

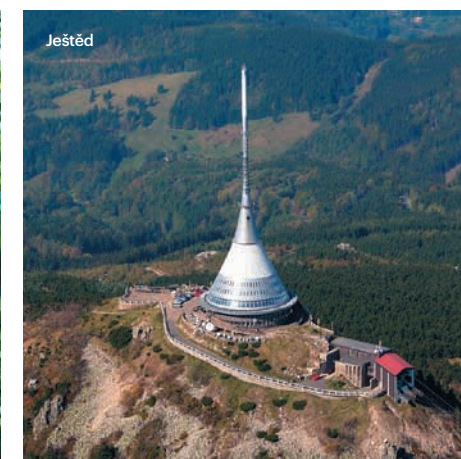
Czech Mountains

Bike and Hike

The Czech mountains

Safe hiking
in a blaze of colour

Šumava



What's unique about the Czech mountains and something they all have in common? That you will always be able to find your way! You can roam through the picturesque Czech mountain landscape with absolutely no fear of getting lost.

Every trail is assigned its own colour – blue, red, yellow, green. Where paths cross, you simply follow the colour blaze belonging to your trail. The paths are designated on hiking maps in the same colours. The Czech Hiking Club takes excellent care of the dense network of trail blazes. There are so many of them – on trees, rocks and other objects – that the next one will usually be visible from the one you're standing at.

At trail crossings and other important places, you will find signposts pointing you towards your next destination and stating the number of kilometres until you reach it.

And don't worry: In the Czech mountains you won't come across any dangerous wild animals. The only – and very rare – exception is the occasional bear that may stray into the deep forests of the Beskydy Mountains along the Slovak border. However, the chance of meeting a bear is practically nil.

Types of designations

hiking blazes:
coloured stripes
on a white field



bike path markings:
coloured stripes
on a yellow field



yellow mark for a cycle path



wheelchair-accessible trails:
wheelchair pictogram on
signpost



nature trails:
green stripe on a white field



Used symbols

- family, children
- cycling
- hiking
- for baby prams
- for handicapped
- adrenaline
- information centre
- chalet
- castle, chateau
- hilltop
- municipality

- pit, valley
- place of natural interest
- source
- cableway
- chairlift
- look-out tower
- fortress
- cave
- spa
- watercourse
- water body

Krkonoše Mountains

The ultimate adrenaline rush

The Krkonoše Mountains are the ideal place for physical activity. For hiking, Nordic walking, mountain biking and – more than anywhere else – for a rush of adrenaline.



www.krkonose.eu



Pančavský Waterfall

The Krkonoše Mountains are the highest Czech mountain range. From every perspective, whether looking up from the foothills or down from a bird's eye perspective, the panorama of the Krkonoše Mountains is magnificent. Their individual peaks are unmistakable. Each mountain has its own characteristic face, quickly recognizable even by the occasional visitor.

The border mountain range is distinctive, with poetically named rocks scattered here and there (Dívčí, Mužské, Ženské kameny – Girls', Men's, Women's rocks); some peaks are bare, while others are covered with grass and meadows awash in wildflowers. In some places the mountain crest drops off sharply to a valley (Sněžné jámy, Labský důl), putting the final touch to the drama of the landscape.

Tips for your trips

MTB downhill race course, Špindlerův Mlýn



Špindlerův Mlýn provides lots of great opportunities for mountain biking. You can take the cableway in Svatý Petr (the Pláň cableway) and then choose from three levels of difficulty – from the challenging black trail

to the blue beginner's trail, which is suitable even for children. Another trail leads from the upper station of the Hromovka cableway; it is a single trail for experienced cyclists. You will also find a mountain-bike hire service here.

www.skiareal.cz

Vertical Park, Harrachov-Mýto



This new park offers exciting fun for all adrenaline enthusiasts who don't fear heights. You can try the climbing wall, the giant swing, the bungee trampoline and various rope courses. Children will certainly enjoy the children's trampoline and the mini zoo.

www.verticalpark.cz

Bobsleigh Track and Monkey Park



If the bobsleigh run in Harrachov or Špindlerův Mlýn isn't enough for you, then you can combine it with a visit to the adjacent Monkey Park in either town. In a natural forest environment, you can overcome obstacles on ropes suspended between trees, and in Harrachov you can even slide over a mountain lake.

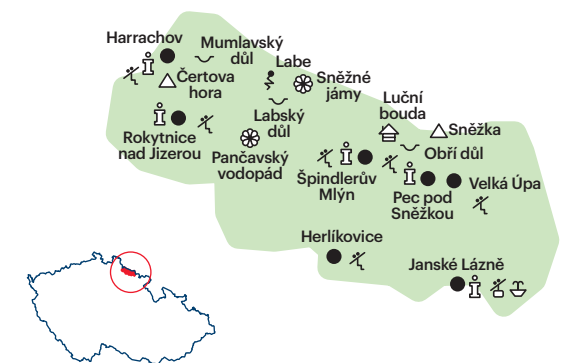
www.bobovka.cz



Late summer in the Krkonoše Mountains



Monkey Park





Foothills of the Krkonoše Mountains

Along the Obří důl valley to Sněžka



The trail to the highest Czech mountain starts in Pec pod Sněžkou. The demanding but beautiful hike through the Alpine-like countryside will reward you for your effort with impressive views of the Obří důl valley. You can conserve your energy by taking the chairlift to Růžová hora (Pink Mountain) or further on to Sněžka. In 2012, construction began on a new chairlift, so check for the latest information about its current state of operation. www.snezkalanovka.cz

Trail of Czech-Polish Friendship



The red-marked trail along the mountain crest is nearly 30 km long and traces the border between the Czech Republic and Poland. It affords fantastic views of the entire mountain range, deep gorges (Sněžné jámy) and mountain moorlands and meadows (near the Luční bouda chalet). The steep ascent to Sněžka is supported by climbing chains. There are chalets offering refreshments along the entire trail.

Špindlerův Mlýn and Luční bouda



Špindlerův Mlýn is the heart of the Krkonoše hiking experience and is an

excellent starting point. An adventurous trail suited to athletic hikers follows the red blaze up the hillsides of Koží hřbety (Goat Ridges), with an impressive view of avalanche slopes and dales (the trail is closed in winter). You can stop at Luční bouda chalet, where refreshments are available. We recommend returning through the valley of the Bílé Labe or past the Výrovka chalet to Svatý Petr. www.skiareal.cz

Harrachov and the Mumlava valley



The Mumlava stream's valley is long and poetic with waterfalls and cascades. At the end of the valley, it is possible to continue, with a steep ascent, to the crest, heading in the direction of the Vosecká bouda chalet or Pančavská louka (meadow). In Harrachov, you can enjoy a ride on the cableway to Čertova hora (Devil's Mountain), passing ski jumps which are sure to take your breath away. www.harrachov.com

Labský důl valley and the source of the Labe



An extraordinarily attractive trek through the impressive countryside of the Labe (Elbe) River valley ends with a steep ascent along the waterfall and rocks to the Labská bouda chalet.

What to do when it's raining?



Glassworks and Brew Pub, Harrachov

A museum devoted to the traditional manufacture of glass. After the tour, we recommend visiting the adjacent brew pub, where you can watch the glassworks in operation through a glass wall while you eat. The restaurant brews its own beer, and on Fridays and Saturdays there is live music. www.sklarnaharrachov.cz

Aquapark Špindlerův Mlýn

This modern water park with a wellness centre offers enough attractions for children and adults to fill any rainy day.

Muzeum of Mining (Hornické muzeum), Harrachov

Put on a helmet and explore the 1,000-metre-long shaft of a former ore mine. You will see, for example, the ore hoist and mine carts. www.hornicke-muzeum.eu



A family outing

Paradise for lovers of water Šumava Mountains

The countryside of the Šumava region around the Czech-Bavarian border is poetic and soothing, characterized by deep forests, wild mountain rapids, lakes and moors, and blossoming hillsides and pastures. Water is an inseparable part of the Šumava landscape.



www.isumava.cz



Vydra



Rokytká



Canoeing on the Vltava

Anyone interested in recreation will find a real paradise in Šumava. An impressive number of natural and historical monuments are connected by a dense network of cycle paths. In the past, a network of paths was established for the purpose of border protection and was accessible only to military vehicles. Now, the narrow but high-quality paths are open to cyclists. The most popular paths are found around the town of Horská Kvilda, near the source of the Vltava River, and in the region of Kašperské Hory. Less demanding is the terrain of the Šumava plains, which has minimal elevation changes.

Vydra River area



The rocky segment of the Vydra River between Antýgl and Čeňkova pila offers breathtaking scenery of wild rapids with cascades, huge boulders, and eroded "giant kettles".

Jezerní slat' (Lake Moor)



Moors are a typical feature of the Šumava landscape. The upland moors accessible from Kvilda with their remarkable flora and fauna are visible along a short nature trail.

Source of the Vltava River



From the village of Kvilda you can set off on a moderately difficult trail to the source of the Vltava River. The longest Czech river begins on the slope of Černá hora (Black Mountain). Its spring flows from a drainage conduit of a medieval mine and is characterized by a high silver content.

Tips for your trips

Lipno Reservoir



Lipno is an ideal place to enjoy the water in a variety of ways. Try windsurfing lessons, an array of water sports, hire a catamaran, peddle boat or even a yacht... or simply take a swim.

www.lipno.info

Do you like to ride the river?



Then you will be in your element in South Bohemia. There are many places where you can hire a kayak or a canoe and enjoy a rush of adrenaline on the Vltava, Otava or Vydra rivers.



Sailboats on the Lipno Reservoir



A cove on the Lipno Reservoir

Plešné Lake and Plechý Hill



Plešné Lake is one of the typical glacial lakes found in the Šumava region. A steep cliff towers some 300 metres above the lake's surface. We recommend starting in the village of Nová Pec and following the yellow-marked trail to the top of Plechý Hill, which is the highest peak of the Czech part of the Šumava (1,378 m). The circuit back to Plešné Lake follows an extraordinarily impressive nature trail called "Spirit of the Primateval Forest". Climbing the steep slopes in an ancient forest which has remained untouched by human hands is a real experience.

Černé and Čertovo lakes



The attractive trek along the slopes of Špičák hill leads past two glacial lakes, Černé (Black) and Čertovo (Devil's), of which Black Lake is the largest and deepest in the Šumava region.

Špičák Bike Park



The downhill runs, which in winter are full of skiers, in summer become the Špičák Bike Park for mountain biking. A cableway provides a comfortable ride to the top, and then all you have to do is to assess your skills and level of courage and make your way down one of the trails.

www.sumava.spicak.cz

Boubínský Primateval Forest



A unique reserve in the very heart of the Šumava. Some trees here are up to 50 metres high and are more than 400 years old. The best way to discover the ancient forest is along the 4-km Boubínská Trail, which starts in the village of Kubova Huť.

Třístoličník Hill



This peak at the Czech-German border is located 1,311 metres above sea level. At the top are three rocks where, according to legend, three kings – from Bohemia, Austria and Bavaria – used to meet. We recommend starting the climb from the village of Nové Údolí.

What to do when it's raining?



Wellness

Sport arena Lipno

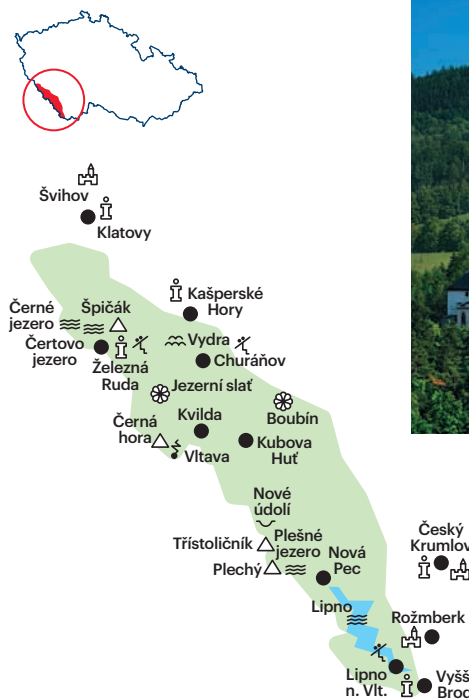
Three whirlpool baths, Finnish and herbal saunas, a Kneipp walkway, massage showers and massages. All this with a beautiful view of the Lipno Reservoir, providing relaxation for body and spirit.

Rožmberk Castle

If you love culture and fairy tales, don't miss the summertime night tours with guides dressed in traditional costumes. www.hrad-rozemberk.eu

Švihov Water Castle

This monumental castle with a water fortification system near Klatovy was one of the best-defended castles of its time and is definitely worth seeing.



Rožmberk Castle

Jizerské Mountains

Exploring nature without barriers

Do you like to bike and also to explore new places? Would you like to spend some time in nature with a baby in a pram? Does your group include someone who uses a wheelchair? In the Jizerské Mountains, there is ideal terrain for prams and wheelchairs alike.



www.liberecky-kraj.cz



Nová Hřebenovka cycle path

This minor mountain range in North Bohemia is a popular destination for biking enthusiasts. But not just for them. Anyone who is either addicted to wheels or dependent on them can enjoy a full-fledged mountain experience. The Jizerské Mountains offer a sufficient number of paths with smooth surfaces suitable either for long trips pushing a pram or for those using a wheelchair or hand bike.

There are about two dozen trails appropriate for baby prams and wheelchairs, ranging from 5 to 25 km in length. They typically have mild uphill and downhill gradients, and along the trails you will find barrier-free restaurants, kiosks and toilets. Only here will you find trails marked with a wheelchair pictogram, which will keep you going in the right direction.

Tips for your trips

Jizerka settlement



This former glassmaking settlement is the heart of the Jizerské Mountains and is also the Czech municipality with the highest elevation. Here you will find beautiful folk architecture and plenty of rustic guest houses where you can have a meal or stay overnight. It is accessible

by car or bike and also on foot, following the nature trail leading from Smědava past a forest moorland.

Královka lookout tower to Kristiánov



An attractive path for walking or cycling. We recommend starting with a climb to the top of the Královka lookout tower, a stop at the Nová Louka chalet restaurant, and continuing on to the village of Kristiánov, where there is a glassmakers' monument. The forest trail leads past the small and romantic Blatný Pond.

Ještěd



Ještěd Mountain, which you can reach either by car or cableway, rises above the city of Liberec. At the top, there is a hotel with a restaurant in a building renowned for its unique architectural design and offering fantastic views. If you have an adventurous spirit, you can ride a mountain bike down the newly built "La Spaghetta" path.

www.skijested.cz

Nová Hřebenovka (New Crest) cycle path



A long-distance path along the mountain crest from Harrachov to the settlement of Jizerka, and from there forking off either to Hrádek



Jizerka

nad Nisou via Bedřichov or to the Ještěd crest. One-way bike-hire service is available along the trail, operating on the principle of pick up and drop off at different locations.

Singltrek Nové Město pod Smrkem



If you are a heart-and-soul cyclist, try the new 65-km network of natural mountain-bike trails below Smrk, the highest peak of the Jizerské Mountains.

www.singltrek-podsmrkem.cz

What to do when it's raining?



Liberec
The Babylon Centre offers an ideal all-day programme for a rainy day. There is

plenty of entertainment for the entire family at the water park and the amusement park, and you can test your wits at the IQ Park and lose yourself in the largest mirror maze in Europe. As the day winds down, you can unwind at the wellness centre.
www.centrumbabylon.cz

Frýdlant Chateau and Hejnice Basilica
In the close vicinity of the Jizerské Mountains there are two architectural pearls which are definitely worth seeing: the monumental Baroque basilica and monastery in Hejnice and the Frýdlant Chateau, which beautifully combines the original Gothic castle with a Renaissance chateau.
www.mcdo.cz



Unconquerable fortresses

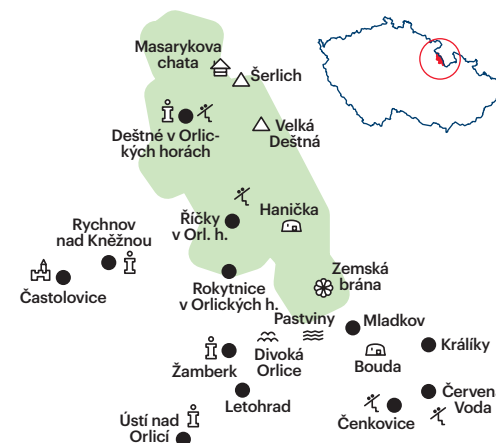
Orlické Mountains

Divoká Orlice

Whichever part of this mountain range you visit, you will find one thing rarely seen elsewhere in the world to this extent – a fortification system built along the border. There are small bunkers and larger fortresses hidden at almost every kilometre in the deciduous forests. They were built shortly before 1938 for the purpose of defending the Czechoslovak Republic.



www.orlickehory-cz.info



The hills of the Orlické Mountains are unassuming, with gentle peaks covered with woods and pastures. This region seems to resist the march of time, and to this day it has preserved its simple, unpretentious character. Anyone who likes hiking but dislikes crowds, who would rather meet a deer along the path than a group of tourists, and who likes picking mushrooms and blueberries more than visiting tourist attractions will find plenty of peace and relaxation in this region.

The unique system of fortresses and bunkers here was never used in the Second World War. However, the structures have been preserved to this day as a silent reminder of those turbulent times. Nowadays, they are maintained by volunteers or have been made into museums.

Tips for your trips

Hanička Fortress



Located near Rokytnice in the Orlické Mountains, it is among the largest underground fortresses. Above ground you can see a unique set of surviving armoured devices and a display of combat technology. In the underground spaces you can see an atomic bomb shelter dating from the Cold War.

Interestingly, the original prewar fortress was converted in secrecy in 1975 into an atomic bomb shelter for the elite of the ruling Communist Party.

www.hanicka.cz

Bouda Fortress



Situated near Mladkov, it is the best-preserved fortress in the prewar artillery fortification system of the former Czechoslovakia. Visitors will be impressed by the extensive underground spaces and a one-of-a-kind train track leading 57 metres below the surface.

www.boudamuseum.com

Cycling along the crest



From the Masaryk Chalet (Masarykova chata) on Šerlich Hill – the only restaurant on the mountain crest – the red-marked trail leads past Velká Deštná, which is the highest peak and where there is a lookout tower, all the way to the Hanička Fortress. Along the way you will enjoy beautiful views of the entire mountain range. Cycle paths without significant elevation changes are manageable by children and those in less-than-prime physical condition.

Zemská brána (Land Gate)



A nature reserve where a several-hundred-metre, boulder-filled channel of the



Hanička Fortress

Divoká Orlice River is lined by distinctive gneissic rocks, creating the impression of a frontier crossing.

Častolovice Chateau and mini zoo



An ideal destination when you're in the mood for a low-key family walk. This charming chateau, one of the few in the Czech Republic occupied by its owners, is open to the public. The pleasant environment is truly balm for the spirit. The chateau is surrounded by a park with white fallow deer, and there is a mini zoo for the children.

www.zamek-castolovice.cz

What to do when it's raining?



Craft Museum in Letohrad

At the Craft Museum in Letohrad, located in a historical complex of buildings and the largest of its kind in the Czech Republic, you will learn about nearly forgotten tradesmen such as coopers, cartwrights and shinglers.

www.muzeumremesel.cz



A family hike

Jeseníky Mountains

A climatic spa offering wellness for body and spirit

The Jeseníky Mountains are a great place for a holiday combining physical activity in the fresh mountain air with regeneration and relaxation in the spa and wellness centres in Jeseník, Karlova Studánka, Velké Losiny and Branná. The Karlova Studánka spa takes pride in having the cleanest atmosphere in all of Central Europe.



www.jesenikytourism.cz

Jesenicko region



Králícko region

The vast Jeseníky Mountains are full of mountain springs. The wells and springs issuing from the majestic hills have not only shaped the mountain landscape but have also given rise to the local spa tradition. At the spa complex in Karlova Studánka, you can take full advantage of the spa treatment, baths, massages and relaxation in warm water. The nearby Jeseník Spa is an extensive complex where the renowned treatment methods invented by the spa's founder, Vincenz Priessnitz, are still applied. An interesting fact is that the first hydrotherapy facility in the world was founded in 1837 by an unassuming cottager who invented a revolutionary treatment procedure by implementing what he observed in nature and then testing it on himself. By applying the principles of bathing in cool water, eating a simple diet, getting sufficient sleep and working in the fresh air, he succeeded in restoring health to numerous ailing townspeople and aristocrats.

Tips for your trips

Vincenz Priessnitz Museum, Jeseník



A permanent exhibition in family house of the spa founder presents Priessnitz's treatment methods and his remarkable life journey.

www.priessnitz.cz

Praděd



The highest mountain of the Jeseníky range, with a transmission tower and restaurant, is an almost obligatory tourist destination, offering beautiful views in every direction. You can scale Praděd by bike along an asphalt trail, but it is definitely worth going up on foot – and then enjoying a thrilling ride down on a hired scooter.

Dlouhé Stráně (Long Slopes)



The view of the horizontally "sliced off" peak of Mravenečník (meaning Anteater) Mountain above the town of Kouty nad Desnou is astonishing. On the top of the flattened hill is a vast reservoir, and inside the hill there is a pumped-storage hydroelectric plant, which in 2005 was ranked among the seven wonders of the Czech Republic.

Králický Sněžník



You will enjoy the hike through pristine nature up to the top of this majestic hill with neither roads nor restaurants, which near its peak has an almost alpine character. An interesting fact is that the main European watershed can be found here.



Karlova Studánka

What to do when it's raining?



Museum of Paper, Chateau, and Thermal Swimming pool in Velké Losiny. After a visit to the museum, where you'll learn all about the local handmade paper, we recommend a relaxing dip in the thermal sulphur baths (open daily except for Monday). www.muzeumpapiru.cz

Na Pomezí Caves in Lipová-lázně. Unfavourable weather will never spoil a trip to a cave. In the Jeseníky Mountains you can visit the Na Pomezí Caves, which have copious

stalactites, small lakes and spacious domes. A 400-metre tour through the caves lasts 45 minutes. www.caves.cz

The easternmost Czech mountain range, located near the border with Slovakia, is an attractive place to spend your holiday, particularly due to the unique character of the region. As far as the eye can see, the landscape is mountainous and the hillsides are covered with woods and pastures, where amiable and spirited Moravian Wallachians maintain their original wooden cottages and sheep huts.



www.beskydy.com

Living folklore
and lively rural
tourism

Beskydy Mountains

Rožnov pod Radhoštěm



When you come here, do not hesitate to try the local specialties: dishes from lamb meat, sheep cheese, sweet pastries called frgále – and the plum distillate called slivovice. The symbolic ruler of the region has always been the pagan god Radegast, from whom the local beer takes its name.

Tips for your trips

Wallachian Open-Air Museum in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm

The Wallachian Open-Air Museum will show you how people used to live in this region of Moravia more than 100 years ago and offers you the opportunity to sample the best of the local cuisine.
www.vmp.cz

From Pustevny up to Radhošť Mountain

This is the most attractive trail in the Beskydy Mountains, where there is truly a lot to experience. At the top of Pustevny, you'll see a unique set of wooden rustic structures designed by the architect Dušan Jurkovič in the Art Nouveau style and featuring rich stylized ornamentation. He wanted the structures to give the impression of Slavic folk architecture. From Pustevny, a comfortable trail will lead

you to the top of Radhošť Mountain, where you'll find a chapel with a bronze statue of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, and along the way you will pass an imposing statue of the pagan god Radegast. You can reach the top of Pustevny comfortably by cableway. Next to the upper cableway station there is a scooter hire service, and at the lower cableway station is a mountain-bike hire service.
www.lanovka-pustevny.cz

Lysá Mountain

On a nature trail leading from Ostravice to the highest peak in the Beskydy Mountains, visitors will learn about local traditions, legends and the natural beauty of the region. From the top, you'll enjoy distant views of the surrounding countryside. Length 16.5 km, incline 800 m.

Ostravice

If you are looking for an ideal starting point for your hike in the mountains, look no further than the village of Ostravice, a typical and distinctive Beskydy Mountain locale, where in your down time you can enjoy the heated swimming pool with water amusements for the whole family.
www.sepetna.cz



Bečva cycle path

141 kilometres of paths for cyclists (and designated segments for inline skaters as well) will lead you through a picturesque landscape dotted with folk architecture.

Olešná Aquapark, Frýdek-Místek

Even though you will never likely experience truly hot weather in the mountains, you can enjoy swimming in this outdoor water park with heated water and a number of water amusements. After a strenuous hike, you can relax here with a romantic evening swim beneath the stars.
www.aquapark-olesna.cz

What to do when it's raining?

Beer Spa in Štramberk
Have you ever had the chance to ingest beer not just through your mouth but to absorb it through your entire body surface? You will get this unusual opportunity in the Beskydy Mountains.
www.relaxvpodhuri.cz

Tatra Technical Museum in Kopřivnice
This one-of-a-kind museum presents the history of the automotive factory which in 1897 produced one of the first automobiles in the world – a "horseless carriage" named the Prásidek. Here you will see a collection of 60 passenger and freight vehicles – and much more.
www.tatramuseum.cz



Krušné Mountains

Cycling over hill
and dale

The Czech mountain range with the most eventful history has become a popular tourist destination only in recent years. Today, the Krušné Mountains welcome visitors with young larch and birch forests laced with seldom-frequented cycle paths, which are safe for teaching children to ride.



www.branadocech.cz
www.zivykraj.cz

Klínovec



Karlovy Vary

Over the course of time, these mountains underwent unexpected changes. The 16th century was a time of bustling activity: The silver mines here started producing the tolar (widely known by the German name thaler), the coin from whose name the U.S. dollar is derived. The discovery of uranium deposits brought an involuntary work force of approximately 15,000 here in the 1950s, mainly political prisoners. Near the spa town of Jáchymov, they mined uranium for Soviet nuclear experiments. Massive coal mining activities and the building of power plants in the Mostecko region resulted in extensive devastation of the forests in the 1970s and 1980s.

Tips for your trips

The mystery of the
underground – Jáchymov
Hell themed trail



If you are interested in history, visit one of the tunnels of a former uranium mine, where political prisoners and others toiled in the period when socialism was being hastily built in Czechoslovakia. The tunnel is now open to the public as a museum of uranium mining.

Boží Dar



This nature trail leads through the marvellous mountain landscape of the Boží Dar moorland. In the moorland you will find an entertaining forest path (5–13 km) intended for children called the Baby Jesus Trail. (Boží Dar, meaning Gift of God, is said to be the home of the infant who brings presents to Czech children at Christmas.) You can enjoy a peaceful hike on the forest trails along the Blatenský trench, which used to supply water for mining and metallurgical operations. Boží Dar is also an ideal starting point for the most interesting local cycle paths. www.bozidar.cz

Klínovec Mountain



The range's highest mountain, which is accessible by cableway from Jáchymov. You can return to the bottom via the Cyklo Down Hill Klínovec – recommended only for the bravest adventurers. Or you can take the 4–15 km circuit known as the Smugglers' Trail (Pašerácká stezka), which leads through Boží Dar.

Kamencové Lake and zoo in Chomutov



This large natural body of water is located on the outskirts of the city of Chomutov and features

Smugglers' Trail cycle path



What to do when it's raining?



Karlovy Vary (Carlsbad)
Visit the showplace of Czech spa resorts, Karlovy Vary, where you can see beautiful buildings along the colonnade, soak up the spa atmosphere, and indulge in spa treatments of all kinds. A very pleasant programme when the weather is bad is an excursion to where the famous Becherovka herbal liqueur is made. www.karlovyvary.cz

**Kynžvart Chateau near
Mariánské Lázně**
Enjoy the romantic beauty of this gleaming white chateau, which was built in the style of Viennese Classicism and features richly decorated interiors surrounded by park land. www.kynzvart.cz



Bohemian Paradise Bohemian Switzerland Adršpach Rock Town

Rock towns

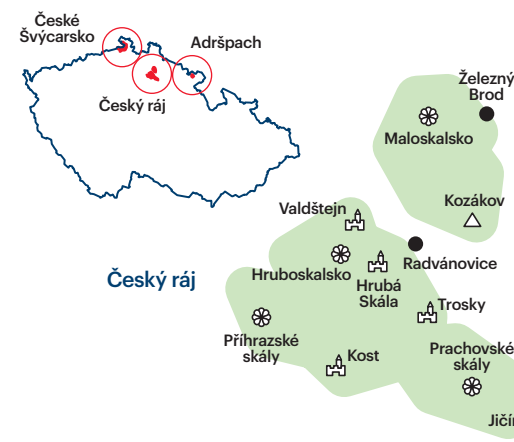
These three areas in the north of the Czech Republic are renowned for their bizarre rock formations and are bliss for avid climbers. The view from the ground is stunning, but the view from the top will take your breath away. In all these areas you can enjoy both romance and the opportunity to scale challenging rocks.



www.skalnimesta.cz



Adršpach



Adršpach Rock Town

Adršpach-Teplice Rocks



This “rock town” is located near the Polish border in a renowned mountaineering area. If you follow the marked path, you will find rocks with symbolic names such as Grandma’s Sofa (Babiččina lenoška), Sugar Loaf (Cukrová homole) and Knight’s Helmet (Rytířská přilbice). Children in particular will enjoy matching up the names with the rocks’ shapes.

A romantic and undemanding walk through the rock towns of Adršpach, with small lakes and waterfalls, can be enhanced by a boat ride around the lake in the middle of the rocks.

www.skaly-adrspach.cz



Bohemian Paradise

Bohemian Paradise (Český ráj) is a UNESCO-listed Geopark. It consists of several “rock towns” between Jičín and Železný Brod: the Prachov Rocks (Prachovské skály), the Hrubá Skála (Hruboskalsko) and Malá Skála (Maloskalsko) rock towns, and the Příhrazy

Rocks (Příhrazské skály). The forces of nature – wind, rain, frost and sun – sculpted the sandstone rocks here into bizarre shapes. The highest peak in Bohemian Paradise, Kozákov, is known as a hunting ground for semi-precious minerals.

www.cesky-raj.info
www.geopark-ceskyraj.cz

Prachov Rocks (Prachovské skály)



A place that will definitely test your courage. You will squeeze through narrow crevices between rocks and climb up from inside them to reach the adrenaline-enhanced views from the top.

Trosky and Valdštejn castles



When you arrive in Bohemian Paradise, already from a distance you will be awe-struck by an unusual silhouette on the horizon – the ruins of Trosky Castle. Its two towers, called Bába (Granny) and Panna (Maiden), were built on two peaks formed from volcanic activity. The attractive “rock town” (Hruboskalsko) near the village of Hrubá Skála, with the Valdštejn rock castle, is located not far from here.

www.cesky-raj.info,
www.geopark-ceskyraj.cz



Cycling below Trosky Castle



Hrubá Skála



Adršpach



Bohemian Switzerland

The area called Bohemian Switzerland (České Švýcarsko) is a picturesque region near the German border, where the Labe River leaves the Czech Republic and enters Germany, where it is called the Elbe.
www.ceskesvycarsko.cz

Pravčická Sandstone Gate



The Pravčická brána rock formation is the largest natural sandstone arch in Europe and is an ideal destination on an all-day hike in the area of Hřensko. It is not accessible by car, and the trail is not suitable for prams, bikes or wheelchairs. The best starting point is Mezní louka or Hřensko.

www.pbrana.cz

Hřensko, navigation along the Kamenice River



The straits of the Kamenice River are so narrow in two places that a boatman must ferry you between the towering rocks. This is a very popular trip with children.

Boat ride between Hřensko and Děčín



A boat trip through the gorges of the Labe (Elbe) River is romantic and relaxing, and you can enjoy the beauty of Bohemian Switzerland from a new angle while having lunch on board.

www.ceskesvycarsko.cz

What to do when it's raining?



Kost Castle, Bohemian Paradise
An imposing stone castle built in the High Gothic style in the middle of the forest. The spiritual atmosphere of the castle has given rise to an unusual event: In late July and early August the castle comes alive with herbalists, numerologists and esotericists, who all come here to attend the so-called Magic Congress.
www.kinskycastles.com

Aquacentrum Jičín
A modern water park where the whole family can have a wonderful time: It has swimming pools, a wild river, a water slide, water spouts and saunas.



Gabriela's Trail, Hřensko



Kost Castle



Bohemian Switzerland

Pravčická Sandstone Gate



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