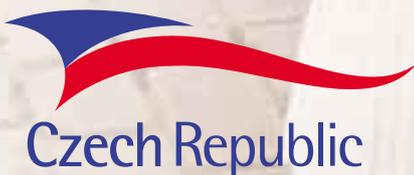


UNESCO sites



A touch of magic



Lednice

Approximate flight time from selected European cities to Prague (in hours)
www.czech-airlines.com



www.czechtourism.com

– official tourist presentation of the Czech Republic



This is the logo of official tourist information centres

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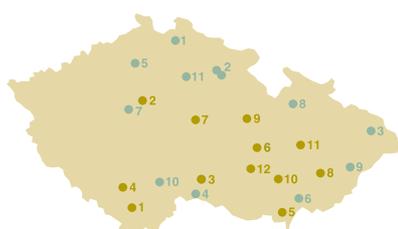
UNESCO INSCRIBED SITES IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC



The Czech Lands have a rich and diverse history. Various rulers have reigned here, each leaving their mark on their residences, towns, and the country. Their notions of grandeur were brought to life by the hands of skilful master craftsmen from Bohemia and all the corners of the earth, who built and decorated hundreds of castles, churches, and monasteries and contributed to the general architectural appearance of Czech towns. As time passed, masterful secular and spiritual works emerged which have graced the land for centuries. Thanks to UNESCO protection, the expertise of architects, painters, sculptors, and other master craftsmen from times past can now be enjoyed by future generations.

The Czech Republic has had the good fortune to see twelve of its sites placed on UNESCO's World Heritage List of Cultural and Natural Properties. Other sites have been nominated for inscription.

HISTORICAL TOWN CENTRE ČESKÝ KRUMLOV 1	HISTORICAL TOWN CENTRE PRAHA 2	HISTORICAL TOWN CENTRE TELČ 3
HISTORICAL VILLAGE HOLAŠOVICE 4	CULTURAL LANDSCAPE LEDNICE-VALTICE 5	PILGRIMAGE CHURCH OF ST JOHN OF NEPOMUK ON ZELENÁ HORA ZELENÁ HORA 6
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AN EXCEPTIONAL PIECE OF ARCHITECTURE JEŠTĚD 1 BRAUN'S NATIVITY SCENE DVŮR KRÁLOVÉ AND KUKS 2	HLUBINA MINE COMPLEX VÍTKOVICE MINING COMPLEX 3 RENAISSANCE BUILDINGS SLAVONICE 4	FORTRESS TEREZÍN 5 CASTLES OF THE GREAT MORAVIAN EMPIRE MIKULČICE 6
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- 1 ČESKÝ KRUMLOV
- 2 PRAHA
- 3 TELČ
- 4 HOLAŠOVICE
- 5 LEDNICE-VALTICE
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- 7 KUTNÁ HORA
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- 1 JEŠTĚD
- 2 DVŮR KRÁLOVÉ AND KUKS
- 3 VÍTKOVICE MINING COMPLEX
- 4 SLAVONICE
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- 7 KARLŠTEJN
- 8 VELKÉ LOSINY
- 9 LUHAČOVICE
- 10 TŘEBOŇSKO
- 11 ČESKÝ RÁJ



Praha – Český Krumlov 174 km

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1992

Did you know...?

- At the beginning of the 20th century, the town was the home of the painter Egon Schiele (1890-1918), the epitome of the Vienna Secession. Český Krumlov was the inspiration behind his series of paintings entitled 'Dead Town'. A former brewery in the town has been converted into the Egon Schiele Art Centre, which displays Schiele's work and organizes exhibitions of contemporary art.
- The mysterious White Lady is said to haunt the palace at Český Krumlov and other residences owned by the Rosenbergs in South Bohemia. She is the subject of many tales and legends, and by all accounts is the wretched Perchta of Rosenberg (1429-1476), who fell victim to her mean and brutish husband John of Liechtenstein.
- The town is not just a significant historical site, but also a flourishing centre of the arts. Every year it hosts an international music festival, theatrical performances in the palace garden, and the summertime Five-Petal Rose Festival.
- Český Krumlov is situated about 180 km south of Prague and is close to the border with Austria. The town is easy to reach by car or rail.

1. HISTORICAL TOWN CENTRE

ČESKÝ KRUMLOV – The Town Where Time Stood Still

Český Krumlov, a town in the south of Bohemia, was made a World Heritage Site because of its status as a unique example of medieval town planning. In the Middle Ages, the town and the castle towering above it on a rock were the residence of the most powerful noble family in Bohemia – the Rosenbergs, Lords of the Rose. After its heyday between the 13th and 16th centuries, the town fell into oblivion for several centuries. Fortunately, this decline spared Český Krumlov the insensitive architectural modifications of later times and the town has preserved much of its original character.



Český Krumlov

The town lies in a picturesque valley of the River Vltava and can be seen from as far afield as the hills of Šumava (Bohemian Forest), which form a natural border between Bohemia and Austria. The complex housing Český Krumlov Castle and Palace is one of the largest of its kind in Europe. The palace theatre, which has been preserved along with the original Baroque costumes, sets, and stage equipment, has no equal anywhere in the world.



Třeboň



Lipno

Local excursions:

www.ckrumlov.cz
www.jiznicechy.cz
www.pamatky-jc.cz
www.pis.cz

- **České Budějovice** – the main city in South Bohemia and the administrative centre for the whole region. Besides its cultural and historical monuments, the city is also world famous for its beer – Budějovický Budvar ('Budweiser').
- **Hluboká nad Vltavou** – perhaps the most romantic of all Czech castles. The white Neo-Gothic castle battlements on the outside imitate the fortress-like character of old castles, concealing luxurious interiors which were ultra modern for their time.
- **Třeboň** – an age-old town surrounded by countless ponds and reservoirs. Fishing in the region has a tradition of more than five hundred years. The town, which lies in a protected natural area, is also famous for its spa.
- **Lipno** – a reservoir on the upper reaches of the River Vltava, situated in the middle of the deep woods making up Šumava (Bohemian Forest). The reservoir is more than forty kilometres long and is a magnet for recreation the year round.



Praha

2.

HISTORICAL TOWN CENTRE

PRAHA – There and Back Again Over the Centuries

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1992

Did you know...?

- Prague has been celebrated as one of the most beautiful cities in the world ever since the Middle Ages. Various attributes include 'Golden', 'City of a Hundred Spires', 'Crown of the World, and 'A Stone Dream'.
- Celebrities have paid homage to Prague over the centuries. Those enchanted by its beauty and imposing architecture include W. A. Mozart, Ludwig van Beethoven, Apollinaire, Tchaikovsky, Dostoyevsky, Rodin, and Kokoschka.
- Prague plays a central role in the works of numerous prominent writers, for example the Czech authors Jaroslav Hašek, Jaroslav Seifert, Milan Kundera and the Prague German-writing authors Franz Kafka, Max Brod, and Egon Erwin Kisch.

Although Prague is proud of its rich history, it is not living in the past alone. Prague is a modern European city with all that this status entails: the city has numerous theatres, concert halls, music clubs, museums, galleries, and exhibition halls; top competitions and matches regularly take place at stadiums and sports grounds; and a number of prominent global companies have their Central European headquarters in Prague.



Old Town Square

The Prague coat-of-arms carries the legend Praga caput regni. And rightly so. Since it was founded, it has always played an important role in the history of the nation, the country, and Europe. It has every intention of playing the same role in the future.



Wallenstein Garden



Prague Castle – Spanish Hall

Local excursions:

- **The Cathedral of St Vitus, St Wenceslas, and St Adalbert** – a Gothic cathedral, the spiritual symbol of the Czech State. The cathedral was founded in 1344 on the site of an original Romanesque rotunda. The first architect was the experienced Matthieu d'Arras, who was replaced after his death by Peter Parler, just twenty-three years old at the time. He enriched the traditional French Gothic cathedral with a number of original elements. The construction took almost 600 years and was definitively completed in 1929.
- **Vyšehrad** – according to ancient legend, the oldest seat of the Czech princes. Visitors to Vyšehrad will find the rare 11th century Romanesque Rotunda of St Martin, the Gothic Church of St Peter and St Paul, and Vyšehrad Cemetery, which since 1869 has been used as the final resting place of prominent persons of the Czech nation. The original copies of some of the statues from Charles Bridge are kept in the underground casemate of the Baroque fortifications.
- **Josefov** – Prague's Jewish Quarter emerged in the Middle Ages, and despite radical slum clearance at the end of the 19th century a number of significant structures have remained. One of the most precious Jewish monuments in the world is the Old Jewish Cemetery, with 12,000 Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque gravestones.
- **The Church of St Nicholas** – one of the most significant buildings of Prague's Baroque period, with a dominating dome and belfry (the work of the architects Christoph Dientzenhofer, Kilian Ignaz Dientzenhofer, and Anselmo Lurago between 1704 and 1756). The interior decoration of the church is a prime example of Baroque art. Mozart played on the church organ during his time in Prague.
- **Petřín** – In the Middle Ages, Petřín was a gallows hill, but now it is a popular rendezvous for lovers. The original Gothic city walls at the foot of the hill have been preserved. The Petřín Observation Tower from 1891 is a 60-metre-high copy of the Eiffel Tower in Paris.



Praha – Telč 139 km

3.

HISTORICAL TOWN CENTRE

TELČ – Metamorphosis of the Italian Renaissance

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1992

Did you know...?

- Art and music currently play an important role in the life of Telč. Every year an international folk festival and a French-Czech Music Academy take place in the town.

- In the chateau complex there is an exhibition of work by the popular Czech painter Jan Zrzavý (1890-1977).

Telč boasts one of the most beautiful squares in the Czech Republic, which has a uniquely preserved line of historical townhouses with an arcade. A highly important historical landmark in the town is Telč Chateau, once owned by the prominent noble line of the Lords of Hradec, who converted the original water stronghold into an elegant palatial residence in the 16th century.

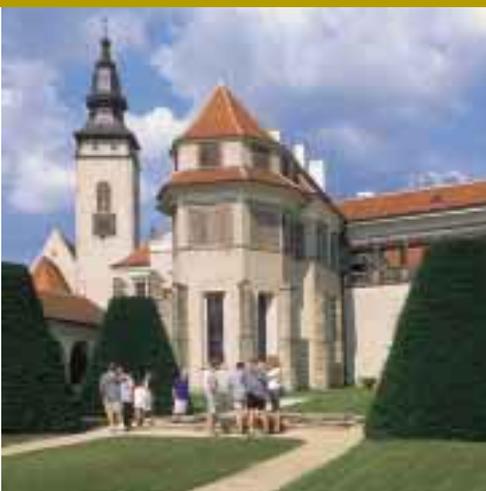


Square

Although much of the chateau's decoration is the work of Italian artists, they did not simply mechanically transfer Italian models to the Czech environment. It is interesting to observe how different Renaissance architecture looks north of the Alps. The chapel and the Golden Hall, with its finely decorated coffered ceiling, are the most artistically valuable rooms in the chateau. Of the buildings on the square, the graffiti decoration of House No 61, with scenes from the Old Testament, deserves special attention.



The Gallery of the painter Jan Zrzavý



Telč Palace

Local excursions:

www.telc-etc.cz

- **Jihlava** – a historical town and regional centre. The town has important Gothic and Baroque buildings. The Jihlava catacombs, which were formed when local cellars were interconnected, are an interesting example of Gothic structural engineering.
- **Roštejn** – a medieval castle and the host of a summer music festival called 'Jazz at the Castle'. One of the most interesting rooms in the castle is the Coat-of-Arms Hall, with almost seven hundred coats-of-arms of the Bohemian and Moravian nobility.
- **Javořice** – at 837 m above sea level, the highest peak in the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands. There are fine ski runs on Javořice in the winter and attractive footpaths for rambling in the summer.
- **Slavonice** – a historical town on the border with Austria. The best-known sights are the Renaissance townhouses on the town's two squares.



Praha – Holašovice 153 km

4. HISTORICAL VILLAGE

HOLAŠOVICE – A Pearl of Folk Architecture

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1994

Did you know...?

- An important milestone in the history of the village was 1292, when King Wenceslas II donated Holašovice and several other South Bohemian villages to the Cistercian Monastery in Vyšší Brod. The village remained the property of the monastery until 1848, the year of revolution, which rid the Czech Lands of serfdom for good.
- The village has suffered a number of disasters over the centuries. The worst was the plague epidemic between 1520 and 1525; only two people survived. A masonry plague column still stands on the site of the mass grave dug for the victims on the northern edge of the village. The village currently has 140 inhabitants.
- Typical 'rustic Baroque' village homesteads can also be found in other villages in the south of Bohemia, including Libotyň, Radhostice, Kovanína, Bušanovice, and Dolní Nakvasovice, but none of them can match the completeness of the buildings in Holašovice.
- Holašovice is situated 14.5 km west of České Budějovice, the main city of South Bohemia.

Holašovice, in the south of Bohemia, is a typical example of a traditional Central European village. A unique collection of original rustic smallholdings has been preserved around a pond in the middle of a large rectangular village green. The distinctive architectural style, with its characteristic perimeter walls, arched entrances, and finely decorated gables, is often called 'rustic Baroque'.



Holašovice

Village builders in the mid-19th century were inspired by the architecture of Baroque churches, the panache of which they adapted, very originally, to their own requirements. However, the organizational structure of the holdings and the system used to lay out the residential buildings and outbuildings are part of a much older tradition stretching back to the Middle Ages. The first written evidence of Holašovice dates back to 1263. The historic forge, the Baroque chapel from 1744, and the village pub help form the unique atmosphere of the village.



České Budějovice



Fine decoration is a feature of the architecture

Local excursions:

www.pruvodce.com/holasovice

- **Vyšší Brod** – a Cistercian Monastery founded in 1259 by Vok of Rosenberg. An important example of Gothic architecture. The family vault of the Lords of the Rose is located under the presbytery of the monastery church.
- **Český Krumlov** – a historical town with the main residence of the Lords of the Rose. Český Krumlov is an inscribed UNESCO site because of its rare medieval town planning.
- **Zlatá Koruna** – a Cistercian Monastery founded in 1263 by King Přemysl Otakar II. An important example of Gothic architecture. The name of the monastery (which translates into English as 'Golden Crown') is taken from a rare relic – a thorn from Christ's Crown – gifted to the order by the king.
- **Římov** – a Baroque point of pilgrimage constructed by Český Krumlov Jesuits. The stations of the Cross extend for six kilometres around the village. The 25 chapels on this route are distributed to mirror the locations of holy sites in Jerusalem.



Praha – Lednice-Valtice 253 km

5.

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

LEDNICE-VALTICE – The World is a Park

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1994

Did you know...?

- The observation tower in the form of a Turkish minaret was built in the castle grounds between 1797 and 1804. The cylindrical tower is 60 metres high and its spiral staircase has 304 steps. Almost all the structures in the complex can be seen from the upper gallery of the minaret, which also provides a wonderful view of the Pálava Hills in the west and the Lesser Carpathians in the east.
- Valtice lies in the very heart of the Moravian winegrowing region, and a visit to one of the numerous wine cellars in the area, combined with a tasting of the local wines, should not be missed by anyone taking a break in South Moravia.
- The greenhouse of Lednice Castle, built in the 1830s, is an early example of the use of a cast-iron frame. In its time it was an ultra modern, progressive structure.
- The best way to take in the whole complex is by horse or bicycle.
- The Lednice-Valtice complex is near the Austrian border, not far from the Prague-Bratislava motorway.

The Lednice-Valtice complex is a unique piece of landscaping not just in the Czech Republic, but also in the whole world. A wonderful park with natural objects of interest and impressive Romantic buildings was established over an area of more than 180 km² in the 18th and 19th centuries.



Minaret – the Moorish observation tower

The park is spread out between the two family seats of the Liechtensteins – the Neo-Gothic castle in Lednice and the Baroque palace in Valtice. It reflects the period cults of nature, history, and the exotic. The various Romantic structures dotted around the complex are follies forming a pleasant backdrop for horse riding and trips into nature; they include the ruin of a medieval castle, a Roman aqueduct, a Turkish minaret, and a monumental arch of triumph standing in a glade in the middle of a forest.



Pálava



Lednice Castle

Local excursions:

www.lednice.cz

- **Pálava** – a protected landscape area with a number of cultural and historical monuments. The castles here alternate with white cliffs and abundant flora. Several points offer views covering most of South Moravia, Lower Austria, and the Lesser Carpathians in Slovakia.
- **Děvičky (Dívčí hrad)** – the castle's name ('Maidens' Castle') comes from a legend which claims that the three rocks in front of the castle are three petrified girls. The castle has an irregular rectangular layout and stands on top of an inaccessible rock face in the western part of the Pálava ridge.
- **Mikulov** – a historical town with a Baroque palace, a well-preserved Jewish quarter, and a number of Church monuments. Svatý Kopeček (Holy Hill) is a place of pilgrimage situated on a hill just outside the town. The Stations of the Cross guide visitors to the plague chapel at the top of the hill.
- **Dolní Věstonice** – is the most important archaeological site in the Czech Republic. A prehistoric figure measuring about 11 centimetres, the Venus of Věstonice, was discovered here in 1925.



Praha – Zelená Hora 138 km

6.

PILGRIMAGE CHURCH OF ST JOHN OF NEPOMUK AT ZELENÁ HORA

ZELENÁ HORA – A Fallen Star

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1994

Did you know...?

● Johann Blasius Santini-Aichel (1677-1723) was born in Prague as the third generation of a family of Italian masons and stonemasons settled in Bohemia. He designed a number of influential buildings, including Karlova Koruna Chateau in Chlumec nad Cidlinou, the monastery church in Kladruby, in the west of Bohemia, and the pilgrimage church in Křtiny u Brna.

● St John of Nepomuk is celebrated as a saint representing the seal of confession. According to legend, he was drowned in the Vltava in 1393 because he refused to tell the king what the queen had disclosed to him during confession. The place where the river washed his body ashore was marked by five stars which miraculously appeared in the sky. According to tradition, when his grave was opened after hundreds of years, blackened tissue fell out of the skull and was identified by physicians as a tongue. The miraculous preservation of the tongue intact was used as evidence of his saintliness. In 1729, John of Nepomuk was officially canonized.

The pilgrimage Church of St John of Nepomuk at Zelená Hora, near Žďár nad Sázavou, is perhaps the most significant Baroque structure in the whole of the Czech Republic. The church is the work of the ingenious Prague-based architect Johann Blasius Santini-Aichel, whose method of combining Baroque and Gothic architecture was unrivalled.



Pilgrimage Church of St John of Nepomuk on Zelená Hora

The church is dedicated to St John of Nepomuk, the most popular Central European saint in the Baroque period. The radial plan of the church and the individual details of the windows and interior decoration are symbolic of the saint's attributes – a five-pointed star or stars, and a tongue, interpreted as a symbol of taciturnity.

The construction of the church was initiated by Václav Vejmluva, the Abbot of the Cistercian Monastery in Žďár. The cooperation between the investor and the architect was exceptionally good. Santini was also commissioned to reconstruct the monastery and several other churches and chapels around the town.



Highlands



Zelená Hora Castle

Local excursions:

www.zamekzdar.cz

- **Nové město na Moravě** – a winter sports resort
- **Lipnice nad Sázavou** – ruins of a Gothic castle. This noble castle from the mid-14th century was reduced to an abandoned ruin following a devastating fire at the end of the 19th century.
- **Pernštejn** – The aristocratic castle at Pernštejn is the most beautiful of all the castles in Moravia. It is a unique example of the organic conversion of a medieval fortress into a luxury Renaissance residence. The castle was built in the mid-13th century and was gradually expanded and reconstructed over the next three centuries.



Praha – Kutná Hora 67 km

7.

HISTORICAL CENTRE WITH THE CHURCH OF ST BARBARA AND THE CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY IN SEDLEC

KUTNÁ HORA – The Silver Treasure House of the Kingdom

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1995

Did you know...?

● At the end of the 13th century, roughly a third of Europe's silver production came from the mines at Kutná Hora. The Prague groschen, minted with Kutná Hora silver, was one of the strongest currencies in Europe.

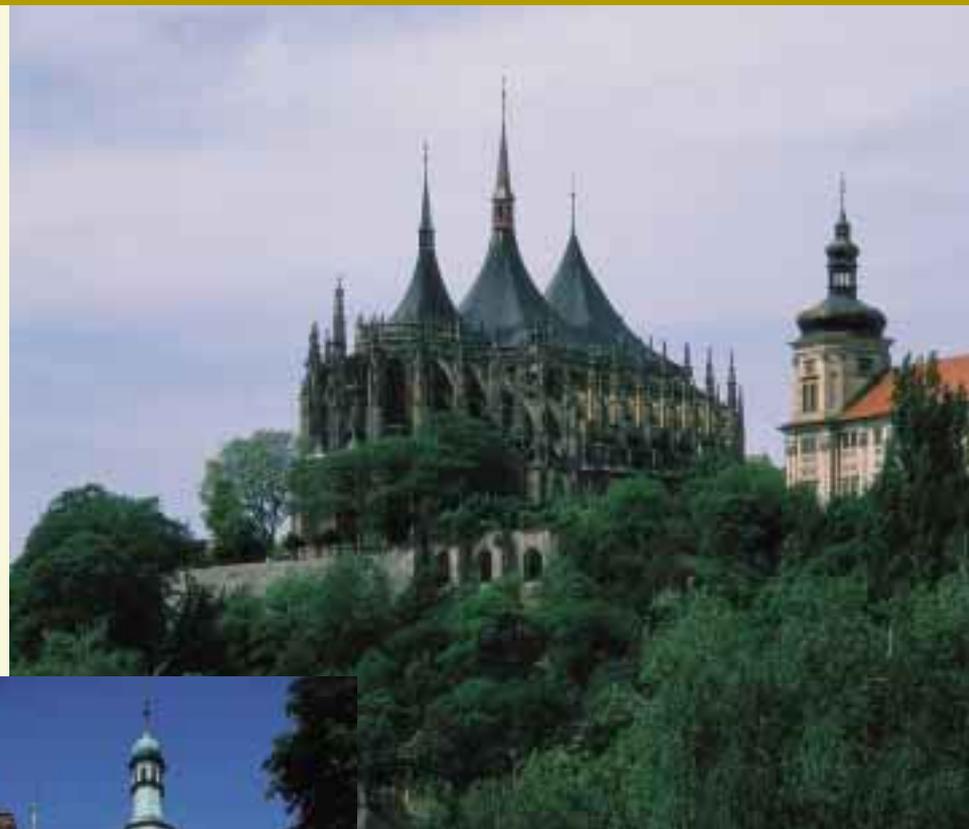
● Although the Church of St Barbara, founded in 1388, was never completed to its originally planned extent, it is still one of the largest and most beautiful Gothic churches in the Czech Republic. A unique gallery of Late Gothic and Renaissance murals has been preserved in the interior of the church.

● Sedlec Charnel House, which did not attain its current appearance until the 19th century, contains candelabras, a monstrance, chandeliers, and the coat-of-arms of the Schwarzenbergs, all made of human bones. The skeletal remains of more than 30,000 people were used for the decorations.

● The monastery church at Sedlec Monastery is an interesting synthesis of Gothic and Baroque architecture. At the beginning of the 18th century, the dilapidated medieval church was repaired and reconstructed by Giovanni Blasius Santini-Aichel, one of the most influential architects of the Czech Baroque.

● Kutná Hora is situated 60 km east of Prague. It is easily accessible by road or rail.

In the Middle Ages, Kutná Hora was known as the 'Silver Treasure House of the Kingdom' because of its silver mines. The city has a breathtaking skyline and retains much of its original expression. The most important architectural gems are the Gothic Church of St Barbara (the patron saint of miners), the Wallachian Court, which was the site of the royal mint, and several patrician buildings. There is a mining museum in a building known as Hrádek (Fort), which was part of the former city fortifications. Visitors to the museum are taken on a tour of the original medieval mines.



Church of St Barbara



Wallachian Court

Other sights worth a visit are the Baroque Convent of St Ursula, the Jesuit college, and the church in Sedlec Monastery. This former monastery has a rare burial chapel decorated inside with several thousand human skulls and bones.

Local excursions:

- **Kolín** – a historic town with a significant Gothic cathedral. A large Jewish community lived in the town from the Middle Ages. The former ghetto is now being reconstructed.
- **Poděbrady** – a spa town. A medicinal spring was discovered at the beginning of the 20th century during a search for drinking water in the courtyard of the chateau. Cardiovascular problems, venous disorders, high blood pressure, diabetes, and backbone conditions are treated here.
- **Sázava** – the ruins of a Benedictine abbey established by the hermit St Procopius in the 11th century. The abbey became an important centre of the Slavonic liturgy.
- **Český Šternberk** – one of the oldest noble castles in the country. The tour takes visitors through fifteen rooms richly endowed with period furniture, pictures, and family collections of the Lords of Šternberk.
- **Žleby** – originally a watchtower from the 11th century, which has been rebuilt several times over the centuries. The castle owes its current appearance to a historicizing reconstruction project in the 19th century. The exhibition includes a number of noteworthy artefacts, such as the coronation sword of Emperor Ferdinand I.

www.kutnahora.cz



Praha – Kroměříž 264 km

8. ARCHBISHOPRIC PALACE AND GARDENS

KROMĚŘÍŽ – The Blooming Garden of Moravia

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1998

Did you know...?

- In 1848 and 1849 the constituent assembly – the first parliamentary gathering in the history of the Habsburg monarchy – held sessions at the castle. The Assembly Hall is one of the stops on a guided tour of the castle.

- The most valuable picture on display at the castle is Tizian's late work entitled 'Apollo and Marsyas'. This picture has long been the subject of dispute among art historians, but is now generally thought to be one of Tizian's most remarkable works.

- The Archbishopric Wine Cellars in Kroměříž are the only premises in the Czech Republic to produce sacramental wine in accordance with Vatican regulations. Tours of the cellars are followed by wine tasting and the opportunity to buy local wine

- Kroměříž is situated approximately 50 km north-east of Brno, the largest city in Moravia. The town is easy to reach by road or rail.

The town of Kroměříž is dominated by an Early Baroque castle with a large park and unique Flower Garden. The strictly symmetrical garden, with its geometrically trimmed flower beds, elegant central octagonal pavilion, and arcade loggia (more than 200 metres long) is the best example of Baroque landscape gardening in the Czech Republic.



Flower Garden

Until modern times, Kroměříž was managed by the Church, and Kroměříž castle was used as a summer residence for the Bishops of Olomouc. When it came to splendour and luxury, the Princes of the Church were not to be outdone by the secular aristocracy. During the Baroque period, an essential part of any stately residence was the picture gallery. The Kroměříž gallery includes works by prominent artists such as Tizian (Tiziano Vecelli), Cranach, Breughel, and van Dyck.



Kroměříž Palace



Svatý Hostýn

Local excursions:

www.azz.cz

- **Chropyně** – Late Renaissance hunting lodge. The painter Emil Filla, the most significant representative of the Czech interwar avant-garde, was born in the neighbouring village.
- **Svatý Hostýn** – A Marian place of pilgrimage, one of the most visited places in Moravia with its traditions still very much alive. According to legend, Our Lady of Svatý Hostýn protected the local population from the Mongolian invasion in 1241.
- **Velké Těšany** – the windmill in Velké Těšany is an important technical monument.
- **Střílky** – an exceptional Baroque cemetery with fine sculptural decoration. Střílky Cemetery is an interesting testimony to the Baroque mentality.



Praha – Litomyšl 153 km

9.

CHATEAU

LITOMYŠL – A Town of Art and Music

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1999

Did you know...?

- The chateau houses a Classicist theatre from the end of the 18th century, which still has its original decorations. The designer was the Viennese master craftsman Josef Platzer, who also supplied the set for the Prague premiere of Mozart's Don Giovanni.
- In 1994, seven Central European presidents met at the chateau; a year later it was visited by His Majesty King Juan Carlos of Spain and his wife.
- The gardens of Litomyšl Palace are the site of the annual students' Rag Day, a tradition started in the 19th century.
- Litomyšl is situated approximately 50 km southeast of Hradec Králové, the East Bohemian metropolis, on the main route to Svitavy and Brno, and is 40 km away from Pardubice.

Litomyšl Palace is perhaps the most beautiful chateau in East Bohemia. The harmonic symbiosis of the town and chateau represents a remarkable moment in the history of European town planning. The chateau was built on the site of an older frontier castle in 1568 by Vratislav of Pernštejn. Despite subsequent architectural modifications, the exterior of the building has preserved its appearance almost untouched from the Renaissance period. The richly decorated graffiti plaster is a characteristic feature of many Czech Renaissance buildings.



Litomyšl Palace

Litomyšl is the birthplace of the prominent Czech composer Bedřich Smetana. It is possible to visit the composer's family parlour in the chateau's brewery. The traditional music festival held every year in the chateau courtyard bears Smetana's name.



The courtyard is the site of the traditional Smetana Litomyšl festival



Moravská Třebová

Local excursions:

www.litomysl.cz

- **Častolovice** – originally a medieval water stronghold, rebuilt as a Renaissance castle in the 16th century. Informal gardens and a preserve with white fallow deer and other game belong to the castle.
- **Nové Hrady** – this castle was built in the mid-18th century and was what we would now call a greenfield project. It is one of the most typical Rococo buildings in the Czech Republic, and is sometimes called 'Little Schönbrunn'.
- **Moravská Třebová** – a Late Renaissance chateau with a distinctive many-towered facade and cloistered courtyard. The interior houses an exhibition of Dutch painting and tapestry. The municipal museum nearby has an interesting collection of non-European art.
- **Bouda** – an artillery fortress, part of the fortifications erected before the Second World War. Bouda Fortress consists of five separate buildings located deep underground, which are interconnected by a system of corridors and halls.



Praha – Brno 200 km

10. TUGENDHAT VILLA

BRNO – A Timeless Classic

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2000

Did you know...?

● Ludwig Mies van der Rohe (1886-1969) was the director of the famous avant-garde Bauhaus school at the beginning of the 1930s. When the Nazis came to power, he left for the United States, where he was influential in shaping American post-war architecture.

● Many avant-garde architects criticized the house in the 1930s, claiming it was too costly and unnecessarily luxurious. They argued that modern homes for several families could easily be built for the same money.

● The villa was only used as a family home for a few years. At the beginning of the Second World War, the Tugendhats were forced to flee from the Nazis. During the war the villa was damaged, and later it was used for different purposes.

● The agreement on the division of Czechoslovakia into two independent states, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, was signed in the garden of the villa in 1992.

Tugendhat Villa in Brno was the first piece of modern architecture in the Czech Republic, and the fourth in the world, to become an inscribed UNESCO site. There can be no doubt that it deserves this honour, as it is a truly classic work of global modern architecture.



Tugendhat Villa

The glazed villa, named after the Tugendhats, the married couple who commissioned the project, is the work of the famous German architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. It is a fine example of his concept of a continuous living room, not split up into individual, firmly demarcated zones and rooms, and of space where the difference between the interior and exterior fades.

The house, built in 1929-30 and standing on a gentle slope overlooking the city, is unusually interesting structurally and technologically too. Besides Mies's elegant armchairs, the use of exotic woods and marble are eye-catching in the sober, ascetic interior.



Cathedral of St Peter and St Paul



Špilberk Castle

Local excursions:

- **Brno: Špilberk Castle** – the original medieval castle was transformed in the 18th century into a mighty Baroque fortress which became a dreaded prison. The casemates here were particularly infamous. French revolutionaries, Italian Carbonari, and political activists from all corners of the Habsburg monarchy suffered within the castle walls.
- **Brno: Old Town Hall** – Late Gothic town hall, with a finely decorated portal. This is the work of the influential Anton Pilgram, the master craftsman from Kamenice, who was one of the architects of St Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna.
- **Slavkov u Brna (Austerlitz)** – a prominent Baroque palace near the site of the Battle of the Three Emperors in December 1805, where Napoleon defeated the combined forces of the Russian Tsar and the Austrian Emperor.
- **Moravian Karst** – a world-famous beauty spot with breathtaking stalactite caves and the Macocha Chasm. Some caves are open to tourists.
- **Velehrad** – a significant place of pilgrimage. The Velehrad tradition dates back to the 9th century, when the brothers and Christian missionaries Cyril and Methodius were active in Moravia. In 1990, Pope John Paul II said mass in front of the Velehrad Basilica for half a million pilgrims.

www.olomouc.cz



Praha – Olomouc 239 km

11. HOLY TRINITY COLUMN

OLOMOUC – The Baroque Metropolis of Moravia

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2000

Did you know...?

- Wenceslas III, the last of the Přemyslide line of Czech kings, was assassinated in Olomouc in 1306. His murder has never been solved.

- A monumental Gothic sculpture of the Mount of Olives is located near the Church of St Maurice. The figures of Christ in prayer and the sleeping apostles are noted for their outstanding realism.

- In the historical city centre, there are six Baroque fountains with fine sculptural decoration. They are: the Caesar Fountain, the Hercules Fountain, the Jupiter Fountain, the Mercury Fountain, the Neptune Fountain, and the Fountain of the Tritons.

- Olomouc lies on the route of the Brno – Vyškov – Ostrava motorway, approximately 300 km east of Prague. The best way to get to Olomouc is by train, because the city is one of the stops along the Prague – Ostrava railway corridor.

Olomouc, the seat of the Bishops – now Archbishops – of Moravia, has been an important cultural and administrative centre since the Middle Ages. The fact that Olomouc is the second largest urban conservation area in the country (after Prague) testifies to the significance of the city. Prominent buildings include the Romanesque Přemyslide Palace, the Baroque Hradisko – the largest Premonstratensian monastery in Europe – and the fortified Gothic Church of St Maurice. However, the main reason Olomouc was granted the status of a UNESCO inscribed site was its Holy Trinity column, which, more than thirty metres high, is a remarkable example of Baroque pioussness.



Olomouc



Holy Trinity Column

The column is designed as a celebration of the triumph of the Christian faith. It is so grandiose that the base is large enough to house an oval chapel. It took almost forty years to construct and erect the column. The consecration of the sculptural work in 1754 was attended by Empress Marie Theresa in person. Unfortunately the main initiator of the project, the Olomouc sculptor and stonemason Václav Rendera, did not live to see this moment.



Bouzov Castle

Local excursions:

www.olomouc.cz

- **Bouzov** – Romantic Neo-Gothic castle. The original castle was converted to its current appearance at the end of the 19th century in an attempt to turn it into an idealized museum of the fading feudal era.
- **Skalička** – a German-style windmill. The mill was still in operation as late as 1966. The interior contains the complete original equipment for grinding flour, grout, millet, and barley. The mill is in working condition.
- **Jeseníky – Rejvíz** – the Rejvíz nature reserve in nearby Jeseníky contains the largest peat bog in Moravia. The landscape around the mossy little lake is peculiarly bleak and mysteriously enchanting.
- **Svatý Kopeček (Holy Hill)** – an important place of pilgrimage near Olomouc. The Baroque Church of the Visitation, with its picturesque silhouette of onion cupolas, dominates much of the surrounding area. In May 1995, Pope John Paul II visited Svatý Kopeček (Holy Hill) and granted the church the honourable title of 'basilica minor'.



Praha – Třebíč 161 km

12.

FORMER JEWISH QUARTER, JEWISH CEMETERY, AND THE ROMANESQUE-GOTHIC BASILICA OF ST PROCOPIUS

TŘEBÍČ – A Crossroads of Cultures

Inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2003

Did you know...?

- There is a ceremonial hall in the Jewish cemetery with an exceptionally well preserved interior, where funeral ceremonies performed according to old traditions can still be carried out. The hall is from 1903.
- The former Benedictine monastery houses the Museum of West Moravia, with a large set of nativity scenes, and the largest collection of Moravian moldavites, pipes, and regional culture.
- Třebíč is situated in a picturesque landscape in the foothills of the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands, 60 km west of Brno, the largest city in Moravia, and 40 km south-east of Jihlava, the regional centre. Prague is 180 km away, Vienna 140 km.

Třebíč offers seldom preserved proof of centuries of co-existence between Christian and Jewish cultures in European towns. The town's erstwhile Jewish quarter, Záměstí, with more than 120 buildings, has been preserved almost completely. Třebíč became the first Jewish site in its own right, outside Israel, to become a UNESCO inscribed site.

The cramped ghetto and the gradual rise in the population gave rise to a unique, very densely built-up, district with meandering streets, dark nooks, archways, and romantic little squares. The two old synagogues are the true gems of the quarter. The Jewish cemetery in Třebíč also exudes an enthralling atmosphere. It contains 11,000 graves and about 3,000 gravestones, the oldest of which date back to 1625.



Portal of the Romanesque-Gothic Basilica of St Procopius

The 13th-century Basilica of St Procopius monastery is one of the town's significant Christian sites. It is one of the most precious Romanesque structures in Moravia. The crypt and the northern portal of the church, with superb structural ornamentation, are the most significant parts of the structure in terms of artistic value.



Basilica of St Procopius and former Benedictine monastery



Jewish quarter

Local excursions:

- **Přibyslav** – a chateau renovated for museum purposes. There are exhibitions of fire engines through the ages and of the Hussite movement. The celebrated Hussite military leader Jan Žižka of Trocnov died during the siege of Přibyslav Castle in 1424.
- **Vranov nad Dyjí** – the most beautiful of the Moravian Baroque palaces. The famous Viennese architect Johan Bernard Fischer von Erlach was responsible for transforming the original medieval castle.
- **Jaroměřice nad Rokytnou** – a monumental Baroque residence, one of the largest in Central Europe. The castle is surrounded by formal and informal gardens with stone benches and sandstone sculptures.
- **Mohelno – Hradcová step (Serpentine Steppe)** – a nature reserve for thermophilic flora and fauna living on serpentine rocks with a high magnesium content. About sixty new species of vegetation and animals have been discovered at the Mohelno Serpentine Steppe. Two nature trails run through the reserve – the Spring Trail (3.5 km long) and the Autumn Trail (4 km long).
- **Dukovany** – a nuclear power station. Visitors can learn about the power station itself, plus how nuclear energy is used, and about the energy in general.

www.trebic.cz



UNESCO candidate site

Did you know...?

● A new hotel opened its doors here on 13 January 1907. This magnificent stone building had a 23-metre high tower, used as an observation point, and had 23 guestrooms, a hostel, a common room, and a large verandah. This unique structure with a rich history came to a tragic end when it was destroyed by fire on 31 January 1963.

1. AN EXCEPTIONAL PIECE OF ARCHITETURE

JEŠTĚD – A Space Rocket on the Top of a Hill

The restaurant and hotel complex on the summit of Ještěd Mountain is an exceptional piece of architecture. It was built in the latter half of the 1960s in accordance with a project designed by the architect Karel Hubáček and the structural engineer Zdeněk Tatrman. The sheer audacity of the tower's design and architectural expression soon came to the attention of domestic and foreign architects. The International Union of Architects awarded Hubáček the Perret Prize for his design.

The building is one of the best contemporary examples of architecture based on the trend of 'humanized technology'. Its shape and the cultivated technicism of details encourage associations with the world of science fiction, yet the tower still manages to fit in with the landscape because it tops off the cone-shaped peak of Ještěd Mountain elegantly and aerodynamically. This combination of technicism with a feeling for the natural environment ensures the tower has a unique place in contemporary Czech – and Central European – architecture.



UNESCO candidate site

Did you know...?

● Braun's Nativity Scene has been listed in the Czech Republic's National Register of Cultural Monuments since 1 January 2002.

● Matthias Braun (1684-1738), prominent Baroque sculptor; one of his most famous works is the statue of St Lutgarde on Charles Bridge, Prague.

2. BRAUN'S NATIVITY SCENE

BRAUN'S NATIVITY SCENE – Baroque statues deep in the forest

Baroque statues cut into living rock on a wooded rise between Dvůr Králové and Kuks

Between 1723 and 1732, Count Franz Anton Sporck commissioned a unique natural gallery of statues, resulting in two large-scale sculptures entitled Virtues and Vices plus, in the nearby forest, a set of monumental sculptural works which, for the most part, were cut into solid rock.

This latter gallery eventually became known as the Nativity Scene after the most prominent parts of the collection – the Arrival of the Magi, the Adoration of the Shepherds, and the Nativity. This extensive set of ornamental sculpture was the work of Matthias Bernard Braun and his workshop. The Nativity Scene is an example of Braun's output at his peak and is also a unique piece of art, one of the most interesting and most valuable Baroque monuments in the world.



UNESCO candidate site

Did you know...?

● The importance of the Vítkovice Mining Complex lies in its technology (the unique full production cycle from the mining of the coal to the production of the iron on a single site, with operations uninterrupted from the time of foundation until 1998), and in its individual technical facilities and buildings, forming an exceptional monument and giving the impression of a 'steel town'.

3. HLUBINA MINE COMPLEX

VÍTKOVICE MINING COMPLEX – In Memory of the Steam Engine

Hlubina Mine, coking plant, and blast furnace of the Vítkovice Ironworks

This complex of buildings and technological facilities has been declared a National Cultural Monument because of its exceptional historical value. The surrounding area and elevational corridors are also a protected area.

The Vítkovice Ironworks was founded on the site of today's complex of blast furnaces in 1828 as part of a programme to make broader use of Ostrava coal, requiring the construction of a railway from Vienna to the salt mines in what is today Poland. The future ironworks was expected to supply the tracks for the construction of the planned railway. In 1832, a 'puddle plant' (for the manufacture of steel from pig iron) was launched, and in 1836 a coke blast furnace was put into operation. These two facilities, driven by stone coal, were the first of their kind in the Austrian monarchy. In an attempt to bring coal-mining operations closer to the point of highest consumption, work on establishing the Hlubina Mine in the immediate vicinity of the blast furnaces began in 1852. When the mine was ready, the entire technological process of coal-mining, coking, and iron production could progress smoothly and quickly. By the time operations were shut down in 1998, the gradual evolution and uninterrupted continuity of production had left a legacy of rare buildings and technology from various periods.



UNESCO candidate site

4.

RENAISSANCE BUILDINGS

SLAVONICE – A Border Town

The urban conservation area of Slavonice, the Renaissance pearl of Southwest Moravia, lies in the romantic landscape of the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands, at the point where Bohemia, Moravia, and Austria intersect. The original settlement evidently sprang up at the end of the 12th century; the oldest documentary evidence dates back to 1260.

Did you know...?

- The restoration of the sights here began at the end of the 1950s.
- A relatively rugged medieval network of underground passages, not yet fully mapped out, can be found under most of the buildings on Dolní náměstí (Lower Squares) and Horní náměstí (Upper Squares) in Slavonice.

The historical town centre has preserved its irregular rhomboid shape, with two squares separated by the Church of the Assumption and the dominating town tower. Much of the town walls, including two of the three gates, have also been preserved. In the 16th century, when the town was in its heyday, almost all the buildings on both squares were converted to give them their current appearance. There are unrivalled cellular vaults, guildhalls with murals, and facades with gables typically derived from the Italian Renaissance, often with fine graffiti decoration, where complex figurative scenes complement the simple written graffiti. Slavonice as a whole is an example of a High Gothic town, with Renaissance modifications to individual structures, which has survived relatively intact.



UNESCO candidate site

5.

FORTRESS

TEREZÍN FORTRESS – Standing at the Gates to the Ghetto

The town was declared a conservation area in 1992

The fortress was founded by Emperor Joseph II in 1780. It took about ten years to build on a total fortified area of 398 hectares. The course of the River Ohře was canalized and a new four-kilometre-long stretch of riverbed was constructed. The total area of the fortifications is 67 ha; a further 158 ha comprises basins that can be artificially flooded. The eastern part of the town, between the church and Nová Ohře ('New' Ohře), was built on marshland on oak stilts and grates filled in with stone. The construction of Terezín required so many bricks that five brickworks were commissioned to produce twenty million every year.

Did you know...?

- Terezín was built as a fortress town and therefore most of the buildings here are interconnected with a large-scale underground network of passages with a total length of about 30 km.
- After the Second World War, the Small Fortress was declared a Monument of Suffering, and in 1992 the whole town was declared an urban conservation area.

In June 1790, almost 11 years after the foundation stone had been laid, the fortress was declared operational in the presence of the Chief Architect of Terezín, General Count Klement Pellegri.

In terms of structure and tactics, Terezín is one of the most sophisticated fortifications in the world, and is a prime example of the peak of structural fortress engineering at the end of the 18th century. The fortress has three parts: the main (municipal) part on the left bank of the Ohře, the Small Fortress on the right bank of the Ohře in the direction of Prague, and, between them, fortified open land.



UNESCO candidate site

6.

CASTLES OF THE GREAT MORAVIAN EMPIRE

MIKULČICE – Remnants of a Long-Gone Empire

Listed in the National Register of Cultural Monuments since 1999

Did you know...?

- A permanent exhibition and a signposted tourist trail have been set up at the site.

Historically, Mikulčice is the significant archaeological site of an ancient Slavonic settlement from the 9th century (i.e. the time of the Great Moravian Empire). The hill fort was built on the site of a Slavonic settlement from the 6th and 7th centuries and covered an area of approximately six hectares; it was surrounded by an outer ward and several fortified settlements. Archaeological work was started by the archaeologist Josef Poulik in 1954 after the remains of a palace and 11 or 12 churches were discovered. Byzantine, Adriatic, and Western influences are evident.



UNESCO candidate site

Did you know...?

● Karlštejn was the first site to be nominated by the national preservation agency for the World Heritage List, but the nomination was suspended due to the reconstruction of the castle.



UNESCO candidate site

Did you know...?

● The Paper Mill is actually a complex of eight Baroque and Classicist buildings with a paper factory. In 1987, a museum of paper manufacturing called The Handmade-Paper Mill – the Museum of Paper was opened in the complex, and now attracts about 45,000 tourists every year.



UNESCO candidate site

Did you know...?

● Luhačovice is the largest spa in Moravia, with a long-standing tradition of treating the respiratory and digestive systems, diabetes, and locomotive organs. The resort is famous for its natural curative springs, moderate weather, and pleasant environment, where the beauty of nature meets agreeable architecture.

7. GOTHIC KARLŠTEJN CASTLE

KARLŠTEJN – The Medieval Heart of the Kingdom

Karlštejn, built between 1348 and 1355 by Charles IV, King of Bohemia and the Holy Roman Emperor, is a High Gothic castle enjoying a privileged position among Czech castles. It was never intended to be the administrative centre of an estate or a royal residence, but from the outset was designed to store the crown jewels, which (with short breaks) remained here for almost 200 years.

The Chapel of the Holy Rood is a unique Gothic gallery, the largest in the world, which has been preserved to the present day. It still has its original mural decoration from the 14th century – a collection of 129 panel paintings by Charles IV's 'court painter' Magister Theodoricus (Master Theodoric). This artwork represents 'the Heavenly Army' (idealized or approximate renderings of the saints, Popes, bishops, knights of the Theb Legion, holy rulers, and Church instructors). The chapel also houses the largest portrait gallery of Bohemian monarchs in the Czech Republic and a replica of the St Wenceslas Crown used by the Kings of Bohemia. The chapel's walls and ceiling are covered with gilded decoration, inset with semi-precious stones and Venetian-glass discs to create the illusion of a starry sky on the roof arch. No wonder the chroniclers in Charles IV's own lifetime reported that there was no chapel of such splendour to match it anywhere in the world.

8. PAPER MILL

VELKÉ LOSINY – Centuries on a Piece of Paper

The Paper Mill in Velké Losiny, a unique monument with a tradition of more than 400 years, was founded by the Žerotín family in 1596. It has been in operation almost nonstop ever since it was constructed and is the oldest functioning paper manufacturer in the Czech Republic and Central Europe. The paper is still made by hand, which makes it more expensive but guarantees very high quality, and the paper production technology introduced in the 13th century has remained almost unchanged until the 19th century.

The Paper Mill has experienced periods of prosperity interspersed with times of recession. The arrival of modern paper mills with machine-based production processes resulted in a drastic decline in the Paper Mill's output, a reduction equivalent to two thirds of its original production. At the end of the 1870s, manually produced paper started becoming popular as a filter in pharmacy, the chemical industry, and the food industry. The products manufactured by Velké Losiny in this area gained worldwide recognition in the trade press and at international exhibitions (1881: Gold Medal at Melbourne; 1913: Gold Medal at Vienna). In the 1920s and 1930s, there was a revival in handmade paper production. By this time the manufacturing process at the Paper Mill was unique, and from 1933 the Paper Mill became the last site of handmade paper output in the then Czechoslovakia.

9. SPA

LUHAČOVICE – An Art Nouveau Health Resort in the Shadow of the Mountains

Jurkovič's buildings in Luhačovice

The picturesque spa town of Luhačovice is situated in South Moravia, approximately 20 km south-east of Zlín. Luhačovice is famous not only because of its 300-year-old tradition of spa treatment, the appeal of the architecture of the spa buildings, the well-tended parks, and the beauty of the surrounding countryside, but also because of its medicinal springs.

At the beginning of the last century, the small, insignificant spa owned by the noble line of Serényi was transformed into a joint-stock company founded by the progressive physician Dr František Veselý. The luxury health resort was embellished with the work of the architect Dušan Jurkovič, invited by Dr Veselý to help form an architectural style for the town. The sanatoriums designed by Jurkovič combine Art Nouveau with elements of the local folk architecture. Jurkovič House (formerly Jan House), Chaloupka Villa, the Sun Spa, the Hydrotherapy Institute, Jestřábí, Slovak House, and Slovak Chalet are all gems of modern architecture. Jurkovič also designed the layout of the Luhačovice Health Resort and drew up a detailed zoning plan.



10. POND STRUCTURES

TŘEBOŇSKO – Among the ponds and carp

UNESCO candidate site

Did you know...?

● Třeboň's fish-farming heritage has always been a functioning unit combining many water-management and landscape-forming roles. The aesthetic effect on the landscape is outstanding.

Considering its exceptional cultural and historical value, this group of technical sites has been listed in the National Register of Cultural Monuments, and the historical town centre has been made an urban conservation area.

This area boasts an exceptional collection of pond sites associated by history and vicinity to the town of Třeboň, the historical centre of which is therefore included in the nomination. The nomination covers: a group of technical pond sites – Rožmberk (Rosenberg) and Svět (World), the two largest ponds in the area around Třeboň, and Zlatá stoka (Golden Canal) and Nová řeka (New River), the two main manmade waterways required to ensure the smooth functioning of the pond system around Třeboň. The historical centre of Třeboň is an example of a town interconnected historically, structurally, politically, and economically with the phenomenon of pond construction and the breeding of freshwater fish in these manmade water reservoirs.



11. ROCK TOWNS

ČESKÝ RÁJ – A Sandstone Maze in the Middle of Rocks

UNESCO candidate site

Did you know...?

● Applications have been filed for the protection of ten Rock Towns covering a total area of 17.05 km²: Hruboskalské skalní město (4.24 km²) with dozens of imposing rock towers reaching up to heights of 80-90 m; Klokočské a Betlémské skály (2.09 km²), where approximately 300 caves of all the fundamental types can be found in rocky areas of siliceous sandstone; Kozákov (0.70 km²), the famous site of precious stones and a unique sandstone area; sandstone blocks, deposited askew, gave rise to rare rock forms in Měsíční údolí (Moon Valley), two rock defiles converge and form a canyon in their lower reaches, while their upper sections remain several hundred metres apart; Kozlov – Chlum (0.45 km²), which boasts an exceptional natural formation – a fissured cave running to about half the height of the northern side of the ridge; Prachovské skály (2.40 km²) with deep ravines, gorges, and valleys – a unique rock town with soaring towers has evolved here; Příhrazské skály (5.01 km²), where Drábské Světničky in the north forms a rocky defile with promontories, towers, and high valley crags; Skalní město Apolena (0.28 km²), rounded off by two volcanic vents forming the Trosek peak (488 m) and the most important locality in the area where bats can be found; Údolí Plakánek (0.81 km²), Suché skály (0.13 km²) and Sokol (0.95 km²), where there is prime flat country for orchids.

Skalní města (The Rock Towns) are the first natural site in the Czech Republic to apply officially for inclusion in the prestigious UNESCO World Heritage List.

Český ráj (Czech Paradise) is situated in the centre of the Jičín Hills, approximately 100 kilometres north-east of Prague, and encroaches on the territory of three of the country's administrative regions: Středočesko, Liberecko, and Královéhradecko. Comparative studies reveal that Czech Paradise's Rock Towns are unique not only in the Czech Republic, but throughout the world, as they are the most complete example of a sandstone phenomenon shaped by a temperate zone and a set of animate and inanimate natural elements.

The entire area of the Rock Towns is interwoven with a dense network of footpaths and nature trails. Czech Paradise is also remarkable for its unique combination of natural phenomena and numerous listed examples of folk architecture, the significance of which extends well beyond the borders of the Czech Republic.



