Smart connectivity in sacred spaces: powering reliable WiFi at Tihany Abbey

Overview

Tihany Abbey, a historic monastic community dating back to 1055, blends centuries-old heritage with modern monastic life.

it.hu partnered with Zyxel Networks to overcome connectivity challenges, delivering a high-performance, reliable WiFi solution that supports the abbey's community, guests and daily operations.

Challenges

The abbey's network was slow, unreliable and lacked coverage. Thick historic walls, frequent power outages and restrictions on drilling made network installation difficult, while remote management was essential due to the abbey's location and dispersed buildings.

Solutions

it.hu and Zyxel Networks collaborated to design a complete end-to-end solution to meet the abbey's needs.

Smart antenna access points (NWA 1123-AC PRO, WAC 6503D-S, WAC 500H and NWA 55AXE) provided strong indoor and outdoor coverage across the church, friary and gardens, while the USG FLEX 100H router with next-generation firewall ensured robust cybersecurity. GS1920 switches supplied PoE and non-PoE connectivity over both new and existing copper and optical lines.

Nebula cloud management enabled full remote monitoring and management of switches, firewalls, access points and clients, allowing rapid response to issues or changes.

The solution respected the abbey's historic architecture, avoiding wall drilling and delivered a resilient network with the flexibility for further upgrades, expansion or scaling down.

Customer
Tihany Abbey

Industry
Religious organization

Location
Tihany, Hungary

Organization Size
Below 50 employees

Partner
it.hu

Customer Background
Founded in 1055, Tihany Abbey is a Benedictine monastery set on a seven-hectare estate on the northern shore of Lake Balaton, Hungary. Its baroque church, friary museum and gardens support a vibrant monastic community engaged in prayer, teaching, hospitality and crafts combining centuries-old tradition with modern operational needs.

> **Thanks to the Zyxel Networks solution, we can use a reliable, high-coverage WiFi network in all public spaces and work areas, 24/7. This ensures that meetings, financial processes and other business applications run smoothly. Since then we have had several change requests, to which IT has been able to respond quickly, as they can see the system operation remotely, so the assistance is efficient and flexible."**

Zoltán Dobos, IT Business Manager
Tihany Abbey

Results

• Seamless, high-coverage WiFi across all buildings and outdoor areas, resilient to power outages.

• Remote monitoring and management via Nebula enables rapid issue resolution by it.hu and abbey IT staff.

• Smooth operation of meetings, financial processes and daily administrative tasks.

• Reliable connectivity for guests and monks, supporting hospitality, teaching and monastic activities.

• Smart antenna technology ensures strong wireless signals through thick Baroque walls.

• Next-gen USG FLEX 100H firewall provides robust network security, protecting against external threats.

• Flexible, scalable network implemented without compromising the abbey's historic integrity.

Product List

• NWA1123-AC PRO access point
• WAC6503D-S access point
• WAC500H access point
• NWA55AXE

• GS1920 GbE smart managed switch

• USG FLEX 100H firewall

• Free Nebula license

Find out more by watching our video success story.