

TOWN PRESENTATION – BÓLY

Bóly is located in the south-western part of Baranya County, in the Pécs-Mohács-Villány triangle, in the heart of a fundamentally agriculture-oriented region. The innovative investment promotion policy of the municipality has created **one of the first and still largest industrial parks** in the county. Thanks to **continuous developments** – expansion of the area, utilization of renewable energy, construction of rentable halls – and favourable logistics conditions, by now the small town has developed into **a micro-regional centre that attracts many industries.**

Transport and logistics

Bóly is located **between the Villány and Mecsek Mountains** at the meeting point of the hilly region enclosing streams and valleys and the flat floodplain of the Danube. The **fertile lands** of the area are typically used for arable crop production.

The **transport conditions** of the small town **are very favourable.** Pécs, **the county seat, is only 30 km** away: it can be reached on both road no. 57 and motorway M60. Both roads are safe and in good condition. The **M60 junction is right next to the town**, the expressway network can be accessed essentially in just a couple of minutes. The river port of Mohács is 15 km away, while the distance to the border crossing at Udvar and then Croatia is only 20 km.

With the construction of the currently **missing section of motorway M6 between Bóly and Ivándárda**, and the completion of the connection leading to Osijek on the other side of the border, logistical conditions will further improve once a **direct expressway connection** is established with Croatia.

As both the expressway and main road 57 pass north of the town without affecting the residential areas, the **advantages of the excellent transport connections** can be enjoyed by the people of Bóly **without any of the disadvantages that come with significant transit traffic.**

Bóly has its **own railway connection: branch line 65** between Pécs, Villány and Mohács passes south of the town. The role of rail transport in **passenger traffic is limited.** The station was built on the outskirts, more than 3 km from the centre and 2 km from the industrial park. Commuting by train is therefore only a realistic option for the employees of companies located near to the railway station. On top of that, from the seven pairs of

lines operating in the section between Villány and Mohács, currently only one multiple-unit train is running, the rest are being **replaced by buses**.

However, the line is a **suitable alternative for freight traffic**. The conditions for loading larger quantities of goods to wagons are given at the Bóly station.

Bóly plays a central role in micro-regional **intercity bus transport**. Flights run frequently to Mohács, Pécs and Villány, and the buses using road 57 typically touch Bóly as well. The town **can be reached by public transport** from all settlements of the Bóly District, from most areas of the Mohács District, and from the Harkány-Siklós region **within one hour and without transfer**, which creates suitable conditions for commuting to work on a daily basis.

Population and employment

Bóly has **3824 inhabitants**, which makes it the largest settlement in the district. One half of the surrounding area consists of **small villages** with less than 500 inhabitants and the other of **medium-sized villages** with 500-1000 inhabitants. Besides Bóly, only the neighbouring Szederkény has a population of more than a thousand. **Urban-regional central functions** are therefore predominantly concentrated in Bóly.

In the district, **the working age population is 7389**, of which 377 are unemployed. This means that the **unemployment rate is 5.1%**. 6.1% of jobseekers do not even have a primary school education, and 44.83% have completed only the eight primary grades. 45.62% have some sort of secondary education and 3.45% have a degree.

The town's employment figures are more favourable. **Only 1.75%** of Bóly's 2456 working age residents **are unemployed**.

Infrastructure and public services

Bóly is proud to have a **well-developed infrastructure and a particularly attractive settlement image**. The interior **road network is paved** and well maintained everywhere. As a part of recent developments, a road leading to the industrial park and a dedicated **bicycle path** connecting the town with the industrial area have been constructed.

DRV Zrt., which operates a wastewater treatment plant near the town, takes care of the **drinking water supply and the sewage disposal**. The

South Baranya activities of the company present in nearly half a dozen Transdanubian counties are coordinated by the **Bóly headquarters**.

Bóly was one of the first towns to build and end-to-end **fiber-optic telecommunications network**. The backbone network that enables high-bandwidth Internet access is available to all households and businesses.

The town receives much of its energy from **renewable sources**. The key element is the **thermal water-operated district heating network**. The 2.8 MW system includes two production wells, 27 heating plants and 14 km of pipelines. It supplies heat and hot water to local **institutions**, municipal organizations run by the Directorate-General for Social Affairs and Child Protection, **office buildings and the halls of the industrial park**. Both **small and large-scale solar panels** located on many buildings in the town contribute to green energy production.

Bóly is the centre of the **Bóly District**, which contains 16 settlements and has more than 11,000 inhabitants. Accordingly, the seat of the **district office** is located here. However, it only offers a limited range of administrative services: only an authority and guardianship office and an office of government issued documents are available locally. To manage matters beyond their competence one has to travel to Pécs or Mohács.

The National Chamber of Agriculture maintains a **village consultant office** in the town.

All kinds of **primary health care** are available in the town. In addition to two general practices and a paediatrician practice, dental practices (adult and paediatric), nurse service and a private internal medicine clinic operate in Bóly. The town **health centre** provides GP services for the villages in the area. Outpatient specialist care and hospital care are available for patients living in Bóly at the clinics in Pécs and Mohács.

The town's **educational institutions** place great emphasis on nurturing and maintaining German ethnic traditions. It is a part of the curriculum of the **kindergarten** and the **primary school**, which operates as a primary art education institution as well. As a result, the proportion of German-speaking people within the working age population is high in the town.

Two national financial institutions, **OTP Bank** and **Takarékbank**, have their **own branches** in Bóly. Other financial service providers are available for in-person administration in Mohács or Pécs.

Two **lawyers** with valid chamber memberships practice law in the town. The first instance forum for resolving legal disputes is the **Mohács District Court**, from where, in the event of an appeal, the cases are transferred to the **Court of Pécs**.

Bóly is a member of the **Zengő-Danube Rural Development Community**. It is a cooperation of 36 local governments in the area between Bóly and Pécsvárad, as well as non-governmental organizations, ethnic local governments and companies. As a **Leader action group**, its aim is to create a rural and economic development program for the entire planning area, and then to contribute to the realization of development goals by coordinating the acquisition and use of tender funds.

The municipality has established further **active collaborations** with the Baranya County Chamber of Commerce and **Industry** and the **University** of Pécs.

Major economic operators

The backbone of the economy of Bóly is provided by the enterprises settled in the industrial park, thanks to which the formerly agriculture-oriented small town has now become focused on industry and logistics. Of the 739 operating businesses registered in the district, the vast majority, that is 560, are concentrated in the town. The typical sectors are light industry, mechanical engineering and food processing.

Without being exhaustive, the following are some examples of the most important enterprises:

- **Bóly Zrt.** – A Hungarian-owned private limited company engaged in agricultural production and trade. Number of employees in 2019: 613; sales revenue: HUF 24.2 billion, of which HUF 0.62 billion (2.56%) came from exports.
- **Terrán Kft.** – A Hungarian family-owned roof tile manufacturing company, with several domestic and foreign sites in addition to the Bóly factory. Number of employees in 2019: 275; sales revenue: HUF 12.3 billion, of which HUF 2.37 billion (19.27%) came from exports
- **Eckerle Automotive Bóly Kft.** – A German-owned company engaged in the manufacture of automotive parts. Number of employees in 2019: 580; sales revenue: HUF 10.4 billion, of which HUF 9.91 billion (95.29%) came from exports
- **Klippel Kft.** – A Hungarian-owned enterprise engaged in the retail and wholesale trade of building materials, general construction and freight forwarding. Number of employees in 2019: 59; sales revenue: HUF 2.26 billion.
- **AGRO BOY Kft.** – A Hungarian-owned company dealing mainly with the wholesale of grain, tobacco, seeds and fodder. Number

of employees in 2019: 23; sales revenue: HUF 2.44 billion, of which HUF 0.93 billion (38.11%) came from exports.

- **Max Blank Hungária Kft.** – A German-owned company primarily engaged in the manufacture and trade of industrial products (central heating boilers, radiators). Number of employees in 2019: 86; sales revenue: HUF 0.80 billion, which came exclusively from exports.
- **Hard-Concrete Betonelemgyártó Kft.** – A Hungarian-owned company mainly engaged in the production of concrete construction products. Number of employees in 2018: 32; sales revenue: HUF 0.69 billion, which came exclusively from domestic sales.
- **Aquacut Kft.** – A Hungarian-owned company mainly engaged in metalworking. Number of employees in 2018: 9; sales revenue: HUF 0.24 billion, which came exclusively from domestic sales.
- **PLC Tuning Kft.** – A Hungarian-owned company mainly engaged in computer programming. Number of employees in 2018: 8; sales revenue: HUF 0.12 billion, which came exclusively from domestic sales.

Economic areas

Bóly has one of the **largest industrial parks in the county**. It has a total area of 57.7 hectares, of which **6.68 hectares are currently available** for greenfield investments. Located on the south side of the town, with excellent facilities, the easily accessible industrial park is primarily **ideal for small and medium-sized enterprises**.

The area of the park is constantly being increased by the municipality: preparations for a **25-hectare expansion** are currently underway. The newly incorporated areas will receive **full infrastructure**, paved roads and utilities. The package naturally includes the availability of **geothermal district heating**. The thermal energy is supplied by the town's service provider to the companies settling here at a **discount, for 70% of the price of the current gas thermal energy**.

The **most significant appeal of the park is the municipal hall construction** and the related **rental system**. Initial experiences has shown that setting up capital- and infrastructure-intensive sites complying with standards and regulations is an extremely difficult task for small and medium-sized enterprises. And for more substantial foreign companies, it is more convenient and faster to move into ready-made halls to begin production immediately than to start their own construction.

The municipality therefore, partly with the help of tender funds, built its own **halls, equipped with all the necessary equipment and infrastructure**, which could be rented out by investors. There are currently **11 such buildings in the park, with a total useful floor area of 16,500 m²**.

There are **smaller**, partly privately owned but commercially **exploitable areas** outside the industrial park. Outstanding among these is the 3-hectare former farmstead of **Trischlerpuszta**, with complete infrastructure and an 800 m² granary.

Economic support and tax policy

In Bóly, the rate of the **local business tax** to be paid by entrepreneurs is the statutory limit, i.e. **2%**. The rate of the **building tax** depends on the location: HUF 250 / m² / year in the interior and HUF 400 / m² / year in the outskirts. **Tourist tax and land tax are not levied** by the municipality.

The municipality has developed very favourable **purchase and rental schemes** for businesses settling in the industrial park, be it a greenfield investment or a completed factory hall. The **services supporting** the financial construction include technical, financial, or investment consulting, and flexible administration even in either German or English.

Municipal investments

Bóly has implemented or is planning to in the near future **a series of projects** to encourage investment and improve the liveability of the settlement. These projects so far oversaw the building of a new kindergarten and nursery school, the energetics modernization of the school and other institutions, the renovation of the castle park, the construction of a road and bicycle path leading to the industrial park, and the reconstruction of the sewage treatment plant.

Future plans include the **expansion of the industrial park** and the establishment of the infrastructure in the new area, as well as the construction of new **production halls for rent**. It will be necessary to **increase the capacity of the district heating system**. The municipality also intends to build a health centre, a sports hall and an indoor swimming pool in the town, and the plans are ready for building a workers' hostel.

Contact

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