

# The Natural and History Museum of the City of Bendery

The Natural and History Museum of the City of Bendery is one of the oldest museums in the region. Baron A.F. Stewart, head of the provincial authorities, founded this museum in 1914. It is an important cultural and scientific center. The museum has a rich collection of nature and history including these exhibits:

- Museum of Fighting Glory in the City of Bendery
- Museum of Glory of Railwaymen
- Memorial Museum of the Bendery Tragedy
- Museum of Fighting Glory in the Village of Chitcani

The Museum of Fighting Glory in the City of Bendery opened in 1970. It is devoted to the events of WWII including activity of the anti-Nazi underground during the period of German-Romanian occupation and victims of Nazi concentration camps. It also includes the history of the city's liberation by the Soviet army in 1944 and reconstruction of the city in the post-war period.

The Museum of Glory of Railwaymen opened in 1977. It was located in two railcars. This exhibit conveys 130 years of the development of the Bendery railroad yards from the beginning of building of the railway yards.

The Memorial Museum of the Bendery Tragedy contains artifacts and describes the bloody conflict at the time of the Soviet Unions collapse. Many military and civilians lost their lives. This part of the museum opened in 1997, on the fifth anniversary of the tragedy.

Today the Museum of Fighting Glory is located in the Village Palace of Culture; it was located there after the Chitcani monastery became operational. The museum's display tells about the preparation and the



The Natural and History Museum of the City of Bendery.  
Photo taken by Eco-Tiras.

events of the Jassko-Kishinev operation, including participants of bloody battles - the divisions, individual soldiers, and today's veterans.

There are 60,000 storage units holding all of the museums collections on zoology, botany, entomology, paleontology, ethnography, photos and the documents reflecting a centuries-old city history and its surrounding natural environment.

The museum consists of 13 halls including these sections: natural, urban, and border ecology; archaeological excavations in the city; Bendery during the Middle Ages epoch; development of capitalism and its origin in the revolutionary liberation movement; history of Bendery during the Romanian inter-military period; the Second World War and clearing the city of Nazi aggressors; restoration and development of the city during the post-war period; and the city's contemporary history.

<http://berg.bendery.md/museum/?lang=en&location=about>

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