The inhabitants are Slovakina with a significant Hungarian minority. The Slovakian agriculture sector accomplishes for around 3% of the national product and is mainly based on wheat, barley, corn, potato and sugarbeet. The livestock industry is mainly made out of swine and cattle breeding.

Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, is located on both banks of the river Danube and at the foot of the Carpathian mountain range. It is the seat of the Slovak president, parliament and the executive branch of the government. There are several universities, museums, theatres, galleries and other important cultural and educational institutions. Many of Slovakia’s large businesses and financial institutions are also headquartered there.

Bratislava is a city with a rich history. First settlements in the area of the present town date back to 5000 BC. During the years 1536-1784, in the period of the Turkish expansion, Bratislava became the seat of the Hungarian Parliament and the coronation town. Many Hungarian kings and queens were crowned in the gothic St. Martin’s cathedral; Maria Theresa Habsburg being one of them. In 1886 the Slovak National Theatre was built.

In 1918 Bratislava became the administrative, economic, political and cultural centre of Slovakia.
Animal Impact Factor surges by 20% to reach 1.744

Animal, the International Journal of Animal Biosciences, has increased its impact factor (IF) to 1.744 and is now ranked 8 out of 55 in the category ‘Agriculture Dairy and Animal Science’.

Animal, which was launched in 2007 by EAAP, INRA and BSAS has increased its influence and scientific quality to be amongst the leading journals in its category. Andrea Rosati, the Secretary General of EAAP said: “This is an excellent result for the journal and I want to thank all the authors, reviewers, editorial team and the publishers (Cambridge University Press) for this success. However we must continue to improve. We know how important it is for animal scientists to publish in high IF journals. We have increased our page numbers to cope with the increased submissions and we will be producing further special issues in hot topics to ensure that Animal publishes the best in Animal Science”.

within the newly established Czechoslovak Republic. Since 1st January 1993 Bratislava is the capital of the Slovak Republic.

Today Bratislava is a modern city and it has recently undergone a great reconstruction and cultural reawakening. The unique UFO-style New Bridge contains an eponymous bar high above the river. The pedestrian decks of the New and Old Bridges are good places to watch the river traffic, including huge Danube barges glide past. Alternatively, you can take to the water yourself: daily hydrofoil services link the city with nearby Vienna.

The monetary unit of the Slovak Republic is the Euro and the electrical system is 220 V, 50 Hz and the outlets are of two-round pin type.

The weather in Bratislava in August is usually sunny and hot with day temperature 20 - 30 °C (extremely 35) and night temperature 15 – 20 °C. Summer storms are very common.

The Castle (Bratislavský hrad) is the most famous landmark of Bratislava and well worth a visit.
EAAP is sad to report that Jean-Claude Flamant passed away on June 19th. Jean-Claude was an agricultural engineer specialized in quantitative genetics. He worked first in INRA centre in Jouy-en-Josas and then he went to work in Toulouse where, among the other activities, he developed the selection system of dairy sheep and he was President of the IRNA centre of Toulouse. He was an assiduous participant of the EAAP activities, never missing an annual meeting and organised the very successful 41st Annual meeting in Toulouse (France) in 1990. For some years, he was the organizer of the EAAP “round table” a sort of discussion forum. He created a new magazine that he managed until now, “Mission des Agrobiosciences”. Jean-Claude Flamant had many positive qualities and knowledge that are very rare to find in the same person. He had a large expertise of agriculture sector from all over the world. It was difficult to find a sector in agriculture in which he did not have competency. He also was passionate with the perspectives; he used his expertise and personal gifts to make sound predictions and perspectives. He was one of those persons that we need now more than before. In a period in which most of scientists become specialized in a narrow subject, our world needs people like Jean-Claude who was able to have a general view and to be able to make perspectives for guiding our society to take the right direction. We will miss his expertise but mainly we will miss his person.