

# Guide

*Interesting and beautiful places  
in the Ústí Region*



**Lower Poohří**



**Ore Mountains**



**Bohemian Switzerland**



**Czech Central Highlands**



**Gate to Bohemia**

[www.gatetobohemia.com](http://www.gatetobohemia.com)







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[www.ceskesvycarsko.cz](http://www.ceskesvycarsko.cz)

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## Lower Poohří

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## Bohemian Switzerland



## Bohemian Switzerland

The most valuable area of the region especially comprises the Bohemian Switzerland National Park, the Elbe Sandstones Natural Preserve, a part of the Lusatian Mountains Natural Preserve and the whole of the Šluknov Hook. And this is where the dominant feature and the jewel of the whole area, region and even of the whole country and Europe is situated - the Pravčice Gate. This unique sandstone formation is the largest one of its kind in Europe and can compare to many others in the world. Bohemian Switzerland also comprises Hřensko, which is a popular tourist destination and where you can visit canyons on the Kamenice River. the lowest point of the Czech Republic (115 metres above sea level) is in Hřensko at the place

where the Elbe leaves Bohemia. Also worth mentioning is Jetřichovice with its well-known trio of rocks - the Vilemína Wall, Maria Rock and Raven Rock, further the Kyjov Valley along the Křinice River, which you can literally crisscross, and a natural monument called the Tisá Walls, which is situated in the Elbe Sandstones Natural Preserve and which can boast of a rock town that you can walk through on ground level and along the rock peaks, too. Besides the rocks, which make it one of the most popular and most significant places of the Czech Republic, Bohemian Switzerland also offers a golf course in Janov and a number of hiking routes and cycling paths. For more information visit [www.ceskesvycarsko.cz](http://www.ceskesvycarsko.cz).

[www.ceskesvycarsko.cz](http://www.ceskesvycarsko.cz)





## Practical Information

The longest crossing of a valley using a rope, which was stretched between the Belvédér viewing point by Labská Stráň and a rock pillar on the right side of Dolní Žleb, took place in July 1998. It was 953.63 metres long. Zdeněk Kadlec from Děčín, who works in the Speleology Rescue Service of the Czech Speleological Society, crossed the valley above the Elbe surface at the altitude of 180 metres in 59 minutes and 6 seconds, i.e. after nearly an hour of shimmying. And this is exactly what is called the Tyrolean Traverse - a rope over a river or across a canyon. This performance broke the previous record, which was a challenge held by Slovak colleagues. This performance was 105.8 metres better. After geodetic measurement, the notary Mr. Marek of the Dobrý den agency from Pelhřimov, who was present, confirmed that a new world record in the length of rope bridging had been achieved. Consequently, this record was entered in the Guinness Book of Records.

[www.ceskesvycarsko.cz](http://www.ceskesvycarsko.cz)

●	České	Švýcarsko
●	Sächsische	Schweiz

## To the Beautiful Landscape of Bohemian Switzerland

After the establishment of mountain societies in the 19th century, the romantic landscape of the Elbe Sandstones area received legal protection in 1972 when the Elbe Sandstones Natural Preserve was declared. Bohemian Switzerland was the fourth area in the Czech Republic to be declared a national park on 1 January 2000. 97 per cent of its area are formed by forests; its seat is in Krásná Lípa. the main subject of protection are the unique features of the landscape and the variety of plants and animals. Sandstone towers and table rocks soar above the endless sea of forests, there are rocky ridges, canyons and also the largest rock gate in Central Europe (the Pravčice Gate). the highest mountain is called Dečinský Sněžník (723 metres), whereas the lowest place in the Czech Republic is the Elbe Canyon in Hřensko (115 metres). the natural harmony is made complete with monuments of folk architecture - Upper Lusatian timbered and half-timbered houses that are especially located on the park border.

Another charming place of the national park is a viewpoint called Belvédér, which is located approximately 130 metres above the Elbe River by a village called Labská Stráň, which you can find about 3 kilometres south of Hřensko in the district of Děčín. The viewing terrace of the Belvédér Guesthouse offers a splendid view into the Elbe Canyon, which is a candidate for registration in the UNESCO list. The viewing point was built by the Clary-Aldringen family at the turn of the 18th century. They also built a sala terrena in the form of a grotto, which is an artificial cave with a tall arcade arch and a theatre mask. Their coat of arms has been preserved until now. The terrace was a place where popular music performances were held. In order to get to the terrace, you should follow a 4-kilometre-long carriage road from the Bynovec Chateau or the red or blue hiking trails, but there is also a road leading almost up to the viewing point. Besides the view into the Elbe Valley, you can also see table rocks and rocky ridges in Germany.

## Two Chateaus in One Town above Ploučnice

Benešov nad Ploučnicí, a town surrounded by forests and located by the mouth of the Bystrá river, which enters the Ploučnice River, can boast of three examples of unique renaissance architecture. This town is located in the district of Děčín. Among these sights is a significant compound of two separate chateau premises - an Upper and Lower Chateau - and an adjacent parish church called the Church of the Birth of Our Lady. the protestant noble House of Salhausen from Meissen developed significant building activities in the style of the Saxon Renaissance here at the beginning of the 16th century. the Upper Chateau is an original Wartenberg keep dating back to the 15th century, which was reconstructed into a two-storey chateau in the 16th century. the Lower Chateau, which was built in the Saxon Renaissance style, also includes a funeral chapel of the House of Salhausen, which contains valuable Renaissance gravestones. It has Renaissance gables in the shape of a donkey arch, and there is a fountain with a bronze cast of Triton by Adriaen de Vries dating back to about 1600 in front of the prismatic tower. There is also a Salhausen coat of arms with the year 1578. In the Upper Chateau we can find historic tapestries, in the Lower Chateau Renaissance and Baroque furniture, some kitchen equipment dating back to the 16th - 19th centuries, equipment of a suzerainty office with a copy of a valuable map of Bohemia by Mueller from 1720, a former armoury with weapons from the Thirty Years War, and the first floor contains residential rooms of the feudal owner including gobelins and precious pictures, engraved glass and inlays. Both chateaus are adjacent to the town wall dating back to the 15th century; the chateau buildings are followed by former noble houses, and in the square there is a plague column dating back to 1742. the individual chateau buildings used to be connected by means of a corridor that led up to a lordly tribune in the church. the square with both chateaus is very impressive. However, a walk in the chateau park is very interesting, too.

GPS: 50°44'31.309"N, 14°18'38.079"E

## Practical Information

The tourist season starts on 1 April and finishes on 31 October.

Duration of tours:

Tour I - the Lower Chateau - a separate tour: approx. 50 minutes

Tour II - the Upper Chateau - a separate tour: approx. 30 minutes

Apart from the period specified above, the premises are open to excursions after a previous arrangement with the administration of this cultural sight. the premises (the park and the garden) are open to the public free of charge all day.

e-mail: [benesov@usti.npu.cz](mailto:benesov@usti.npu.cz)

[www.ceskesvycarsko.cz](http://www.ceskesvycarsko.cz)

Close to the chateaus, you can also visit a ruin of the Scharfenstein Castle - Ostrý by Františkov nad Ploučnicí. the castle ruins have been declared a cultural heritage. the castle was founded in the middle of the 13th century and was abandoned in approximately 1515. Nowadays, we can see only remains of the castle walls. From the top you will have a beautiful view across the countryside. During an ascent up the ruins you can read an information board with data relating to the history of the castle.







GPS: 50°55'36.17"N, 14°25'21.69"E  
50°52'7.24"N, 14°21'5.19"E

### Practical Information

**BRTNICE CASTLE:** In order to get to the castle, you must take the green hiking trail from Brtníky through Šternberk (a lonely place in a forest where there used to be a hunting chateau) and the Owl Viewpoint. the access to Brtnice Castle leads from the main marked trail along a turning of 300 metres to the castle gate. If you want to ascend to the castle itself, you must take a narrow path in the north side of the rock.

**ŠAUNŠTEJN CASTLE:** the best way to get there is from Vysoká Lípa. Take the yellow hiking trail along the forest to the crossroads under the castle, and then go along the red hiking trail an up a gentle hill through the forest to the castle. From here it is possible to go approximately 1 km to the Little Pravčice Gate; the route offers beautiful views and leads over bridges with railings.

[www.ceskesvycarsko.cz](http://www.ceskesvycarsko.cz)  
[www.brtniky.cz](http://www.brtniky.cz)



## Rock Castles - a Bastion of Border Protectors and Bandits

As early as in the 13th century King Ottokar II of Bohemia had a castle built along a land road from Bohemia to Lužice. Its purpose was to protect the north border of the Bohemian Kingdom. It is situated on a sandstone projection above Hluboký důl approximately 3 kilometres south-west of the village of Brtníky and 12 kilometres west of Rumburk. Nowadays, it is the most interesting place of the green hiking trail in the north-east corner of the Bohemian Switzerland National Park. the Brtníky or Bandit Castle is the smallest of all six castles of Bohemian Switzerland and the Lusatian Mountains. To get to the castle you can take a path along four natural ditches, rock crevices the last one of which is nearly 8 metres deep. There is a steep slope on the sides of the sandstone projection. the core of the castle is a cellar carved inside a tower with beds carved on its top. the House of Berka of Dubé started to establish a set of rock castles in their area while colonizing the region. These castles were built from Bad Schandau to Krásná Lípa and their purpose was to protect transportation of goods from the Elbe River to the inland along the Lusatian merchant trail. Close to Vysoká Lípa there are ruins of another rock castle on a huge sandstone rock. This castle is called Šaunštejn and used to be a bandit castle, too.

It was owned by the House of Berka of Dubé and by the House of Vertemberk as a base in their fight against the Lusatians. According to a legend, it became a refuge of gangs of bandits during the Thirty Years War. All that's left of the castle are indistinct remains carved into the rock. the ascent up the rock to get to the castle is not easy; the stairs at the narrowest spot of the rock cleft are already worn out; the rock block is divided at the top and its parts are connected by means of small bridges. However, there is a beautiful view from that place. On the left you can see the rocks of Jetřichov with the dominant Maria Rock, in the front the splendid Rosen Hill, and on the right a hill called Větrovec.



## Česká Kamenice – the Historical Town of 2005

The town is situated in the north of Bohemia approximately 20 kilometres east of Děčín in the valley of the Kamenice River, which is the last tributary of Elbe in the Czech Republic. From the south, the town is protected by the ruins of Kamenice Castle, which is situated on the Chateau Hill, and from the north by a massive basalt rock, which is called the Needle because of its shape. the beauty of the natural sights is accentuated by the fact that three natural preserves touch one another in this town - the Elbe Sandstones, the Bohemian Central Mountains and the Lusatian Mountains. Česká Kamenice is an old town with rich history dating back to the Middle Ages. It represents a significant tourist centre of this region. As one of the best preserved town centres in Northern Bohemia, the heart of Česká Kamenice was declared a municipal conservation area in 1992 and it covers 13 hectares. Nowadays, the conservation area consists of nearly 40 buildings, which are listed. the cultural value of the monuments and the care for them were rewarded with the title of the Historical Town of 2005. the natural centre of the municipal conservation area is Mír Square (Peace Square) with its Renaissance nine-sided fountain and a Baroque statue of the Virgin Mary the Immaculata. Among the most valuable buildings are the Gothic-Renaissance Church of St. Jacob the Older, the Baroque Pilgrimage Chapel of Birth of Our Lady, the Evangelic Church, the town hall building, the information centre building, the Renaissance Salhausen Chateau, and others. Significant cultural events take place in the environment of local historic monuments, e.g. Antonín Dvořák Summer Music Festival in the Church of St. Jacob the Older, and concerts of singing ensembles in the Pilgrimage Church of Birth of Our Lady or in the Evangelic Church. All these places are freely accessible.

GPS: 50°48'7.408"N, 14°24'56.835"E

### Practical Information

A permanent exposition on the history of the town of Česká Kamenice was installed in a covered elevated corridor that connects the tower of the Church of St. Jacob the Older with the Chateau of Česká Kamenice. the suzerain used to use this corridor as an access path to the oratory and gallery. the exposition was opened in 2002 on St. Jacob's Day on the occasion of the 340th anniversary of the day when the local church was promoted to a decanal church. Opening hours: from June to September, from Wednesday to Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Have a look at the surroundings of the newly opened reconstructed watchtower in Studenec.

[www.ceska-kamenice.cz](http://www.ceska-kamenice.cz)







GPS: 50°46'43.839"N, 14°12'33.249"E

## Practical Information

### DĚČÍN CHATEAU:

The chateau is open to visitors all year round, every day. There are two tours of the chateau and the Rose Garden.

Děčín Chateau, Dlouhá jízda 1254, Děčín 1  
e-mail: [info@zamekdecin.cz](mailto:info@zamekdecin.cz)

[www.zamekdecin.cz](http://www.zamekdecin.cz)

[www.mmdecin.cz](http://www.mmdecin.cz)

### AQUAPARK DĚČÍN:

Oblouková 1400/6

405 02 Děčín

e-mail: [info@dcsportovni.cz](mailto:info@dcsportovni.cz)

### BOAT TRIPS ALONG the ELBE:

Labská plavební společnost, s. r. o.

Kamenická 692/199

405 02 Děčín II

e-mail: [kapitan@labskaplavebni.cz](mailto:kapitan@labskaplavebni.cz)

## Děčín – a Renaissance Pearl and Gate of the North

Děčín is the lowest-situated town in the Czech Republic (135 metres above sea level). the first town at the confluence of Elbe and Ploučnice was established by King Ottokar II of Bohemia. However, it had to be re-established again later at a safer place due to frequent floods. a dominant feature of the town is a large chateau, which belongs to the most significant sights of Northern Bohemia. the original wooden guarding settlement was founded on a strategically situated rock projection as early as at the end of the 10th century. the settlement, later a Gothic castle, first served as a stronghold of the reigning Přemysl Dynasty, and later as the seat of several significant noble families. the House of Thun, who owned Děčín for more than 300 years, gave the chateau its present appearance. the most valuable parts of the premises date back to the Baroque period. Among them is for example an access road to the chateau, which is almost 300 metres long, or the famous Rose Garden, which has already enchanted thousands of visitors due to its unique atmosphere. It was especially in the 19th century that the chateau became a significant cultural and social centre where leading artists and European rulers met. For instance Fryderyk Chopin composed his remarkable Děčín Waltz here. Secret negotiations of the rulers of Austria, Prussia and Saxony took place in the chateau chambers twice. the chateau gardens with their large collections of roses, orchids and camellias used to be very popular, too.

Not far from the chateau, there is one of the most modern recreational sports complexes in the Czech Republic - Aquapark Děčín. Thanks to its thermal water it is possible to make use of the outdoor pools as well as of many other attractions even when the weather is cooler.

## Castle (Hrádek) and Zoo on Pastýřská stěna

On the left bank of the Elbe River, in Děčín, between the quarters of Podmokly and Přepel, there is a distinctive sandstone rock just opposite the Děčín Chateau. Its vertical, slightly overhanging walls project nearly 150 metres above the river bank. It is called Pastýřská stěna (the Shepherd's Wall). the flat peak of the rock, which provides views of the Elbe valley and of the Děčín Chateau opposite, has always been very attractive for tourists and hikers. First, there was a wooden inn there, and at the beginning of the 20th century a restaurant in the style of a romantic castle was opened there. It was built due to the fact that the place had been becoming increasingly popular, and it has been declared a cultural heritage site. the Shepherd's Wall is a dominant feature of the town. There is also a zoo in Děčín, which has a bear in its emblem and which was opened in 1949. Its premises are located in a peaceful forest park, so it is a perfect place for pleasant family outings. It offers an unusual insight into the world of animals and also a new, separate exposition called the Paradise Islands, which houses many exotic animals and also the largest sea aquarium in the Ústí Region. the zoo specialises in the breeding of those species of animals that are endangered and less known. What is also interesting is a bear run with Asian, European and Malaysian bears, and also an exposition of water birds. At present, the zoo breeds about 450 animals of approximately 150 species. It is a paradise for children, who can make use of a large children's area with a crawl-through castle, a monkey ropeway and a climbing wall.

GPS: 50°46'44.999"N, 14°11'52.999"E

## Practical Information

The zoo is accessible to both pedestrians and drivers; there is a car park for passenger vehicles. Due to the big elevation difference you cannot use public transport to get to the zoo.

It is not permitted to enter the zoo with a dog.

[www.zoodecin.cz](http://www.zoodecin.cz)

[www.mmdecin.cz](http://www.mmdecin.cz)

The Paradise Islands exposition:

Reunion Island – coral reef

Fiji – mangrove coast

Sulawesi – Asian tropical rainforest

Haiti – semi-desert of the Caribbean Islands



QR code  
Opening  
hours  
of the zoo







GPS: 50°52'27"N, 14°14'34.219"E

### Practical Information

**GORGES:** Accessibility: By car - there is a large car park approximately 300 metres away from the beginning of the gorges. By bus from Děčín - a bus stop called K soutěškám. There is an information centre on the Elbe waterfront. Opening hours: daily from Easter to November; the opening hours at the beginning and at the end of the season depend on the time when it gets dark.

Information on the gorges at:  
[www.hrensko.cz/soutesky/](http://www.hrensko.cz/soutesky/)



## A Fairy-Tale Region Even for Hans Christian Andersen

The entrance gate to the Bohemian Switzerland National Park is formed by the village of Hřensko, which is situated on the border with Germany. The first written record of the village dates back to 1475. It is located at the altitude of 115 metres, which makes it the lowest-situated village in the Czech Republic. It has almost 300 inhabitants, however, there are thousands of people in the tourist season. The access road from Děčín to Hřensko is gorgeous, too. It goes through the Elbe river canyon between sandstone rocks and the river itself. The rocks, which are about 100 metres high, make the landscape look like mountains even though its altitude is really low. The village stretches along a deep ravine along the Kamenice River from its mouth to the Elbe and is lined with hotels, restaurants and guesthouses. Hiking trails started to be established here in the 19th century, when a promenade route to the Pravčice Gate was adapted, for instance. However, it was not due to pedestrians, but for hired mules or groups of carriers. The world-famous story-teller Hans Christian Andersen visited Hřensko several times during his life. Hřensko and its surroundings were a great source of inspiration for his works. Gorges of the Kamenice River were adapted so that they could be sailed through using punts. These adaptations, which were done in favour of tourism, were launched by the estate owner Edmund Clary-Aldringen. A boat trip through the Edmund's Gorge along the Kamenice River including an interesting and funny commentary by the boatman is a great experience, as is a boat trip through the Wild Gorge. It may be taken in both directions. The boatman drives the boat using a pole, and as well as the time when this attraction was launched he talks about the past and present of the gorges and describes the bizarre rock formations. The Edmund's (also called Quiet) Gorge is 960 metres long and the boat trip takes about 20 minutes. The Wild Gorge is 450 metres long and the trip takes about 15 minutes.

## Play Golf in Beautiful Surroundings

The Janov Golf Course is situated in natural settings, ringed by sandstone rock walls. It is fully irrigated. It is located in the beautiful environment of Bohemian Switzerland, and the golf premises border on its national park. It is approximately 4 kilometres away from the border crossing of Hřensko-Schmilka. The terrain and the surrounding landscape with its woods and meadows were made use of as much as possible during its construction. The course has 9 holes and is nearly five kilometres long. Its elongated arrangement offers six shorter holes and three long ones. It is the seat of the Golf Players Club of Bohemian Switzerland (Klub hráčů golfu České Švýcarsko, officially abbreviated as KHGCS), which is a member of the Czech Golf Federation and which has about 400 members. It is run by NORD BOHEMIA GOLF, s.r.o. Janov is the right choice for those who do not look for a large golf resort and who prefer to play golf at a place that is quiet enough. What the visitors can expect is a pleasant clubhouse with home cooking and an atmosphere of a real club-life approach to golf. All golf traditions are respected in Janov. The course was opened in 2003 and it is situated at the altitude of 320 metres. The difference between the highest and lowest point of the course is 38 metres. Of course, players have to meet the game capability conditions and have the appropriate certificate. It is also possible to hold company tournaments with possible catering or music performances, and to arrange team-building events. The golf course in Janov offers sports enjoyment for experienced and demanding players as well as for children, for whom it is possible to arrange lessons with a professional trainer. The overall impression of the course is very nice although iron rather than long golf clubs are used here. There is also a driving range not far from the clubhouse.

GPS: 50°51'36.011"N, 14°16'15.889"E

### Practical Information

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407 14 Arnoltice  
Tel. No.: +420 412 511 879  
mobile: +420 602 445 651  
e-mail: [golf.khgcs@seznam.cz](mailto:golf.khgcs@seznam.cz)







GPS: 50°48'5.668"N, 14°22'4.488"E

### Practical Information

**Contact details:** Občanské sdružení Rabštejn 407 21 Janská 74.

**Guides:** Karel Hunčovský, Janská 103, tel. No.: 775 862 485, 412 585 032  
e-mail: karelhuncovsky@seznam.cz;  
Vladimír Pešek, Janská 74, tel. No.: +420 732 850 351, +420 412 584 554  
e-mail: danusepeskova@seznam.cz

**Accessibility:** To get to the underground air factory in Rabštejn, take the yellow hiking trail from Česká Kamenice or from the rail stop Veselá pod Rabštejnem. If you drive, go along the road from Česká Kamenice or from Markvartice from the main road from Děčín to Liberec, turn left in Markvartice, Janská is two kilometres further. From Jetřichovice, Růžová or Hřensko you can get to Janská through Srbská Kamenice.



Messerschmitt BF 109

## Visit to an Underground Factory

The village of Janská is situated in the district of Děčín and it was a part of Česká Kamenice until 1992. There are former underground aircraft factories dating back to the Second World War in Janská, in the canyon of the Kamenice River. After Hitler had issued his decree „On Making Armament Production More Efficient“ in 1941, the Rabštejn Valley became a subject of interest by the fascist war machine. Even later when people all over the world were anticipating that the war would have a happy ending, the leaders of Nazi Germany were still hoping for a miracle weapon that would change the course of the Second World War in their favour. Underground factories for armament production started to be built all over the area occupied by the Third Reich and Rabštejn-Janská was no exception. The underground systems are about 4.5 km long and were dug by prisoners from the Rabštejn concentration camp. During eight months the prisoners mined 17,500 square metres of tunnels. 11 assembly halls were gradually built there and 6,000 people of 18 nationalities worked there. 34 work camps and 2 prisoner of war camps were established in the surroundings for these workers and for Russian and English captured pilots. A part of this system is open for public at present. This factory produced components for Junkers and Messerschmitt aircrafts and for FA-223 helicopters. The underground factory was not discovered by the Allies until the end of the Second World War. After the war, this construction was used by the Czechoslovak army and in the 1960s fuel stores for the Warsaw Pact armies were built here having the capacity of 8 million litres. While visiting the underground premises visitors are recommended to wear warmer clothes even in summer and to bring a torch. The excursion takes 2 to 2.5 hours.

## In the Bosom of Romantic Nature

The first record of Jetřichovice dates back to the 14th century. It is a place where lumber mills for wood from surrounding forests were established, where resin, grease, colophony and resin oil were produced in pitch furnaces, where several mills were built out of which only the exceptionally romantic ruin of Dolský Mill, which is popular with film makers, has been preserved. According to written reports, this mill stood in the Kamenice valley as early as in 1515; and it was also the seat of financial guards for several years. Modern development of tourism in the surroundings of Jetřichovice started in the 19th century, several inns were built, and tourism became the main source of income of the inhabitants. The village is situated about 19 km north-east of Děčín and 3 km from the German border. It is a popular tourist destination, crossroads of trails and the point of departure of the educational trail of the Walls of Jetřichovice. In its surroundings you can find interesting sandstone rock formations and ruins of a rock castle called Šaunštejn. What is also interesting is the folk architecture of the school and a chapel in Všemily, which is carved into a rock. The Dwarf Rock has been declared a national monument. Above the village, there is a viewpoint called the Maria Rock. This area is a significant climbing place. Approximately 3 km north of Jetřichovice there is a former gamekeeper's lodge and a group of Alps-style lodges called Na Tokáni. They were built in the 19th century in the middle of a cancelled hunting game preserve. Another attractive place is the Kyjov Valley, which is formed by the canyon of the Křinice River. Along the romantic valley there are bizarre sandstone formations intersected by a number of hiking and cycling trails. Popular destinations include e.g. the Kyjov Castle, a rock overhang of the Cave of Fairies, the Wine Cellar Cave, and there are also traces of former rock castles and mills.

GPS: 50°51'8.604"N, 14°23'38.072"E

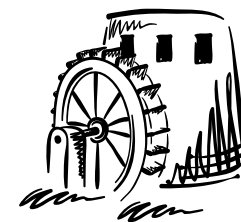
### Practical Information

Jetřichovice information centre:

407 16 Jetřichovice  
Tel. No.: +420 777 819 916  
e-mail: informace@ceskesvycarsko.cz  
[www.ceskesvycarsko.cz](http://www.ceskesvycarsko.cz)

Opening hours:

April-June:  
daily 9 a.m. – 12 noon, 12.30 p.m. – 5 p.m.  
July-September:  
daily 9 a.m. – 12 noon, 12.30 p.m. – 6 p.m.  
October: daily 9 a.m. – 12 noon,  
12.30 p.m. – 5 p.m.







GPS: 50°52'29.907"N, 14°34'27.447"E

### Practical Information

**RUINS of TOLŠTEJN CASTLE:** You have to take the red hiking trail to get to Tolštejn from Jiřetín pod Jedlovou. the route is 2 km long. It is only one kilometre from the station in Jedlová. If you go by bus, get off at the stop called Lesná and walk from there; it is about 1 km. Under the castle there is a small romantic pond with water lilies and a natural spring, which is mentioned in a number of legends. You can also visit the tourist centre in Jiřetín pod Jedlovou. Under the castle there is a cycling trail from Jiřetín to the village of Kytlice. Among other interesting tourist destinations located close to the castle is a peak of Jedlová with a watchtower and the neighbouring Cross Mountain. Czech guitarist Štěpán Rak often holds performances at the castle.

[www.jedlova.cz](http://www.jedlova.cz)  
[www.sport-jedlova.cz](http://www.sport-jedlova.cz)



## First a Castle and then Skiing

Jiřetín pod Jedlovou was established as a mining town in the 16th century after silver ore, which started to be mined in the St. Christopher Gallery, had been discovered. In particular, miners from the German Zittauer Mountains, where mining had finished, lived here. They called the village Sankt Georgenthal (Svatý Jiří v Oudolí in Czech); after the war it was re-named Svatý Jiřetín and since 1949 it has been called Jiřetín pod Jedlovou. Houses that are typical of the Lusatian wood architecture have been preserved in the village. the village is situated in beautiful countryside with historical buildings, which predetermined it for the development of tourism, holiday-making and sport. Places for tourists are being made more attractive. a watchtower situated at the peak of Jedlová (774 metres) has been reconstructed. Jedlová is a significant skiing resort with two pistes, a downhill one and a cross-country one (1,200 and 1,400 metres long), with the Jedlová Hotel (70 beds) and a cross-country skiing area. Tolštejn Castle (670 m) is situated about 1.5 kilometres from Jedlová, 7 km from Varnsdorf and 2 km from Jiřetín pod Jedlovou. It stands on a clinkstone mount in a sandstone area and is eight hundred years old. It used to be a seat of bandits, it is one of the most popular sights and a typical dominant feature of this area. It was established as a protective castle after the death of King Ottokar II of Bohemia. It was increasingly popular in the period of Romanticism and visited by many famous people. the oldest record of a person visiting this place is a memorial coin of Roman Emperor Claudius dating back to the 3rd century, which was found here. You can also visit the Gallery of St. Jan Evangelista, which is 440 metres long and in which you can join a guided tour. Approximately 5,500 visitors visit it every year. the Way of the Cross, a unique cultural monument dating back to the second half of the 18th century, which is located just above the village centre, has 11 stops and a chapel at the peak of the mountain of the same name (563 metres).

## Unique Canyon of the Elbe River

In June 2010 the area on the right bank of the Elbe River between Děčín and Hřensko was declared a national natural preserve called the Elbe Canyon. the subject of the preservation is forest, sandstone rocks and natural habitats and species of plants and animals. the valley of the Elbe along the final part of the river flow in the Czech Republic is an area of extraordinary significance and belongs among European rarities. It represents a deep furrow in the sandstone of the Děčín Highlands and due to its depth reaching almost 300 metres at some places it exceeds all other valleys of the Czech Republic. Moreover, expert exploration proved the existence of many species of organisms that had been considered extinct in our country. the valley is also an important migration route - it is a place through which a number of species of plants and animals come to our country, and vice-versa it is a place where organisms from the Czech basin spread north. the only direct connecting line between the North-German lowlands and the Czech basin is a first-class bio-corridor, which may be compared to the Iron Gate on the Danube, for example. the Elbe Canyon has played a very important, and sometimes also difficult part in the mutual relationship with our most powerful neighbour - with Germany. Archeological findings show that the area was not only just an impassable dense forest, but also a "highway of prehistoric and historic cultures". Labská plavební společnost, s.r.o. provides boat trips and regular transportation, school trips, private events and weddings on the lower flow of the Elbe between Děčín and Hřensko.

### Practical Information

Boats from Děčín to Hřensko sail through this interesting area, and on the right bank of the river there is a road leading to the border crossing through Hřensko to Germany. the area is intersected with a network of marked hiking trails. You can enjoy the most beautiful views from the viewpoints on the rocks.

Labská plavební společnost, s. r. o.,  
 Kamenická 692/199,  
 405 02 Děčín II. – Nové Město  
 e-mail: [kapitan@labskaplavebni.cz](mailto:kapitan@labskaplavebni.cz)  
 Route of the Poseidon boat: Děčín – Hřensko – Bad Schandau  
[www.mmdecin.cz](http://www.mmdecin.cz)  
[www.hrensko.cz](http://www.hrensko.cz)



QR code  
 Brief  
 timetable  
 of the  
 Poseidon  
 boat







GPS: 50°54'48.651"N, 14°30'26.419"E

## Practical Information

### BOHEMIAN SWITZERLAND HOUSE

Křínické náměstí 116/10  
407 46 Krásná Lípa,  
Tel. No.: +420 412 383 413,  
Fax No.: +420 412 383 230,  
e-mail: [informace@ceskesvycarsko.cz](mailto:informace@ceskesvycarsko.cz),  
[www.ceskesvycarsko.cz](http://www.ceskesvycarsko.cz), skype  
chat: isdcskl, a virtual tour, a guide to  
the exposition available

We can provide the following  
experiences for you:

- programmes for schools;
- guided trips;
- climbing programmes;
- rafting on the Elbe;
- golf for everyone;
- a balloon flight;
- photography workshops;
- stay packages;
- congress tourism.



## House of Nature, Secrets and Entertainment

The town of Krásná Lípa is situated about 30 km north-east of Děčín and 6 km south-west of Rumburk. the first written record of the town dates back to the middle of the 15th century. Linen weaving and manufacturing developed here; later the town became a significant centre of the textile industry and trade. In 1870 Krásná Lípa was promoted to a town and is closely connected with the beginnings of tourism. In 1885 the Mountain Society for Northmost Bohemia was established here; it significantly contributed to making the rock areas of Bohemian Switzerland accessible. Since 2000 the town square has been seating the Bohemian Switzerland National Park Administration and an information and educational centre, which are situated in the Bohemian Switzerland House. the house also hosts an exposition called Bohemian Switzerland - Life, Secrets, Inspiration, which offers interactive entertainment for the whole family on two floors. It is a world that will absorb you immediately and where you will enjoy using all your senses. What you can see or hear here are exhibition panels, illustrative noises from all sides, an ant-lion hole, an ice cave, a mini-watchtower, a climbing wall, a rock chapel, the murmur of water in a creek, a slotted crossing for salmon, a scientist's table with a microscope, guessing of herbs, an archeological exposition, a badger's set, a landscape of secrets, combined projection... You can have first-hand experience of all of these elements. the exposition is bilingual, as well as in a similar centre at the German side of the national park in Bad Schandau. In the exposition cinema you may see a film about Bohemian Switzerland, there are also classrooms for seminars and workshops, and it is also the seat of a public service organisation called Bohemian Switzerland, which offers guided trips and educational programmes with the possibility of accommodation.

## Pravčice Gate (Pravčická brána)

The Pravčice Gate was one of 77 most remarkable and interesting places on Earth in 2009; it got to the semi-final of this global competition. the biggest rock bridge in Central Europe, being sixteen metres tall and nearly twenty-seven metres wide, soars four kilometres above Hřensko in the district of Děčín. It has been declared a natural heritage site. It used to have the German name Prebischtor according to the magician Prebisch. Today it is basically the most attractive place of the Bohemian Switzerland National Park and something like a modern pilgrimage destination for thousands of visitors. It was created by erosion of the less resistant sandstone part of a rock massif taking millions of years. It is situated at the altitude of 415 metres; the upper part of the arch is 21 metres above the bottom. the entry to the gate itself has been closed since 1980 because due to a big number of visitors this unique natural monument had been threatened. However, rock viewpoints in its vicinity are accessible and provide a nice view of the gate itself and also of some dominant features of Bohemian and Saxon sandstone area. In the early days of tourism it was possible to hire a mule or a group of carriers for a trip to the Pravčice Gate. As early as in the first half of the 19th century, a bar was built there and later in 1881 also a daring construction of a castle called the Falcon's Nest, which looked like it was glued to a rock. There is a restaurant on the ground floor of the building and also an information centre with many souvenirs. Entry to the rock premises is subject to a charge. Millions of people including some famous personalities have already visited this natural jewel. One of them was the Danish author of fairy tales Hans Christian Andersen, who admired its beauty twice and who found inspiration for his literary works there.

GPS: 50°53'1.189"N, 14°16'52.81"E

## Practical Information

IC Bohemian Switzerland  
417 17 Hřensko 82  
Tel. No.: +420 412 554 286  
e-mail: [info@pbrana.cz](mailto:info@pbrana.cz)

The only way to get to the Pravčice Gate is to walk. You have to leave your car at the car park in Hřensko (there is a paid car park behind the Klepáč Restaurant) or at a car park Mezní Louka (by the Mezní Louka Hotel). These are the only two departure points for a trip to the Pravčice Gate. There are marked hiking trails leading from both places. the trail from Hřensko is rather steep; the one from Mezní Louka is definitely more comfortable, but it also has its difficulties. It is probably best to leave your car in Hřensko, to take a bus to Mezní Louka and to walk to the Pravčice Gate from there, and then to go down to the car park in Hřensko.

[www.pbrana.cz](http://www.pbrana.cz)  
[www.ceskesvycarsko.cz](http://www.ceskesvycarsko.cz)



České Švýcarsko  
evropská excelentní destinace







GPS: 50°57'12.202"N, 14°33'17.215"E

### Practical Information

The Chapel of the Virgin Mary is situated in the centre of Rumburk by the II/263 road.

Loreta cultural monument in Rumburk, tř. 9. května 149/27, 408 01 Rumburk  
Tel. No.: GSM 604 555 922

e-mail: [loreta.rumburk@seznam.cz](mailto:loreta.rumburk@seznam.cz)

[www.poutni-mista-sluknovsko.cz](http://www.poutni-mista-sluknovsko.cz)

The premises also include a permanent exposition on the history of Loreta and on the Loretan underground. They also host exhibitions and concerts. Among these events is for example the Loretan Museum Night, which takes place in May, and the Loretan Festival taking place in September.

The Municipal Information Centre, Lužické náměstí 103, 408 01 Rumburk, tel. No.: 412 331 171, e-mail: [mic@rumburk.cz](mailto:mic@rumburk.cz)

[www.icrumburk.cz](http://www.icrumburk.cz)

The museum - the exhibition hall for short-term exhibitions and the exposition of the Rumburk Uprising of 1918 are open to the public. An annual exhibition of temporary Christmas cribs is very popular, too.

Contact details: Tel. No.: +420 412 332 194  
e-mail: [info@muzeumrumburk.cz](mailto:info@muzeumrumburk.cz)

## Visiting the Black Madonna

The Loretan Chapel in Rumburk belongs among the most valuable holy houses in the Czech Republic due to its stucco and sculpture decoration. It was built according to a project by the significant Austrian architect Johann Lucas Hildebrandt as a part of a former Capuchin convent of St. Lawrence (the current municipal library) and has become an important Marian pilgrimage destination. It was built of sandstone as a true copy of the original "Holy House" (Santa casa), which is situated in the Italian town of Loreto, by Ancona. Here it is one of the most renowned pilgrimage destinations of the world where the Holy House, the birth house of Virgin Mary of Nazareth where the annunciation on the birth of the Savior took place, where Jesus Christ was brought up and where Joseph died, is worshipped. This extraordinary cultural sight of Rumburk with rich Baroque decoration celebrated the 300th anniversary of its completion and consecration in 2007. Religious people from Bohemia and Upper Lusatia made a pilgrimage to the Virgin Mary in Rumburk, and devotion to her was connected with a number of miracles. 30 miraculous recoveries are recorded in the Loretan visitor's book.

The most valuable object of worship in the Loretan Chapel is the statue of the Black Madonna, which was sanctified by Pope Innocent XII in 1694. Besides the Holy House, the Loretan premises include a cloister dating back to the middle of the 18th century, four chapels and a pilgrimage construction of the Holy Stairs (Scala sancta) with extensive sculpture decoration. Rich ceiling painting of the way of the cross shows pictures from the life of the Virgin Mary and Jesus. the premises were declared a cultural heritage site in 1964. There is a guide service all year round.

## Visiting the White Lady in Šluknov

Šluknov is the northernmost town of the Czech Republic. It is a natural centre of the Šluknov Hook, which is surrounded by Germany from nearly all sides. It is a region of sweet-smelling hillsides, golden fields, wild forests and forgotten villages with plump churches. the dominant feature of the small town of Šluknov is a snow-white chateau. It is situated in the square and glares with a newly-painted Renaissance front facade. This distinctive simple construction is surrounded by a large English park. the first written records of the town date back to the 13th century and first records of the picturesque place where the chateau is located date back to the 16th century. a wooden manor, a brewery and a malting plant sprouted up here. the chateau was damaged by fires; it was saved from one of them by brave women of Šluknov in the period of the Thirty Years War. What we can see inside the chateau nowadays are renovated rooms of the first floor, where visitors can feel the atmosphere of the famous past times. the ground floor with an information centre and a nice confectionery has been reconstructed, too. the chateau offers tours to visitors, as well as wedding and other ceremonies, regular exhibitions and other events. the history of the Šluknov region is involved in a number of mysterious stories. They talk about gnomes who know a way to legendary treasures of the local hills, about a wild man and ogres, but the most popular one talks about a white lady, the ghost of a beautiful countess who lived in the chateau of Šluknov and whose ghost you can still meet here according to the tale. Šluknov has a number of interesting houses, the Baroque Church of St. Wenceslas, two chapels, baroque statues, and an Art Nouveau building of the House of Culture situated in the square. Šluknov is a departure point of hiking and cycling trails. To go north, you can take a 7-km-long Wood Educational Path, which gives tourists information on interesting features of the surroundings.

GPS: 51°0'17.089"N, 14°27'18.999"E

### Practical Information

CHATEAU - services and facilities: a car park, parking for buses, a snack bar, a toilet, sales of souvenirs.

The information centre is located inside the chateau.

Within the tour all visitors can visit almost all premises of the chateau including historic rooms with original exhibits. a newly-reconstructed chateau loft is open to the public, too. Guided tours are held all year long, every day including Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (except for 12 noon), always starting on the hour. the excellent chateau confectionery is worth visiting, too.







GPS: 50°47'15.83"N, 14°1'44.07"E

### Practical Information

**TISA WALLS** - access: By car from Děčín in the direction of Sněžník and then Tisá. From Jílové u Děčína and Ústí nad Labem in the direction of Libouchec and then Tisá. Or by bus from the bus station in Ústí nad Labem in the direction of Libouchec - Tisá - Petrovice, get off at the bus stop called Tisá - dětský domov. Follow the signposts from the centre of the village. Parking: a paid car park in the centre of the village of Tisá near the church, a free car park by the Tourist Chalet at the other end of the rocks. Altitude - the highest point is called the West Viewpoint (613 m). Information: Tisá Tourist Information Centre, contact details:

[www.tisa.cz](http://www.tisa.cz)



## Tisá and Rájec Walls, Ostrov

The village of Tisá in the region of Ústí is a gateway to the romantic region of the Elbe sandstones. The Church of St. Anna welcomes visitors in the village centre, from where there is a direct path to the Tisá walls. These walls rise as a massive, almost 70-metre-tall barrier above the village. The path leads to a fantastic rock town with many bizarre sandstone formations, and almost one kilometre further east it finishes with a restaurant called the Tourist Chalet. There is a car park, too. The rocks have been accessible without a local guide since the 1920s. Before that, there were many legends concerning this place. They talked about a French nobleman called Leduquin, who had buried his family treasure here during the French Revolution, but later he was not been able to find it in the labyrinth of canyons, which had made him insane. Today his treasure is said to be guarded by malicious gnomes who were at fault. The whole area is a paradise for hikers and climbers, for whom there are 113 registered climbing paths. It is advisable even today to follow the marked paths. Apart from the Small and Large Walls north of Tisá there are less frequented rock towns - the Ostrov and Rájec Walls. The rock towns are situated in the Elbe Sandstones Natural Preserve 20 km away from the regional town of Ústí nad Labem and 5 km from the border crossing with Germany in the village of Petrovice. If you want to see the Tisá Walls, which may take no longer than two hours, you can also visit the nearby watchtower on Děčínský Sněžník (723 m). Due to its fantastic landscape, Tisá was one of many international locations where the Walt Disney Picture blockbuster called the Chronicles of Narnia was made. It was viewed by millions.

## Hrádek Observation Tower - Varnsdorf

The town of Varnsdorf is situated in the northernmost part of the Czech Republic in the district of Děčín. You can find it in the south-east of the Šluknov Hook on the Mandava River, 32 km north-east of Děčín and 34 km north-west of Liberec. It is surrounded by Germany from three sides. Varnsdorf had been the biggest village of Austria-Hungary until it was promoted to a town in 1868. The railway was finished in the same year, industry started to develop, and in the second half of the 19th century the town started to be called "little Manchester". There are two border crossings to Germany. The dominant feature of the town is Hrádek, which soars on a clinkstone border hill and is 467 metres tall. It was built by members of the Mountain Society for Northernmost Bohemia in 1904. Major personalities, craftsmen and inhabitants of the town and of the surrounding areas contributed with their gifts to the construction of a 29-metre tall watchtower and a restaurant on Hrádek. Prince Liechtenstein donated 50 thousand Crowns, which represented almost half of the costs. At present Hrádek is undergoing extensive reconstruction. The Hrádek-Burgsberg Czech-German endowment fund was established for this purpose in 2000. The watchtower was opened after major reconstruction in 2003. After many years it again provides a circular view of Varnsdorf and of the German town of Seiffenhensdorf with the Lusatian Mountains in the background, of the Zittauer Basin, and of the Elbe Sandstones in the west; and when the weather is clear, it is also possible to see the Jizera Mountains and the Giant Mountains. Hrádek has been declared a cultural heritage site and has again become a tourist destination. Moreover, it was the winner of the national competition for the Facade of the Year in 2006. In its interior you can find a permanent exposition of maps, photographs and other exhibits relating to Hrádek and its surroundings.

GPS: 50°55'21.23"N, 14°36'47.556"E

### Practical Information

Operator of Hrádek:

Regia, a. s.,

with its seat at:

Kmochova 2136

407 47 Varnsdorf

[www.varnsdorf.cz](http://www.varnsdorf.cz)

Kocour Brewery

In the premises of a former ceramics factory you can find a small brewery with a restaurant. You can taste 16 kinds of local beer and see what is involved in brewing beer.

Opening hours Mo-Fri 3 p.m.-10 p.m. at the weekend 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Tel. No.: +420 412 370 270

[www.pivovar-kocour.cz](http://www.pivovar-kocour.cz)

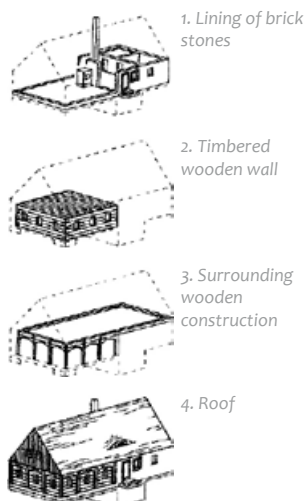






## Practical Information

Development of the Upper Lusatian house construction:



[www.ceskesvycarsko.cz](http://www.ceskesvycarsko.cz)

## Seeing Unique Folk Architecture

Upper Lusatian houses are a unique kind of folk architecture which has only been preserved in the German-Czech-Polish area of the present Nisa Euro-Region. They form the character of the landscape and talk about the way of life in the area of Upper Lusatia, North Bohemia and Lower Silesia; they are evidence of the common history of these three regions. Not only do they have high building-historical and cultural value, but they are also ecological constructions making healthy living possible. They were built in the 11th - 13th centuries and they are a mixture of Slavonic timbered and German half-timbered constructions. Due to this fact, such a house could be built faster and there was lower consumption of wood. Construction of these houses is based on a clever wooden support that bears the weight of the roof or of the upper floor of the house. Thus, timbered rooms downstairs are not unnecessarily weighted and are not threatened with destruction. The ground floor is usually built of both bricks and stone. There are utility rooms downstairs - a cowshed, a granary, etc. the first floor and the gable were half-timbered using a visible beam construction filled with rickers, stone, bricks, connected by means of clay mixed with chaff or cut straw, or they were also timbered or sheathed. These houses usually include a large two-storey barn that is an inherent part of the house, and a traditional country garden. They served both poor villagers and local weavers, farmers, inn-keepers, or as rectories. a number of these houses have recently been professionally renovated, however, many of them have been damaged or completely destroyed due to unprofessional interventions. Some of them are falling into disrepair and are threatened with complete destruction unless they are reconstructed quickly. Some houses were saved by weekenders, others by their owners. This area should certainly keep its romantic appearance highlighted by these distinctive houses.

## Look Around, Man

There are definitely many places in Bohemian and Saxon Switzerland that are worth seeing. the best way to see this rugged landscape is from watchtowers, holding your breath. There is a table rock 7 km away from Děčín called Děčínský Sněžník (723 m) with a 33-metre tall stone watchtower with a circular view. It is one of the oldest watchtowers in the Czech Republic and dates back to 1864. There is also a snack bar and a mountain chalet there. the Dresden Viewpoint on Sněžník offers an impressive view of deep forests and of table rocks of Saxon Switzerland. You can also enjoy a large circular view from a brick, 15-metre tall watchtower called Dymník (511 m), which is located 2 km west of Rumburk. Due to a fairly comfortable ascent it is a popular tourist destination offering a beautiful view. the hill of Jedlová (774 m) in the district of Děčín is a ski resort; it is located near Chřibská and Jiřetín pod Jedlovou. Its watchtower, which is 29 metres tall, is very attractive for tourists due to the fantastic view it offers. When the weather is nice, it is possible to see a large area from Sněžka to Klínovec, and using binoculars you may also see 40 watchtowers in Bohemia, Germany and Poland. At the peak by the watchtower there is a stylish chalet where you can have something to eat. the northernmost watchtower in our country is called Tanečnice and is situated at the peak of a mountain of the same name near Mikulášovice. It offers a view of a fascinating panorama. When the visibility is very good, it is possible to see Sněžka, which is 100 kilometres away, important Czech mountains, mountains in Germany, and national parks of Bohemian and Saxon Switzerland. It is situated at the altitude of 597 metres, it is 26 metres tall and was built of stones and bricks. the oldest watchtower of the Šluknov Region is Wolf Mountain, which is 16 metres tall and which is situated at the altitude of 581 metres, 4 km north-west of Krásná Lípa. What is really interesting is that compasses don't work there. Wolf Mountain contains magnetic iron-ore, which deflects compass needles.

## Practical Information

**DĚČÍNSKÝ SNĚŽNÍK:** Accessible from several directions using marked hiking trails, the shortest way after arriving by bus or car from Sněžník, 2 kilometres of walking with elevation difference of 130 metres. GPS: 50°47'34.98"N, 14°6'30.68"E

**DYMNÍK:** Accessible from Rumburk, 2 kilometres along a path. GPS: 50°56'27.494"N, 14°31'30.244"E

**JEDLOVÁ:** From Jiřetín pod Jedlovou, turn right in the square by the U Draka guesthouse, continue along a narrow road towards Tolštejn Castle, leave your car here. Follow the red hiking trail for 2 kilometres from here. GPS: 50°51'24.029"N, 14°33'37.44"E

**TANEČNICE:** From Mikulášovice follow the blue marking for about 3 kilometres to the watchtower. GPS: 50°57'57.47"N, 14°19'11.769"E

**VLČÍ HORA:** From Krásná Lípa through the village of Vlčí Hora along the red hiking markings to the peak, about 5 kilometres. GPS: 50°56'22.95"N, 14°27'55.268"E

**STUĐENEC:** From the village of Studený along the red hiking trail, approximately 4.5 kilometres. GPS: 50°49'54.794"N, 14°27'17.404"E

[www.ceskesvycarsko.cz](http://www.ceskesvycarsko.cz)







## Do You Know Where You Can Admire Traditional Folk Architecture and Beautiful Landscapes?

The landscape of Bohemian Switzerland is a jewel of the region and even of the Czech Republic. Besides enchanting rock formations, quiet



deep forests, rivers and creeks, folk architecture is very important, too. the Upper Lusatian houses are a symbol of the whole area. the traditional cottages are valuable monuments that require care. Bohemian Switzerland is developing a number of activities that contribute to maintaining the best possible condition of these charming buildings.





## Czech Central Highlands



### Czech Central Highlands

The Czech Central Mountains (České středohoří) comprises an area around three times bigger than Bohemian Switzerland (České Švýcarsko). It encompasses the protected landscape area of the same name with dominant towns such as Litoměřice, Roudnice nad Labem, Terezín, and Ústí nad Labem in part. It also covers a small part of the Kokořínsko landscape protected area. the famous German traveller Alexander von Humboldt rated the beauties of nature of the Czech Central Mountains highly and declared the view from Milešovka Mountain (the most windy place in Bohemia) as one of the most beautiful views in the world! You can admire the unique scenery along the Elbe River

flowing into the Czech Central Mountains, Porta Bohemica, in any season of the year. the river cut into its surrounding undulating landscape creating magnificent views is a rarity of which not everyone can boast. Such views have been depicted in paintings of many significant painters, for example Ernst Gustav Doerell, and attract many current artists and photographers, for example Pavel Bergr, who was actually born in Střekov Castle in Ústí nad Labem. Apart from admiring scenic beauties, you can possibly pay a visit to a romantic excursion castle named Větruše, offering a marvelous view of the town and hilly landscape. You will find more information here: [www.ceskestredohori.info](http://www.ceskestredohori.info)





GPS: 50°31'39.949"N, 14°1'6.53"E  
50°32'22.962"N, 14°0'32.408"E

### Practical Information

It is possible to climb Lovoš from four sides. the first option is to start in the Oparenské Valley and to follow the yellow trail; on the slope of Lovoš the yellow trail joins the blue trail leading up to the top. the second option is to take the blue trail in Oparno and to follow it up to the top. the third option is to take the yellow trail in Bílinka and to go in the opposite direction, then you should follow the blue trail; this path is passable for cross-country cars and mountain bikes (but cars are not allowed there). the fourth option is to take the green trail in Lovosice. the Lovoš nature trail leads through the Oparenské Valley and Kybička up to the top.

Apart from hiking, various sports activities, such as jogging and mountain biking (especially to the tops of Lovoš and Milešovka), are organized in the protected landscape area of the Czech Central Mountains every year. All to win the title of the "King of the Czech Central Mountains".

## Lovoš and Oparno

The natural dominant feature of Lovosice is an isolated volcanic cone named Lovoš, located two and a half kilometres north-west of the town, rising up to 570 metres. the hill consists of two cones; the higher one is formed by basalt, the lower one, named Kybička, is formed by clinkstone. Precious protected plant species grow there. There is a tourist chalet on the top, and from its flat roof you can get a great panoramic view of the Czech Central Mountains and the valley of the Elbe River. the area around the hill has been protected for more than half of a century, nowadays as a national nature reserve. You can follow a ten-kilometre nature trail there, leading from a small chapel in Malé Žernoseky, through the Oparenské Valley (Oparenské údolí) to a ruin of Oparno Castle up to the top of Lovoš. the hill was probably given an Old Slavonic name by the clan of Lovos or Lovoš who would have lived in the area. In 1756 a part of the Battle at Lovosice was fought there, involving two armies of thirty-thousand men.

The picturesque Oparenské Valley (Oparenské údolí), through which one of the roads to the hill top goes, is approx. 6km long and extends from Velemin to Malé Žernoseky. Ancient Celts and later Slavs probably mined quartz porphyry there to make millstones, or grinding stones. the ruin of Oparno Castle is located above the valley. Rising up on a narrow steep rock, the castle must have looked very imposing in its heyday. It was founded in the 13th century and used to be one of the oldest castles in the region. Only remains of old fortification walls have been preserved till the present day. Nowadays a 275 metre long arch bridge goes over the Oparenské Valley; the span of the lower arch is 135 metres. It was built as part of the last completed section of Highway D8, leading through the protected landscape area of the Czech Central Mountains. It is an exceptional structure.

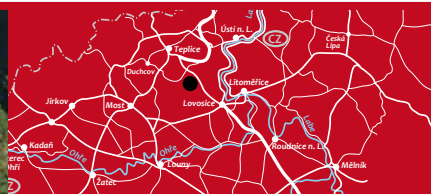
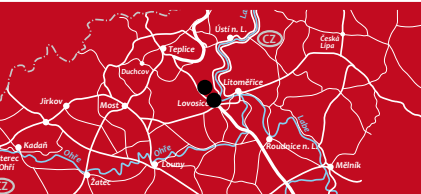
## Milešovka and the Czech Central Mountains

The Czech Central Mountains are the geologically youngest mountains in the north of Bohemia. the Elbe divides them into two parts in the place named Porta Bohemica, although geomorphologically there are several distinct parts. the picturesque landscape along both banks of the lower course of the Czech part of the Elbe is unique in Central Europe. Views of the countryside from a ship going down the Elbe are allegedly nicer than views of the Central Rhine Valley with its castles and legendary Lorelei rock. You can get a beautiful, but rather distant, view already from the highway after leaving Prague heading north. Typical conic shapes of hills were formed by volcanic activities in the Tertiary Period. Other natural conditions enabled a great wealth of various plant and animal species, of which many are protected, as well as early settlements and cultivation of the land by people. the Czech Central Mountains are a protected landscape area. the highest mountain is Milešovka, which is also the windiest mountain in Bohemia. With its height of 837m, it has been called the queen of the Czech Central Mountains since the 17th century, and it is a place according to which weather forecasts can be made. Its German name can be translated as Thunder Mountain, and such a name was not given to the mountain just for fun. It rises above the surrounding area by an imposing 350 metres, and thus is an ideal place for looking around. the oldest meteorological station is situated on the top of Milešovka with a stone lookout tower. the top of Milešovka attracts thousands of tourists every year, because the view from the top is exceptional; you will see the beauties of the Czech Central Mountains, mythical Říp, as well as Ještěd, the Giant Mountains (Krkonoše), Ore Mountains (Krušné hory), and Bohemian Forest (Šumava). Under special weather conditions, you can also see the Alps, being 300km away. Alexander von Humboldt, an important German naturalist, used to go there regularly, and claimed that the view from Milešovka was the most beautiful in the world.

GPS: 50°33'17.18"N, 13°55'52.31"E

### Practical Information

You can get to the top of Milešovka from Kostomlaty, through Černčice, and then along the blue trail to Velemin, or you can go from Žima, through Bílka (with a beautiful modern chapel), and then along the red trail to Milešov. the climb to the top leads along steep stony paths. There is a snack bar selling refreshments and souvenirs on the top. Upon request, workers of the observatory will allow you to go to the stone lookout tower. Transport info: Train Bořislav (4,5km), Chotiměř (5km); bus: Milešov (3km), Bílka, crossroads Milešovka (3,5km); car park in Černčice (2km), in the village square of Bílka (2km), in Milešov (3km). There is a funicular leading to the top, but it is only used by the observatory.







### Practical Information

You can get to the lookouts and ruins on foot, or close to them by car, some by train, and some by bus. One of the best known places is the Doerell Lookout (Doerellova vyhlídka) or Sunny Place (Výsluní), named after painter Ernst Gustav Doerell who used to paint the romantic view of the Czech Central Mountains from there. It is located above the Elbe Valley at a small church in Dubice u Ústí nad Labem. You can take a hiking trail to get there, or take public service bus No. 4 from Ústí nad Labem.



## Lookouts and ruins in the Czech Central Mountains

Magnificent scenery will open up in front of you if you go to Lovosice or Litoměřice from the south. the panorama of the cone-shaped Czech Central Mountains rising up above the Elbe Valley creates an unusually dramatic landscape. a scattered bunch of former volcanic formations even looks mystical. At a length of 76 km and width of 20 km, the mountains including isolated Říp arose in the Tertiary Period; 160 of them are mentioned in tourist guides. Milešovka is the only that is over eight hundred metres high (837m). According to German naturalist Humboldt, the view from its top ranks among the most beautiful views in the world. There are also other beautiful places in the Czech Central Mountains offering marvelous views, as well as monuments of old times, ruins of castles and fortresses.

Best places to get great views are for example the top of Lovoš (570m) above Lovosice, Raná (457m) close to Louny, Calvary Rock Hill (239m) close to Velké Žernoseky, and the lookout tower on Varhošť (639m) north of Litoměřice nearby Hlinná. the lookout tower rises up above the countryside approximately halfway between Litoměřice and Střekov Castle in Ústí, high above the Elbe Valley. the view you will see can be classified as „unforgettable“. the Elbe below it flows though a system of bends, and its course can be found separately in eight places. a part of the Elbe Valley can also be seen from the Větruše lookout tower, one of the dominant features of Ústí nad Labem that cannot be overlooked. Behind Litoměřice above Třebušín, there is Kalich Hill (538m) with ruins of a castle conquered by Jan Žižka. There is also a castle on Košťálov (481m), located 5km south-west of Lovosice on a steep rock and offering a nice view. Further, you will also get great views from memorable Říp Mountain, as well as from the dominant feature of the region - the ruin of the Hazmburk Castle. But our list is not complete.

## Visit to the Zoo and Marian Bridge in Ústí nad Labem

The Zoo in Ústí na Labem is located in the municipal district of Krásné Březno on a slope of Marian Rock (Mariánská skála). Its predecessor was a bird reserve built by Heinrich Lumpe, an entrepreneur in Ústí nad Labem and lover of nature, from the beginning of the 20th century. Nowadays visitors can see over 1,300 animals there, representing more than 200 species. the Zoo is involved in the global protection of rare and endangered animals. Within numerous international protection programs, the Zoo managed to breed various rare animal species, such as the Borneo orangutan, Amur leopard, or white rhinoceros. There is a house for beasts of prey, exotarium, and large yards for rhinos, giraffes, elephants, zebras and antelopes. For children, there is the „Children's World“ with models of animals and slides, „Children's Zoo“ which is a contact place with domestic animals, and „Dinosaur Information Trail“. Various presentations are also held there – feeding animals, elephant walks and exercises, presentations of birds of prey. the unique location of the Zoo in the landscape of the Czech Central Mountains also attracts numerous filmmakers. the Zoo in Ústí nad Labem for example starred in „Dva lidi v zoo“ (Two People in the Zoo), a well-known Czech film.

When going from the Zoo to the city centre, you will pass by the Marian Bridge, which was built in 1998 and immediately became one of the city's symbols. In an international survey in 2001, the bridge was placed among the ten most beautiful buildings of the world of the last decade of the last century, mainly thanks to the interesting shape of the structure of a suspended triangle. It is 198 metres long, and its seventy-five metre pylon on the Střekov side opposite the Marian Rock, rising on the other side of the Elbe, is a dominant feature of the city.

GPS: 50°39'51.27"N, 14°3'41.509"E

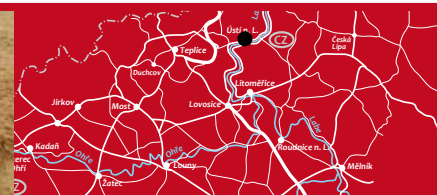
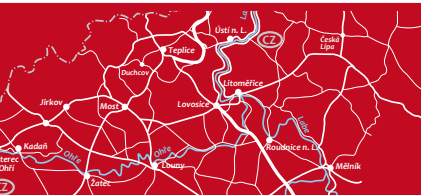
### Practical Information

Opening hours: Summer (April–October) daily 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, winter (November–March) daily 9.00 am – 4.00 pm. You will get to the Zoo by public service buses No. 51, 55, 56 and 57 from Mírové Square (Mírové náměstí) to the Vojanova stop.

[www.zoousti.cz](http://www.zoousti.cz)  
[www.usti-nad-labem.cz](http://www.usti-nad-labem.cz)



QR code  
Opening  
hours  
of the zoo







GPS: 50°38'21.339"N, 14°3'2.219"E  
50°39'17.939"N, 14°2'22.75"E

### Practical Information

**Střekov Castle:** Public service bus to the "Pod hradem" station. Evening tours through the castle and other events. You can get to the Větruše Tower from the city centre on foot or by the funicular from the Forum Shopping Centre, which is next to the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary with the leaning tower.

**Funicular:** the Větruše funicular is open every day (except for the first Monday of each month) from 8 am to 10 pm, every 15 minutes. Price (a single ticket): CZK 18. You will find more information here:

[www.usti-nad-labem.cz](http://www.usti-nad-labem.cz)



## Visit to the Střekov Castle and then by funicular to Větruše

The major dominant feature of the Elbe Valley in Ústí nad Labem is Střekov Castle. the castle on a steep rock above the right bank of the Elbe will attract the attention of every visitor to the city. Its history dates back to the beginning of the 14th century when it was built to protect a trade route from the interior of the country, and for collection of customs duty. In the romantic period of the 19th century, the castle, then a ruin, inspired for example the poet Karel Hynek Mácha, or composer Richard Wagner. Nowadays, after visiting it, you can enjoy a marvelous view of the river and regional capital city. Below the castle, the Masaryk Sluice (Masarykovo zdymadlo), a protected technical monument, crosses the Elbe.

A nice view of the castle, city and its surroundings can be got from the 30-metre high lookout tower of a reconstructed excursion castle, named Větruše, with a new hotel and wellness centre, located on a steep rock above the junction of the Elbe and Bílina. There is also the upper station of a funicular leading from the Forum Shopping Centre. the funicular was built with support obtained from the European Union, and it is unique in a way. the height difference within its length of 336 metres is 50 metres, and it is the only funicular without cable supports in the Czech Republic.

Another interesting place is the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary (kostel Nanebevzetí Panny Marie), located next to the Forum Shopping Centre. It boasts of one of the biggest neo-gothic bells in Bohemia, which was brought from the Netherlands in 1506. You will surely notice its leaning tower, at 65m it is tilted by 2,008mm from the normal axis. the tower, whose tilt evoke

## A jewel among castles – Ploskovice

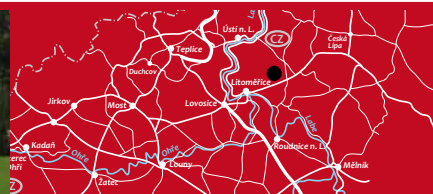
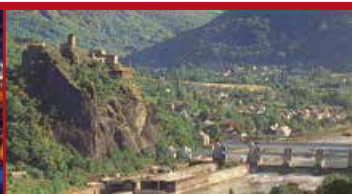
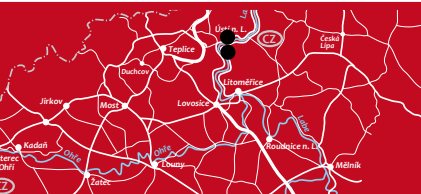
The castle in Ploskovice near Litoměřice can be called a jewel among castles in Northern Bohemia. Historians attribute this beautiful late baroque summer mansion to Kilian Ignaz Dientzenhofer, one of the greatest architects of that time. Ploskovice Castle has appeared in several films, the best-known of them is the Czech film named "Princ a Večernice". It attracts tourists. It was built in the first half of the 18th century when Anna Maria Franziska of Saxe-Lauenburg, Grand Duchess of Tuscany, wife of the last descendant of the famous Italian House of Medici, had it constructed. At the beginning of the 19th century it became the property of the House of Habsburg; it was mainly used by Ferdinand I of Austria and later by Franz Joseph I of Austria as their summer house. After the creation of Czechoslovakia, the summer residence of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was established there. Edvard Beneš and his wife mainly used to go there. Since the middle of the last century Ploskovice has been a state castle; since the 1960s it has been opened to the public. You can admire collections of paintings, porcelain and glass there, as well as beautiful romantic ceiling paintings of the Czech painter Josef Navrátil. a nine hectare romantic garden and artificial water baroque caves, named grottos, and fountains, dating back to the beginning of the 18th century, are other sights of the castle worth seeing. According to legend, the knight Dalibor of Kozojedy became the leader of rebellious subjects in the local manor. But soldiers suppressed the rebellion and Dalibor as its leader was captured and imprisoned in Prague Castle. There, in a tower which was later named Daliborka after him, Dalibor learned to play the violin. In 1498, however, he was executed. According to legends, he appears in ghost form in Ploskovice Castle once a year and keeps a watch on the well-being of his people.

GPS: 50°33'36.25"N, 14°12'2.51"E

### Practical Information

The castle is located north-east of Litoměřice. Guided tours, valuable exteriors, a natural cultural monument. Two sightseeing tours: Tour I – castle interior, tour II – grottos, castle park.

Various accompanying events are held in the castle, such as Tours with a Princess, and Come and Enjoy a Fairytale, and if you are lucky, you will see ghosts as well.







GPS: 50°24'18.68"N, 14°2'37.66"E

### Practical Information

A tour through the castle takes approx. 60 minutes; the last tour begins one hour before closing, the minimum number for a guided tour is 5 visitors, and the maximum number is 45 visitors per group. the castle greenhouses are opened occasionally.

If you wish to take a long walk, go to the ruin of Hazmburk Castle, which is located nearby and offers a beautiful view of the surrounding landscape.



## Libochovice Castle

In the picturesque and romantic landscape of the region of Lower Poohří (Dolní Poohří), surrounded by the Czech Central Mountains, in a place where an old gothic fortress used to be, an early baroque jewel – the State Castle of Libochovice – is located. In the middle of the 16th century, the House of Lobkowitz had a renaissance castle built there. In the 17th century the original castle burnt down, but the new owners asked Antonio della Porta, who ranked among busiest architects and builders in Bohemia at that time, to build a magnificent baroque castle on the bank of the Ohře River, whose appearance has been preserved up to now. Its oldest preserved part is the gothic chapel; the interior illustrates the development of aristocratic elegance from the renaissance period till the 20th century. In the castle there are various original tile stoves, an oriental lounge with Chinese vases and Japanese porcelain, baroque bedroom, kitchen with traditional plates and dishes, and various lounges. the legend of a magic mirror which will give you back your youth is well known. There is a French garden in front of the castle which is set in beautiful greenery. On the other side, the castle is surrounded by a castle park. the connecting way to the castle courtyard leads through unusual areas. There is a sprawled crocodile caught by one of the last owners of the castle, ceilings inlaid with shells from the Mediterranean Sea and small shells from the Ohře River. And there are reliefs of sea monsters around. the garden was created by "master gardener" Jan Tulipán according to plans of Italian architects. the entire area was divided into even areas with beds of the best Dutch flowers, forming various decorations. There are two fountains decorated with sculptures and many other plants, bushes and trees, including exotic ones, brought back from the travels of the owners to Asia and Africa. the castle is the birthplace of Jan Evangelista Purkyně, a world famous Czech naturalist and physiologist. a separate exhibition in the castle is devoted to the best-known person born there.



## Outdoor museum and historical rail cars in Zubrnice

The youngest outdoor museum in Bohemia is the Museum of Folk Architecture in Zubrnice, which is still being extended. Its basis is an old historical village nestled in the Czech Central Mountains in the Ústí Region. a set of buildings of folk architecture comprises timbered, framed and brick houses. In the centre of the village there is a baroque well from the end of the 17th century. the set of the buildings illustrates the life and work of people living on farms. There is a timbered two-floor building, village shop, and other houses. You will find there a small upper drive water mill, driven by water of the Meadow Stream (Luční potok). You may also find the exposition of an old village school interesting. Occasional events and exhibitions are held St. Mary Magdalene's Church, which is open to the public. Seasonal fairs, for example at Easter and before Christmas, are held in the outdoor museum regularly.

An interesting technical monument is the station built on the local railway "Velké Březno – Ústě – Verneřice" in 1890. At that time the operation of the railway started on the occasion of the 60th birthday of Emperor Franz Joseph I. the railway museum in the Zubrnice station offers a permanent exhibition of the history and present of the local railway, including many photographs, documents, and a small railway office with period equipment, and historical rail cars. Visitors can take a short ride on them, either on the motorised ones or the ones driven by manpower. the eleven-kilometre long part of the railway has been recorded on the list of monuments of the Czech Republic. the railway museum is owned and managed by the Zubrnice Museum Railway (Zubrnická mušální železnice) organization. the Zubrnice local railway is a popular film location. the best-known movies in which the railway appeared are for example the Czech films "Páni kluci", "Rebelové", "Hlídač č. 47", or "Tmavomodrý svět".

GPS: 50°38'56.83"N, 14°13'14.63"E

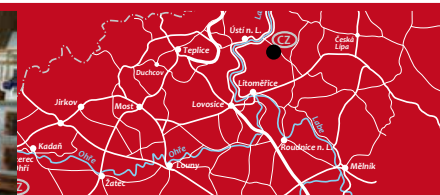
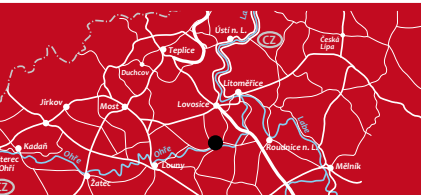
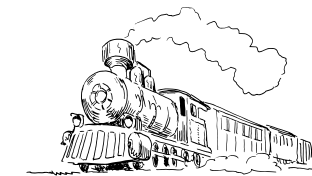
### Practical Information

The last tour always starts 75 minutes before closing; for groups booked in advance, we can open outside the season and on days that we are normally closed. Information and booking of tours at tel. +420 475 228 267, info@zubrnice.cz.

#### REGULAR EVENTS:

Traditional carnival (Masopust), Easter, Zubrnice fair, Autumn in the Village, Christmas in the Outdoor Museum

ZUBRNICKÁ MUŠÁLNÍ ŽELEZNICE  
(ZUBRNIC MUSEUM RAILWAY)  
tel: +420 775 130 479  
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[www.zmz.cz](http://www.zmz.cz)







GPS: 50°23'11.129"N, 14°17'22.4"E  
50°37'3.959"N, 13°57'59.997"E  
50°20'36.999"N, 13°57'51.999"E

### Practical Information

How to get to Říp? From the railway station in Roudnice nad Labem past the castle along the red trail, through the game park in Krabčice, village of Rovné, line of trees up to the top (app. 7km); by local diesel train from Vraňany to Ctiněves, then go along the red trail and up a steep slope (2.5km); by car from Highway D8, exit 29, to Roudnice, then right to Krabčice and through Rovné to a car park below Říp.

How to get to Stádce? By car from Ústí nad Labem along the Bílina River to Trmice and then to Stádce. Or you can take public service bus No. 4 from Ústí nad Labem to Dubice.

Peruc lies around 14km away both from Louny, the district town, and from Libochovice and Budyň nad Ohří.

[www.usti-nad-labem.cz](http://www.usti-nad-labem.cz)



## Mythical places of Czech history

The lives and acts of three mythical figures of ancient Czech legends are linked with Czech history, as well as the history of the territory of the current Ústí Region. They are Forefather Czech (praotec Čech), Přemysl, the Ploughman (Přemysl Oráč) and Oldřich, Duke of Bohemia. And mythical places of history are connected with them.

Říp Mountain (hora Říp) was assigned special importance by people of the Bronze Age. Generally Říp is linked with the legendary arrival of Forefather Czech, a mythical figure, who gave the Czech lands their name. It has been passed on that he brought the first Slavs to the territory of current Bohemia and climbed Říp, a hill of a rather unusual shape rising up in the middle of flat countryside. The first written record of the legend was made by the chronicler Kosmas. Říp belongs among the national symbols of the Czech Republic, as do the Romanesque rotunda of St. George and Vojtěch on its top. Our predecessors considered Říp to be a magical place. Even one of the foundation stones of the National Theatre was brought from Říp.

He even did not finish a furrow, put on linden bast shoes, pitched the ploughshare by which he drove the oxen in soil, and set off on Libuše's white horse, which was brought to him by envoys from the princess, to Vyšehrad in Prague where he became the prince. Who? Přemysl, the ploughman from Stádce, who was chosen as the new prince for her people by Princess Libuše. Nowadays the legend is commemorated by a monument in Stádce. It consists of Přemysl's plough on a massive block, decorated with reliefs illustrating scenes of Czech legends. The so-called Royal Field (Královské pole) with the monument is a national cultural monument.

Peruc is then the place from where Oldřich, Duke of Bohemia, brought the peasant girl Božena, who did the washing in a spring, to Prague Castle at the beginning of the 11th century, and married her and made her a duchess. The legend is commemorated by the Oldřich Oak in Peruc, which is said to be about 1,000 years old.

## Monuments in Chlumec will commemorate 200 years soon

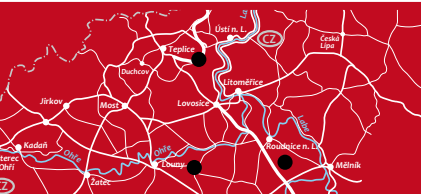
Nowadays the country is overlooked by a big stone lion and memorials are scattered around. In 2013 it will be two hundred years after a battle was fought near Chlumec na Ústecku in 1813, the second biggest battle of the Napoleonic Wars in the Czech lands after Slavkov. After a lost battle at Dresden, allied armies retreated to the Czech territory. French Emperor Napoleon I Bonaparte thus had an opportunity to occupy Bohemia. He sent thirty thousand soldiers under the command of General Vandamme to chase the retreating allied armies, to intercept and destroy them. In August 1813 the battles at Přestanov and Chlumec were fought. The fight was watched by King Frederick William III of Prussia and Tsar Alexander I of Russia. The battles are commemorated by two monuments, one in Přestanov and the second one at the foot of Horka Hill. In the autumn skirmishes between the armies escalated in another major battle at Varvažov, which is commemorated by two monuments. The first one is from 1817 and commemorates the participation of Prussian armies in the battle at Chlumec, and the second one pays homage to General Hieronymus Colloredo-Mansfeld, the commander of the Austrian division, who together with Marshal Karl Schwarzenberg at the head of the allied Austrian, Prussian and Russian Armies forced back the French raid to Bohemia. Ten monuments and memorial places were gradually created. The biggest of them is the so-called Jubilee Monument (Jubilejní památník) on an artificial bank with an access staircase. On a massive stone base a narrowing cylinder rises up to 26 metres high, with a lion statue at the top. The village is proud of it, and a ceremony is held at the memorial every year. And in the field behind Horka Hill, the battle reconstruction is organized, participated by representatives of the countries involved in the important battle.

GPS: 50°41'58.993"N, 13°56'22.697"E

### Practical Information

Chlumec is located at the road between Teplice and Děčín; you can get there by public service bus No. 11 from Ústí nad Labem or other lines, or by bus No. 445 from Děčín, or by bus No. 137 from Teplice or Ústí nad Labem. Admission to the monuments is free, without any limitation.

[www.ouchlumec.cz](http://www.ouchlumec.cz)  
[www.usti-nad-labem.cz](http://www.usti-nad-labem.cz)  
[www.napoleonske-bitvy-1813.cz](http://www.napoleonske-bitvy-1813.cz)







GPS: 50°26'2.74"N, 14°0'53.83"E

### Practical Information

You can get some refreshments in the castle: Canned beer, soft drinks, wafers. Accommodation can be arranged in a hostel at the castle in Libochovice (14 beds), or in Lovosice, or Litoměřice, or Roudnice nad Labem. Interesting places in the surrounding region: the state Castle with a beautiful park in Libochovice, historical museum and Museum of Bohemian Garnets in Třebenice, the town of Budyně nad Ohří; and in the neighbourhood: Slatina – a village of radial development, gothic church with a renaissance tower (there is a shorter but unmarked path to Hazmburk), Klapý – a gothic Church of Nativity of St. John the Baptist from the 14th century, Košťálov – remains of a castle from the 14th century, nature reserve [Adonis vernalis (pheasant's eye), orbus domestica (Service Tree), etc.], Třebívlice – a castle with a room of Ulrike von Levetzow, the owner of the manor and last love of J.W. Goethe, baroque single-isle Church of St. Wenceslas from the 17th century, baroque chapel from the 18th century.

## Impregnable Hazmburk Castle

It is said that if Milešovka is the queen of the Central Czech Mountains, then the king must be Hazmburk Castle. The ruin of the gothic castle, located on a noticeable basalt hill above the village of Klapý three and a half kilometres north-west of Libochovice, is the dominant feature of the landscape of Lower Poohří, and a "rival" landmark of mystical Říp for some. The castle is mentioned in the Chronicle of Dalimil, but people used to live there since time immemorial, which is evidenced by many archaeological findings. The castle was the residence of the House of Zajíc (Zajíc = hase in German) from the 14th to the 16th century. The castle has two towers, the White Tower and the Black Tower. It used to be one of the biggest and strongest castles of that time and was practically impregnable. All attempts to conquer the castle failed. The top of the castle is 418 metres high. The dominant feature of the Lower Castle is the massive oval Black Tower, 25 metres high, built of dark basalt. It is nine metres wide, and its walls are two metres thick. The White Tower with battlements dominates the Upper Castle. It is two metres higher, built of light sandstone, and it is open to the public. In the century before last the ruin of the castle attracted Czech romanticists, for example the Czech poet Karel Hynek Mácha. Other artists were inspired by various legends and tales connected with the castle. The castle was affected by several natural disasters. You can get to Hazmburk Castle from three sides – from Libochovice, from Slatina, and from Klapý; there is a car park below the castle in Klapý. Hazmburk offers a marvelous view of Libochovice and entire Lower Polabí (dolní Polabí) and Poohří, with mystical Říp in the distance, as well as of the breathtaking panorama of the Czech Central Mountains. It is probably most beautiful in the spring when apricot orchards all around are in bloom.

## Terezín as a historical memento

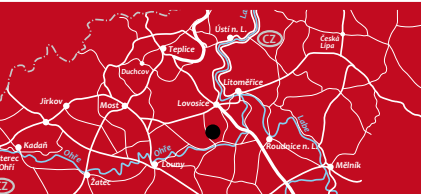
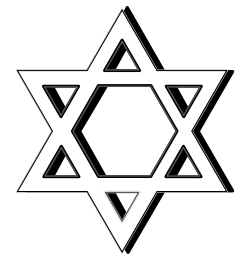
When the Austrian Emperor Charles VI found out that he would not have a son, he appointed his oldest daughter Maria Theresa as his successor. With the so-called Pragmatic Sanction, Prussian King Frederick II lost the possibility to join the Habsburg Empire. To protect the country against Prussian armies, Maria Theresa with her son Joseph II decided to build two fortresses on the northern border in 1780, one of them near the junction of the Elbe and the Ohře. It was named Theresienstadt, Terezín in Czech, after its founder. Although it was not really used in battle, it ranked among the best and most advanced fortresses in the world. It had massive fortification walls, as well as sluice gates which could fill in the moat and basins around the fortress. Inside the main fortress, a town developed, always influenced by the presence of soldiers. The small fortress was later used as a military prison for political and military opponents of the Monarchy, for example Gavrilo Princip after the Assassination at Sarajevo. During World War II it was changed into the infamous jail of the Prague Gestapo. The German occupation authorities moved out original inhabitants and set up a Jewish ghetto in the town. A collection and transit camp was intended for Jews from parts of Europe occupied by fascist Germany. Compared with the original population of 7,000 residents before the War, during the occupation 140,000 men and women went through Terezín; almost 60,000 Jews lived there in horrendous conditions, of which 35,000 died. The Small Fortress has been part of the Terezín National Monument for more than sixty years. In front of the Small Fortress there is the National Cemetery where a special commemorating ceremony is held every year.

GPS: 50°30'35.923"N, 14°8'59.887"E

### Practical Information

Permanent exhibitions Terezín Small Fortress 1940–45, Exhibition of Visual Arts of the Terezín National Monument, Terezín 1780–1939, Litoměřice Concentration Camp 1944–45, Internment Camp for Germans, Small Fortress 1945–48. Visits to underground corridors: Held in a limited extent so far, usually once a month on days that are published beforehand.

[www.pamatinik-terezin.cz](http://www.pamatinik-terezin.cz)  
[www.terezin.cz](http://www.terezin.cz)







GPS: 50°32'2.75"N, 14°7'53.459"E

### Practical Information

Historical monuments are concentrated in the town centre and on Dómský Hill. Two long-distance cycling routes go through the town – the Elbe Cycling Path (Labská cyklostezka) and the Elbe Wine Path (Labská vinařská cesta). Litoměřice is the starting point of marked hiking trails to the Czech Central Mountains. To get to the town, turn off Highway D8, or you can take many other roads. An important event is the Garden of Bohemia (Zahrada Čech) exhibition, which is held every year. The town offers various cultural and sports activities. You will find more information at [www.litomerice.cz](http://www.litomerice.cz).

An excursion train will take you for a tour around all historical sights and show you the beautiful royal town at the junction of two rivers from a really new perspective. The timetable of excursion trains is connected to the timetable of ships on the Elbe.

[www.litomerice-info.cz](http://www.litomerice-info.cz)  
[www.labskaparoplavba.cz](http://www.labskaparoplavba.cz)



## Pearl of the north – Litoměřice

Litoměřice is known as the pearl of Northern Bohemia. It lies at the junction of the Elbe River and Ohře River, on the border of fertile Polabí and the Czech Central Mountains. Litoměřice was provably founded in the 10th century when castellan's castles were built in the reign of Boleslav I. At that time a large and important agglomeration was created there, whose centre was a hillfort on today's Dómský Hill (Dómský pahorek). Three centuries later Litoměřice acquired the rights of a royal town. The town was enclosed by fortification walls, but it spread later. King Charles IV donated his land to the town for setting up new vineyards. A bishopric was established there after the Thirty Years War. In the following centuries the town was rebuilt, first in the baroque style, and later in the classicist style. In the middle of the last century the town was declared a historical town reserve. There are remains of fortification walls, a torso of the royal castle tower, an old town hall which was reconstructed in the renaissance style, and houses of various styles. The town's dominant feature is St. Stephen's Cathedral (katedrála svatého Štěpána) on Dómský Hill, and there are other churches. To commemorate Czech poet Karel Hynek Mácha, the poet's room was opened to the public. In November 2010 Mácha's monument was unveiled; the residents of the town also contributed to its creation. Litoměřice holds the Garden of Bohemia (Zahrada Čech) exhibition every year. There are fruit orchards and vineyards around the town; there is natural Žernosecké Lake (Žernosecké jezero) nearby, and at the outskirts there is Mostka Hill (273m) with a lookout tower. Not far away there are the premises of the infamous underground factory named Richard, which was a branch of the concentration camp in Terezín during World War II. Litoměřice, with around thirty thousand inhabitants, has not become an industrial town. It has always been an intellectual centre, a town of schools and public institutions. It has kept its special charm.



## Visit to the castle in Velké Březno and then to a brewery

Velké Březno is located 8km east of the centre of Ústí nad Labem in a beautiful landscape. Velké Březno specialized in fruit growing, and the fruit was exported by ships. Visitors are mainly interested in the castle in Velké Březno and Velkobřezenský Brewery.

The splendid castle in Velké Březno is one of the youngest castles in our country. It was built for Karl, Count Chotek, the highest burgrave of the Czech Kingdom, in the late Austrian empire style from 1843 to 1845. Later it was rebuilt in the romantic neo-renaissance style. The interior with period furniture evokes the life of the Chotek aristocratic family at the end of the 19th century. Sophie Chotek, granddaughter of the castle founder, also used to live there. As the wife of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, heir presumptive to the Austro-Hungarian throne, she was shot dead together with her husband in 1914, an event denominated as the assassination at Sarajevo, which marked the beginning of World War I. The castle is surrounded by a beautiful natural English-style park with various rare trees and bushes.

The history of Velkobřezenský Brewery is more than four hundred years old. At the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century, 18 types of beer were brewed there. The beer was awarded gold medals from seven exhibitions, for example from Vienna, Berlin and Munich. A trademark with a portrait of Mr Cibich was registered, and the famous TIVOLI restaurant was opened. Velkobřezenský Beer was exported to four continents. At the present time the brewery is owned by Heineken. "Březňák", the local beer, wins beer quality competitions regularly.

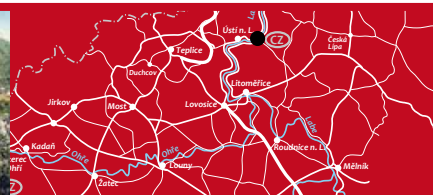
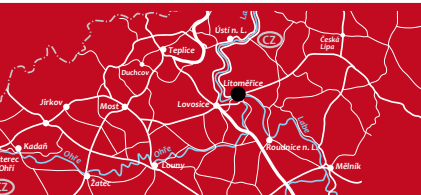
GPS: 50°39'44.879"N, 14°8'18.84"E

### Practical Information

The castle is located at the road on the right river bank, leading from Ústí nad Labem – Střekov to Velké Březno and Děčín; you should turn right in Velké Březno and go over the railway bridge. There is a train stop and bus stop in Velké Březno.

You will find detailed information on visits to the castle, seasonal events and school programs at  
tel.: +420 475 228 331, +420 604 505 323

You can take a guided tour through the brewery and get a unique opportunity to see all of the main operations. You will learn something of the classical technology of Czech beer brewing, and you can enjoy Velkobřezenský Beer tasting. Opening hours for individuals – every Saturday, 2.30 pm from the brewery gatehouse. Groups of more than 10 people – anytime after an arrangement by phone at +420 737 224 087 or by e-mail [josef.helebrant@heineken.com](mailto:josef.helebrant@heineken.com).







GPS: 50°24'17.12"N, 14°7'25.701"E  
50°28'40.889"N, 13°59'3.72"E

### Practical Information

The castle in Budyně nad Ohří is located at the road from Litoměřice to Slaný.

Muzeum českého granátu  
(Museum of Bohemian Garnets):  
tel.: +420 416 594 695

Bohemian garnet (pyrope) is a transparent or even lucid mineral, gem of small dimensions and fiery or even red coloured. It has been collected accidentally since prehistoric times. Organized collection of garnets and their export to Europe started in the early Middle Ages, in the Migration Period from the 6th to the 8th century. They were used most in the reign of Emperor Rudolf II.



## To search for treasure in Budyně and garnets in Třebenice

A golden treasure is allegedly hidden in the castle in Budyně nad Ohří, the result of works done in an alchemist's workshop. The workshop has been discovered recently and ranks among the biggest attractions. The castle is allegedly watched by the sculpture of one of alchemists. It is protected by a moat and swamp on the bank of the Ohře River, and it was located in Budyně as early as in the 13th century. The royal fortress in the gothic style was damaged by an explosion in the powder store, two wings had to be pulled down, and then it was reconstructed in the renaissance style. During the past two centuries the original fortress was rebuilt into a castle. There is the Janda's Museum (Jandovo muzeum) exhibiting some rare things, such as the tools and aids of the last executioner and pricelist of individual acts. In the alchemist's workshop there are various retorts, a melting furnace and mortars of all sizes. They might have been used by famous Tycho Brahe who paid a visit to the workshop. There is also a dining room with a beautiful fireplace, magnificent bay windows and a stuffed crocodile suspended from the ceiling. From the castle courtyard, you can see the remains of outer fortifications with key loopholes.

Třebenice, lying in the Lovosice district in a beautiful landscape of the Czech Central Mountains, is an ancient town famous for fruit growing and garnet mining. There is also one of the oldest museums in our territory. The Museum of Bohemian Garnets in the former Lutheran Church is even more famous. Jewels of Ulrike von Levetzow, the last love of German poet Johann Wolfgang Goethe, who came from nearby Třebívlice, belong among the greatest treasures of the museum. Košťálov Hill with a ruin of the former royal castle forms a picturesque background to the town.

## Roudnice nad Labem – the centre of the Podřipsko Region

Roudnice nad Labem is located in the southern edge of the Ústí Region, on the left bank of the Elbe, in the fertile Polabská Lowland. A baroque castle of the House of Lobkowitz rises up on a steep rock above the river. It is situated in the place where the original Romanesque castle used to be, built to protect the Elbe waterway and ford crossing the river at an important trade route from Prague to Upper Lusatia (Horní Lužice). The horseshoe shaped building of the castle has three wings.

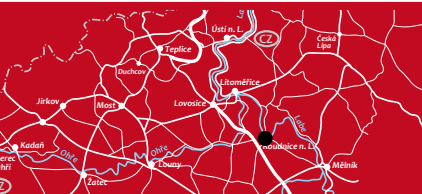
There is the Modern Art Gallery (Galerie moderního umění) in the former riding hall. The most valuable exhibit is a collection of sixty paintings of Antonín Slavíček, a painter of European importance. The collection of the gallery comprises more than three thousand works of art. Other sights that are worth seeing: Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church (chrám Narození Panny Marie), Augustinian Monastery (Augustiánský klášter), Roudnice Castle (Roudnický hrad), or Podřipské Museum (Podřipské muzeum). Another interesting sight is the Hláška Tower, the only preserved structure of the original fortification. The view from the Hláška Tower suggests a view from an aircraft. If you wish to fly, you should visit the airport in Roudnice, established in 1945. Nowadays important air shows are held there. Wine-making in Roudnice enjoys a more than four-hundred-year-old tradition. The town is the economic, social and cultural centre of Podřipsko, an agricultural and fruit-growing region, and there is some industry. Thanks to a bridge over the Elbe, Highway D8 located nearby, railway led parallel to the highway, and the Elbe waterway, Roudnice is an important traffic junction. The dominant feature of the surrounding region is Říp (459m), an isolated basalt mountain seen from far away and mystical place of legends, with a Romanesque rotunda of St. George and Vojtěch on the top.

GPS: 50°25'31.5"N, 14°15'40.65"E

### Practical Information

Tours round the town (starting in the Hláška Tower): Book in the Infocentre a week in advance, tel. 416 850 201–2. Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church, St. Joseph's Chapel and other sights – visits should be arranged in the Infocentre on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Modern Art Gallery (Galerie moderního umění), Očkova 5; tel.: 416 837 301.

Every first Sunday of each month there are teaching services, art workshops: Both for groups and individuals, school groups should make an arrangement at tel. 416 837 301.







GPS: 50°35'5.082"N, 14°20'35.967"E

### Practical Information

There is a bus stop of the Semily public bus service in Ústě, line 458 Ústí nad Labem – Velké Březno – Lovečkovice – Verneřice – Ústě, line 623 Litoměřice – Ploskvice – Soběnice – Liběšice – Ústě, line 624 Litoměřice – Ústě – Kozojedy, and line 626 Ústě – Liběšice – Lovečkovice – Touchořiny. There is also a railway station, route 087 Lovosice – Česká Lípa.

You can get to the ruin of Helfenburk Castle along a marked hiking trail from Ústě, or from the other side along the same path from Blížedvly.

[www.mesto-ustek.cz](http://www.mesto-ustek.cz)

### Muzeum čertů (Museum of Devils)

Jaroslav Stejný  
+420 774 101 125  
[Stejný.Jaroslav@seznam.cz](mailto:Stejný.Jaroslav@seznam.cz)



## To Ústě and Helfenburk

Ústě, the smallest Czech historical town reserve, is located 17km north-east of Litoměřice. the most valuable part of the town is its centre, located on a high steep sandstone rock. It has a lot of preserved late gothic burgher houses. St. Peter and Paul's Church (chrám sv. Petra a Pavla) and the Jewish synagogue are other important buildings. the town is attractive for filmmakers; a part of its atmosphere was caught in Kolja, a Czech film that was awarded an Oscar. Visitors like to come to annual fairs. a unique exhibition is the Museum of Devils (Muzeum čertů) in the Pikartská Tower (Pikartská věž) and castle basement in Panský dvůr. In the Ústě roundhouse, you can learn of the history of the town, minting of Ústě groschens, polishing of semi-precious stones, and you can see the basement hewn in sandstone. the so-called "bird houses" are also interesting. With their shape and location, they look like bird nests built high on a wall. They were built by Italian workers who built the railway in Ústě in the middle of the 19th century. the private gallery named U Brány holds exhibitions of local artists as well as artists known nationwide. There are several ponds in the romantic landscape around the town. the biggest of them is Chmelař (67ha), used for rest and recreation. Ostré, a baroque place of pilgrimage, is situated two and a half kilometres from the town, on a hill offering a wide view. the Way of the Cross leads to Osté, and ends with a group of three chapels. From Ústě you can also take a marked hiking trail to Helfenburk Castle, also called Hrádek. It is a beautiful ruin, located 3km away from the town. It used to be one of the biggest castles in the region in the past. Massive fortifications, passages and a tower over 17 metres high have been preserved from the castle, which belonged to the House of Ronovci, and later to Archbishop Jan of Jenštejn. Thanks to the local citizens' association, which looks after Helfenburk all year round, it is easy to get to the ruin, built on a sandstone rock.

## Traditional wine-growing and water transportation

Since ancient settlements, the region between the Polabská Lowland (Polabská nížina) and Czech Central Mountains has been a significant area of wine-growing. the history of wine-growing in Velké Žernoseky dates back to the 10th century, and Litoměřice even found favour with Charles IV. He donated the royal town land below Radobýl Hill for setting up vineyards. the conditions in the region of Litoměřice are very good for wine growing: Altitude, microclimate, soil composition, southern slopes. the wine growing tradition predominantly developed in monasteries and aristocratic families. the Lobkowicz family in Roudnice nad Labem have maintained their wine growing tradition up to now. Grapes are newly grown in other places as well, for example in the Mostecko Region.

Another tradition is navigation on the Elbe, which has probably been developing since the Bronze Age, but for sure after the beginning of the Roman Empire. Medieval charts and documents evidence a developed trade, controlled by monarchs. Salt, horses, cattle, ceramics, corn and wine were shipped, and customs were paid. the first towns were apparently founded by traders. Děčín became a centre of ship-building; weirs were built there. the first steamer went up the Elbe from Dresden to Děčín in 1838. Six years later the first Czech steamer, named Bohemia, started regular navigation on the Elbe from Prague to Dresden and back. In the middle of the 19th century Ústí nad Labem became the biggest port in Austria-Hungary thanks to the export of coal. After World War II the navigation on the Elbe stagnated. At the present time the best solution between intensification of the Elbe navigation through the construction of navigation levels and environmental protection is being sought. In 2008 regular passenger navigation on the Elbe was renewed, and Žernosecké Lake (Žernosecké jezero) at Litoměřice started to develop as a recreational zone of the region.

### Practical Information

Enjoy unique views of the Czech Central Mountains rather untraditionally – from onboard a ship. Summer navigation on the Elbe on a passenger ship will surely be an extraordinary experience for you.

You will find information on prices and timetables at:

Porta Bohemica Ship

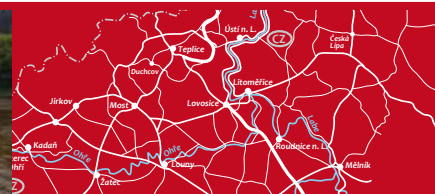
[www.labskaparoplavba.cz](http://www.labskaparoplavba.cz)

[www.osobni-lod.cz](http://www.osobni-lod.cz)

You will find information on the wine-growing region around Litoměřice and wine growers at [www.vinazcech.cz](http://www.vinazcech.cz)

Zámecké vinařství Třebívlice

[www.twine.cz](http://www.twine.cz)







GPS: 50°41'51.32"N, 13°59'24.32"E  
50°30'51.458"N, 14°8'32.698"E

### Practical Information

How to get there: TERASY GOLF CLUB Ústí nad Labem: Set your GPS as follows: 50°41'51.32"N, 13°59'24.32"E; KOTLINA GOLF CLUB Terezín: Set your GPS as follows: 50°30'51.458"N, 14°8'32.698"E

[www.golf-usti.cz](http://www.golf-usti.cz)

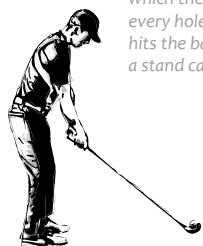
#### VOCABULARY:

DRIVING RANGE – a training tee for a long game

GREEN – the area around a hole with the lowest cut grass

COURSE PAR – a sum of pars for all holes (course standard)

TEE – the place from which the player starts every hole; the player hits the ball from a stand called the tee



## Play a round of golf in Ústí nad Labem or Terezín

Good golf courses in the region include the TERASY GOLF CLUB in Ústí nad Labem and KOTLINA GOLF CLUB in Terezín.

The golf course in Ústí is situated in the north-west part of the city in a reclaimed zone at the edge of the former mine in Všebořice. It makes good use of the landscape features of the former mine's forested edge and surroundings of a natural lake, created by flooding original coal beds. The first nine holes include varied fairways with interesting changes in the height. Tees are mostly made in a stepped way. Most of the holes of the second nine are around the lake. There are also two holes located noticeably higher above the surrounding ground, as the name Terasy (Terraces) indicates. The driving range is more than sufficiently long and wide, there are target greens, additional training greens and obstacles. There is also a good "Club House", including a restaurant, club rooms and winter training premises. The journey from Prague to Ústí takes around one hour; it will be shorter after a part of Highway D8 that is currently under construction is completed.

The golf course in Terezín is located next to the Terezín Fortress and floodplain forest at the junction of the Ohře and the Elbe. It is easy to get there. It is only a little over a half hour drive from Prague, and a few minutes from royal Litoměřice, to get behind the gates of historical Terezín. The course is technically varied; there are carefully cut fairways, treacherous water obstacles and bunkers. It will enable you to play an interesting game and solve unique games situations. Players can use almost all golf clubs. Moderate climatic conditions guarantee short winters in the region, and thus a long golf season.



## Mšené Spa

Mšené Spa is located at the southern edge of the Ústí Region near Roudnice nad Labem, only 45km from Prague, in the picturesque valley of the Mšenský Stream. Mšené Spa is known as a spa and a place with interesting history. Local springs of healing underground water have been known since long ago. The local family spa has been visited by demanding clients since 1796. Apart from treatment of the locomotory system, visitors mainly seek rest, well-being and peace. Nowadays nerve inflammations, post surgery conditions and obesity are cured there as well. Complete programs focus on wellness, beauty, regeneration and relaxation. The therapeutic spectrum includes a wide scale of balneological and rehabilitation procedures and methods. The main emphasis is put on the use of natural healing resources – natural peat and movement therapy. Healing therapies primarily include peat packs, ingredients baths, Jacuzzi and underwater massages, electrotherapy, paraffin, classic massages, Scottish sprays, therapeutic exercises, cryotherapy, reflexive therapy, gas injection and a special offer of therapeutic procedures.

The Dvorana Pavilion, an Art Deco pavilion from 1905, is an architectonic jewel among seven pavilions in Mšené. It was designed by Czech architect Jan Letzel, who unfortunately is more famous abroad than in our country. His best-known work is the Industrial Palace in Hiroshima. The spa pavilions are surrounded by a large romantic park with ponds. Six hundred metres from the spa, the Relax Club, a relaxation and sports centre, has been developing; various cultural events are organized as well, such as social evenings, dancing parties, sports and educational programs. You can also go on trips to visit attractive historical monuments in the Czech Central Mountains.

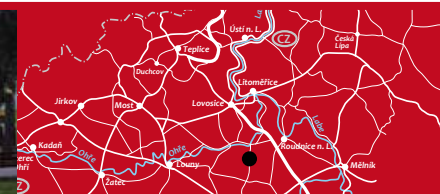
GPS: 50°21'50.524"N, 14°7'55.884"E

### Practical Information

Mšené Spa belongs to the district of Litoměřice; the closest administrative centre is Roudnice nad Labem. Mšené Spa is located around 21 kilometres south of Litoměřice and 13 kilometres south-west of Roudnice nad Labem. If you take Highway D8 from Prague, after driving 35km, you should turn to Budyně nad Ohří.

[www.msene.cz](http://www.msene.cz)

Take a nice trip to the roots of the Czech state and visit nearby Peruc with the memorial Oldřich Oak.







## **Do you know where there are vineyards that Charles IV used to drink the wine from?**

Porta Bohemica (Brána Čech) is a fascinating scenic landscape created by the Elbe entering the Czech Central Mountains. the Elbe flows through a volcanic landscape and weaves its ways between the mountains.



the canyon valley is really unique far and wide. Along the river, vineyards extend, which produce Žernosecké wine, the best wine from Bohemia which Charles IV used to drink. You can enjoy both the Elbe and wine on the Porta Bohemica excursion ship, which will take you from Litoměřice to Ústí nad Labem and back.





## Ore Mountains



## Ore Mountains

The most mountainous part of the region is a continuous belt, which is a part of the whole border mountain range of North-West Bohemia. You can find the highest-situated place on Klínovec, but its peak (1,244 metres above sea level) is located in the neighbouring Region of Karlovy Vary. Therefore the highest peak is usually said to be Macecha (1,113 metres above sea level) in the District of Chomutov. the Ore Mountains offer a number of possible ways of spending your free time. They are intersected with hundreds of kilometres of both hiking and cycling trails; in winter you can enjoy the White Track of the Ore Mountains, which is called the Queen of Running Tracks, there are also many ski resorts for down-hill skiing and snowboarding offering comprehensive services. the Ore Mountains got their name from the word “krušit” (it is Krušné Hory in Czech), which was connected with mining and ore treatment. Thus

the Czech name of the mountains does not refer to harsh, sad, difficult or miserable mountains, which is what that Czech word usually means. You can convince yourself of this fact by making a trip to Krupka, where, besides visiting the St. Martin Gallery, you can take the longest chairlift in Bohemia and go up Komáří Vížka, or while visiting the Ore Mountains Zoo in Chomutov and the Zoo in Děčín and Ústí nad Labem. There are several interesting facilities waiting for you in Most: a motor racing circuit, a hippodrome and an aquadrome. Those who are keen on golf should certainly visit the golf courses in Teplice, Dubí, Most or Libouchec. Another phenomenon of the Ore Mountains is the spa industry, which has long tradition here. Besides Teplice, which is well-known all over Europe, we should also mention Mšené-lázně, Dubí and Bílina, which is popular for its acidulous mineral water.







GPS: 50°23'48.37"N, 12°58'3.7"E

## Practical Information

### KLÍNOVEC

It traditionally offers excellent snow conditions during the whole season and about 12 kilometres of down-hill skiing tracks of all difficulties. It has an area of 35 hectares.

What you can find here are down-hill and cross-country skiing possibilities, snowboarding, skiing schools, ski hire services, enchanting natural beauties, abundant sport activities, large accommodation facilities, and an interesting offer of the Klínovec Ski Resort.

[www.klinovec.cz](http://www.klinovec.cz)

### ACCESSIBILITY

Prague - 120 km, 1 hour 40 minutes  
Ústí nad Labem - 95 km, 1 hour 15 minutes  
Karlovy Vary - 30 km, 30 minutes  
Pilsen - 105 km, 1 hour 30 minutes



## Klínovec – a Ski Centre in the Ore Mountains

There is usually snow at Klínovec (1,244 m) even though there may be no snow in its surroundings in winter. It is the highest mountain of the Ore Mountains. In summer it is popular with hikers and tourists who are keen on cycling; in winter is a sought-after ski centre. There are two excellent ski resorts there; you can ski in nearby Boží Dar, too. the Klínovec Ski Resort offers to visitors three chairlifts and seven ski lifts. Among them is a super-modern four-seat chairlift with an orange protective „bubble“, which can transport as many as 2,400 people an hour, and the trip up to the peak takes only four and a half minutes. This mountain centre is often covered with fog in winter. However, when the fog disappears and the resort is bathed in sunshine, often over a sea of clouds, those who love winter sport feel like they are in a cheesy postcard scene. Both sport skiers and families with children can enjoy themselves here. This majestic mountain hidden in mysterious mist has been luring adventurous souls since time immemorial. In the middle of the 19th century, a stabilized route up to the peak was built so that even guests of the nearby spa towns could set off to safely enjoy the fresh mountain air there. In 1884 members of the Ore Mountains Society of Jáchymov built a stone watchtower on Klínovec; later a compound of hotel buildings was constructed, too. a telecommunication tower was built in the second half of the 20th century. the premises are under reconstruction at present. the historic buildings should be restored to their original condition of the beginning of the 20th century, but some special features in the modern style are being prepared, too, e.g. a self-service dining-room, an underground car park, and a fitness centre. a village of Boží Dar has founded the Klínovec Endowment Fund for this purpose. the patron of this fund is successful Czech skier Lukáš Bauer, who comes from this village. It is not far - only 3 kilometres - to German ski resort Fichtelberg and to Oberwiesenthal, which is a spa situated below the resort.

## White Trail of the Ore Mountains - Paradise for Classical Skiers

A tangle of unconnected individual cross-country skiing trails is a thing of the past in the Ore Mountains. It was replaced with a unique network of treated cross-country skiing tracks called the White Trail of the Ore Mountains. This network of more than 350 kilometres long goes from Lesná on the border of the regions of Most and Chomutov through Klíny, Dlouhá Louka, Bouřňák, Fojtovice and Telnice. These are six centres of the White Trail of the Ore Mountains. You can find comprehensive information on these centres on their web pages. Thus, one of the largest comprehensive networks of cross-country skiing tracks in the Czech Republic was created. Moreover, it follows the tracks in neighbouring Saxony. At present, work is being carried out in order to ensure that these tracks also follow the tracks on the German side of the Ore Mountains. the aim of these efforts is not only the possibility of high-quality sport entertainment, but also preparation of common sports and cultural events, their unified promotion, and creation of the same navigation system for tourists. Other comprehensive services, changing rooms, showers, cloakrooms, and cross-country ski rentals will be added in the following years. the association is formed by several organisations that are supported by commercial entities and adjacent towns. All its members share the responsibility for treatment of the tracks. the most frequented section directly on the ridge of the Ore Mountains is treated using a snowmobile and a cycle car on snow belts with a tracer for both classical style and skating. the Folk House of the Ore Mountains was officially opened at Lesná in September 2010. It includes a museum showing the life of mountain dwellers more than one hundred years ago.

## Practical Information

On [www.kbstopa.cz](http://www.kbstopa.cz) you can find: webcams of the resorts with current pictures, current temperature and weather conditions at 8 a.m., current snow conditions and conditions of the treated tracks and the date of their last treatment, features of each of the six resorts and the possibility of transportation to them, a list of partners of the KBS association, and last but not least, rules for cross-country skiers, i.e. how to behave on the tracks.

The Ore Mountains have a brand new attraction in the area of Most: a replica of an original local building of 1873 and of a local bell tower was constructed in Lesná. These constructions serve as a small museum of 19th century life in the Ore Mountains.

[www.horskyklublesna.cz](http://www.horskyklublesna.cz)







GPS: 50°44'7.688"N, 13°55'28.855"E  
50°41'19.079"N, 13°43'6.359"E  
50°37'42.516"N, 13°33'54.067"E

### Practical Information

#### SKI RESORTS:

[www.kliny.cz](http://www.kliny.cz)

[www.ski-telnice.cz](http://www.ski-telnice.cz)

[www.tisa.cz](http://www.tisa.cz)

Ski buses: Ústí nad Labem –  
Telnice, Jirkov – Chomutov – Hora  
Sv. Šebestiána, Litvínov – Loučná –  
Dlouhá Louka

## Other Ski Centres

The top ski resort of the Ore Mountains is Klínovec with Boží Dar. However, other resorts are on a very good level, too, and have their regular visitors. They usually ski at Telnice, Bouřňák, Klíny, Komářův vížka and in Český Jiřetín.

The resort in Zadní Telnice in the Region of Ústí doesn't belong among the largest resorts of Northern Bohemia but it is definitely the second best equipped after Klínovec. They have snow canons and illuminated pistes for evening skiing here. There are also cross-country skiing circuits on the ridge of the Ore Mountains by Adolfov. Zadní Telnice is accessible by public transport from Ústí nad Labem at weekends and there is also a car park.

At Bouřňák in the area of Teplice there are six kilometres of pistes and several tens of kilometres of cross-country skiing tracks. It is possible to get there by car from Hrob, the main car park is situated by the lower ski-lift station to Bouřňák in Mikulov, and you can also find parking areas in Nové Město and Moldava. the route of a romantic mountain railway goes here, too, as well as a regular bus line from Teplice.

There are several minor, but comfortable ski resorts in the Ore Mountains in the area of Most. the ski resort at Klíny has prepared several new features, e.g. a tourist chalet called Emeran II, and cross-country skiers may make use of a new track to Germany. the ski resort of Český Jiřetín is situated approximately thirty kilometres above Litvínov on the Czech-German border. the ski resort in Hora Svaté Kateřiny is situated on the border, too. There are three pistes at Komářův vížka above Bohosudov, where you can get by car, bus or chairlift.



## Museum of the Air Battle above the Ore Mountains in Kovářská

The greatest air battle over our country took place in September 1944 over Kovářská, which is a village in the Ore Mountains. Thirteen American aircrafts were shot down by German aircrafts here within several minutes. a unique museum was opened here in 1997. It reminds us of the air slaughter of the Allies over Schmiedeberg, which is what Kovářská used to be called in the past. During the war, the Allies wanted to bring Germans down by destroying industry. the Third Reich had to rely on import of raw materials, especially oil, therefore the Americans attacked oil fields in Romania. However, the Germans started to produce synthetic fuel and natural rubber in Záluží near Most. So this was the place that was the target of a huge mission called the Bloody Hundredth with more than a thousand B-18 and 275 bombers and with P-51 Mustang fighter planes to protect them. But the Germans knew about the enemy thanks to their good intelligence service. Their Fw and Messerschmitt fighter planes approached the Americans from behind, they divided the group of American machines and shot down or damaged some of them. a lot of German fighter planes were shot down, too. Three rooms of the museum include 300 exhibits, among which are ruins and remains of aircrafts, uniforms, authentic documents, and equipment of pilots of both parties in the conflict. You can also find a number of contemporary photographs there, war documents, remains of weapons and personal belongings of pilots including maps. a monument was unveiled here, and a unique event took place for the first time in 1997 when the enemies met - both American and German pilots had already lost the bitterness of hostility. This meeting including a packed programme takes place every year.

GPS: 50°26'19.21"N, 13°3'5.327"E

### Practical Information

The museum is situated about 120 kilometres from Prague. You can get there along road No. 7 to Chomutov and further in the direction of Chemnitz. Turn left behind the village of Křimov in the direction of Vejprty. Turn to Kovářská by the dam of Přisečnice. If you go by train, you can use route No. 137 from Chomutov.

Contact details: Petr Frank

Tel. No.: 474 396 181

(7.00 a.m.–3.00 p.m.)

e-mail: [petr.cilko@centrum.cz](mailto:petr.cilko@centrum.cz)

Ing. Jan Zdiarský, Ph.D.

e-mail: [517@centrum.cz](mailto:517@centrum.cz)

[www.museum119.cz](http://www.museum119.cz)







GPS: 50°25'27.728"N, 13°6'41.382"E

### Practical Information

If you want to visit Měděnec, you have to turn towards the Ore Mountains in Klášterec nad Ohří. Měděnec is 12 km away from here. It has become a centre of both winter and summer sport; it is situated at the crossroads of cycling trails.

You can also get to the Sphinxes on foot from the car park in Měděnec or from the bus stop. Nevertheless, there is a natural car park right at the place of this natural monument.

Cycling trails in the surroundings: 23, 35, 36, 204, 3004

[www.medenec.cz](http://www.medenec.cz)



## Historical Adit of the Virgin Mary, the Helper on Měděnec and Měděnec sphinxes

A former free mining town of Měděnec is situated on the ridge of the Ore Mountains at the altitude of 845 metres. Silver copper ore was extracted in the hill called Mědník, or Mědná hůrka, above the town since the 10th century. the land register, which recorded ownership of estates, mentioned the hill as an ore deposit in the middle of the 15th century. Mining of chalcopyrite and pyrite was launched here one hundred years later.

A sample of previous mining work that used to be performed in the Ore Mountains may be seen in the Adit (Gallery) of the Virgin Mary, the Helpful, which was opened in 2007. It is a mine in the Ore Mountains from the 16th century, located on the southeast side of Mědník Hill. the tour of the mine takes about 40 minutes. You can also visit a small private museum of mining and life in Měděnec in the premises of the Mědník Restaurant. What you can see there is the material mined and various documents and objects, and you can leaf through an album containing historic photographs. You can also buy tickets for the Adit (Gallery) of the Virgin Mary, the Helpful in the premises.

South-east of the village there are the so-called Sphinxes of Měděnec. These are interesting and precious rock formations, which were declared a natural heritage site in 1983. They cover the area of 0.6 hectares at the altitude of 800 metres. This rock formation offers a beautiful view into the valley between the Ore and Doupovské Mountains, with the Ohře River flowing through Klášterec, Kadaň and continuing far beyond the horizon. This natural monument got its name according to its front part, which looks like the face of a Sphinx.

## Ruin of Hasištejn Castle

Legends should not be taken seriously. As if they were right, Hasištejn Castle near Kadaň would be affected with a curse by its one-time lord, who after returning from the wars against the Avars killed three people including his daughter and himself because a command of his had not been followed. the German name of the castle can be translated as "The Rock of Hatred". However, the facts are as follows: the castle was founded in the 14th century as a fort to protect significant merchant routes from the land border to the inland. It is situated high on a rock projection above the Pruněrovský Creek. the castle originally belonged to the king, and due to its remarkable significance it was even mentioned in the code of the king and emperor Charles IV, which is called Majestas Carolina. Thus its inalienability was expected to be secured. Later the castle had various owners; at first they were obliged to provide the castle to the ruler if necessary. At the end of the 15th century a cultural centre of European significance was created here, an extensive library was collected and the ability of the castle to protect itself was improved. After a fire in the 16th century it started to fall into ruin. However, an initiative for its rescue was launched at the end of the 19th century. Its walls were reinforced, the tallest tower was reconstructed as a watchtower, and the former palace turned into a restaurant. the restaurant was burnt down in the 1970s but it has been renovated again. the castle is an impressive monument and a sought-after tourist destination again. It offers an enchanting view of the Ore Mountains area. It also holds many fairs, such as a reconstruction of the conquering of the castle, knight battles, and market fairs.

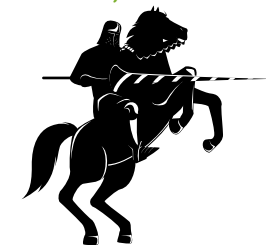
GPS: 50°26'43.03"N, 13°15'25.329"E

### Practical Information

You can get to the castle ruins from the main road from Chomutov and Karlovy Vary, where there is a marked turning to the castle in front of Pruněrov. You can go by car up to the castle and park in front of the access gate. You can also walk there from Pruněrov. the castle is open to the public even without a guide. What you can see there are the interiors, a small and a big tower, a chapel and cellars. the castle tower provides an excellent view; you can also make use of the castle restaurant.

Regular events at the castle:  
Traditional burning of witches  
Castle Revelry

[www.hasistejn.cz](http://www.hasistejn.cz)







GPS: 50°30'43.989"N, 13°26'40.459"E

### Practical Information

Tel. No.: 474 684 560

e-mail: [recepce@zamek-jirkov.cz](mailto:recepce@zamek-jirkov.cz)

[www.zamek-cerveny-hradek.cz](http://www.zamek-cerveny-hradek.cz)

#### A tip for a trip:

We recommend that visitors to the chateau also visit the unique, mostly preserved town cellars, which were dug in sandstone in the 16th century, and that they go up the stone town tower. Entry into the cellars and the tower is provided by workers of the information centre.

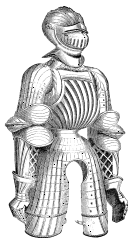
#### Information Centre Jirkov:

Kostelní 47, Jirkov 431 11

Tel. No.: +420 474 654 265

e-mail: [info.centrum@jirkov.cz](mailto:info.centrum@jirkov.cz)

[www.jirkov.cz](http://www.jirkov.cz)



## Červený hrádek u Jirkova Chateau

Those who love fairy tales and romance should certainly visit a Baroque chateau called Červený hrádek, which is situated above the town of Jirkov at the foot of the Ore Mountains. It is located at the place of a castle called Borek from the 15th century, which was renovated, given a red facade and renamed after Hussite raids. The originally medieval castle was reconstructed into the Baroque appearance in the second half of the 17th century and decorated with sculptures by significant sculptor Jan Brokof, who was born here. The chateau has a beautiful two-arm staircase; the most remarkable feature is its lavishly decorated Knights Hall. Downstairs next to the main entrance there is a chateau chapel; the Baroque chateau park dates back to the end of the 18th century. The chapel was extended and a library was built, the front was remodelled and the English-style park was established at that time, too. An important period of the history of the chateau is August 1938 when British ambassador Lord Runciman and leader of the Sudeten Germans Konrad Henlein met there to negotiate. This event contributed to the post-war confiscation of the chateau by the government. Since 1995 the chateau has been owned by the town of Jirkov. Both the chateau and the garden are open to the public all year long. You can join a tour of the ground floor, which includes a gallery, a military museum, a chateau chapel of St. John the Baptist, and on the first floor you can see the Mirror Hall, the Knights Hall, a hunting saloon with a picture gallery, and a study room of Max Egon Hohenlohe-Langenburg. The tour of the chateau also involves exhibitions, which are updated every year. The chateau premises also comprise a training centre, a hotel and a restaurant, which is open every day. The chateau is run by a state-funded institution of the town of Jirkov, which is also the organiser of a number of traditional cultural events.

## Jezeří and Korozluky Chateaus

The Jezeří Chateau is a symbol of efforts to preserve the landscape and cultural monuments. It soars on a high projection running out of the Ore Mountains massif above the coal basin of Most. It is one of the dominant features of the Ore Mountains. Its terraces offer a stunning view of the Bohemian Central Mountains. The original castle, which was built in the 14th century, has a rich history: It was burnt down, reconstructed, and changed into a chateau. During its most significant period of the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries, its main hall reconstructed into a theatre even hosted previews of the Vienna Court Theatre. Leading artists such as Mysliveček, Tomášek and Beethoven performed here, too. The first free music school of Bohemia was established here; it was the seat of a famous quartet and a meeting place of many major personalities including J.W. Goethe. The chateau is surrounded by a park and an arboretum. During the time of the Nazi Regime the chateau became a centre of Bohemian patriotism; Czech theatre plays were performed there. During the war it was occupied by the Wehrmacht and served as a prison for diplomats, officers and politicians of the Allies. The government let the chateau go to ruin after the war. It was expected that it would be demolished in favour of coal mining. Luckily, this didn't happen due to efforts of a people's movement and individuals. Its reconstruction began at the beginning of the 1990s, but it has been proceeding very slowly due to the size of the chateau. In spite of this fact, it was decided that this "jewel of the Ore Mountains" would be opened to the public and thus resurrected.

The Korozluky Chateau in the region of Most had a similar destiny. The family of M. Perout bought it in a very bad condition at the last possible moment. Due to their extraordinary efforts, this unique buildings has been saved and their romantic dream has come true.

GPS: 50°33'15.56"N, 13°30'17.669"E  
50°28'45.999"N, 13°43'31.999"E

### Practical Information

#### JEZEŘÍ CHATEAU - tours for visitors:

Tour I - interiors of the chateau (suggestive exposition): This tour will give you information on the history of the chateau and its surroundings, and on the course of reconstruction with future prospects.

Tour II - cellars (fairy-tale characters and ghosts): the cellars, the purpose of which was originally storing of fruit and vegetables, are occupied by fairy-tale characters and ghosts at present.

[www.zamek-jezeri.cz](http://www.zamek-jezeri.cz)

**THE KOROZLUKY CHATEAU** offers: a tour of the interiors, a summer theatre, concerts, exhibitions, previews, holding of cultural and social events, wedding ceremonies, church ceremonies in St. Joseph's Chapel, a tour of the chateau game preserve with deer and fallow deer, rides in historical carriages, and an exposition of historic vehicles.







GPS: 50°36'7.85"N, 13°44'40.6"E

### Practical Information

For more information on the town, Casanova, sights and other interesting features visit the Town Information Centre in Duchcov. In summer, besides others, you can enjoy a unique view from the church watchtower. You can see not only the town, but also the Ore Mountains and a part of the Bohemian Central Mountains. Other interesting features include an exposition called the History of Duchcov and a research room with documents related to Casanova, which is placed in the Museum of Duchcov.

At the beginning of June every year, the Casanova Fair takes place in the town. This event is a destination of both local and foreign visitors. Giacomo Casanova himself is a guide to this fair.

[www.duchcov.cz](http://www.duchcov.cz)



## Duchcov Chateau - Dux

The history of Duchcov commenced in 1207 and is connected with the fair village of Hradišín on the place of which it is situated nowadays. The first written record of a town in this place dates back to 1240. During the reign of King George of Poděbrady it experienced a period of development, and the House of Valdštejn contributed to its major building and cultural development, too. The rich history of the town is proved by a number of cultural monuments and the town centre has been deservedly declared a historical town preserve. The dominant feature of the town is a Baroque chateau, originally the Renaissance seat of the House of Lobkowitz, which was reconstructed by Jan Bedřich of Valdštejn at the end of the 17th century. However, the chateau is generally popular for the personality of a renowned globetrotter Giacomo Casanova, who spent 13 years of his life here as a librarian for Count Valdštejn and who wrote his major works including his famous Memoirs here.

The chateau can boast of a unique Baroque garden, which is distinguished by a wide variety of flowers and climbing roses. The chateau park is in the French style and contains a set of pools and fountains. The sculptures of Minerva, Mars and two depictions of Hercules separate an honest courtyard from an external courtyard. The author of the external sculpture decoration is Matyáš Bernard Braun and his workshop. The chateau hosted European personalities: Johann Wolfgang Goethe, Friedrich Schiller, Fryderyk Chopin, Joseph Haydn, Ludwig van Beethoven, but also politicians and statesmen: Russian Tzar Alexander I, Grand Prince Konstantin, King Frederick William III of Prussia, Austrian Chancellor Metternich, Prince Karel Schwarzenberg, Austrian Marshal Radecký, and others.

The Duchcov Chateau offers three tours. The first of them maps the history of the House of Valdštejn and their activities as collectors and benefactors. The second one describes the life in the chateau in the period of Giacomo Casanova and Count Joseph Charles Emanuel Valdštejn, who brought Casanova to the chateau. The third tour, which consists of three parts, presents various shapes of the chateau garden, the significance and closing of the Baroque hospital, and the destiny of Reiner's fresco from the hospital Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary.

## Osek Monastery

The history of a beautiful monastery of the Order of Cistercians in Osek, which is situated in the foothills of the Ore Mountains, is more than eight hundred years long. Today the monastery is a cultural and tourist centre offering a look into the history from the Romanesque period through the Gothic style to Baroque and provides unrepeatable cultural experiences in a fairy-tale environment. From the 12th century when the Order of Cistercians were invited to us the monastery has gone through a stormy boom and decline, too. It was invaded by armies, plundered by the Branibors, and burnt down by the Hussites. In the 15th century it was damaged, the monks were murdered and the property was taken away. Rudolf II abolished it in 1580, however, the Pope invalidated this decision. The manor was confiscated during the Thirty Years War, but the monastery was given back to the Cistercians later. Its fame culminated in the 18th century when it was reconstructed in the Baroque style. It was damaged by bombing at the end of the Second World War. German Cistercians were expelled after 1945 and in 1950 the government established an internment camp here for monks and priests who were transported to prisons and uranium mines for forced work. Later it became a charity home for nuns. Cistercians got the monastery back after 1989. In July 1992 the global Society of Friends of Osek Monastery was founded and the monastery itself was declared a cultural heritage site in 1995. Its dominant feature is the large monastery Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, which is an originally Romanesque three-nave basilica that was reconstructed in the Baroque style. Due to its length of 76 metres it belongs to the largest religious constructions in Bohemia. The most valuable part of the old monastery is an early Gothic capitular hall with a stone reading pulpit.

GPS: 50°37'15.069"N, 13°41'41.748"E

### Practical Information

How to get there? The monastery is situated in the centre of the town of Osek on the road from Dubí by Teplice to Litvínov. Premises open to the public: Entrance area - an information and tourist centre, a gallery, a church, a cloister, a capitular hall.

[www.osek.cz](http://www.osek.cz)

Another historic sight is the nearby castle of Rýzmburk situated approximately 2 km above Osek in the Ore Mountains in a pass between Špičák and Stropník; for a detailed history, picture gallery and virtual tour of the castle go to [www.hradosek.cz](http://www.hradosek.cz).

Every year, on the third weekend of August, the town holds the „Osek Fair“, which belongs to the major cultural events of the region, as well as a historical market place in the premises of the Osek monastery.







GPS: 50°28'29.039"N, 13°38'32.743"E  
 50°29'45.166"N, 13°38'49.941"E  
 50°31'11.54"N, 13°36'27.12"E  
 50°31'29.99"N, 13°40'58.989"E

### Practical Information

#### AUTODROME and POLYGON:

Technical data of the circuit:  
 length: 4219 m; width: 12–14 m; the longest  
 straight: 792 m; the shortest straight: 150  
 m; number of turnings: 21, out of which 12  
 right and 9 left; elevation difference: 12.04  
 m; max. ascent: +2.8 ‰; max. descent: -3.2  
 ‰; ascent from the start: +0.43 ‰; direction  
 of driving: clockwise; pole position: left.

[www.autodrom-most.cz](http://www.autodrom-most.cz)

**HIPPODROME:** Year-round stabling  
 or adoption of horses, horse riding,  
 accommodation near the stable, a horse-  
 bar.

[www.hipodrom.cz](http://www.hipodrom.cz)

**AERODROME:** Air services,  
 organisation of sports and cultural  
 events, adrenalin experiences, an air  
 school and rent of storing and other  
 space.

**AQUADROME:** Wet refreshments,  
 a sauna, minigolf, discount cards and a number  
 of water attractions for great experiences.

[www.aquadrom.cz](http://www.aquadrom.cz)

## Most – a City of Dromes

The town of Most offers four attractive facilities to its visitors. One of them comprises the most modern training and testing area for training of drivers in critical situations in Central Europe, which is open all year long - the centre of safe driving teaching called POLYGON Most is a part of the motor racing circuit of Most. It is a special four-kilometre racing circuit with natural stands that are roofed at the start and finish and with boxes for racing vehicles. It also has a licence certificate of international federations and holds major automobile races, e.g. the Championship of the Czech Republic, Germany, Switzerland, but it also held a concert of the Lucie rock group. One hundred thousand viewers attended the opening automobile race in 1983. the HIPPODROME, a horse-racing track, has become popular, too. It was established as a top result of the Czech recultivation school at the place of a former coal chute behind the town. There are races over wicker fences, a steeplechase and also show jumping, too, from April to October. Besides the racing track, which is 1,800 metres long (1,200 for straight races), the facility also has its hinterland, i.e. stabling for horses, a paddock, a stand for 1,500 visitors, a refreshment centre, a children's corner, and also a unique draining and irrigation system for a more than 3-kilometres long tarmac track for in-line skaters, which is freely accessible. Those who are fond of water entertainment should visit the AQUADROME of Most, which can boast of two roofed helter-skelters, a wild river, water gargoyles, a children's pool, a sauna, a fitness centre, a solarium, a hairdresser's and massages. What is an international rarity is the AERODROME, or a public domestic airport belonging to Aeroclub Most. It has hangars and a two-storey airport building with an accommodation facility; there are also workshops and an air-school, and you can attend lessons of flying gliders. the facility held a number of international events, including several European championships; you can also enjoy sightseeing flights there.

## Hněvín and a Moved Church

Hněvín, which looks like a fairy-tale castle, is situated on the peak of Hněvín (399 m) above the town of Most. Its current appearance is a result of historizing reconstruction of the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. It provides a view of the town of Most, the Ore Mountains and the peaks of the Bohemian Central Mountains. There was a fortified wooden settlement as early as in the 9<sup>th</sup> century, and four hundred years later there was a unconquerable stone castle with a strategic position. Its name translated from German meant Land Guard and Chateau Hill even before. It got its name Hněvín later; it is said it was after Hněv, one of its founders. a major European alchemist, the Englishman Edward Kelley, stayed here during the reign of Rudolf II. At first, Kelley was very popular with the emperor, and later he turned into his prisoner who died in the castle of Most in 1597. the castle was first conquered by Swedes during the Thirty Years War and later it was pulled down. Its renovation started at the end of the 19th century. There is a hotel with a restaurant, a watchtower and an observatory here today. Vineyards have been renovated on its terraces. Every June you can visit the Day of Master Kelley at the castle.

Three naves with a prismatic tower in the front facade of the Gothic Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary are an architectonic jewel. the church from the 13th century burnt down, a new one was built in the 16th century. After a decision on liquidation of old Most in 1975, unique technical measures were taken and the ten thousand tons of the church mass were transferred by 841 metres at the speed of 2.16 cm per minute. This action took 27 days. the church contains some exhibition space and an exposition of Gothic and Renaissance art of North-West Bohemia. Stained glass of the 19th century returned to the windows, and besides that you can also see stained glass from the chapel windows on the tribune. the church will return to its original place with the model of old Most in the reduction scale of 1:25 in the MiniMost Park, which is situated in the recultivated mine pit under the castle of Hněvín.

GPS: 50°31'14.399"N, 13°37'59.889"E  
 50°31'3.76"N, 13°38'55.52"E

### Practical Information

From the east and north, Hněvín is surrounded by the so-called Most Corridor with its four-lane road No. 13 and 27 (I/13 and I/27) and also by European road E442. If you want to visit Hněvín, you have to leave these roads and continue in the direction of the castle. the ascent is very steep, but it is possible to drive to the very top! In the north-west, the hill is followed by the Souš housing development, in the west Hněvín is divided from Široký vrch by a saddle (V Rokli Street), and the south looks at Most. Experienced bikers appreciate that there will be a cycling trail leading through the top of Hněvín. An observatory has been opened at the castle with efficient Gustav Heyde lenticular binoculars, which allow 500-multiple zooming in. Hněvín - Castle [www.hradhnevin.cz](http://www.hradhnevin.cz)

#### PLANETARIUM:

You can send your booking to [planetarium@hotel-cascade.cz](mailto:planetarium@hotel-cascade.cz), phone +420 773 152 820, +420 476 703 250 Most – the information centre. tel./fax: +420 476 105 314, e-mail: [info@imostecko.cz](mailto:info@imostecko.cz)







GPS: 50°38'16.812"N, 13°44'48.26"E  
50°43'41.021"N, 13°45'12.156"E  
50°28'38.399"N, 13°38'57.236"E

### Practical Information

**BARBORA:** the nicest holes: No. 3: a four-par with left dogleg with green in a birch grove, No. 5: besides a precise game in the field, it requires thoughtful course management, Nos. 2 and 8: provide a charming view of the Ore Mountains;  
e-mail: [info@golfbarbora.cz](mailto:info@golfbarbora.cz),

**CÍNOVEC:** some holes: No. 8: the most difficult and also the longest hole (496 m, 428 m resp.), the shortest hole has the same teeing ground and is 115 metres long;  
e-mail: [golf@golf-teplice.cz](mailto:golf@golf-teplice.cz)

**MOST:** number of holes/par: 9/70, the shortest hole: No. 2 (124 metres), the longest hole: No. 5 (490 metres);  
e-mail: [sekretariat@golfmost.cz](mailto:sekretariat@golfmost.cz)



## Barbora Golf, Cínovec and Most

The Barbora golf premises, officially called GOLF CLUB SPA, are situated 5 km west of Teplice on the south bank of a pond by the Oldřichov holiday area. It has quite an easy course, wide fairways and mildly undulating terrain. There are also holes in a birch grove surrounded by water, other holes provide a view of the Ore Mountains, and there is also a 250-metre-long driving range, a putting green and a pitching area. You can rent golf clubs and make use of a restaurant with a fireplace and a terrace.

Ten kilometres away from Teplice nearby the border with Germany, there is a golf compound called GOLF CLUB TEPLICE in Cínovec. It is situated in the beautiful environment of the Ore Mountains and belongs to the most difficult courses in our country due to its unmistakable mountain character. Basically classical links, although located 868 metres above the sea level. It has nine holes on the level of surrounding hills, with a view of the Bohemian Central Mountains, it is mildly undulating, demanding not only due to wind, and the weather makes it almost a real Scottish course with occasional fog. It has a unique atmosphere especially at the moments when the sun is shining. Large driving range, chipping and putting green, enough parking lots and a unique clubhouse in a mountain chalet with refreshments are opened from May to October.

The GOLF CLUB MOST with nine holes and mildly undulating terrain is situated in the pleasant and calm environment next to the Hippodrome. Its advantage is that it is possible to play golf there all year long. Of course, there is a clubhouse with refreshments, a pro shop, driving, putting, chipping green, play from a bunker and a very affordable green fee, a possibility to rent clubs, carts, bags and trainer services. In winter you can play indoors. There are plans to extend the course to 18 holes.

## Teplice Spa

Teplice is a perfect place for those who want their holiday to be a healing stay for both their body and soul. Besides treatment stays, the local spa also offers holiday stays that connect pleasant procedures and spa-like peace. Local thermal springs were discovered here more than 2000 years ago, which makes Teplice one of the oldest spas in Europe. Due to its unique atmosphere and healing springs, many famous rulers, diplomats, artists and major personalities visited the town. Goethe and Beethoven met here, Swedish King Gustav IV and Tzar Peter I visited Teplice, too. Emperor Franz Joseph I and German Emperor William I also found their peace here. They certainly went for a walk in the large chateau garden and the spa park, or to other pretty places that you can see here even today. Teplice used to be referred to as "Little Paris". Top care and world-level excellent services are provided especially by four main spa houses; among them is for example the Beethoven Spa House. The thermal springs, which rise from porphyry layers, are especially used for treatment of the locomotor and circulatory systems.

A destination of your outing through the town may be a chateau situated in the town centre, which was established by Queen Judith in the 12th century. It houses a museum, and in front of the chateau there is a plague column by sculptor Matyáš Braun, which is dedicated to the Holy Trinity. You can enjoy water attractions in the aquacentre of Teplice. Those who want to enjoy the countryside should visit a nearby reservoir called Barbora, which has 65 hectares and which is up to 40 metres deep. Another tip is a botanical garden with more than 3,000 species of plants; among other things you can see precious orchids of which there are only a few in the world. Teplice has a rich cultural programme and offers a wide range of outings in its surroundings; you can visit beautiful castles, chateaus and other monuments. Sports facilities are on a very good level, too.

GPS: 50°38'29.332"N, 13°50'12.818"E

### Practical Information

e-mail: [info@lazneteplice.cz](mailto:info@lazneteplice.cz)  
tel.: +420 417 977 444  
[www.lazneteplice.cz](http://www.lazneteplice.cz)

Information Centre of the Statutory Town of Teplice,  
Benešovo nám. 840, 415 01 Teplice  
e-mail: [tic@teplice.cz](mailto:tic@teplice.cz)  
[www.teplice.cz](http://www.teplice.cz)

Teplice Chateau - the seat of the Regional Museum of Teplice  
[www.muzeum-teplice.cz](http://www.muzeum-teplice.cz)

House of Culture of Teplice  
e-mail: [dkteplice@dkteplice.cz](mailto:dkteplice@dkteplice.cz)

Botanical Gardens - Teplice  
[www.botanickateplice.cz](http://www.botanickateplice.cz)







GPS: 50°41'4.166"N, 13°51'29.34"E

## Practical Information

### STARÝ MARTIN GALLERY:

Visitors are recommended to wear hardwearing shoes and warm clothes; the temperature in the gallery is only 8–10 °C in summer, the tour takes about 45 minutes. Total length of the tour: 1 km. Children under 5 years of age are not allowed to enter the gallery; it is prohibited to take pictures and make videos.

**FUNICULAR (CHAIR LIFT) UP KOMÁŘÍ VÍŽKA:** length of 2,348 metres, elevation difference of 482 metres, duration of ride 15 minutes, speed of ride 2.5 m/s, altitude of the upper station 806 metres, operation all year long, information on 417 861 579; in the period of 1 January–31 March the chair lift operates only if at least 5 people meet to take it or if the fare that is equal to five people using the lift is paid, a possibility to transport bicycles and skis.

[www.mukrupka.cz](http://www.mukrupka.cz)  
[www.komarivizka.eu](http://www.komarivizka.eu)

## Komáří Vížka and Funicular

The old mining town of Krupka was established in the period of tin mining and is probably the oldest deposit of tin ore in Central Europe. The heart of the town is formed by the Marian Square with the Basilica of Our Lady of Sorrows. While going up Hussite Street, turn left and you will get to the castle of Krupka. a marked mining path will lead you to a tour gallery called Starý Martin, which is one of the most important mining works in this area. Local tin ore veins were subject to intensive mining in the past. the local tin vein, which was two kilometres long, was the longest one of its kind in Central Europe. the tour of the gallery is approximately one kilometre long and what you can see there is the character of its digging and the methods of making it stronger, demonstrations of digging, mineral stuffing and karst-like decoration; in front of the gallery you can have a look at some examples of mining technology used. From the gallery you can walk to Komáří vížka (Kněžiště) (806 m) with the oldest watchtower of the Ore Mountains. the oldest and longest chair lift without a stop in Bohemia, which is 2,348 metres long and which covers more than 482 metres in altitude, goes from Krupka-Bohosudov to the peak of the hill. By the Komáří vížka hotel on the Komáří vížka Hill you can enjoy an enchanting view of the Bohemian Central Mountains panorama. When the weather is clear, you can even see the peaks of the Giant Mountains. You can even drive to the very top. There are also many hiking and cycling trails around „Komárka“ which will take you to interesting destinations. In summer, this place has perfect conditions for hiking, horse riding, paragliding, and in winter you can make use of a ski resort with ski-lifts and pistes. Treated cross-country ski tracks follow the White Trail of the Ore Mountains.

## Krupka

The town of Krupka also comprises other, originally independent villages and settlements, especially Bohosudov, and nine other ones. It is famous due to its mining past, when tin, silver, tungsten and fluoride were mined here. the local area was first settled as early as in the Bronze Age. the first record of mining tin in the surroundings of the town dates back to the 10th century and its author is Ibrahím ibn Jákúb of the delegacy of Calif of Cordoba. the town was founded at the beginning of the 14th century and was first mentioned in 1330 during the reign of King John of Bohemia. Two castles and two strongholds were built here. After the Hussite Wars the town experienced a period of an unprecedented boom and received significant rights. Although it was a liege town, King Vladislav II Jagiellon granted the town a coat of arms, an annual fair, a right to appoint the burgomaster, the committee and municipal clerks, and also freedom of duty, i.e. fundamental town rights. a third of the inhabitants died as a consequence of the Thirty Years War and of plague epidemics. the launch of coal mining became a sign of new times. Krupka became a destination of many tourists at that time. They admired the beauty of the basilica and medieval lanes. Important personalities, such as Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Richard Wagner or Jan Neruda, visited the town. Industry started to develop and the Ústí nad Labem - Teplice railway was opened, which later continued to Chomutov and was extended with the Děčín - Oldřichov u Duchcova railway. the most important monument is the pilgrimage sight of the Basilica of Our Lady of Sorrows. Next to the road to Horní Krupka you can find the Neo-Gothic Church of the Holy Spirit and the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary with a belfry. There is a beautiful view of the historic core of Krupka from the walls of Krupka Castle, which was built at the beginning of the 14th century. In the forest above the town there are ruins of Kyšperk Castle, which was built by King John of Bohemia. In the premises of the former monastery you can find the Episcopal Grammar School. In the local house No.21 in the very historic core of the town there is a museum with an exposition of development of mining and tin processing, geology, paleontology, mineralogy and history of the fire brigade of Krupka.

GPS: 50°41'4.166"N, 13°51'29.34"E

## Practical Information

### KRUPKA MUSEUM – opening hours:

Wednesday to Sunday: 9.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Admission fee:

Adults - CZK 35

Children, students, pensioners - CZK 25

Family admission fee - CZK 60 - for five people (2+3)

Family Pass - CZK 50

Group admission fee - CZK 25/person (for 10 people and more)

Tel. No.: +420 417 862 042

[www.muzeum-teplice.cz](http://www.muzeum-teplice.cz)

### KRUPKA CASTLE - guide:

July-August, Tue-Sun 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tel.: +420 724 924 289, +420 417 852 052

e-mail: [ruzovyradekkrupka@seznam.cz](mailto:ruzovyradekkrupka@seznam.cz)

### BASILICA of OUR LADY of SORROWS

- guided tours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday:

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. (ring at the parish office opposite the church)

Friday, Sunday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Monday, Thursday: closed

tel.: +420 417 861 363

fax: +420 476 744 058

[www.basilika-mariatschein.org](http://www.basilika-mariatschein.org)

[www.mukrupka.cz](http://www.mukrupka.cz)







GPS: 50°28'10.013"N, 13°25'20.139"E

### Practical Information

The lake has an area of 15.95 hectares, it is 240 metres wide and 676 metres long, its deepest point is 3.4 metres. the whole area of the premises covers 30.86 hectares. Accessibility from the centre of Chomutov: on foot 15 minutes, public transport. There are about 30 accommodation facilities within the distance of 30 km from the lake. Just in the premises of Kamencové Lake it is possible to stay in an auto-camp, a hostel or a hotel. the lake is open from 1 May to 30 September as a swimming pool. Sports offer - water skiing in the circuit of 780 metres, rental of boats and paddle boats, track golf, skittles, tennis, table-tennis, foot tennis, volleyball, beach volleyball. a number of attractions for children both on the bank and in the water. a separate nudist beach for nudists. You can connect a stay by Kamencové Lake with a visit to the Ore Mountains Zoopark in Chomutov, which is adjacent to the lake premises. tel.: 474 688 029, 474 688 092

[www.kamencovejezero.cz](http://www.kamencovejezero.cz)  
[www.echomutov.cz](http://www.echomutov.cz)

## Kamencové Lake

Kamencové Lake in Chomutov is a unique sight; it is the only lake of its kind in the world. the chemical composition of its water makes any organic life excluding protozoa impossible and therefore there is no alga in the water. On the contrary, the water is very wholesome for people. the lake offers everything you need to have a wonderful time on summer days. Both sand and grass beaches and treated piers provide you with comfort while sunbathing or swimming. Those who want to relax actively may make use of a wide offer of sports facilities (e.g. due to its length of 780 metres the water-skiing circuit is the longest one in our country). It is generally said that the lake was formed by flooding an alum shale mine. However, this is not true. It is without doubt that a smaller „dead“ pond or a lake had been formed much earlier than when digging was launched. the first historic records of the lake date back to 1466, while the first records of occurrence of alum date back to 1556, i.e. 90 years later.

A legend says that the fame of the lake was foretold by a one-hundred-year old prophet in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. He is said to have pointed at a meadow with a treasure, which nobody found, however. But a local butcher succeeded. a fairy that appeared to him during a storm showed him a place to dig, but he was also expected to share the treasure fairly. Thus an alum mine bringing benefit to the whole town was formed here according to the legend. It was accidentally destroyed due to a strong spring that gradually flooded the whole mine. Later Kamencové Lake was formed in the depression. According to the original prophecy, it is a source of bread and butter for many families and it also provides holiday possibilities for others.

At present, Kamencové Lake is very popular with visitors and tourists. In a competition organised by Czech Tourism agency, the premises became the most attractive tourist destination of North-West Bohemia. It is a holder of a certificate called Top 5 - Best Summer Locations in the Czech Republic issued by Independent Original. According to this certificate Kamencové Lake belongs to the most sought after Czech summer holiday locations.



## Chomutov Zoopark

The Ore Mountains Zoopark in Chomutov is the largest zoological garden in the Czech Republic. They take care of more than a thousand animals here; the zoo is situated in a beautiful environment and both children and adults will find a lot of entertainment here. a number of animals are placed in free runs on the area of 120 hectares; visitors may take a ride by Lokálka Amálka train or by Safari express train. Out of their open carriages it is possible to watch wisents (European bison), Scottish beef cattle, water buffalos, Przewalski's horses or European deer in close proximity. the zoo in Chomutov is the only Czech zoo that focuses exclusively on the part of Eurasia and Northern Africa called the Palearctic, which is a part of these continents without their tropical areas. the aim of this focus is to make people familiar with especially those species of animals that live close to them. But what you can see here, too, are animals that visitors do not usually come in touch with and that they probably do not know at all. Here you have the possibility to see a kharza, a manul, a musk ox, a takin, a wolverine, a kiang or a Siberian weasel. Some people are interested in terrariums, other visitors prefer birds of prey, water birds, beasts of prey or hoofed animals. Fourteen out of more than one hundred and sixty species that are kept in the zoo are threatened with extinction and included in European preservation programmes.

The zoopark celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010. It is open every day regardless of the weather. You can also watch free-living water birds or visit an open-air museum called Stará Ves. What is also worth seeing is the northernmost fruit-bearing orchard of sweet chestnuts, which was established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Almost 250,000 visitors visit the zoopark every year. You can even enter it with dogs provided they are on a lead. a beautiful environment in connection with services give visitors the possibility to spend a very enjoyable day in the zoopark.

GPS: 50°28'24.663"N, 13°25'12.951"E

### Practical Information

Visitors may take part in many amusing events for children and adults, celebrations of environmental feasts, or events reminding us of folk traditions. Moreover, there is a number of climbing frames, contact animals, a pony rodeo and a rope centre for children. During the main season visitors may not only enjoy a ride by Lokálka Amálka and Safari Express, but also by a horse and cart or carriage. In the open-air museum called Stará Ves visitors may see folk architecture that is typical of the Ore Mountains and an exposition on beekeeping. It is also possible to ride a horse in the riding premises with stables and a roofed riding hall. Two stylish restaurants and a network of kiosks take care of the visitors' comfort, too. the whole premises including toilets are wheelchair accessible. Accessibility: 15 minutes of walking from the centre of Chomutov, 5 minutes from Chomutov město train station, public transport. Open daily from 9 a.m. tel.: 474 624 412 e-mail: [zoopark@zoopark.cz](mailto:zoopark@zoopark.cz)

[www.zoopark.cz](http://www.zoopark.cz)  
[www.echomutov.cz](http://www.echomutov.cz)







GPS: 50°30'28.681"N, 13°39'26.986"E

### Practical Information

Transport: off-road vehicles of the coal companies with the capacity of 19 people, tour season April-October, those who are interested can register on [safari@czechcoal.cz](mailto:safari@czechcoal.cz), where you can also find details on the project and excursion routes.

Advice for participants in the excursions:

- It is necessary to wear hardwearing ankle-high boots and suitable clothes according to the current weather for the excursion.

- For your own safety it is necessary to follow the guide's instructions both in the off-road vehicle and directly at the location.

- It is recommendable to take something to drink and eat to the mine.
- the participants may take their cameras and camcorders.

- It is not possible to take a pet on the excursion.

Contact details: Růžena Martínková  
tel.: +420 476 203 131  
GSM: +420 606 612 245  
e-mail: [safari@czechcoal.cz](mailto:safari@czechcoal.cz)

## Opencast Mines - Mining Safari

The Most Basin is a tectonic depression of Northern Bohemia covering the area of the districts of Chomutov, Most, Teplice and Louny. It is a geomorphologic unit in the centre of the Ore Mountains area in which coal was formed millions of years ago. Huge coal seams lead up to the surface, so systematic mining activities have been taking place here since the second half of the 19th century. These activities have changed the original appearance of the landscape. Opencast mining in large areas started to be preferred after 1948. At present, coal is extracted in five opencast mines. Successful recultivation is underway on the landscape that was devastated in the past years. Many interesting locations have been established at the place of the opencast mines and their disposal areas. Moreover, the companies that dig coal here responded to continuous interest in visiting the mining places and the recultivation areas including expert commentary. Thus, the so-called coal safari was founded. Its aim is an effort to open the mines to the public and to show people the whole cycle of opencast coal digging from the extraction of overburden to recultivation. At the same time, these companies offer the possibility to get to know the unique technical work, which an opencast mine certainly involves. The routes may have different lengths, they may lead only to coal mines or they may only focus on recultivation, or may include both. It is also possible to only take a shortened route with the commentary on a sightseeing terrace without a direct visit to a mine. While visiting the mines, the organisers transport the visitors directly to giant excavators. It is also possible to organise a visit to a mining water purification plant, to the Technical Museum of the Ore Mountains with its exposition of the history of mining in a former underground mine, and to a number of other regional sights related to mining of coal.

## Bílina - the Town, Chateau, Spa

The town of Bílina with its 16 thousand inhabitants is situated by a river bearing the same name. Its dominant feature is an early Baroque chateau, which was formed by reconstruction of the original Gothic castle and which belongs to the House of Lobkowitz. Its lower part is hidden by a number of houses in the square, where you can find another dominant feature of the town, an Art-Nouveau town hall, which you can see from a great distance. It is slanted by 20 cm from the vertical axis. the Church of St. Peter and Paul was even mentioned in the Chronicle of Cosmas. the late-Gothic three-nave basilica has a five-sided closed presbytery and a prismatic tower. Close to Bílina you can visit Bořeň, which is the tallest clinkstone hill in Central Europe. It is a national natural preserve with more than twenty protected species of plants and animals (e.g. an eagle owl, aster tongolensis, saxifraga and wallcreeper). According to a legend, the hill got its name after a wife of Prince Krok Bořeň. She is said to have got lost, climbed up the hill, seen Krok's head rise out of the river, jumped down into his arms and died. There is a breathtaking view from the peak of Bořeň. To climb up the hill you can follow quite a comfortable hiking trail starting in the spa of Bílina. It is 3.5 km long and covers an elevation difference of 350 metres. There are twelve information boards that point out local natural sights. the trail starts from the Kyselka spa, which remembers the balneology tradition nowadays. the premises are looking for a strategic partner to revive and especially finance the decaying buildings. a bottling plant of the Bílina mineral acidulous water is in operation. However, you can make the ascent shorter if you park your car by the pub at the foot of the hill under Bořeň. Its south and west walls are used by climbers all year long.

GPS: 50°32'54.753"N, 13°46'31.247"E

### Practical Information

Not far from Bílina by the village of Braňany it is possible to get to the so-called ministerial viewpoint of Bílina Mines. It is located high above the digging area and you can see the whole place very well from there. Bílina has been connected with extraction of coal for a very long time. Experts of the mines are willing to inform visitors about the landscape restoration that is being prepared at present. After mining finishes, there will be a large lake at the place of the current mine, and the whole area will become an attractive holiday destination, such as what they are attempting to achieve at other places in its surroundings.







## Do you know which spa J. W. von Goethe or L. van Beethoven visited?

The Ore Mountains in the Czech Republic are famous not only due to mining various nonferrous kinds of metal, but also thanks to their long cross-country skiing tracks, cycling trails and ski resorts. Balneology has a long tradition in this border mountain range, too. Many spa resorts



**Ore Mountains**

have become popular due to mineral springs. the most famous of them is probably Teplice, which started to make use of the springs as early as in the 12th century. Teplice was visited by many famous personalities, such as J. W. von Goethe, L. van Beethoven, the Humboldt brothers, and even Emperor Franz Joseph I.





## Lower Poohří



## Lower Poohří

The lower course of the Ohře River is a really unique location of the region. Three beautiful royal towns are located at the river next to one another: Kadaň, Žatec, and Louny. Apart from the Ohře, another common feature of the entire area is hops, which have been grown there for almost a thousand years. Kadaň is a historical town reserve with a very nice historical centre, and it can boast a castle, Franciscan Monastery, the Way of the Cross, tower of the historical Town Hall in the main square (Mírové náměstí), Feast of the Cross Church (kostel Povýšení sv. Kříže), or barbican (outpost) of the Žatecká Gate (Žatecká brána) from 1458. the narrowest street in Bohemia is located in its square, the so-called Executioner's Lane (Katova ulička), which is 66.1cm wide in the narrowest point. Žatec is also a historical town reserve, and it is a place where over 100 Czech and foreign movies were shot. the rich hops history

of the town has been reflected in a unique tourist attraction, which is the Hop and Beer Temple (Chrám Chmele a Piva) ([www.chchp.cz](http://www.chchp.cz)), an entertaining and informative centre devoted to hops and beer. Louny, a pearl on the Ohře River, offers some interesting sights, such as a museum with a permanent exhibition of the Hussite history, and thematic exhibitions which are regularly changed. the town's dominant feature is St. Nicholas's Church (chrám sv. Mikuláše), built in the Gothic style. We should also mention the Žatecká Gate (Žatecká brána) from 1500, or the Benedikt Rejt Gallery (Galerie Benedikta Rejta). Březno u Loun is an interesting place. There is an outdoor museum with reconstructed prehistoric and early medieval buildings. In contrast to other outdoor museums in Europe, the buildings are constructed approximately in the layouts that were discovered during the archeological research of the location.







GPS: 50°22'42.556"N, 13°10'13.472"E

### Practical Information

**EVŽENIE SPA HOUSE:** It was renovated for 40 million Czech crowns in the period of 2005-2007; it offers full spa care, including accommodation and board.

It comprises: Balneo centre, electrotherapy, indoor swimming pool for physiotherapy, infrasauna, exercising rooms, massage rooms, gym, wellness centre, 5 double rooms, big and small suites, hair studio, cosmetic salon, nail studio.

All premises are adapted for wheel-chairs, and everything together forms a harmonized relaxation unit.

#### Opening hours:

Daily 8.00 am – 8.00 pm.

tel.: +420 474 698 770

e-mail: [recepce@lazneevzenie.cz](mailto:recepce@lazneevzenie.cz)

[www.goklasterec.cz](http://www.goklasterec.cz)

## Evženie Spa in Klášterec nad Ohří

Klášterec nad Ohří, with 16,000 inhabitants, is located in the valley of the Ohře River between the Ore Mountains (Krušné hory) and Doupovské Mountains (Doupovské hory) in north-west Bohemia in the district of Chomutov. There is a spa, situated in a beautiful and quiet environment through which the Ohře River flows. The peaceful spa premises are connected to a large castle park. The English park was founded by Michael Osvald Thun in the 17th century. There is a castle with a porcelain museum in the park. The spa complex comprises the Evženie Spa House (lázeňský dům Evženie), Peřeje Restaurant and spa guest house, mineral water filling hall, colonnade, tennis courts, park. Dr. E. Beneš Square (náměstí Dr. E. Beneše) and the Holy Trinity Church (kostel Nejsvětější Trojice) are located three hundred metres away. Extraction, bottling and distribution of natural mineral water and utilization of its healing effects has been an important line of business in the town. High-quality mineral water was discovered by the farmer Fickert in his own well in 1883. It became popular and was used by local people. In 1886 the spring and surrounding land was bought by the sugar maker Fieber from Ústí nad Labem who named the spring after his wife – Eugenia. He built a pavilion and then set up a park covering the area of 2.5 hectares with maintained paths, flower beds, lawns and a pond with a swan island. In 1898 Eugenia was declared a healing spring, and a spa started to develop in Klášterec nad Ohří. „Klášterecká“ mineral water also became very popular abroad; 2.5 million bottles were filled every year. Later other healing springs were discovered, the last one in 1990 when the spa reconstruction commenced. In the meantime, since the middle of the last century, the spa deteriorated, and then regained its original beauty in the current millennium.

## Castle in Klášterec nad Ohří – a porcelain museum

The castle in Klášterec nad Ohří is located in the middle of a park on the bank of the Ohře River. The original fortress was rebuilt into a two-wing renaissance castle in the 16th century. A hundred years later the castle was reconstructed in the early baroque style under the supervision of Rossi Da Luca. Architect Jean Baptiste Mathey created a sala terrena in the garden. The castle was struck by two big fires. During the Thirty Years War the castle was plundered and burned down by the Swedish Army. Then, in the 17th century, the Thun family had to reconstruct the castle substantially. The sculptural decoration was created by Jan Brokof, father of famous Ferdinand Maximilian Brokof. In the middle of the 19th century the castle was finally reconstructed in the neo-gothic style. Since the 1950s, an exposition of oriental, European and Czech porcelain from collections of the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague has been displayed in the castle halls with rich stucco decorations. During the main season you can also visit the castle tower, or the Thun family vault. Exhibitions of painters, sculptors, stamp collectors, and concerts of classical music are held there, as well as brass band concerts at the sala terrena in the summer, or regular exhibitions of minerals and gems from the fields located nearby in the Ore Mountains. The castle is open all year round. It is surrounded by a large park at the Ohře River, which is connected to the Kyselka spa. The castle with the park belongs to the historical town reserve in the centre of the old town. There are over 220 tree species from all over the world, many of which are rare and unique. You will also find the rare “Good Luck Tree” of the old Japanese tree species of Ginkgo biloba there.

GPS: 50°23'2.9"N, 13°10'25.24"E

### Practical Information

Castle in Klášterec nad Ohří  
Chomutovská 1  
431 51 Klášterec nad Ohří

tel./fax: +420 474 375 436

mobil: +420 601 388 819

e-mail: [info@zamek-klasterec.cz](mailto:info@zamek-klasterec.cz)

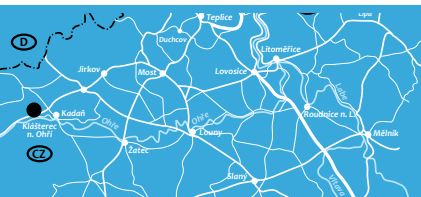
[www.zamek-klasterec.cz](http://www.zamek-klasterec.cz)

The castle is open all year round!

The last visit will always start 1 hour before closing.

Outside opening hours, visits for groups of visitors organized by travel agencies, spa houses and private persons may be agreed. In the winter a moderate temperature is kept in the rooms with collections.

[www.goklasterec.cz](http://www.goklasterec.cz)





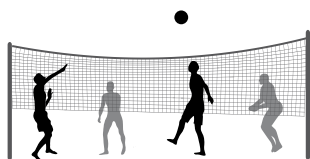


GPS: 50°23'25.66"N, 13°10'25.82"E

### Practical Information

Day ticket: CZK 60  
Ticket for the big water slide / Jacuzzi: CZK 5  
Opening hours: May–September (depending on weather)  
Car park at the Aquapark  
tel.: +420 474 375 963  
e-mail: [info@aquaparkklasterec.cz](mailto:info@aquaparkklasterec.cz)  
[www.goklasterec.cz](http://www.goklasterec.cz)

If you like going down rivers in a canoe, Klášterec nad Ohří is an ideal place for you to start your journey down the Ohře River.



## Aquapark in Klášterec nad Ohří

There is a summer Aquapark in Klášterec nad Ohří. It is surrounded by a beautiful landscape enclosed by the Doupovské Mountains (Doupovské hory) on one side and the Ore Mountains (Krušné hory) on the other side. The Ohře River flows in the valley. The Aquapark is a unique centre of water entertainment with three slides that are 28, 68 and 128 metres long. Visitors can admire the architectonic solution of this modern centre. There are eight pools of various sizes and shapes. Several children's pools, a swimming pool, diving pool and the so-called wild water. In addition to swimming in clear water, there are some other attractions, such as the „water mushroom“ or massage bathtubs. There are six beach volleyball and football courts, a street basketball court, giant trampolines, facilities for table tennis, Russian bowling, pétanque, and minigolf. Or you can try aquazorbing, a water walking ball in fact, or disc golf, a game derived from golf. Individual players throw a flying disc at a target and the points are counted in the same way as in golf. When you visit the centre for the first time, you will buy a magnetic card and put your credit (deposit for your spending in the Aquapark) into it. With the card, you can buy things and use all attractions conveniently. There are also stands offering refreshments. You can book accommodation in the Bohemia Excellent hotel, a five-minute walk away from the historical centre of the town, or the Evženie Spa House, or Penzion U Zlatého jelena – Výsluní, located around eight kilometres away.

## Franciscan Monastery with a church in Kadaň

The Franciscan Monastery in Kadaň is located in a place where the town gallows used to be. The beginning of the monastery is linked with a legend about a nobleman who was being taken there. Regretting his bad deeds, he asked Fourteen Holy Helpers to help him in his prayers. Although he was hanged and hung in the gallows for three nights, he did not die. The miracle helped him find forgiveness. The gallows was pulled down and a Chapel of the Fourteen Holy Helpers was built there. The first written mention of the chapel dates back to 1470. Four years later the Franciscan Order - Order of Friars Minor - came there. They wore brown habits, belted with a rope girdle with three knots - symbols of poverty, chastity and obedience. They started their preaching and mission activities there, and a monastery was established. The family of Hasištejnský Lobkowicz, who supported the Order, had a three-aisle church built. It was completed and consecrated in 1480. By a decision of Czech King Vladislav II Jagiellon, the monastery was given to the House of Lobkowicz. They then chose it as a place for their eternal rest. A set of tombs from the gothic and renaissance transition period can still be found in the Lobkowicz burial site. A tomb from 1517 still reminds us of the transience of mundane affairs before the authority of God. Its cover with a sculpture of a skeleton gives a message that can make an impression on a human soul even in the 21st century. A stone convent was also created there. In the following centuries the structure became dilapidated. At the present time preservation works have started, uncovering numerous surprises. The precincts including the garden are under reconstruction. In 1995 they were included in the list of our national cultural monuments. The Municipal Museum is located in the complex.

GPS: 50°22'43.904"N, 13°15'29.451"E

### Practical Information

The Monastery with the Fourteen Holy Helpers Church is located outside the municipal town reserve. There is a permanent exhibition of mineralogical and archeological discoveries in the Kadaň district, including demonstrations of mining and processing of mineral raw materials and mining activities.

Contact:  
Městské muzeum (Municipal Museum) v Kadani  
Švermova 474, 432 01 Kadaň  
tel.: 474 341 295  
e-mail: [muzeum@muzeumkadan.cz](mailto:muzeum@muzeumkadan.cz)  
[www.mesto-kadan.cz](http://www.mesto-kadan.cz)

QR code  
Opening hours -  
Franciscan Monastery







GPS: 50°22'34.939"N, 13°16'15.137"E

### Practical Information

The gallery of the Town Hall tower (53.7m tall) is open to the public. There is the Information Centre and Gallery of Josef Liesler on the ground floor of the Town Hall, which is open every day all year round. the castle is currently used as a nursing home, and there is also a library, gallery, ceremonial hall, internet café and restaurant.

A unique bank of Maxipes Fík has been built along the Ohře River as a place intended for sports, rest and relaxation of the locals and visitors to the town.

Information Centre  
Mírové náměstí 1, 432 01 Kadaň  
tel./fax: 474 319 550  
e-mail: galerie@mesto-kadan.cz  
[www.mesto-kadan.cz](http://www.mesto-kadan.cz)

QR code  
Open-  
ing hours  
of the Town  
Hall Tower



## Kadaň – a historical town reserve

Kadaň, a former royal town with almost twenty thousand inhabitants, lies south-west of Chomutov on the left bank of the Ohře leaving the Ore Mountains and Doupovské Mountains; it is an important cultural and tourist centre of north-west Bohemia. Already in 805, when Charles the Great was conquering Bohemia, the local Slavic fortress resisted the conquerors for a long time. the town flourished in the reign of Charles IV. He made Kadaň a royal town again and extended its town privileges. Even in the present day at the end of the summer people celebrate the arrival of the Emperor in the town. the municipal town reserve was declared in 1978. the protection concerns the remains of late gothic fortifications with a massive barbican, or an outpost, in front of the Žatecká Gate, and renaissance and gothic houses in the old town which were rebuilt in the baroque style. the fortifications in Kadaň are nowadays best preserved in Bohemia. They include a two-metre thick wall with bastions, and massive tower of the Holy Gate (Svatá brána), currently known as the Mikulovická Gate (Mikulovická brána). the gothic castle is a major medieval monument, transformed into barracks in the 18th century. Ottokar II of Bohemia (Přemysl Otakar II.) had the castle built on a rock above the river. In Mírové Square (Mírové náměstí) there is the gothic Town Hall from the 14th–15th century, and a beautiful chapel with a tall tower. You would also admire baroque facades of old houses in the square, the baroque Plaque Column and Decanal Church of the Feast of the Cross (děkanský chrám Povýšení sv. Kříže), or St. John's Church (kostel sv. Jana) from the 12th century, Franciscan Monastery of the Fourteen Holy Helpers (františkánský klášter Čtrnácti sv. pomocníků), and other monasteries. the narrowest lane in the Czech Republic is the local Executioner's Lane (Katova ulička), which is 66.1cm wide in the narrowest point.

## Goat farm in Zásada u Kadaně

Have you ever tasted goat's milk and cheese? And do you know how people live and work on a family eco farm? You can see on the eco farm of Mr. Sládeček on the right bank of the Ohře River between Klášterec nad Ohří and Kadaň, a few metres from the nature reserve at Úhošť Mountain, in intact nature of the Doupovské Mountains – in Zásada u Kadaně. the farm was set up in 1996, and currently the farmer keeps around sixty white and brown goats. Some of them belong to the Gene Fund of the Czech Republic. the farm has held the prestigious certificate of "Organic Farmer" (Ekologicky hospodařící zemědělec) since 1999, goat's milk produced by the farmer has been repeatedly awarded the certificate of Organic Farming Product / Bioproduct (Produkt ekologického zemědělství / bioprodukt), and the products were awarded the BIO certificate approved by the KEZ organization (Kontrola ekologického zemědělství - Organic Farming Control). In 2001 the farm extended its offer with semi-hard ripening cheeses and goat's milk quark. Their excellent taste was achieved after three years devoted to testing and improving the recipes. the chief goal is to make products and to breed goats using methods that fully comply with all requirements for human health and sustainable development, and are beneficial for the surrounding area as well. After previous agreement, you can visit the farm, taste and buy products made of goat's milk, learn about goat breeding, or even buy a kid, and see the life on an eco farm, and go on a trip to the beautiful surrounding area. After four years of testing and many tests, the farm launched Slade goat's milk liquor on the market and branded six-year-old whisky. Two types of the liquor are made – liquor with the flavour of traditional whisky creme and its coffee version. Recently 7 Shetland ponies have enlarged the animal family.

GPS: 50°37'18.81"N, 13°23'18.71"E

### Practical Information

In contrast to cow's milk, the fat composition of goat's milk is different and it is easily digestible thanks to that. All of its positive properties are contained in goat's cheese.

Goat's cheese has a great advantage - it can be eaten at all stages of ripening, from deliciously soft fresh cheese to piquant dry and crumbly cheese. Proper goat's cheese is lightly sweet with a taste of almonds.

The best-quality goat's cheese is made according to a family recipe and is put into red food wax enabling it to keep its best flavour. Packed carefully in this way, the cheese ripens under constant temperature and in the dark.

The cheese is characteristic with a pearl lustre when cut, and numerous pores after proper ripening.

tel.: +420 777 299 445  
e-mail: [info@kozifarma.cz](mailto:info@kozifarma.cz)







GPS: 50°21'26.27"N, 13°47'42.489"E

### Practical Information

Visits to St. Nicholas's Church and the tower with a beautiful view of the town and its surroundings can be arranged by the Municipal Information Centre.

For groups of a minimum of five people, a visit to the church can be arranged outside opening hours at tel. No. +420 415 621 102.

[www.mulouny.cz](http://www.mulouny.cz)

Louny Gallery in the Vrchlický Theatre Osvoboditelů 411, 440 01 Louny  
tel.: +420 415 653 137, +420 415 653 141  
e-mail: [gaml@gaml.cz](mailto:gaml@gaml.cz)

Galerie Benedikta Rejta  
(Benedikt Rejt Gallery)  
Pivovarská 29, 440 01 Louny  
tel.: +420 415 652 634  
e-mail: [gbr@gbr.cz](mailto:gbr@gbr.cz)  
[www.gbr.cz](http://www.gbr.cz)

## Louny with gothic St. Nicholas's church

Louny, or „the southern gate to the Czech Central Mountains“, or „a pearl on the Ohře River“, as the town is called by its inhabitants, is an administrative centre located on the Ohře River. The first mention of the town dates back to 1115, when a small settlement was set up at a ford across the river in the place where St. Peter's Church (kostelík sv. Petra) is currently located. Louny, a former royal town, developed around one kilometre away from an original settlement in the 13th century in the reign of Ottokar II of Bohemia (Přemysl Otakar II.). the most important building monument and dominant feature of the town is St. Nicholas's Church (kostel sv. Mikuláše). the original Parish Church of Feast of the Cross Church (kostel Povýšení sv. Kříže), which ranked among the richest in the Kingdom of Bohemia, because its founder and patron was the king, later changed its look and consecration. After a big fire, the church was reconstructed in the gothic style, a 60 metre tall tower was raised, and the church was given the name of St. Nicholas, the patron saint of merchants. Nowadays it is a national cultural monument. Louny has an interesting historical centre, two thirds of which is enclosed by town walls. Apart from St. Nicholas's Church, other sights are worth seeing, such as the Žatecká Gate (Žatecká brána), Daliborka medieval houses (currently the District Archive), and House of Sokols of Mory (Dům Sokolů z Mor) with a museum, and other churches. In the centre of the town there is also a gallery, Vrchlického Theatre (Vrchlického divadlo), library, puppet theatre, former Jewish synagogue, Kotěra's Colony (Kotěrova kolonie) - an interesting building complex from the beginning of the last century, and bridge over a floodplain from the 19th century, built in the place of a bridge three hundred years older, and town exhibition site, and brewery located closely behind the town border. Some well-known people were born or worked in Louny, for example Hussites chronicler Vavřinec of Březová, writers Jaroslav Vrchlický, Karel Konrád, and Jan Karafiát – the author of the children's book „Broučci“.



## Raná

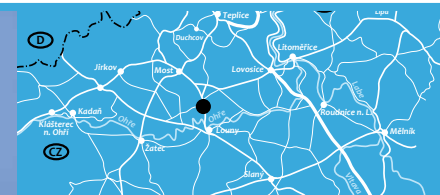
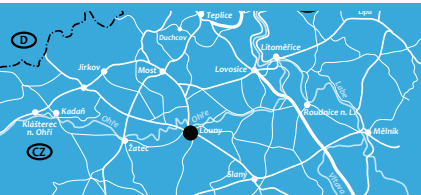
Raná is a basalt mountain with three peaks, located around 6km north-west of Louny in the western part of the Czech Central Mountains above a village of the same name. This prominent elongated mountain has been famous since the 1930s as an important centre of gliding in our country. the area around the top of Raná is a nature reserve belonging to the landscape protected area of the Czech Central Mountains, covering 11 hectares. the protection applies to warmth-loving steppe plant communities and rare animals, such as the European ground squirrel. Like other peaks of the Czech Central Mountains, it is a place with a nice view of the surrounding area. In 1932, the famous history of Czech and Czechoslovak gliding started on the slopes of Raná. the 1st and 2nd National Gliding Race were held there. In the period 1933–1938 the Central Gliding School (Ústřední plachtařská škola) trained most of our gliding pilots and instructors there. After 1945 gliding on Raná became even more intense; young people from the entire country came there. the Country Gliding School (Zemská plachtařská škola) trained 962 pilots who performed an unbelievable 41,367 take-offs there in 1946. the current sports airport was built by glider pilots from Louny. Raná became the cradle of Czech and Czechoslovak gliding. At the end of the last century a paragliding pilot training centre was set up there, which was successful both in our country and abroad. Under the supervision of professionals, a number of talented pilots took paragliding lessons there who later became our top pilots. Regular training of new students also continues in basic flying lessons, as well as training activities focused on talented youngsters. Advanced and gifted pilots can learn other skills in acrobatic flying courses, which were incorporated in the training programme in 2002.

GPS: 50°24'25.594"N, 13°46'42.961"E

### Practical Information

Raná is a very important hill for flying. Apart from paragliders, you would see Rogallo wings, model airplanes and gliders flying from the nearby airport. It is the only hill in the Czech Republic enabling pilots to take off in many wind directions (0°–35° and 45°–360°). In its south-east part, there is the famous "Skleník" building where you can get information on flying, or book continuation courses. You can also get some refreshments there. Accommodation can be arranged in a campsite or guest house; free wifi access provided (wifi hotspot).

Sportovní letecký areál RANÁ (RANÁ Sport Aviation Centre)  
439 24 Raná u Loun 140  
[info@rana-paragliding.cz](mailto:info@rana-paragliding.cz)  
**Manager of the Centre:**  
Jiří Strnad, tel.: +420 603 421 829  
e-mail: [sklenikrana@seznam.cz](mailto:sklenikrana@seznam.cz)  
Fees are collected according to Local Fees Regulation 1/2006, issued by the Administrative Authority of Raná.







GPS: 50°21'32.946"N, 13°44'46.679"E

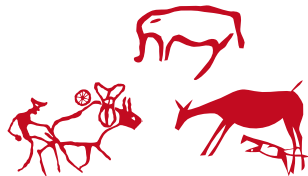
### Practical Information

Archeologický skanzen (Archeological Outdoor Museum) Březno u Loun in the Ústí Region, district of Louny, Postoloprty-Březno

e-mail: [info@muzeumlouny.cz](mailto:info@muzeumlouny.cz)  
tel.: +420 415 783 057

Visits:  
Number of tours – 1  
Length – 45 min.  
Max. number of people – 50  
Open all the year round, excl. Mondays

Services:  
Adapted for wheelchairs - in part  
[www.muzeumlouny.cz](http://www.muzeumlouny.cz)



## Archeological outdoor museum in Březno u Loun

The outdoor museum in Březno u Loun consists of a unique set of reconstructed prehistoric and early medieval dwellings and technological equipment, created as a result of a several-year professional archeological experiment. The research was conducted since the middle of the 1950s, and its goal was to show by an experiment that ancient technological methods can be used for building various types of structures. The result of scientifically valuable experimental works is the current image of the outdoor museum. The museum is a part of the District Museum in Louny. Visitors can see the so-called long house from the Neolithic Age (around 4,000 B.C.), from the period of stroke-ornamented ceramic-ware culture. It has a pole structure, plank side walls, a wattle front wall made of thick twigs and daubing and interesting trapezoidal ground plan. The narrow part is turned to the north back to the direction of prevailing winds, the roof is double sloping with reed thatches attached to the frame by straps made of raw cowhide, and there is an open fireplace inside. Another structure is an early Slavic hut from the 6th century A.D., sunken in part. The research provided important information on temperature relations in such sunken dwellings of ancient Slavs in our territory. You can take a look into the life of our predecessors, see their household equipment and tools they made, how they built their dwellings, made a fire, stored corn both for consumption and seeding in storage pits, and how they ground corn in grain crushers or rotary mills. It is an interesting insight into our history.

## Žatec – a historical town reserve and zone of technical monuments

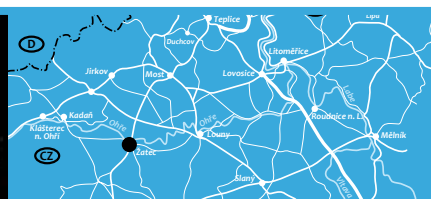
Žatec, a medieval royal town known since 1004, developed in the place of a Přemyslid hill fort above the Ohře River. It became the centre of the hop region in Central Poohří (střední Poohří). Important privileges were given to the town by a charter of Ottokar II King of Bohemia (Přemysl Otakar II.) from 1265. In the 15th century the town supported the Hussite movement. In 1421 the armies of the Second Crusade were pushed back before the gates of Žatec. A boom in hop growing in the 19th century led to the town's modernization and development. In 1961 the historical centre of Žatec with five squares and more than 500 significant buildings of various architectonic styles became a historical town reserve. Its beauty spots, resembling major European metropolises, became popular with filmmakers from both our country and abroad. Historical sights of the town include the Town Hall, Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Holy Trinity Column, the second biggest synagogue in the Czech Republic, town fortification walls with two gates, Žatecký Brewery and Hop Museum. A broad panorama of tall chimneys on red roofs has been demonstrating the famous hop tradition and wealth of the town for almost 120 years, and is the town symbol. The buildings of former hop warehouses, packing and drying rooms gave Žatec a unique and special character, and therefore this part of the town was declared a zone of hop technical monuments in 2003. As it is a phenomenon without parallel in the world, the entire set of hop buildings is a candidate for inclusion in the prestigious UNESCO World Heritage List.

GPS: 50°19'49.67"N, 13°32'45.34"E

### Practical Information

Municipal Authority of Žatec –  
Infocentre:  
náměstí Svobody 1, 438 24 Žatec  
tel.: +420 415 736 156, +420 725 013 885  
e-mail: [infocentrum@mesto-zatec.cz](mailto:infocentrum@mesto-zatec.cz),  
[janousova@mesto-zatec.cz](mailto:janousova@mesto-zatec.cz)  
[www.infozatec.cz](http://www.infozatec.cz)

The project of walking tours is composed of a tourist-information system, consisting of information boards on significant buildings in Žatec, and a brochure which gives important information on the attractiveness of individual buildings and will help you find your way in the town. You can choose from three different tours: Small tour (approx. 30 minutes), medium tour (approx. 60 minutes), and big tour (approx. 100 minutes).







GPS: 50°19'30.076"N, 13°32'41.545"E

### Practical Information

Chmelářské muzeum (Hop Museum) in Žatec,  
nám. Prokopa Velkého 1952,  
438 01 Žatec  
tel.: +420 415 710 062  
+420 415 710 315  
+420 724 431 422  
e-mail: muzeum@chmelarstvi.cz  
[www.muzeum.chmelarstvi.cz](http://www.muzeum.chmelarstvi.cz)

Opening hours:  
April-October  
Tuesday-Sunday  
10.00 am – 5.00 pm.  
Visits on special dates can be arranged.

Hop Harvest Festival in Žatec:  
Traditional two-day hop harvest  
celebration, held in the historical centre  
of the town. a rich cultural programme  
is prepared for visitors, including an  
offer of beers from the entire Czech  
Republic, competitions, records,  
entertainment.



## Hop Museum in Žatec

The exhibition in the Hop Museum is the biggest one of its type in the world. In 4,000 m<sup>2</sup> of the exhibition area the development of hop growing is documented from its beginning in the early Middle Ages till the second half of the 20th century. Apart from interesting collections, visitors can see the museum building, an example of industrial functional architecture from the end of the 19th century, in the town that is world famous for the best quality hops. In the entrance hall visitors will be amazed by the BRUFF historical hop-picking machine which appeared in the Czech musical „Starci na chmelu“. In the museum reception visitors can see an animated movie about the Hop Elf who will humourously describe all stages of hop growing, picking and processing. Then visitors can see individual floors with museum collections, including historical machines, mechanization means and other interesting tools. All of those accompanied by period photographs and written documents. After visiting the museum, every visitor will understand why the best hops in the world are harvested in the Žatecko Region, and why they are an essential basic material for brewing beer, and why Czech beer brewed from the hops made the Czech Republic famous all over the world. Should visitors be tired at the end of the visit, they can have a rest and a glass of beer in the refreshment section of the museum, where five grown hop vines – the best known hop varieties from Žatec - have been planted.

Visitors can also take a small gift reminding them of the smell of hops from Žatec - a small sample of dried hop cones, and if that will not do and they wish to taste hops, they should visit the „Seventh Step“, a shop of special beers made from hops from Žatec on the ground floor of the Hop Museum, opposite the Hop Lighthouse.

## Hop and Beer Temple in Žatec

Žatec, situated in northern Bohemia on the Ohře River, has a history one thousand years old. An important role in the history has always been played by top-quality aromatic hops. the history of hop growing and beer brewing for more than 700 years inspired Žatec to open an entertainment and educational centre named the Hop and Beer Temple, whose roots are based upon the rich tradition of the world famous hop region. the attractive content of the tour will intrigue a broad variety of visitors. the tour begins with a visit to the Hop Lighthouse. You will get to the upper parts of the lookout tower by a lift with the first surprise inside - 3D projection. There is an observation platform at the top of the tower offering a view of the Žatec Region. the only way to get to the platform is to climb a spiral staircase. In the crown of the Hop Lighthouse, there are lights announcing festive events in the royal town of Žatec to the surrounding area. Then you will visit the Labyrinth, located in the building of the old hop warehouse. At the end of the maze there is a hidden treasure of the hop region. When leaving this section, your adrenalin will drop to the normal level. a very interesting section of the Temple is the Hop Horologe, the only horologe of this type in the world, which is interesting thanks to its untraditional processing. Just like everything in the Hop and Beer Temple, the astronomical clock has its own story as well. a small brewery named „U Orloje“ (At the Horologe) is a logical continuation of the visit to the entire complex. Beer is brewed there in front of the visitors. Properly mellowed beer is tapped directly from the brewery's reservoir tanks. Come and see what real Czech beer tastes like. the Brewery Restaurant (Pivovarská restaurace) is a place for taking a rest and tasting regional meals. In the summer months it is possible to take a seat in the courtyard of the Brewery Restaurant. the southern garden with the children's café is a place for games and entertainment. the premises also include a beautiful newly reconstructed Monastery Garden (Kláštevní zahrada) at the Capuchin Monastery (Kapucínský klášter), offering relaxation spaces with a playground, aviaries with birds, a corral with animals, herb garden, vineyard, hop garden and many beautiful details. In 2012 the reconstructed building of a unique renaissance Melt House was opened to the public. There is a gallery and educational centre for children and teenagers.

GPS: 50°19'28.533"N, 13°32'40.201"E

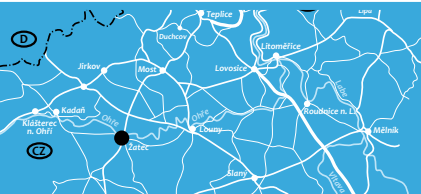
### Practical Information

Chrám chmele a piva  
(Hop and Beer Temple) CZ,  
nám. Prokopa Velkého 1951  
Žatec

Director: Jaroslav Špička  
tel.: +420 415 210 382  
Infocentre: +420 415 211 610  
Restaurant: +420 415 210 952  
e-mail: info@chchp.cz  
reditel@chchp.cz

[www.chchp.cz](http://www.chchp.cz)

There is a small brewery inside the restaurant. Beer is brewed there in the traditional Czech way using the local malt and hops in front of the visitors the resulting taste of the national drink epitomizes the originality of Czech beer. 2–3 types of the brewery's own draught beer are offered during the year. Recipes for beer preparation encompass the experience of several generations of Czech maltsters, hop-growers and brewers.







GPS: 50°21'46.999"N, 13°23'41"E

### Practical Information

A civic society named "Vodácká Ohře" (The Ohře for Water Sportsmen) was established. Its goal is to make the river pleasurable and to develop it. the society helped create the Ohře Water Path (Vodácká stezka na řece Ohři) and Guide to the Water Path (Průvodce po Vodácké stezce). There are 69 information boards along the Ohře, providing information on individual locations, cultural monuments and sights in the surrounding area, close villages or towns, including possible accommodation, special water sport instructions, and information on how to overcome weirs or other obstacles.



## Nechranická Dam and the Ohře River for water sportsmen

The Nechranická Dam in Northern Bohemia lies on the Ohře River in the district of Chomutov between Kadaň, Chomutov and Žatec, and it is the largest expanse of water in the Podkrušnohoří Region. It was built in 1968 as a water source for nearby power plants in Tušimice; at the present time it is used more for other purposes, predominantly for leisure and relaxation, fishing and water sports. There are exceptional weather conditions for yachtsmen. With its area of almost 1,400 hectares, it is the sixth largest water reservoir in our country, and its dam, which is over three kilometres long, it the longest rockfill dam in Central Europe. It is 47.5 metres high on average; the maximum depth of water is 46 metres. There are seven campsites around the dam, offering accommodation in tents, caravans, cabins and bungalows. Lovers of bicycle touring will find beautiful destinations in the surroundings. a part of the area was declared the Bird Protection Area and belongs to the Natura 2000 ecological network.

The fourth longest river in the Czech Republic is the Ohře. the river, which was neglected in the past, has recently become very popular with water sportsmen. It begins in the Fichtelgebirge (Smrčiny) in Germany where it is called the Eger. It tends to meander in the upper course, then rapids appear; later it calms down and winds its course in the landscape of the Czech Central Mountains. There are sufficient campsites and tourist attractions along the river, such as castles, chateaus, or rock towns. the most popular is the section from Loket to Klášterec nad Ohří, which can be completed in 2–3 days. Most weirs on the Ohře are without sluices, but their construction is being planned. Two weirs are particularly dangerous - in Tuhnice and Radošov. When the water level is low, you can see water sportsmen swimming there, but at higher water levels, the weirs become dangerous; two people drowned there.



## Chateau of Krásný Dvůr

The Chateau of Krásný Dvůr, one of the most impressive chateaus in Bohemia, is located in a beautiful large park, which is similar to French Versailles, at the foot of the Doupovské Mountains south-west of Žatec. It evidences the inspiration by French architecture and deep understanding of the House of Czernin of spatial requirements of a baroque chateau. This important family is linked with the history of the manor of Krásný Dvůr. a renaissance fortress was changed into a noble, sober architecture of the chateau, incorporated in the surrounding landscape. Herman Czernin of Chudenice gained the building as the first one of the family in 1649. a bold young man went on a long journey to the Orient with Kryštof Harant of Polžice. In the 1780s the Czernin Family had a unique park built, the oldest and largest English park in our country, covering an area of 100 hectares. It has an ingenious water system supplying water to five ponds, there is an artificial water fall, massive trees (the oldest of them is Goethe's Oak [only a trunk now] which is more than 1,000 years old), several empire and romantic garden structures, including a neo-gothic lookout tower with a chapel, or obelisk (26m tall). the chateau hosted various notable people, for example J. W. Goethe, Princess Wilhelmina, Duchess of Sagan with Prince Metternich, and Josef Dobrovský. In the interior of the chateau you will see various objects, such as porcelain and ceramics, tile stoves, clocks, baroque furniture, faience, as well as very valuable paintings of Czech and European painters. There is also a special collection of forty-two baroque canvases with full-sized portraits of hunting dogs. Filmmakers were also impressed by the castle. Three marked paths lead through the park to individual buildings.

GPS: 50°15'6.6"N, 13°22'11.9"E

### Practical Information

You can take romantic walks in an English landscape park, established as the first park of its type in the period of 1783–1793 by Jan Rudolf Czernin. the park design has common features with French Versailles, predominantly thanks to a number of romantic buildings (for example the Pan's Temple, Gothic Temple – a lookout tower, Sun Temple – Gloriette, obelisk, Goethe's Pavilion, and Chinese Pavilion).

Opening hours: April-October  
e-mail: zamek.krasnydvur@usti.npu.cz

[www.krasny-dvur.cz](http://www.krasny-dvur.cz)

QR code  
Opening  
hours of  
the chateau







## Practical Information

The first part of the “trout” Ohře begins in Žatec; there are two weirs at which fishing is allowed even with an MP permit, which is an unquestionable advantage during closed seasons of other MP fishing areas. The river bottom is rocky with some big stones and plenty of algae. There is both wild and rapid water there, as well as calm currents with many deep stream pools. In slower parts of the river, hidden in algae and under big stones, there are trout, graylings, brook trout, as well as pikes, pike-perch and burbot. The Ohře is the fishing area where the most trophy salmon are caught in the Czech Republic! a country road leads along the left bank close to the river from Žatec to Stranná; it is possible to park a car close to the river. Liboňany on the right bank is a popular place. You can leave your car there as well. Be careful when wading; there are deep holes in the river in which many fly fishers have had to take an unintended swim.

Trout areas (marked in red):

443 040 OHŘE 8 a  
443 059 OHŘE 8 B

## The Ohře River – royal fishing paradise

The Ohře River has always been of key importance for the north-west region of Bohemia. It creates a natural longitudinal axis of the region, separating geologically different formations. Its basin, belonging to a region named Lucko already according to chronicler Cosmas, has always ranked among most densely populated territories. Important fishing with famous abundance of fish was mentioned in chronicles of medieval historians. the chronicler Balbín wrote in 1679: „... salmon leave the sea and come to rivers and run up to tributaries to the Elbe and the Ohře...“ And nowadays the Atlantic salmon, a predatory noble fish, slowly returns to rivers in Northern Bohemia. Salmon were stocked in the Kamenice and the Ploučnice, as well as in the Liboc, a tributary to the Ohře. a specialty of fishermen on the Ohře is fly fishing, predominantly catching big brook trout, or speckled trout, and graylings. It is not easy, because fish have sufficient food in the river. a great experience of a fly fisher is to catch beautiful and fighting barbels, or newly also asp. Fly fishing on the Ohře – it is a challenge. the Ohře is a trout river, but unbelievably you can catch pike-perch there as well. Some of them are taken by flood water from the Nechranická Dam. For example, a fisherman tied a streamer and managed to catch a pike-perch that was 110 cm long and weighed 13kg. And so fly fishers on the Ohře go further and deeper into the river in their waders and take, chest high in the water, the best freshwater shrimps, larvae or caddisfly pupae from their box, which they mostly make themselves, and enjoy the excitement of doing battle with a huge fish. For some people, fly fishing is a life philosophy. And fly fishing on the Ohře can be performed with great success.

## Postoloprty, Podbořany and the lookout tower in Kryry

Postoloprty is mentioned first in Cosmas’ Chronicle, depicting the fight of Prince Neklan of the Bohemian tribe with the people of Lucko. As evidenced by archeological findings, the place was colonized by various unknown tribes and ethnic groups long ago. As far as historical sights are concerned, there is a castle with a garden, Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, flood bridge, and column with Pieta sculptures.

The beginning of Podbořany dates back to the first millennium, when Rohovec of Vršovice started to build houses below a fortress on Rubín Mountain (352m). Podbořany developed in the place protected by the fortress. Rubín Hill is the dominant feature of the town, and is protected as a significant landscape element. It was colonized more than 4,000 years ago in the Neolithic Age, and valuable archeological findings were discovered there. Researchers state that Rubín is legendary Wogastisburg under which Slavic King Samo defeated King Dagobert of the Franks. Other sights of Podbořany include churches, the Holy Trinity Column, Wayside Shrine, and Workman’s House.

Six kilometres away from Podbořany, on a low steep Kostelní Hill (383m), in the place of Kozíhřady Castle, there is the Schiller Lookout Tower. It was built in the period of 1905–1906 to commemorate the centenary anniversary of the death of great German poet Friedrich Schiller; during the construction allegedly 298 horse carts brought 95,000 bricks, 60 cartloads of sand, and 15 cartloads of granite stone to the hill top. the construction was architectonically unique, and thousands of people came to see the opening ceremony. the lookout tower originally had three observation platforms; but the tower was neglected in the past. After 2000 the lookout tower was repaired and opened to the public again. It offers a beautiful view of the Czech Central Mountains, Ore Mountains and Doupovské Mountains.

GPS: 50°21’32.52’’N, 13°42’5.41’’E  
50°10’20.031’’N, 13°25’48.42’’E

## Practical Information

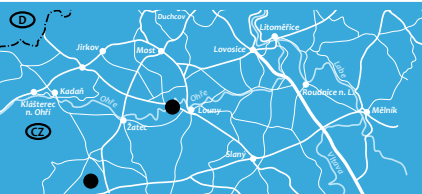
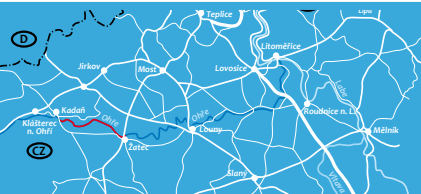
Schiller Lookout Tower in Kryry: the air distance is 6km south of Podbořany; a green hiking trail leads from Podbořany to Kryry, or a blue trail from Vrutky; a local path then leads from the church to the lookout tower.

Sale of tourist stamp No.873.

The near and broad surroundings of Postoloprty and Podbořany are ideal for bicycle touring.



QR code  
Opening  
hours of  
the lookout  
tower







GPS: 50°19'10.24"N, 13°44'56.169"E

### Practical Information

The entire renovated castle was opened to the public in 2011. Opening hours are always from Wednesday to Sunday, including public holidays. Open access premises: Castle tower, southern garden, underground stables; you can also get some refreshments in the castle KONIRNA (STABLE) pub.

In the past several years the castle, as the property of the Ústí Region is administered by the Regional Museum in Louny, has been undergoing a systematic reconstruction so that the architecturally interesting monument with a rich history could serve as a new tourist destination and place for organizing various cultural and social events in the future.

[www.muzeumlouny.cz](http://www.muzeumlouny.cz)

## Nový hrad in Jimlín

The castle is located in the village of Jimlín, in the undulating landscape of Lower Poohří, 5km south-west of Louny. the first written mention of the original castle dates back to the 14th century. In 1453 a fortress was acquired by Albrecht Bezručický of Kolovrat, who started to reconstruct the fortress for a magnificent castle with permission of King George of Poděbrady in 1465. During the reconstruction, Albrecht of Kolovrat started to denominate himself as Novohradský, thanks to which a new branch of the House of Kolovrat was established, as well as a name of the castle and large prospering manor. the Nový hrad Castle gained the current look while it was owned by Gustav Adolf of Warensbach between 1670 and 1690. the Löwenegg family were the last nobles living in Nový hrad. After Leopold of Löwenegg died, the manor was sold to Prince Joseph Schwarzenberg in 1767 who, however, chose the Castle in Postoloprty as his residence in north-west Bohemia. the dominant feature of the Castle is a late gothic tower. After expropriation of the castle in 1949, the castle was used by an agricultural cooperative, which „adjusted“ it to their needs. At that time all furnishings disappeared and the castle chapel and prestige rooms were devastated. the reconstruction of Nový hrad was completed in 2010. Nowadays you can see castle rooms with precious painted ceilings, or unique underground stables. An open-hearth kitchen has also been reconstructed, as well as accessory buildings of the castle in the northern wing, including a wash-house with a big laundry mangles.

## Džbán Nature Park

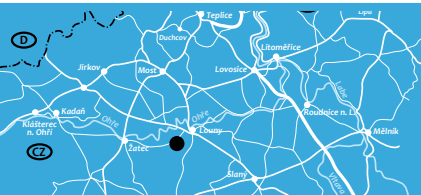
The Džbán nature park, established in an area among the Lounsko, Kladensko and Rakovnicko Regions in 1994, is a relatively large area, covering more than 400km<sup>2</sup>, which is valuable due to its nature and landscape. the goal of the nature park is to preserve the unique landscape of the Džbán chalk platform with numerous rare plant species and significant aesthetic values. the area lifted above the surroundings by tectonic movements is tilted to the north, and is divided by valley channels into several narrow hills and ridges, and is affected by erosion as well. As a result rock walls and deep valley, and even small canyons, were created. the highest summit is Džbán (536m). There are also many historical monuments and relics of prehistoric settlements. the famous sandy marl head of a Celtic hero was discovered there, considered as the most beautiful portrayal of a Celtic man, god or demigod of that time, and icon of the Celtic culture at the present time. In the prehistoric times of Bohemia, the ridge of Džbán was notorious as a war frontier of the people of Lucko and Duchy of Prague. And predominantly, there are the prehistoric Kounov stone rows, whose purpose has not been explained so far. Through the area, two thirds of which are covered by forests, several hiking trails lead and nature trails have been built; it is also interesting for bicycle touring, primarily for cyclists who use GPS navigation technology. Unfortunately, there are not many accommodation facilities' one of them is the popular Bucek Campsite on the bank of a recreational pond. Some activities can only be done with approval of the competent Municipal Authority. the chief goal is to preserve this unique landscape undamaged.

GPS: 50°12'12.769"N, 13°45'6.244"E

### Practical Information

Through Džbán on foot? For example from the crossroads between Přetluky and Domoušice, one kilometre to the Pravda Castle, built of white sandy marl, or turn to Devil's Stone (Čertův kámen), and then to a hill fort named Malé hradisko. From there to the Rovina gamekeeper's lodge, there is the chapel of St. Vojtěch and Kounov Hill Fort (Kounovské hradiště) next to it. From there a nature trail leads to the Kounov Stone Rows, and past the railway station in Mutějovice to the ruin of Džbán Castle, then past the former Perun mine to Mutějovice and then to Krupá. It is around 18km, approx. 5 hours with breaks.

[www.mulouny.cz](http://www.mulouny.cz)







GPS: 50°18'48.152"N, 13°38'53.456"E

### Practical Information

A menhir named Enchanted Maiden (Zakletá dívka, Zakletá panna, U kamene) – a stone around 135cm tall – used to stand in a field at a road to Malnice. According to legend, it was moved from the original place by a farmer who wanted to make a seat from it at his farm. But dogs gathered at the stone at night and howled ruefully, therefore the farmer had to put the stone back to its original place. the original location of the Enchanted Maiden together with the Stone Maiden at Rakovník determined the exact meridian direction. In the past the menhir lay in a ditch of the district road near its original location and could have been destroyed. In November 1986 it was moved to the Museum in Žatec thanks to Jaroslav Heřus, and it is still located in the museum garden. More details: Lithology – quartz rock, siliceous sandstone, height 1.4m, weight 0.4 tons, its shape is similar to a blunt cone. Oldest documents – 1843 (map), 1895, 1896.

## Megalithic mysteries – menhirs and Kounov Stone Rows

Welcome to the most mysterious place in the Czech Republic! At least that is what is said about Rovina Hill with strange rows of big stones north of Kounov between Louny and Rakovník. They are megalithic mysteries, similarly to French Carnac. They were discovered as something extraordinary by a young local teacher in 1934. In an area covering a few hectares, there are several thousand stones in huge parallel rows from the north to the south with irregular spacing. Some of them are so big that it is hard to imagine the force that could move them. Speculations about their purpose, which appeared after the discovery was publicized, have not stopped so far. Are the mysterious Kounov rows a prehistoric temple for worshipping the sun, a pagan calendar, astronomic observatory, or only a very special and unique system of field boundaries? From the mutual location of two of the most important stones - Gibbon and Pegasus, it is possible to focus on the sunrise and sunset, and cuts in the stones allegedly show the sun rising phases in the solstice period. Or did the stones determine the tracks for ritual horse races of Celtic settlers? the mystery has continued and has not been solved yet, similarly as disputes of mysteryologists and archeologists. An ordinary tourist can find excitement in searching for the stones, or just think of their mysterious purpose. Another interesting prehistoric monument rises north of Drahomyšl on the left side of a field path to Strkovice. It is a menhir named Enchanted Monk (Zakletý mnich), with a legend of a monk of the Capuchin Monastery in Žatec who fell in love with a pretty girl, and she fell in love with him as well. the sinful relationship was punished very ruthlessly – the young man turned into stone, and the girl was burnt to death as a witch. the stone is said to be filled with strong energy from the Earth and Universe.

## Panenský Týnec, Líčkov and Stekník Castles, Pravda Castle

In Panenský Týnec u Loun, the most mysterious village of the Ústí Region, there is an uncompleted church. Due to an alleged zone of positive energy, the place has been attracting healers, psychotronicists as well as ordinary people for years. the building is imposing, it allegedly can induce a good mood, fill one with enthusiasm, it is known as the church of good moods. In the 14th century the powerful House of Zierotin founded the Monastery of Poor Clares, who were brought to Bohemia by Saint Agnes of Bohemia, the daughter of Ottokar I of Bohemia. a monumental three-aisle high-gothic church should have been built in the monastery. With its artificial value, even as a torso, it ranks among fines Czech monuments and is an important part of the history of Czech architecture. It is also popular for meditations, meetings, assignments, and weddings. In Líčkov, south-east of Žatec, there is a castle from the 14th century, originally a gothic castle. It is mentioned in the Annales Bohemorum by Wenceslaus Hájek of Libočany. It went through tough times, had many owners. It also belonged to the painter O. Brázda, and was restituted to his wife Marie. It has historical interiors with painting decorations; there is a gallery of the painter Brázda, and St. Anne's Chapel. On a prominent meander neck of the Ohře River, in the village of Stekník, there is a rococo castle with terrace gardens in the Italian style. They are open to the public, but the castle is still under reconstruction and is closed. In the place of a prehistoric hill fort at Domoušice above Pnětluky, in the Džbán forests, the Pravda Castle was built. the ruin, freely open today, has been a certain symbol and pilgrimage place since the century before last, a place of patriotic feasts before, today a place for people interested in history, fencing, or fantasy meetings. It is becoming a cult ruin.

GPS: 50°17'44.61"N, 13°54'59.95"E

### Practical Information

The airport in Panenský Týnec, only 50km from Prague, turned out to be the best place for holding an Open Air Festival. the festival decided on the place as a source of positive energy thanks to the incomplete gothic church, which has allegedly been proven even by measuring. the programme features sports activities, theatre, workshops, etc. the Open Air Festival has become an established popular event similar to, for example, British Glastonbury, and was awarded an international prize as the best eco-friendly festival.

The incomplete church in Panenský Týnec belongs among the locations determined for archeological research, because it is one of the places where relics of Saint Agnes of Bohemia could be buried.







## Do you know where the only Hop Lighthouse in Bohemia is located?

Hops have been grown in the area along the Ohře River since long ago. the Ústí Region can be proud of a thousand year old tradition of hop growing and beer brewing in the area. People living in Žatec say Žatec is a town “where beer is at home”. As the only town in the Czech Republic,

they can boast a really special thing – the Hop and Beer Temple. What is it? It is an entertainment and educational complex of buildings and facilities revealing all secrets of hop growing and brewing good beer. You will see the complex from a distance; the Hop Lighthouse rises high above it!





## List of Infocentres

### Bohemian Switzerland

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tel.: +420 412 582 600  
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www.ceska-kamenice.cz/turistika/ic

**Děčín**  
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e-mail: info@decin.cz  
www.mmdecin.cz

**Chřibská**  
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www.ceskesvycarsko.cz

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www.mesto-sluknov.cz

**Varnsdorf**  
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**Tisá**  
Tisá 205 (budova OÚ), 403 36 Tisá  
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e-mail: ic.tisa@centrum.cz  
www.tisa.cz

### Czech Central Highlands

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# The Elbe Cycle Route

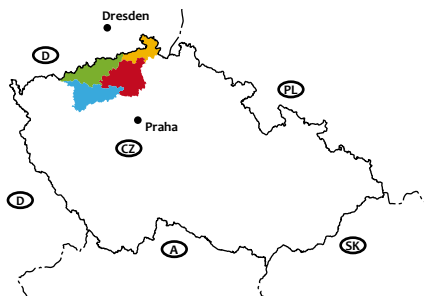
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