

Commemorative medal

KYIV OBLAST. CITIES OF HEROES: BUCHA, HOSTOMEL, IRPIN

The cities and towns of Kyiv oblast are on everyone's lips today. People from all over the world are expressing their deepest sympathy with Ukrainians who had to suffer the horrors of war.

Peaceful towns and cities, once attractive for their stunning landscapes, heritage sites, and unique tranquil parks, are gradually recovering from the shocks of a brutal full-scale invasion by the Russian horde.

Let's take a look at some interesting facts from the history of these places.



Bucha is a small town in Kyiv suburbs, which is located on the territory of the former village of Yablunka. The first written record of the village dates back to 1630. It contains the first reference to the river of Bucha, which has shared its name with the town since 1901.

The town has been praised in poems and songs and immortalized on the canvases of artists. At various times, Maria Zankovetska, Maksym Rylskyi, Volodymyr Sosiura, and other prominent people visited Bucha.



Irpin is a city located on the Irpin river, after which it was named.

Irpin is also called a Ukrainian Parnassus: a record number of writers and poets used to live in the city. In the past, Lesya Ukrainka, Panas Myrny, Ivan Karpenko-Kary, Mykola Lysenko, and many other talented Ukrainians came to visit Irpin.



National Bank
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According to legend, the town of Hostomel has existed since ancient times, but the first record of it dates back to 1494. Throughout its history, Hostomel changed hands between Lithuanian princes and Polish kings, and once belonged to Semen Paliy, a valiant Cossack commander.

Hostomel was one of the first Ukrainian towns in Kyiv oblast to be granted the Magdeburg Rights (in 1614).

The world's largest Antonov An-225 Mriya aircraft sat on the tarmac of the third airport of Kyiv, Antonov Airport, located in Hostomel.

Thanks to the fortitude, bravery, and resilience of Ukraine's defenders, the invaders were thwarted in their attempt to capture the airport as a bridgehead to attack Kyiv.

The day will come again when Bucha will be described as a young town with a unique park, Hostomel as a land of Cossacks and home of another Mriya aircraft, while Irpin – as writers' Mecca with beautiful parks. What is more, Ukraine will always remember and honor their residents, who had to become heroes due to the Russian invasion.

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