

Sibiu

Baia Populară public baths

MAPEI SOLUTIONS FOR INSTALLING CERAMIC TILES IN THE POOLS AND WET AREAS

The first ever spa baths in the town of Sibiu were completed in 1840, but it was only at the end of the 19th century that a large public spa centre was built. Baia Populară Sibiu, inaugurated in 1904, was founded under the management of Professor Karl Hocheder from Munich Technical University, a combination of neo-Baroque style and Jugendstil elements. The centre included a large pool, a wet sauna and a dry sauna, 32 cabins for Turkish baths, showers, changing rooms and separate rooms for massages and therapeutic baths. After a

short while, more rooms were added to welcome incoming guests from more distant areas: in 1906 it became the Stadtpark healthcare centre and managed to accommodate up to 5,000 guests every year from all over Romania, Turkey and Germany. Today, Baia Populară offers renovated and extended spaces, cutting-edge equipment and a restored and renovated structure to help maintain the beauty of its centennial history, while at the same time offering modern services to Romanian guests and tourists.

The renovation and extension work has made it much easier to access the various areas of the centre, including for people with special needs, and the range of services available has been extended: from rehabilitation therapies to massages using stones and water, and from anti-stress treatments to gym-based sports activities. There is a large swimming pool available for guests, as well as three saunas, a salt cave, two smaller pools, one with hot water and one with cold water, ample changing rooms and waiting rooms.



1. The Baia Populară spa centre, dating back to 1904, was recently renovated to provide modern spaces and cutting-edge services to its guests.

2. Glass mosaic was installed in the large central pool with the adhesive system KERABOND T-R + ISOLASTIC.

Products safe for use in damp surroundings and pools

Mapei Romania also took part in the renovation work on the spa complex, particularly with the supply of solutions to install glass mosaics in the pools and natural stone and ceramic tiles in damp areas (bathrooms, showers, changing rooms, etc.). Cracks in the substrates were repaired with EPORIP two-component, solvent-free epoxy adhesive, which is particularly suitable for creating monolithic seals in cracked screeds. The substrates were then levelled with a bonding slurry made from PLANICRETE synthetic latex.

The glass mosaic was bonded on the pools surfaces and on the walls of the wet areas with the KERABOND T-R + ISOLASTIC system. KERABOND T-R is a thixotropic cementitious adhesive distributed on the Romanian market by Mapei Romania. ISOLASTIC latex ad-

ditive improves its bond to all types of substrates, as well as its deformability and impermeability.

Natural stone and ceramic tiles were bonded on floors of the wet areas with KERAFLEX MAXI S1 deformable, cementitious white adhesive with extended open time and no vertical slip.

The joints in the ceramic tiles were grouted with KERAPOXY two-component, anti-acid epoxy mortar, which forms extremely durable and hygienic joints with excellent mechanical properties.

Today Baia Populară is an historic spa centre promoting the tradition of "salus per aquam" with modern services, a perfect balance between the past and modernity.



Find out more
KERAPOXY

TECHNICAL DATA

Baia Populară thermal baths, Sibiu (Romania)
Period of construction: 1904
Original designer: Karl Hocheder
Period of renovation: 2020-2021
Design: Guttman Szabolcs

Period of the Mapei intervention:

2020-2021
Client: Sibiu City Council, Public Services Department
Works Direction: Architect Service Guttman & Co ARCHITECT; K&K Studio de Proiectare
Main contractor: Euras
Installation company: SC

Aqua Tehnoserv SRL

Mapei Distributor: Arca Cluj

Mapei coordinator: Ovidiu Badea, Mapei Romania
Photos: Alexandra Bendea, K&K Studio de Proiectare

MAPEI PRODUCTS

Preparing substrates: Planicrete, Eporip

Installing glass mosaic: Kerabond T-R*, Isolastic
Grouting joints: Kerapoxy

*This product is distributed on the Romanian market by Mapei Romania.

For further info on products visit mapei.com and mapei.ro