

### TRADITIONAL HUNGARIAN



# JANUARY 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

### --VILLÁNYKÖVESD, HUNGARY--







This story contains graphic images and videos of a traditional

Hungarian pig slaughter.

If this isn't your thing, feel free to skip.

For those continuing, I'm going to take you through the process chapter by chapter...

This story is particularly long. It can be viewed on our highlight reel.



### PROLOGUE

Pig slaughters have been very important events in both Hungarian villages and culture for centuries.

> Pigs are killed to provide meat for the family.

In the past, colder months have been the only time of the year when people could afford to eat larger amounts of meat. There were no freezers and the meat had to be preserved. It was cut into manageable sized pieces, salted for weeks, then smoked.

Now, pork can be bought at supermarkets, making pig slaughters more of a **folk custom** rather than a **necessity**.



# UCCANYKÖVESD

• 45°52'51"N, 18°25'40"E



## 1730

**ESTABLISHED** 

### ELEVATION 109M / 358FEET

POPULATION





### CHAPTER 1



### 29° / LIGHT SNOWFALL

### PIG SLAUGHTERS USUALLY TAKES PLACE IN THE WINTER MONTHS BETWEEN NOVEMBER AND FEBRUARY. ON SUCH DAYS WORK BEGINS EARLY...



### 8:15<sup>AM</sup>

### GUESTS WALK TOGETHER FROM THEIR HOTEL TO THE FARM WHERE THE EXPERIENCE IS BEING HELD.





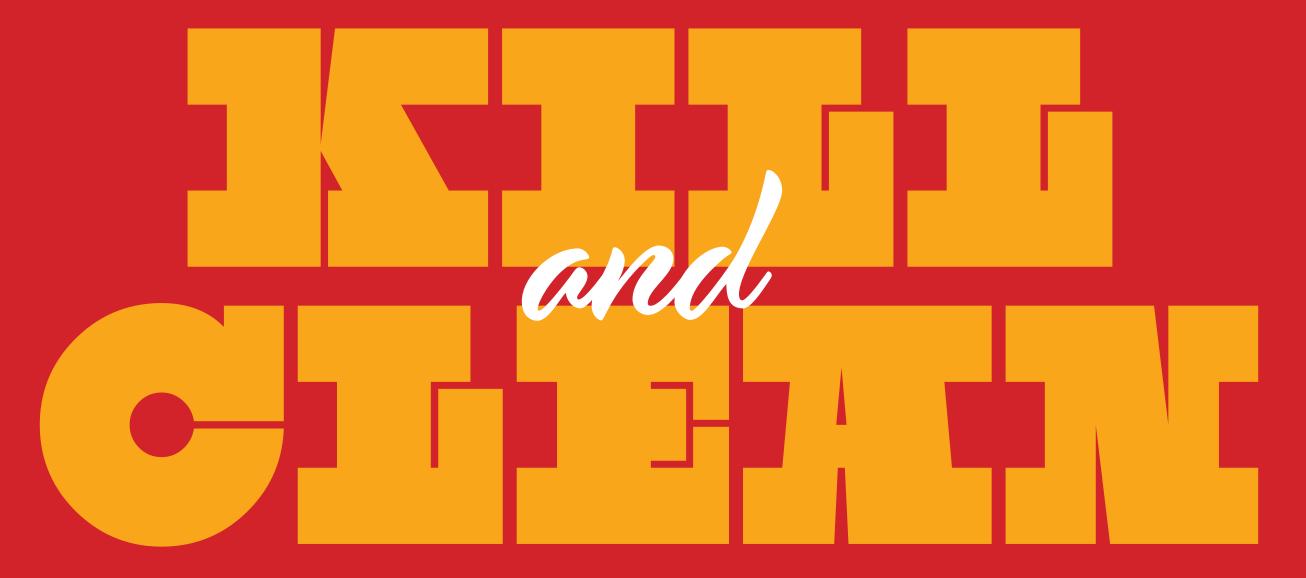
8:30<sup>AM</sup>

LOCAL ACCORDIAN PLAYER WELCOMES GUESTS TO THE FARM. IT'S INCREDIBLY VALUABLE TO SEE YOUNGER MUSICIANS PLAYING THIS INSTRUMENT TO KEEP HUNGARIAN TRADITIONS ALIVE.





### CHAPTER 2



### 27° / LIGHT SNOWFALL

### **COLDER TEMPERATURES BENEFIT PIG SLAUGHTERS.**

HARMFUL BACTERIA DON'T MULTIPLY, THE MEAT KEEPS FOR LONGER WITHOUT DEEP-FREEZING, AND THE BUTCHERS WORK UP LESS OF A SWEAT.





# FUSI-FUSI-BBBQA

9:00<sup>AM</sup>

THE 188KG (415LB) PIG IS KILLED.

THIS IS DONE BY A COMBINATION OF ELECTROSHOCK AND CUTTING OF THE JUGULAR.

**5 LITERS OF BLOOD IS COLLECTED IN THE PROCESS.** 





9:10<sup>AM</sup>

PIG IS PLACED IN A LARGE METAL CONTAINER AND PREPPED FOR CLEANING.



THE STRAPS ALLOW THE BUTCHERS TO ROLL AND FLIP THE PIG WITH EASE.





SCALDING HOT WATER IS USED TO HELP REMOVE THE FUR USING A COMBINATION OF CONES, BRUSHES, AND RAZORS.



### THIS EXPERIENCE IS TAKEN INCREDIBLY SERIOUSLY.

Ũ.

### AS IT SHOULD.





### **VOLUNTEERS HELP THE BUTCHERS HANG AND PREP THE PIG FOR THE NEXT PHASE.**





THE BUTCHERS **BLOWTORCH THE REMAINING FUR** FROM THE SKIN.







THE PIG GOES THROUGH ONE LAST RINSE.





### CHAPTER 3



27° / SNOWFALL

THE BUTCHERS DIVIDE THE ANIMAL TO BE PROCESSED INTO BLACK PUDDING (BLOOD SAUSAGE), SAUSAGE, HAM, HURKA (ORGAN AND RICE SAUSAGE), AND CRACKLING.



9:41<sup>AM</sup>

USING BLADES AND HATCHETS, THE PIG IS BROKEN DOWN INTO PARTS.









### CHAPTER 4



27° / SNOWFALL

### EACH AND EVERY PART OF THE PIG IS USEFUL. SOME BITS ARE TURNED INTO SPICY SAUSAGES OR HUNGARIAN "PIG CHEESE". THE FAT IS FRIED AND THE LEGS ARE SMOKED.



10:30<sup>AM</sup>

### ALL PARTS OF THE PICK ARE TRANSPORTED INDOORS.

MEAT, FAT, AND SKIN ARE SEPERATED INTO MULTIPLE BUCKETS FOR SEPERATE COOKING EXECUTIONS.

# HUSH HANDSHE X BBO A







### CHAPTER 5



26° / SNOWFALL

AT THIS POINT, OUR CAMERA BATTERY DIED AND WE HAD TO RESORT TO CAMERA PHONES EXCLUSIVELY.

ALL PARTS OF THE PIG ARE PREPPED FOR GRINDING INTO VARIOUS SAUSAGES AND CUTS.

THE TRADITIONAL FIRST GLASS OF PÁLINKA IS DRUNK BEFORE PREP, WHILE THE SECOND IS DRUNK IN HONOR OF THE SLAUGHTERED PIG.

10:54<sup>AM</sup>

**GROUND PORK AND A MIXTURE OF SPICES ARE ADDED TO A LARGE WODEN TUB FOR MIXTURE.** 

THIS IS DONE EXCLUSIVELY WITH HANDS AS A SYMBOLIC GESTURE TO THE PIG AND THE FOOD WE CONSUME.



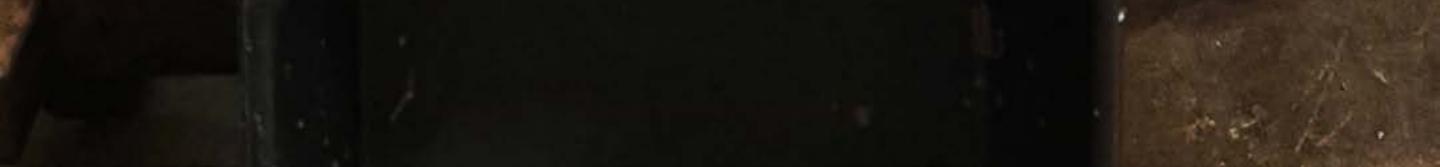


VARIOUS SAUSAGES ARE PLACED IN LARGE BUCKETS TO EITHER BE BOILED OR SMOKED FOR SONSUMPTION.





I WAS INCREDIBLY IMPRESSED BY THE SPEED AND PRECISION OF THE HEAD BUTCHER'S TWINING.



# OKLEVÉL

MAROS-FÜST

CSAPAT RÉSZÉRE, AKIK A VILLÁNYKÖVESDI KOLBÁSZTÖLTŐ VERSENYEN V\. HELYEZÉST ÉRTEK EL.

VILLÁNYKÖVESD 2023.01.21.



### JOINED A SAUSAGE MAKING COMPETITION WITH TWO OTHER GUESTS AND GOT SOME STREET CRED.





THE PIG'S BLOOD IS USED TO CREATE BLACK PUDDING SAUSAGE (BLOOD SAUSAGE).





SKIN, CARTILAGE, FAT, EARS, BRAIN, NOSE, AND OTHER VARIOUS PARTS ARE BOILED AND GROUND TO EITHER BE MIXED WITHIN THE SAUSAGE MIXTURE OR MADE INTO HEAD CHEESE.



### AFTERWORD



### THE HUNGARIAN TRADITIONAL PIG SLAUGHTER IS NOT SIMPLY JUST KILLING THE PIG...

### IT'S A RITUAL, A FAMILY EVENT.

### I WANT TO THANK THE FARMERS, BUTCHERS, AND OWNERS FOR KEEPING THIS TRADITION ALIVE AND ALLOWING US TO PARTAKE.

KÖSZÖNÖM EZT A HIHETETLEN ÉLMÉNYT.

