attendance and reducing the negative impacts on the everyday life of the local population: Program Document for the Development of the Town of Ružomberok for 2010 – 2014 Statute of the Ružomberok Town Borough – Vlkolíneč, 2008,2012 Tourist Strategy for the Town of Ružomberok, 2010

4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is managed but **improvements could be made**

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is **limited co-operation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

The fee is collected, and makes **some contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

Official annual attendance based on admission sales is approximately 50 000. Actually, it is approx. 70-80 000. Admission fees are only collected at certain hours during the season and on weekends and holidays during the off-season. These incomes support the activities of civic associations in

Vlkolínec, visitor services, cultural and social events, conservation of monuments in Vlkolínec and its preservation as a living village.

4.8. Monitoring

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme** of monitoring, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient** for defining and monitoring key indicators for measuring its state of conservation

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

| | |
|--|----------------|
| World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff | Excellent |
| Local / Municipal authorities | Average |
| Local communities | Average |
| Researchers | Average |
| NGOs | Poor |
| Industry | Not applicable |
| Local indigenous peoples | Not applicable |

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

No relevant Committee recommendations to implement

4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee

The World Heritage Committee has not adopted any recommendations to be implemented in this site.

4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring

Since 1996, the Monuments Board has systematically monitored every cultural WHS in 2-year cycles: year 1 - documentation and evaluation of the construction and technical state of all monuments in the WHS; year 2 – preservation of OUV attributes. Implementing corrective measures represents part of the monitoring which provides the material for the provision of state subsidies for conservation.

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 managements needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

| | World Heritage criteria and attributes affected | Actions | Monitoring | Timeframe | Lead agency (and others involved) | More info / comment | |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| 3.8 | Social/cultural uses of heritage | | | | | | |
| 3.8.2 | Society's valuing of heritage | (iv), (v) – historical character of the settlement and surrounding landscape, historical ground plan and allotments structure | Adjustments to buildings in WHS are regulated by the provisions of the Preservation Principles and by the decisions of the Regional Monuments Board, new constructions are possible only on originally built-up places pursuant to the land use plan. | Within the regular monitoring system carried out by the Monuments Board of the SR. | continuously | Žilina Regional Monuments Board, building office of the Town of Ružomberok, owners, Council for Vlkolínec | Decrease of the original population and changes in the traditional way of life result in pressure to change the use of buildings – from permanent to recreation residences, and to adapt the original farming buildings for accommodation purposes. |
| 3.8.4 | Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system | (iv), (v) – material substance of the historical buildings, historical character of the entire settlement and surrounding landscape | Organizing of presentation events and creative workshops oriented on traditional skills and lifestyle, support for educational activities oriented on the preservation of traditional crafts. | Regular two-year system of monitoring carried out by the Monuments Board of the SR | continuously | Ministry of Culture of the SR, Town of Ružomberok, Council for Vlkolínec, Žilina Regional Monuments Board, Liptov Region Museum, Vlkolínec Civic Association, owners | Threat to characteristic lines of the terrace-like arrangement of the terrain due to the gradual loss of the traditional way of farming + lack of craftsmen who master the traditional maintenance and renovation of wooden architectural structures. |
| 3.8.6 | Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation | (v) – historical character of the settlement and surrounding landscape | Necessity of guiding the movement of visitors around the site by improving the information centre services or hiring qualified guides, to create programs for various target groups of visitors. | Monitoring of attendance according to sold admission tickets organized by the Town of Ružomberok. | in medium-term horizon | Town of Ružomberok, Council for Vlkolínec, Liptov Region Museum, Vlkolínec Civic Association | Growing number of visitors and the lack of organization interferes in the privacy of the local inhabitants and disturbs the rhythm of their lives. |
| 3.11 | Sudden ecological or geological events | | | | | | |
| 3.11.6 | Fire (wildfires) | (iv), (v) – comprehensively preserved settlement unit with wooden log architecture | In 2012, the town built two above-ground fire hydrants (in addition to the original underground hydrants), established a fire unit and bought equipment for the fire station, banned smoking and open fires in the whole village. | Expert inspection of fire protection by the Fire Protection Corps. | annually | Fire Protection and Rescue Corps of the SR + local government + owners/inhabitants | no comments |

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

Answers provided have not outlined any serious management need.

5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

The authenticity of the World Heritage property has been **preserved**

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property is **intact**

5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values are being **partially degraded** but the state of conservation of the World Heritage property has not been significantly impacted

5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.4.1 - Comments

Since its inscription the overall state of preservation of the site has gradually improved thanks to regular monitoring and state aid, which the owners can request from the subsidy program of the Ministry of Culture of the SR for the conservation of the monuments in the WHS. Unused farm buildings are still problematic due to the gradual change in life style.

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Conservation | Very positive |
| Research and monitoring | Very positive |
| Management effectiveness | Positive |
| Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples | Negative |
| Recognition | Positive |
| Education | Positive |
| Infrastructure development | Negative |
| Funding for the property | Positive |
| International cooperation | Positive |
| Political support for conservation | Very positive |
| Legal / Policy framework | Positive |
| Lobbying | Positive |
| Institutional coordination | Positive |
| Security | No impact |
| Other (please specify) | Not applicable |

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

Inscription halted the deterioration of the site and led to the implementation of gradual steps for the improvement of the site's protection, the quality of life of the local population, the raising of awareness regarding the values of this site and regulated development of tourism.

6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

| |
|--|
| Governmental institution responsible for the property |
| Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff |
| Local community |
| External experts |
| Advisory bodies |

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

no

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

- provide more space for commentaries; it is difficult to cover more complex issues (e.g., management system) or reflect the diversity of serial sites in 500 characters or less. - Chapter 3 - in the interest of greater accuracy to enable the separate evaluation of positive and negative impact of factors in the territory

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| UNESCO | Very good |
| State Party Representative | Very good |
| Advisory Body | Good |

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

Most of the required information was accessible

6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

| |
|---|
| Managing the property to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value |
| Monitoring and reporting |
| Management effectiveness |

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| UNESCO | Not Applicable |
| State Party | Satisfactory |
| Site Managers | Satisfactory |
| Advisory Bodies | Satisfactory |

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

• Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Reason for update: The World Heritage Committee adopted the retrospective definition of the outstanding universal value of this site by its decision No. 38 COM 8E.

6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise

We expect that the World Heritage Committee will react to critical deficiencies indicated in this Periodic Report. Special attention must be focused on raising awareness regarding WHS values on the national and international levels and to use all available media for that.