



Regions of the Czech Republic

Top sights
and attractions

The Czech Republic

A Land of Stories

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 breathtaking 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.



Mikulov



Prague



Family trip



























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 glacial 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 chateaux.

Did you know that this small country in the middle of Europe – surrounded by a ring of bordering mountains, settled by the Slavs and formed by the historical 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?

And if it is knowledge you seek, then the rich history of the Czech nation will captivate 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!

Legend

-  UNESCO site
-  regional capital
-  castle, chateau
-  church monument
-  heritage reservation
-  Jewish monument
-  military monument
-  modern architecture
-  industrial architecture
-  museum
-  spa
-  quay
-  river
-  hiking
-  bicycling
-  canoeing and rafting
-  swimming
-  fishing
-  golf
-  skiing
-  winter cross-country ski trails
-  horse racing
-  hill
-  natural monument
-  cave
-  national park

Prague is rightly considered to be one of the most beautiful cities in the world and proudly bears the nickname 'Mother of Cities'. Whether it is knowledge or fun you seek, you will find yourself easily succumbing to its unparalleled and captivating atmosphere.

www.prague.eu

Prague

A magical atmosphere that you won't find elsewhere

Charles Bridge



The historical centre boasts a rich plethora of architectural styles, from Gothic to Art Nouveau up to modern. The historical centre of Prague has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Prague Castle

Prague Castle is the largest castle complex in the world. Come and see for yourself why its magnificent panorama etches itself into the memory of perhaps every person who visits our capital. You can get to Prague Castle from the city centre by tram No. 22. www.hrad.cz

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 the 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!

Old Town Square

The oldest square in Prague, Staroměstské náměstí, or 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.

Prague's Jewish Quarter

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

Vyšehrad

One of the dominant features of Prague is Vyšehrad, a place with a rich history supported by numerous legends about the beginnings of Czech

history. Today, the silhouette of the two steeples of the Church of Sts. Peter and Paul rises from the rocks above the river. Come feast your eyes on an unsurpassed view of Prague! Vyšehrad provides a quiet place to rest in its local parks, so you definitely won't be disappointed.

www.praha-vysehrad.cz

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.



Prague Castle



Central Bohemia

Set out for romance

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

www.middleczech.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



Kutná Hora – Church of St. Barbara

Karlštejn Castle

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 by Master Theodoricus, in the Chapel of the Holy Cross.

www.hradkarlstejn.cz



Town of 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, the Italian Court, and the Cathedral of Our Lady in Sedlec. 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.

www.kutnahora.cz

Castle Křivoklát

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 Chateau

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



Karlštejn

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 40,000 people. www.ossuary.eu

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



Discover a beautiful region for your active vacation

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 cycling and water sports. Enjoy South Bohemia with all that it has to offer!

www.jiznicechy.cz



Hluboká Chateau



Traditional fish harvest in South Bohemia



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 enchanted 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, art enthusiasts who come to admire the works presented by the famous Egon Schiele Art Centre, or visitors to the Seidl Photographic Studio, which features period photographs which take them back in time. The historic centre of Český Krumlov has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

www.ckrumlov.cz

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-cesky-krumlov.eu

The Egon Schiele Art Centre, 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 gallery is located in the historical Old Town.
www.schieleart-centrum.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 the first part of the 20th centuries.
www.seidel.cz

Romantic Castles in South Bohemia

During your travels through South Bohemia, be sure to visit some of the area's romantic castles. One of the most charming is the **Hluboká Chateau**, whose imposing beauty will take your breath away. Another place that virtually breathes magic is the **Červená Lhota Chateau**, 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
www.zamek-cervena-lhota.eu

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

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 harvest is an important event and has a unique atmosphere. The fishing industry has also strongly influenced the character of the culinary specialties in the local restaurants. 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.
info@itrebon.cz
www.itrebon.cz





Bicycle path around Lake Lipno



Vyšší Brod

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

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.

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 route from the village of Lipno to Frymburk is well maintained and stretches for 10 km.

Treetop walkway Lipno

A unique structure in the Czech Republic. By way of a 675-m wooden walkway, visitors arrive at an observation tower which offers an unforgettable view of Lake Lipno and the Šumava countryside. The entire length of the trail is barrier-free and is adapted for prams as well as wheelchairs. The trail includes a 52-m slide.

www.stezkakorunamistromu.cz



Šumava

Šumava is one of the largest contiguous forest ranges in Central Europe and has even been called the 'Green Roof of Europe'. That's why it is no surprise that this southwestern area of Bohemia has been designated a national park. This landscape could even be called mystical in some places. You'll find melancholy bogs looming in the mist, vast mineral plateaus, contemplative moors, Vltava



Lake Lipno

River valleys, glacial lakes, mountain streams with crystal clear water, pastures, and meadows.

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 Povydrí educational trail leading from the settlement of Antýgl to Čeňkova Pila. You can cover this easy 7.5-kilometre trail with a stroller or in a wheelchair. Bicycles, however, are not permitted.

www.isumava.cz

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

The Lipno guest card provides special offers for your summer and winter vacation: www.lipno.info

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.

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



Treetop walkway Lipno

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.

www.turisturaj.cz
www.zivykraj.cz

West Bohemia

A symphony of experiences

Karlovy Vary (Carlsbad)



Mariánské Lázně (Marienbad)



Karlovy Vary (Carlsbad)

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!

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

Like many others, you will surely be enchanted and enticed by the hidden corners, the romantic views, the elegant spa buildings 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 West Bohemian spas. Get rid of that stress and exhaustion!

Mariánské Lázně

Come visit Mariánské Lázně in August and enjoy classical music concerts at the international festival honoring the genius Polish composer and pianist Frédéric 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
www.marianskelazne.cz

Karlovy Vary

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
www.karlovyvary.cz

Bečov Castle

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 chateau of the same name, lies a gem that experts consider the second greatest treasure in the Czech Republic, right after the crown jewels – the St. Maurus reliquary. The discovery of the reliquary comes with an unusual history and an exciting detective story. Come listen, you won't regret it!
www.zamek-becov.cz

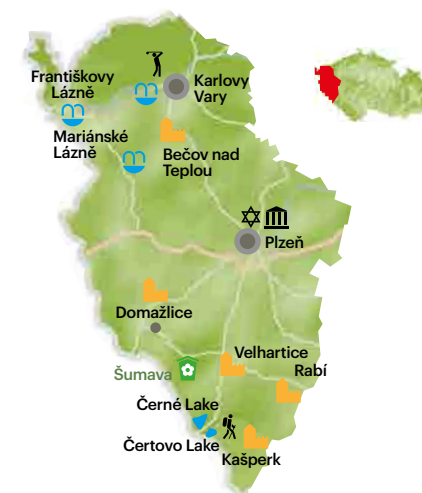
Enjoy Karlovy Vary to the fullest and more cheaply with the Karlovy Vary City Card. Take advantage of great sales and discounts on dozens of services in town and nearby.



Becherovka

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

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.com





Pilsner Urquell brewery



Josef Skupa's puppets Spejbl and Hurvínek

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.

Plzeň

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 Days music festival, Skupa's 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.

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 the first weekend after this day.

www.chodskeslavnosti.cz



Šumava lakes

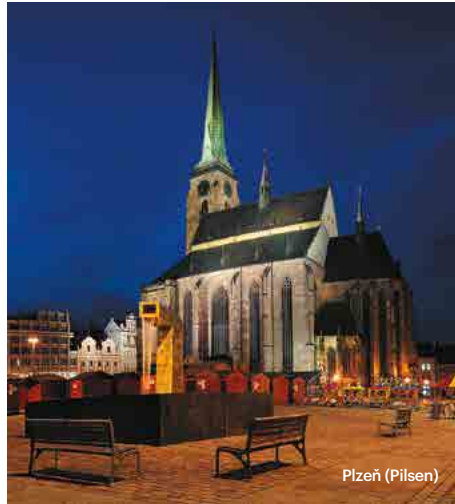
Discover the largest Šumava lakes, named Černé and Čertovo. One hiking trail to them leads from Železná Ruda. This village is on the German border and is a great place to start off other trips.

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

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 Plzeňský Prazdroj (Pilsner Urquell) is without exaggeration a world-renowned beverage with an unparalleled recipe. And it definitely tastes the best in its home town! We recommend a tour of the **Pilsner Urquell brewery** or a visit to the Brewery Museum located in the city centre. Experience the story of beer from the Middle Ages up to today!
www.plzen.eu
www.prazdrojvisit.cz

Chodsko region

If you happen to visit the West Bohemian area known as Chodsko, you will mostly find yourself attracted by the traditional Chodsko ceramics, the rural architecture, and the local cuisine.



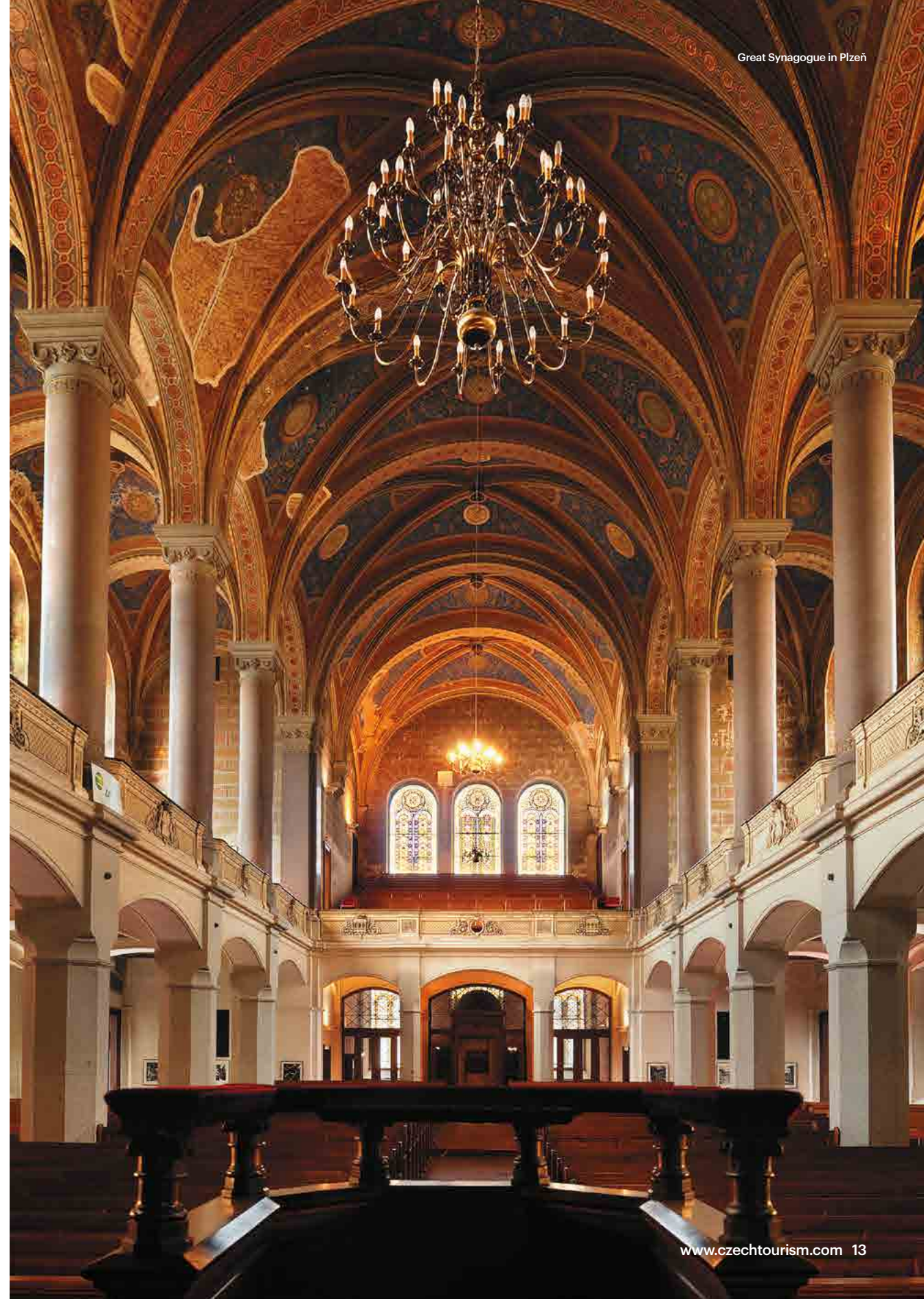
Plzeň (Pilsen)



Černé Lake

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

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



Great Synagogue in Plzeň

North Bohemia

Perfect for your summer and winter vacations

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.

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

Pravčická Sandstone Gate

Did you know that the Bohemian Switzerland National Park is part of the Elbe Sandstone Protected Area, known as Bohemian-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.

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!

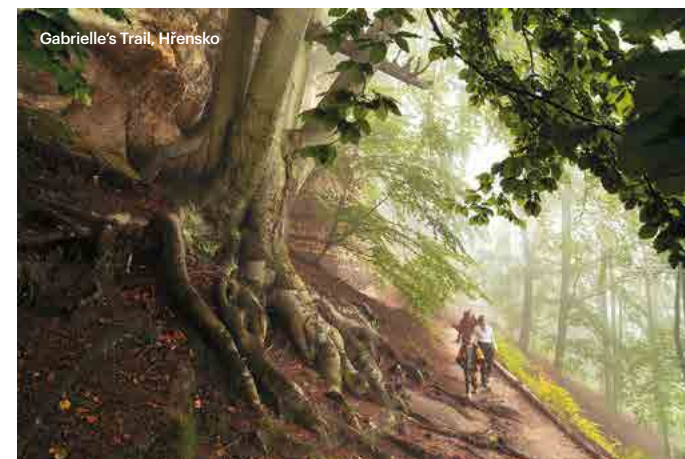
Bohemian Switzerland

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. 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
www.ceskesvycarsko.cz



Bohemian Paradise

Can a place have a more poetic and yet poignant name? Bohemian Paradise is truly one of the Czech Republic's 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

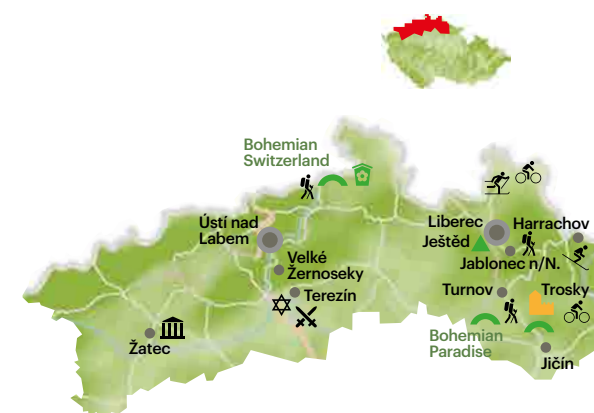
The mysterious and romantic **Trosky Castle**, bizarre Gothic castle ruins, are the symbol of Bohemian Paradise. Two castle towers named Baba (Old Woman) and Panna (Virgin) provide an amazing view onto the countryside. There is an unexplored secret corridor system below. www.hrad-trosky.eu

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 segment is from Turnov along the red trail.

A great place from which 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, and the hike takes up to 2.5 hours.



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





Jizerka



Singltrek pod Smrkem

Ještěd

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

www.visitliberec.eu

The Jizerské Mountains

The Jizerské Mountains are the northernmost 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 a magnet for cross-country skiers. The best known trail is the Jizerská Magistrála – this hosts the famous international cross-country ski competition Jizerská Padesátka, one of the Worldloppet races.

The Jizerská Magistrála, 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.jizerska-magistrala.cz
www.jiz50.cz

If you are an MTB enthusiast, take a ride up the **single track MTB trail below Smrk Mountain** – 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.singltrekpod-smrkem.cz

Glass and costume jewellery in Jablonec

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

Fortress of Terezín

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, the 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



Jizerské Mountains

Temple of Hops and Beer

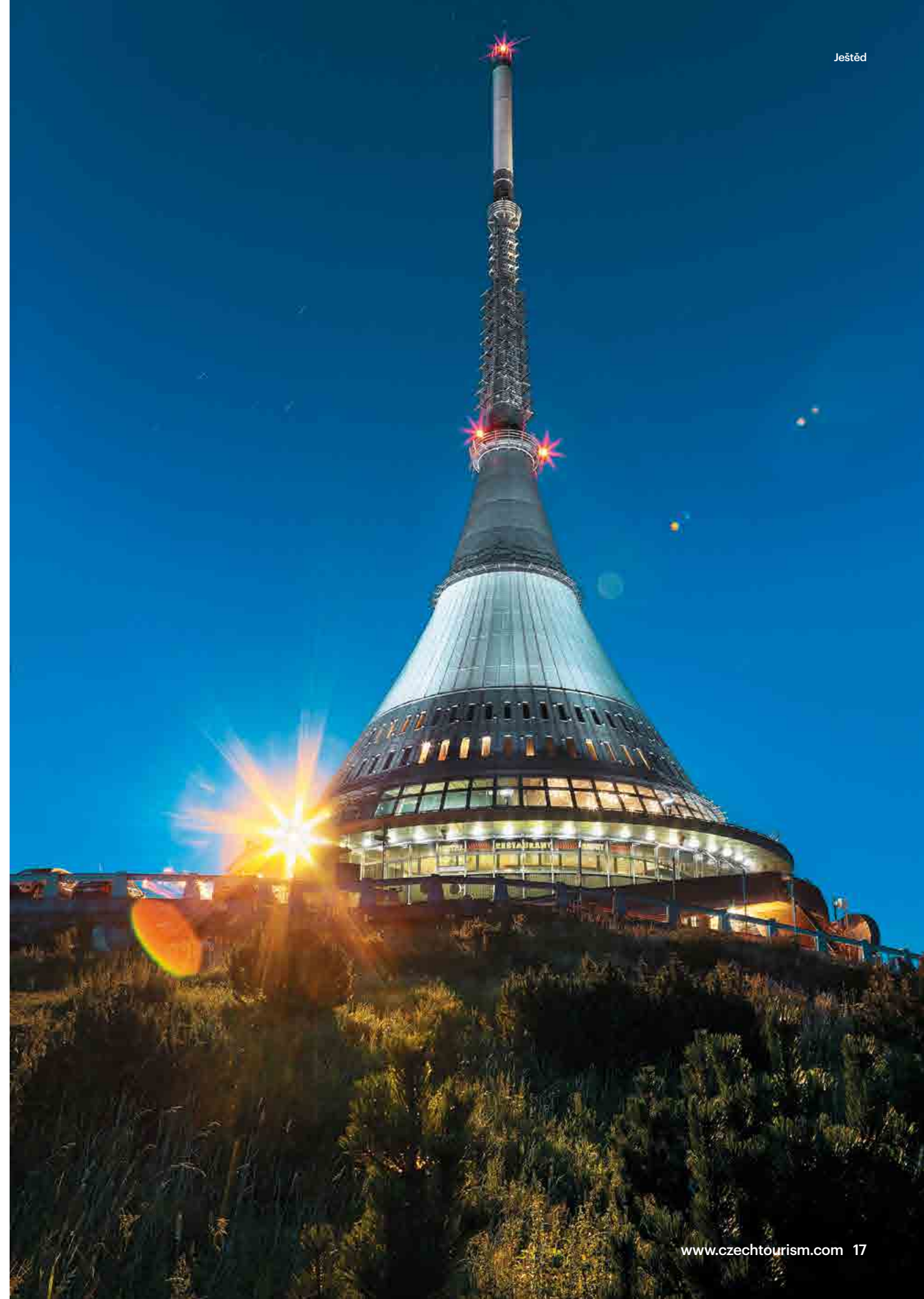
The Žatec area is known for hops; it is not only where the world-renowned high-quality Žatec (Saaz) hops are grown, but it is also the home of the educational and entertainment complex called the Temple of Hops and Beer, right in the town of Žatec. So raise your glasses!

www.beertemple.cz

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

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

Did you know that 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!



East Bohemia

The melancholy beauty of unconquered fortresses

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



Beautiful nature, unique folk handicrafts such as glassblowing 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.

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. The preserved forts along the border nowadays attract thousands of tourists. The Hanička artillery fortress near Rokytnice in the Orlické Mountains, Bouda and Hůrka in the Králické fortress area, and 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 the **Hanička Fortress** is from the town of Rokytnice in the Orlické Mountains. The fort is built of battle structures on the surface which are connected underground by hundreds of metres of corridors and halls. Descend to a depth of 36 metres, where the temperature is a mere 8 °C!
www.hanicka.cz

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



The Krkonoše Mountains

The Krkonoše 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 the 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. Treat yourself to a breathtaking hike along the **Czech-Polish Friendship Trail**. This red trail leads across the **peak of Sněžka**.
www.krkonose.eu

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.

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.



Great Pardubice Steeplechase

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 the Taxis Ditch, one of the most difficult jumps in the world. The race takes place the second Sunday in October every year at the Pardubice race track. www.pardubice-racecourse.cz

Orlické Mountains

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.mojeorlickehory.cz

Pardubice

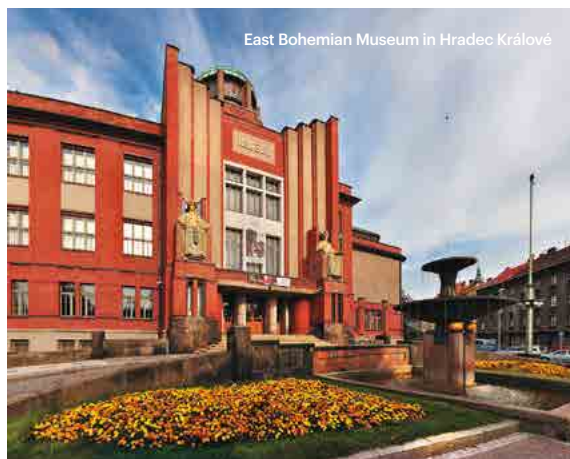
Any Czech who hears the word Pardubice imagines **gingerbread** – the traditional treat with honey and a special blend of spices. Gingerbread has been baked and shaped here since the 15th century. The most common shape is the heart, presented as a gift to those in love ...

www.visitpardubice.com

Hradec Králové

Hradec Králové is a town often resonating with the sounds of the saxophone, piano, and clarinet. This is where such renowned musical events as the Central European Jazz Bridge and Jazz Goes to Town are held. Major 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.ic-hk.cz



East Bohemian Museum in Hradec Králové

Vamberk

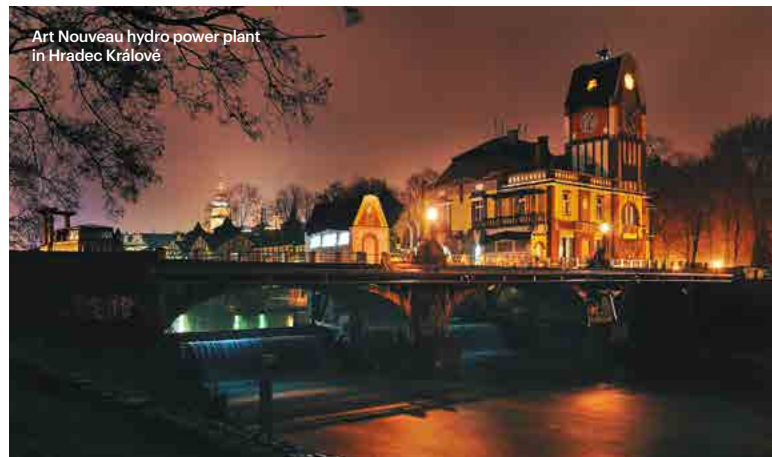
Bobbin lace from Vamberk boasts nearly four hundred years of tradition. From its beginnings, this delicate lace was used to decorate clothing or to embellish the interiors of aristocratic and burgher residences. The tradition of bobbin lace is still passed on through the generations. Learn about the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

Lipnice

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

www.hrad-lipnice.eu



Art Nouveau hydro power plant in Hradec Králové



Litomyšl – detail from a Renaissance facade



Litomyšl Chateau



Kladruber horse



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 in late June and early July.

The sgraffito decoration on the Litomyšl Castle is so unique that the castle complex was included in the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List. www.zamek-litomysl.cz

Adršpach-Teplíce Rocks

The bizarre rock formations known as the Adršpach-Teplíce Rocks are an attractive destination for hikers. The area features



In the Adršpach-Teplíce Rocks

original half-timbered houses, a Baroque chateau, and the Adršpach rock castle ruins from the 14th century.

www.skaly-adrspach.cz

Kladruby nad Labem

The Kladruby nad Labem National Stud Farm is one of the oldest stud farms in the world and is where the unique Kladruber horse is bred. Enjoy a ride in a carriage drawn by these magnificent animals, or take a tour with a guide. You can find a complete programme and opening times at

www.nhkladruby.cz

Expect wonderful experiences in the eastern part of the Czech Republic

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 sample 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

Hradištěk



Lednice Chateau



Vrbice

Wine tours

South Moravia is truly a wine lover's paradise. You'll find many places here to taste the wine and spend time in a wine cellar. The region is laced with wine cycling trails that tie into neighbouring Austria. Explore a region of monuments and wine, pass through the orchards and vineyards of South Moravia, and enjoy the hospitality of the locals and taste the fruits of their labour.

The Moravian Wine Trail

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

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.znojmocity.cz



Lednice-Valtice Cultural Landscape

Majestic chateaux surrounded by vast gardens; cultivated flower beds creating 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 chateaux, taste the excellent Valtice wine, and take a ride on a horse or boat, or cycle along comfortable bike trails in the Lednice-Valtice Cultural Landscape!

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



The Ride of the Kings in Vlčnov

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. Book your trip at: info@znovin.cz, www.znovin.cz

Visit www.stezky.cz to find a comprehensive range of detailed maps.





Telč

Visit Telč in late July and early August, when the 'Holidays in Telč' music festival takes place.



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 anchored 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



Třebíč

Two of the main gems of Třebíč are the Romanesque-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



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.

This church on Zelená hora is the pinnacle work of the 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, such as the five stars in his halo and reminders of his discretion in not revealing the queen's confession. Santini was characteristic in his use of Gothic morphology; this element is not found in the work of any other Baroque architect.

www.zelena-hora.eu



Třebíč



Church of St. John of Nepomuk



Tugendhat Villa



Tugendhat Villa



Brno

Do not forget to visit the functionalist Tugendhat Villa in Brno, included on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Brno is also known throughout the world as a traditional city for international exhibitions and trade fairs at the city's fairgrounds. This city 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 Sts. Peter and Paul.

www.tugendhat.eu
www.ticbrno.cz



Kroměříž

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 Archbishop's Palace and together are included on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The palace holds a rich archival collection of paintings, books, and music. Visit the second largest collection of paintings in the Czech Republic and



Brno

the permanent exposition in the Bishop's Mint. The attractive Via Artis routes are supplemented with cultural events covered by a single admission ticket valid for two days.

www.zamek-kromeriz.cz



Masaryk Circuit

Taste the local mass wine during your visit to the Kroměříž Chateau! Make a reservation in advance to take a guided tour of the cellars and enjoy a tasting of the mass wine, with refreshments if you prefer.

You'll find a calendar of the most prestigious motoring events at the Masaryk Circuit at www.automotodrom-brno.cz



Kroměříž - Květná Garden



Velehrad



St. Hostýn



Moravian Karst

Pilgrimage sites

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 spread Christianity in the Slavic language.

www.viamorava.com

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 trail featuring hiking, pilgrimage, and religious information. Set off on your way!

www.camminideuropa.eu

Lešná Chateau

The Lešná Chateau near Zlín is noted primarily for 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

Slavkov (Austerlitz)

Slavkov near Brno is famous above all for the battle that took place here in 1805, nicknamed the Battle of the Three Emperors. The French Army, led by Napoleon, defeated the allied armies of Russia and Austria. Come watch a re-enactment of this event and admire a demonstration of masterful military tactics. The battle re-enactment 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 multimedia exhibition on the Battle of Austerlitz.

www.zamek-slavkov.cz

Luhačovice Spa

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 from the Vincentka spring, are considered to be among 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

The Baťa Canal

The Baťa Canal is a roughly 80-kilometre historical water route between the cities of Kroměříž and Hodonín. Certain sections run along the Morava River, while the rest are man-made navigational channels. Thirteen locks allow boats to pass through the weirs along the route. Canal boat trips are a favourite tourist attraction. A good way to plan 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.



Luhačovice Spa

Moravian Karst

The Moravian Karst is one of the most important karst landscapes in Central Europe. The Macocha Abyss is surrounded by fearsome legends; you can gaze into its depths from two observation points. The most sought-after caves in the Moravian Karst are the Punkva Caves. Take a boat ride down the mysterious Punkva underground river!

www.moravskykras.net



Baťa Canal

You can rent a boat at any of the locations along the entire length of this water route. Trips on larger boats or overnight stays on a houseboat are also popular. www.vychodni-morava.cz



Zlín Zoo – Siberian tiger

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



Colours of Ostrava

Ostrava

Ostrava is slowly shedding its image as 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

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 Lower Vítkovice complex, a unique industrial conglomerate from the first half of the 20th century with its Hlubina Mine. The Mining Museum on the site of the former Anselm Mine at the foot of **Landek Hill** is the largest in the Czech Republic. You can reach the Michal Mine from the Ostrava Main Railway Station by trolleybus No. 101; get off at the last stop. www.dolnivitkovice.cz

Paper mill in Velké Losiny

Visit the Handmade-Paper Mill in Velké Losiny. The oldest paper mill with continuous production of handmade paper (since 1596), it is a unique monument in Central Europe not only for its architecture (originally a late Baroque building),

but also for its preserved machinery.

In Velké Losiny there are other monuments worth seeing, especially the Renaissance chateau and unique wooden churches. You can get there easily from the towns of Šumperk and Jeseník.

www.muzeumpaperu.cz



Michal Mine

Kopřivnice: Tatra Technical Museum

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 was given the name 'Präsident'. You can learn the history of this automobile and others at the Tatra Technical Museum in Kopřivnice.

www.tatramuseum.cz



Olomouc

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 treasures is the Holy Trinity Column, a UNESCO World Heritage monument. This is the largest

grouping of Baroque statues within a single sculptural 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

Holy Hillock near Olomouc

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 bus lines No. 11 or 111.

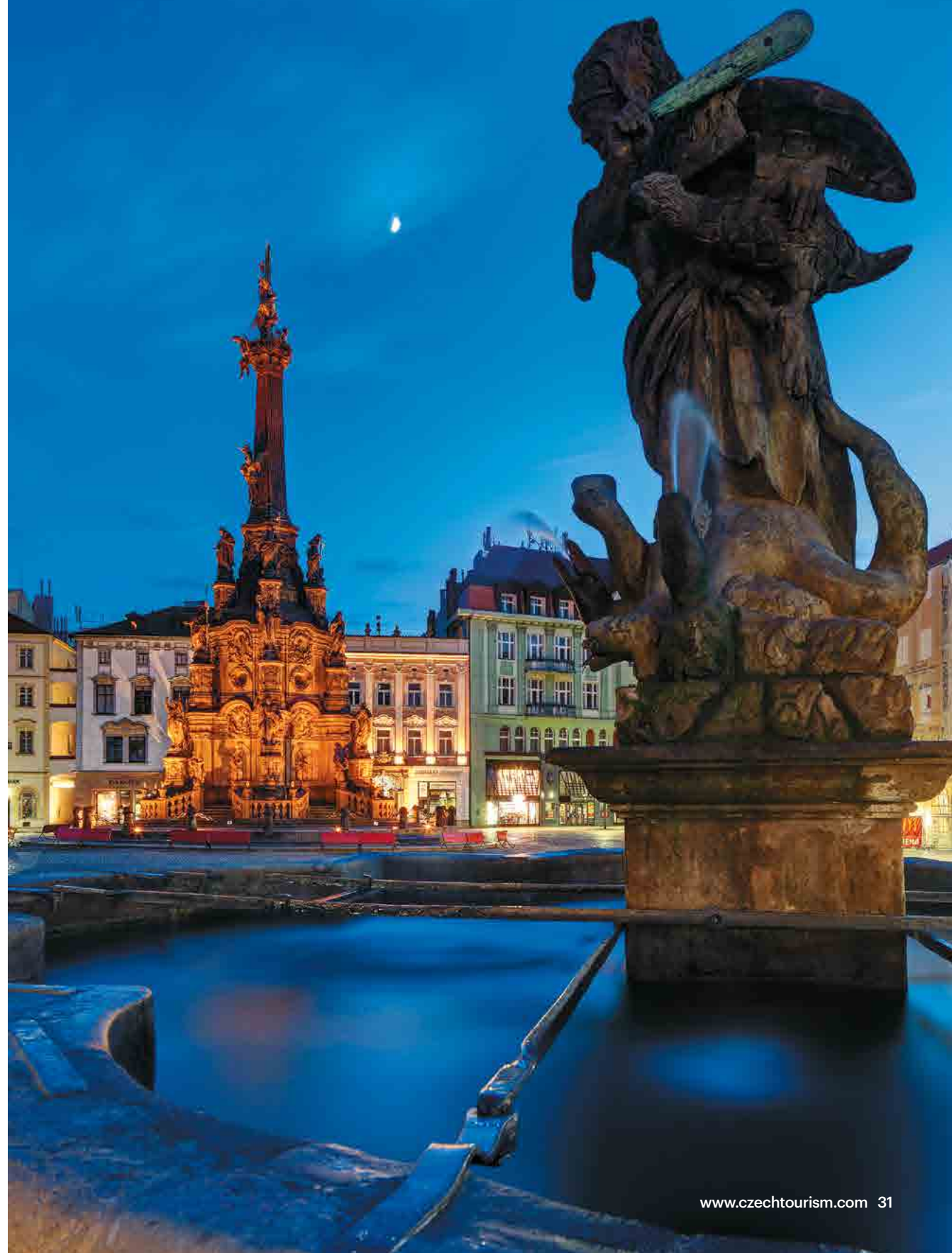
Olomouc Region Card

The Olomouc Region Card offers free entry to 75 sites in Olomouc and the surrounding region, including the Museum of Olomoucké Tvarůžky Cheese in Loštice and the romantic Bouzov Castle, a favourite with both filmmakers and wedding parties.

Some love it, others have to hold their nose. **Olomoucké tvarůžky** is a special type of ripened soft cheese known for 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. www.tvaruzky.cz

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.dolnivitkovice.cz

Olomouc





Jeseníky Mountains

Jeseníky Mountains

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 the Bílá Opava River, stroll through the peat bog with its rare moss ponds in the Rejvíz nature preserve, admire the extinct volcanoes around Bruntál, and draw new energy from the spas in Jeseník, Karlova Studánka, or Velké Losiny.

Get to know the Jeseníky Mountains up close by taking a ride along the Witch's Bike Trail, which passes through this area's significant locations. The bicycle trail leads through Šumperk and Velké Losiny, ascends to an altitude above 1,000 metres, crosses Červenohorské Sedlo and continues across Jeseník to Zlaté Hory and onwards to Nysa in Poland.
www.navstivtejeseniky.cz
www.jeseniky-rodina.cz

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

Beskydy Mountains

Endless forests, lush meadows with flocks of sheep guarded over by shepherds, 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 Beskydy mountain range. The bearded Slavic god Radegast watches down from Radhošť, one of the peaks. The mountaintops, particularly Lysá Hora and Radhošť, offer fantastic views of the landscape, and the place is a winter paradise for skiers. The unique Valašsko building style with its typical wooden structures is another attraction.

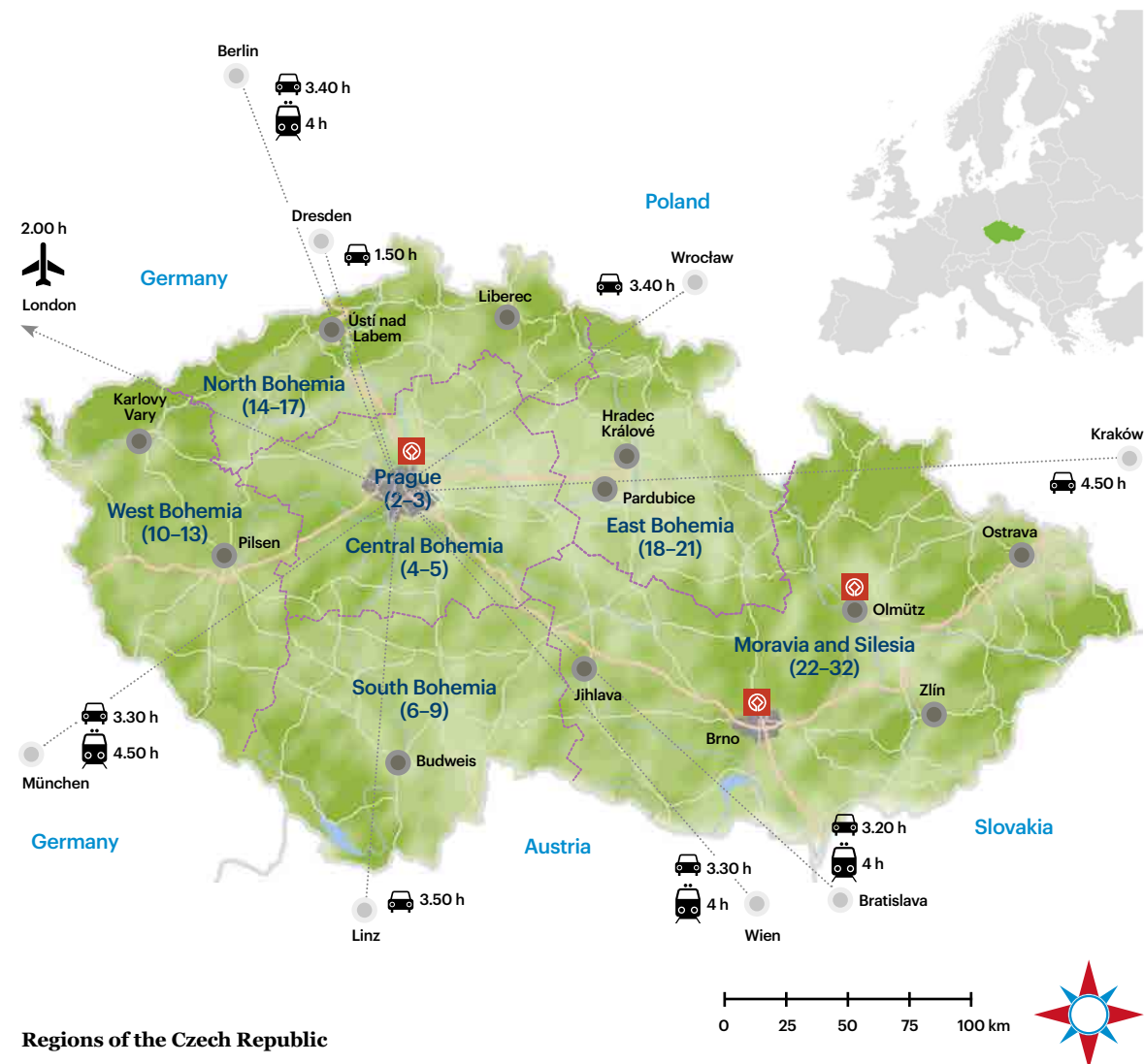
The beautiful landscape of the Beskydy Mountains is decorated with more than twenty wooden churches and historical examples of **folk architecture** built over a span of five centuries. The diversity and preserved state of these structures, scattered throughout the landscape, makes them quite unique.

The **Valašsko Museum in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm** is the largest open-air museum in Central Europe. Let it introduce you to traditional handicrafts, living folklore, and the customs observed for generations by those who settled this magical landscape.
www.vmp.cz



Rožnov pod Radhoštěm

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, get your Kingdom of Valašsko passport and enjoy a number of discounts. The information centre of the Kingdom of Valašsko in Frenštát pod Radhoštěm will show you the way.
www.valasske-kralovstvi.cz



Regions of the Czech Republic

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