

NbS for urban biodiversity & stormwater management

Location:
Budapest, Hungary

Length:
2,5 km

Duration:
2h50

Number of visitors:
28

Type of visitors:
Urban planners
Engineers
Municipal experts
Government officials

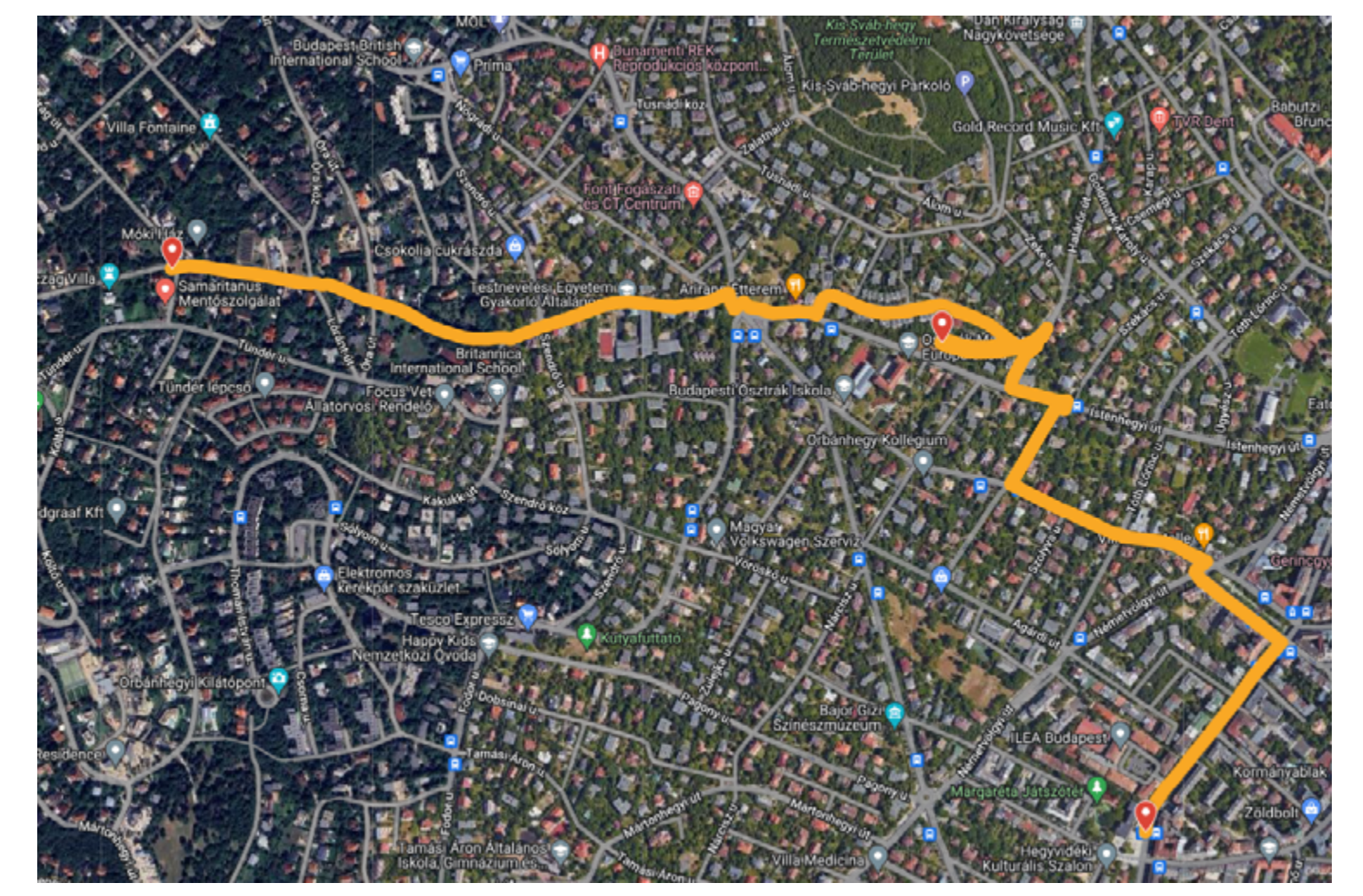


Photo: Nóra Laki



Photo: Nóra Laki

Peaceful coexistence of human & nature in the urban fabric

The 12th district of Budapest is a densely built, hilly, residential area of the capital city, with a strong commitment for sustainable urban development. As a member of the "Bee Path Cities" network, the municipality promotes bee-friendly practices, like wildflower meadows and urban bee-keeping. They are also exploring the applicability of green & blue infrastructure to tackle flood risks from extreme precipitation events. TeAM Hub and Budapest Circle organized an urban walk to showcase current and future NbS sites in the district, demonstrating the importance of thorough planning and stakeholder engagement for successful interventions.

Identifying the ideal site for NbS interventions in a dense urban area with many landowners and complex underground utilities is difficult. By mapping potential locations, designers finally identified a municipal-owned property with a front yard designated as a public space. A rain garden will soon be installed here.



Photo: Nóra Laki

In densely built urban areas green spaces suitable for water retention are scarce. To address this, Budapest's 12th district legally binds developers to create extensive green roofs on buildings with flat roofs, and also leads by example: green roofs have been installed at various municipal buildings, including the Mayor's Office.



Photo: Vanda Nánási

Pollinator-friendly wildflower meadows promote urban biodiversity, and at the same time also mitigate urban heat-island effect and combat air pollution. Still, citizens may easily perceive them as neglected areas. Pro-active communication campaigns and community programs are necessary to acquaint residents with the initiative and gain their support.



Photo: Gergely Vizi

