

12

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Mariánské Lázně

TRADIČNÍ *Lázeňské* OPLATKY KOLONÁDA

SWEET TASTE OF CZECH SPA TRADITION
SINCE 1856



TRADITIONAL SPA WAFERS KOLONÁDA FROM MARIÁNSKÉ LÁZNĚ

THANKS TO ITS QUALITY AND SPECIFIC TASTE, IT STILL BELONGS AMONGST THE ONES MOST SOUGHT-AFTER. THE SECRET OF THEIR SUCCESS LIES IN A PROVEN RECIPE. THE MOST EXQUISITE INGREDIENTS ARE USED, TOGETHER WITH STRICTLY FOLLOWED PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY. THE BAKING FORMS ARE MADE OF BRONZE AND THE SHEETS OF ROUND WAFERS MATURE AT A CERTAIN TEMPERATURE AND AIR HUMIDITY FOR UP TO 4 WEEKS.

DISCOVER THE COMPLETE RANGE OF PRODUCTS AND HISTORY OF THE KOLONÁDA BRAND ON THE WEB WWW.OPLATKY-KOLONADA.CZ





Old House of Commons in the Old Royal Palace (Prague Castle)

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Český Krumlov

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Vaults of the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary in Sedlec near Kutná Hora

CZECH REPUBLIC – UNESCO

The year of 2019 will mark the **27th anniversary** of having the first Czech Republic landmarks and cities included in the UNESCO list – namely the historical town centres of Prague, Český Krumlov, and Telč.

If any historical monument is registered on the UNESCO list, it means that it is an exceptional and unique product of world importance created by extraordinary people and which should be protected and preserved for future generations.

The UNESCO abbreviation stands for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, which focuses on education, science and culture.

In 1991, the Czech Republic, entered into a contract specifying the protection of world cultural and natural heritage. Afterwards, in the following years up to the present, there were **17 heritage sites in the Czech Republic** added to the list. Given to the size of our country and the population, this makes the Czech Republic one of the heritage “superpowers”.

Czech cities and villages – where the particular cultural monument is located and recorded on the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List, belong to a group called **the UNESCO Czech cultural heritage**.

The organization was established on 21 June 2001.



www.unesco-czech.cz

Did you know that...



The UNESCO emblem is made up of a square inside a circle. The square symbolizes work created by man and the circle represents nature. Both symbols in the emblem – the square representing culture and the circle representing nature – are closely connected. This implies that culture cannot coexist without a close connection with nature, which surrounds everything.



Sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List

UNESCO Czech cultural monuments (www.unesco-czech.cz)

(date of entry)

(1992) Prague (historical centre)

(1992) Český Krumlov (castle and its surrounding courtyards and the historic city centre)

(1992) Telč (historical city centre)

(1994) Zelená hora near Žďár nad Sázavou – Pilgrimage Church of St. John of Nepomuk

(1995) Kutná Hora (historical centre with the Cathedral of St. Barbara and the Church of the Assumption in Sedlec)

(1996) Lednice-Valtice area

(1998) Hološovice (preserved original village square from the 18th century)

(1998) Kroměříž (chateau and gardens)

(1999) Litomyšl (chateau and surrounding premises)

(2000) Olomouc (columns of the Holy Trinity on Horní náměstí – Horní Square)

(2001) Tugendhat Villa in Brno

(2003) Třebíč (Basilica of St. Prokop and the Jewish town)

(2019) Erzgebirge / Krušnohoří Mining Region

(2019) Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruhy n. L.

(2021) The great spas of Europe (Karlovy Vary, Mariánské Lázně a Františkovy Lázně)

(2021) Beeches of the Jizera Mountains

(2023) Žatec and the Landscape of Saaz Hops

Intangible UNESCO heritage:

The UNESCO cultural list also includes so-called intangible cultural heritage.

Intangible cultural heritage includes verbal, spoken and non-material artistic heritage

Czech intangible UNESCO cultural heritage includes:

(2005) Moravian-Slovak verbuňk dance

(2010) Carnival processions (Masopust) in the Hlinecko region

(2010) Falconry

(2011) The Ride of the Kings

(2016) Puppetry

(2018) Modrotisk (blueprint)

(2020) Blown Christmas decorations

(2022) Timber rafting

(2023) Handmade glass production



The **Tomáš Baťa** Villa in Zlín was built in 1911 according to the design of architect Jan Kotěra. Since 1998, the Villa has been the seat of the Tomáš Baťa Foundation.

STORIES OF CZECH BRANDS

When Bohemia was still a part of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, it was already considered the empire's most industrially developed country. After the establishment of an independent Czechoslovakia in 1918, the diligence, craftsmanship, and skill of "Czech hands" could finally be completely utilized. Czechoslovakia soon became famous throughout Europe (and the world) for a number of products that often overwhelmed their competition. Probably the best known such **phenomenon is the Baťa brand** (although this story, like many others, began back in the 19th century), rightly considered a classic story of well-deserved success. Its history began in 1894, when three siblings established a shoe factory in Zlín; ten years later they were producing thousands of pairs of shoes a day.

The story of the **Škoda Auto car manufacturer**, which celebrated 125 years in 2020, is somewhat similar. Its founders, **Václav Laurín** and **Václav Klement**, began repairing bicycles in 1895. They gradually started to produce them, which was merely a step towards the production of motorcycles, followed by the first cars (Voiturette) at the beginning of the 20th century. Today, Škoda Auto is probably the best known and most successful of the Czech brands.

Another refreshing example is the story of one of the world's most famous beers, **Prazdroj Urquell** from the city of Plzeň. Paradoxically, it began with a Bavarian brewer who was invited by the people of Plzeň in 1842 to help them brew a beer of better quality than what their burgher brewery had managed to create so far. This single drop of intention went a long way – today the Pilsner Urquell brand is synonymous for quality beer, and about a third of all beers brewed in the world are of the Pilsen type. Still, we mustn't forget about its competitor from southern Bohemia, the equally famous **Budweis (Budějovice) Budvar**.

We can still stay in České Budějovice, since this is the home of a company founded by **Josef Hardtmuth** in 1790 and named after the famous **Koh-i-noor** diamond. The company received a patent for the production of pencil leads in 1802, and today it is one of the world's largest manufacturers of writing and office supplies.

The history of **Prim watches** is relatively young. The **Chronotechna** company in Nové Město nad Metují

started producing wristwatches and pocket watches after the Second World War. During the communist regime it was the state's monopoly manufacturer, but today it is known as a prestigious brand that also produces custom made luxury watches for demanding customers.

And who wouldn't know that building kit whose metal colored parts with holes all connect with screws and nuts with a diameter of 3.5 mm? That's right, most Europeans are well familiar with the **Merkur** kit from Police nad Metují, whose history has lasted for a hundred years. It was even used by Professor **Otto Wichterle** to make the first gel contact lenses in 1961; another "Czech" truly global and groundbreaking inventions, by the way.

The successful and talented designer **František Janeček** (1878–1941) originally produced weapons, but it was paradoxically the economic crisis in the 1920s that forced him to change his production program and start focusing on motorcycles. And although there were about two dozen motorcycle factories in what was then Czechoslovakia, all of them were eventually surpassed by his **JAWA**.

In 1943, the ESA company was founded and began to produce irons in Hlinsko and later shifted its production program to vacuum cleaners. Today, under the **ETA brand**, the company is by far the largest manufacturer of home appliances in the Czech Republic.

The **Zetor** brand emerged by simply combining the European pronunciation of the letter "Z", part of the emblem of **Brno's Zbrojovka**, and the last two letters of the word "tractor". It began producing tractors just after World War II, and by 1961, only 16 years after its launch, it had created an unbelievable 160,000 tractors. Even today, Zetor continues to be a symbol of strength and reliability.

In 1857, master carpenter **Michael Thonet** started bending solid beech wood to create an elegant café chair (marked as model no. 214), which was the beginning of the story of a famous furniture company. Today, it continues its successful tradition under the brand name **TON**.

For more than a hundred years (since 1913), practically every Czech household makes use of the popular alcohol-based solution of essential oils, herbs, and natural menthol known as **Francovka ALPA** designed to fight tired muscles. Today, over 10 million bottles are produced in Velké Meziříčí every year.

One of the largest hat manufacturers in the world is the **TONAK** hat factory in Nový Jičín. It's no wonder that they have plenty of experience with production, since **they've been making headwear here since 1630!**

In 1807, the Karlovy Vary pharmacist **Josef Becher** mixed an "English Bitter" consisting of 32 herbs for his spa guests; not only did his recipe work, but it was extremely popular among its users. This gave the pharmacist's son Jan reason to open factory in 1838 for the production of today's popular **Becherovka**. In 1922, this unique bitter aperitif (or digestif), its composition known to only two people in the world, was trademarked.

There are many, many more similar great and interesting tales to be found in our history (and present), but to list them would naturally extend beyond the scope of this humble guidebook.

PRAGUE

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 1992

The historic core of Prague is a unique urban complex that includes the historic Prague towns of Old Town, Josefov, New Town, Lesser Town, Vyšehrad, and Hradčany. This world heritage site also includes Průhonice Park and the castle.

The Czech capital is considered one of the most beautiful cities in Europe and indeed the world. The dominant site on the Vltava riverbanks is **Prague Castle**, built in the **9th century** by the **Přemyslids**. In the third castle courtyard you will find a pearl of Gothic architecture and the imaginary spiritual centre of the Czech state, the **Cathedral of St. Vitus, Wenceslas and Vojtěch**. In the Crown depository chamber you will find a treasure perhaps even more valuable than the entire cathedral: the **Czech crown jewels**. In the **Royal tomb** below the floor of the cathedral lie a number of Czech kings and rulers, including the "Father of the Nation", and the King and Emperor, Charles IV. The **historical centre of Prague covers 866 hectares** and consists of a unique set of buildings and artistic monuments representing virtually all styles. Here you can find Romanesque rotundas together with the most modern buildings made of glass and steel.

PRAGUE CASTLE AND THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. VITUS

The Přemyslids probably began to build the first fortifications on an elevated site above the river sometime around the 9th century. As their power grew, the fortress as well as the city below began to expand and gained in importance. In 1344, Charles IV of Luxembourg began the construction of a magnificent **Gothic cathedral dedicated to St. Vitus**. It took six long centuries until it was finally completed in 1929 and Prague Castle got the appearance that we know today.

Hradčany – the Castle district

This is the area of the city around Prague Castle. The shape of Hradčany is characterized by several splendid palaces, including **Schwarzenberg, Sternberg and Martinický palaces**. Opposite the largest palace, the Černínský palace, you will find a Baroque Loreto, which is an important pilgrimage site. Since the 17th century, its tower clock has played its famous chime melody every hour.

View of the Charles Bridge, Lesser Quarter and Prague Castle with St. Vitus Cathedral.



The Old Town Square. The Old Town Hall Tower is decorated with the Orloj, a still working astronomical clock from the early 15th century.





Did you know that...

The **Chapel of St. Wenceslas** is the most sacred place of the St. Vitus Cathedral. It was built above the last resting place of the patron of the Czech lands by **Petr Parler** from 1362 – 1367. The Saint's grave is marked by a stone tombstone from the 14th century. The **decoration of the chapel** is stunning: its walls are planted at the bottom with Czech gemstones connected in gilded plaster; the upper part is decorated with scenes of Christ's sufferings. They originated in the years 1372 – 1372 and their author is unknown. From the chapel we enter a staircase leading to the Regalia Chamber where the **Czech Crown Jewels** are deposited, locked with seven locks.



The Golden Lane at Prague Castle

The silhouette of Prague Castle also includes the towers of the **Strahov monastery**, the oldest work of the Premonstrants in Bohemia.

MALÁ STRANA

This is a small district between Prague Castle and the Vltava River. Its centre is the sloping **Malostranské Square** (Lesser Town Square), where in the middle you will find the massive **Church of St. Mikuláš**, regarded as the most important Baroque building in the country. Another spectacular monument in Malá Strana is the complex of buildings making up the **Wallenstein Palace and its adjacent garden**. According to the vision of the ambitious commander Albrecht of Wallenstein (1583–1634), this site, thanks to its large area, was to compete with Prague Castle itself. From the Lesser Town Square you can go up a popular tourist street called **Nerudova Street**, which will take you all the way to the castle. The street is well-known for its **building signs** such as House of the Two Suns, The Three Fiddles, The Golden goblet, etc.

CHARLES BRIDGE

Charles Bridge is the **oldest bridge in Prague**, and the second oldest in the country. It connects Malá Strana (the Lesser Town) on the left riverbank with Staré Město (Old Town), situated on the right bank of the Vltava River. It is located in approximately the same place where the Judith Bridge, which was destroyed by floods, used to stand. The bridge construction began in 1357, and was initiated by the King and Emperor, Charles IV. The bridge is over **500 metres** long and 9.5 meters wide, and has **16 supporting arches**. On its pillars you can see a total of **30 mostly Baroque statues**, which create a unique and impressive open-air exhibition of sculptures. The entrances at both ends of the bridge are "guarded" by towers. The Gothic **Old Town Bridge Tower**, thanks to its magnificent decorations, is regarded as one of the most beautiful fortified buildings in Europe.

STARÉ MĚSTO (OLD TOWN)

This is a district of Prague situated on the right bank of the Vltava River. Its centre is the **Old Town Square**, which features several important historical monuments, such as the **Town Hall** with its famous **astronomical clock**, and the



Charles Bridge is protected on the right bank of the Vltava by the Old Town Bridge Tower, a masterpiece of Gothic architecture and sculpture.

Týnský Church. In the centre of the square you can see a **memorial statue** dedicated to the famous religious reformer, **Jan Hus**. If you look towards the Vltava River you will see a prestigious Prague boulevard called **Pařížská třída**, which starts at the square. Other historical sights in the Old Town include the Gothic **Prašná věž** (Powder Tower), where the **Royal Way** starts (a road where Czech kings walked towards Prague Castle on the night before their coronation), and the most important Art Nouveau monument in Prague, **Obecní dům** (Municipal House).

JEWISH TOWN

Also called **Josefov** – it is a small neighbourhood inside the Old Town where historical Jewish relics are still preserved today and which remind us about the origins of Jewish settlements in Prague. Without a doubt, the most important monument here is the **Jewish cemetery** with its almost 13,000 gravestones. People were buried here from the first half of the 15th century until 1787. Due to the limited burial area of the cemetery, new layers of soil had to be brought to the cemetery, so the dead were actually buried in several layers right above each other.



Did you know that...

There is a very interesting origin behind the name **Old New Synagogue**: it is said that the stones for the construction of the shrine were brought here from the **Temple of Solomon** in Jerusalem, which was destroyed in 70 A.D. However, these stones were brought here under one condition and that is that upon the arrival of the Messiah and when the Temple is built in Jerusalem again, these stones will be returned. The Hebrew word "**al tenaj**" may be translated as "under the condition of" – and that is how this synagogue got its name. But over the years this word became distorted and a new word, "**altneu**", was created, which means "old-new".



The Gothic Powder Tower formed part of the original fortifications of the Old Town. Since the beginning of the 20th century, the Municipal House, one of the most important Art Nouveau buildings in Prague, has stood next to it.

Another very important historical Jewish monument is the **Old New Synagogue**, one of the oldest in Europe. It was built around the first half of the 13th century and services are held here to this day.

NOVÉ MĚSTO (NEW TOWN)

The New Town was founded in 1348 on the right bank of the Vltava River by Emperor Charles IV. A well-conceived urban plan gave rise to a system of streets around **the three large squares**, which at that time were used as marketplaces. These were called the **Horse Market** (today's Wenceslas Square), the **Cattle Market** (today's Charles Square) and the **Hay Market** (today's Senovážné Square). The centre

of the newly founded town was the Cattle Market, and therefore, the **New Town Hall** was built here on this square. Other famous historical sites include, the Faust House, the Church of the Virgin Mary in Slovany and the tallest but never completed church in Prague – the **Church of Our Lady Maria Sněžná** on Jungmann Square.

VYŠEHRAĐ

A famous place on a high cliff on the right bank of the Vltava River. This site is associated with **many legends** which are closely linked to the origin of the state (the legend of Prince Krok and his daughters, the legend of Princess Libuše and the legend of Bivoj).



The National Theatre and the Legion Bridge



Dancing House.



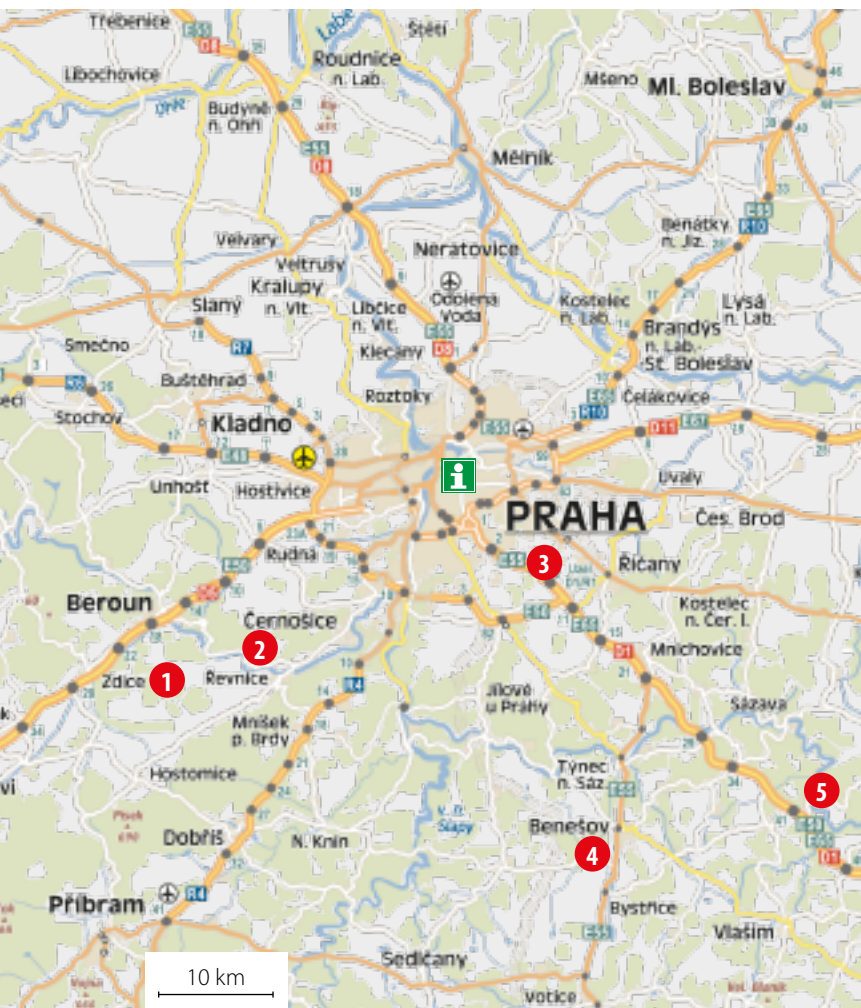
Did you know that...

Along with the historic center of Prague, the **Průhonice Castle** and the adjacent park are also UNESCO sites. The monuments lie 15 km southeast of the historic center. The extensive **Průhonice Park** (250 ha) was founded in 1885 by Count **Arnošt Emanuel Silva-Tarouca**. His life's work is also an original work of garden and landscape architecture. It is particularly valuable for its scenic parts and the number of native and exotic tree species (around 1,600 species); the collection of rhododendrons here is exceptional.

The oldest historical building is a **Romanesque rotunda of St. Martin** built in the 11th century during the reign of King Vratislav I. The Romanesque **Basilica of St. Peter and Paul** also comes from around the same period. Over the centuries, this Basilica was rebuilt several times, and its present shape represents the neo-Gothic style from a period between 1885 and 1903. During this period, the two square towers with their pyramid-like tops were built, which today are one of the dominant features of Prague on the right bank of the Vltava River. In the 19th century, the **cemetery** near the St. Peter and Paul Church was turned into a **burial site** where the **greatest figures** of the Czech nation were buried.



Vyšehrad



1/ Koněpruské jeskyně (Koněprusy Caves)

The longest cave labyrinth in the Czech Republic is located approximately 30 km South-West of Prague. The sightseeing tour is 610 m long, and it is open from 1 April to 31 October.

visit.caves.cz/en

2/ Karlštejn

A gothic castle built in the mid-14th century by Emperor Charles IV. The valuable painting decorations in the castle chapel of the St. Cross were created by Master Theodorik.

www.hrad-karlstejn.cz/en

3/ Průhonice Park

Without doubt, Průhonice Park represents one of the best examples of Czech landscape architecture. It was established by Count Arnošt Emanuel Silva-Tarouca in 1885. His life-long effort resulted in this prime creation with global significance, which became our National Cultural Landmark, as well as a landmark included in the prestigious **UNESCO** World Cultural Heritage Sites. In addition to the significant artistic value, the park is also the home of one of the most valuable collection of tree species within the Czech Republic. Currently, it holds approximately **1,800 tree species**, whereas some of them are the first of their kind to be grown inside our borders. Aesthetically shaped tree vegetation is supplemented with a mosaic of meadows and water surfaces, artfully connected with a lot of vistas and views that emphasise the park's composition-accentuated points.

www.pruhonicypark.cz/en/



4/ Konopiště

An early Gothic castle rebuilt in the neo-Gothic style. The last residence of the successor to the Habsburg throne, Franz Ferdinand d'Este (1863–1914).

www.zamek-konopiste.cz/en



5/ Český Šternberk Castle

The castle was built in 1241 on a rocky promontory above the Sázava River and to this day remains in the possession of the Šternberg family, whose coat of arms bears an eight-pointed golden star.

www.hrad-ceskysternberk.cz



PRAGUE – OLD TOWN HALL

Staroměstské náměstí 1, 110 00 Praha 1 – Staré Město
tourinfo@prague.eu
prague.eu





Průhonice

Town Hall, Doors Wide Open

This is a traditional event recalling the founding of Prague's Old Town Hall and takes place on September 18 every year. During special tours of Prague's oldest city hall, visitors can see the historic interiors, the medieval underground, and the normally inaccessible wedding halls of the Old town Hall. The tour is complemented by musical and dramatic performances, lectures, screenings of historical films, meetings with celebrities, a demonstration of a wedding ceremony, and plenty of behind-the-scenes information on weddings and their history. This untraditional tour is topped off by an entertaining quiz for prizes and a voucher for a tour of the astronomical clock's mechanism, normally inaccessible. The event is organized by Prague City Tourism in cooperation with the Office of the Prague 1 City District.

www.prague.eu



Prague Drinks Wine

This is the largest wine festival in Prague and focuses on authentic wines from Central Europe. It takes place in the beautiful premises of the New Town Hall on Charles Square (Karlovo náměstí). The event always brings dozens of winemakers together in Prague, especially family wineries from the area of the former Habsburg empire and many guests from other regions. Winemakers from Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Italy, and France are represented most of all. The price of a full-day or two-day "ticket" includes a glass for unlimited tastings from all participating wineries.

www.prahapijevino.cz



Prague Vineyards 2021

This is the third year that Prague's municipal and private vineyards open their gates to the public. Attendees can become acquainted with their history and present; come discover the magic of these forgotten corners of Prague.

www.prague.eu





Old Jewish Cemetery



STORY OF THE BRAND



**RÜCKL
GLASSWORKS**

Rüchl
1846

*– is renowned since 1846
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Tours of the Rückl Glassworks

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www.visitruckl.com



**Did you know
that...**

Rüchl Glassworks is not just involved in craft production but also offers unique experiences. During tours, you can personally try cutting a glass, blowing a vase, or glass painting directly in the glassworks. You may then take your own creation home. The surrounding area is also worth a visit, as the glassworks is located in the picturesque valley of the Berounka River — just 35 minutes from the center of Prague.

ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 1992

The historic core is a Central European medieval town that spreads out on the banks of the Vltava River in its original urban form. The magnificent grounds of the castle and chateau dominate the former residence of important noble families, and the old town below is a valuable collection of late Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque architecture.

An ancient city on the Vltava River with the **second largest castle and chateau** in the Czech Republic (right after Prague Castle). This large chateau with its five courtyards was gradually built from a small castle with a tower on a rock above the river. This small castle was founded sometime in the 12th century by the Vitkovci family, the ancestors of the ambitious **Rosenberg clan**. The next construction and extension of the castle occurred during the reign of the **Eggenberg family**, but economic prosperity was brought to the castle by the **Schwarzenberg family** – the last owners of the castle (until 1947).

Krumlov castle and chateau with its large 11-hectare **baroque-rococo garden** but as well as the **original town houses** around the castle were recorded on the UNESCO list. This garden has been preserved in almost unchanged form and shape as it existed in the 16th century. However, a unique place among the castle interiors is the baroque theatre from the mid-18th century – unparalleled in the world thanks to its preserved scenic interior. One of the most attractive exhibitions you can see during the guided tour of the chateau is the **Maškarní sál** (Masquerade hall) with its impressive wall paintings created by Joseph Lederer, but the most precious exhibit in the castle collections is the famous **Golden Carriage**.





The castle theatre has been preserved in its Baroque form, including the original furnishings.



The Masquerade Hall was decorated by Josef Lederer in 1748 with illusory paintings.



Did you know that...

Bears were not bred at Krumlov castle just by accident. The ambitious Oldřich II of Rosenberg (1403–1462) is to be blamed. This nobleman invented a **legend** which said that the Rosenberg family was related to the noble **Italian clan of Orsini**. And because Orsini (or Ursini) had a Bear in their coat of arms (in Latin, bear is *Urus*), it was necessary to somehow demonstrate this fact.



Street Latrán

The dominant feature of the castle and the town is a cylindrical, richly decorated Renaissance **castle tower** with an arcaded gallery. **Bears** have always been inseparably connected with to Český Krumlov. For several centuries bears have been bred in the castle trench between the first and second courtyard.



Egon Schiele Art Centrum

Český Krumlov is also a place where many regular and often highly prestigious cultural events take place. The most important is the traditional Český Krumlov **International Music Festival** – the longest music show in the country. This annual and glamorous event features the biggest names in classical music. At the end of June, thousands of visitors are drawn to the town to see the **Five-Petal Rose Festival** – a three-day celebration of the long-gone but of the town's bygone boom era during the reign of the Rosenberg family. Popular open air performances are presented in summer on a revolving stage in the castle garden. When you visit Český Krumlov, don't miss the world-famous gallery with 4,000 m² of exhibition space called the **Egon Schiele Art Centrum** and the remarkable exhibition in a perfectly



Museum Fotoatelier Seidel

preserved photographic atelier built at the beginning of the 20th century – the **Museum Fotoatelier Seidel**.



The Franciscan monastery is owned by the Chivalric Order of Crusaders with the Red Star.

In the eastern quarter of the **Latrán** neighborhood lies a large complex of buildings that formerly served as the **Minorite Monastery and Convent of the Poor Clares**. The Minorite Monastery was founded in the 14th century by the Rožmberks, and the first monks arrived to the monastery in 1357. The **monastery church** was dedicated to the Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Sorrows. Nuns came to the convent in 1361, then a community of religious lay sisters, the **Beguinage**, joined in 1375. A unique triple monastery was thus created in Český Krumlov. The Poor Clares convent was abolished during the Josephine Reforms in 1782, and the Minorite community was dissolved in 1950.

The **revitalization** of the monasteries (2014–2015) resulted in the establishment of a **modern cultural and educational center** which acquaints the general public with the monastic life, culture, history, and art of the period. The complex also offers experiences in an **interactive exhibition**, where families with children can play with toys from various centuries, become acquainted with monastic herbs, historical



Did you know that...

The extensive revitalization of the Český Krumlov Monasteries was awarded the prestigious prize of Heritage Monument of 2015, which is annually awarded by the Association of Historic Settlements of Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia.

costumes, an alchemist laboratory, and the mysterious nooks and crannies of the monastery's attic.

You can develop your skills and creativity every day in the craft workshops, operated by bakers, bagmakers, potters, glass makers, blacksmiths, and many others.

The monasteries are now home to the **3+Gallery** featuring an extensive collection of the finest **children's book illustrations** from all over the world.



Our TIP

1 ADMISSION TICKET VALID FOR 5 MUSEUMS

1. Castle museum and tower
2. Regional museum in Český Krumlov
3. Museum Fotoatelier Seidel
4. Egon Schiele Art Centre
5. Český Krumlov Monasteries

- The admission includes five unique expositions
- Up to 50% savings on general admission
- The card can be used for up to 12 months from first use
- The card is transferrable to another person within the same category
- Sold at the Český Krumlov Infocenter and individual institutions

www.ckrumlov.info/card




Our TIP
... AND DON'T FORGET TO VISIT:
Český Krumlov Rally *(May)*

a traditional stop not only of the MČR series, but also the FIA European Rally Trophy
rallyekrumlov.cz

Five-Petalled Rose Celebrations *(June)*

the annual festival in Český Krumlov welcoming the solstice, with historic procession, traditional markets, and many cultural events
slavnostipetilisteruze.eu

Revolving Auditorium *(June–September)*

a world rarity, featuring theater performances in the magical castle garden where the auditorium holding the audience rotates to the individual scenes
otacivehlediste.cz

Český Krumlov International Music Festival *(July–August)*

one of the biggest festivals of classical music in the Czech Republic, always with the most respected artists around the world, a truly unique atmosphere
festivalkrumlov.cz

St. Wenceslas Celebrations *(September)*

autumn celebration in honor of St. Wenceslas, patron of the Czech country, performances of folklore ensembles, traditional market, rich cultural and culinary experiences
ckrumlov.info

Krumlov Water Marathon *(mid–October)*

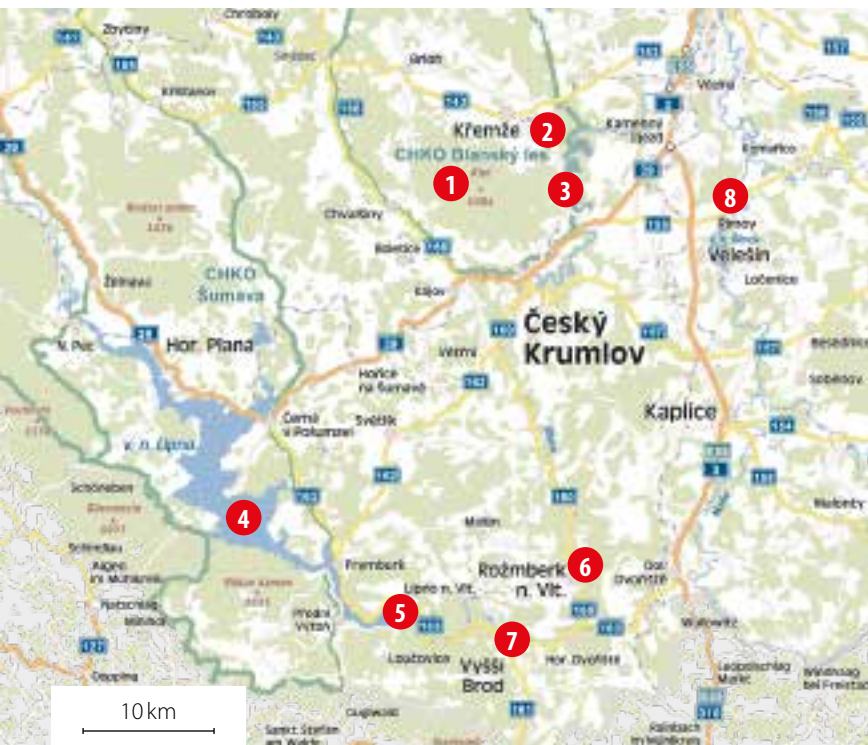
the largest water boating marathon in the Czech Republic, on the Vltava river, the favorite event of all rafters, and loads of fun
krumlovskymaraton.com

Český Krumlov Wine Festival

(October–November)

an ever-growing festival offering foreign and domestic wines, a cultural program, and wine tasting in many of the town's most beautiful locations
festivalvinack.cz





1/ KLEŤ (1,084 a.m.s.l.) – The highest peak of the Blanský Forest, the oldest stone viewing tower in Bohemia (1825) and an observatory. The top is accessible via a cable car.

www.klet.com



2/ DÍVČÍ KÁMEN (GIRL'S STONE) – Ruins of the former Rosenberg castle. Nearby you can find a large Celtic settlement from the 2nd century B.C.

www.divcikamen.cz



3/ ZLATÁ KORUNA (GOLDEN CROWN) – A complex of Gothic buildings of the former Cistercian monastery, founded in 1263 by Přemysl Otakar II.

klaster-zlatakoruna.cz/en

4/ LIPNO LAKE (726 m.a.s.l.) –

The largest lake in the Czech Republic (4,860 ha) was created when a dam was built on the Vltava River's upper reaches between 1952 and 1959. It offers fishing, water sports, cyclotourism in the summer, as well as downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, and skating in the winter.

www.lipno.info/en/



5/ LIPNO NAD VLTAVOU – The town above the Lake Lipno dam, modern accommodation facilities, sport grounds, water park, ski resort, bobsled track, and a trail across the treetops, etc.

www.lipno.info/en/



6/ ROŽMBERK NAD VLTAVOU – One of the oldest castles in Vitkov, associated with the legend of the White Lady. A popular stop for water sports enthusiasts.

www.mestorozmberk.cz



7/ VYŠŠÍ BROD – The southernmost city in the Czech Republic. Lipno II dam, Cistercian monastery, Postal Museum, the starting point for rafting and sailing trips on the Vltava River below Lipno.

www.mestovyssibrod.cz



8/ ŘÍMOV – Pilgrimage site – Calvary with 25 Baroque chapels from the second half of the 17th century.

www.rimov.cz



Our TIP

www.visitceskykrumlov.cz
zamek-ceskykrumlov.cz/en

ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

Náměstí Svornosti 2, 381 01 Český Krumlov
 +420 380 704 622; info@ckrumlov.info
ckrumlov.info





Our TIP

Fishpond Network in the Třeboň Basin (South Bohemian Region)

The spectacular fishponds in the Třeboň area, the largest of which are connected with the Golden Canal, is admirable for the courage of its founders, Štěpánek Netolický and Jakub Krčín. The aerial view shows the Velký (Large) Tisý pond in the foreground and **Rožmberk pond** in the background with its unmistakable straight dike reaching a length of two and a half kilometers. (See page 5, **The National Indicative List**.)

STORY OF THE BRAND

National Brewery Budějovický Budvar

Budějovický Budvar was founded in **1895** and brewed its first batch of beer on 7 October of the same year.

Today it is the last large brewery to remain entirely in Czech hands. For more than 125 years, its people have been brewing **honest Czech beer** that makes people happy at home in České Budějovice as well as in **more than 70 countries around the world**. And yet every drop comes from here, from a small yet large brewery. The **Budweiser Budvar Original lager** boasts the protected geographical indication "**Českobudějovické pivo**", which guarantees the quality of raw materials, the original production process, and the traditional place of origin.

Visit the national brewery and take a look under the hood of the production of the original lager from České Budějovice and more. The **new visitor center** is open.



Budějovický Budvar, n.p.

K. Světlé 4, 370 21 České Budějovice
+420 387 705 347, visit@budvar.cz
www.budejovickybudvar.cz

f @BudejovickyBudvar
ig @budejovickybudvar





TELČ

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 1992

The historic core is sandwiched between two ponds that have been part of the fortification for centuries. The chateau grounds, church buildings, and the large Zachariáš of Hradec Town Square, surrounded by splendid town houses, represent a unique whole which was shaped mainly during the Gothic and Renaissance periods.

The **historic town centre** is recorded on the World Cultural Heritage list. The town centre has preserved its original appearance from the 16th century. The architecturally valuable **Renaissance chateau** is also recorded on the list. The historical town centre is surrounded by several lakes, and so Telč is sometimes referred to as the **Moravian Venice**. The centre of Telč is an **elongated town square**, lined with bourgeois town houses with arcades and with Renaissance and Baroque facades. These are decorated with numerous frescoes and sgraffito. The dominant site and also the oldest

monument in Telč is the massive, late Romanesque **tower of the Church of the Holy Spirit**, which is nearly 50 metres tall. All the town's houses today still look the same as they did during the times of Zachariáš of Hradec (1526 or 7 to 1589). This important and well-educated Czech nobleman was also a great manager and landlord, and greatly contributed to raising the importance of the city of Telč, where he also lived. He established many ponds, significantly reshaped and reconstructed the city, especially the town square, and had the local castle rebuilt in the Renaissance style.

The Renaissance Hall of Telč Castle and an aerial view of the historic center.





The "Golden Hall" with the coffered ceiling and its valuable carvings are among the most valuable interiors of Telč castle.

The **chateau** in Telč was originally a Gothic fortress, which was later turned into a castle. And later still, during the reign of Zachariáš of Hradec, the castle was pompously reconstructed in the **Renaissance style**. This made the chateau one of the most valuable monuments of Renaissance architecture in the Czech Republic. It is rightfully regarded as the pearl of the Moravian Renaissance. The creator of the Renaissance modifications was most likely an **Italian architect** and builder, **Baldassare Maggi of Arogno** (about 1550–1619 or 1629).

The uniqueness of the chateau lies in its original interiors with well-preserved paintings and stucco decorations. A very special room is the majestic **Golden Hall** with its richly decorated and carved coffered golden ceiling. The former aristocratic residence interiors include the Castle Gallery, the Castle Underground, and the exhibition of the Vysočina Museum.

The Renaissance garden – one of the oldest designed gardens in the country, is located near the chateau. This beautiful space, lined on two sides by arcades, was established in the 3rd quarter of the 16th century.

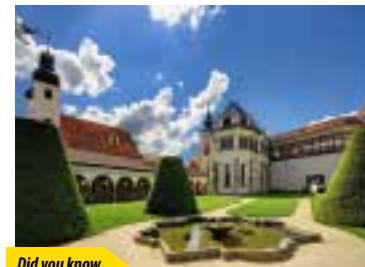


House No. 32 on the square used to be a place where porridge was given to the poor on the Green Thursdays



Did you know that...

The picturesque houses lining Telč square are originally **Gothic**. Most of them have been preserved even with the typical interior setup: from the square you enter the gate with stone jamb into the **mazhaus**, which was a **stone hall** serving crafts or trade. There are stairs here leading upstairs or to the cellars. In the mid-15th century the majority of the houses were under a unified plan affixed with **arbour** and **façade gables**. Many of the houses were later remodelled, therefore many of the facades and gables have **Baroque** elements and in some places even features of later architectural styles.



Did you know that...

Many Czech films and fairytales were filmed in Telč. Probably the most famous is **The Proud Princess**, filmed in the garden of Telč castle by director Bořivoj Zeman in 1951.

You can also see the backdrop created by the local bourgeois houses in the famous film shot by Vojtěch Jasný in 1963, with Jan Werich in the leading role, called **When the Cat Comes**.

Our TIP**... AND DON'T FORGET TO VISIT:****Folklore in May** (*May*)

Meeting of folk ensembles and craft market
www.telc.eu

Between Two Gates

(*second weekend in July*)

Retro car race along a famous track
www.mezibranami.cz

French-Czech Music Academy (*July*)

Courses of classical music for students of music schools from all over Europe
www.akademietelc.cz/en/

Holidays in Telč, Steam Summer

(*July-August*)

Multi-genre festival – concerts, theaters, exhibitions, nocturna, and more ...
www.prazdninyvtelci.cz

Historical festivities of Zachariáš of Hradec and Kateřina of Wallenstein

(*third weekend in August*)

Come enjoy the good old days of history and romance in an unforgettable atmosphere

Balloons over Telč (*last weekend in August*)

Flying hot-air balloons
www.telc.balon.cz

Heritage Monument Open House Day

(*second weekend in September*)

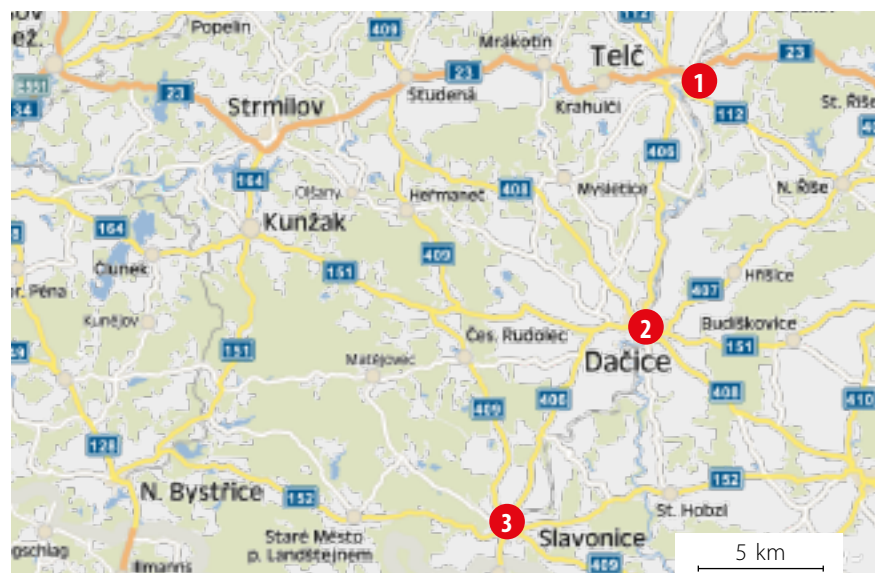
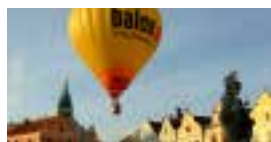
Access to historic buildings, concerts, exhibitions, and more ...

Live Nativity Scene

(*second weekend in September*)

A composite program of the folklore ensembles of Telč based on the biblical story; composed of old Bohemian folk carols, rhymes, and dances with live music

www.zamek-telc.eu
www.prazdninyvtelci.cz

**1/ OSLEDNICE**

A viewing tower on the eastern edge of the town, 36 m tall and accessible from Telč via the yellow tourist trail (approximately 2 km).
www.telc.eu

**2/ DAČICE – NOVÝ ZÁMEK (NEW CHATEAU)**

Built at the end of the 16th century in the Renaissance style, but later rebuilt in the Baroque style. Today's classicist appearance comes from the period between 1830 and 1832.
zamek-dacice.cz/en

**3/ SLAVONICE**

A town also called "small Telč". It features two squares lined with richly ornamented Renaissance bourgeois houses.
www.slavonice-mesto.cz

**TELČ**

Náměstí Zachariáše z Hradce 10, 588 56 Telč
 +420 567 112 407-8, info@telc.eu
www.telc.eu



ŽĎÁR NAD SÁZAVOU

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 1994

The pilgrimage Church of St. John of Nepomuk on Zelená hora in Žďár nad Sázavou is an extraordinary work of the architect Jan Blažej Santini-Aichl and the most original example of the so-called Baroque Gothic. The central church has a unique ground plan and spatial design based on the symbolism of the five stars in the halo of St. John of Nepomuk.

The church was designed by the architect **Jan Blažej Santini** and built in the Baroque-Gothic style. You cannot find a similar type of church anywhere else in Europe. Its construction based on the five-pointed star began between 1719 and 1722. Its architectural design reflects a legend that claims that in the place where John of Nepomuk drowned, five lights appeared. The symbol of the number five is reflected in other building elements of the complex – there are five entrances, the church has five chapels with five altars, etc. The foundation and construction of the church was initiated by an abbot from the

Žďár Cistercian monastery, Václav Vejmluva, a dedicated devotee of the cult of John of Nepomuk. The last impetus for him to build the church was probably the purported discovery of the saint's tongue in a coffin stored in a crypt in St. Vitus Cathedral in 1719. The church's cornerstone was laid on May 16, 1720 and in **September 1722** the church was **ordained**.

The church was built on a hill near the Žďár Cistercian monastery, and the newly constructed church became the dominant feature of the region. The place was originally called Černý les (Black Forest), but was renamed **Zelená hora** (Green

St. Jan Nepomuk Pilgrimage Church near Žďár nad Sázavou



*The ceiling of the church dome features **a tongue** – the symbol of John of Nepomuk as a martyr of the confessional secrets*





Since the 19th century, the area on Zelená hora has been used for burials. After being inscribed on the UNESCO list, the pilgrimage site was restored to its original purpose and the graves were gradually relocated.

Mountain). This name was not chosen by accident – John of Nepomuk was born in Pomuk (today Nepomuk) near Plzeň, which belonged to the Cistercian monastery near Green Mountain. In 1784 the church, one of the most visited pilgrimages in Moravia, burned down. Shortly afterwards, the Cistercian monastery was abolished and the church was closed. But in 1792, the church got a new roof. Other repairs, funded solely by donations from believers, were carried out at the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries. At that time, worshipping and church services began to take place again and processions of believers came back, but not in such large numbers as during the greatest glory of this pilgrimage site.

St. John of Nepomuk and his cult

John was born around 1340 in Pomuk, today called Nepomuk near Plzeň. He became the general vicar of the Prague Archbishop. In the dispute between the Archbishop and King Wenceslas IV, he was captured and tortured along with other



The corridor along the premises of the church

people, and he was the only one who did not survive the torture. His body was then thrown from the Charles Bridge into the Vltava River. Shortly after his death a legend appeared. This legend was revived again in the mid-17th century, when efforts to canonize the martyr began. He was declared a saint in 1729.



Did you know that...

Baroque Gothic is an offshoot of the Baroque architectural style. It is characterized by the combination of **Gothic and dynamic Baroque elements**. It developed almost exclusively in Bohemia in the early 18th century, and its main representative, and indeed „inventor“ was **Jan Blazej Santini**. Other beautiful examples of Santini's Baroque architecture can be found in Kladruby by Stribro, in Zeliv or in Sedlec by Kutná Hora. Santini, however, was not alone. Another creator of Baroque Gothic architecture was **Octavian Broggio** (1670–1742), also a Czech architect of Italian ancestry.



Did you know that...

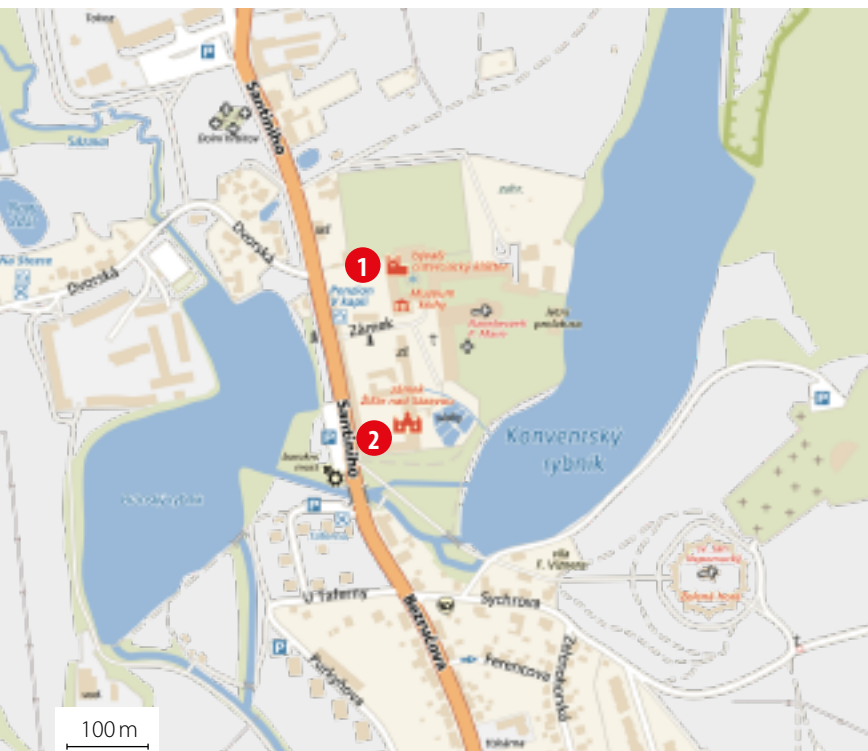
Jan Blažej Santini – Aichel (1677–1723)

A Czech **architect and builder** of Italian origin, who created his work in the Baroque-Gothic style, was not only an architect, but also an excellent **painter**. This is clearly demonstrated by the artistic level of the construction plans created by him. Typical Santini architecture is characterized by unusual and often audacious technical solutions, as well as airy interiors with **exceptional acoustics**. This ingenious builder created approximately **80 projects** – especially religious buildings, but also palaces and farm buildings. The list of Santini's works includes such gems as the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist in **Sedlec near Kutná Hora** (a UNESCO monument, see pp. 3, 51), the **Karlova Koruna Castle**, the monastery in **Kladruby**, the convent of the monastery in **Plasy**, and the pilgrimage church in **Křtiny u Brna** or in **Mariánský Týnec**.

Our TIP

interesting sites:

www.zdarns.cz/en
www.zelena-hora.eu/en
old.santini.cz/en/



1/ Žďár nad Sázavou – A district town situated in the Žďárské hills in the middle of the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands. Its history is linked with a Cistercian monastery founded in 1252.
www.zdarns.cz/en

2/ Zámek Kinských (Kinský Chateau) – The former Cistercian monastery, later used as a chateau, is now the property of the Kinský family. The seat of the multimedia Museum of the New Generation.
www.zamekzdar.cz

ŽDĚR NAD SÁZAVOU

Náměstí Republiky 294 /24, 591 01 Žďár nad Sázavou
+420 566 628 539, tic@zdarns.cz
www.zdarns.cz/en



Our TIP

... AND DON'T FORGET TO VISIT:

Folk costume pilgrimage to St. John of Nepomuk on Green Mountain (May)

Pilgrimage trip to the UNESCO World Heritage Site combined with tours of architectural gems and folk celebrations

www.zdarns.cz/en

Midsummer Night's Pilgrimage (May)

A spiritual pilgrimage to St. John of Nepomuk, associated with the second largest pilgrimage in the Republic full of entertaining attractions

www.zdarns.cz/en; www.zelena-hora.cz/en

Open Garden Days at the Žďár Chateau

(end of May)

The Žďár Chateau opens its private gardens for all visitors. A rich social program for the whole family.

www.zamekzdar.cz/en

Day of Žďár (mid June)

Annual celebrations of the promotion of Žďár to township status. Concerts, cultural and sporting shows and a rich program around the town.

www.zdarns.cz/en

Horák Jug (mid August)

Folk and country music festival with over thirty years of tradition. The chateau surroundings of the Žďár Chateau provide a pleasant atmosphere.

www.dkzdar.cz

Berry Celebration (August and September)

An annual festival of art, musical, and dramatic works from in and around Žďár. Get acquainted with the folklore of the land of berries.

www.zdarns.cz/en

Santini's Baroque Celebration

(start of September)

A tribute to the genius builder Jan Blažej Santini Aichel. Lectures, concerts, and spiritual events celebrating his life and creations.

old.santini.cz/en/



KUTNÁ HORA

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 1995

In the Middle Ages, the former royal upper town was the second most important settlement after Prague. The great wealth of silver deposits in the surrounding area and the royal mint in the Italian Court gave medieval Kutná Hora the title of “the treasury of the Czech kingdom”.

The history of this former **royal town** is closely related (as its name reveals) to **silver mining** and to **minting coins**. The reserves of the local mines were so great that at the end of the 13th century, about a third of all silver mined in Europe came from Kutná Hora. In 1142, the first Cistercian monastery in Bohemia was established in nearby Sedlec.

The original mining settlement was founded by silver prospectors, who during the end of the 13th century kept coming here in their thousands with the vision of becoming rich quickly. This **spontaneous establishment** of the settlement called **Mons Cutna** in Latin (in Czech Kutná Hora) is still visible today on the irregular ground plan of the old part of the city.

The historical centre of Kutná Hora, the **Cathedral of St. Barbara** and the Cathedral of the Assumption of **the Virgin**



Chrám sv. Barbory, mistrovské dílo gotické architektury

*The Church of St. Barbara, the Jesuit College, and the Hrádek (Czech Museum of Silver)
St. Barbara's Cathedral, a masterpiece of Gothic architecture*



The stone house No. 183 on Wenceslas Square is one of the most valuable Gothic townhouses in Bohemia





*The **Italian Court**, founded in the late 13th century, carried out many important functions, especially housing the mint where coins were minted under state authorization (silver Prague Groschen).*

Mary in Sedlec were recorded on the UNESCO list in 1995. The perfectly preserved medieval character of the city centre consists mainly of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architectural styles. An exceptional architectural jewel and symbol of Kutná Hora is the late Gothic Cathedral of St. Barbara, whose construction began in 1388 by Jan Parlář. However, the church was only completed after more than 500 years, in 1905. The impressive complex features the **Italian court**, formerly the central mint and occasional residence of Czech kings.

It was founded during the 1240s by King Wenceslas II. In order to ensure the safety of the King, the court had to be fortified. During the reign of Wenceslas IV, the court was converted into a royal representative residence and during the 15th and 16th centuries the fortifications of the court were partially lifted and after the end of the 17th century the building was abandoned and began to deteriorate. The last major repair was done in the pseudo-Gothic style in the late 19th century.

A visit to the **ossuary in Sedlec** is guaranteed to be an extraordinary experience. Its decoration is composed almost entirely of human bones. The huge chandelier is unique, but equally so are the chalices, monstrance, and Schwarzenberg coat of arms. The famous Baroque architect Jan Blažej Santini-Aichel, who worked on the reconstruction of the **monastery church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist in Sedlec**, participated in the reconstruction and decoration of the ossuary.



The Gothic stone fountain. Its author is considered to be the master Bričič.



Šultysova Street.

Did you know that...

*The **bones**, grouped into a pyramid in 1511 by a half-blind monk, come from about **60,000 people**. The question remains as to how so many bones could have been taken from such a small cemetery. The Sedlec cemetery was known as a "Holy Field", which it became after one of the abbots here brought a small handful of dirt from the Hakeldam burial site in Jerusalem and scattered it around the monastery cemetery. From then, interest in being buried in Sedlec grew dramatically. In addition, after the plague in 1318, tens of thousands of dead (allegedly 30,000) were buried here, followed by another thirty thousand people during the Hussite wars.*



Cathedral of the Assumption of the Our Lady and St. John the Baptist in Sedlec.



1/ ŽLEBY

A state castle in the village of the same name. It was originally a castle, first mentioned in 1829, during 1849–1868 rebuilt in the romantic Neo-gothic style by Karl Vincenc Auersperg. The castle is open to the public. In three guided tours, called „magic of the romantic castle“, „life in the castle“ and „royal residence“ the visitors can admire, among other things, the richly furnished interiors and collections of historical artefacts.

www.zamek-zleby.cz/en



2/ KAČINA

One of the most significant Empirical buildings in Bohemia. Visitors can learn about the history of the noble Chotek family in the chateau exhibits.

www.nzm.cz/en

Our TIP

www.pskh.cz
www.kutnohorskokolinsko.cz

KUTNÁ HORA

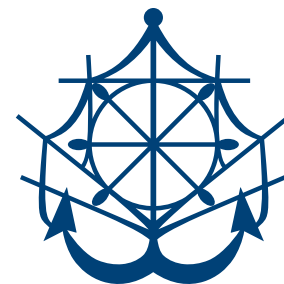
Sankturinovský dům, Kollárova 589, 284 01 Kutná Hora
 +420 327 512 378, +420 731 801 004
infocentrum@kutnahora.cz, www.kutnahora.cz



Our TIP

KING GEORGE, PODĚBRADY RIVER BOAT

- Regular hour river cruises from Poděbrady towards Nymburk or to the confluence of the Elbe and Cidlina.
- We offer evening cruises with music, school trips, corporate events, weddings and country cruises.
- The marina is located 300 meters from the Jiřího z Poděbrad Square, under the castle.
- The boat is equipped for year-round operation.
- The capacity of the boat is 120 persons, 50 seats in the boat's salon and 70 seats on the viewing deck.
- Access to the lower deck is also possible for disabled persons.



www.pruhpolabi.cz
info@pruhpolabi.cz
 tel.: 603 886 582

LEDNICE-VALTICE AREA

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 1996

The Lednice-Valtice complex is a unique large cultural landscape, built mainly in the 18th and 19th centuries under the rule of the Liechtenstein family. The main architectural units are the castles of Lednice and Valtice with their extensive parks.

The Lednice-Valtice area is recorded on the list of cultural heritage under the slogan “**cultural landscape**” as an example of the symbiosis and coexistence of man and nature. It is an area covering nearly **300 km²**, situated on the border between Moravia and Lower Austria. During the 18th and 19th centuries, the ruling **Liechtenstein family** turned the region into a large nature park. Besides other historical sites, this park includes **two large chateaus** in Lednice and Valtice,

as well as a number of smaller **historical buildings**, the Lednické ponds, a minaret in the Lednice **chateau park**, the **Temple of Apollo**, **Jan's castle**, a hunting chateau and many other attractions. The garden in Lednice cannot cover the fact that its founders were **inspired by Versailles** in France. Perhaps the most significant landmark in this area is the neo-Gothic **castle in Lednice**, built in the mid-19th century by the Liechtenstein family as their summer residence. The castle is open

Lednice is one of the most visited castles in the Czech Republic



Did you know
that...

The **Lednice-Valtice region** covers 283.09 square kilometres and is regarded as the largest artificially created territory in Europe. That is why this region is often called the “**Garden of Europe**”. The 60 metre tall **minaret** in Lednice is the tallest building of this type in a non-Islamic country.





Lednice Castle.

to visitors. Tours go through the ground and first floor and on the second floor visitors can admire a beautiful **picture gallery**.

The spectacular and monumental **chateau in Valtice** was created thanks to gradual modifications and alterations to the original castle, built in the 12th century. A wine tasting exhibition called **Czech Wines Salon** is held in the chateau's extensive

cellars and is accessible all year round. The oldest building built in the Romanticism style in the region is the **60-metre high minaret**. To reach the highest of its three galleries, you have to climb up a spiral stone staircase, which consists of 302 steps. When visibility is good, you can see the tower of the Church of St. Stephen's in Vienna.



The castle greenhouse from the 19th century boasts a unique design.



Valtice Castle.



Temple of the Three Graces (1824–1825) and detail of the sculpture in front of the summer palace.



Classical colonnade "Na Rajstně" (1817–1823) was designed as a memorial and lookout point.

Our TIP**... AND DON'T FORGET TO VISIT:****Lednice Wine Markets (April)**

an annual exhibition of wines from small and large winemakers from Lednice and its surroundings
lednice.cz

The May Feast (May)

beginning of the spa season in the pleasant environment of the spa colonnade
lednicelazne.cz

Music of the Castle Guard and the Police of the Czech Republic

(June)
 a concert of the Music of the Castle Guard and the Police of the Czech Republic in the Castle Park in Lednice
lednice.cz

Lednice Costumes Festival (July)

traditional costumed feast on the Castle Square
lednice.cz

Spa Wine Harvest (September)

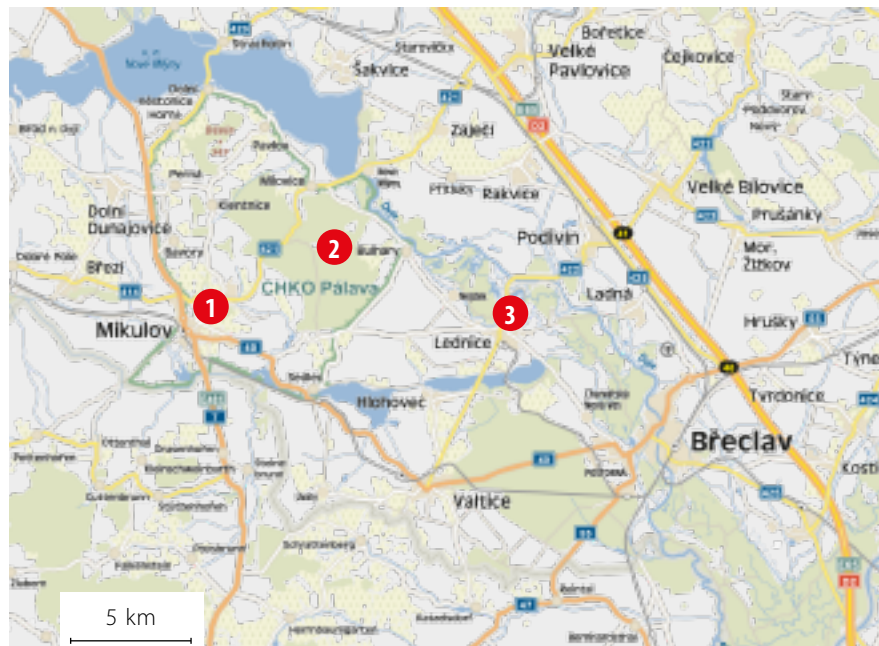
spa wine harvest celebration in the beautiful environment of the spa colonnade in Lednice
lednicelazne.cz

Advent Market (December)

a traditional craft fair with a rich program
lednice.cz

other events:

Valtice Wine Markets – May; *Music by bike* – June; *MARTINO HAMMERLE-BORTOLOTTI, concert of Austrian opera singer* – June; *International Summer School of Early Music* – July; *Wine Apricot Festival and Pre-harvest Singing* – July; *Valtice Costume Festival* – August; *Feste Teatrale* – August; *Music and Wine in Valtice* – September; *Valtice Wine Harvest* – first Friday and Saturday in October; *LEDNICE-VALTICE MUSIC FESTIVAL* – October



1/ Mikulov – A town near the Austrian border. Its dominant features include a Baroque castle and a hill called the Holy Hill. The town has a long winemaking tradition and many historical Jewish monuments.

www.mikulov.cz

2/ Pálava – Protected land with fertile fields and vineyards with characteristic white limestone rocks. It is part of the UNESCO Biosphere Reservation in Lower Moravia.

palava.nature.cz

3/ John's Castle (Janohrad) – Artificially constructed romantic castle ruins from 1801–1808. The ruins can be reached by boats or a ride in a horse-drawn carriage.
www.lva.cz

**LEDNICKO-VALTICKÝ AREÁL**

Lednice, Zámecké náměstí 68, 691 44 Lednice,
 +420 519 340 986, tic@lednice.cz, lednice.cz

Valtice, nám. Svobody 4, 691 42 Valtice,
 +420 734 256 709, tic@valtice.eu, www.valtice.eu



HOLAŠOVICE

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 1998

An exceptionally complete and well-preserved historic Central European village. The buildings have the appearance they acquired during the 18th and 19th centuries and represent an example of vernacular architecture adapted in the style of Rustic Baroque.

A small **South Bohemian village** with exceptionally well-preserved houses built during the 1870s. A total of **23 houses**, mostly house farms, surround a **rectangular town square** with a pond, which was built in the so-called **Folk Baroque style**. It is an architectural style which was developed during the **19th century**, mostly in South Bohemia. As the name suggests, builders who followed this architectural style were **inspired by Baroque and Classicist styles**. However, they followed this style during a time when the Baroque and Classicist styles already belonged to the past. Folk and village builders took over only decorative elements from the real Baroque style only **decorative elements** (most often an element called **the volute** – a spiral decorative element), which they applied to the gables and facades of their village houses. Even though we cannot speak about a clean architectural style, many of these village houses are beautiful and picturesque and create the typical and unparalleled appearance of the **South Bohemian countryside**.

According to the ground-plan of the medieval village and character of the buildings (farmhouses) it was designed as a „**small fortification**“ for protection of livestock and domestic animals (sheep, goats). In the morning, the livestock were driven to the surrounding pastures and in the evening driven back to the village square where they were let loose; sometimes the animals were driven to the stables and the village square was easily locked with vacant lots serving for **protection** from wild animals. In this simple but ingenious way the farmers protected their property, animals and crops from predators and thieves.

There are **many villages in southern Bohemia with fine folk buildings** (e.g. Jířetice, Komárov, Zábोří), but only in Holašovice have buildings survived in such a large number. The character of the village has not been disturbed by insensitive new buildings.





Holašovice common with a pond is surrounded by 23 original farmhouses



Did you know that...

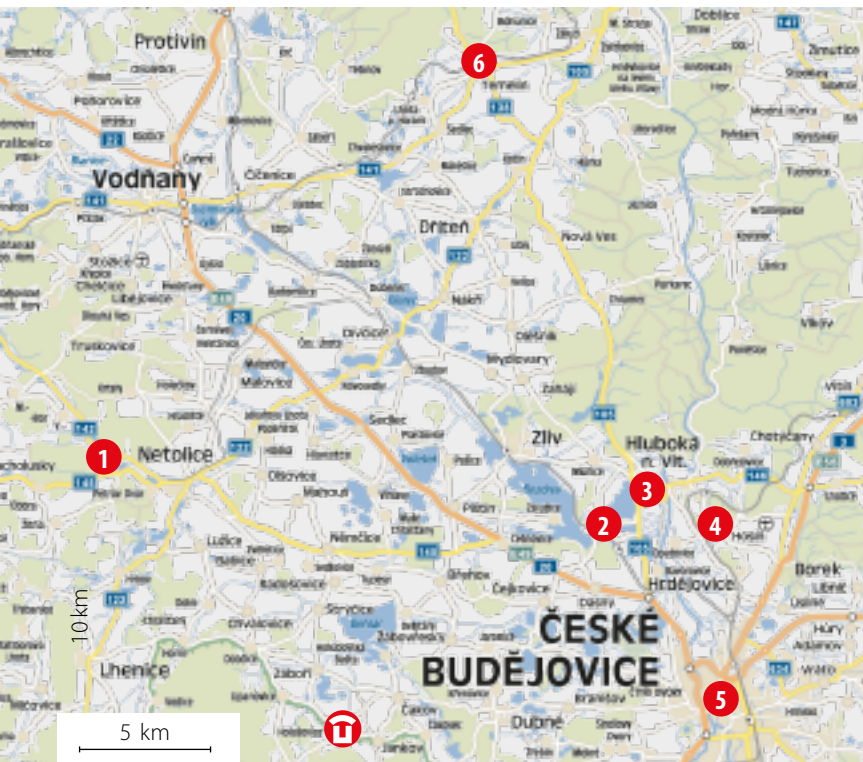
The most famous representative of the **South Bohemian Rustic Baroque** was the mason and builder **Jakub Bursa** (1813–1884). This peculiar folk artist was known for not using plans when decorating the gables of rural buildings, creating exclusively according to his imagination. He liked to add various texts to the facades, completely neglecting grammar. This resulted in many inscriptions with **ridiculous mistakes**. His works can still be seen in Libotín, Jiřetice, Představice, Vlachovo Březí and elsewhere.



Did you know that...

There is wooden **water pump** in front of the majority of the buildings in Holašovice. It is a system of **replicas** of wooden piston pumps made from one piece of wood for manually dug out 4–5 meters deep wells which were used to **feed cattle** at the village square as well as in houses. Eventually, an ingenious **water supply** from these wells directly to the farms, stables and sheds was designed with the help of wooden pipes.

The appearance of the village has never been negatively affected by insensitive new development projects



1/ KRATOCHVÍLE

The Renaissance castle of William of Rosenberg, near Netolice. Because of swampy ground it was built on wooden piles sunk into the ground.

zamek-kratochvile.cz/en



2/ OHRADA ZOO

The smallest, but also one of the oldest Czech zoos was first opened to the public in May 1939. Over 150 species are bred here, mostly native to Europe and temperate Asia. There are, however, representatives of exotic fauna. The pride of the garden is the exhibition of waterfowl and large glass pools with river otter. Parking is available directly in front of the garden, along with refreshments (except for the winter months), and sale of souvenirs.

zoohluboka.cz/en

3/ HLUBOKÁ NAD VLTAVOU

Once a sentry castle founded in the 13th century by the Czech kings, Hluboká nad Vltavou was rebuilt in the romantic, so-called Tudor Gothic style from 1845–1871. The owners and initiators of the reconstruction, the princely Schwarzenberg family, were inspired by Windsor Castle in England. Hluboka is surrounded by beautiful spacious gardens and a maintained park. The castle riding-hall houses the exhibition of the Ales South Bohemian Gallery.

zamek-hluboka.cz/en



4/ HOŠÍN

The Church of St. Peter and Paul conceals an apse (vault) of the original Romanesque church – the oldest building in the České Budějovice region.

www.hosin.cz



5/ ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

The capital of South Bohemia and a royal city established in 1265 by Přemysl Otakar II.

www.c-budejovice.cz/en



6/ TEMELÍN – The Information Centre of the nuclear power plant Temelin

There is an extensive exhibition prepared with spatial models and 3D projection.

www.temelinky.cz



Our TIP

interesting sites:

www.jiznicechy.cz

www.selskebaroko.cz

HOLAŠOVICE

Holašovice 43, 373 84 pošta Dubné

+420 387 982 145, +420 777 764 552

tic@holasovice.eu; www.holasovice.eu



KROMĚŘÍŽ

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 1998

Kroměříž is home to an excellent example of a representative Baroque residence which consists of the castle residence of the Olomouc bishops (later archbishops) and large gardens.

A town on the Morava River, a former centre of culture and education, sometimes called the “Athens of Haná”. First mentioned in written records in the early 12th century, it gained city rights in 1260.

The most valuable architectural monument and landmark of the town is the **Baroque archbishop's chateau** with its three-story tower, 84 metres tall. The chateau and its adjacent **gardens**, called **Květná** and **Podzámecká**, make up a unique architectural complex, which is one of the most important monuments in Moravia.

The archbishop's chateau, the summer residence of the bishops and archbishops of Olomouc, was **built in 1512** by Renaissance reconstruction of the original Gothic castle. However, during the Thirty Years' War the chateau suffered considerable damage when the Swedish army conquered and destroyed the city. During subsequent repairs, which

were carried out in the second half of the 17th century, the chateau was rebuilt in the early **Baroque double space** and many **representative rooms** such as Sněmovna (Meeting hall), Trůní and Manským Halls, and the Old Library were created. The last major repair occurred shortly after World War II, when the castle tower had to be reconstructed, because the retreating German army had set it on fire.

The **chateau's picture gallery** contains extremely valuable European paintings dating from the 15th to the 18th centuries. You will find artists here such as **Tizian van Dyck** and **Lucas Cranach senior**. The castle's library contains nearly 61,000 volumes. Between 1848 and 1849, the castle was the place where meetings of the Austrian Constituent Parliament of Austrian Nations took place.

The predilection of the former bishops of Olomouc towards gardening is demonstrated

*The colonnade in the **Flower Garden** was completed in 1671.*



*The **Manský Hall**, richly decorated with artificial marble and gilded carvings*





Did you know that...

The décor of the Assembly Hall

by two examples of top garden architecture: The **Flower Garden**, also known as **Libosad**, was built between 1665 and 1675. It partially resembles Italian Renaissance gardens and thanks to its classical concept also resembles French Baroque **Versailles**. The second garden, called the **Podzámecká** ("Below the chateau"), was modified in the 19th century and converted into a landscaped park covering an area of 64 hectares. The final impression is completed by a range of **romantic buildings and sculptures**.

Kroměříž Castle was often visited by important personalities of history, including kings and high church dignitaries. In the 19th century, two important political events took place here. After the revolutionary events of the spring of 1848, the **so-called Kroměříž Diet** – a session of the Constituent Reichstag – met here for several months until its dissolution in 1849. In August 1885, Emperor **Franz Joseph I** and Russian Tsar **Alexander III** met here. Interestingly, both monarchs travelled by train. Even today's visitors can see that the interiors of Kroměříž Castle are truly representative; see more information about the tours:

www.zamek-kromeriz.cz



Directly adjacent to the castle is the vast landscape-style "Podzámecká" Garden



Did you know that...

The **Flower Garden** was built by Bishop Charles II of Lichtenstein-Castelkorn to a design by Giovanni Pietro Tencalla in the second half of the 17th century. The rotunda and the colonnade are the dominant buildings. The octagonal pavilion, called the **Rotunda**, stands in the center of the garden and was originally open on all sides. The 244 m long **Colonnade** occupies the entire north-west side of the garden. It was conceived as a gallery of sculptures based on ancient models preserved in Roman collections. Busts of ancient gods and heroes completed the decoration. From the roof of the Colonnade you can enjoy a view of the entire garden, a unique work of garden architecture on a global scale.

More information: www.kvetnazahrada-kromeriz.cz/en



1/ KROMĚŘÍŽ – VELKÉ NÁMĚSTÍ (LARGE SQUARE)

The centre of the historical city district. It was founded during the second half of the 13th century as a market place covering an area of one hectare. The dominant feature of the square is a Baroque Marian column.

www.mesto-kromeriz.cz



2/ Chropyně Chateau

Originally a fortress which was converted into a chateau. On the second floor of this simple and elegant building you will find a memorial dedicated to a local, the painter Emil Filla (1882 – 1953).

www.muchropyne.cz



3/ Cemetery in Střílky

One of the most unique cemeteries in the Czech Republic and Europe. It features unique sculptures created by Gottfried Fritsch, which represent allegories of human virtues and vices.

www.obecstirilky.cz

KROMĚŘÍŽ

Turistické informační centrum Kroměříž
Velké náměstí 115, 767 01 Kroměříž
+420 573 321 408, +420 777 671 116
infocentrum@mesto-kromeriz.cz; www.kromeriz.eu



Velké náměstí Square in Kroměříž

LITOMYŠL

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 1999

The Renaissance arcaded castle, a magnificent representative noble residence, is a perfect example of how the Renaissance style was imported from Italy and adapted in Central Europe.

Today a city with 10,000 inhabitants situated in the Pardubice region. It was probably **founded in the 12th century** near a trade route called the Trstenice Road, which connected not only Bohemia and Moravia but probably all of Western Europe with eastern countries. From the end of the 11th century, the current castle's location was the home of the **Benedictine church and monastery** until the mid-12th century when it was replaced by a Premonstratensian monastery. The monastery settlement was promoted to a town in 1259.

One of the largest Renaissance chateaus in the Czech lands was founded between 1568 and 1581 during the reign of Vratislav II of Pernštejn (1530–1582) on the site of the original **Slavíkov castle**. The castle shape and the decorated facades clearly demonstrate the involvement of **Italian architects and**

Did you know that...

Sgraffito is a special technique used to decorate house facades that was widely employed during the **Renaissance period**. Most often you can see a two-tone sgraffito, which consists of two layers of plaster, where the **lower layer is dark**. Before the top light colour layer dries out, the desired shapes and motifs are carved out. This process will uncover the lower dark layer. If the order is reversed and the carving reveals the lower light colour plaster, then it is called a **contra-sgraffito**. The most common and simplest motive is a technique called **sgraffito letter**. However, you can also see sgraffito shaped as various ornaments or as figurative, plant and other motifs.

The artist **Simon Vlach** who created the most envelopes also painted himself wearing a jester's hat on an envelope between the windows of the chapel.

The castle complex lies on the "Castle Hill", where other city landmarks are concentrated as well, such as the Church of the Finding of the Holy Cross with Piarist college, Monastery garden, and museum located in the former Piarist school.





artists. Rich sgraffito decorations consist of 9,000 so-called letters and figurative subjects, such as two large battle scenes in the main courtyard.

In 1795 the castle burned down, but between 1796 and 1797 it was repaired and modified, and the new **Baroque castle theatre** was constructed. Thanks to its well-preserved stage equipment and set of decorations, it belongs to a group of unique monuments in Europe.

The castle offers **five guided tours**, including a tour through the castle's underground and an exhibition of historical pianos and theatrical decorations in the chateau theatre. You can also visit the **birthplace** of famous Czech composer **Bedřich Smetana**.

The chateau grounds also include an **English park** and **French garden**.



Castle Theatre from 1797 with authentic collection of stage scenery



Did you know that...

In 1962, the Litomyšl chateau was declared a national cultural monument for yet another reason: On **March 2, 1824** the great Czech composer **Bedřich Smetana** (1824–1884) was born at the noble brewery to a master brewer. In 1830, at the age of just six, he publicly performed in Litomyšl and was very successful. In 1841 the Smetana family moved away from Litomyšl. After that, the great composer visited his birthplace only twice.



The courtyard of the chateau is the venue of the annual international classical music festival **Smetana's Litomyšl**. Inner castle courtyard with three-storey arcades. The narrowest wing offers interesting views, especially from the third open and subtle floor.



Our TIP

REGIONAL MUSEUM

The remodelled museum offers the permanent **“Litomyšl – City of Culture and Education”** exposition, which includes a lot of unique items and interactive elements, and the **“Enter, Please”** programme for children. The basement showcases remnants of the gate, rampart, and town houses built in the 14–17th centuries. The museum offers a lot of short-term exhibitions and education-entertainment programmes. There is also a café.



Business hours:

Tue – Sun: 9 am – 12 pm, 1 pm – 5 pm

Regionální muzeum v Litomyšli

Jiráskova 9, 570 01 Litomyšl

Tel.: 461 615 287

www.rml.cz



Our TIP

Our TIP

CASTLE HILL IS MEANT FOR CHILDREN

The whole hill is utilised for the original Children's Programme activities – in the **stable** (the real Castle History Maze), in the tent in front of the café on the first courtyard (the School of Knights and Ladies-in-Waiting presents twelve Renaissance life topics), in the **castle park** (Festivities in the Castle Garden introduce the pastimes of Renaissance gentry), in the **Piarist**



Church (Up toward the Angels, the church history programme), in the **museum and the home of B. Smetana** (Enter, Please, Litomyšl Celebrity Homes), and at the **Castle arcades** (Life of the castle nobility and subjects). Children (and children-at-heart) can really enjoy, entertain, and educate themselves here.

Our TIP

... AND DON'T FORGET TO VISIT:

Opening of the Litomyšl spa season

(last weekend in April)

Litomyšl is a place where people come to restore their psychological wellness. We start the season with a ceremonial parade, music, and theater productions. There are also spa springs, spa benches, historical vehicles, and beautiful costumes – you can even join in!

www.lazneducha.cz

M.D. Rettigová Culinary Festivities (May)

This gastrofest pays tribute to the pioneer of Czech cuisine, M.D. Rettigová. Every year, gourmets, lovers of good food and drink, chefs, and modern gastronomy specialists meet on the Smetana Square.

www.gastroslavnosti.cz

Smetana's Litomyšl Festival

(end of June, July)

The second oldest music festival in the Czech Republic, also one of the largest regular music festivals in the Czech Republic.

www.smetanovalitomysl.cz/en

Toulovec's Holiday Fridays (July–August)

Every Friday during the summer vacation, you can come to Toulovec Square for a fairy tale for children of all ages and a concert for adults of any age.

www.litomysl.cz

ArchiMyšl (turn of September and October)

As part of World Architecture Day, a series of narrated walks and rides, screenings, discussions, and exhibitions are all organized.

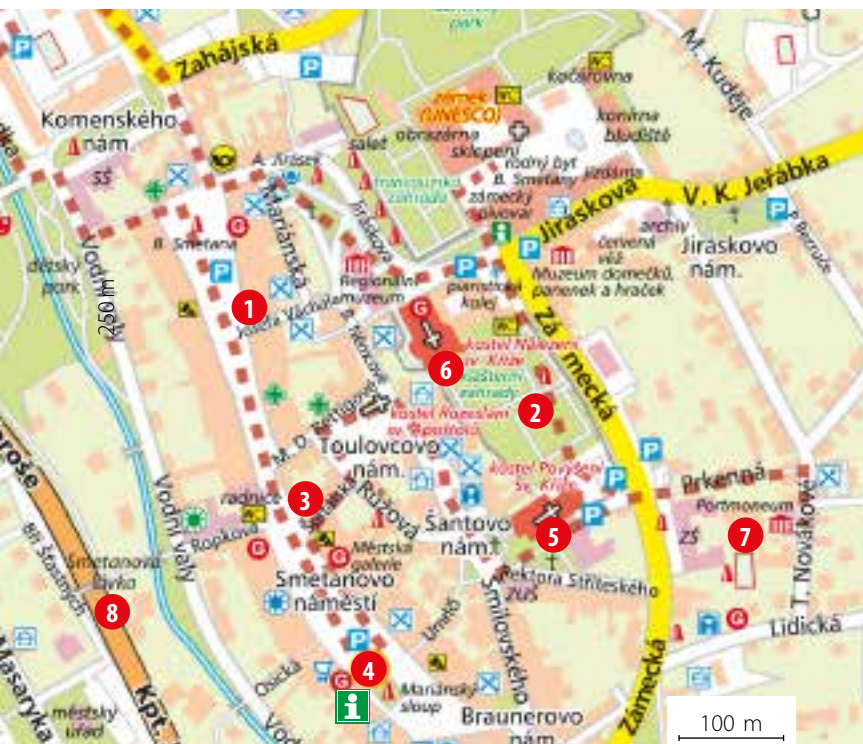
www.litomysl.cz

Angelic Advent Sunday (December)

You can spend any of the pleasant Advent Sundays on the Chateau Hill in the Angelic Society. Christmas music and performances on the stage in front of the Church of the Finding of the Holy Cross, a Nativity scene, good food and drink, and a rich accompanying cultural program.

www.andelskalitomysl.cz





1/ VÁCHALOVA STREET

The wall of the house facing Josef Váchal Street is decorated with sgraffito depicting images from Váchal's novel, *Bloody*. These sgraffitos are the work of graduates from the Litomyšl restoration school.

www.litomysl.cz



2/ MONASTERY GARDENS

A refurbished and representative urban garden located near the former Piarist monastery. The garden covers an area of more than one hectare.

www.litomysl.cz



3/ DŮM U RYTÍŘŮ (KNIGHT'S HOUSE)

Renaissance house built during the 1540s with rich embossed and figural decorations. It got its name due to the two armed men depicted on its facade.

www.litomysl.cz



4/ SMETANOVO NÁMĚSTÍ (SMETANA SQUARE)

A narrow elongated square resembling a wide street, lined with Baroque houses and empire and classicist facades. The majority of houses were constructed with arcades.

www.litomysl.cz



5/ THE CHURCH OF THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

A provost church creating a prominent feature of the city. Originally, it was built as a church of the Augustinian monastery and completed in 1378.

www.litomysl.cz



6/ PIARIST CHURCH

Church of the Discovery of the Holy Cross, built between 1714 and 1722. The sculptural decorations were created by M.B. Braun. The church interior is closed to the public.

www.litomysl.cz



7/ PORTMONEUM

The Josef Portman house decorated in 1924 by murals of the designer and writer Josef Váchal (1884–1969). Since 1993 it serves as Váchal's Museum. In the house you will see impressive murals and richly decorated carved painted furniture, all accompanied by period photographs, samples of Váchal's correspondence, small graphics and multimedia expositions.

www.portmoneum.cz



8/ SMETANA'S FOOTBRIDGE

An architecturally interesting, covered footbridge over the I/35 road with a lift and an observation point overlooking the historical centre of Litomyšl.



LITOMYŠL

Smetanovo náměstí 72, Litomyšl 570 01
+420 461 612 161, ic@litomysl.cz
www.tiditolitomysl.cz; www.litomysl.cz



OLOMOUC

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 1999

The Holy Trinity Column is the most important example of this type of Baroque monument specific to Central Europe. It is a flamboyant celebration of the Church and faith and an expression of gratitude for the end of the two plague waves in Moravia.

In the past, the **administrative centre of Moravia**, before the Thirty Years' War, Olomouc was the second largest city of the Bohemian kingdom. Over one century many historical and architectural monuments were built here and many of them have survived to this day. These are concentrated in the city's historic centre and create **one of the largest historical preservation zones** in the Czech Republic. Besides the most important landmark of Olomouc, the **column of the Holy Trinity**, the zone features the world-famous astronomical clock on the wall of the **Town Hall on Horní Square**, the monumental **Cathedral of St. Václav**, the **Přemyslid Palace**, a set of baroque stone **fountains** with statues of ancient heroes and numerous palatial town houses and **palaces**. And of course, we cannot forget the **Primavesi villa**, one of the most valuable art nouveau buildings in Europe.

Between 1716 and 1754, a nobleman from Olomouc, Václav Render, initiated the construction of a monumental plague column on Horní Square, whose **height (35 metres)**, exceeded all similar buildings in the country and was never surpassed. Inside this magnificent Baroque sculpture you can even find a small chapel. One unique fact is that the builders of the column were mostly local citizens of Olomouc and were therefore very proud of their achievement. The paradox is that all the builders who gradually worked on the column, except for one, did not live long enough to see the completion of their work. **Empress Maria Theresa** personally participated during the ordination of this column.

The Plague Column of the Holy Trinity celebrates the **Catholic Church and faith**. Another initiative to build this plague column





Did you know that...

Inside the **Holy Trinity Column** there is a small chapel with reliefs depicting the sacrifices of biblical heroes. However, the space inside of the chapel is so narrow that during mass only the priest was inside and the faithful gathered outside around the column. The windows on the sides of the column, leading to the chapel, were designed so ingeniously that the preacher's voice could be heard even in the square. There is a **secret passage** under the chapel floor which is said to lead from the column to various Olomouc churches and also beyond the walls of the old Olomouc fortress.



Did you know that...

was an effort to show gratitude for the end of the plague epidemic, which occurred in 1714. The decorations of the column are made up of a copper statue of the Holy Trinity along with the Archangel Michael at the top of the column, and further down you can see a statue of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary. There are also a number of other statues, including Saints Cyril and Methodius, on lower levels of the sculpture.

A **small golden ball** protrudes from the shaft of the column. It is a representation of a cannon ball, which reminds us of the bombardment of the column and the entire city by shells fired by the Prussian army during the siege of Olomouc in 1758. Because the column was actually hit several times and citizens feared the destruction of this unique monument, they sent a delegation to the siege commander with the request to spare the column and the **general, James Keith**, surprisingly complied.



1/ OLOMOUC ASTRONOMICAL CLOCK

This astronomical clock from the 15th century is located on the north side of the Town Hall on Horní Square. Its present socialist-realistic shape is the work of the artist Karel Svoboda.

tourism.olomouc.eu/welcome/en



2/ OLOMOUC TOWN HALL

The most remarkable landmark of the local secular architecture. The construction was licensed by the Moravian margrave Jost of Luxembourg.

tourism.olomouc.eu/welcome/en



3/ CATHEDRAL OF ST. WENCESLAS

Originally a Gothic cathedral, rebuilt during the late 19th century in the neo-Gothic style.

www.katedralaolomouc.cz





4

4/ PŘEMYSLID PALACE

Also called Zdikův palace, an important Romanesque building, the core of the Olomouc castle, exhibitions of the Archdiocesan Museum.

www.muoz.cz/en



5

5/ STONE FOUNTAINS IN OLOMOUC

A set of six stone Baroque fountains decorated with sculptures depicting themes from ancient mythology.

tourism.olomouc.eu



6

6/ VILLA PRIMAVESI

A jewel of Art Nouveau architecture, gallery, centre of the social life in the city, restaurant.

www.vilaprimavesi.cz



7

7/ HOLY HILL (382 meters a.m.s.l.)

The pilgrimage place 8 km northeast of Olomouc. It is a popular recreational area, a zoo was opened here in 1952. The Basilica of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary visible from afar dominates the spot. In May 1995, during the visit of Pope John Paul II the temple was declared a basilica minor. The temple is the venue for a large annual pilgrimage.

www.svaty-kopecek.cz

Our TIP

interesting sites:

www.olomouc.eu

www.olomouregioncard.cz

OLOMOUC

Horní náměstí 583, podloubí radnice, 779 11 Olomouc
+420 585 513 385, 392; infocentrum@olomouc.eu
tourism.olomouc.eu



Archdiocesan Museum Olomouc



Bobsleigh Track and Chairlift Kraličák



Witch trials in Šumperk



Helfštýn Castle



Priessnitz Health Spa in Jeseník



TOURIST CARD

Free admission

The Olomouc region Card is a tourist card allowing you to visit attractive sights FREE OF CHARGE – castles, chateaux, museums, ZOO etc. – in Olomouc, in Central Moravia and in the Jeseníky Mountains. Furthermore, you can make use of attractive discounts many sights, i.e. admission fees to selected sights and tourist destinations, water parks, sports and leisure centres, restaurants and hotels. With each Card you buy, you will get a 100-page colour brochure – a tourist guide, FREE OF CHARGE. Here you will find information about attractive sights where you can use your Olomouc region Card.



FREE available at 100 sights

- Castles • Chateaux • Museums
- ZOO Olomouc • Bobsleds • Minigolf
- Public transportation in Olomouc
- Collection conservatories

DISCOUNT available at 80 sights

- Water Parks • Caves • Sport
- Restaurants • Accommodation
- Adrenaline experiences



The all information, contact details and opening times you can also find on www.olomouregioncard.cz.


Our TIP

The **Dlouhé stráně pumped-storage power station** (1,354 m above sea level) was built in the Hrubý Jeseník mountains.


STORY OF THE BRAND

A.D. 1596

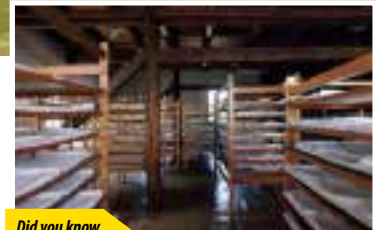


**RUČNÍ PAPIRNA
VELKÉ LOSINY**

**VELKÉ LOSINY HANDMADE
PAPER MILL**

The Velké Losiny Handmade Paper Mill was founded in the 1590's and is an important part of national cultural heritage. It can be considered the **oldest still working handmade paper mill** in Central Europe.

The **traditional production technique**, which has still been preserved here without significant changes, is an exemplary document to the former importance and development of the ancient craft of paper making. Handmade paper is still made from quality natural cotton and linen fibers. The pulp prepared from these fibers, just like in centuries past, is manually collected or pumped onto paper sieves. **Every single sheet is an original** with its typical features, especially the irregular edge. The wet paper sheets are dried in the attic dryers, pressed, dried again, and in the final stage of the production process carefully rolled on a calender, checked, and sorted.



Did you know that...

One sheet of paper takes 3–4 weeks to produce and is touched by 20 pairs of hands. In a year, the paper mill produces about 10–12 tons of paper.

Today's range of Losiny hand-drawn papers includes **graphic and calligraphic papers** as well as watercolor cartons. They serve not only for the representation of the Czech state and companies, but they are also popular in the studios of Czech artists. They are used to print graphic sheets, bibliophile books, and they are also used in restoration workshops to restore books and our written heritage.



RUČNÍ PAPIRNA VELKÉ LOSINY, a. s.

U Papírny 9, 788 15 Velké Losiny
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www.facebook.com/Rucni-papirna-Velke-Losiny
www.instagram.com/rucni_papirna_velke_losiny/
www.rpvl.cz/en

BRNO

recorded on
the UNESCO list in **2001**

The **Villa Tugendhat** is one of the most important buildings of 20th century world architecture and is also the culminating work of the architect **Ludwig Mies van der Rohe**, a leading representative of functionalism, a style that has profoundly influenced **modern architecture**.

The only historical monument of Czech architecture recorded on the UNESCO list.

The **functionalist Villa Tugendhat** was built between 1929 and 1930 in a Brno district called Černá Pole (Black Fields). The **Tugendhat family** (Greta, nee Löw-Beer, 1903–1970 and Fritz Tugendhat, 1895–1958), wished to live in a “modern and spacious house with clear and simple shapes.” The result was (and still is) the most important European building by **architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe** (1886–1969). The architect had to deal with sloping land facing southwest. The terrain configuration, however, turned

out to be an advantage, as it “directed” him to create a sophisticated layout for house. The villa has **three floors**, the main living space there is a basement with the kitchen, staff rooms, accessories and also a terrace and conservatory. Underneath the living space you will find a basement with technical equipment. Children’s rooms, bedrooms and accessories are on the third floor. Because the villa is **located on sloped terrain**, the entrance from the street is on the top floor. You can also access the terrace from the street. The villa also contains an apartment for a driver and a garage. Underneath the plaster sheathing there is a hidden steel frame and brick masonry. Part of the building is supported by **cross-shaped steel columns** (lined with chrome covers and panels) which pass through the main living space.

*Did you know
that...*

The architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe even designed the furniture for the mansion’s interior





The 3-floor Tugendhat villa

Due to their Jewish origin, the Tugendhat family had to emigrate to Switzerland in 1938, and later to the USA. The Gestapo took over the abandoned villa in 1939. At the end of the war, the villa, particularly its interior furnishings, were **damaged by the Red Army**. From 1945, the villa served a variety of purposes, for example, as a dance school and a children's rehabilitation centre. During the 1960s, construction and restoration work on the villa finally began, and in 1963 the building was declared a cultural monument. In 1970, reconstruction of the garden began. Between 1981 and 1985, a major reconstruction of the entire building took place. In 2001, this famous project of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe was included on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage list.

In March 2012, after two years of reconstruction, the villa was reopened to the public. Today visitors can also see the villa's unique technical floor. The **exhibition** dedicated to the villa will introduce visitors to the architect as well as the lives of the Tugendhat family.

Did you know that...

*The weight of the villa rests not on its walls, but for the most part on a **steel skeleton**. Thanks to this the living quarters could be made from **three sides of glass** from floor to ceiling. Large window panes retract to the floor. The living space is **280 square metres** and there is not even one wall! The living room, study and dining room are separated only optically. One such partition is created by a renowned **onyx wall** (onyx – honey yellow rock with a white drawing, aragonite sediment, chemically calcium carbonate). Hardly anybody knows that the partition is so thin that even the setting **sun shines through it**...*

Did you know that...

*Starting from 2020 you can take a **walk from the garden of Villa Tugendhat to the garden of the Villa Löw-Beer villa to a new entrance**. The course of works was prolonged by find of a historical route, which originates from the second half of XIXth century and probably was related to the existence of an object called Celnice (in english Custom house) or with garden modifications of the villa Löw-Beer.*





Vila Stiassni (photo: Národní památkový ústav)

OTHER FAMOUS VILLAS IN BRNO

VILLA STIASSNI

The villa was built in **1927–1929** according to the design of the famous Brno architect Ernst Wiesner for the family of the Jewish textile manufacturer **Alfred Stiassni**. He and his family lived in the villa for only 9 years, until 1938, when they fled the impending occupation abroad. The villa came to be known by most people as a government villa. It became known as such shortly after the Second World War, when Edvard Beneš visited it. Later it began to be used for accommodation of famous and important visitors to Brno. For example, Fidel Castro stayed here, but also most of our presidents. Currently, the villa is managed by the National Heritage Institute, which completed its complete reconstruction in 2014. Now the villa is open to the public and houses the **Methodical Centre of Modern Architecture in Brno**.
www.vila-stiassni.cz/en



Interior of Villa Stiassni
(photo: RAKO LASSELSBERGER)

are decorated with Art Nouveau vegetable stucco decorations and, in the lower part, with rustication strips. Similar decorations are used on the walls and ceilings indoors, including timber elements. Also ceramic floor tiles and the cast iron handrails of the staircase are decorated with Art Nouveau floral patterns. The author of the design was the Viennese architect Alexander Neumann (1861–1947). After Fuhrmann's death, in August 1913 his heirs sold the house to the textile entrepreneur **Alfred Löw-Beer** (1872–1939). The new owner had the house partially adapted in the 1930s. In 1940 the house was confiscated by the Germans for the needs of the secret state police (Gestapo). From 1954–2012 the villa was used as a hall of residence. Now the Löw-Beer Villa is in the ownership of South Moravian Region and administered by the **Museum of the Brno Region**, contributory organization.
www.vilalowbeer.cz/en

LÖW-BEER VILLA BRNO

The property at No. 22 Drobného Street (the former Sadová – Parkstrasse) consisted in the 19th century of two building plots with garden houses and two sites occupied by a vineyard and a garden. In 1903 the property was bought by manufacturer Moriz Fuhrmann (1852–1910), who had a house built there. The street and garden fronts



Villa Löw-Beer (photo: Statutární město Brno)

JURKOVIČ HOUSE

The architect **Dušan Jurkovič** purchased the land for the construction of the house at the beginning of September 1905. The Jurkovič House was the first building on the location, it was completed in 1906. The interior was dominated by a staircase hall, at the time a highly modern element perceived as imported from Great Britain. In its time, the house was one of the most modern buildings in Brno.

Dušan Jurkovič lived in the building with his wife and their three children until 1919, when he moved to Bratislava and sold both house and land to private buyers. By the end of the 1930's the house had changed hands several times, finally becoming home to the Švancara family from 1938 to 2006. The communist authorities in the post-war era viewed the property as oversized and the owners were obliged to accommodate further tenants in the 1950's; a total of three families lived there. Around this time, the basement was converted into a "nuclear air-raid shelter". The building remained in private hands until 2006, when the owners sold it to the state. Since 2006 it has been administered by the **Moravian Gallery, Brno**. This institution initiated the Dušan Samo Jurkovič Centre

project, comprising a restoration of the house and its opening to the public. The project was approved in a grant application to the Norwegian Financial Mechanisms (Norway Grants). In 2006 and 2007 a team of experts, under the guidance of the Transat architekti studio, performed a thorough survey of the house and research into its contents past and present, followed by a general reconstruction and refit in 2009–010. The Jurkovič House was opened to the public in April 2011.

www.moravska-galerie.cz



Jurkovič House (photo: Archiv Moravská galerie v Brně)



Our TIP

JURKOVIČ HOUSE

The villa designed and built by the Slovak architect and furniture designer **Dušan Samo Jurkovič** for his family in Brno-Žabovřesky in 1906 counts among the highlights of modernist architecture inspired by British and Viennese models with elements of folk art. The importance of this monument for art-nouveau architecture in Brno equals that of the Villa Tugendhat for Brno functionalism.

Visitors are invited to soak up the specific, authentic atmosphere of the house and the garden. A unique staircase hall and a drawing room are equipped with original furniture designed by Jurkovič. The villa houses a **permanent exhibition about the life and work of the architect**, and regularly plays host to temporary shows devoted to modern design inspired by Jurkovič's legacy blending architecture, free and applied art.



Jurkovič House, Moravian Gallery

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+420 532 169 501, +420 773 773 616
pokljv@moravska-galerie.cz
www.moravska-galerie.cz

MORAVSKÁ GALERIE



1/ BRNO DAM

A dam in the valley of the Svatka River completed in 1940. Sightseeing cruises, a popular place for rest and relaxation.
www.brnenskapehrada.cz



2/ MASARYK RACE TRACK

A venue for the World Motorcycle Championship and World Superbike Championship.
www.automotodrombrno.cz



3/ VEVEŘÍ CASTLE

One of the largest castle complexes in Moravia, first mentioned in 1213. Open to the public.
hrad-veveri.cz/en





4

4/ ŠPILBERK CASTLE

The dominant landmark of the city, once a royal castle and seat of the Moravian margraves, later a Baroque fortress. Today the seat of the Brno Museum and Cultural Centre.

www.spilberk.cz/en



5

5/ CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND PAUL

National cultural monument and a landmark of Brno, built on Petrov Hill in the centre of the city. In the early 20th, the church was rebuilt in the neo-Gothic style. Its two towers are 84 metres tall.

www.katedrala-petrov.cz



6

6/ EXHIBITION AND TRADE FAIR CENTRE

The most important exhibition centre in the Czech Republic. Fairs, exhibitions, shows, cultural events, etc. are held all year round.

www.bvv.cz/en



7

7/ OBSERVATORY AND PLANETARIUM BRNO

An observatory aimed at popularizing astronomy and other sciences, mainly focusing on inanimate nature.

www.hvezdarna.cz/en



8

8/ BRNO AIRPORT

International airport located in Brno-Tuřany. Located near highway D1 Brno – Olomouc.

www.bruno-airport.cz/en

Our TIP

interesting sites:

www.tugendhat.eu/en

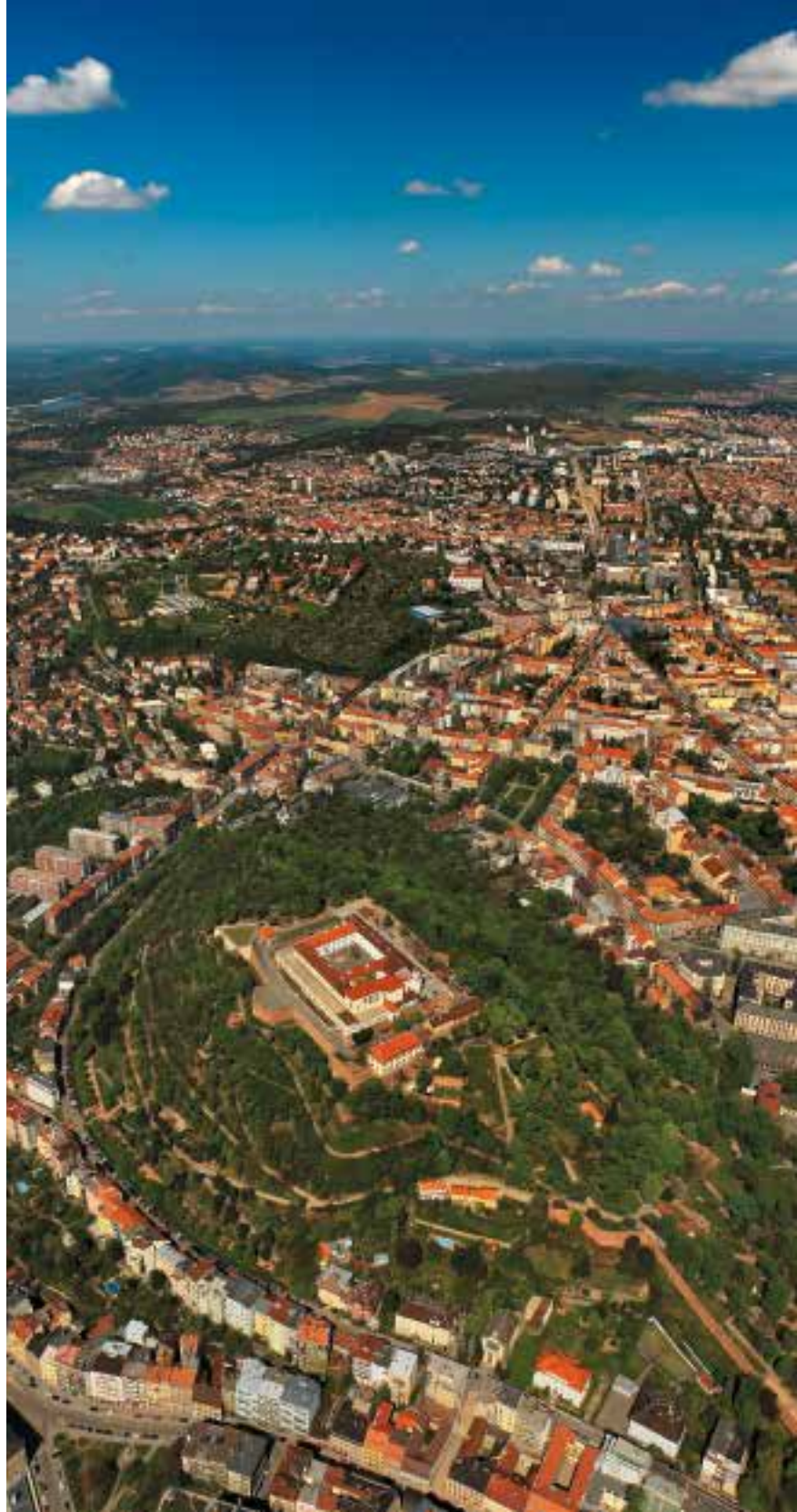
www.zoobruno.cz/en

www.bvv.cz/en



BRNO

Radnická 8, 658 78 Brno
+420 542 427 150, info@ticbrno.cz
www.gotobruno.cz/en



TŘEBÍČ

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 2003

The **Jewish Quarter** and **St. Procopius Basilica** are important monuments of two cultures, Christian and Jewish. They grew not far from each other on the left bank of the Jihlava River in the ancient Moravian town of Třebíč.

The second largest city in the Vysočina region, on the banks of the Jihlava River. First mentioned in writing in a document from 1277. In 1335 the city received municipal rights. However, its establishment probably goes back to a period at the turn of the 11th and 12th centuries, when a **Benedictine monastery** was founded. Gradually, other buildings were connected to the city, among them the **Basilica of St. Procopius**, which was completed between 1260 and 1280. At that time it was dedicated to the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, and in 1704 to St. Procopius – on the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the canonization of this martyr. Even today, the basilica is still an exceptional example of a lucky combination of **Romanesque and Gothic architecture**. The layout and structure of the

basilica is Romanesque, while the builders used Gothic elements, such as broken ribs on vaulted ceilings. The church consists of three aisles. Two towers are located on the west side. During the turbulent 15th century, the church was damaged several times, and even served as a warehouse. After **reconstruction in the early 18th century**, some Baroque elements were added – for example, the western facade of the church gained a Baroque appearance.

The **Jewish Quarter** in Třebíč, also called the Jews for short, is one of the best preserved Jewish neighbourhoods not only in the Czech Republic, but also in all of Europe. It is a **former ghetto** which was established sometime in the first half

The so-called Rear Synagogue in Blahoslavova Street in the Jewish Quarter



St. Prokop's Basilica was created by combining Romanesque and Gothic architecture





Did you know that...

The **tracery vault** of the main body of **St. Prokop's Basilica** was built only in the Baroque era. The original vault was damaged during the **siege of Třebíč** in 1468. However, it remained in its place until 1679 when it was replaced by the new Baroque vault. The Romanesque-Gothic church was thus enhanced by Baroque elements. The restoration work of the church was directed by the architect **Frantisek Maxmilian Kanka** (1674–1766). It is interesting that it should have originally been a dome vault and **octagonal**; however, during the construction the project was changed and it was built as a six-part **ribbed vault**.



Three-nave basilica crypt.

of the 18th century. The original ground plan has over a hundred preserved houses, crowded near each other and separated only by narrow winding streets. The uniqueness and appeal of this place demonstrate, among other things, how builders of that time were able to effectively use the strictly limited area of the ghetto. The neighbourhood also has **two synagogues**. The Jewish cemetery in the Podklášterí district dates back to the 17th century and thanks to its large area is the **second largest Jewish burial site** in the Czech Republic (after the New Jewish cemetery in Olšany, Prague). Here you can find 3,000 gravestones, but more than 11,000 persons were buried here. The oldest gravestones date back to the first quarter of the 17th century.



Interior of the Rear Synagogue with unique wall paintings from the early 18th century.



Jewish cemetery with nearly three thousand tombstones



1/ BASILICA OF ST. PROKOP

In 2003, the site of the former Benedictine monastery with its Basilica of St. John the Baptist was inscribed on UNESCO's World Cultural and Natural Heritage List. Prokop. This three-nave Romanesque-Gothic basilica is a jewel of medieval architecture and a renowned local heritage site for its architectural uniqueness. The basilica's most valuable elements include the murals in the abbey chapel and the Romanesque rosette with its original ten-piece stone tracery. The vault of the crypt is supported by fifty columns and is a remarkable site as well.

www.visittrebic.eu

2/ CASTLE

Former Wallenstein castle was founded in the 16th century during the reconstruction of the Benedictine monastery. The seat of the Museum of Vysocina Třebíč.

www.visittrebic.eu

3/ CHARLES SQUARE

With an area of 2.2 hectares it is one of the largest squares in the Czech Republic. It was built shortly after the middle of the 13th century, when it served as a marketplace. In 1468, the square (as well as the city) was nearly destroyed during the Czech-Hungarian wars. The most valuable monuments of the square are the Painted House and Black House with façades decorated with graffiti.

www.visittrebic.eu

4/ CITY TOWER

The tower of the Church of St. Martin, built in 1335. It is 75 m tall and the viewing gallery is 35 m above the ground.

www.visittrebic.eu

5/ PAINTED HOUSE

The corner house on Charles Square. This Renaissance building from the end of the 16th century boasts rich sgraffito decoration. The building houses the "Kaiserpanorama", an example of a historic stereoscope.

www.visittrebic.eu

6/ JEWISH QUARTER, REAR SYNAGOGUE

The Rear Synagogue, also called the New Synagogue, served its purpose until 1926. The walls of the prayer room are decorated with paintings from the early 18th century.

www.visittrebic.eu

7/ JEWISH CEMETERY

It is located in the Podklášteří district and dates from the first half of the 17th century. Its size makes it one of the largest Jewish cemeteries in the Czech Republic. There are more than 2,500 tombstones here, the oldest dating from 1631. In the 1980s, the cemetery was in danger of official destruction, but a group of local enthusiasts managed to save and restore the site.

www.visittrebic.eu



TŘEBÍČ – TIC NÁRODNÍ DŮM

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www.visittrebic.eu



KRUŠNOHOŘÍ

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 2019

The **Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří mining region** is located in two states – in German Saxony and in the northwest Czech Republic. For eight centuries, mining activity (from the 12th to the 20th century) has shaped the local landscape, leaving monuments on the surface and underground.

The area was important mostly for **silver** mining (in 1460–1560 it was the most important European site) and **tin**, then for **uranium** mining from the end of the 19th century. The Erzgebirge region became a center for technology and science, spreading its inventions and innovations in mining to other regions throughout the world. For eight centuries, the landscape was shaped by mining activities (from the 12th to the 20th century), leaving heritage sites on the surface and underground; these include the historic cores of mining towns, numerous historic mineshafts, waterworks, and other constructions related to the operation of mines. The World Heritage in the Ore Mountains is what is known as a “serial heritage site” with a total of **22 diverse parts**.

HERITAGE SITES ON THE CZECH SIDE OF THE BORDER

JÁCHYMOV MINING LANDSCAPE

This consists of the historical center of Jáchymov, an urban heritage zone, and other monuments of silver extraction in the local mining area that took place here from the 16th to the 20th century. The town of Jáchymov itself **was founded in 1516** and soon became an important center of silver mining not only in the Ore Mountains, but throughout Europe. As a town, Jáchymov flourished and became rich but at the same time contributed to the doctrine of **mining and metallurgy**. This was mostly the work of Georgius Agricola (1494–1555), the Jáchymov town physician from 1527 to 1530; he wrote several extensive works which served as a major source of knowledge in the field of mining and ore processing for many years.

Another important milestone in the town's history is related to the discovery of the radioactive element **radium** and the healing properties of the local radioactive mine waters at the beginning of the 20th century. In 1906, the first **radon baths** in the world were established in Jáchymov. A sad stage in history is the period of the communist labor camps set up for uranium ore mining, for which the name **Jáchymov Hell** was adopted (1950s).

Places to visit:

Jáchymov mining town
Heaps and pinges on the Schweizer vein
Elijah Valley
Turkish Hill (Šance)
Royal Mint Museum
Mine Shaft No. 1
Exhibition of the Latin school library



Did you know that...

There is a **black mineral** always found at the beginning of a vein in the silver mines, for miners signaling the end of its extraction. This is why the miners began to call this unlucky mineral “**smolinec**”, or pitchblende, derived from the word for bad luck and deception. And since it contained no silver, it was discarded on the heaps as useless. Over time, however, it turned out that pitchblende was not so insignificant after all. . .

Jáchymov, one of the most important upper towns, was also famous as a spa resort using radon water and irradiation for treatment.



Wolf pit on Blatenský Hill – a tin mine from the 16th century

ABERTAMY – HORNÍ BLATNÁ – BOŽÍ DAR MINING LANDSCAPE

The landscape of this vast area is shaped by numerous mountain heritage sites documenting the mining of **iron and tin** from the 16th to the 20th century. Of particular note are the mounds; these clearly visible “hills” were created from the rubble left over from panning tin, even in the highest locations of the Ore Mountains. The nearly 13-km long **Blatenský water canal** is also remarkable; this was a unique mining waterwork that served as a water supply for the Blatenský ore district – for mines, pan mining, and ore processing plants.

Places to visit:

Horní Blatná mining town with museum

Blatenský Hill

Mauritius mine in the Hřebečná tin district

Bludná iron ore and tin district

Johannes mineshaft in the Zlatý Kopec – Kaff ore district

Zlatý Kopec Ore District – leveed stream

Mounds at Boží Dar

Blatenský canal

Klinovec Mountain (1,244 m asl)



Red Tower of Death

RED TOWER OF DEATH (Vykmanov)

This seven-storey structure towered above the former communist forced labor camp of Vykmánov II near Ostrov which functioned as a uranium sorting plant. Here, in clouds of radioactive dust without even minimal protective equipment, prisoners packed uranium into special barrels designed to transport this strategic material to the USSR. There were many prisoners working this operation (as well as others in the camp) who did not survive such inhumane conditions. This, as well as the red color of the unplastered bricks, gave the building its gloomy name. The Red Tower of Death was declared a national cultural monument in 2008.

www.montanregion.cz



Did you know that...

You can visit the **Starý Martin gallery in Krupka** as part of a guided tour. The tour lasts 45 minutes and leads you along 1,000 m long route where you'll see examples of mining, methods of logging, a collection of historical artifacts, an exhibition of minerals, and even the “Spring of Happiness” and stalactite decorations.



Krupka

MĚDNÍK MINING LANDSCAPE

The distinctive Mědník Hill has characteristic and well-visible remnants of iron, copper, and partly silver ore mining which took place here from the 15th to the 19th century. At the foot of the hill lies the town of Měděnec, founded in 1520. The concentration of mining works here is extremely high; both “inconspicuous” surface mines and “classic” mines with shafts and galleries are clearly visible. There are roughly eighty of them here; the galleries named “Virgin Mary” and “Promised Land” are open to the public.



Mědník – “Promised Land” gallery

KRUPKA MINING LANDSCAPE

Tin has also been mined in the Ore Mountains since the 13th century. The area with the longest history of tin extraction is the mining town of Krupka. The experience gained by the Krupka miners helped in the spread of knowledge on tin mining to practically all of Central Europe. The largest number of tin mining monuments around Krupka is located in the Steinkochen mining area, while other mining monuments can be seen in the Komáří hůrka and Knötel areas. One of the most important mining works in the Krupka area is the Starý Martin gallery with its rich Lukáš tin vein; this was mined from the 14th century until after World War II.

Places to visit:

Komáří hůrka

KLADRUBY NAD LABEM

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 2019

The **landscape** around the stud farm in Kladruby nad Labem has been systematically shaped for centuries for one purpose – **for breeding and training ceremonial carriage horses**. Remarkably, the landscape has served these needs without interruption since the foundation of the Imperial Stud Farm in 1579. We can also see here how the horse has played a vital role in history, not only in transport, agriculture, or the military, but also for representation at the “highest level”.

The stud farm in Kladruby with the surrounding cultural landscape was the second monument of the Pardubice Region to be inscribed on the UNESCO list. It covers an area of 1,310 hectares and consists mainly of meadows and pastures; it is bordered by the Elbe River on the south and by a strip of forests on the north. This landscape complex is unique in that today, this is the only preserved and still functional such landscape in the world to serve its original purpose: to breed, refine, and train draught horse breeds. The stud farm is still used to breed the Kladruby horse, the oldest original Czech breed bred continuously for more than 400 years. These mighty horses, whose registered ancestors date back to the middle of the 18th century, were purposefully bred for ceremonial purposes, specifically as carriage horses for the imperial court. This is likely the

only surviving breed specially bred for these purposes.

The stud farm with the surrounding landscape has been on UNESCO's Tentative List since 2007.

The court stud farm in Kladruby nad Labem was founded by **Emperor Rudolph II** by a decree issued on 6 March 1579. The carriage horses were first delivered (during the reign of Rudolph II) to the court stables in Prague, then later (from the reign of Rudolph's younger brother Matthias) and to the **imperial court in Vienna**. In 1722, the Baroque reconstruction of the stud farm began. Unfortunately, the stud farm caught fire in 1757; the breeding records were destroyed, but the horses were rescued in time. Landscaping around the stud farm began in 1824, and since 1875





Františkov yard, in the distance the main stable yard of Kladrubby nad Labem. The landscape of the stud farm is organised by a system of main and secondary paths and avenues which divide the pastures and meadows and provide shade.

the landscape has been artificially irrigated through the Kladrubby canal. After 1918, when the stud farm came under state administration, the breeding of Kladrubby horses, like nearly everything else that was somehow connected with the Habsburgs, was earmarked for liquidation. The process was nearly successful (the number of horses was radically reduced), but the breeding was eventually preserved; one reason was that they served the ceremonial purposes of the new Czechoslovak Republic.

Description of the breed (taken from the website www.nhkladruby.cz): Features typical of the Kladruber include a convex head (with a Roman nose) with big spunky eyes; a high-set, powerful and arched neck with rather less noticeable withers; a broad and deep chest; a massive broad back; a good bony fundament; a rather steep shoulder blade enabling the typical movement, i.e., elastic, cadenced and spacious gaits with high action of the thoracic limbs in trot



Did you know that...

*In the imperial court, Kladrubby horses were **both white and black**, while the black horses were also used by church dignitaries. This warm-blooded breed is still used today in "civilian" life; thanks to its calm and balanced nature, it is used by the **mounted police** and can often be seen in sledding competitions. It's also an excellent breed for hippotherapy and recreational riding. The White Kladrubby horses currently serve in the service of the **Danish royal court**; in Copenhagen, there are thirteen carefully selected Kladrubby white horses housed in the original historic stables at Christiansborg Palace. This means that the purpose for which this breed has been bred, for more than 400 years, is still fulfilled even today. Since 2004, eight Kladrubby horses have carried the **Swedish Royal Equestrian Guard**, specifically the trumpeters. Alongside the Shire horse (on which drummers ride), this is the only non-native breed in Stockholm's Royal Guard.*





Our TIP



landscape in a touring carriage pulled by a double team of Kladruby horses.

You should definitely not miss guided tours of **Slatiňany Stud**, which has been a part of the National Stud Kladruby nad Labem since 1992, or guided tours of the newly reconstructed **training stables in Heřmanův Městec**.



www.nhkladruby.cz/en

THE NATIONAL STUD AT KLADRUBY NAD LABEM

Don't miss several important events that the National Stud at Kladruby nad Labem organizes throughout the year. Visit the April carriage races – **Rudolf's Cup**, the **Kladruher Horse Day** in May, or the **"Kladruby Naruby"** fun family afternoon in September. In Kladruby nad Labem you can enjoy a **guided tour of the stables**, the **coach house** with an exhibition of the Kladruby horse, and the castle. Also visit the forester's house, one of the oldest Baroque timbered houses in the region, or enjoy a unique view of the stud farm and its surroundings from the former **water tower** converted into a lookout tower.

Walk along a trail that will take you through the home of the Kladruby horses. The **educational trail** is approximately five kilometers long. We have prepared 12 stops along the way. You will learn about the history and the present of the Landscape for Breeding and Training Ceremonial Carriage Horses in Kladruby nad Labem, a World Heritage Site. The trail will take you among the pastures and into the beautiful **landscape park of Mošnice**. If you don't want to walk, the National Stud Farm also offers a **guided tour** of the



STORY OF THE BRAND

HOŘICKÉ TRUBÍČKY / CHOCOLATE TUBES

Try making some of these traditional chocolate tubes on your own.

The company **"Pravé hořické trubičky"** from Miletín beneath the Krokonoš Mountains invites you to visit their shop and take a peek under the lid. You'll see how these chocolate tubes are made and learn about the history of this unique confectionery that was created 200 years ago. The production plant, recently opened after extensive renovation, is also dedicated to supporting tourism in the Podkrkonoší region. In compliance with strict hygiene rules, the company has created a **sightseeing tour** that acquaints visitors with the entire process of production of these chocolate tubes.

An excursion includes an explanation of the history of the tubes and the opportunity to try rolling this traditional product yourself. The company offers the opportunity to roll up **your own 10 chocolate tubes** after a short training, which are then packed into special gift

Did you know that...

During the production of the Hořice chocolate tubes, **handmade work** is absolutely indispensable. In the first phase, a delicate wafer of flour, milk powder, vegetable oil, dried egg yolks, and sugar is baked. This is then dampened in rooms with controlled humidity to its optimum suppleness, after which it is hand-rolled on a hot plate. The pressure exerted by the confectioner ensures that the tube has a consistent diameter. It is then filled with a delicious cream.

boxes with the First Czechoslovak Republic motif in the company shop. The company has recently began offering the service of sending beautiful historic postcards anywhere in the Czech Republic for the special price of 20 CZK.

PRAVÉ HOŘICKÉ TRUBÍČKY, s. r. o.

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www.horicketrubiccky.cz



THE GREAT SPAS OF EUROPE recorded on the UNESCO list in 2021

Karlovy Vary, Mariánské Lázně, and Františkovy Lázně belong to a select group of eleven spa towns in Europe, famous not only for the healing effects of natural mineral springs, but also for their specific spa environment which serves the recovery of patients and guests.

In addition to the West Bohemian spa triangle, eight other spa towns have been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List: **Baden-Baden, Bad Ems, and Bad Kissingen** in Germany, **Spa** in Belgium, **Vichy** in France, **Montecatini Terme** in Italy, **Baden near Vienna** in Austria, and the **City of Bath** in England. All of these towns are testimony to the boom in the European spa industry from around the early 18th century to the 1930s. These centres were among the most sought-after and modern, and the list represents hundreds of other places that contributed to the development of the European spa industry. Spas were built near mineral springs, and architecturally valuable colonnades, promenades, gazebos, bath houses, hotels, theatres, villas, and pavilions were built around them. Parks and sports grounds complemented the

environment, and the wider surroundings encouraged walking. The famous baths of Europe became a real phenomenon of the time, visited by important personalities, rulers, nobility, politicians, composers, writers, architects, scientists, philosophers, and others...

KARLOVY VARY

Karlovy Vary is the largest spa in the Czech Republic and is famous for its extraordinary concentration of healing thermal springs. The city's appearance was particularly influenced by generous construction work in the 19th century and early 20th century in historicizing architectural styles and Art Nouveau. Today the town is the seat of the Karlovy Vary Region. www.karlovyvary.cz

Karlovy Vary – the cast iron Sadová (Park) Colonnade was built between 1880–1881



Did you know that...

The most famous spring of **Karlovy Vary** is the **Vřídlo**. The thermal spring has a temperature of 73.4 °C, a yield of 2,000 l/min and springs in the Vřídlní kolonáda, where it gushes up to a height of 12 m.





Karlovy Vary – the most famous, most visited, and largest spa in the Czech Republic

MARIÁNSKÉ LÁZNĚ

There are 40 mineral springs on the territory of our second largest spa and dozens more in the vicinity. Construction began here in 1808 on extensive marshes. Symbols of the town include the neo-Baroque cast-iron colonnade and the Singing Fountain.

www.marianskelazne.cz

FRANTIŠKOVY LÁZNĚ

This spa town lies in western Bohemia, 5 km from the town of Cheb, almost within sight of the border with Germany. The name of the town includes the name of the founder – Franz I of Austria (founded in 1793). The symbol of the town is the statue of young Franz sitting on a ball with a fish in his hands. According to legend, any woman who touches Franz will get pregnant.

www.frantiskovy-lazne.cz



Karlovy Vary – in the Mill Colonnade you can experience the power of five mineral springs



Mariánské Lázně – the interior of the so-called Roman Baths



Františkovy Lázně – Glauber Springs Hall



Mariánské Lázně – the neo-Baroque Colonnade (1888-1889) is 180 m long



The Singing Fountain offers an attractive digitally controlled performance during the main spa season



The central area of Františkovy Lázně



Did you know that...

MEET A LEGEND

The predecessors of these favorite spa wafers were probably communion **wafers**. These were produced from the Middle Ages on an open fire in special metal tongs with a molded image.

Later, these tongs began to be used for baking round wafers. They were decorated with reliefs, dates, or the name of the wafer manufacturer. Nowadays modern machines are used to make wafers, but these special tongs are still an essential part of their production.

According to a legend from the 19th century, a culinary chef from the Premonstratensian **monastery in Teplá** near Mariánské Lázně was responsible for the creation of spa wafers. Once he was given the task of preparing a dessert for guests, so he decided to use the tongs normally used for making communion wafers. He improved the simple water/flour dough by adding sugar and milk, then added a delicious combination of nuts, sugar, and cinnamon between the baked wafers. The wafers were then sintered together. The dessert was a great success, and the recipe soon made its way past the monastery gates.

After the Second World War, the production of wafers went from the hands of private individuals to state-run factories, but the tradition of making spa wafers was not interrupted. The quality of traditional spa wafers from the Kolonáda Mariánské Lázně factory are still the most sought-after.

The first production of spa wafers dates back to **1856**? They are an inherent part of spa life, and sources from the end of the 18th century tell us that wafers were a popular sweet delicacy among burghers. This is why Kolonáda wafers celebrated their **168th anniversary** in 2024.

The secret of their success lies in the original recipe and strict adherence to the original production technology that requires the necessary care and time. The baking molds are made of bronze, the sheets of round wafers are aged for up to four weeks at a certain temperature and humidity.

Kolonáda Spa Wafers can be enjoyed in **several flavors and variations**: round nut, vanilla, and chocolate, or as triangles with cocoa or chocolate filling.

OPLATKY KOLONÁDA
www.oplatky-kolonada.cz
Tel. +420 800 400 118





ANCIENT BEECH FORESTS

recorded on
the UNESCO list in 2021

The original beech forests, located on the northern slopes of the Jizera Mountains, are one of the rare localities that provide valuable information about the expansion of the beech tree in Europe.

The reserve, covering 27 km², has expanded the number of ancient and prehistoric beech forests of the Carpathian Mountains and other regions of Europe already on the list. The complex terrain of the northern slopes of the Jizera Mountains has preserved the beech forests from extensive human intervention, and they are therefore a valuable source of information about the evolution of forest stands and the natural expansion of beech on the European continent. The reserve consists of the largest beech and mixed forest complex in the Czech Republic, where some trees are up to 200 years old.

The starting points for visiting the reserve are the villages of **Oldřichov v Hájích** or **Hejnice**, both of which are located near **Liberec**. Nature trails with attractive rock views pass through the protected area, e.g. the popular route called **Hřebenovka**.



Did you know
that...

The Jizera Mountain Beeches are the first and so far the only Czech natural monument inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.




Our TIP

JIZERSKÉ MOUNTAIN BEECHWOODS, THE FIRST UNESCO NATURAL MONUMENT IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The **Jizerské (Jizera) Mountains National Nature Reserve** is the largest protected area in the Jizera Mountains. It extends on the northern slopes of the mountains and covers an area of approximately **950 hectares**. Preserved forest cover, rock formations of various shapes, rock towers, rock lookouts, and waterfalls shape the unique character of this landscape.

A visit to the **Jizera Mountains Beechwoods** is one of the most physically demanding trips in the Jizera Mountains. The location on the steep slopes of the mountains requires careful preparation before each visit. Equip yourself with suitable clothing, hiking boots and don't forget your fully-charged mobile phone to call for help if necessary. **Only use marked trails and follow the rules of behavior in nature.** This is the only way to preserve the beauty of the Jizera Mountains for future generations. The starting points of the reserve can be easily reached by train and bus, but parking space is very limited.



Information about the location, tips for trips and practical advice can be found at:
www.jizerskohorskebuciny.com

STORY OF THE BRAND


TRADITIONAL
CZECH BEADS

PRECIOSA TRADITIONAL CZECH BEADS™

There are few things surrounding and accompanying us every day that have such a rich and fascinating history as glass beads. The history of Czech beads dates back to the 16th century.

The **Preciosa Ornela** company is part of the Preciosa Group. It is one of the world's leading manufacturers of a wide range of Czech glass products ranging from glass rods, through technical, utility, and decorative glass, to **all types of glass beads**. The company exports them to more than 80 countries on 5 continents, where they are used in the production of imitation jewelry as well as in ethnic products, traditional souvenirs, embroidery and apparel applications, and decorative products.

Czech seed beads proudly wear the **PRECIOSA Traditional Czech Beads™** brand name, guaranteeing top quality and the **widest range of colors, shapes and sizes**. They produce about 4,000 tons a year. Customers can choose from a range of 16,460 color variations with 2078 lusters and other finishes.

Among the more than 120 shapes, the **rocaïlle** is still the most popular and has been reigning around the world for centuries. Typical



Did you know that...

You have unique opportunity to see how our internationally renowned Czech glass seed beads are created. Public excursions runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9 am and 12 pm, only by prior telephone arrangement.

examples include the traditional production of Indonesian embroidered slippers, luxury Indian wedding lace, and Russian embroidered icons.

While the entire assortment of glass rods, bars, and technical glass bears the **PRECIOSA Traditional Czech Glass™** brand name, decorative and utility glass has known to customers under the brand name **Desná Since 1847®**.

PRECIOSA ORNELA, a. s.
Krkoňská 732, 468 61 Desná
Preciosa-Ornela.com

[PreciosaOrnela](https://www.facebook.com/PreciosaOrnela)

[preciosabeads](https://www.instagram.com/preciosabeads)

The excursion booking: 488 117 221





Our TIP



LIBEREC REGION

Ještěd, Trosky, Panská skála, Máchovo jezero, Mumlava waterfalls, but also many hidden gems, mysterious castles, and places with distant panoramas – this is the Liberec Region. A region of five unique areas. The romantic **Bohemian Paradise** encourages you to wander through the landscape of rocks and valleys. The **Jizera Mountains** are a paradise for sportsmen. The **Krkonoše Giant Mountains** captivate with their majesty. The **Lusatian Mountains** are a hidden gem for all adventurers. The **Macha region** offers recreation and a sea of experiences. And then there is the largest city in the North – **Liberec**. A mecca of gastronomy and good coffee, but above all the place with the greatest concentration of tourist destinations. Heading north is always the right choice!

Crystal Valley (Křišťálové údolí)

There is only one place on earth where, for more than 460 years, unique nature has been combined with a passion for the glassmaking tradition and craft. This is the Liberec Region, also known as the Crystal Valley! The history of glassmaking in northern Bohemia consists of many fascinating stories which are reflected today in the diversity of glass and jewelry production. **Poniklá** in the Giant Mountains is the only place in the world where the traditional craft of pearling has been preserved to this day. The handmade production of blown pearl ornaments for the Christmas tree in the Krkonoše Poniklá region was inscribed on the prestigious **UNESCO World Intangible Cultural Heritage List in December 2020**.



Enjoy the elpass experience

Get your discounted ticket to all cultural organizations in the region and visit the **Liberec Zoo**, the **Liberec Botanical Garden**, the **Museum of Bohemian Paradise in Turnov**, the **Liberec Regional Gallery**, the **Museum and Gallery of Homeland History in Česká Lípa**, and the **North Bohemian Museum in Liberec**.

Choose from two basic options: **elpass GRANDE** and **elpass MINI**. **elpass GRANDE** includes entry to all the above-mentioned contributory organizations for CZK 380. By purchasing this ticket, you'll save CZK 355. The **elpass MINI** is a combination of tickets to the Liberec Zoo and the Botanical Garden Liberec. The price for an adult visitor is CZK 250, discounted price CZK 150.

The **elpass** can be purchased via the website <https://elpass.cz/>. After payment, you'll receive a QR code which you'll present at the ticket office. The ticket is valid for 6 months from the time of purchase and entitles you to a single entry to the institution.

Liberecký kraj

rliberec@gmail.com



Region Liberec



regionliberec

www.liberecky-kraj.cz



Our TIP



CRYSTAL VALLEY

The Crystal Valley is a region of globally unique glass and jewelry. A wide diversity and variety of glass production and techniques is concentrated in this small territory of the Liberec Region. More than 100 companies, museums, and schools in North Bohemia are united under this brand, dedicated to this specific production and drawing on more than 700 years of tradition in our region.

Visit renowned jewelers and glassmakers

Many glassworks can be visited by visitors without prior appointment; these are located in the Nový Bor region in Častolovice, Kunraticích u Čivkova, Lindava, or directly in Nový Bor. The oldest continuously operating glassworks in Harrachov attracts the most visitors. In the Krkonoše Mountains, visitors to the Crystal Valley shouldn't miss the production of fragile Christmas decorations in Poniklá. Great experiences await those who visit small family studios and workshops throughout the region.

Glass and jewelry events for the public are regularly held in the region. The Lustrfest in Kamenický Šenov, the Glass Town in Železný Brod, the Glass Festival in Kristiánov, the Fragile Beauty in Jablonec nad Nisou, and the International Glass Symposium in Nový Bor have all gained their



The Preciosa Ornela glass factories are located in two places in the Jizera Mountains – the production of technical glass and glass semifinished products is concentrated in **Desná**, while the seed beads are dyed and finalized in the small village of **Zásada**.

regular visitors. At the end of August, from 2022 onwards, the great festival named Crystal Valley Week takes place in Liberec.

Glass comprises the identity and essence of North Bohemia and is just as much a part of it as porcelain is to Meissen, whisky to Scotland, or perfume to Provence. A visit to the Crystal Valley means unforgettable visits to great museums as well as to open glassworks and art studios. See for yourself the process by which the phenomenon of Czech glass is created. Welcome to the Crystal Valley!

Crystal Valley

info@crystalvalley.cz



visitcrystalvalley



visitcrystalvalley

www.kristalove-udoli.cz





STORY OF THE BRAND



GLASSWORKS AND MICRO-BREWERY NOVOSAD & SYN HARRACHOV

The Harrachov glassworks is **the oldest still operating glassworks in the world**. It was founded before **1712** on the Jilemnice estate of the Counts of Harrach, and during its history it has developed a unique and inimitable set of products which are created in the **traditional handmade** way — by blowing glass with glass blowers. The glass grinding plant is also unique, with its machines still driven by a **water turbine transmission** from 1937. The **glass museum** now houses more than five thousand exhibits from the local glassworks and is one of the largest comprehensive collections in the Czech Republic.

Currently, the glassworks produces mainly **luxury drinking and decorative glass** which it exports to more than thirty countries around the world.

Beer has always been a part of the glassmaking industry, which is why a **microbrewery with a restaurant** has been an integral part of the Harrachov glassworks since 2002.



Did you know that...

Guided tours of the glassworks take place daily between 8:00–15:00, including weekends. In addition to the glassworks, you can also visit the brewery restaurant, the company glass shop, the confectionery, the glass museum, the beer spa and, in season, the creative workshop for children.

**Glassworks and microbrewery
Novosad & syn Harrachov**

512 46 Harrachov 95
+420 481 528 141

turistik@sklarnaharrachov.cz

Facebook: sklarna a minipivovar Novosad & syn

Instagram: harrachov1712

E-shop: www.harrachov-glass.com

www.sklarnaharrachov.cz



STORY OF THE BRAND

SVIJANY BREWERY



The SVIJANY brand represents a **traditional beer, typical of the Czech Republic**, made from **quality water** from its own wells, **malt** from selected varieties of malting barley from small independent Czech and Moravian malting plants with the addition of the finest **Žatec hops** grown on its own hop farms in the exceptional hop-growing region of the Polepské flatlands.

The first mention of Svijany dates back to **1345**, when the village belonged to the Cistercian monastery in Mnichovo Hradiště. **The brewery itself dates back to 1564**. At that time, it was part of the economic foundation and contributed to the development and financing of the estate.

The Svijany brewery is located in the **small village of Svijany**, at the edge of the **Bohemian Paradise**, just off the Mladá Boleslav highway leading to Liberec. It is one of the oldest breweries in the country and enjoys a colorful history.



Did you know that...

In 2022, we opened a **Beer Spa** in the castle grounds. Enjoy a hot bath in quality Svijany water enriched with brewer's yeast, malt and hops. A private beer bath in a whirling oak bath will not only provide you with moments of rest and relaxation, but will also have a positive effect on your entire organism. Relaxing on a real straw bed will also be an unusual experience.

PIVOVAR SVIJANY a.s.

Svijany 25, 463 46 Svijany

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Svijany

Instagram: www.instagram.com/pivovarsvijany/



STORY OF THE BRAND

PRIMÁTOR BREWERY

We know that truly good beer takes time. PRIMÁTOR beer has just enough time in the lager cellar to ensure that your experience with it is just as strong every time. We put carefully selected malts, the best hops, and years of experience into every batch. The brewer and his team care for the beer so that it always has a full flavor, balanced bitterness, and the perfect bite.

We bring flavors of beers from around the world so you can discover the right one for you.

EXPERIENCE THE PRIMÁTOR!

During a **60-minute guided tour**, we'll introduce you to the brewery's operations, history and present. You'll learn all the essentials about beer production and visit the brewhouse, taproom, lager cellar, and bottling facilities.



Primátor a.s.

Dobrošovská 130, 547 40 Náchod
exkurze@primator.cz
www.primator.cz



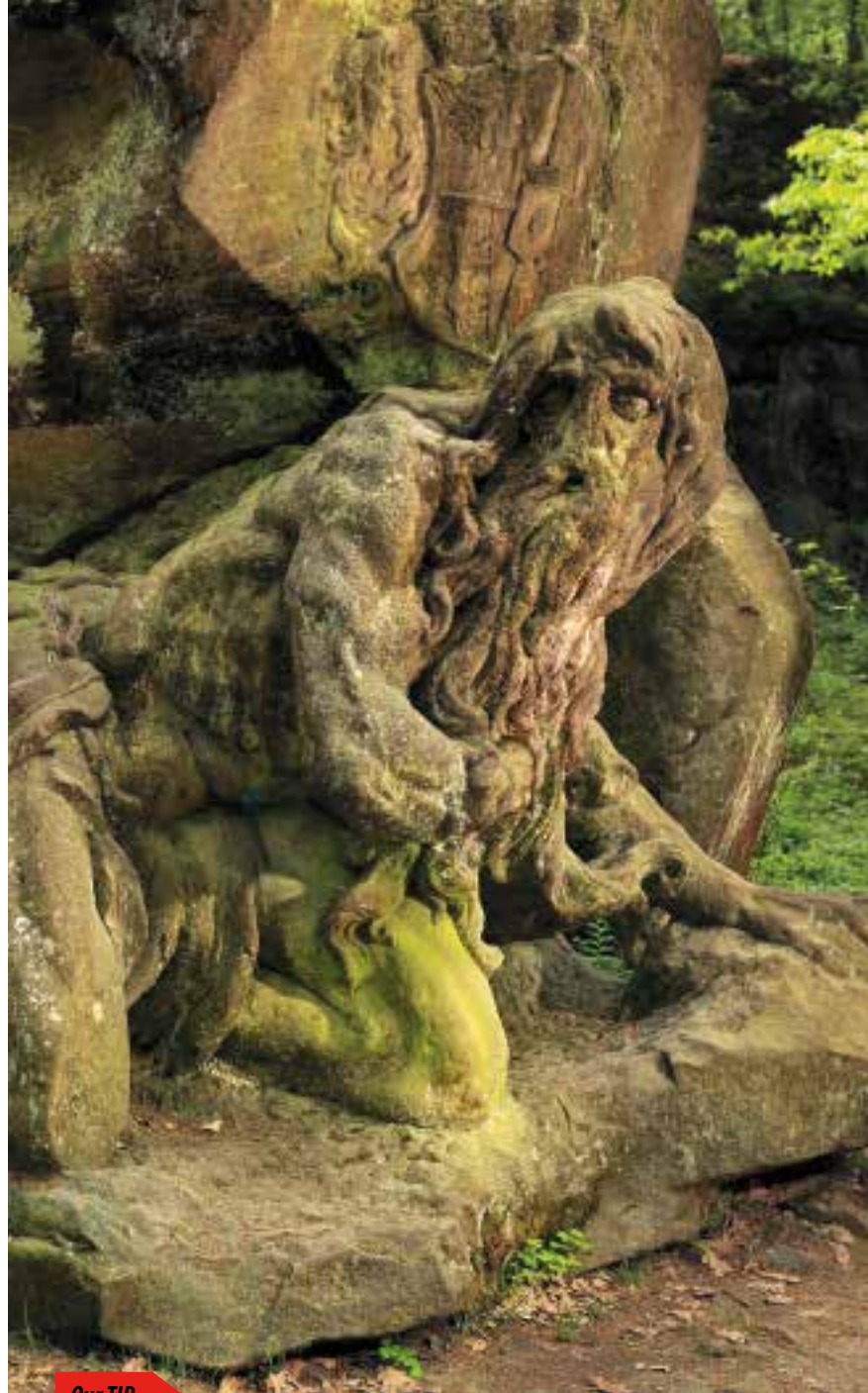
primator.cz



primator_pivovar

Did you know that...

The year 2022 was a jubilee year for the PRIMÁTOR brewery in Náchod. 150 years have passed since the brewery was founded.



Our TIP

The Betlém Rock Sculptures near Kuks (Hradec Králové region)

In the midst of nature, in the **New Forest near Kuks**, the leading Czech Baroque sculptor **Matyáš Bernard Braun** and his workshop carved sculptures, statues of saintly hermits, biblical scenes, and scenes from the lives of saints directly into natural sandstone rocks from 1718 to 1732. (See page 5, **The National Indicative List**)



Did you know that...

Hops are a climbing plant, so they are grown in fields (**hop gardens**) with special structures to support the plants as they grow. The height of this structure is usually around **6 m**, on which wires are hung in spring for the hop leaves to climb. During the harvest in late August and early September, the wires and the plants are pulled down. The entire structure has a lifetime of approximately 20 years.

ŽATEC

recorded on
the UNESCO list in **2023**

Žatec and the landscape of Saaz hops – this cultural landscape has been shaped for centuries by the traditions associated with the cultivation of the most famous variety of hops which is used in the production of beer all over the world.

The area, situated in the Žatec basin along the middle course of the **Ohře River**, offers suitable conditions for planting **hop farms**, where **Saaz (aka Žatec) hops** have been grown and cultivated for centuries. Settlements and buildings have grown up near the fields to serve the fast and high-quality processing of this “**green gold**”. The hop-growing center is the medieval **royal town of Žatec**, which expanded industrially in the 19th and 20th centuries (Pražské suburb), where hops were stored, dried, packaged, and then exported all over the world, making Žatec a leader in the world markets. The architecture is uniquely influenced by the needs of processing hops – at first glance, you’ll be struck by the many tall chimneys and dormers on the buildings that were used for drying and storage.



Did you know that...

Among the world's most famous, highest quality, and most expensive hop varieties is the **Saaz semi-arid red hop**. It is highly aromatic and is used mainly in Pilsner-type beers.





The town of Žatec has preserved a remarkable set of buildings associated with hop processing, on which the town's prosperity was based in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Hop warehouse with sulphur chamber and villa on Kovářská Street in the Pražské suburb.

Traditional festivals (especially the Dočesná) are held in the region and present specifically preserved customs, crafts, and skills related to hop production and trade. Important commercial, scientific and cultivation institutions are still active here. The landscape and its architectural and technical monuments, developed since the late Middle Ages, illustrates the history of successful Saaz hop-growing in the Žatec region.

www.infozatec.cz



Our TIP

The hop lighthouse, hop labyrinth, alchemist's study, coat of arms hall, malthouse gallery, and the largest hop museum in the world can all be found in one place in Žatec – in the **Temple of Hops and Beer**.

www.chchp.cz



Žatec panorama with typical chimneys.



Drying and packing plants owned by individual business families permeate the residential area.



The UNESCO World Heritage Site also includes the rococo **Stebník Chateau** surrounded by hop gardens.

INTANGIBLE UNESCO HERITAGE

The list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites includes not only monuments of a material nature, but also various traditions and cultural manifestations. These are referred to as the intangible UNESCO heritage. The Czech Republic has seven entries on this list.

VERBUŇK DANCE

(recorded on the list in 2005)

www.nul.k.cz/en

Verbuňk is a fiddle reeling **men's dance** practiced only in Moravian-Slovakia, and which spread into **six regions**, where each version is slightly different. This dance is carried out only by men accompanied by hammered dulcimer or brass music. Verbuňk involves many **improvisations** but it also has some strict rules, for example, it consists of **three parts**. The first one is called the pre-song, where the dancer sings one verbuňk song. Then it is followed by a slow dancing part during which the dancer dances to the band music with his hands above his head and

performs a variety of dance elements and figures—jumping, squatting, knocking heels together, stamping, clapping hands, etc. A fast-dancing section comes at the end of the dance. The tempo and music speed up and the number of dance elements increases.

Verbuňk is almost always **danced in a group**, but each of the dancers dances "for himself" and his figures and dancing elements are always individual.

The dance probably originated in the **first half of the 18th century**. Its name comes from a the German word **Werbung**, which translated means **recruitment** or **solicitation**. The tradition is connected to military recruitment (drafts), which since 1781 has been accompanied by professional

Verbunk is exclusively a men's dance



The UNESCO representative list includes puppet theatre in its traditional form, which developed in Bohemia and Slovakia.





There are currently about 500 falconers in the Czech Republic

military dancers. The connections between military service and the verbuňk dance can be seen in the lyrics of many verbuňk songs.

FALCONRY

(recorded on the list in 2010)

www.sokolnictvi.net

This unique and traditional **method of hunting** using trained birds of prey was probably established in the second millennium BC in the Middle East. In particular falcons, hawks and eagles were used for the hunt. The art of falconry gradually expanded to other countries, and sometime around the 5th century it also came to the Czech lands. Falconry achieved its **greatest expansion** and popularity during the **Middle Ages**, but its importance gradually began to decline until the 19th century, when it almost disappeared.

Falconry experienced a new boom around the second half of the 20th century, especially in connection with **protecting airports against flocks of birds**. Birds may actually fly into the turbine blades of modern aircraft engines and lead to their destruction and the aircraft crashing.

In addition to the economic importance of falconry, it is also a **popular sport**.

The number of falconers in the Czech Republic has reached about 500. They contribute significantly to the **protection of the environment**; often they breed endangered bird species in captivity and contribute to their spread in the wild.

Besides the Czech Republic, falconry is also registered on the UNESCO list in **eleven other countries**, including France, Mongolia and the United Arab Emirates and others.

VILLAGE CARNIVAL PROCESSIONS AND MASKS IN HLINECKO

(recorded on the list in 2010)

www.nmvp.cz

In **several East Bohemian villages** (Vortova, Hamry, Sudnice, Blatno) in the **Hlinecko area**, the tradition of **carnival processions** held in nearly the same unchanged form as in ancient times is still alive today. The origin of this folk festival, which was to ensure health, fertility, crops, and to welcome the coming spring, dates back to pre-Christian times. The modern carnival tradition is then documented in the first half of the 19th century.

During the carnival, usually **held in February** on the weekend before Ash Wednesday, a parade of masks walks around villages just like centuries ago. The "Speaker" of the parade, called lauf, always asks the community as well as the owners of individual homes for permission. During their stops, the parade participants sing and consume necessary refreshments. In accordance with ancient and established rules, there is always a mare in the parade and a brute closes the procession. Other characters include the Turks, wife, chimney sweepers, strawmen, and others.

The parade concludes with a **special ritual** slaughter and subsequent resurrection of the mare, which is a **symbol of the upcoming spring**.



Carnival procession in Veselý Kopeček (Vysočina Open Air Museum)

THE RIDE OF THE KINGS

(recorded on the list in 2011)

www.rideofthekings.com

In the past, this **old folk celebration** was held in many places in the Czech Republic. Unfortunately, this tradition is celebrated today in **only two Moravian regions**: in Moravian–Slovakia and in the Haná region. It is associated with the Christian feast of Pentecost. Why this tradition came into existence is not known, but it is associated with Easter processions, which were to ensure enough crops. Another possible origin may be related to ancient royal ceremonies.

The most popular Ride of the Kings takes place in **Vlčnov**, where it also enjoys the longest **tradition – more than 200 years** (it has been held here since at least 1808). Other places where this tradition is observed are Hluk, Kunovice and Skoronice.

It is a spectacular celebration which involves extremely **rich and beautiful folk costumes**. The parade is accompanied by legrůti (conscripts on horseback), who follow the King. **Horses** are decorated with ribbons, flowers and red scarves.

The King is always represented by a little

boy disguised in women's clothes and riding on a white horse. His face is covered with ribbons and in his mouth he holds a rose as a symbol of secrecy.

PUPPETRY

(year of registration 2016)

Puppetry, considered to be a folk interpretive art, is an important cultural and social phenomenon in the Czech Republic whose tradition dates back to the **middle of the 18th century**. At that time, travelling marionette and puppeteers wandered the Bohemian countryside, spreading the Czech language and unknowingly playing a significant role in the Czech national revival.

The oldest written Czech puppeteer was **Jan Jiří Brát** from Studnice near Náchod. From the middle of the 19th century, puppet theater developed strongly in two directions, both as a folk theater and as a professional theater.



Ride of the kings in Vlčnov

Nowadays, there are 9 professional puppet ensembles, about 100 independent groups, and about 300 amateur theaters active in the Czech Republic. In the 1920's and 30's, the Czech lands had the highest number of puppet theaters in Europe. Many theater companies, founded at the beginning of the 20th century, still exist (**Kacafírek Chrudim, Prague Marionette Empire, S+H Theater**). Puppetry is also naturally associated with **fine arts** (both professional and folk) such as carving, painting, puppet costumes, and decoration painting.

MODROTISK (or blueprint)

(recorded on the list in 2018)
www.straznický-modrotisk.cz
www.modrotisk-danzinger.cz

In 2018, a sixth Czech "item" was added to the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage – a **textile printing technique** known as "modrotisk", or blueprint. This is not exclusively a Czech "specialty", however – Slovakia, Hungary, Austria, and Germany also applied for inclusion together with the Czech Republic. This method, more closely described as resist block printing and used mainly to decorate folk costumes

in Moravia, has demonstrably existed since the 18th century and is one of the oldest methods of printing flax or even cotton fabrics in general. The technique consists in "resist" printing (or painting) where a dye-resist paste known as pap is applied to the fabric, whereupon the entire fabric is then dyed with blue Indigo. The dye does not affect the fabric where the resist paste is applied, thus leaving these areas uncolored. The paste is removed in an acid bath and the desired motif remains as a print on the canvas.

There are **two traditional blueprint workshops** in the Czech Republic, in Strážnice and in Olešnice. These workshops still use original wooden hand molds that are over 200 years old.

BEADED CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

(recorded on the list in 2020)
rautis.cz
www.msb-jablonec.cz

In the rugged areas of the Krkonoše Mountains and the Jizera Mountains in northern Bohemia, **hollow glass beads**



Did you know that...

*Brussel's famous "Manneken Pis" also tried on a Czech outfit in 2020. Notice the combination of a modern cut with traditional **modrotisk**. The suit (serial number 1053) commemorated the anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia.*

were blown and further processed in cottages throughout the 19th century. The knowledge of blowing, silvering, dyeing, cutting, and stringing beads was passed down from generation to generation by local families and workshops, and the **beading craft** spread widely in the region. At the end of the 19th century, silver and gilded beads were exported all over the world, especially to India, through export houses in Jablonec nad Nisou, a renowned center of the jewelry trade, and were used to decorate clothing. The crisis in the Indian market at the beginning of the 20th century contributed to the emergence of a new phenomenon – the lightweight beads were used to weave Christmas decorations, which took full advantage of the fashion for decorating the Christmas tree.

Beaded Christmas ornaments come in countless shapes and motifs.

This tradition has been preserved in only one place in the world – in the village of **Poniklá**, where you can see the traditional handmade production of beaded Christmas decorations in the **Rautis family local workshop**.

TIMBER RAFTING

(recorded on the list in 2022)

Building rafts and transporting floating wood on rivers and watercourses has a long history and tradition dating back to the 11th century. The privilege of John of Luxembourg dates back to 1360, when rafting was already fully developed in Bohemia. During the reign of his son Charles IV, timber rafting passes were normalized and the places where fees were collected were established. The end of traditional "commercial" navigation did not come until the second half of the 20th century with the construction of dams on the rivers. The task of the present generation is above all to preserve the traditional knowledge and skills associated with raft building and timber rafting, and to keep in mind the specific crafts, customs, and distinctive linguistic culture associated with the world of





Museum Purkarec

raftsmen. The Czech Republic is listed along with Austria, Germany, Latvia, Poland, and Spain.

HANDCRAFTED GLASS PRODUCTION

(year of entry 2023)

In 2023, the fame of Czech (Bohemian) glass and Czech glassmakers was formally confirmed by its inscription on the UNESCO Intangible Heritage List. More than 5000 glassmakers, cutters, engravers, painters, jewelry makers, glass artists, and designers work in hundreds of glassworks, family workshops, and studios. The high quality of craftsmanship and the long tradition of handmade glass are also the main reasons why many people from all over



Glassmakers at work.

the world travel to see original Czech glass. The Czech Republic was included in the list together with France, Finland, Hungary, Germany, and Spain.



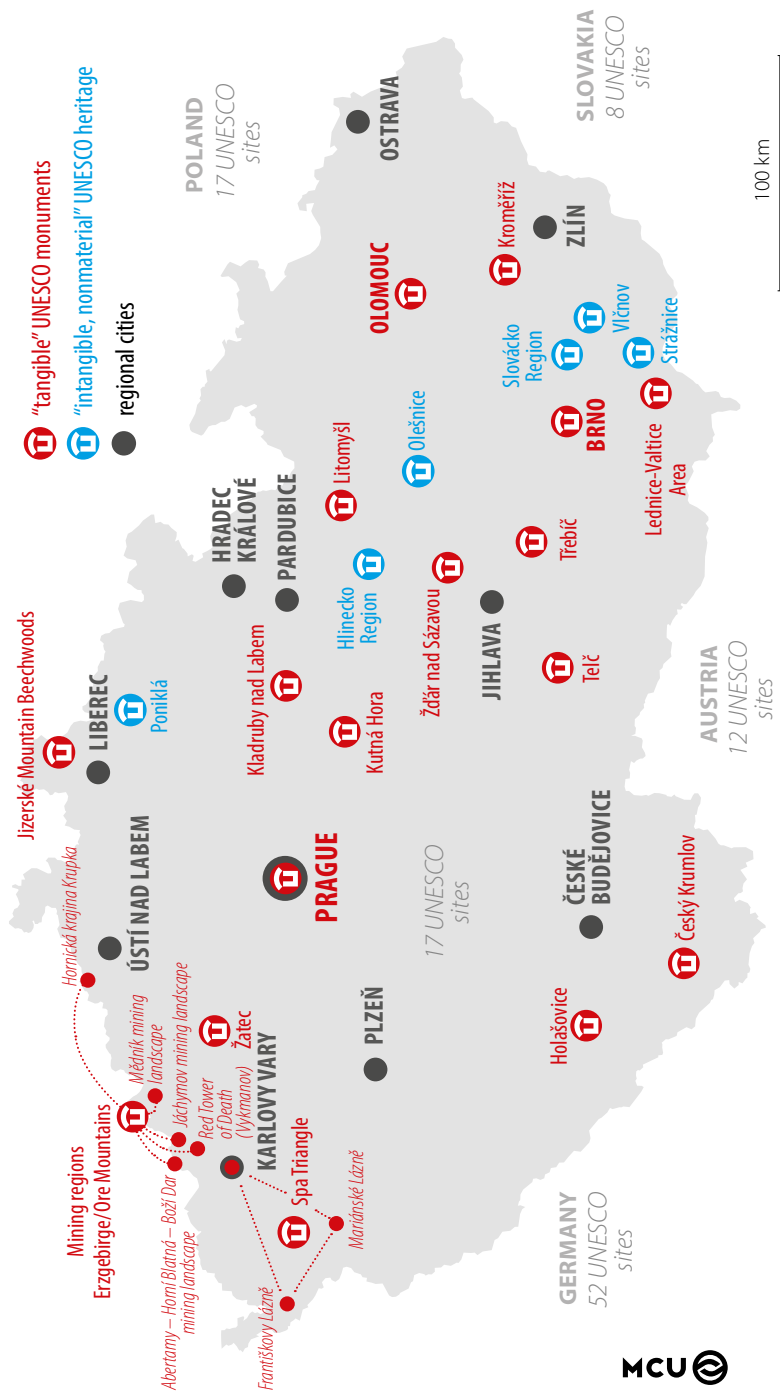
The story of the anthem

The well-known landmark of Prague's Republic Square, the Palladium shopping center, holds an important position in the history of the Czech Republic. Josef Kajetán Tyl composed the Czech national anthem here during his service in the army.

"Kde domov můj" (Where My Home Is) came from the pen of Josef Kajetán Tyl in 1834. At the time, he was a clerk for the 28th Infantry Regiment, which was then stationed in the Josef Barracks, today's Palladium. Tyl was one of the national revivalists who loved the Czech language and Czech culture. The song was originally part of a stage play entitled "Fidlovačka". The play did not remain popular among the German/Czech population, but the song itself gained popularity and eventually became the informal anthem of Czechs longing for national identity within the Habsburg monarchy. In 1918, the song "Kde domov můj", became the national anthem of the new Czech-Slovak state. The Palladium shopping center commemorates the creation of the anthem, which will be 190 years old in 2024, with a commemorative plaque.







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