

Exploring the Regions of the Czech Republic



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■	SOUTH BOHEMIA 6–9	■	MORAVIA AND SILESIA 22–32
■	WEST BOHEMIA 10–13		



South Moravia – Mikulov

What can a country lying right in the heart of Europe boast of? You can expect many an unforgettable moment. Let yourself be carried away by the distinct atmosphere of Czech towns or by the breath-taking views onto a landscape whose charms have inspired, and still inspire, many artists. They also inspire everyone who knows how to appreciate the amazing diversity of the country's natural wonders.

The active visitor will find beautiful mountains and valleys lined with biking and hiking trails as well as downhill and cross-country skiing trails. Those who enjoy water will delight in the number of small ponds and glacier lakes, mountain streams, and water reservoirs. Those who prefer a relaxing visit can be pampered in one of the many renowned Czech spas, while the romantic soul will be enchanted with the rich array of fairy tale castles and chateaus. And if it is knowledge you seek, then the rich history of the Czech nation will overwhelm you.

And if the simple pleasure of discovering the best of the Czech regions is not enough, there is always the famous Czech cuisine and the great selection of wines and beers to back it up.

Find out for yourself what the Czech Republic has to offer. We wish you only the best of all experiences!

Did you know... ?

...this small country in the middle of Europe – surrounded by a ring of bordering mountains, settled by the Slavs and formed by the historic territories of **Bohemia**, **Moravia**, and **Silesia** – has been the crossroads of important trade routes and their accompanying economic and power struggles, as well as diverse cultural influences, since time immemorial?



Family trip

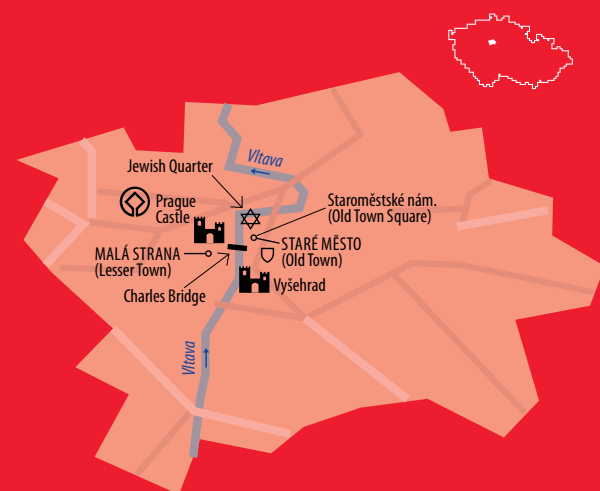
LEGEND

	UNESCO property		heritage reservation		hiking		golf
	regional capital		church monument		bicycling		winter cross country ski trails
	castle, chateau		natural monument		canoeing and rafting		skiing
	Jewish monument		cave		swimming		horse racing
	spa		military monument		fishing		



PRAGUE

Prague is rightly considered to be one of the most beautiful cities in the world and proudly bears the nickname 'Mother of Cities'. The historical centre boasts a rich plethora of architectural styles from Gothic to Art Nouveau up to modern. Whether it is knowledge or fun you seek, you will find yourself easily succumbing to its unparalleled and captivating atmosphere.



www.praguewelcome.cz

Prague bridges

Did you know... ?

... **Prague Castle** is the largest castle complex in the world? Come see for yourself why its magnificent panorama etches itself into the memory of perhaps every person who visits our capital.
www.hrad.cz

The **historic centre of Prague** has been inscribed on the **UNESCO World Heritage List**.



Changing of the guards at Prague Castle

TIPS

You can get to **Prague Castle** from the city centre by **tram No. 22**.



Golden Lane

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF FRANZ KAFKA

The writer **Franz Kafka** lived at house No. 22 on Golden Lane at Prague Castle from 1916 to 1917.

Discover the world of Prague native **Franz Kafka**, and visit his **museum** in **Malá Strana** (Lesser Town)
www.kafkamuseum.cz



Charles Bridge

Do not miss a romantic stroll across Charles Bridge.

The **Charles Bridge** is one of the most unforgettable structures in Prague, and is the second oldest preserved bridge in the country. It is not just the bridge's own special magic that attracts so many visitors – the view of Prague from here is simply one of a kind!

Watch the clock ... here come the apostles!

The oldest square in Prague, Staroměstské náměstí, or the Old Town Square, originally formed as a marketplace on the crossroads of European trade routes. One of the square's dominant features is the Gothic Old Town Hall with its famous Astronomical Clock (Orloj); its main attraction is the moving procession of the twelve apostles.

You can admire Prague from the **Old Town Hall** every day until 10:00 pm.

Don't miss it: the 'Walk of the 12 Apostles' appears in the windows of the Orloj every hour on the hour throughout the day.



Astronomical Clock (Orloj)

Visit the most mysterious spot in Prague

Prague's **Jewish Quarter**, also known as Josefov, is one of the most valuable Jewish monuments in the world. The quiet melancholy atmosphere of the Old Jewish Cemetery leaves a unique impression. In the Pinkas Synagogue, also a monument to the victims of the Holocaust, the walls bear the names of Czech Jews who perished during the Second World War. Make sure your visit to this unforgettable quarter includes the Old New Synagogue; this is the oldest surviving synagogue in Central Europe and today serves as a prayer room.
www.jewishmuseum.cz



Prague Castle and Charles Bridge

Feast your eyes! This is the most beautiful view onto Prague

One of the dominant features of Prague is **Vyšehrad**, a place with a rich history supported by numerous legends from the beginnings of Czech history. Today, the silhouettes of the two steeples of the church of St. Peter and Paul rise from the rocks above the river. Come feast your eyes on an unsurpassed view onto Prague! Vyšehrad provides a quiet place to rest in its local parks, so you definitely won't be disappointed.
www.praha-vysehrad.cz



Silver Kutná Hora

You can find out more about how this town was once ruled by silver fever in the local Czech Museum of Silver; a walk through the town itself will convince you of its charms, as if time had stopped here. Enjoy the beauty of such architectural gems as **St. Barbara's Church, Italian Court**, and the Cathedral of Our Lady in Sedlec.

www.kutnahora.cz
www.guide.kh.cz

Kutná Hora



Karlštejn

CENTRAL BOHEMIA

Just a stone's throw from Prague lies a diverse region with winding rivers cutting through deep valleys and surrounded by deep forests. The romantic charm of Central Bohemia is made even more powerful by its diverse geological relief, its bizarre sandstone rock formations, and its numerous and magnificent castles and chateaux.

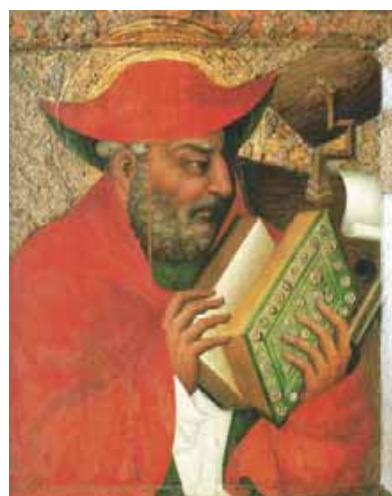


www.middleczech.cz

Karlštejn – a treasure among castles

This castle, one of the most visited in the country, is in the valley of the Berounka River. Majestic Karlštejn was built by the Bohemian King and Roman Emperor Charles IV as a place to store the royal treasures, especially the crown jewels and a collection of holy relics.

You can admire the unique wall decorations from the 14th century, a set of 129 panel paintings from **Master Theodoricus**, in the Chapel of the Holy Cross.



Master Theodoricus:
St. Jerome

TIPS

Kutná Hora: the historic centre of town with the Church of St. Barbara as well as the Cathedral of Our Lady in Sedlec have been inscribed on the **UNESCO World Heritage List**.

Take a public bus to the famous **Sedlec Ossuary**, in the part of **Kutná Hora** known as **Sedlec**. The Ossuary is decorated with the bones of about 40 thousand people.

www.kostnice.cz

If you love modern art, do not forget to visit the **GASK Gallery**, located in the historical Jesuit College.

www.gask.cz

Over the summer holidays, we recommend the multi-genre festival **Summer at Křivoklát**. Just before Christmas is an Advent market with a rich program.

www.krivoklat.cz

Křivoklát – fortress and resting place

In the forests west of Prague, in the centre of the Křivoklátsko Protected Landscape Area, lies one of the most beautiful Czech castles, Křivoklát.

Křivoklát remained one of the most important royal castles throughout the centuries and served as a staging point on the route to Germany. The country's rulers also loved to use it as a base for their hunting trips to the surrounding forests as well as a prison for their more prominent visitors. Charles IV was also interned here as a child with his father before he became emperor.

www.krivoklat.cz



Konopiště

Konopiště – a monument to an enlightened monarch

Konopiště became famous as the last residence of Franz Ferdinand d'Este, the heir to the throne of the Austro-Hungarian Empire whose assassination set off the First World War. This ruler, a passionate collector who loved technological achievements, had the castle equipped with running water and electricity, and he even had an elevator installed. The castle's collection of weapons is one of the most valuable in Central Europe.

www.zamek-konopiste.cz

SOUTH BOHEMIA

South Bohemia is a friendly region full of ponds, forests, and bogs. This is a region brought to life by the graceful silhouettes of rural churches and white farmhouses, a region that offers an inexhaustible amount of natural beauty as well as plenty of historical monuments and great conditions for bicyclists and water sports. Enjoy South Bohemia with all that it has to offer!



www.jiznicechy.cz



Český Krumlov

Český Krumlov – the pearl of the Vltava

Český Krumlov is one of those places that will simply bewitch you. From the outside, the **castle**, towering over the picturesque meanders of the Vltava River, looks like a cake decorated with sweet pink frosting. Once inside, you will be overwhelmed by the unique Baroque Theatre or the famous Masquerade Hall. The Old Town is laced with winding streets and stone burgher houses. Český Krumlov pulses with life – whether it be with the groups of canoeists who gather their strength here for the journey onward, fine arts enthusiasts who come to admire the works presented in the famous **Egon Schiele Gallery**, or visitors to the **Seidl Photographic Studio**, which features period photographs that take them back in time.

The historic centre of Český Krumlov has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List.
www.ckrumlov.cz

Take advantage of the **Český Krumlov Card** to help you get to know the town better; it is valid for 30 days!
www.ckrumlov.cz/card



TIPS



Do not miss a tour of the new **Castle Museum** with its unconventional exhibition. You'll see a model of the castle as it looked in the 16th century, a lapidarium, displays of how life used to be, and even a functional historical cinema. The museum is open all year round, except for Mondays during the off-season.
www.zamek-ceskykrumlov.eu



The **Egon Schiele Art Centrum**, in addition to its permanent exhibition of the graphic works of Egon Schiele and exhibitions on his life and works, also features 20th century and contemporary art from the Czech Republic and abroad. The Art Centrum is located in the historical Old Town.
www.schieleartcentrum.cz



The **Seidl Photographic Studio Museum**: experience the magic of the hidden story of the beginnings of photography, the unsettling fate of the pioneers of this craft, and a photographic chronicle of the Czech-German-Austrian border area from the end of the 19th and first part of the 20th centuries.
www.seidel.cz

How to place yourself into a fairy tale?

During your travels through South Bohemia, be sure to visit some of the area's romantic castles. One of the most charming is the **chateau Hluboká**, whose imposing beauty will take your breath away. Another place that literally breathes magic is the **chateau Červená Lhota**, lying on a rocky promontory in the middle of the castle pond.

Hluboká Chateau is close to the city of České Budějovice. It is open all year round!
www.zamek-hluboka.eu



Hluboká nad Vltavou



Červená Lhota



Traditional fish harvest in South Bohemia

Ponds everywhere you look

Fishing has enjoyed centuries of tradition in South Bohemia. Most of the fishponds are located around Třeboň, Jindřichův Hradec, České Budějovice, and Tábor. The autumn fish harvests are an important event and have a unique atmosphere. The fishing industry has also strongly influenced the character of the culinary specialties in the local restaurants. A dish prepared with carp, pike, or eel, especially when washed down with one of South Bohemia's local beers, is not easily forgotten ...

If you would like to experience the fish harvest for yourself, contact the **Třeboň** information centre.
www.itrebon.cz, info@itrebon.cz, (+420) 384 721 169



Bicycle path around Lake Lipno

South Bohemia on the move

What's the best way to enjoy the beauty of the South Bohemian landscape with all its colours, flavours, and smells? How about from a raft or a bicycle?

The Lužnice, Vltava and Otava Rivers are well-known to every rafter. A trip down these rivers on a canoe or raft is an unforgettable experience, and the good news is that there are plenty of rentals in the region.

South Bohemia has excellent conditions for cyclists as well. There is a dense network of cycling trails, and plenty of paths through the forests, around the ponds, and winding through the picturesque villages.



Lake Lipno

A Bohemian sea?

Lipno is the largest body of water in the Czech Republic, which is why it is known as the 'sea of South Bohemia' – it is no wonder that this area is a well-known locale for lakeside vacations. All throughout the summer season, Lake Lipno is scattered with white sails and boats while surfers ride the waves and fishermen patiently wait for their catch.

TIPS

Rent a canoe and ride down the Vltava from Vyšší Brod to Rožmberk castle or to Český Krumlov.



Canoeists on the Vltava

The guest card provides special offers for your summer and winter vacation:

www.lipnocard.cz

There are a number of high-quality and well-marked bicycle trails around Lake Lipno. Try, for example, the bike route along the former Schwarzenberg Navigational Canal, ideal for family bicycle trips. In winter, the same path is ideal for cross-country skiing. A good place to start is the village of Nová Pec.

Give ice skating on the frozen Lake Lipno a try! In winter, the entire lake turns into an ice skating rink. The 'magistral' route from the village of Lipno to Frymburk is well maintained and stretches for 10 km.



Ice skating on Lake Lipno



Jezerní Slat' peat bog

Šumava – what kind of magic is nature capable of?



Šumava is one of the largest contiguous forest ranges in Central Europe and has even been called the '**Green Roof of Europe**'. This is why it is no surprise that this south-western area of Bohemia has been designated a national park. This landscape is even mystical in some places. You'll find melancholy bogs looming in the mist, vast mineral plateaus, contemplative moors, Vltava River valleys, glacier lakes, mountain streams with crystal clear water, pastures, and meadows.

www.isumava.cz



Stroll along the Vydra River

TIPS

Set off for an adventure through Šumava on foot or bicycle, then on cross country skis in the winter. The trails are well marked and will lead you to all the interesting destinations.



Šumava cyclists

Service for cross country skiers: at www.bilastopa.cz you can check out the current conditions of cross country trails in Šumava in advance.

If you have never walked through the valley of Vydra Creek, you can't say that you have truly been to Šumava. One of the most beautiful routes through the Šumava nature is the **Povyďří educational trail** leading from the settlement of Antýgl to Čeňkova Pila. You can cover this easy 7½ kilometre trail with a stroller or in a wheelchair. Bicycles, however, are not permitted.

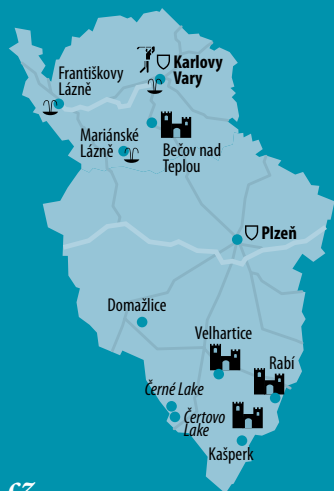


Mariánské Lázně (Marienbad)

WEST BOHEMIA

West Bohemia boasts a number of beautiful locations and offers countless extraordinary experiences. Do not hesitate to visit Plzeň, West Bohemia's main city, where you can wind up a tour of its monuments with a taste of the city's famous beer. Enjoy the beautiful spa towns where you can easily forget your everyday troubles and lose yourself in a leisurely stroll along the colonnade...

The best way to understand the magic of West Bohemia is to try it out for yourself!



www.turisturaj.cz
cestovani.kr-karlovarsky.cz

Try the sweet spa life!

Like many others, you will surely be enchanted and enticed by the hidden corners, the romantic views, the elegant spa houses with their original architecture, the charm of the concerts on the promenade, or the quiet parks lined with benches. What's more, there are kilometres of marked hiking and biking trails lining the area around each spa location. There are even several golf courses nearby the southwest Bohemian spas. Get rid of that stress and exhaustion!

TIP

Come visit **Mariánské Lázně** in August and enjoy classical music concerts at the international festival honoring the genius Polish composer and pianist Frederic Chopin. You'll find out more about his life and his relationship to Bohemia at his monument, located in the Chopin House.
www.chopinfestival.cz

TIPS

MFF KARLOVY VARY – THE STARS OF THE SILVER SCREEN

Touch a star! The International Film Festival in Karlovy Vary is a highly prestigious film festival with an excellent reputation. Each year at the beginning of July, you can see film stars and filmmakers strolling along the red carpet – and, of course, go see a few great films.
www.kviff.com

Come catch the scent of the history of the 'thirteenth spring of Karlovy Vary', Becherovka, and discover the secrets that surround it. You can also enjoy a taste of this famous liqueur in the **Jan Becher Museum** in the centre of Karlovy Vary.
www.becherovka.cz



Original glassblowing technology

Looking for an unforgettable experience? Then an excursion to the magical world of luxurious crystal in the **Moser** glassworks in Karlovy Vary is for you!
www.moser-glass.com

Enjoy Karlovy Vary to the fullest and more cheaply with the **Karlovy Vary City Card**. Take advantage of great sales and discounts on dozens of services in town and nearby.



A healthy walk along the spa promenade...



Karlovy Vary (Carlsbad)

Did you know... ?

...Bohemia has enjoyed a tradition of spas for several centuries, and has among the best in the world? The most renowned spas in West Bohemia are located in the **West Bohemian Spa Triangle**, consisting of **Karlovy Vary**, **Mariánské Lázně** and **Františkovy Lázně**.

www.karlovyvary.cz • www.marianskelazne.cz • www.frantiskovylazne.cz

Trip tip: A unique relic with a detective story

On the banks of the Teplá River, in the midst of the romantic Slavkovský Forest, you will find the picturesque little town of **Bečov nad Teplou**. There, in a castle of the same name, lies a gem that experts consider the second greatest treasure in the Czech Republic, right after the crown jewels – the relics of St. Maurus. The discovery of his relics comes with an unusual history with an exciting, even spy detective story. Come listen, you won't regret it!

www.zamek-becov.cz



Bečov nad Teplou



Historic centre of Plzeň (Pilsen)

Plzeň – European cultural capital 2015

Plzeň's location between Prague and the country's western border provided for rapid economic development; today, the area is associated with a traditionally rich cultural environment. Plzeň is the site of cultural events and international festivals such as the Smetana's Days music festival, Skupova Plzeň puppet festival, the Historic Weekend, the multi-genre festival Na ulici (On the Street), Pilsner Fest, the International Biennale of Drawing, and the Divadlo theatre festival.

www.plzen.eu

2015 Pilsen 2015
European Capital
of Culture



Raise your glasses!

The enduring fame of Plzeň Prazdroj

When you say **Plzeň**, what comes to the mind of every Czech is the classic bitter taste of the local beer. The city's own Plzeň Prazdroj is without exaggeration a world-renowned beverage with an unparalleled recipe. And it definitely tastes the best in its 'home town'!

TIPS

DID YOU KNOW ... ?

... the Great Synagogue in Plzeň is the third largest synagogue in the world? Its construction made lavish use of Oriental-style decorations, and today the synagogue serves as a concert and exhibition hall.



The Great Synagogue

IN SEARCH OF CLASSIC BEER AND BEER SPECIALTIES

The Plzeň area offers several trip options to explore this golden beverage and also presents the opportunity to visit other attractive locations. Take a trip along the beer routes of West Bohemia!

Find the best trip tips at
www.turisturaj.cz

Have fun learning about the principles of mathematics and physics in the modern interactive centre **Techmania** in Plzeň's southern suburbs.
www.techmania.cz

Šumava, the mysterious beauty

Šumava lets you experience nature in a way that provides you with new strength and spiritual balance.

www.turisturaj.cz



Černé Lake

Let's celebrate!

If you happen to visit the West Bohemian area known as Chodsko, you will mostly find yourself attracted by the traditional Chodsko ceramics, the country architecture, and the local cuisine. Folk bagpipe music and dance are still alive, and the **Chodsko Festival in Domažlice** is one of the oldest folklore festivals in the Czech Republic. The only other place you would find so many bagpipers might be Scotland ...

The Chodsko Festival takes place every year in August on the name day of St. Lawrence or at the first weekend after this day.
www.chodskeslavnosti.cz



Chodsko Festival

TIPS

Discover the largest **Šumava lakes**, named **Černé and Čertovo**. One hiking trail leads from Železná Ruda. This village is on the German border and is a great place to start off other trips.

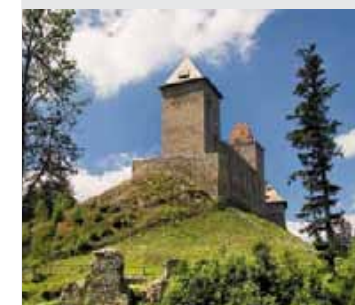
Visit one of several monuments: the vast castle ruins **Rabí** near the town of Sušice, the castle **Kašperk** with its lookout onto the forests of Šumava, or romantic **Velhartice** in one of the most beautiful of Šumava's valleys.



Velhartice

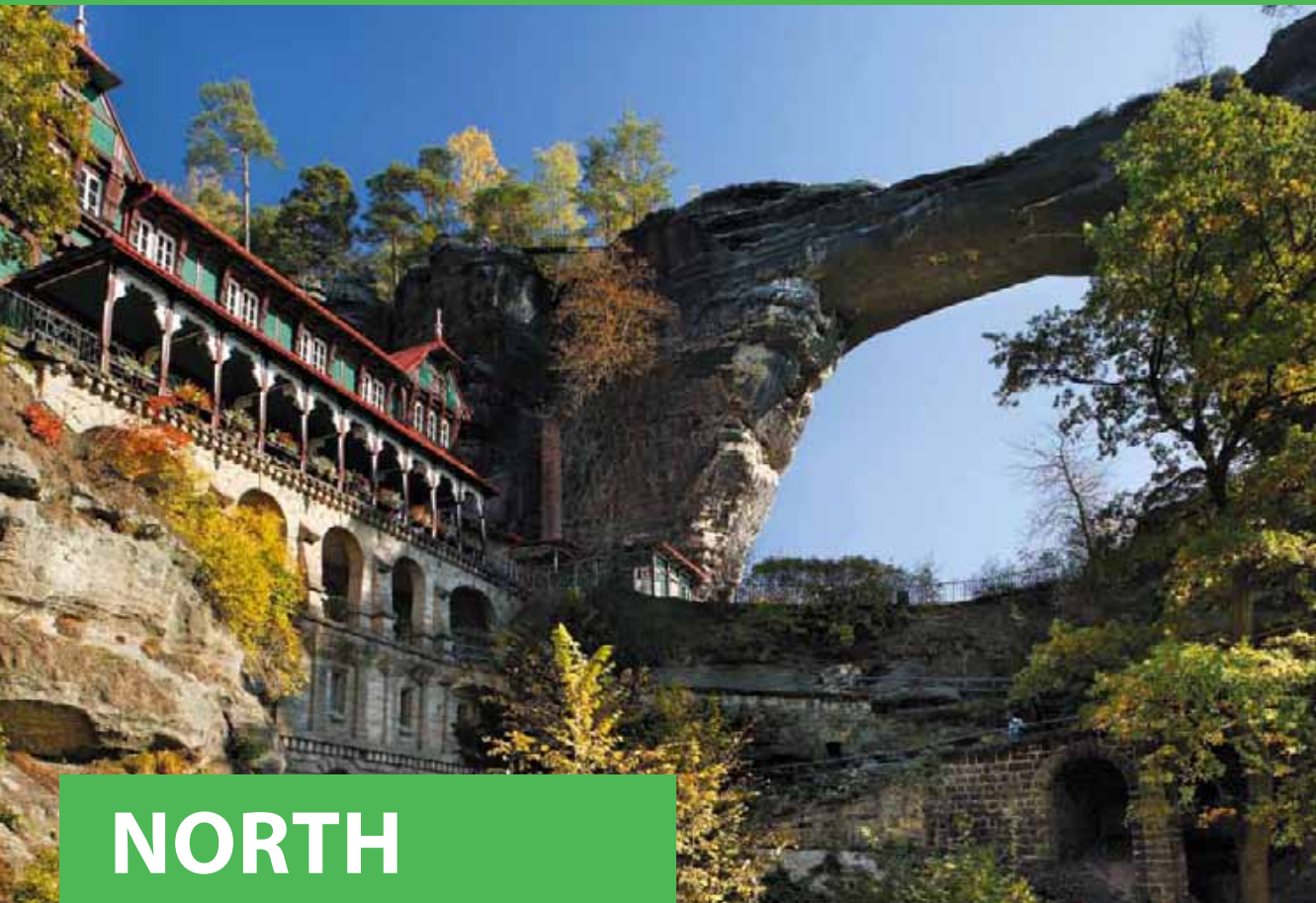


Rabí



Kašperk

You can learn about the culture of Chodsko all year round at the **Chodsko Museum** at the **Domažlice Castle**.



NORTH BOHEMIA

If you prefer to spend your free time on the go, then North Bohemia is just the right place for your vacation. The landscape here is strongly influenced by the Krušné, Jizera and Lužice mountain ranges. The local **rock cities** are a real gem of natural beauty. The Bohemian Switzerland National Park and the romantic landscape of Bohemian Paradise offer up plenty of breathtaking scenery. Whether you come to explore on bicycle, skis, or just with a backpack, you are in for some great experiences!



www.branadocech.cz
www.liberecky-kraj.cz

Pravčická Gate

Switzerland in Bohemia?

The story of the area known as **Bohemian Switzerland** began many millions of years ago when it was covered by a shallow sea; from this sandy bottom, a wondrous world of sandstone was born. This is a world of rock towers, bridges, and gates, a world of quaint stone formations reminiscent of honeycombs and hourglasses. Its unspoiled natural beauty and mysterious gorges create a unique charm that's easy to fall in love with.

www.ceskesvycarsko.cz

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 Take a walk along Gabrielle's Trail leading from the settlement of Mezní Louka to the famous **Pravčická Gate**, the largest natural rock gate in Europe.
www.pbrana.cz

Did you know... ?

... the Bohemian Switzerland National Park is part of the Elbe Sandstone Protected Area, known as Bohemia-Saxon Switzerland for the past two hundred years? The name is accredited to two Swiss painters whom this landscape reminded of their beautiful home country.

Heaven on Earth? Bohemian Paradise

Can a place have a more poetic and yet more poignant name? **Bohemian Paradise** is truly one of Bohemia's true natural gems. The exceptionally diverse landscape with its characteristic rock formations, deep forests, ponds, and semi-precious stone areas combine with a wealth of historical monuments – castles, chateaux, and folk architecture.

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



Trosky Castle

The mysteries of romantic Trosky Castle

These bizarre gothic castle ruins are the symbol of Bohemian Paradise. Two castle towers named Baba (Old Woman) and Panna (Virgin) provide an amazing view onto the countryside. There is an unexplored secret corridor system below.

www.hrad-trosky.eu



View from Prachovské Rocks

TIPS

The renowned **Elbe cycle route** leads through Bohemia as well from Hřensko to where it joins the Vltava River and onward to the source of the Elbe River in the Krkonoše Mountains. Pedal hard!
www.labska-stezka.cz



A ride along the Elbe cycle route

The **Gold Trail** connects the most beautiful locations of the romantic landscape of Bohemian Paradise and crosses valleys, rock formations, and peaks as well as medieval castles, chateaux, and pine forests. The entire route stretches for 103 km, but you can walk just a part of it if you like. One such route is from Turnov along the red trail.

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 A great place to set off to see the **Prachovské Rocks** in Bohemian Paradise is the town of Jičín, 6 km from the parking area at the village of Holín, from where you can continue on foot along the short or long walking route. The longer route is 3.5 km long and lasts up to 2.5 hours.





Ještěd Mountain

Up to Ještěd!

The unusual structure on the peak of Ještěd Mountain near the city of Liberec is both a television tower and a hotel. This is a unique work of architecture which won its author the prestigious Auguste Perret Prize in 1969. In winter it is a favourite destination for downhill ski enthusiasts.

www.jested.cz

A cross-country skier's paradise

The Jizerské Mountains are the northern-most mountain range in the country, and there are a number of lookout towers that offer breathtaking views onto the countryside. These mountains are a winter favourite and are practically a magnet for cross-country skiers. The best known trail is the Jizerská Magistral – this hosts the famous international cross-country ski competition Jizerská Padesátka, one of the Worldloppet races.

www.jiz50.cz · www.jizerky.cz

Skiers on the Jizerská Magistral



TIPS

The **Jizerská Magistral**, as a hiking trail, is part of the '**Hřebenovka**' project that will connect the Jizera and Lužice Mountain ranges and Bohemian/Saxon Switzerland. It also becomes a bicycle route in the summer. Start your trip from the village of Jizerka – simply pick one of the well-marked trails.
www.jizerskamagistrala.cz



Singltrek pod Smrkem

If you are an MTB enthusiast, take a ride up the bike route '**Singltrek pod Smrkem**' – it begins at the natural swimming pool in Nové Město pod Smrkem in the northern part of the Jizera Mountains where the Singltrek Centrum is located.
www.singltrekpodsmrkem.cz

Where to pay homage to hops?

In the Temple of Hops and Beer, of course! This is how the Žatec hops area is known; it is not only where the highest quality world renowned hops is grown, but it is also the home of the educational and entertainment complex called the **Temple of Hops and Beer** right in the town of Žatec. So raise your glasses!

www.chchp.cz

TIPS

Come to Harrachov in the Krkonoše Mountains to discover the union of glass and beer. The glassworks and minibrewery here offer an unusual experience – a beer spa.
www.sklarnaharrachov.cz

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Come visit the **Babylon Centre in Liberec**! There's plenty of fun and education for both children and adults there; try, for example, the aquapark or the IQpark.
www.centrumbabylon.cz



IQpark in the Babylon Center in Liberec

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DID YOU KNOW...

... vineyards and wineries also have a thousand years of tradition in North Bohemia? Visit the grape harvest in the village of Velké Žernoseky near Litoměřice and try the delicious wine from the local vineyards!



Glass perfume bottles



Glass jewellery

Discover the delicate beauty of glass and costume jewellery

North Bohemia is a cradle of glassmaking and costume jewellery production, and that's what has made this region renowned throughout the world. Learn more at the Museum of Glass and Jewellery in Jablonec nad Nisou.

www.msb-jablonec.cz



Terezín Fortress

A quiet memorial to the victims of the war

The fortress of **Terezín** is a sad reminder of the cruelty that took place during the Second World War. In addition to the police prison in the Small Fortress, the Large Fortress served Nazi Germany as a Jewish Ghetto. From here, Nazis would dispatch special trains to transport the Jewish population to death camps such as Auschwitz or Treblinka. After the war, the Terezín Memorial National Historic Landmark was founded, now visited by thousands of tourists from around the world.

www.pamatnik-terezin.cz

EAST BOHEMIA



Beautiful nature, unique folk handicrafts such as glass-blowing or lace-weaving, the rhythm of jazz and the delicious smell of gingerbread... this is only a sample of what East Bohemia can offer. Set off for the peak of the highest mountain in Bohemia, or bet on your favourite horse in a race.

Take a journey into military history and visit at least one of the fortresses built when the country was under threat.



www.vychodni-cechy.info
www.kralovehradeckyregion.cz

Stachelberg Fortress

Explore sophisticated military fortifications

On the eve of the Second World War, a contiguous line of defense based on the French Maginot Line was built as part of security defenses. Strong forts have been preserved on the northern side of the border and nowadays attract thousands of tourists.

The artillery fortress **Hanička** near Rokytnice in the Orlické Mountains, **Bouda** and **Hůrka** in the Králické fortress area, or **Dobrošov** near the town of Náchod were part of the pre-war fortifications built to fend off Hitler's expanding Germany.
www.kpo1938.com

The best way to get to **Hanička** is from the town of Rokytnice in the Orlické Mountains. The fort itself is built of battle structures on the surface which are connected underground by hundreds of meters of corridors and halls. Descend to a depth of 36 meters where the temperature is a mere 8 °C!
www.hanicka.cz

TIPS

Explore the **Dobrošov Fortress** educational trail, where you will learn more about the entire fortification system. You can combine a walk along the educational trail with a tour of the fortress.



Dobrošov Fortress

DID YOU KNOW ... ?

... the largest fortress is in the highest Czech mountains, the Krkonoše Mountains? It is the **Stachelberg fortress**, built halfway between Trutnov and Žacléř, located at the easternmost point of the Krkonoše.
www.stachelberg.cz

TRIP TIP: THE SOURCE OF THE ELBE

You'll have no trouble finding the spot marked as the source of one of Europe's greatest rivers – it is at the Elbe Meadow (Labská Louka). The spot is decorated with the coats of arms of the cities that the Elbe River flows through.



Source of the Elbe River

To the queen of the mountains

The **Krkonoše Mountains** are the most famous mountain range in the Czech Republic and are a unique oasis of northern-style nature. They're so unique that they were even designated a national park. In winter, the excellent conditions for downhill skiing and the vast network of cross-country ski trails make Krkonoše the most popular ski destination in the country. In summer, they're a favourite destination for hiking and cycling.

The **Krkonoše Mountains** bear the legend of Krakonoš, the just ruler of the mountains, while the range is dominated by the graceful silhouette of Sněžka, the highest mountain in Bohemia. The most popular starting points are at Pec pod Sněžkou and Špindlerův Mlýn.

www.krkonoze.eu

Treat yourself to a breathtaking hike along the Czech-Polish friendship trail. This red trail leads across the peak of Sněžka.



Fun skiing

For active visitors

The Orlické Mountains and Králický Sněžník are perfect for hiking and cycling, while renowned centres such as Říčky, Deštné, and Dolní Morava are ideal for downhill and cross-country skiing in winter.

www.orlickehory-cz.info

Sněžka





Great Pardubice Steeplechase

Give the gift of a gingerbread heart

Any Czech who hears the word **Pardubice** imagines gingerbread – the traditional treat with honey and a special blend of spices. Gingerbread has been baked and shaped here since the 15th century. The most common shape is the heart, presented as a gift to those in love ...



East Bohemian Museum in Hradec Králové

Jazz in a city known as the Parlour of the Republic

Hradec Králové is a town often resonating with the sounds of saxophone, piano, and clarinet. This is where such renowned musical events are held such as the Central European Jazz Bridge or Jazz Goes to Town. Large-scale architectural developments at the beginning of the 20th century transformed this fortified town into the 'Parlour of the Republic'. Let yourself be enchanted by this outdoor textbook of modern architecture!

www.hradeckralove.cz

TIPS

DID YOU KNOW ... ?

... the **Great Pardubice Steeplechase** is a horse race with a very long tradition that reaches back to 1874? The most famous obstacle is Taxis Ditch, also one of the most difficult jumps in the world. The race takes place every second Sunday in October at the Pardubice race track.

www.pardubice-racecourse.cz

WHAT ABOUT THE SKILLED HANDS OF THE LOCALS?

Bobbin lace from Vamberk boasts nearly four hundred years of tradition. From its beginnings, this delicate lace was used to decorate clothing or to embellish the interiors of aristocratic and burgher residences. The tradition of bobbin lace is still passed on through the generations.

Learn about the history of Vamberk lace right at the source. The Vamberk Museum of Lace and sales gallery are located on the town square.

www.vkrajka.eu



Vamberk lace

TRIP TIP: LIPNICE

Pay tribute to Jaroslav Hašek, the author of 'Good Soldier Švejk', and visit his monument below the castle in Lipnice nad Sázavou. You can reflect on the fate of this Czech folk literary hero in the local pub where Hašek spent quite a bit of time.

www.hrad-lipnice.eu



Tune up in Litomyšl

Litomyšl is known as the birthplace of Bedřich Smetana, one of Bohemia's most renowned composers. You can visit his family home and perhaps pay tribute to him by listening to his works at the annual music festival **Smetana's Litomyšl** which takes place in the Renaissance castle complex at the turn of June and July.

Litomyšl Castle and concert in the castle theatre



In the Adrspach-Teplice Rocks

The magic of the stone labyrinth

The bizarre rock formations known as the Adrspach-Teplice Rocks are an attractive destination for hikers. The area features original half-timbered houses, a Baroque chateau, and the Adrspach rock castle ruins from the 14th century.

The place where rare horses are bred

The Kladruby nad Labem National Stud Farm is one of the oldest stud farms in the world and is where the unique Czech breed of Kladruber horse is bred. Enjoy a ride in a carriage drawn by these magnificent animals, or take a tour with a guide.

Complete program and opening times at www.nhkladruby.cz



The sgraffito decoration in the Litomyšl Castle is so unique that it was included in the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List.

www.zamek-litomysl.cz



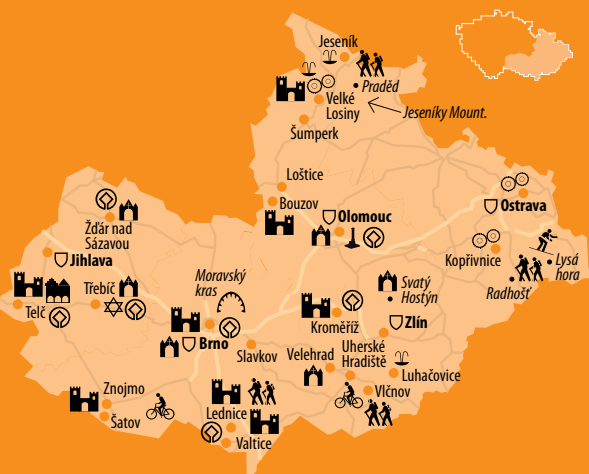
On a trip



Kladruber horse

MORAVIA AND SILESIA

The eastern part of the Czech Republic, made up of Moravia and part of Silesia, has been enjoying a growing interest among international tourists. Most visitors come here to experience living folklore traditions, to experience the wine and pristine nature of the mountains, and to explore the unique architecture of noble residences and the folk architecture of small villages.



www.jizni-morava.cz
www.region-vysocina.cz
www.vychodni-morava.cz
www.msregion.cz
www.ok-tourism.cz

Vineyard on Kraví Hora hill near Bořetice village

Wine tours

South Moravia is truly a wine lover's paradise. You'll find many places to taste the wine here and spend time in a wine cellar. The region is laced with **wine cycling trails** that tie into neighbouring Austria. Visit www.stezky.cz to find a comprehensive range of detailed maps.



On the wine trail

TIPS

Explore a region of monuments and wine, pass through the orchards and vineyards of South Moravia, and taste the fruits of the labour and enjoy the hospitality of the locals. The **Moravian Wine Trail** connects the historical town of Znojmo with Uherské Hradiště. It will lead you through the entire region of wine, rich history, and living traditions such as the Ride of the Kings – this folklore event has been added to the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List. www.stezky.cz



The Ride of the Kings in Vičnov

Take a thematic wine discovery journey to the renowned Šobes vineyard and to the cellars of the Loucký Monastery in Znojmo, or spend an evening in the Moravian Cellar in Šatov with a wine tasting. Order your trip at: info@znovin.cz. www.znovin.cz



Painted cellar in Šatov



Wine harvest

Our recommendation: Znojmo comes to life!

Znojmo is sometimes called the 'little Prague'. This compliment comes from the number of rare monuments in the town as well as from its rich cultural life – this is the site of the annual Znojmo Music Festival, Jazz Fest, and especially the **Znojmo Vintage Festival**. Come visit Znojmo and explore the area – it is well worth the trip. www.znojmo-city.cz



Lednice Castle

Just like a fairy tale

Majestic castles surrounded by vast gardens; cultivated flower beds with a colourful carpet of flowers; rolling golden fields that pass into lush green forests; water lilies adorning the shimmering surface of the ponds; magnificent buildings. This true essence of romance is brought to you by the **Lednice-Valtice Cultural Landscape**, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site. This is the largest landscaped garden in the world.

Admire the interiors of the Lednice and Valtice Castles, taste the excellent **Valtice wine**, and take a ride on a horse, boat, or bicycle along comfortable bike trails in the Lednice-Valtice Cultural Landscape!

www.zamek-lednice.com · www.zamek-valtice.cz





Zachariáš of Hradec Square in Telč

Don't miss it! Presenting the outstanding UNESCO World Heritage monuments

Telč

Telč is proud to have one of the most beautiful town squares in the Czech Republic, if not all of Central Europe. Its long town square is centred by a Baroque Marian column and two fountains, and the entire periphery is lined with historical burgher houses with arcades. The Renaissance Telč Castle is also an important monument.

www.telc.eu



Church of St. John of Nepomuk at Zelená Hora in Žďár nad Sázavou

Třebíč

Two of the main gems of Třebíč are the Roman-Gothic Basilica of St. Prokop and the Jewish Quarter. The Třebíč Ghetto is a unique complex that contains over 120 houses, two synagogues, and a historical cemetery. This was the first Jewish monument outside Israel to be inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

www.visittrebic.eu



TIPS

Visit **Telč** at the turn of July and August when the 'Holidays in Telč' music festival takes place



On vacation

Žďár nad Sázavou

On the wooded hill above the town of Žďár nad Sázavou stands one of the most original of Christian churches, the **Pilgrimage Church of St. John of Nepomuk**. The architectural plan of this structure is a five-pointed star, and it is a pearl of European Baroque architecture.

Did you know ... ?

... this church on Zelená Hora is the pinnacle work of architect Jan Blažej Santini-Aichel? The building's layout and interior decoration are full of symbolic meanings. There are many repeating references to the saint's attributes which serve as reminders to his discretion, plus the five stars. Santini was characteristic in his use of Gothic morphology; this element is not found in any work of any other Baroque architect.

www.zdarns.cz



TIPS

BRNO

You'll find a calendar of the most prestigious motoring events at the **Masaryk Circuit** at www.automotodrombrno.cz



Masaryk Circuit

Do not forget to visit the functionalist **Tugendhat Villa**, included on the **World Heritage List**.

www.tugendhat.eu



Brno – Tugendhat Villa

KROMĚŘÍŽ

Taste the local archbishop wine! Make a reservation in advance to take a guided tour of the cellars and a tasting of the Mass wine, with refreshments if you prefer.

Visit the second largest collection of paintings in the Czech Republic and the permanent exposition in the Bishop's Mint. The attractive **Via Artis** routes are supplemented with cultural events covered by a single admissions ticket valid for two days.



Brno – Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul and Špilberk Castle

Brno – the pride of Moravia

Brno is known throughout the world as a traditional city for international exhibitions and trade fairs at the city's fairgrounds. This capital city of South Moravia is also famous for its great motor races held at the **Masaryk Circuit**. Brno's characteristic panorama is formed by the castle and fortress **Špilberk** as well as the **Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul**.

www.ticbrno.cz



Kroměříž – Květná Garden

Kroměříž – the town nicknamed 'Haná Athens'

When you say Kroměříž, imagine a colourful flood of flowers in the town's magnificent gardens known as **Květná** and **Podzámecká**. The gardens are spread out near the **Archbishopric Palace** and together are included on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The palace holds a rich archival collection of paintings, books, and music.

www.zamek-kromeriz.cz





St. Hostýn

Did you know... ?

... there are a number of pilgrimage sites and important church monuments in the Czech Republic? The eastern part of Moravia has enjoyed over a thousand years of Christian tradition that dates back to 863, when the Thessalonian brothers Cyril and Methodius came here to proclaim Christianity in the Slavic language.
www.viamorava.com



Concerts in the Punkva Caves in Moravian Karst

Tip for mystery fans

Moravian Karst is one of the most important karst landscapes in Central Europe. The Macocha Abyss is surrounded by fearful legends; you can gaze deep into its depths from two observation points.
www.moravskykras.net

TIPS

St. Hostýn and Velehrad are the two most important pilgrimage sites in Moravia, and a path between them has been built with all the essentials: markings, information panels, stamps, a guidebook, and a memorial certificate. There are 25 covered stations along the way featuring hiking, pilgrimage, and religious information.
Set off on your way!
www.camminideuropa.eu

The most sought-after caves in Moravian Karst are the Punkva Caves. Take a mysterious ride on a boat down the Punkva underground river!



Punkva Caves

TIP FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN:
The **Lešná Castle** near Zlín stands out primarily due to its wonderful park, one of the best examples of Moravian garden architecture. While you are reviewing your basic botany terminology, your children will likely be attracted by the local zoological garden.
www.zoozlin.eu



Memorial to the Battle of the Three Emperors at Slavkov



Re-enactment of the Battle of Austerlitz

Slavkov (Austerlitz) – history passed through here

Slavkov near Brno is mostly famous for the battle that took place here in 1805, nicknamed the **Battle of Three Emperors**. The French army, led by Napoleon, defeated the allied armies of Russia and Austria.
www.zamek-slavkov.cz

Come take a look at a re-enactment of this event and admire a demonstration of masterful military tactics. The battle is held each year at the beginning of December. You can visit the Cairn of Peace, the memorial to the battle, year round; right next door is a museum with a multi-media exhibition of the Battle of Austerlitz.
www.austerlitz.org



Luhačovice

Come visit the spas

If you feel like slowing down a bit, catching your breath, and relaxing during your journey through South Moravia, then the **Luhačovice Spa** is the place for you. The mineral waters of Luhačovice, particularly the Vincentka spring, are considered to be one of the most effective. Luhačovice was a favourite site of the composer Leoš Janáček, whose works can now be heard around the world. Neither his personal nor professional life was easy, but he found tranquility and relaxation in the local spas.
www.luhacovice.cz

All aboard the boat

The **Baťa Canal** is a roughly 80 kilometre long historical water route between the cities of Kroměříž and Hodonín. Certain sections run along the Morava River, while the rest are through artificial man-made navigational canals. Thirteen locks allow boats to pass through the weirs along the route. The canal boat trips are a favourite tourist attraction. A good way to enjoy it is to arrive at one of the ports with a bicycle, hop on board, and enjoy the beautiful landscape along the route. The Baťa Canal was awarded at the European competition EDEN 2011 as an exceptional tourist destination.

TIP

THE BAŤA CANAL
You can rent a boat from any of the boat rentals located along the entire length of this water route. Regular trips on larger boats or several overnight stays on a houseboat are also popular.
www.batacanal.cz



Baťa Canal



Romantic stroll



Ostrava

Ostrava – a centre of industrial culture

Ostrava is slowly shedding its image of a typical industrial city. Mining museums have been emerging on the sites of former mines, and the former industrial centres are now centres of alternative culture and art.
www.ostrava.cz

Points of interest in Ostrava

Visit the **Michal Mine**, an extraordinarily valuable industrial complex. You can see preserved mining machinery and compressors here, and there is a visitor's route that takes you on the same path that miners formerly used to enter their workplace. Other Ostrava rarities are the **Vitkovice Mining Area**, a unique industrial conglomerate from the first half of the 20th century with its Hlubina Mine. The **Mining Museum** on the former Anselm Mine at the foot of Landek Hill is the largest in the Czech Republic.

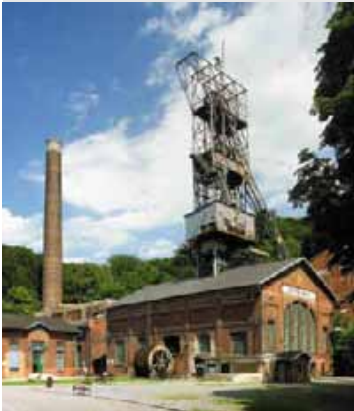


Ostrava is a city of festivals and alternative culture

.....
Let yourself be taken away during an international music festival with a long history, a broad scope of genres, famous guests, and an unrepeatable atmosphere: **Colours of Ostrava**. The festival takes place every year in July.
www.colours.cz

TIPS

Take a full day trip and combine a visit to the Mining Museum with a trip to nature! The Landekpark complex is located in the part of Ostrava known as Petřkovice, about 5 km from the city centre.
www.landekpark.cz



Landekpark – Mining Museum, tower of the Anselm Mine

.....
You can reach the Michal Mine from the Ostrava Main Station by trolleybus No. 101; get off at the last stop.
www.dul-michal.cz



Michal Mine

.....
Visit the **Handmade Paper Mill in Velké Losiny** and other monuments of this village in the foothills of the Jeseníky Mountains, especially the Renaissance chateau and unique wooden churches. You can easily get there from the towns of Šumperk and Jeseník.
www.muzeumpapiru.cz



Kopřivnice – Tatra Technical Museum

Kopřivnice: Technical Museum Tatra

This renowned factory began as a manufacturing plant for carriages which gave way to railway wagons. At the end of the 19th century, one Kopřivnice wagon received a motor, and the first automobile in the Austro-Hungarian empire was born. This famous vehicle received the name 'Präsident'. You can learn the history of this automobile and others in the Kopřivnice Museum.
www.tatramuseum.cz



Velké Losiny Castle

Did you know... ?

... the oldest paper mill with continuous production of handmade paper (since 1596) in Velké Losiny is a unique monument in Central Europe not only for its architecture (originally a late Baroque building), but also for its preserved technology?



Olomouc – an old city for the young

Olomouc simply cannot be left out of your journey through Moravia. Its historic city centre is the second largest urban conservation area in the Czech Republic, after Prague. One of its most renowned monuments is the **Holy Trinity Column**, a UNESCO World Heritage monument. This is the largest grouping of Baroque statues within a single sculpture unit in Central Europe. Olomouc will certainly impress you with its extraordinary collection of Baroque fountains and the Church of St. Maurice.

www.tourism.olomouc.eu
www.central-moravia.cz

Olomouc – Holy Trinity Column

What's that ... smell?

Some love it, others have to hold their nose. **Olomoucké tvarůžky** is a special type of ripened soft cheese known by its distinct aroma. Like it or not, this cheese is an inseparable part of Czech cuisine and is one of the EU's prestigious products which bear a protected geographical indication.

Visit the **Museum of Olomoucké Tvarůžky Cheese** in Loštice with the Olomouc Region Card. Taste the local treats!
www.tvaruzky.cz



Thousands of students live in Olomouc during the school year



TIPS

Don't forget to visit the '**Holy Hillock**' near **Olomouc**, one of the area's most beautiful pilgrimage sites. You can get there from Olomouc by city transportation lines No. 11 or 111.



Holly Hillock (Svatý Kopeček)

The **Olomouc Region Card** is a visitor's card that allows you to visit 75 of the most interesting sites in Olomouc, Central Moravia, and the Jeseníky Mountains!
www.olomoucregioncard.cz

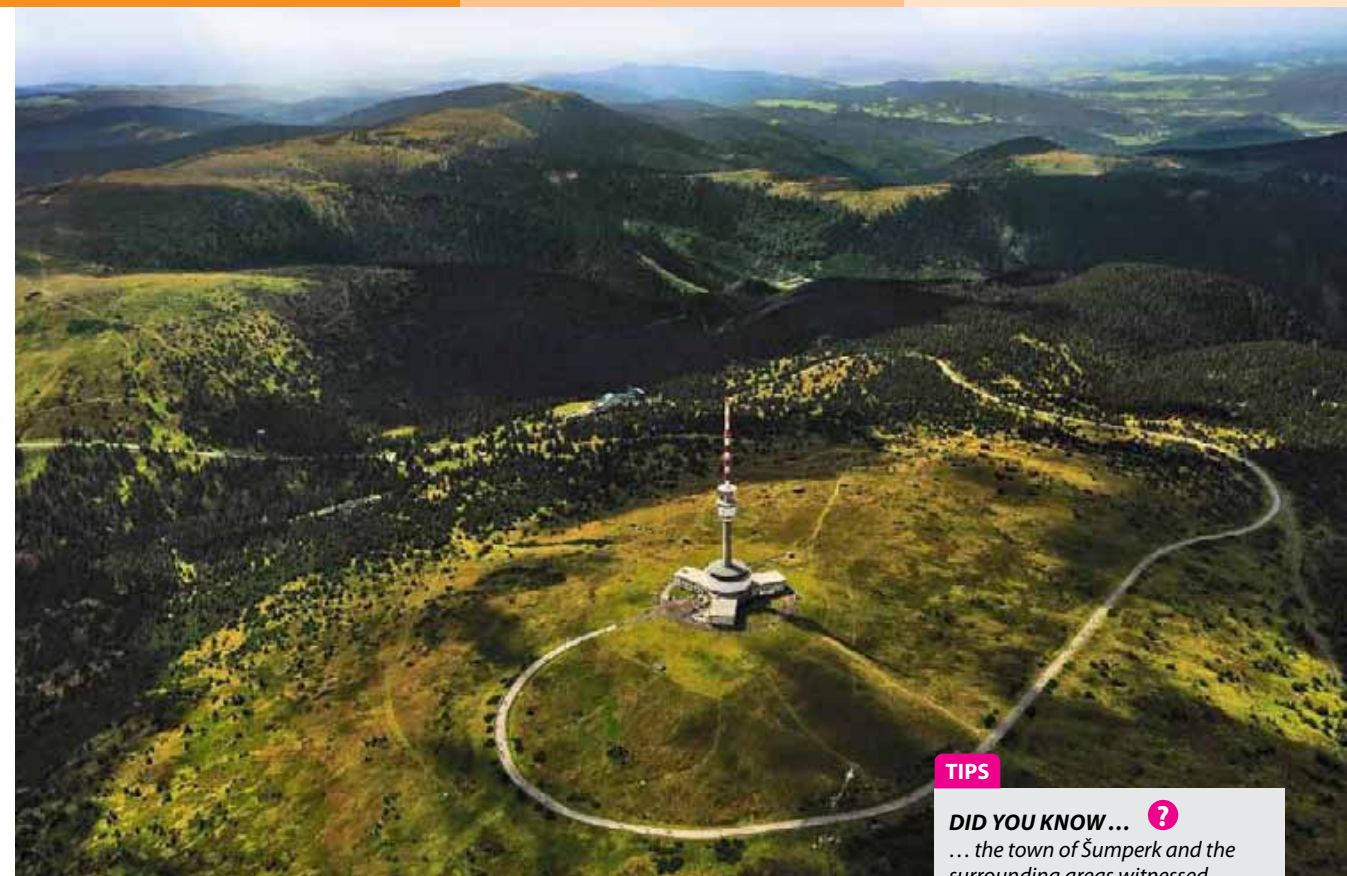
The Olomouc Region will also get you into the romantic **Bouzov Castle**, a favourite with both filmmakers and weddings.
www.hrad-bouzov.cz



Bouzov Castle

DID YOU KNOW ... ?

... Olomouc is full of young people throughout most of the year? There is a renowned university as well as other colleges here, so the city regularly comes to life at the beginning of every new term.



Hrubý Jeseník – Praděd

Jeseníky: Take a deep breath!

The Jeseníky Mountain range has been almost unaffected by civilization. Add to this the fresh air, the undisturbed calm of deep forests, crystal clear brooks and streams, quaint folk architecture in the foothills ... Jeseníky won't disappoint you! You can start at **Hrubý Jeseník**, the second highest peak in the Czech Republic. You'll be enchanted by the stalactite caves and the beauty of the waterfalls of **Bílá Opava**, stroll through the peat bog with its rare moss ponds **Rejvíz**, admire the extinct volcanoes around Bruntál, and draw new energy from the spas in **Jeseník**, **Karlova Studánka**, or in **Velké Losiny**.
www.jesenikytourism.cz



TIPS

DID YOU KNOW ... ?

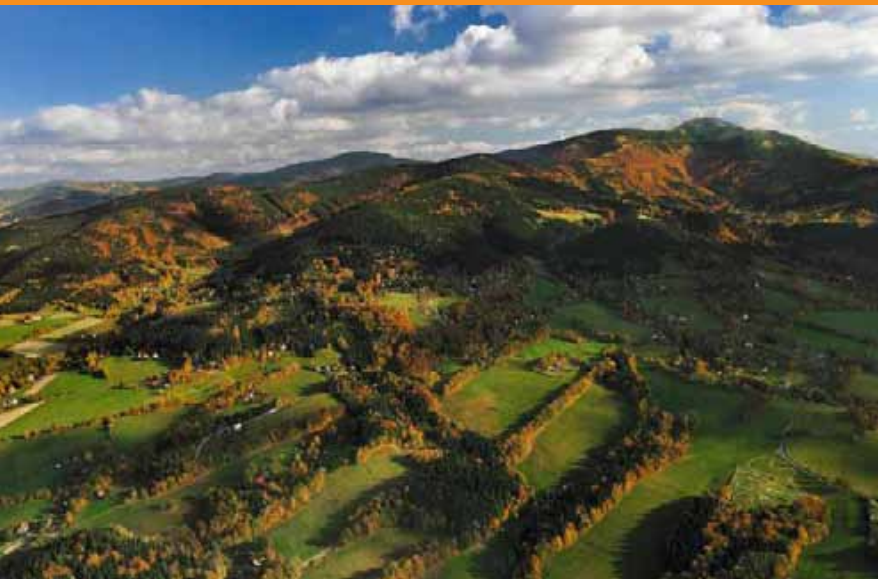
... the town of **Šumperk** and the surrounding areas witnessed a series of trials in the late 17th century, and many innocent victims, especially women, were burned at the stake?



Witch's Bike Trail

Get to know the Jeseníky Mountains up close and take a ride along the **Witch's Bike Trail** which passes through this era's significant locations. The bicycle trail leads through Šumperk, Velké Losiny, ascends to an altitude above 1000 m, crosses Červenohorské Sedlo and continues across Jeseník to the Zlaté Hory Mountains and onwards to Nysa in Poland.
www.jesenikytourism.cz

Waterfalls of Bílá Opava river



Lysá Mountain

Untouched nature at Beskydy

Endless forests, lush meadows with flocks of sheep guarded over by a shepherd, gems of folk architecture, hillsides rich with the smell of juniper and blueberries – this is **Valašsko**, North Moravian Wallachia, a region lying in the heart of the **Beskids mountain range**. The bearded Slavic god Radegast watches down from Radhošť, one of the peaks. The mountaintops, particularly **Lysá Hora** or even **Radhošť**, offer fantastic views onto the landscape, and the place is a winter paradise for skiers. The unique Valašsko building style is another attraction with its typical wooden structures.

To the beauty of folk architecture

The beautiful Beskids landscape is decorated with over twenty wooden churches and historical structures built over a span of five centuries. The diversity and preserved state of these structures, scattered throughout the landscape, makes them quite unique.



Vacation in Beskydy

Did you know... ?

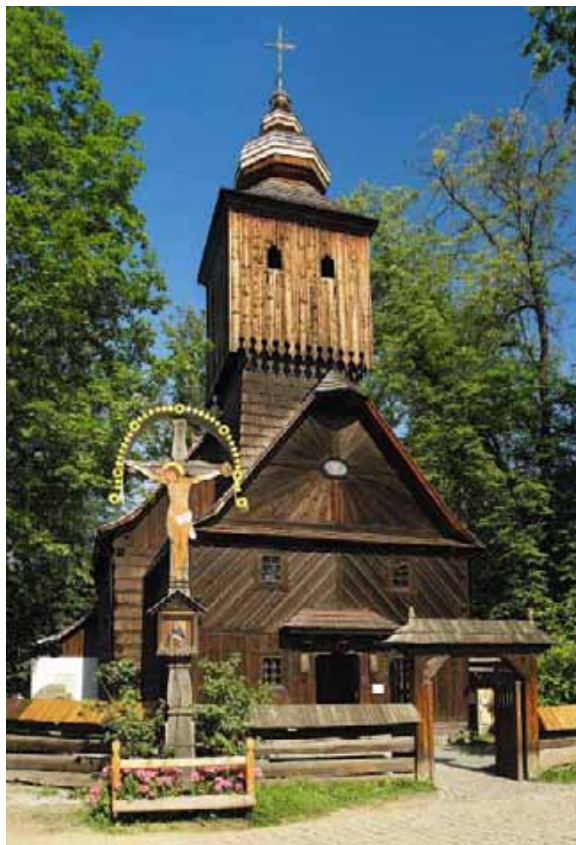
... the **Valašsko Museum in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm** is the largest open air museum in Central Europe? Let us introduce you to traditional handicrafts, living folklore, and the customs observed throughout the generations of those who settled this magical landscape.

www.vmp.cz

TIPS

Become a subject of the world-renowned **Kingdom of Valašsko** and learn about the regions of Beskydy and Valašsko! It is easy to enter this kingdom: simply step across the border from any location on any side of the world. Get your Kingdom of Valašsko passport and enjoy a number of discounts. The office of the Kingdom of Valašsko in Frenštát pod Radhoštěm will show you the way.

www.valasske-kralovstvi.cz



Rožnov pod Radhoštěm



The Vltava River flowing below the Divčův Kámen Castle (South Bohemia)

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Official tourist presentation of the Czech Republic

Association of Czech Travel Agents

Association of Czech Travel Agents and Agencies

Czech Association of Hotels and Restaurants

Association of Tourist Information Centres of the CR

Medical Spa Union of the Czech Republic

Association of Spa Places of the CR

www.czechtourism.com

www.ackcr.cz

www.accka.cz

www.ahrcr.cz

www.aticcr.cz

www.lecebne-lazne.cz

www.spas.cz

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