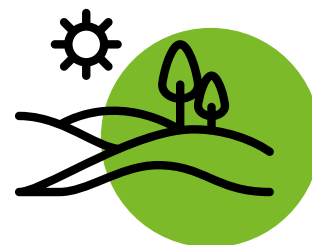
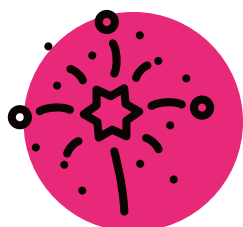
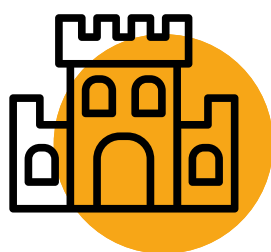
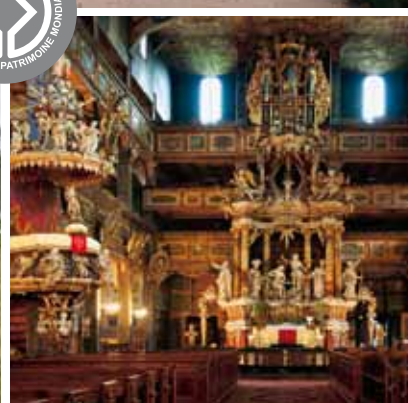
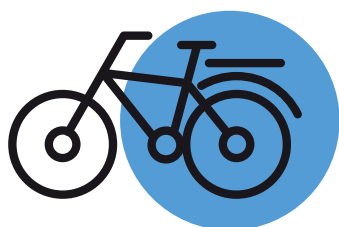




společné dědictví
wspólne dziedzictwo



A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER
EXPLORING CASTLES AND CHATEAUX | EXPLORING SACRAL HERITAGE SITES
EXPLORING SITES OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND MILITARY HERITAGE | RELAXING SPAS



Foreword

The history of the Polish-Czech border area has been evolving for centuries, leaving behind a rich legacy in the form of many sights to be admired along the entire border. Thanks to the intensive cooperation between both countries, learning more about the border area is becoming easier and easier, and its essential heritage is now closer to all of us. The heritage we share is presented via various topics, so that every visitor to each of the regions may choose what is closest to his heart. Whether one is looking for natural, or cultural heritage sites, inspiration for traveling around the Polish-Czech area can be found in this brochure, at the

www.tourism-pl-cz.eu

website, and at the "Wspólne Dziedzictwo / Společné dědictví" YouTube channel.

QR code for the website:



QR code for the YouTube Channel:



Tours without barriers

As part of the "Wspólne Dziedzictwo / Společné dědictví" (Shared Heritage) project, we have mapped dozens of points of interest from the Polish-Czech borderland, and gauged their accessibility for people with special needs, including seniors and people with disabilities. Thanks to this, we were able to determine not only exactly what kind of equipment the visitors can expect to be present, but also what kind of obstacles they can meet on their journey. All the collected information can be found at the www.tourism-pl-cz.eu website.

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We recommend:



szlazzamkowipalacow.eu



szlakpodziemi.pl



zabykitechniki.pl



reformationroutes.eu

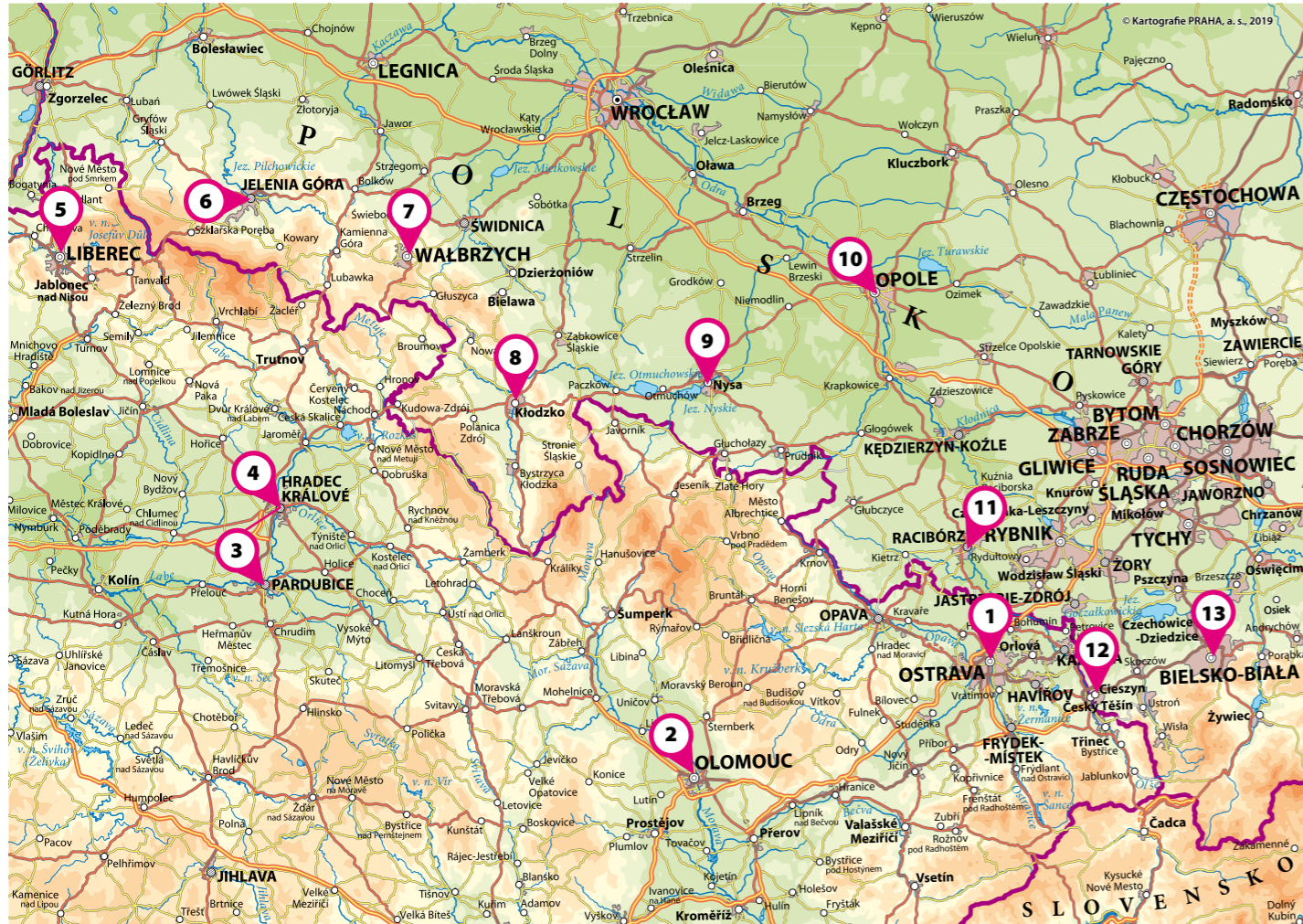


technorasa.cz

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

OSTRAVA 1



The largest metropolis of the Moravian-Silesian Region is the third biggest city in the Czech Republic in terms of both area and total population. Ostrava is situated ten kilometres south of the nation's border with Poland and 50 kilometres west of the Slovak border. The D1 motorway and key railway routes cut through the city. Ostrava lies in a valley between the Beskid and Jeseníky Mountains, and is by far one of the greenest cities in the country. The city boasts a rich cultural and social life thanks to its good-quality theatre scene and well-respected galleries, as well as the famed Stodolní Street packed with clubs, restaurants, pubs and bars.

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www.ostravainfo.cz
www.severnimorava.travel

MUST-SEE PLACES

Most of us associate Ostrava with **Lower Vítkovice 1** (→ p. 55) a unique site of technological heritage whose unusual nature attracts visitors from both this country and abroad. Make sure you don't miss **Landek Park 2**, the largest mining museum in the Czech Republic (→ p. 55), where you can even go down a shaft and see a coal seam.

The New City Hall Observation Tower 3, which is actually the highest city hall tower in the Czech Republic, affords great views over the city, as well as the Beskid Mountains and Odra Highlands. The guide here will also describe in vivid colours the city's past and present, and recommend interesting places in Ostrava and its environs. A short walk from the New Town Hall towards Stodolní Street will bring you to the Gallery of Fine Arts, where you can see an incredible 20,000 works of art. If you then walk over the Castle Footbridge, crossing the Ostravice River, you'll get to the **Silesian Ostrava Castle 4**, whose courtyard and amphitheatre play host to countless cultural events throughout the year.

You can see evidence of what might be a surprising fact, that of Ostrava being one of the greenest cities in the country, not just in the city centre and on the paths along the **Ostravice River 5**, but also in the city-part Silesian Ostrava. There, you can find **Ema 6**, a 315-metre-high spoil tip, whose top you can reach via an educational trail (parallel to the yellow hiking route) going from the Silesian Ostrava Castle, the Miloš Sýkora Bridge, or the zoological garden.



- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 OSTRAVA
95,7 km | 6 JELENIA GÓRA
65,8 km | 11 RACIBÓRZ
63,3 km |
| 2 OLOMOUC
137,8 km | 7 WAŁBRZYCH
55,6 km | 12 CIESZYN
37,5 km |
| 3 PARDUBICE
26,5 km | 8 KŁODZKO
54,6 km | 13 BIELSKO-BIAŁA |
| 4 HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ
98,8 km | 9 NYSA
56,5 km | |
| 5 LIBEREC
70,7 km | 10 OPOLE
78,5 km | |

Route length:
841,3 km

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER



Ostrava Zoo

Ostrava Zoological Garden has experienced tremendous development in recent years. Its area covering 100 hectares makes it the second largest zoo in the country, and its natural forest park houses over 4,000 animals of about 400 species. Some of the main attractions include elephants, hippopotamuses, chimpanzees in the Evolution Pavilion, and African ungulates in the Safari zone. Flora lovers will be thrilled here as well, for they can follow a number of botanical trails. Particularly during the spring time, the visitors can admire rhododendrons in bloom, of which the garden has the most in the country. The zoo also has an educational centre and a restaurant. Both narrated animal feeding sessions and night tours are among the standard available activities.

www.zoo-ostrava.cz



Gallery of Fine Arts

Today, the 1926 House of Arts building is one of the jewels of Ostrava's modern architecture. Since its opening, the gallery has been housed in this building. From the 1960s onwards, it has focused on extensive acquisition of artworks and has gradually expanded its fine art collections, which currently encompass over 20,000 works of art. In terms of the quality of its collections, Gallery of Fine Arts in Ostrava is considered one of the five most significant art collecting institutions in the Czech Republic. Visitors can see both permanent and short-term exhibitions of art by various authors.

www.gvuo.cz

NEARBY TRIPS

The Moravian-Silesian Beskid Mountains and their highest peak, **Lysá hora**, beckon you to take day trips, as well as longer stays, in winter and summer alike. Besides admiring the natural beauty, you can also visit **Opava** and **Štramberk**.

Silesian Museum, Opava – 33 km northwest of Ostrava

The museum's collections focus on animate and inanimate nature, prehistory, and the history of art, particularly as it pertains to Czech Silesia, North Moravia, and Northeast Moravia. Opava's museum is the oldest public museum in the Czech Republic, with a history dating back to 1814. Furthermore, its 2.4-million-piece collection makes it the third largest museum in the Czech Republic.



www.szm.cz



A photo of the Synagogue by: Martin Friedel

Krnov Synagogue – 58 km northwest of Ostrava

As if by miracle, the 1871 Jewish Synagogue in Krnov survived the rise of Nazism and has been preserved to this day. This is owing to the fact that the local Jews had removed all symbols of their faith from the Synagogue, and the Germans needed a site for the city's market. Therefore, they used the temple building for that purpose. As a result, we can now admire the Synagogue, which was built in the Neo-Romanesque and Moorish styles. Visitors can find all symbols of the Jewish faith here, including inscriptions in Hebrew. The Synagogue also affords wonderful views. Visitors can see the area surrounding Krnov from a bird's-eye perspective. You can book a tour in the local information centre or directly in the Synagogue.

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER



Town of Štramberk – 45 km south of Ostrava

Located at the foothills of the Beskid Mountains, this small mountain town is dubbed the 'Moravian Bethlehem' due to its picturesque appearance. The town and its wide surroundings are dominated by the ruins of Štramberk Castle. The urbanistic cluster of Štramberk's 18th and 19th century Wallachian timbered cottages, majority of which are part of the town's conservation area, then represents an unparalleled feat of vernacular architecture. Štramberk is renowned for its sweet-smelling gingerbread pastry called 'Štramberk Ears', which has been made here for centuries as a reminder of the legendary victory of the Štramberk Christians over the Mongolian Army in 1241.

Moravian-Silesian Beskid Mountains – 40 km south of Ostrava

This protected landscape area is exceptional, particularly due to the remains of its primeval forests in which rare Carpathian animals and plants are found. Here, you can find a few hundred kilometres of marked hiking routes for both hikers and cyclists, and up to fifty kilometres of ski slopes. The peak of Lysá hora offers unparalleled views over the ridges and valleys of the Beskid, Jeseníky and High Tatra Mountains.



TIP! Mionší Primeval Forest – 70 km southeast of Ostrava

Mionší National Nature Reserve boasts the largest collection of Carpathian-type fir and beech forests in the Czech Republic. The area is home to some 110 species of vertebrates (of which 73 are bird species). Its rich variety of fungi makes it one of the most significant mycological sites in the country. The seven-kilometre-long educational trail (between the villages of Dolní Lomná and Horní Lomná) allows you to catch a glimpse of the boundary areas of this primeval forest and see one of the best preserved forest compounds of Beskid wildlife. The trail is open from 1st June to 15th September, but only with a tour guide (3 – 4 hours).

REGULAR EVENTS



MAY-JULY

The Leoš Janáček International Music Festival

JUNE

Golden Spike

JULY

**Beats for Love
Colours of Ostrava**

SEPTEMBER

**NATO Days
Saint Wenceslas Music Festival**



2 OLOMOUC

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER



The university city of Olomouc is, after Prague, the largest urban conservation area in the Czech Republic. That is why this city with a population of 100,000 is often referred to as 'Little Prague'. The most dominant landmark in Olomouc, the Holy Trinity Column, was put on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2000. The Lonely Planet Tourist Guide has ranked Olomouc the number one of the '50 Secret Gems of Europe'.

MUST-SEE PLACES

The most significant cultural heritage sites in Olomouc are concentrated around the Upper Square (Horní náměstí), the Lower Square (Dolní náměstí), and the Wenceslas Square (Václavské náměstí). The Upper Square is dominated by the **Holy Trinity Column** 1 (UNESCO) and the **Town Hall building with the astronomical clock** 2. Both Upper Square and the neighbouring Lower Square are lined with Renaissance and Baroque palaces, which tell the story of the city's rich history. You can also admire a unique set of fountains with classical antiquity themes. The exceptional **Gothic building of St Maurice's Church** stands just a few steps away from Upper Square. The church boasts one of the biggest organs in Europe, and the annual **International Organ Festival** 3 is held here every September.

You can also thread your way through the romantic alleys between the Upper Square and the Lower Square, where you can find the **St Michael's Church** 4 with its three Baroque domes, which complete the characteristic skyline of the city; as well as **St Jan Sarkander's Chapel** 5, where the priest Jan Sarkander was tortured to death on the site of a former prison. If you then pass through



👤 100 523
 📍 Ostrava – 80 km
 ⓘ **Tourist Information Centre**
 Horní náměstí (Upper Square), the Town Hall arcade, 779 11 Olomouc
 Tel: +420 585 513 385, 392
 E-mail: infocentrum@olomouc.eu
tourism.olomouc.eu
www.central-moravia.cz

tourism.olomouc.eu/tourism/information-centre

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

University Street, follow the tram route to your right, and go up Dome Street, you will see in front of you the impressive Neo-Gothic **St Wenceslas Cathedral** 6 and the former **Přemyslid Palace site**, which now houses the **Olomouc Archdiocesan Museum** 7. You can also visit the **Archbishop's Palace** 8, situated nearby. The Palace is the only archbishop's residence in central Europe that is open to the public.

Olomouc used to be a significant **fortress city** 9, as evidenced by the approximately 30 historic military buildings located either in the city itself, or in its close vicinity (→ p. 59).



GUIDED TOURS OF THE CITY

The Olomouc Information Centre, located in the Town Hall building, offers a wide range of commented tours of the city, as well as audio-guides for individual visitors and groups, all year around. You can also explore the city in many unconventional ways – such as using a mobile beer-bar, Segways, bicycles, tandem bicycles, boats, or rafts.



Regional Museum in Olomouc

Ten permanent exhibitions await the visitors of the historic museum building. The most impressive one is 'Olomouc – Fifteen Centuries of the City' comprised of seven main historical themes telling a comprehensive story of the city's history. Other permanent exhibitions include 'Gallery of Personalities of Olomouc Region', or 'From the Cradle to the Grave', which is a story of birth and death set in a realistic environment of a Hanakian village and Hanakian lands in the 19th century. Today, the entire collection of the museum consists of nearly one million items. Among other things, the museum's permanent exhibitions will guide you through the history of Olomouc, the region's folk traditions, tell you the tale of stone since its earliest history, and introduce you to the most prominent figures linked to the Olomouc Region.

www.vmo.cz

Olomouc Archdiocesan Museum

The museum is located on the premises of a national heritage building, and its permanent exhibition consists of over 300 artistic treasures from 11th–18th century. The Museum is the only one in the Czech Republic to have received the prestigious 'European Heritage Label'. The Museum stands out not only due to the uniqueness and size of its collections, which tell the story of nearly one thousand years of faith culture in the Olomouc archdiocese, but also the rich history connected with its location in the Olomouc Castle grounds. The site is associated with the murder of Czech King Wenceslas III in 1306, and with the stay of composer W. A. Mozart, who composed his Symphony No 6 in F major there.

www.muoz.cz/arcidiecezni-muzeum-olomouc/



NEARBY TRIPS



What does the area around Olomouc have to offer? Romantic castles and chateaux, fascinating exhibitions, magical natural scenery, and a serving of fun for the whole family.

Just 12 km north of Olomouc (towards Šternberk) lies an important place of pilgrimage, **the Basilica Minor of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary** (→ p. 46), which was elevated to a rank of minor basilica by Pope John Paul II when he visited the site in 1995. Located near the basilica is the most visited tourist destination in Central Moravia – **the Olomouc Zoo**, which stretches over 42.5 hectares. A few kilometres further, the town of **Šternberk** will unfold before you, and so will the castle of the same name (→ p. 38) and the unique Time Exhibition.



Olomouc Zoo, Sv. Kopeček – 12 km from Olomouc

Some of the most distinctive features of this forest zoo, which houses more than 2,000 animals, are a single enclosure shared by American black bears and Arctic wolves, a bat pavilion, a giant aquarium, a tropical pavilion, and an enclosure of Japanese macaques that is accessible to visitors via a hanging walkway. A recent addition is the African Kalahari Pavilion, which has become the home for meerkats, hyraxes, aardvarks, and a honey badger.

www.zoo-olomouc.cz

The natural treasure that is **Litovelské Pomoraví Protected Landscape Area** will stretch before you as you head northwest of Olomouc (towards Mohelnice). The area beckons you to take walks, cycling trips and some easy canoeing. Make sure you don't miss taking a tour of **Javoříčko Caves**, which are among the best sites this Protected Landscape Area has to offer. If you go a few kilometres further, you won't regret it, for one of the most visited castles in the Czech Republic, the fairy-tale **Bouzov Castle** (→ p. 38), will emerge before your eyes. **Loštice**, the one place truly devoted to the famous regional delicacy, **the Olomouc tvarůžky cheese**, is only a short distance away from there. If you'd also like to see how the locals lived in the 19th century, be sure to visit **the open-air folk museum in Příkazy**, situated just 10 km from Olomouc.



Hanakia Open-Air Museum – 10 km from Olomouc

This open-air folk museum, which dates back to the 19th century, showcases local traditional architecture. The site consists of a traditionally furnished Hanakian farmstead complete with a scuncheon barn, and other three unique scuncheon barns located in adjoining gardens. All these buildings, listed as cultural heritage sites, are complemented by rural home furnishings dating from 1799–1950.

www.nmvp.cz/prikazy

Javoříčko Caves – 31 km from Olomouc

Javoříčko Caves are unique due to their rich, well-preserved and varied speleothem decor, and rank among the most beautiful caves in the Czech Republic. Their underground network comprises of an intricate system of tunnels, domes, and chasms. The total length of all known tunnels is over 4,000 metres. The air temperature in the caves is between seven and eight degrees Celsius.

www.caves.cz/jeskyne/javoricke-jeskyne

Olomouc Tvarůžky Cheese Museum – 30 km from Olomouc

The history of Olomouc tvarůžky cheese goes back more than 600 years. The cheese has been undergoing ripening processes in the A. W. Cheese Factory in Loštice since 1876. Tvarůžky is a one-of-a-kind cheese of Czech origin, and is well-known for its unmistakably pungent aroma and strong flavour. The true Olomouc tvarůžky cheese is a natural, soft cheese that ripens under a slimy surface layer, has minimum amount of fat and salt, and no chemical additives whatsoever. This unique museum displays the past and present production of this famous delicacy.

Did you know that...?

Olomouc tvarůžky cheese is the only original Czech cheese that is protected by the EU's geographical indication mark. You can try the tvarůžky cheese in many forms across the Region – à la tartare, served on a slice of bread, fried, in soups, and even as ice cream or one-of-a-kind savoury desserts.



www.tvaruzky.cz/muzeum-olomouckych-tvaruzku

If you head southwest from Olomouc towards Prostějov, be sure to stop at **Čechy pod Kosířem** (→ p. 41), where you will come across a newly renovated chateau in the middle of a romantic park. You can also find a rare exhibition of historical carriages nearby.

Museum of Historical Carriages – 20 km from Olomouc

The museum displays an unparalleled collection of historical lanterns and horse-drawn carriages, the largest in Central Europe. The exhibition showcases over 50 carriages and sleighs from the years 1750–1920. Among the most precious exhibits are a carriage named the Golden Carrosse, which was made in France in 1750, and the archbishop's carriage, which was used in a film about Empress Sissi. The collection also includes hearses, sleighs, and a range of carriage accessories.



www.historickekokary.cz

If you leave Olomouc and take the motorway to Ostrava, you'll pass the town of Hranice. You can take a short walk from the edge of the town and reach the world's deepest flooded abyss.

Hranice Abyss – 46 km from Olomouc

In September 2016, a team of deep-divers led by Krzysztof Starnawski managed to reach a depth of 404 metres using a robot, thus proving that the Hranice Abyss is the world's deepest flooded cave. At that point, the remotely controlled robot did not even reach the bottom of the cave, as it was stopped short by the length of the control cable. When the length of the dry section was added, the recorded depth of the abyss was established as 473.5 metres. Geologists estimate the possible depth of Hranice Abyss at between 700 and 1000 metres. You can see an interactive display pertaining to this globally unique place in the station building, behind which you can join an educational trail leading to the abyss.



REGULAR EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Shrove Carnival, Olomouc

APRIL

Olomouc Tvarůžky Cheese Festival, Olomouc

MAY

Dvořák's Olomouc
BEERFEST, Olomouc

JULY

Olomouc Baroque Festival, Olomouc
Bezděkov Lavender Festival, Bezděkov
Celtic Night, Plumlov
Josefkol, Čechy pod Kosířem

AUGUST

Hefaiston, Helfštýn

SEPTEMBER

International Organ Festival, Olomouc

NOVEMBER–DECEMBER

Olomouc Christmas Markets



3 PARDUBICE



The city of gingerbread and horses is located in the east of Bohemia – approximately 100 km from Prague. It has a great advantage in that it has good transport links to the outside world. Pardubice can boast not only of being on the main railway line, but also of having an international airport. So come and see the city whose rich history will enchant you so much that you'll simply fall in love with it...

90 688

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Tel.: +420 775 068 390

E-mail: info@ticpardubice.cz

www.ipardubice.cz, www.vychodni-cechy.info

MUST-SEE PLACES

If you enjoy having a nice cup of coffee in a place situated against the backdrop of breath-taking historic buildings headed by a city hall, then Pernštýn Square is exactly what you're after. There you can find building no. 50 called „U Jonáše“ (Jonáš's), which is a perfectly preserved Baroque monument. For those of you who are fond of religious places of interest, it is worth visiting either St Bartholomew's Church or the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Church.

www.vychodni-cechy.info

Pardubice City Hall

Are you looking for a spot to take amazing pictures and selfies? Head to Pardubice City Hall. You will be stunned by its ornate facade, which looks great in the glare from both sunlight and the 'spotlight' shine coming from streetlamps. The building was built in the late 19th century, and is decorated with unique medallions of Czech kings and sgraffiti.



Green Gate

Would you like to gaze down at the city from up above? No problem. All you have to do is run up a few stairs. The Green Gate and its distinctive tower built in 1538, the dominant landmarks of Pardubice's historic centre, are more than worth the visit.



Dům U Jonáše (Jonáš's House)

If you are on a hunt for all things unique, make sure this Baroque building doesn't slip under your radar. Its dominant feature is the biblical figure of the prophet Jonah in the mouth of a whale. Today, the East Bohemia Gallery is located in this building, which boasts a highly valued and fully preserved diamond vault ceiling dating back to the 16th century.



East Bohemia Museum in Pardubice

The museum, which doesn't limit itself to displaying artefacts only from Pardubice, has found its home on the premises of a Renaissance chateau near the city centre. This building is extraordinary due to the fact that it's a unique example of the transition from a castle to a chateau. This building is unparalleled in Central Europe. The chateau is also surrounded by a large park, where you can easily recharge your energy to do more exploring.

www.vcm.cz



NEARBY TRIPS

Kunětická Hora Castle, where you can find a dungeon, torture exhibition, and even a dragon, is then sure to appeal to all sightseeing enthusiasts. Below the castle, you can visit a gingerbread house, a.k.a. **the Museum of Gingerbread**. There you can learn not only how this sweet treat is made, or how it can look, but also how great it tastes. Just under ten kilometres northwest of Pardubice lies **the Bohdaneč Spa** (→ p. 63), which specializes in treating the musculoskeletal system thanks to its special beneficial mud. The spa is also a great place to unwind and relax.

If you head south from Pardubice, you can stop at nearby **Chrudim**, a town alive with puppets. **The Chrudim Puppetry Museum** can be found in the Mydlář (Soaper) Building in the town square. The town of **Slatiňany** is just a few kilometres from Chrudim. This place is the home to horses. You can visit **the Slatiňany Stud**, where the Old Kladruber black horse is bred, or you can go visit the exhibition in **the Museum of the Old Kladruber**, where you'll learn about the tradition of breeding this black horse. For the outdoorsy types of tourists, **Železná Hory Geopark** is a true paradise on Earth. If you would like to see locations where a lot of popular Czech fairy-tale movies have been shot, visit **the Vysočina Open-Air Museum at Veselý Kopeček**.



Chrudim Puppetry Museum – 12 km from Pardubice

Its permanent exhibition will take you through the history of Czech puppetry – from travelling puppeteers' graceful marionettes, variety show puppets and naive art, all the way to the modernist period when Spejbl and Hurvínek, the most famous puppets in Czech lands, were created. You can also see the creations of well-known puppet film makers, and explore the world of shadow puppets from Asia.

www.puppets.cz



Museum of the Old Kladruber, Slatiňany – 17 km from Pardubice

Its permanent exhibition will show you the history of breeding the Old Kladruber, and in the hall you can watch films about the Old Kladruber and its life. There is also an interactive room where parents and children can try their hand at saddling up a horse called 'Švýcárek', or pretend to be a coachman.

www.svycarna-slatinany.eu

Železné Hory Geopark
– 33 km from Pardubice

The Geopark stretches over 777 km², of which roughly one-third is part of the Železné Hory Protected Landscape Area. As well as being a natural treasure, the area has a wealth of precious cultural and historic sites, unique museums and a range of sports and leisure facilities. The geopark is a true paradise for both hikers and cyclists.



www.geoparkzh.cz

Vysočina Open-Air Museum, Veselý Kopec
– 36 km from Pardubice

Nestled in a picturesque landscape, the open-air museum offers the largest outdoor exhibition on folk architecture in East Bohemia. The exhibition showcases how rural people lived and farmed between the mid 19th century and the 1950s. Veselý Kopec is host to many programmes that unveil the region's folk culture, such as traditional customs, crafts, folk food, and others.



www.vesely-kopec.eu

Vysočina Open-Air Museum, Betlém, Hlinsko
– 40 km from Pardubice

Do you know what the lifestyle and housing of petty craftspeople living between the mid-18th century and the end of the 19th century were like? You can see all that in Betlém Conservation Area at Hlinsko, stretching on the right bank of the Chrudimka River. Here, log cabins house exhibitions on the crafts of toy-making, shoemaking, and file cutting. Some of the cottages serve a special purpose to this very day, e.g. as a loom house, or a pub.

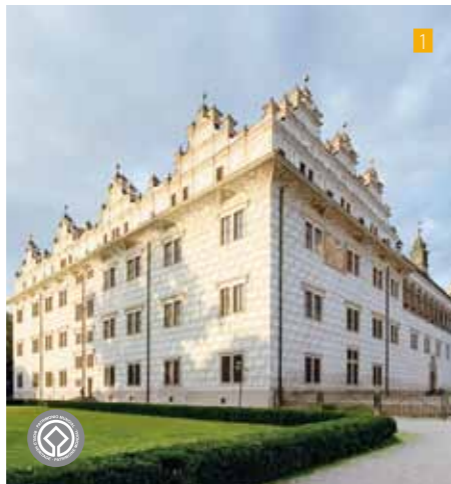


www.betlem-hlinsko.cz

*If you go 50 km southeast from Pardubice, you will come across a true treasure of the Pardubice Region, the town of **Litomyšl** 1. Its main dominant feature is the local chateau (→ p. 42) a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.*

Kladrubské Polabí
– 27 km from Pardubice

In 2019, the area of Kladrubské polabí has been put on the **UNESCO list** as a landscape for breeding and training of ceremonial carriage horses at Kladruby nad Labem.



REGULAR EVENTS



JANUARY
GRAND Festival of Laughter, Pardubice

JANUARY-FEBRUARY
Hlinecko Shrovetide Processions

MARCH-APRIL
Pardubice Music Spring, Pardubice

APRIL
Lázně ducha in Litomyšl – Tourist Season Opening

MAY-JUNE
European Festival of Aviation, Pardubice

JUNE
Night at Pernštýn Square, Pardubice

Loutkařská Chrudim Puppet Festival
Smetana's Litomyšl

JULY
Czech Open, Pardubice

AUGUST
Sport Park – family event in Pardubice
Koně v akci – International Horse Exhibition in Pardubice

OCTOBER
Golden Helmet, Pardubice
Velká pardubická steeplechase

DECEMBER
Christmas Market, Pardubice
Andělská Litomyšl Christmas Markets

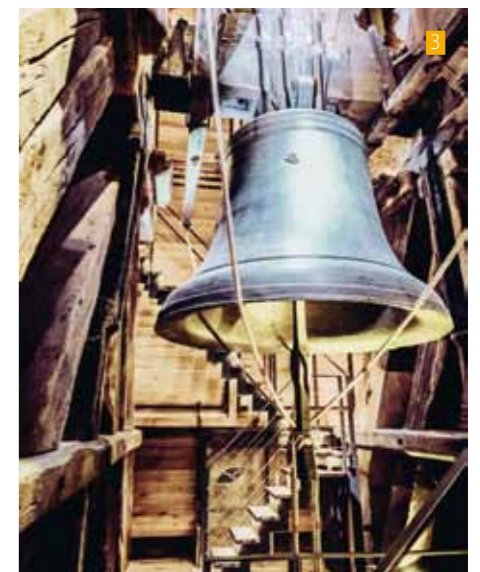


Hradec Králové lies 100 km from Prague, and can be easily reached by car or train. The city stands out above all due to its urbanistic and architectural tradition. The beginning of the 20th century saw new development of the city in the Art Nouveau and functionalism styles, enriching the city with many noteworthy buildings.

92 742
Pardubice Airport – 26 km
Tourist Information Centre
Velké náměstí 165, 500 02 Hradec Králové
Tel.: +420 495 580 492
E-mail: icko2@ic-hk.cz
www.ic-hk.cz, www.hradecko.eu

MUST-SEE PLACES

You can enjoy perfect views of **the city centre** 1, as well as places far and wide in the surroundings, from **the White Tower** 2, a Renaissance structure that is over 71 metres tall and is the dominant feature of Hradec Králové. The tower is open all year round, and offers special experiences, such as watching the sun rise above Hradec Králové while enjoying a hearty breakfast, or joining the ringing of the bell called **Augustin** 3, the third biggest bell in the Czech Republic. Among other things, the recent renovation of the tower has brought about a unique glass model of the White Tower weighing approximately 1,000 kg, and a modern interactive exhibition with LCD panels. Right next to the tower is **the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit** 4 which was built in the early 14th century. Going from the cathedral across the Great Square (Velké náměstí), you'll come to **the Gallery of Modern Art** 5 which displays collections of Czech fine art from the turn of the 20th century all the way to the art by contemporary authors. Following Klicperova Street and going through the Žižka's Gardens, you will reach Adalbertinum. From there, you can walk along Palacký Street to reach **the Museum of Eastern Bohemia**.



Museum of Eastern Bohemia

The museum is located on the Elisabeth Embankment (Eliščino nábřeží) in a magnificent building from the early 20th century. The building was designed by the architect Jan Kotěra, and has become a national cultural monument. The museum houses large collections on archaeology, natural sciences, and history.

www.muzeumhk.cz



Hradec Králové Digital Planetarium

You can't overlook the UFO-like building of the Digital Planetarium in the south-eastern part of the city. A night sky full of stars, spatial representation of the cosmos, and thematic films projected on a spherical dome above the visitors are among the biggest, but not the only, attractions here. The visitors can also enjoy two interactive exhibitions, a meteorological station, and a robotic telescope.

www.astrohk.cz



Labe River Steamboats and Children's Railway

From May to September, you can board a pleasure steamboat at the Smetana Embankment (Smetanovo nábřeží) sitting on a bank of the Labe River, and enjoy a 50 minutes long sightseeing cruise. During the same time, young and old visitors alike can use the children's railway situated next to the quay in the park at the Fifth of May Square (náměstí 5. května).



www.paroplavbahk.cz; www.nabreziparomilu.cz



Kuks Hospital – 28 km from Hradec Králové

In the Baroque compound of a former spa, pharmacy, and hospital with the Holy Trinity Church, you can see, among other things, mural paintings with the 'Dance of Death' theme. They form a series of 50 paintings depicting the equality of people who are living the final moments of their lives. In the lapidarium, you can see the originals of the twelve Virtues and twelve Vices made by the remarkable Czech Baroque sculptor, M. B. Braun. One of the parts of the hospital is a garden, where herbs, medicinal plants, and fruit trees are grown.

www.hospital-kuks.cz; www.zkuskuks.cz



www.safaripark.cz



Dvůr Králové Safari Park – 38 km from Hradec Králové

Dvůr Králové Safari Park ranks among the most beautiful in Europe, and is at the same time the biggest breeder of African animals on the Old Continent. In addition to the traditional section of the zoo, you can also visit its safari with no barriers between animals and people, just like in the national parks in Africa. You can enjoy the safari on foot, by safari bus, minitrain, your own vehicle, or a rope trail. You can even spend the night in the safari park.

NEARBY TRIPS

Just 8 km northwest from Hradec Králové you can visit **the Věstary Archaeopark** **5**. Its grounds offer an exceptional exhibition on prehistory, including demonstrations of buildings, crafts, customs and rituals from that time. You can also get to Věstary via a 12-km-long cycle path, which runs along local archaeologically significant sites. Just under 50 km towards Liberec, you can come across **Jičín**, a town associated with the fairy tales highwayman Rumcajs. The town is also a symbolic gate to **the Bohemian Paradise Protected Landscape Area**.



www.archeoparkvestary.cz

Věstary Prehistory Archaeopark – 8 km from Hradec Králové

In the outdoor exhibition you can see displays of prehistoric structures and burial mounds, as well as practical demonstrations of all kinds of work being done in prehistoric times, such as grain crushing, stone axe sharpening, pottery making, weaving, and field cultivation. The indoor exhibition then comprises of three parts representing the underground, life, and spiritual world of prehistoric people.

Bohemian Paradise – 55 km from Hradec Králové

This exceptional landscape full of ravines, paths, towers and observation decks has been added to the list of UNESCO Global Geoparks. One of the oldest nature reserves in the Czech Republic, the Prachov Rocks, are considered the most beautiful area of the Bohemian Paradise. This rock city provides both short and long sightseeing tours, during which you'll pass through several vantage points, climb up rocky stairs, and squeeze through narrow crevices between giant boulders.



www.cesky-raj.info

If you head up north, you'll get to the fortress town of **Josefov** **6** (→ p. 60) and the nearby **Kuks Hospital** **7**, a unique Baroque compound formed in the late 17th century. These two tourist attractions are linked to Hradec Králové via a 26-km-long cycle path running through the beautiful landscapes around the Labe River. Only 14 km lie between the hospital and **the Dvůr Králové Safari Park** **8**, which is one of the best-known Czech zoological gardens. You should also not miss the **Adršpach-Teplice Rocks** and the unique **museums in Police nad Metují** located near the Polish border.



MERKUR Toy Construction Sets Museum – 60 km from Hradec Králové

This one-of-a-kind museum maps the past and present of the best-known Czech toy – the MERKUR construction set. You can see here the oldest set from 1920, a 1:45 scale rail track model, and many other structures. However, the crown jewel of this place is the Steel City – the biggest structure built from MERKUR, included in the Guinness World of Records book.

www.merkurpolice.cz



Museum of Paper Models, Police nad Metují – 60 km from Hradec Králové

In the only exhibition of its kind in the Czech Republic, you can see over 1,200 meticulous paper models made by leading authors from the Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovakia.



www.mpmpm.cz



Adršpach-Teplice Rocks – 70 km from Hradec Králové

The main destination of those who come to Adršpach is the sandstone rock city, which ranks together with the Teplice Rocks among the largest continuous rock massifs in Central Europe. The visit to the rocks is livened up by two waterfalls (one small and one large), and a boat trip on a lake surrounded by the rocks.



In the area east of Hradec, it's worth visiting the nearby **Krňovice Open-Air Folk Museum**, which showcases a series of vernacular buildings, historic exhibitions, and live demonstrations of crafts. Other points of interest include **the Třebechovice Museum of Nativity Scenes**, where you can feel the Christmas atmosphere all year round; **the Vamberk Museum of Lace** or the chateaux on the Orlice River (→ p. 42–43), fittingly labelled 'the Czech Loire'.

Krňovice Open-Air Folk Museum – 13 km from Hradec Králové

The sightseeing trail includes the vernacular buildings themselves, as well as their interiors furnished with period exhibits, many of which can be tried on by the visitors.

www.krnovice.cz



The Třebechovice Museum of Nativity Scenes – 13 km from Hradec Králové

The museum is the only facility of its kind in the Czech Republic. Among other things, it boasts a unique mechanical nativity scene made by folk woodcarvers, who made it over a hundred years ago. The wooden nativity scene spans over an area of 7 x 3 metres, and includes more than 350 carved figures.

The Vamberk Museum of Lace – 38 km from Hradec Králové

The museum showcases Czech lace-making in a modern exhibition, and demonstrates through original exhibits the transformation of lace in Bohemia from the early 18th century to the present.



www.betlem.cz

www.muzeumkrajky.cz

REGULAR EVENTS

- JANUARY**
Šediváček's Long Trail Race
- FEBRUARY–APRIL, OCTOBER–NOVEMBER**
Jazzinec
- MARCH**
The Krkonoše 70-km Race
- APRIL**
Hradec Králové Grand Prix
- MAY**
300 Turns of Gustav Havel, Hořice
- MAY AND JUNE**
Cirk-UFF
- JUNE**
The Theatre of European Regions and Open Air Programme, Hradec Králové
Pod Zvičinou International Folk Festival
Rock for People, Hradec Králové

- JUNE–AUGUST**
Treasures of the Broumov Region
- AUGUST**
The melting of glass using wood, Dešná
International Folk Festival, Červený Kostelec
Jirásek's Hronov
International Mountaineering Film Festival, Teplice n. Metují
Kuks Theatre
- SEPTEMBER**
Jičín – the Town of Fairy Tales
- OCTOBER**
Jazz Goes to Town, Hradec Králové
- NOVEMBER**
Music Forum, Hradec Králové
JazzNights, Hořice
- DECEMBER**
Špindl Ski Opening

The Theatre of European Regions and Open Air Programme, Hradec Králové



www.klicperovodivadlo.cz; www.openair.cz

Rock for People, Hradec Králové



www.rockforpeople.cz

International Folk Festival, Červený Kostelec



www.folklorck.cz

300 Turns of Gustav Havel, Hořice



The fifth largest city in the Czech Republic is situated 90 km northeast of Prague and 100 km northwest of Hradec Králové, close to both the German and Polish borders. The symbol of Liberec, and in fact of the whole region, is the unique transmitter tower at Ještěd.

104 445
Prague – 125 km
Tourist Information Centre, nám. Dr. E. Beneše 468/23 (Dr. E. Beneš Square), 460 01 Liberec
Tel.: +420 485 101 709
E-mail: info@visitliberec.eu
www.visitliberec.eu

MUST-SEE PLACES

Dr. E. Beneš Square is dominated by a grandiose Neo-Renaissance city hall building, whose interior is popular with film crews from both this country and abroad. Just a few metres from there, in Palachova Street, you'll come across the newest dinopark in the Czech Republic. For a day of fun, you can take the whole family to the Babylon Centre where you'll find an abundance of attractions. You can find the zoological and botanical gardens at the northwest edge of Liberec. Both gardens are the oldest of their kind in the Czech Republic.

www.visitliberec.eu



www.centrumbabylon.cz

Babylon Centre

This leisure centre attracts visitors with its original aquapark themed in the style of Jules Verne stories; a funfair with merry-go-rounds, bumper cars, and indoor adventure golf; a 4D cinema, laser tag, virtual reality, and much more. You can also enjoy attractive exhibits in iQPARK, the first educational entertainment centre in the Czech Republic. Visitors of all generations can, through play and experimentation, explore and discover common phenomena that happen around us. Here, you can find more than 200 interactive exhibits from all areas of human life.



Liberec ZOO

You can admire up to 160 animal species from all continents spread across a 13-hectare large area. Among the Liberec Zoo's rarities are a white variation of the Bengal tiger, Barbary lions, and impressive golden takins – bred and raised only in Liberec, out of all of the European zoos. Another rarity is its collection of birds of prey, which is one of the most complete collections on the Old Continent.

www.zooliberec.cz

NEARBY TRIPS

Impregnable castles, fairy-tale-like chateaux, observation towers of different shapes and materials, cosy log cabins, and technological heritage sites as a reminder of our ancestors' craftsmanship. The Liberec Region has all this and much more to offer.

Throughout the whole year, you can visit **the Museum of Glass and Costume Jewellery** situated east of Liberec, in Jablonec nad Nisou. Sports enthusiasts will appreciate the 80 km long network of cycle trails called 'Singltrek pod Smrkem' and in the winter season, dozens of kilometres of ski slopes traverse modern ski resorts in the Jizera Mountains and the western Krkonoše. If you go south from Liberec, you can see beautiful examples of vernacular architecture, unique **Bozkov Dolomite Caves** and spectacular **nobility residences** (see castles – p. 39 and chateaux – p. 43). If you head west, make sure you don't miss **Česká Lípa** and its amazing variety of architectural heritage sites.

Singltrek pod Smrkem
– 40 km from Liberec

The trails run between Nové Město pod Smrkem and Libverda Spa, as well as along Jindřichovický hřeben, and partly in Poland. Singltrek pod Smrkem offers over 80 kilometres of trails in four different levels of difficulty. There is something for everyone, from families with young children to fit and proficient off-road cyclists.



podsmrkem.singltrek.cz

Museum of Glass and Jewellery, Jablonec nad Nisou
– 15 km from Liberec

Come and see the museum's collections of glass, costume jewellery, buttons, coins, medals, and plaques in permanent exhibitions called 'The Endless Story of Jewellery' and 'The Magic Garden – Bohemian Glass over Seven Centuries'.



www.msb-jablonec.cz

Česká Lípa – 55 km from Liberec

Besides the enchanting Lipý Water Castle, Česká Lípa offers its visitors a chance to marvel at an array of burgher houses, a Neo-Renaissance town hall, a former Augustinian monastery, or an archaeological museum housed in a former municipal jail.



skiregion.cz

Bozkov Dolomite Caves
– 50 km from Liberec

The caves, in which Bohemia's largest underground lake is found, are one of the most visited places in Bohemian Paradise. The total length of the caves comes to over 1,000 metres, which makes them the longest dolomite caves in the Czech Republic. They are also unique due to the unusually extensive selective corrosion of the walls and roofs, and the distinctive shapes of these formations.



mucl.cz

REGULAR EVENTS

- FEBRUARY**
The Jizera Mountains 50-km race – a traditional cross-country ski race
- MAY**
The Wallenstein Festival, Frýdlant (a biennial event)
- JULY**
The Benátská Summer Music Festival, Liberec
- AUGUST-OCTOBER**
The Lípa Musica International Music Festival, Česká Lípa
- OCTOBER**
IGS – The International Glass Symposium, Nový Bor (a triennial event)

Skiarena Jizerky
– 30 km from Liberec

Skiarena Jizerky is a group of interconnected ski resorts in the Jizera Mountains – Tanvaldský Špičák, Severák, and Bedřichov – linked by way of a single ski bus and ski pass valid in all the resorts. Together, the resorts offer a total of 17 km of ski slopes, 20 ski lifts, 2 chairlifts, and 3 moving carpets.

www.skijizerky.cz

Skiregion.cz
– 45 km from Liberec

SKIREGION.CZ is the largest ski area in the western Krkonoše and the Jizera Mountains, comprising of ski resorts in Rokytnice nad Jizerou, Paseky nad Jizerou, Rejdice, and Příchovice. The total length of the ski slopes is 38 km, and all ski resorts can be accessed with a single ski pass.



www.caves.cz

Dlask's Homestead, Turnov
– 30 km from Liberec

The homestead, registered as a place of national cultural heritage, is one of the most beautiful and most typical examples of timbered architecture in Czech rural areas. The building is now part of the Museum of Bohemian Paradise in Turnov. Visitors can see a thematic ethnographic exhibition here.



www.muzeum-turnov.cz

Jelenia Góra (Deer Mountain) is the first larger city after crossing the Czech border coming from Harrachov. It blends the charm of a city centre filled with historical heritage, a thermal spa, and of a focal point from which all roads lead to mountain adventures.



84 306
Wrocław – 110 km
Tourist Information Centre
plac Ratuszowy 6/7, 58-500 Jelenia Góra
Tel.: +48 519 509 343
cz.jeleniagora.pl

MUST-SEE PLACES

Old town buildings, including **City Hall Square** (Plac ratuszowy) and the surrounding area dating from various periods in history, are certainly worth visiting. The oldest ecclesiastical building is the 14th-century **Gothic Church of St. Erasmus and St. Pancras** **1** (Plac Kościelny) with its 51-metre-tall church tower. **The Baroque Evangelical Church of the Holy Cross** **2**, which is one of the six Silesian Churches of Mercy, is also exceptional. The pulpit is made out of a single piece of stone. The local promenade in Konopnicka Street and 1st Maja Street are also worth mentioning. At the intersection of the two afore-mentioned streets, you'll find **the Chapel of St. Anne** **3** in a medieval fortified Wojanowska Bastion entitled Basteja. The city is surrounded by the remains of fortifications dating from the 14th and 15th centuries. There is also a thermal spa in the city, called **Cieplice Baths** (→ p. 62).



Did you know that...?

The Museum of Gerhart Hauptmann **4**, a Nobel Prize in Literature laureate, is housed in **Wiesenstein Villa**, which can be found in the nearby **Jagniatków**.



Krkonoše Museum (Muzeum Krakonoskie) in Jelenia Góra

You can start your visit to the Krkonoše Museum in the interior of a Krkonoše-style timbered cottage fitted with period furnishings dating from the turn of the 20th century. You can also visit a medieval burgher house, which demonstrates the lifestyle of local residents in the 17th and 18th century. The exhibition also showcases the largest collection of glass art objects in Poland. In this exhibition, you can also learn interesting facts about the history of the city and the Lower Silesia area. The museum collections are all the more exciting thanks to the several authentic historical video recordings (e.g. from World War II), maps, and real-life stories of remarkable residents of the city.

www.muzeumkarkonoskie.pl

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

If you head south from Jelenia Góra, you can visit the town of **Karpacz**, where you'll find a small, unique church and a multimedia exhibition covering Krkonoše tales and mysteries. The ruins of **Chojnik Castle** and its lookout tower are also a popular destination. Winter (and other seasons) sports enthusiasts are drawn to **Szklarska Poręba a Polana Jakuszycka** resorts.



www.karpacz.pl

Karpacz

– 18 km from Jelenia Góra

In the 12th century, there was a gold prospectors' settlement on the site of the present-day town of Karpacz. The most interesting site here is **Wang** – a Norwegian wooden church, covered with Viking runes (→ p. 53), which dates from the reign of the Prussian ruler Frederick William IV.



Mysteries of the Krkonoše in Karpacz (Karkonoskie Tajemnice w Karpaczu)

The Krkonoše mysteries will take you to a mystical world. You will experience a face-to-face encounter with the Mountain Spirit and learn about the legends and tales that were forged in the Krkonoše. You'll meet an unusual laboratory technician, a glass-maker, Walloons, and a scary Mandrake. This multimedia and interactive subterranean kingdom will allow you to become part of the lives of ancient Krkonoše dwellers.



www.karkonoskietajemnice.pl

Sports and Tourism Museum in Karpacz (Muzeum Sportu i Turystyki w Karpaczu)

The museum showcases exhibits and documents pertaining to sports, tourism and protecting the environment in the Krkonoše.



www.muzeumsportu.org



www.szklarskaporeba.pl

If you head north from Jelenia Góra, you can visit the mystical **Czocha Chateau** (→ p. 39) and the historic town of **Lwówek Śląski**.



Lwówek Śląski

– 37 km from Jelenia Góra

This historic town, which has a brewing tradition dating as far back as 1209, is situated on the Via Regia medieval trade route.

lwowekslaski.pl



A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

Polana Jakuszycka 1

– 36 km from Jelenia Góra

The area's renowned cross-country skiing trails, which are around 100 km in total length, satisfy both racers and amateur lovers of 'white tracks' (the highest situated trails are found at an altitude of almost 1,000 metres). When the winter season ends, these trails are used by cyclists.

- **Rock climbing**
 - Sokoliki 2
- **Krkonoše National Park**
 - Sněžka (Śnieżka) 3
- **Waterfalls in the Polish Krkonoše**
 - Kamieńczyka Waterfall (the tallest waterfall in the Polish Sudeten) 4, Szklarki Waterfall 5, Podgórna Waterfall



www.jakuszyce.info.pl



1



2



3



4



Szwajcaria Lwówecka, Lwówek Śląski

These interesting rock formations, complete with picturesque mazes and rock towers created by intense weathering, are up to 30 metres tall.

TIP! The Local Cuisine Trail – Lower Silesia Trail ("Trasa Dolniho Slezska")

smakidolnegoslaska.pl

REGULAR EVENTS

FEBRUARY-MARCH

The International Rally of Horned Sledges, Kowary

The Piast Race, Jakuszyce

JUNE

Jelenia Góra Markets with antiques and curiosities

The Festival of the Krkonoše Tastes

The Fortress of Tastes – a historic cuisine festival at Czocha Chateau

Knights' Tournament of the Golden Belt at Chojnik Castle

The Festival of Tastes, Liczyrzepy

JULY

Lwówek Agate Summer

SEPTEMBER

The Local Produce Exhibition „Produced below Śnieżka” in Jelenia Góra



7 WAŁBRZYCH

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER



The city of Wałbrzych, with a population of over 100,000 people, is situated about 70 km from Wrocław, the capital of Lower Silesian Voivodeship. It is thus a much shorter distance for Wałbrzych's residents to go to the Czech Republic. The country's border is just ten kilometres away, with fewer than fifty kilometres to Trutnov. Located in a shallow valley surrounded by mountains, the city is the ideal destination for nature and sports lovers. There are plenty of hiking trails and cycle routes for both road and mountain bikes in the area. The city became a fully-fledged industrial centre in the early 19th century, thanks to the flourishing mining and weaving industries. The industrial importance of the city was further underpinned in the early 20th century when new glassworks and ceramics factories opened, many of which are still in business today.

Did you know that...? A mausoleum commemorating 23 killed members of the Silesian National Socialist Movement was built in the city by the Nazis. The eternal flame of Walhalla was perpetually burning in the middle of the courtyard, and the mausoleum was allegedly the site of a Nazi dark cult. Dozens of secret underground passages were uncovered there, and it is rumoured that the building was connected with the Riese underground factory compound. All that's left of the mausoleum today are ruins.

Legend has it that fleeing Nazis hid a train brimming with stolen gold and other precious objects somewhere near Wałbrzych.

114 930

Wrocław – 77 km

Tourist Information Centre
Rynek 9, 58-300 Wałbrzych
Tel.: +48 74 66 66 068
Email: cit@starakopalnia.pl
walbrzych.pl

MUST-SEE PLACES

The places in the square deserving attention include not only its three oldest houses (The House Under an Anchor, The House with Three Roses and The House under Atlantis), but also a number of wine bars, where even the famous German author Johann Wolfgang Goethe enjoyed a drink or two in the late 18th century. **Thorez, the oldest urban winding tower**, is also worth visiting. It has housed a branch of the **Museum of Industry and Technology** since 1999. The museum covers the historical development of coal mining in the city and its environs. The crown jewel of the city is without a doubt the mystical **Książ Chateau**, which was earmarked to be Hitler's residence (→ p. 40). In the early 20th century, a palm-house was built near the chateau. You can find here around 250 species of plants from various climate zones from practically around the entire globe.



Stara Kopalnia – The Science and Art Centre in Wałbrzych (Centrum Nauki i Sztuki w Wałbrzychu)

The Science and Art Centre in Stara Kopalnia is the biggest attraction related to industrial tourism in Poland. It is located on the site of a former coal mine called Julia. The revitalization of Wałbrzych's largest mine (completed in 2014), which had employed several thousand miners in its heyday, allowed for the creation of an extraordinary site. This 4.5-hectare area is filled with historic industrial structures, fitted with authentic equipment, and includes a secured machinery fleet site, which is open to visitors. Thanks to tour guides (i.e. miners who used to work in the Julia coal mine), who are now working for the Stara Kopalnia Centre, every visitor can both explore a large section of the mine's infrastructure and learn about certain aspects of the dangerous and demanding work of a miner.

starakopalnia.pl

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

NEARBY TRIPS

If you decide to head north from Wałbrzych and go on further towards Poland's inland regions, stop at **Świdnica 1** and **Jawor 2**, where you can visit **unique wooden churches, which have been put on the UNESCO list** (→ p. 48). **Technology enthusiasts can spend long hours in the Museum of Industry and Railways in Jaworzyna.**



Even though Jawor and Świdnica are 30 km apart, they have one unique architectural phenomenon in common – the Churches of Peace. Both of them were put on the UNESCO list in 2001. Both churches were built in the second half of the 17th century after peace had been established at the end of the Thirty Years' War. Ferdinand III of Austria granted the people of Silesia the right to build churches provided that they were made of wood and located within firing range of cannon balls fired from the city walls. Wooden churches, which look modest from the outside but are very ornate on the inside, were therefore built. The church in Jawor can hold 6,000 people, while the one in Świdnica 7,500 people.



Museum of Industry and Railways in Silesia, Jaworzyna Śląska (Muzeum Przemysłu i Kolejnictwa na Śląsku w Jaworzynie Śląskiej) – 26 km from Wałbrzych

The historic railway park contains objects from 1890 to the 1970s. The collection includes 40 steam engines (made in Poland, Germany, England and the USA), electric and diesel engines, 50 rail carriages and other vehicles dispersed on tracks whose length total 2 km. In the museum, visitors can try out the 'Steam Train Route' – you can ride a Tkt48-18 steam engine or the Czechoslovak motor engine called 'Motorák' dating from 1956. Important railway structures are pointed out during the rides, such as a water crane, oil and sand repository buildings, an assembly channel, a trap door, etc. The museum also includes a collection of antique Harley-Davidson motorcycles – the largest in Poland (the 1924–1984 models have been restored and all run). The Museum of Automotive Toys can also be found there.

muzeumtechniki.pl

Myśluborski Gorge (Wąwóz Myśluborski w Parku Krajobrazowym Chełmy) – 54 km from Wałbrzych

The Chełmy Protected Landscape Area Wąwóz Myśluborski (Myśluborski Gorge) is the only place in Poland where a specific rare variety of fern grows. There is a 4.5-km-long educational trail and a 9 km long cycle path in the Protected Landscape Area.



If you head west from Wałbrzych, you'll find a Cistercian monastery compound in Krzeszów (→ p. 47) and an underground compound in Walim and Gluszyca (→ p. 61), where you can solve yet another mystery from the Second World War. Visitors are drawn to the south and south-east of the city, particularly by the underground network of tunnels built by the Nazis.



In Wojsławice, located east of Wałbrzych, you can explore one of the most important dendrological gardens in Poland – the local arboretum.

Wojsławice Arboretum – 56 km from Wałbrzych

The arboretum stretches over an area of 65 hectares and is located at 250–275 metres above sea level. About 2,500 species of woody plants and 3,500 species of other plants are found here. There is a large collection of rhododendrons, lilies and box-trees in the garden. Wojsławice Arboretum has a long-lasting tradition, as a romantic park has stood on this site since 1821. The park was transformed into a rhododendron garden 60 years later. The garden was nationalized after 1946 and was run as a state-owned farm for some time; then it was redesigned into its current state.



TIP! The Local Cuisine Trail – The Tastes of Lower Silesia (Szlak kulinarny – Smaki Dolnego Śląska)

REGULAR EVENTS

APRIL-SEPTEMBER

The Flower Festival at Książ Chateau (Festiwal Kwiatów na Zamku Książ)
MTB Sudeten Zone Cup, Wałbrzych

MAY-SEPTEMBER

Concerts of Peace, Jawor

MAY

The Medieval Fair at Grodno Chateau

JUNE

The Lower Silesia Soup Festival (Dolnośląski Festiwal Zupy w Jedlinie-Zdrój)

JULY

Castle Party at Bolków Castle



The town lies on the historic route between Prague and Wrocław. Kłodzko's cultural heritage makes it one of the most beautiful towns in Lower Silesia. Its dominant landmark is a massive fortress located on the hill just outside the historic centre. The fortress was built under Austrian rule in the 17th century. Today, tours of its unique maze of underground tunnels are available to visitors. Looking down from the ramparts, you will be sure to appreciate the spectacular views over the town and its environs. The Gothic Bridge of St John and its six Baroque statues also deserve attention. The bridge is often called the miniature version of Charles Bridge in Prague. You can also visit a former Jesuit monastery, which now houses the local museum.

27 977
 Wrocław – 91 km
Tourist Information Centre
 Plac B. Chrobrego 1, 57-300 Kłodzko
 E-mail: rit@um.klodzko.pl
www.klodzko.pl

MUST-SEE PLACES

Stretching to the north of the town is a valley which has the highest concentration of mountain massifs in Lower Silesia. The section between Bardo and Ławica is therefore one of the best areas in Poland to go rafting. Going down a river that has mountain stream characteristics and is easy to navigate is a great combination of sport and leisure. The route is 15 km long, and takes between 3 and 4 hours to complete. If you go a little further to the northeast, you can stop at the small town of Ząbkowice Śląskie, formerly known as Frankenstein. At nearby Silver Mountain, you can take a look inside its unique mountain stronghold (→ p. 60), the largest building of this type in Europe. If you are a keen cyclist, be sure not to miss the opportunity to take a ride along the cycle trails that are part of the renowned Strefa MTB Sudeten network. In the town of Dzierżoniów, you can visit a synagogue, which is one of the few preserved Jewish temples in Lower Silesia to have survived the Night of Broken Glass.



Ząbkowice Śląskie – 23 km from Kłodzko

The town is famous not only for its leaning tower, but also for its gruesome historical events of 1606, which are presumed to have inspired Mary Shelley to write her famous novel Frankenstein. The 34-metre-tall leaning tower, whose deflection from the vertical axis is 2.14 metres, is located near the town square. The structure was built in the early 15th century and is presently used as a lookout tower.

Did you know that...? In 1606, plague broke out in the town and spread at astonishing speed. It transpired some time later, that a group of eight gravediggers used the epidemic to gain riches and perform horrifying rituals. They are said to have made deadly powder out of the infected bodies of the deceased, and then spread it in selected houses. Upon their victims' deaths, they looted their houses and used some of the bodies for dark rituals.



A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

Strefa MTB Sudeten – 35 km from Kłodzko

This is the largest network of marked MTB trails in Poland. There are more than 500 km of trails running through Bielawa, Dzierżoniów, Głuszycza, Mierszów, Nowa Ruda, Pieszyce, Srebrna Góra and Walim. Some of them lead right up to the boundary of the Broumovsko Bike Resort.



If your journey takes you **westwards** from Kłodzko, stop at the spa towns of Duszniki-Zdrój and Kudowa-Zdrój, where you can visit interesting exhibitions in the local museums. **Table Mountains National Park**, with a unique rock city and spectacular views, stretches only a short distance from the Czech-Polish border.

Museum of Papermaking, Duszniki-Zdrój – 22 km from Kłodzko

In 1562, an old paper mill was transformed into the Museum of Papermaking, where paper is still made today. During a tour, you'll see for yourself how paper is made using a method known since the Middle Ages.

TIP! You can even join a workshop and make your own sheet of paper.

www.muzpap.pl

Museum of Folk Culture in the Sudeten Mountains, Pstrązna – 35 km from Kłodzko

This is an open-air museum featuring original cottages and a rural homestead. We highly recommend trying the local village bread made using a traditional recipe, perhaps paired with some hand-churned butter from cow's milk. Plenty of events with presentations of rural life, and the commitments that come with it, take place here from spring to autumn.

TIP! Groups can pre-book a unique experience of making traditional, home-made butter.



Table Mountains National Park, Hejšovina – 35 km from Kłodzko

Standing 920 metres above sea level, this sandstone peak attracts thousands of visitors every year, the same way the Adršpach Rocks do. Hejšovina is a maze of crevices, passages, rock towers, and peculiar formations.

www.pngs.com.pl



Dzierżoniów – 42 km from Kłodzko

The local synagogue was built in 1875 and survived the Second World War, as it was used for Hitler Youth administration purposes. The synagogue returned to its previous purpose after the war, however, the Jews were forcibly displaced in the 1970s and the synagogue closed down at the beginning of the 1980s. Currently, the Jewish Trust is working towards returning life to this site and transforming it into a place where history, religion and Jewish culture meet.



Museum of Phillumeny, Bystrzyca Kłodzka – 18 km from Kłodzko

This is a museum covering the history of firefighting and the region. The major collections in the museum contain objects made of non-flammable materials, fuses, petrol, gas, electric and chemical lighters, metal and stone boxes, as well as wrappings and labels from Poland, European countries, and from all around the world.

www.muzeum-filumenistyczne.pl



A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

What to visit if you head **south** from Kłodzko? The must-see places include: **the unique Peat Bog below Zielieniec**, which entices visitors to do some light hiking; one of the most beautiful **caves** in Poland; and the one-time **uranium mine** in the village of Kletno. If you continue further down to the Czech Republic, be sure to stop in **Dolní Morava** and take a walk in the clouds.



Uranium Mine, Kletno – 35 km from Kłodzko

Iron, silver and copper ore has been mined in the area surrounding Kletno since the Middle Ages. Uranium mining started here in 1948 at the instigation of the Soviet Union, which was searching for uranium resources in order to make an atom bomb. A total of 37 km of tunnels were dug over the five-year period of when the mine was in operation. Around 20 tonnes of uranium were extracted during that time. A 200-metre-long hiking trail, along which visitors learn about a range of minerals and mining equipment, has been open to the public since 2002.

www.kletno.pl

Bear Cave, Kletno – 35 km from Kłodzko

You can find the Bear Cave in the Králický Sněžník massif, near the village of Kletno. It is the largest cave in the Polish Sudeten Mountains and concurrently one of the deepest in all of Poland. The cave's unique microclimate keeps the temperature constant at around 6°C, and the air humidity here is 100%. The tour will take you on a comfortable pavement through the middle level of the cave. The number of admissions per day is limited, so we recommend that you book your tour in advance.



Did you know that...? During the Ice Age, sediment layers rich with remains of the animals that existed at that time were settled in the cave. Most of the remains had come from cave bears, giving name to the cave.

REGULAR EVENTS

JUNE

The Fortress Festival, Srebrna Góra

JULY

The International Dance Festival, Łądek-Zdrój
The Paper Festival, Duszniki-Zdrój

AUGUST

Fortress Days, Kłodzko
The International Chopin Festival, Duszniki-Zdrój

Peat Bog below Zielieniec – 30 km from Kłodzko

A large peat bog unfolds near Zielieniec, the largest tourist centre on the Polish side of the Orlické Mountains. The Orlice River rises in the peat bog, which covers an area of over 218 hectares, and is estimated to be around 7,600 years old. There is a large number of rare plant and animal species living there. The nature reserve is crossed by a green hiking route, which then branches out to two feeder roads. The first road will take you to the northern area called Topielisko, where you can find a lookout tower open to the public. The second road leads to the area called Czarne Bagno.

Did you know that...? The dwarf birch (*Betula nana*) grows there, although it is typically found more often in Scandinavia and Greenland. There are only three places in Poland where the dwarf birch can be found.



Sky Walk, Dolní Morava – 55 km from Kłodzko

Thanks to this trail, built in 2015, you have a unique opportunity to walk in the treetops at an altitude of 1,116 metres above sea level and enjoy the view over the nearby mountain massifs. The shape of the structure is meant to resemble the flight of a moth. You can reach the top of the 55-metre-tall structure via a network of wooden paths. If you want to move from one level to the next, you can try a feature called the „sleeve“, made up of a dense net of ropes.

TIP! To get down fast, use the 100-metre-long slide.

www.dolnimorava.cz/stezka-v-oblacich



9 NYSA



Did you know that...? The belfry houses a collection of church items, entitled *The Treasure of St James*, which is open to the public. These items were hidden by a local priest in 1945, half of which were found in the 1950s and the rest as recently as 2003.

Nysa Fortress (→ p. 61) is one of the best preserved fortification systems in Silesia. You can explore the remains of a Prussian fortress in Piastowska Street (St. Hedwig's Bastion) or in Powstanców Śląskich Street (Fort Wodny). Go just a short distance west from Nysa and you'll come across **Paczków**, a fortress town with the unique Gas Industry Museum. You can also pay a visit to a former gold-digger settlement, **Złoty Stok**, situated 10 km further away. Here, you can see the dark tunnels of a gold mine, which is now open to the public.

NEARBY TRIPS

Paczków – 25 km from Nysa

The town was enclosed by a double ring of walls in the 14th century, most of which have been fully preserved to this day. The walls are 1,200 m long and up to 7 m high. Due to the multitude of well-preserved bastions and three entry gates with towers, the town has been nicknamed the 'Silesian Carcassonne'. The oldest and mightiest tower is the 30-metre-tall Wrocław Tower, which is used today as a lookout tower. The fortification system also includes the unique fortified Church of St John the Evangelist dating from the 14th century.

Did you know that...? here is a round stone well in the south section of the church's nave. It used to serve not just as a source of water, but as a place to hide as well.



A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

44 423
 Bratislav – 91 km
Tourist Information Centre
 Bastion św. Jadwigi, ul. Piastowska 19, Nysa
 Tel.: +48 77 433 49 71, +48 602 654 128
 E-mail: biuro@twierdzanysa.com
www.informacja-turystyczna.nysa.pl
www.nysa.eu

Nysa is one of the oldest towns in Silesia. Thanks to the multitude of sacral heritage buildings, it has earned the nickname 'the Silesian Rome'. Nysa was, first and foremost, a fortress town due to its strategic position near the Czech-Polish border. Over half of the town was destroyed by the Red Army in 1945. Despite this, Nysa still offers visitors plenty of sights today. One of the town's most valuable treasures is the **Basilica of St. James and St. Agnes** (→ p. 48), which is one of the largest Gothic cathedrals in Poland. Right next to the cathedral is the Late Gothic belfry building, which has never been finished.



Gas Industry Museum, Paczków

In this museum, you can explore everything connected with the traditional gas industry. This includes not only preserved equipment used for gas production, but also a large number of gas home appliances and the unquestionably largest collection of gas meters in Europe. The museum is situated in the gasworks building, which supplied gas to meet the town's needs between 1902 and 1977.

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

Złoty Stok – 35 km from Nysa

The greatest local tourist attraction is a sightseeing tour of a former gold mine. The tour starts in the Gertruda Adit, where you can see old mining tools, maps and a gold smelting furnace. The side tunnels were utilized as a laboratory by J. Schärferberg, a chemist who searched for an elixir of eternal life. However, instead of the elixir, he managed to discover a very strong poison – arsenic. It is even rumoured that it was the Złoty Stok arsenic that was used to poison none other than Napoleon. When you leave the adit, you'll proceed to the Death Gallery, whose name refers to its gloomy past. Miners who were suspected of stealing gold were reportedly cemented to the walls with mortar and were left to die in agonizing pain.

TIP! Daredevil visitors can go through a section of the route either on a special 8-metre slide or on a boat entitled the *Titanic*. A true rarity is the local underground waterfall, the only one in all of Poland.

www.kopalniazłota.pl

If you head south from Nysa, the Polish-Czech border is just slightly over 20 km away. Before you cross the border and reach the Jeseníky, though, stop at the town of **Glucholazy**, where you can go up a salt tower whose microclimate on a clear day is supposed to be worth three days spent at the seaside.

Gold Ore Open-Air Museum, Zlaté Hory – 30 km from Nysa

This medieval mining open-air museum is situated on the Olešnice River near the town Zlaté Hory. The Valley of Lost Adits features a replica of 14th-century gold-ore mills as a remembrance of the prosperous goldmining times in the region. Traditional home crafts are showcased in the Mining Settlement. An education trail goes through the open-air museum, and will take you, among other things, to a spot 'where water runs uphill'.

Did you know that...? The main feeder canal leading to the gold panning sites is still in operation. Geologists have proven that there is a high content of gold here, so you too can try your luck at finding a golden treasure.

zlatehory.cz



The Góry Opawskie Protected Landscape Area – 30 km from Nysa

It encompasses the northern slopes and the foothills of the Opawskie Mountains, which are situated on the border with the Czech Republic. The following reserves are valued the most: 'Olszak', 'Las Bukowy' and 'Cicha Dolina'. The 'Nad Białką' Geological Landscape Reserve is also located in this area. The Protected Landscape Area is covered by a network of hiking trails, totalling 128 km in length, as well as over 30 km of educational nature trails and plenty of paths for hikers, horseback riders, cyclists, and cross-country skiers.

zopk.pl

Nysa Lake – 7 km from Nysa

The picturesque Lake Nysa is situated at the foothills of the Opawskie Mountains in the Otmuchowsko-Nyski Protected Landscape Area and in Natura 2000 – the 'Nysa Reservoir' Special Bird Protection Area. Clean water, a diverse shoreline and infrastructure make the lake a popular holiday destination. It is a paradise for fishermen, water sports lovers, and yachtsmen.

TIP! Festival *ohně a vody – velkolepá show na vodě a na nebi* (soutěž ohňostroju na pláži Niského jezera).



i.nysa.pl

Bishop's Hill Lookout Tower – 30 km from Nysa

This 18-metre-tall stone lookout tower, built in 1898, is the oldest lookout tower in the Jeseníky Mountains. Poland, the Jeseníky peaks, and Zlaté Hory can be viewed from the lookout tower.

Did you know that...? Bishop's Hill stands on the site of the original lookout tower which housed the first sub-post office in Moravia. Even today, you can send letters directly from there.



Rejvíz National Nature Reserve – 35 km from Nysa

Rejvíz is situated at an altitude of 800 m, between the towns of Jeseník and Zlaté Hory. The landscape here is utterly different from the neighbouring landscapes due to its specific flora and fauna. This is the largest peat bog in Moravia, and is estimated to be between 6,000 and 7,000 years old. The most attractive places can be accessed via an educational trail, which will take you to the Great Moss Lake.



Červenohorské sedlo – 50 km from Nysa

Červenohorské sedlo is an important starting point for hiking routes in the Hrubý Jeseník Mountains, complete with necessary infrastructure facilities for both summer and winter tourism.



Rychleby Trails – 50 km from Nysa

Old hunting paths have been repurposed as mountain bike trails, which provide (not only) seasoned cyclists with the ultimate riding experience. This is an interconnected network of routes in the midst of the Rychleby Mountains landscape that features deep forests, massive granite boulders, abandoned quarries and mountain streams.

www.rychlebskestezky.cz



Praděd – 60 km from Nysa

Standing at 1491 metres tall, Praděd is the highest mountain in Moravia. There is a transmitter and lookout tower at the summit. Spectacular views over Lysá Hora, Sněžka and Radhošť can be had from the viewing platform. On a clear day, you can also see Slovakia's High Tatras and Malá Fatra, as well as the Austrian Lower Alps. A range of renowned ski resorts and cross-country ski trails are available here in the winter season.

Velké Losiny – 70 km from Nysa

In addition to its Renaissance chateau and thermal spa, visitors are most drawn to the local paper factory, where paper has been made using traditional methods for four centuries now. Two tours are available in the Museum of Paper, which features traditional paper production methods, the history of the craft and a range of technical points of interest.



www.iclosiny.cz



Dlouhé stráně Pumped Storage Hydro-Power Plant – 80 km from Nysa

Visit the largest pumped storage hydro-power plant in the world and the largest hydroelectric structure in the Czech Republic. The tour of the plant covers the technological operation carried out in vast underground halls, the lower reservoir and the imposing upper reservoir situated at an altitude of 1,350 metres above sea level.

www.dlouhe-strane.cz



Šumperk – 80 km from Nysa

One reason to visit the town, which has been labelled the gateway to the Jeseníky, is, in addition to its historic centre, a one-of-a-kind witch trial exhibition, which unveils the bloody history of the area in the 17th century.

www.sumperk.cz



Opole lies in the south of Poland, on the Odra River. It is one of the oldest cities in Poland, and boasts a rich history and a multitude of architectonic heritage sites.

127 792
 Wrocław – 104 km
Tourist Information Centre
 ul. Żeromskiego 3, 45-053 Opole, Tel.: +48 77 44 12 521
visitopolskie.pl

MUST-SEE PLACES

The city centre is formed by **Rynek**, a square that has kept its medieval character. The dominant landmark of the square is its **Neo-Renaissance City Hall** built in the 19th century. The building was inspired by the famous Vecchio Palace in Florence. Rynek is surrounded by the most remarkable city **churches**: the Cathedral of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross with the Counts of Piast mausoleum, the Church of Our Lady of Sorrows and St Adalbert, built as far back as the 10th century, and the Franciscan Church of the Holy Trinity. Exhibitions in the local museums are also worth visiting, especially the interactive **Polish Song Museum** and the nearby Opole Village Museum, complete with its extensive outdoor exhibits. The existence of a count's castle is demonstrated by the 35-metre-tall **Piast Tower**, built at the turn of the 14th century. You can go up the tower and explore a small thematic exhibition. Be sure not to miss out on a walk around Młynówka, an old streambed of the Odra River in central Opole, reminiscent of Venice. Visit the local **zoo** as well, situated on Bolko Island, where you can see exotic and endangered animal species.

Opole Village Museum

This open-air museum features close to 50 historic wooden buildings, which show us how people lived in rural settings from the 17th-19th century. Rural cottages, barns, granaries, a church, a blacksmith's shop, a water mill and a windmill are on display here. Everything is furnished with period furniture and equipment.



www.muzeumwsiopolskiej.pl



Polish Song Museum

A multimedia exhibition offers visitors a cross-section through the history of Polish songs from the 1st half of the 20th century to the present day. Here, you can watch around 580 music videos and listen to around 2,000 audio recordings by well-known Polish performers.

TIP! *In a recording booth, you can become a star singer for a moment, try your hand at drumming and change into virtual costumes.*

muzeumpiosenki.pl

Piast Tower

Your tour guide will tell you about the history of the medieval tower and take you through the exhibits. The 42-metre-tall tower ranks among the oldest defence structures in Poland. Its significance is explained in more detail during a multimedia presentation.



www.wiezapiastowska.pl

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER



ZOO

The zoological garden is situated on Bolko Island at the Odra River. More than 1,000 animals of 130 species live in the area stretching across 20 hectares. This is the only zoo in Poland that keeps lowland gorillas and a California sea lion.

zoo.opole.pl

NEARBY TRIPS

You can head southwest from Opole and go to the town of **Nysa**. Along the way, you'll come across **Niemodlin Chateau** 1, which was built as far back as the 13th century to protect the entire Opole region. You may also visit **the Prisoners of War Museum in Łambinowice**. You can also head to **Paczków**, which is close to Nysa, and visit the breath-taking Automotive Metamuseum.

Prisoners of War Museum, Łambinowice – 40 km from Opole

The museum is situated in a former prisoner-of-war camp, Lamsdorf, also once called Camp I. The exhibition is located in the buildings formerly used by the Wehrmacht as their headquarters and guardhouse. The origins of Lamsdorf extend back to the Franco-Prussian War. The camp was one of the largest camps in the German POW system during the Second World War.



www.cmjw.pl

Nysa – 55 km from Opole

The town, dubbed 'the Silesian Rome', attracts visitors in particular with the remains of its fortifications dating back to the times when Nysa was one of the strongest fortresses in Europe. It is one of the best-preserved fortification systems in Silesia (→ p. 61). Also worth visiting, is the Basilica of St James and St Agnes (→ p. 48), one of the largest sacral buildings in Poland.

www.nysa.eu



Automotive Metamuseum, Paczków – 80 km from Opole

The Metamuseum was established at the impetus of the 'Concept of Notion' Biernacki Family Trust as an educational centre. Its objective is to promote technical culture and useful knowledge in physics and mechanics. Its 1,200 m² area houses eleven interactive workstations called test centres. It includes a collection of a few dozen historic cars and motorbikes. Here, you can admire Ford, Mercedes, Porsche and Ferrari classic cars, and even the legend of the Polish motoring industry – the Sokół 600 motorcycle. The neighbouring building houses the 'Na Hoplach' Modern Art Gallery and the 'Hople Paczków' Winery. The whole compound is an extraordinary attraction in Paczków.

pow.org.pl

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER



If you head south from Opole, towards the Czech-Polish border, you'll discover a treasure in the form of **Moszna Chateau** (→ p. 40), which is often compared to the famous Disney Castle. There is a truly unique place near the chateau, **the Robot Factory** (→ p. 56), inspired by famous sci-fi films. Before you cross the border and arrive at the Jeseníky Mountains, stop at the small town of **Glucholazy**, where you can go up a salt tower whose microclimate on a clear day is supposed to be worth three days spent at the seaside. To see Opole's natural treasures, you can head southeast from Opole, to **St. Anne's Mountain Protected Landscape Area** 2, where you can also find a pilgrimage and monastery site of the same name, and an amphitheatre built by the Nazis.

To the east of Opole is **Turawa Lake**, a holiday resort popular with water sports and fishing enthusiasts. The lake was created on **the Mała Panew**, a meandering lowland river with mountain stream characteristics, which is ideal for canoeing. Fossils of reptiles dating from 225 million years ago were found just a few kilometres away from the lake, which has given rise to the idea of building a **JuraPark** in Krasiejów.

Turawa Lake – 20 km from Opole

The lake is surrounded by forested areas, which protect the lake's sand beaches from the wind. The area is well-known as an important ornithological spot, as well as great fishing place for catching pike, pike perch, carp, and eels.



If you head north from Opole, stop at **the Stobrawa Protected Landscape Area**, which is a true paradise for both hikers and cyclists.

Stobrawa Protected Landscape Area – 30 km from Opole

The length of the park stretches up to roughly sixty kilometres, and includes a section of the Odra River valley. The major asset of the area is the woods, which make up around 78% of its area. The fact that this park is exceptional is demonstrated by nearly forty protected species of animals and by the same number of very rare plant species. The park is home to 170 species of songbirds and aquatic birds, including some rare species and species in danger of becoming extinct.

REGULAR EVENTS



JUNE

The National Festival of Polish Songs, Opole

JULY

Hot Air Balloon Aeropicnic – Polish Championship, Paczków
Nysa Fortress Days



JuraPark, Krasiejów – 25 km from Opole

The only museum in the world situated above an active paleontological site. At JuraPark, you can enjoy more than 200 life-sized models of dinosaurs, take an expedition through the tunnel of time, visit a prehistoric aquarium, and so much more.

www.juraparkkrasiejow.pl



11 RACIBÓRZ

A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER



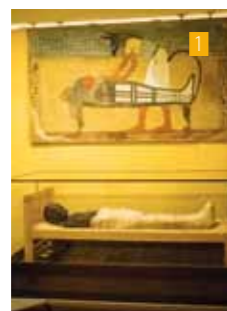
55 189
 Katowice – 96 km
Tourist Information Centre
 ul. Długa 2, 47-400 Racibórz
 E-mail: raciborz@slaskie.travel

Racibórz is one of the historic capitals of Upper Silesia, and as such boasts rich cultural and historical heritage. Nearly one thousand years of history have left their mark on the town in the form of architectural and art heritage from all eras. A number of local tourist attractions, including a well-preserved chateau (→ p. 40) with its large exhibition and adjacent park, draw thousands of visitors each year.

Did you know that...? Around 1290, the High Duke Przemysł II had a Gothic chapel built, which was dedicated to the English martyr St Thomas Becket of Canterbury. It is the most valuable building of its kind in Poland. The chapel is often compared to Paris's famous chapel, and is therefore dubbed 'the Silesian Sainte-Chapelle'.

MUST-SEE PLACES

On the Racibórz Square you can see a Gothic parish church, a Renaissance bastion, and a Baroque Marian column. In addition to exhibits mapping the cultural heritage of the city, the local museum can provide visitors even with a view of an Egyptian mummy .



Moravian Gate Arboretum

The arboretum stretches over 35-hectare area, and visitors can look forward to a minizoo, educational trails, fitness trails, as well as the Enchanted Garden.



Wodzisław Śląski – 25 km from Racibórz

The town square in Wodzisław has been the most important and one of the largest squares in Silesian Voivodeship since the town was first settled in the 13th century. The dominant landmark of the town centre is the Palace of the Dietrichsteins, which stands on the site of a former chateau.



Frontier Meanders of the Odra River – 25 km from Racibórz

The region includes a section of the Odra Valley on both sides of the Polish-Czech border, from the bridge in Chalupki to the area where the Olše empties into the Odra River. This is a naturally meandering section of the river and a riverside area with fragments of riparian woodlands, willow thickets, reeds and marshlands.

Rudy – 24 km from Racibórz

The Cistercian monastery and chateau compound, surrounded by the natural beauties of a protected landscape area, are well worth visiting. Riding on a narrow gauge railway or canoeing down the Ruda River provide a truly unique experience.



Głubczyce – 36 km from Racibórz

It is one of the oldest towns in Silesia. The town was fortified with defensive walls as early as the second half of the 13th century. Głubczyce's historic town centre's unique feature is its town square shaped in a quarter-circle.



A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

CIESZYN 12



36 014
 Ostrava – 49 km
 Katowice – 106 km
Tourist Information Centre
 Rynek 1, 43-400 Cieszyn
 E-mail: cieszyn@slaskie.travel
www.slaskcieszynski.travel

Těšín was split in 1920 along with Teschen Silesia, which was divided between two new countries – Czechoslovakia and Poland. The Olše River was used as the dividing line between Czech Těšín and Polish Cieszyn, and the most interesting parts of the town in terms of their architecture were apportioned to Poland; this includes the historic town centre. The town is a symbolic union between the two countries and nations.

Did you know that...? There is a legend about how the town was founded in 810. It is said that the sons of Lešek III – Bolko, Leško and Češko – met at the water spring. They were so happy to see each other after a long journey, that they decided to build the town of Těšín here.

MUST-SEE PLACES

You can find one of the most important heritage buildings in Poland on Chateau Hill. The building is **St. Nicholas's Rotunda** , which is depicted on the 20-złoty banknote. Here, you can visit the former 14th-century **Piast Castle's tower** which is used today as a lookout tower. **Cieszyn Chateau** stands right next to it. Těšín's dominant landmark is its **Neo-Renaissance Town Hall**, whose arched gable with a clock was used as inspiration for creating the town's logo. **The Neo-Gothic Church of the Most Sacred Heart of Our Lord**, the former **synagogue** building and the **Museum of the Těšín Region** are also worth visiting. One of the most beautiful parts of the town is **Przykopa Street**, where the Mlynówka Creek flows along the houses; it has therefore been nicknamed 'the Těšín's Venice'.



Museum of Printing

The Museum was established in 1996 in order to preserve the printing tradition in the Silesian Těšín District. The collections include typesetting machines with sets of letters, printing matrices, printing presses, and bookbinding equipment.



Wisła – 35 km from Cieszyn

If you head southeast from Těšín, you'll get to a small town near Trinec. Here, you can take a tour of **the president's residence**. After the necessary admission checks, you can walk through the interiors, which include a unique set of furniture and numerous graphics by Polish artists. Further 20 km south, you can stop at the small town of Koniaków, which has an exhibition on its renowned lace-making tradition.

Did you know that...? Archduke Friedrich of Austria, a.k.a. Marquis Gero, entertained German Emperor Wilhelm II, Field Marshal Hindenburg and Tsar Ferdinand of Bulgaria in the original hunting chateau. In 1927, the chateau burned down, and it was replaced with this avantgarde building.



REGULAR EVENTS

JULY

INTRO Festival, Racibórz
Reggae Festival, Wodzisław Śląski

AUGUST

Lyski Rock Festival, Lyski

REGULAR EVENTS

MAY

Cinema on the Border, Cieszyn and Czech Těšín

JUNE

Without Borders, Cieszyn and Czech Těšín – an international theatre festival

JULY

The Beskids Culture Week, Wisła and Jablunkov



13 BIELSKO-BIAŁA



This city lies in the foothills of the Silesian and Little Beskids. The city was established by merging Bielsko and Biała in 1951. The Biała River cuts through the conurbation.

Did you know that...? Bielsko-Biała is the hometown of the famous animated film studio, which created Bolek and Lolek, and Reksio.

171 505
 Katowice – 96 km
Tourist Information Centre
 Plac Ratuszowy 4, 43-300 Bielsko-Biała
 Tel.: + 48 33 819 00 50
 E-mail: bielskobiala@slaskie.travel
www.it.bielsko.pl

MUST-SEE PLACES

Located at the foothills of the Beskids, this town offers its visitors a chance to enjoy its historic town square with a contemporary fountain, architecturally diverse St Nicholas's Cathedral, a chateau with a historical exhibition, and a Neo-Renaissance Town Hall with an observation tower.

TIP! For those who love culture and architecture, we recommend planning a visit to the local gallery, Bator Art Gallery, and the wooden Church of St Barbara (→ p. 51).

Located east of Bielsko-Biała is Żywiec, an old town with rich traditions. It lies among the picturesque Beskid Mountains, above the Sola River and Żywiec Lake.



Żywiec – 24 km from Bielsko-Biała

You can start a tour of the town right at the Tourist Information Centre, located in its very heart, next to the Old and New Chateaux. The Old Chateau beckons visitors to explore its exhibition on the local history and traditions. In the adjacent park, you can see miniatures of the most interesting buildings built by the previous owners of the Żywiec domain. Close to the square, you can discover the gorgeous Co-Cathedral of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Żywiec. A number of hiking trails lead out of the town centre towards the peaks of the Żywiec Beskids. You can even take a chair lift to reach the top of the Zar Mountain, which is the ideal place for wingsuiting and paragliding. Great conditions for water sports enthusiasts are found at Żywiec Lake.



Silesian Press Museum – 21 km from Bielsko-Biała

This is the only museum in Poland that features press (newspapers) and printing. The museum exhibition displays a cross-section of the history of press in Silesia from its beginnings up to 1939. This is the only museum in the country that collects magazines, historic bookbinding machinery, and press equipment. It also houses Telemann's Room, a music and poetry room displaying collections of old instruments alongside an 18th-century compilation.



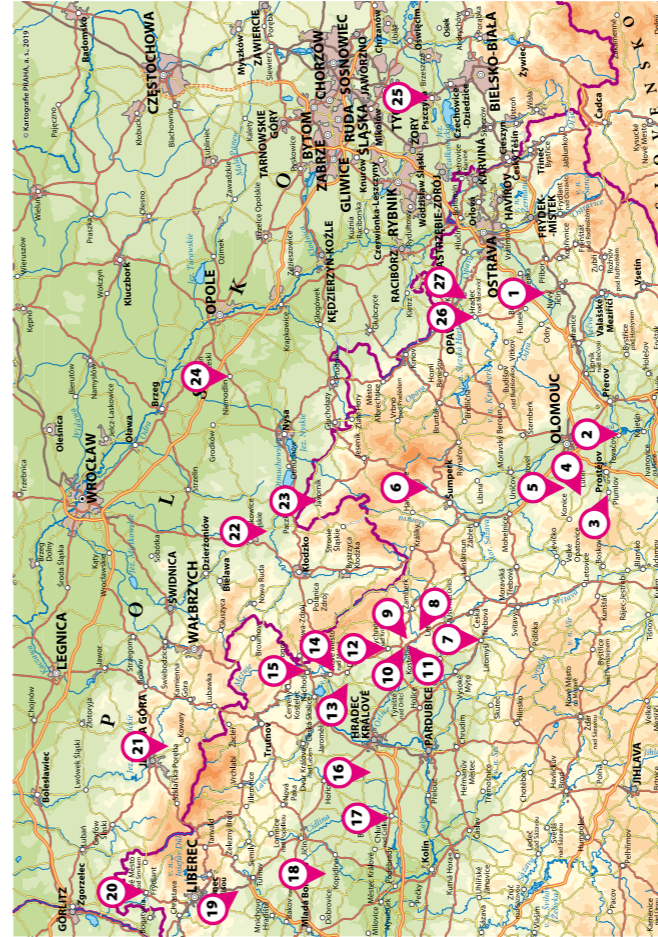
Approximately 20 km south from the town of Bielsko-Biała, you can climb the highest mountain of the Beskids, **Skrzyczne**, either on foot or via a chairlift.

Szczyrk – 16 km from Bielsko-Biała

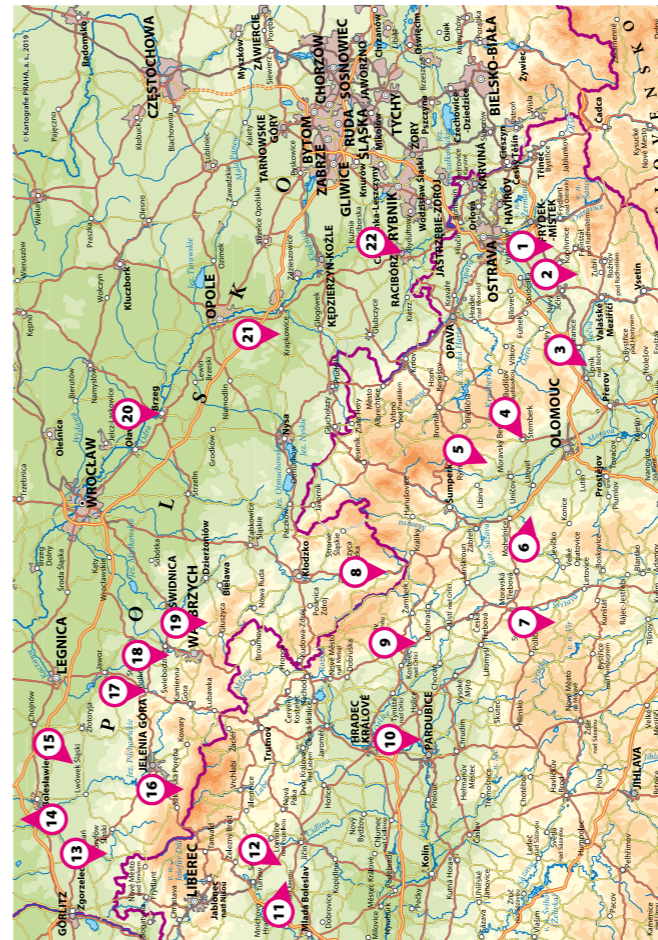
Szczyrk is a popular leisure resort in the Silesian Beskids. It boasts the largest number of ski slopes in Poland, whose length is almost 40 km in total. In summer, visitors can appreciate the extensive network of mountain hiking trails.



CHATEAUX



CASTLES



- 1 | KUNÍN – 72,4 km → 2 | TOVAČOV – 27,7 km → 3 | PLUMLOV – 12,9 km → 4 | ČECHY POD KOSÍŘEM – 8,9 km → 5 | NÁMĚŠTNÁ HANĚ – 63,6 km → 6 | VELKÉ LOSINY – 88,1 km → 7 | LITOMÝŠL – 31,2 km → 8 | POTŠTEJN – 5,8 km → 9 | DOUDLEBY – 6,3 km → 10 | ČASTOLOVICE – 1,3 km → 11 | KOSTELEČ NAD ORLÍČÍ – 11,3 km → 12 | RYCHNOV NAD KNĚŽNOU – 21,9 km → 13 | OPOČNO – 13,4 km → 14 | NOVÉ MĚSTO NAD METUJÍ – 10,3 km → 15 | NÁCHOD – 53,3 km → 16 | HRÁDEK U NECHANIC – 24,5 km → 17 | KARLOVA KORUNA – 44,3 km → 18 | DÉTENICE – 50,9 km → 19 | SYCHROV – 45,8 km → 20 | FRYDLANT – 66,8 km → 21 | ŁOMNICA – 115,3 km → 22 | KAMENEC ZĄBKOWICKI – 26,7 km → 23 | JÁNSKÝ VRCH – 61,8 km → 24 | NIEMODLIN – 164,2 km → 25 | PSZCZYNA – 108,2 km → 26 | HRADEC NAD MORAVICÍ – 10,9 km → 27 | RADUŇ

Route length: 1 148 km

- 1 | HUKVAJDY – 14,5 km → 2 | ŠTRAMBERK – 54,9 km → 3 | HELFŠTÝN – 50,3 km → 4 | ŠTERNBERK – 15,5 km → 5 | SOVINEC – 41,3 km → 6 | BOUZOV – 68,8 km → 7 | SVOJANOV – 77,6 km → 8 | MĚDZYLEŚIE – 45,5 km → 9 | POTŠTEJN – 47,5 km → 10 | KUNĚTCKÁ HORA – 86 km → 11 | KOST – 16,3 km → 12 | VALDŠTEJN – 75,9 km → 13 | CZOCHA – 47,5 km → 14 | KLICKŮV – 39 km → 15 | GRODZIEC – 57,5 km → 16 | CHOJNIK – 45 km → 17 | BOLKŮV – 25,4 km → 18 | KSIĄŻ – 20,6 km → 19 | GRODNO – 109,6 km → 20 | BRZEG CASTLE OF THE SILESIA PIASTS – 92,9 km → 21 | MOSZNA – 68,5 km → 22 | RACIBÓRZ

Route length: 1 100 km

CASTLES

These majestic medieval seats of the nobility draw in thousands of visitors every year, who can thus experience the atmosphere of eras long-gone. You'll come across truly unique sites of architectural and historical importance in the Czech and Polish borderlands. Impregnable castles surrounded by legends have inspired writers, poets, and music composers for many centuries. Allow yourselves to be inspired too, and set out on a journey to uncover their secrets.

1 Hukvaldy Castle

The origins of this castle extend all the way back to the early 13th century. Its best preserved part is St Andrew's Chapel, used today as a venue for all kinds of concerts and performances.

Did you know that...? Hukvaldy is the birthplace of composer Leoš Janáček, in whose honour an annual music festival is held at the castle grounds.

www.hradhukvaldy.eu



3 Helfštýn Castle, Týn nad Bečvou

The construction of one of the largest medieval castles commenced at the beginning of the 14th century. When Cardinal Franz von Dietrichstein took possession of the castle in the 17th century, he began demolition works, and Helfštýn lost its former character of a manor house. In its present form, the castle is a massive fortress with six gates, a number of towers, and a system of ramparts dating back to the 18th century.

Did you know that...? One of the biggest gatherings of artistic blacksmiths in Europe – Hefaiston – is held here every August.

www.helfstyn.cz



5 Sovinec Castle

A number of cultural events, as well as fencing, theatre and music performances are regularly held at this 14th-century castle. Guided tours include the castle's underground, both inner and outer fortification walls, as well as the castle's interiors.

www.hradsovinec.cz



6 Bouzov Castle

Bouzov is one of the most visited and the most charming of Czech castles. Complete with battlements, oriels, embrasures, and gargoyles, the present-day Bouzov Castle is a typical romantic estate, which is the product of considerable restoration carried out by the Archduke Eugen of Austria between 1895 and 1910. The castle plays host to a multitude of cultural events and costumed tours all year round.

Did you know that...? The castle is popular with film-makers, and was used as a filming location for the Italian fairy tale *Princess Fantaghiro*, the German war film *Napola*, and an episode of the American TV series *Young Indiana Jones*.

www.hrad-bouzov.cz



EXPLORING CASTLES AND CHATEAUX

2 Štramberk Castle

Ruins of a castle, whose origins are still unknown today, stand above the town of Štramberk.



www.stramberska-truba.info

4 Šternberk Castle

This Gothic castle was founded in the 13th century. It was then expanded in the Late Gothic style, and completed in the Renaissance style in the 16th century. The castle's last owners were the Liechtensteins, who rebuilt it in the style of historicist romanticism. Its interiors surprise visitors with their grandeur, and abundant works of art from all around Europe.



www.hrad-sterberk.cz

7 Svojanov Castle

The only Czech castle to blend the architectural style of the Middle Ages with that of the 19th century. An exhibition on life in the castle during the 19th century is on display in the castle's palace. You can also explore the dungeon with a torture chamber, a unique squire's house, a collection of clocks, and a restored Gothic garden.



www.svojanov.cz

EXPLORING CASTLES AND CHATEAUX

8 Międzylesie Castle

This small, originally Gothic castle was gradually transformed into a Baroque palace. Today, both day and night tours of the chateau's interiors are available to the public. The castle plays host to a multitude of cultural events and costumed tours all year round.

www.zamekmiedzylesie.pl

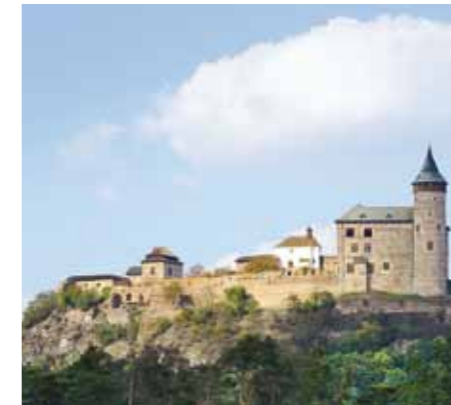


10 Kunětická Mountain Castle, Staré Hradiště

When the Pernštejns took possession of this Gothic castle in the 15th century, major construction work to rebuild the castle in the Renaissance style began. However, Kunětická Mountain Castle was severely damaged in the centuries that followed. The early 20th century saw the start of attempts to salvage the castle by the design of the architect Dušan Jurkovič. This major restoration of the castle, which will result in new spaces and exhibitions available to visitors, should be completed by 2021.

Did you know that...? In the 1970s, Kunětická Mountain Castle was used as a film set for the beloved Czech television series *Arabela*.

www.hrad-kunetickahora.cz



11 Kost Castle, Libošovice

Kost is one of the best preserved and most significant medieval castles in the Czech Republic. The castle is situated some 18 km from the town of Jičín, in the Bohemian Paradise Protected Landscape Area. Tours of the castle themed around its owners, the Kinsky noble family, are available. You can also see a medieval torture chamber, or take the 'From a Fairy Tale to a Fairy Tale' tour, which is aimed at children.

www.kost-hrad.cz



12 Valdštejn Castle, Turnov

Valdštejn, the oldest castle in Bohemian Paradise, is a gateway to the nearby rock city where four hundred sandstone rock towers are found. An unguided tour of the castle includes all exteriors, a visit to the cellars, the Chapel of St John of Nepomuk and a billiards hall. If you go on a guided tour, you will also see a Classicist house and a Romantic palace.

www.hrad-valdstejn.cz



13 Czocha Castle, Leśna

This mysterious castle has been in existence since the mid-13th century. It was renovated into its current look at the beginning of the 20th century.

Did you know that...? Forty secret passages were built in the castle, only a fraction of which has been uncovered.

www.zamekczocha.com



9 Potštejn Castle

This formerly majestic castle was conquered only once – by Charles IV himself, who later became Czech King and Roman Emperor.

Did you know that...? These castle ruins are known for their legend about a treasure, which later inspired the famous Czech writer Alois Jirásek to write his novel *'Treasure'*.



www.hrad-potstajn.cz

TIP! Trosky Castle, Rovensko

The Gothic castle ruins, belonging to a castle from the late 14th century, are reminiscent of devil's horns sticking out of the ground, and have become one of the symbols of Bohemian Paradise. They are also called the Gate to Hell. Trosky is made up of two towers named Panna (Maiden) and Baba (Hag), which is used as a lookout tower. Visitors can both entertain themselves and explore the castle by playing a 90-minute escape game with Čenda the Robot.

Did you know that...?

The mysterious underground space under Trosky has been attracting the attention of amateur explorers and adventurers since the 18th century.

www.hrad-trosky.eu



14 Kliczków Castle

Initially founded as a fortress in the 13th century, the castle was rebuilt to its current form in the late 19th century. A number of architectural styles left their mark on the chateau and its estates – from Gothic, through Renaissance, up to Mannerism. The chateau is surrounded by an English park and deep forests, which beckon visitors to go hiking, cycling, or horseback riding.



www.kliczkow.com.pl

EXPLORING CASTLES AND CHATEAUX

15 Grodziec Castle, Zagrodno

This originally Gothic castle acquired its present-day form in the 20th century, when it was rebuilt in the Purist style by Bodo Ebhart.

Did you know that...? Films of German, Belgian and Russian productions are often shot here, such as the historical film 'Taras Bulba'.



www.grodziec.net

16 Chojnik Castle, Jelenia Góra

This castle, which is the highest situated castle in the Krkonoše, has never been conquered. The ruins are a popular destination today, and all kinds of knight tournaments and medieval fairs are held here throughout the year.

www.chojnik.pl

17 Bolków Castle

These majestic castle ruins are located at the crossroads of historic trade routes going from Poland's Wrocław to Bohemia.

Did you know that...? One of the biggest Gothic rock festivals in Europe – Castle Party – is held here every year.

www.zamek-bolkow.info.pl



18 Książ Castle, Wałbrzych

Książ Chateau is the largest chateau in Lower Silesia and the third largest chateau in Poland. This is a monumental edifice, which is rumoured to have been selected as Hitler's main residence during the Second World War, and the Nazis allegedly planned to install the Amber Chamber there.

Did you know that...? During the Second World War, almost 1 kilometre of tunnels, 55 metres deep below the courtyard, was dug.

www.ksiaz.walbrzych.pl

20 Brzeg Castle of the Silesian Piasts

Today, this 16th-century castle serves chiefly as a museum of the powerful Polish Royal House of Piast.



www.zamek.brzeg.pl

21 Moszna Castle

This is one of the most visited castles in Silesia, which is known as the Polish Disneyland due to its appearance. The castle, surrounded by a 250-hectare park, is intriguing with the diversity of its architecture.



www.mosznazamek.pl



19 Grodno Castle, Zagórze Śląskie

Initially founded as a medieval fortress, Grodno Castle was later rebuilt into a Renaissance residence. During the tour, you can see examples of medieval walls, as well as refurbished princely chambers.



www.zamekgrodno.pl

22 Piastowski Racibórz Castle

The most valuable part in this restored chateau compound is the Chapel of St Thomas of Canterbury, which is considered a prime example of Silesian Gothic.



www.zamekpiastowski.pl

EXPLORING CASTLES AND CHATEAUX

Their interiors and exhibitions will draw you back to the time when the Czech and Polish lands were ruled by the nobility. For a moment, you will be absorbed by the romantic nooks and crannies of chateau parks, enjoy their lush greenery, architectural features, ponds and lakes, and walk along the paths where the bygone owners of these estates used to stroll. Be sure not to miss taking a tour of the UNESCO chateau in Litomyšl. The list of the best sights also includes Baroque gems designed by the famous Jan Blažej Santini-Aichel, or chateaux popularized by Czech and Polish fairy tales and films.

1 Kunín Chateau

Visitors can explore the chateau's interiors in this precious Baroque building, including its bedrooms, a picture gallery, dining room, dance room and loft.



zamek.kunin.cz

2 Tovačov Chateau

Legend has it that the chateau and its distinctive tower were built in the 2nd half of the 11th century as a hunting retreat. Construction work to rebuild the castle into a Renaissance chateau began in the 14th century.

Did you know that...? A unique copy of the Vienna Opera House staircase is situated in the left wing of the chateau.

zamek.tovacov.cz

4 Čechy pod Kosířem Chateau

Visitors may enjoy the classic chateau exhibition, complemented by a collection of paintings by the famous painter Josef Mánes, unparalleled anywhere else in the Czech Republic. As part of the exhibition about the great Czech filmmakers Jan and Zdeněk Svěrák, you can see exhibits covering several movies they have worked on. The chateau park, with an area of 215,000 m² invites visitors to come and take a stroll.



www.zamekcechy.cz



5 Náměšť na Hané Chateau

In this Classicist chateau, surrounded by a circle-shaped park, you can enjoy a walk through Rococo interiors, as well as explore a precious collection of Meissen porcelain and a display of historic children's prams.

www.zamek.namestnahane.cz

6 Velké Losiny Chateau

This Renaissance building, dating from the late-16th century, entices visitors to take a tour of its magnificently furnished interiors.

Did you know that...? The Velké Losiny domain is infamous for its Inquisition trials, during which more than 50 people were burned at the stake in the late-17th century for their alleged witchcraft and pacts with the devil.

www.zamek-velkelosiny.cz

3 Plumlov Chateau

Construction of this early Mannerist chateau on the site of a 13th-century castle was begun by Johann Adam of Liechtenstein in 1680. However, only one wing out of the four grandiose wings that had been planned was ever built. The frontage in particular and its row of mighty columns are especially impressive. The chateau is home to annual music and theatre festivals and workshops.



www.plumlov-zamek.cz



EXPLORING CASTLES AND CHATEAUX

7 Litomyšl Chateau

The chateau is on the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List for its unique sgraffito decoration. This is one of the most beautiful Renaissance buildings in Central Europe, and you can explore its representation halls, rooms, the chateau's chapel, and theatre, as well as view an exhibition on historical pianos and admire the unique figural sgraffito.

Did you know that...? Every year, the chateau plays host to the famous music festival called Smetana's Litomyšl.

www.zamek-litomysl.cz



8 Potštejn Chateau

This Baroque chateau invites visitors to take tours of its interiors, which also include non-traditional tours in the form of a theatre performance or candle-lit tours.

TIP! Come and visit Bubákov (Scaryville) in the chateau's cellars, where you will learn about the history of the chateau and the surrounding area in an entertaining way.

www.zamekpotstejn.cz



10 Častolovice Chateau

This Renaissance chateau draws visitors with its collection of paintings, a large Knight's Hall and its original coffered ceiling, and a former dining room called Tobias's Hall, which is decorated with a gallery of life-size paintings of Czech monarchs.

www.zamek-castolovice.cz



11 Kostelec nad Orlicí New Chateau

The chateau offers its visitors a chance to uncover the history of its owners, the Kinsky family, in several exhibitions: 'Life during the Biedermeier Period', fine art exhibitions in the Kinsky Gallery, and via a short tour of the history of the town of Kostelec nad Orlicí in its museum's exhibition.

www.zamekkostelecno.cz



12 Rychnov nad Kněžnou Chateau

The chateau is one of the largest and most beautiful Baroque estates in the Czech Republic. The building was designed by the famous architect Jan Blažej Santini Aichel.

www.zamekrychnov.cz



9 Doudleby nad Orlicí Chateau

The chateau amazes visitors with its unique sgraffito-decorated facades and painted interiors.

Did you know that...? The chateau was used as a filming location for Juraj Jakubisko's historical epic film – Bathory.



www.zamek-doudleby.cz

13 Opočno Chateau

The Opočno Chateau compound is an extraordinary cluster of heritage buildings that demonstrate the lifestyle and taste of a section of Czech society over the course of five centuries. The chateau, which is surrounded by a naturally landscaped park, has well-preserved historic interiors and large collections of paintings and weapons.



www.zamek-opocno.cz

EXPLORING CASTLES AND CHATEAUX

14 Nové Město nad Metují Chateau

The last time this chateau compound had some building alterations done was in the early 20th century by architect Dušan Jurkovič. The interiors were decorated by a number of remarkable Czech artists, so current visitors can enjoy authentic interiors in the styles of High Art Nouveau, Art Deco, Cubism and Functionalism.

Did you know that...? Baroque statues created by Matthias Bernard Braun can be found in the chateau garden.

www.zamek-nm.cz

15 Náchod Chateau

This Renaissance chateau holds a unique collection of Brussels tapestries, unique painted beam ceilings, as well as collections of jewels dating back to the last owners, the Schaumburg-Lippe family. Different parts of the chateau's history are described during each of five tour routes. Visitors can choose the tour route they find most interesting, or alternatively, they can merge the routes.

Did you know that...? In the former castle moat at the edge of the park is a bear pit, which is currently occupied by two bears – Dáša (Dasha) and Ludvík (Louis).



www.zamek-nachod.cz

18 Dětenice Chateau

This Baroque chateau, dating from the 2nd half of the 18th century, was built on the site of a previous Gothic fortress. Besides a traditional chateau exhibition, you can also visit the Brewery Museum, where you'll see demonstrations of unconventional ways of making beer, go to a medieval tavern, or you can stay overnight in the local adventure hotel.

TIP! During the Fairy Tale Tour, you will play your part in the fairy tale About a Reformed Princess.



www.detenice.cz

16 Hrádek u Nechanic Chateau, Nechanice

One of the most significant Romantic buildings in the Czech Republic was built in the mid-19th century in the Windsor Gothic style as a representative residence for the Counts of Harrach.

www.zamek-hradekunechanic.cz

17 Karlova Koruna Chateau, Chlumec nad Cidlinou

One of the pinnacles of illusive Baroque in the Czech Republic was built to a design by Jan Santini Aichel.

Did you know that...? Karlova Koruna Chateau has received its unusual name – the Charles's Crown – due to its unique ground plan resembling the shape of the King Charles's Crown.

www.karlovakoruna-zamek.cz

19 Sychrov Chateau

This Neo-Gothic chateau gives visitors a perfect glimpse into the lifestyle of a rich noble family living in a country manor house in the 2nd half of the 19th century. The chateau's rooms are furnished with original furniture, paintings and other accessories.

Did you know that...? Sychrov Chateau was used as a filming location for the Czech fairy tales 'Goldilocks' and 'The Immortal Aunt'.

www.zamek-sychrov.cz

20 Frýdlant Chateau

This large and architecturally diverse compound, comprising of a medieval castle and a Renaissance chateau, ranks among the most significant heritage sites in the Czech Republic. Alongside the usual collections of the chateau's furniture and furnishings, the visitors can also see a large collection of weapons, smoking pipes, a unique lordship's office, a children's room, a chateau bathroom, and a preserved kitchen.

www.zamek-frydlant.cz



EXPLORING CASTLES AND CHATEAUX

21 Łomnica Chateau

The Baroque building now serves as a museum, which displays furniture and other fittings characteristic of noble residences in Lower Silesia throughout the 18th and 19th century.

www.palac-lomnica.pl



22 Kamieniec Ząbkowicki Chateau

The construction of this monumental Neo-Gothic chateau was commissioned by Princess Marianne of the Netherlands in the 19th century. Today, you can visit the chateau and see the outcome of its complete renovation.



www.palacmarianny.com.pl

25 Pszczyna Chateau

This chateau compound including an English-style garden is dubbed 'the Polish Versailles'. Unlike many other chateaux and castles in Silesia, which were destroyed during or just after the war, Pszczyna Chateau's original furnishings and furniture have survived, and are now regarded as some of the most valuable treasures of interior architecture in Poland.



www.zamek-pszczyna.pl

23 Jánký vrch Chateau, Javorník in Silesia

The original 14th-century castle was rebuilt into its present-day Baroque style in the mid-18th century. The chateau's original furniture dating from the turn of the 19th century and working gas lighting (in both the interiors and exteriors) are truly unique.

Did you know that...? The largest collection of smoking pipes in Central Europe is found here.



www.zamek-janskyvrch.cz

26 Hradec nad Moravicí Chateau

Visitors can choose from two tour routes, or visit a separate historical exhibition and a picture gallery. The chateau grounds are incorporated into a naturally landscaped park, the largest one in the Moravian-Silesian Region.

Did you know that...? A number of famous people spent some time in the chateau, such as music composers Ludwig van Beethoven and Ferenc Liszt, and the genius violinist Niccolò Paganini.



www.zamek-hradec.cz

24 Niemodlin Chateau

The original 14th-century castle was destroyed several times throughout its history. Its current Baroque style dates from the 18th century.

Did you know that...? Film director Jan Jakub Kolski shot his film 'Jasminum' on the premises.



www.niemodlinzamek.pl

27 Raduň Chateau

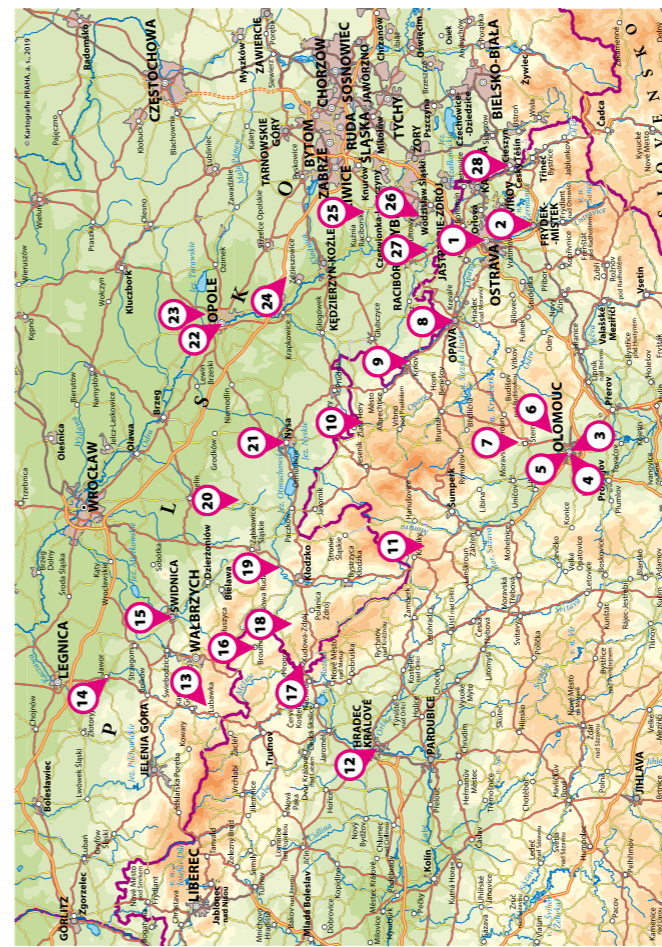
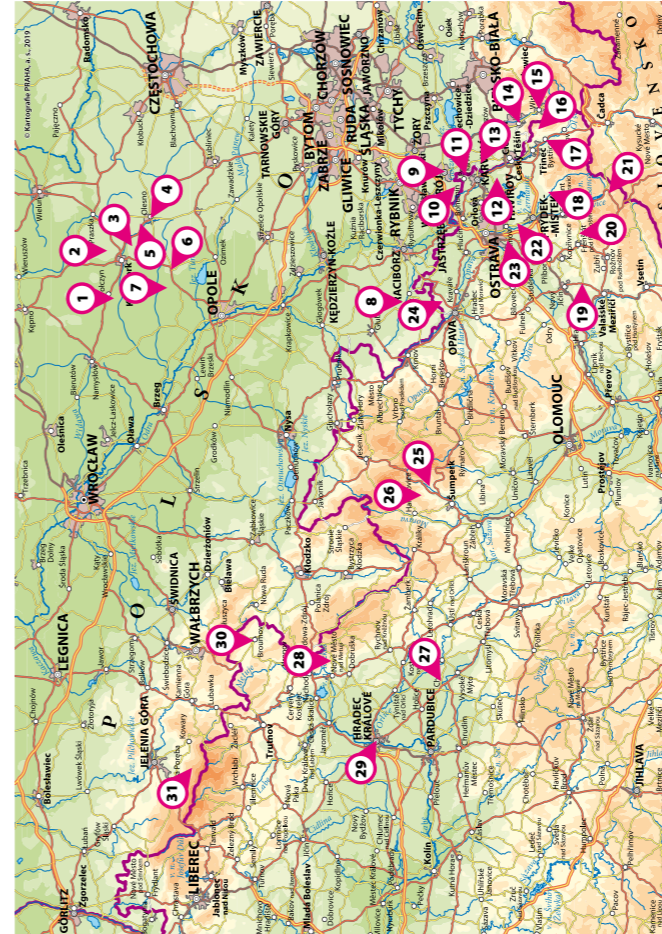
This Neo-Gothic chateau is surrounded by a large forest park and four fishponds. Tours of the chateau will take you to lounges and private rooms, the chateau's library containing some 16,000 volumes, a unique orangery with an adjacent ornamental garden, and newly to the chateau's cellars as well.



www.zamek-radun.cz

EXPLORING SACRAL HERITAGE SITES

CATHEDRALS, MONASTERIES, PILGRIMAGE SITES WOODEN CHURCHES



- 1 | CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL – 2,4,8 km → 2 | EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN MACIEJÓW – 15,2 km →
- 3 | CEMETERY CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY – 6,4 km → 4 | PILGRIMAGE CHURCH OF ST ANNE – 6,9 km → 5 | CHURCH OF MARY MAGDALENE – 22,6 km → 6 | CHURCH OF ST HEDWIG – 5,2 km → 7 | CEMETERY CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE – 109,8 km → 8 | PILGRIMAGE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS – 56,2 km → 9 | CHURCH OF ST BARBARA AND ST. JOSEPH – 9,5 km → 10 | CHURCH OF ST ANNE – 5,3 km → 11 | CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD – 15,4 km → 12 | CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL – 12,4 km → 13 | CHURCH OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS – 32,6 km → 14 | CHURCH OF ST ANNE – 11,5 km → 15 | CHURCH OF ST HEDWIG OF SILESIA – 34,4 km → 16 | CHURCH OF ST NICHOLAS – 3,6 km → 17 | CHURCH OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS – 30,6 km → 18 | CHURCH OF ST ANTHONY OF PADUA – 47,6 km → 19 | CHURCH OF ST ANDREW – 24 km → 20 | CHURCH OF ST. PROCOPIUS – 25,5 km → 21 | CHURCH OF ST FREDERICK – 38,4 km → 22 | CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS – 20,5 km → 23 | CHURCH OF ST PETER AND ST. PAUL – 50 km → 24 | CHURCH OF ST CATHERINE – 96,3 km → 25 | CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL – 8,5 km → 26 | CHURCH OF ST MARTIN – 131,4 km → 27 | CZECHOSLOVAK EVANGELICAL CHURCH – 71,8 km → 28 | CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST – 44,6 km → 29 | CHURCH OF ST NICHOLAS – 74,7 km → 30 | CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY – 68,5 km → 31 | WANG CHURCH

Route length: 1111 km

- 1 | CATHEDRAL OF THE DIVINE SAVIOUR – 23 km → 2 | BASILICA OF THE VISITATION OF THE VIRGIN MARY – 90,8 km → 3 | ST WENCESLAS CATHEDRAL – 937 m → 4 | CHURCH OF ST MAURICE – 3,4 km → 5 | HRADISKO MONASTERY – 9,2 km → 6 | MINOR BASILICA OF THE VISITATION OF THE VIRGIN MARY – 16,4 km → 7 | FORMER AUGUSTINIAN MONASTERY – 58,1 km → 8 | CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY – 22,1 km → 9 | CHURCH OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS AND SEVEN SORROWS OF THE VIRGIN MARY – 41,4 km → 10 | PILGRIMAGE CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY MARIAHILF – 75,5 km → 11 | PILGRIMAGE SITE AT THE MOTHER OF GOD MOUNTAIN – 83,1 km → 12 | CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT – 76,3 km → 13 | CISTERCIAN MONASTERY, KRĚSOBOR – 47,8 km → 14 | CHURCHES OF PEACE, JAWOR – 48,9 km → 15 | CHURCHES OF PEACE, ŚWIDNICA – 52,2 km → 16 | BROUMOV MONASTERY – 34,5 km → 17 | OSSUARY IN CZERMA – 35,5 km → 18 | BASILICA OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, WAMBIERZYCE – 30,7 km → 19 | BASILICA OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, BARDO – 32,1 km → 20 | CISTERCIAN MONASTERY, HENRYKÓW – 37,7 km → 21 | BASILICA OF ST JAMES AND ST. AGNES – 56,5 km → 22 | CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY CROSS – 8,1 km → 23 | CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY – 40,6 km → 24 | BASILICA OF ST. ANNE – 61,2 km → 25 | CISTERCIAN MONASTERY WITH A BASILICA – 23,4 km → 26 | BASILICA OF THE NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY – 19,3 km → 27 | KOSTEL SV. APOŠTOLŮ PETRA A PAVLA – 51,2 km → 28 | CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE

Route length: 1080 km

CATHEDRALS, MONASTERIES, PILGRIMAGE SITES

Even though the Czech Republic is considered the world's most atheistic country, you'll find an incredibly high number of entrancing places of pilgrimage, churches, and monasteries there. In contrast, Poland has maintained its Christian tradition, and can among other things boast of unique wooden churches, which have been put on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

1 Cathedral of the Divine Saviour, Ostrava

This three-nave Neo-Renaissance cathedral is the second largest church in all Moravia, right after the Velehrad's basilica.

Did you know that...? Transparent displays showing various visual art have been installed in the six windows of the cathedral, thus continuing the age-old tradition of stained glass church windows.



3 St Wenceslas Cathedral, Olomouc

The construction of the cathedral began as far back as the early 12th century. It was then transformed into its present look between 1883 and 1892. Today, the cathedral presents itself as a distinctive monumental creation, blend of different architectural periods, from the Romanesque style to Neo-Gothic Romanticism. The cathedral's unique features include the Moravia's largest bell, weighing eight tonnes; and an accessible crypt, where bishops and archbishops are buried. The Neo-Gothic altar holds a reliquary with the remains of St John Sarkander.



4 Church of St Maurice, Olomouc

This Late Gothic three-nave church, which has a cross vault, boasts two asymmetrical prismatic towers, and the largest organ in Central Europe. The church is currently undergoing extensive renovations, which will be completed in late 2021.



5 Hradisko Monastery, Olomouc

The monastery was built in the 11th century as a residence for the Benedictines. However, members of this order were forced to leave in the 12th century, and they were replaced by the Premonstratensians. The monastery suffered many catastrophic events and was severely damaged on several occasions. Its present-day style is Baroque, and it has been the site of a military hospital for more than 200 years. One of its towers houses an exhibition on the monastery's history.



TIP! World Museum and the Bible Library, Jablunkov

You can explore an exhibition on the most famous book, the Bible, and other spiritual books in the old monastery building. Some of the exhibits you can see here include Melantrich's Bible editions from the 16th century, a Bible edition written in the language of the African Zulu tribe, and a Bible edition written in Esperanto, an artificially created language. The highlights include a manuscript of the Gospel of Mark handwritten on cigarette papers and a waterproof Bible displayed in an aquarium filled with water.

www.muzeumbible.cz

EXPLORING SACRAL HERITAGE SITES

2 Basilica of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary, Frýdek-Místek

The Baroque pilgrimage church, built between 1740 and 1759, is surrounded by historicist chapels of the Way of the Cross and the Roman Chapel. A group of sculptures of saints dating from 1760–1949 is situated on the ramp in front of two front church towers.



6 Minor Basilica of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary, Sv. Kopeček near Olomouc

The basilica at Sv. Kopeček (Holy Hill) is one of the best known and most visited pilgrimage sites in the Czech Republic. It was built at the turn of the 18th century on the site of a chapel that had been destroyed by the Swedish troops. During his visit to the basilica in 1995, Pope John Paul II elevated it to the rank of minor basilica.



www.svatykopecek.cz

TIP! Church of the Purification of the Virgin Mary, and the Parsonage, Dub nad Moravou

This Baroque basilica is an important Marian pilgrimage site dating back to the first half of the 18th century.

7 Former Augustinian Monastery, Šternberk

The oldest Augustinian Premonstratensian monastery in Moravia was founded in 1371. The monastery was closed in 1786, and the buildings served as a military hospital during the Napoleonic Wars. The present-day Baroque appearance is the product of several architectural transformations in the 18th century.

EXPLORING SACRAL HERITAGE SITES

8 Co-Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Opava

This monumental, brick-built Gothic three-nave co-cathedral with two front towers and a polygonal presbytery, built in the 14th century, is located in the city centre. It was built on older foundations and then rebuilt in the Baroque style in the second half of the 18th century and in the early 20th century.



9 Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and Seven Sorrows of the Virgin Mary, Krnov

This Baroque pilgrimage church with two front towers looms majestically above Krnov. The tradition of pilgrimages here is more than 400 years old.

Did you know that...?

There is a legend from the 17th century pertaining to a painting located on the main altar of the church, it speaks about the healing powers the painting of the Virgin Mary of Seven Sorrows possesses.



10 Pilgrimage Church of the Virgin Mary Mariahilf, Zlaté Hory

In the woods south of Zlaté Hory lies a renewed pilgrimage site, dedicated to the Virgin Mary Mariahilf – the Protector of Unborn Children.



11 Pilgrimage Site at the Mother of God Mountain, Dolní Hedeč

You can find this monumental Baroque monastery, complete with the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, a cloister, the Holy Stairs Chapel, a cemetery and a pilgrimage house at Mariánský kopec (Marian's Mound) above the town of Králíky. The monastery's unique features include the Holy Stairs, which are an imitation of the stairs at Antonia Castle in Jerusalem, which were later moved to Rome.



www.klasterkraliky.cz

12 Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Hradec Králové

This is a building of extraordinary significance. Built in the 14th century in a Late Gothic phase, and then re-Gothicized in the second half of the 19th century, it is a distinctive dominant landmark of the city, and an important example of Brick Gothic architecture.



13 Cistercian Monastery, Křesobor

This monastery ranks among the most precious artistic monuments in Silesia. The best Central European Baroque artists contributed to its construction and decoration. The Monastery Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, in which you can see paintings by Michael Willmann (the so-called 'Silesian Rembrandt'), is a typical High Baroque sacred building. Its organ, made by Michael Engler of Vratislav, is considered the best organ in Silesia. Engler also made the organ in the Church of St Maurice in Olomouc.

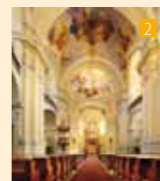
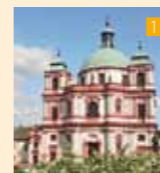
Did you know that...? In 1946, a convoy laden with thousands of manuscripts left the monastery to set out on a journey. However, it mysteriously disappeared. Among the manuscripts were autographed scores by W. A. Mozart, L. van Beethoven, J. S. Bach and other composers. Some volumes of the sheet music resurfaced in East Germany in 1965, as well as at Jagiellonian University in Kraków.



Basilica of St Lawrence and St Zdislava with the Dominican Monastery, Jablonné v Podještědí

This Baroque basilica was built at the turn of the 18th century.

TIP! Those who are interested can have a look into 39-metre deep catacombs, which have been used as a place of burial for Dominican monks since the end of the 18th century.



Basilica of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary, Hejnice

This Baroque church stands on the site of an old pilgrimage place. The most precious item in the minor basilica is a wooden Gothic sculpture of the Black Madonna dating back to 1380. The cathedral also houses a display of the Hejnice Nativity Scene made in the 18th century.

TIP! Classical music concerts are held here during the summer season.

www.klasterhejnice.cz

TIP! Kuks Hospital

This is an 18th-century hospital with the Church of the Holy Trinity and a count's tomb, a vestry and a Baroque pharmacy. Set against the authentic backdrop of Baroque cellars, you can become treasure hunters for a moment and try an escape room game (→ p. 15).

www.zkuskuks.cz



Churches of Peace, Jawor ¹⁴ and Świdnica ¹⁵ UNESCO

This set of wooden sacral buildings was built in the 1650s in the Silesian towns of Jawor, Świdnica and Głogów (the last mentioned is the only one that has not survived). Following their restoration, the churches were put on the UNESCO World Cultural heritage list in 2001 for their unique Baroque interiors. The Church of Peace in Świdnica is the largest half-timbered church in Europe, with a capacity of seven and a half thousand people. It is also known for its organ – a festival of music by Johann Sebastian Bach is held here every year.



Did you know that...? *The Churches were named after the Peace of Westphalia, which was signed at the end of the Thirty Years' War in 1648. Protestant Sweden made Emperor Ferdinand III promise that Lutherans could hold church services in churches in Silesia that the faithful would build at their own expense. There was a condition though: the churches had to be built only from wood, clay, and straw; they also had to be located outside the town, while at the same time being within the firing range of the cannons (so that they could not be used during uprisings and conflicts).*

www.kosciolpokoju.pl

17 Ossuary in Czerwna, Kudowa-Zdrój

The Ossuary was built next to the local church in 1776. It was built by a local pastor, who had, together with a gravedigger and a sacristan, collected bones that were in mass graves of the victims of the Thirty Years' War, the Silesian Wars, as well as cholera epidemics, and moved the bones to a small chapel. The walls of the chapel are covered with 3,000 human skulls. The bones of another 21,000 people are in the foundations, and the skulls of the founders are on the altar. This is the only monument of this kind in Poland.



19 Basilica of the Mother of God, Bardo

The basilica was built on the site of two previous small churches at the turn of the 18th century. An 11th-century wooden figure of the Miraculous Mother of God is displayed on the main altar.



20 Cistercian Monastery, Henryków

The circumstances surrounding the establishment of the monastery are described in the Book of Henryków, a monastery chronicle containing the first sentence ever to be written in Polish. The present-day Baroque style of the monastery is the product of its 17th-century rebuilding.

EXPLORING SACRAL HERITAGE SITES

16 Broumov Monastery

During your tour of the monastery, you will see the beautifully decorated Church of St Adalbert, a refectory with a unique copy of the Shroud of Turin, and a preserved monastery library with 17,000 volumes of books. You can also explore a display of the Vamberk mummies and a freely accessible monastery garden.



www.klasterbroumov.cz

18 Basilica of the Mother of God, Wambierzyce

The basilica towers above a rather small square, from which 57 steps lead to the basilica, bearing a symbolic meaning: 9 (the number of the Choirs of Angels) + 33 (the age of Jesus Christ at his crucifixion) + 15 (the age of the Virgin Mary at the conception of Jesus Christ). A calvary with roughly 100 chapels, small chapels and 12 gates emerged between the 17th and 19th century.



21 Basilica of St James and St. Agnes, Nysa

The Basilica of St James and St Agnes is one of the largest Gothic churches in Poland. This is an impressive building with many art treasures inside, such as a valuable collection of gravestone sculptural works of art (between the 15th and 18th century). The main Late Gothic altar and a Renaissance triptych, a statue of St Anne dating back to 1500, and a baptismal font dating back to the end of the 15th century are all worth your attention. Close to the front of the basilica is a standalone Late Gothic belfry building.



EXPLORING SACRAL HERITAGE SITES

TIP! Basilica of St Joseph and the Franciscan Monastery, Prudnik

The church and the Franciscan Monastery were built near the town's outskirts, just under 5 km southwest of the Old Town. The church and the small monastery were consecrated in 1852.

23 Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Jemielnica

This is a Cistercian monastery church built in the 14th century, which bears Gothic and Baroque architectural elements.



24 Basilica of St. Anne, St. Anne Mountain

It has been a pilgrimage site for more than 500 years. Its first written mention is from 1516. The basilica has been rebuilt and modernized many times. The present-day interior is from 1957–1964.



25 Cistercian Monastery with a Basilica, Rudy

The monastery was founded by the Cistercian Order in the 13th century. A number of Gothic elements are apparent in the building's original architecture. However, its proportions are those of the Romanesque style. The basilica should therefore be viewed as an example of a transitional style which connects elements pertaining to both time periods. The medieval monastery underwent some changes in the 17th and 18th century.



www.rudy-opactwo.pl

27 Church of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, Tworków

The church was built in the Baroque style on the site of a previous wooden church between 1691 and 1694. In the 1990s, when the church was undergoing repairs, eleven 17th-century lavishly decorated coffins were uncovered under the floor. Copper sarcophagi, including the clothing that was retrieved, are displayed in a side chapel of the church. This collection is comparable to similar exhibited collections in Wawel Castle in Kraków, in Vienna, and Munich.



22 Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Opole

This is a Gothic church with two Neo-Gothic 73-metre-tall towers. The cathedral was consecrated in 1295. Inside is a stellar vault dating back to the mid-16th century. The Gothic painting of the Virgin Mary of Opole, dating back to around 1480, in the side-altar, is one of the most valuable decorations.



TIP! Basilica of St. Joseph and the Franciscan Monastery, Prudnik

The construction of the cathedral commenced after the end of World War 2. In 1959, an original statue from Fatima was brought to the cathedral. The surroundings house a calvary with the Way of the Cross built in 1959, twenty rosary chapels and the Cloister Garden with a well.

TIP! Cathedral of St. Nicholas, Bielsko-Biala

The cathedral was built in 1447, and then rebuilt in the modernist style in 1912. Inside are relics of St Nicholas, St Francis of Assisi, the children of Fatima, and Blessed Fr. Jerzy Popiełuszko (a Polish martyr).

28 Church of St Mary Magdalene, Cieszyn

The original Gothic church dating from the 13th century was rebuilt in the Baroque style in 1790.



WOODEN CHURCHES

EXPLORING SACRAL HERITAGE SITES

There are only 37 surviving wooden churches in the whole Czech Republic, most of which were built between the 18th and 19th century. One of the largest ones is All Saints' Church in Sedliště. In addition to Poland's unique wooden churches in Jawor and Świdnica (→ p. 48), both of which are UNESCO sites, Wang in Karpacz also stands out. The church was named after the Norwegian village where it was originally built in the 12th century. The entire building is made of Norwegian pinewood, and you won't find any nails there.

1 Church of St Michael the Archangel, Gierałcice

The church was built in 1694.

3 Cemetery Church of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, Chocianowice

The church was built on the site of a previous church in 1662. It was under the patronage of the Knights of the Cross Order until 1810.



4 Pilgrimage Church of St Anne, Oleśno

This church, which has a rich Baroque decor, was built on the site of a miracle that had purportedly happened there in 1518.



5 Church of Mary Magdalene, Stare Oleśno

The church was built in 1680.



8 Pilgrimage Church of the Holy Cross, Pietrowice Wielkie

The pilgrimage church was built in the Baroque style in 1667. The main altar holds a painting of Jesus Christ, that was according to legends found in a nearby lake.



2 Evangelical Church in Maciejów

The first mention of the church dates back to 1446. The church was passed over to the Protestants in 1532. The present-day look came into being during the 16th and 17th century. The interior of the church dates back to the 17th and 18th century.



6 Church of St Hedwig, Bierdzany

The church was built in 1711, and its interior has a rich Baroque decor.



9 Church of St Barbara and St. Joseph in Jastrzębie-Zdrój

This is a 17th-century Baroque church with valuable Baroque sculptures and an altar.



EXPLORING SACRAL HERITAGE SITES

10 Church of St Anne, Golkowice

The church was built in 1878. However, its history goes back much further and is linked with the chateau chapel in which church services for the local princely court had been held.



13 Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Kaczyce

The church was built in the village of Ruptawa in 1620. It was moved to the village of Kaczyce in the 1970s. Its interior is decorated in the Baroque style.



TIP! Church of St Andrew, Gilowice

This 1547 Neo-Gothic church stood in Rychwałd and was disassembled and moved to Gilowice in 1757.



16 Church of St Nicholas, Nýdek

This originally evangelical church was built in 1576. It was rebuilt between the 18th and 20th century.



11 Church of the Ascension of the Lord, Dolní Marklovice

This is a timbered church with a conical stanchion tower built in 1739. It is part of the exceptional group of Silesia's wooden churches. The interior is decorated with unique wall paintings dating back to the mid-18th century.



TIP! Church of St Barbara, Bielsko-Biala, Mikuszowice

This small larch-wood church was built in 1690 on the site of an earlier church dating from 1455.

Did you know that...?

The church was paid for by a former bandit in 1455, as compensation for damages that he had caused. Even though the church survived a raid by Swedish troops, it burned down in 1687 during a Christening ceremony.



14 Church of St Anne, Ustron

The church was built in 1769.



17 Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Bystřice

The church, built in 1897, is an example of romanticizing historicism from the late 19th century, featuring elements of folk architecture. It was inspired by buildings designed by D. Jurkovič.



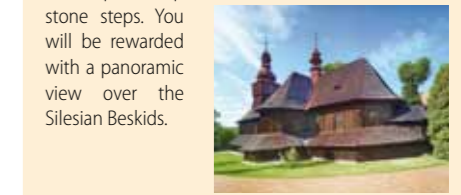
12 Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Albrechtice

This is a wooden, single-nave Baroque church with a four-sided entrance tower topped with an onion-shaped, metal-plated Baroque dome, built in 1766. It was originally dedicated to the Archangel Michael, while today it is dedicated to St Peter and St Paul. The small church can be found within the grounds of the local cemetery.



TIP! Church of St Simon and St Jude Thaddaeus, Lodygowice

The size of this church, which was built between 1631 and 1634, will astound you. It is enormous compared to other wooden churches (it's roughly 40 metres long!). To get to the church, you have to climb up 56 steep stone steps. You will be rewarded with a panoramic view over the Silesian Beskids.



15 Church of St Hedwig of Silesia, Wisła

The church was built in 1909 and is located on the premises of the Polish President's residence.



18 Church of St Anthony of Padua, Vyšní Lhoty

This is a single-nave, non-oriented timbered church, built in 1640. A vestry was added at the southern face of the presbytery in 1779. A small tower was added in 1860, and then modified in 1907.



EXPLORING SACRAL HERITAGE SITES

19 Church of St Andrew, Hodslavice

This church from 1551 is one of the oldest wooden churches in the Beskids.

Do you know that...? In close proximity to the church, you can find several reminders of a famous local – the great historian and politician František Palacký (1798–1876), who is depicted on the 1,000 CZK banknote.



20 Church of St. Procopius, Kunčice pod Ondřejníkem

The church was built in the 17th century. It was brought here from Hlíňance in Carpathian Ruthenia in 1931. A new tower and shingle roofing were the only things added to the building. The interior furnishings, including the iconostasis, are also original.



21 Church of St Frederick, Bílá

The church was built between 1872 and 1875. It was designed by Anton Kybast, an archiepiscopal architect in Olomouc, and modelled after Norwegian medieval stave churches (called stavkirken). It is the only original representative of this kind of church in Central Europe.



22 Church of All Saints, Sedliště

This church from 1638 is one of the most precious wooden sacral monuments in the Czech Republic. Apart from the church tower, which was completely rebuilt in the middle of the 19th century, the church has managed to remain otherwise intact. The richly decorated interior is more than worth to see – to do so, please contact the parish in advance.



TIP! Church of St Michael, Řepiště

This is a wooden timbered, single-nave church. The date of its construction is unknown. It was first mentioned in 1606. It was extensively re-built to its present-day style in 1820.

23 Church of St Peter and St. Paul, Hněvošice

This Baroque church, built in the 1730s, stands on a knoll above the village within the cemetery grounds.



25 Church of St. Michael the Archangel, Maršíkov

The Late Gothic, timbered Church of St Michael, with its Renaissance chancel interior, was built in 1609. This small, timbered church is located in the eastern part of the village of Maršíkov. It is the oldest preserved folk building in Northern Moravia. The building was later refurbished in the Baroque and Rococo styles. The church can be visited upon prior arrangement.

www.farnostlosiny.cz



26 Church of St Martin, Žárová

The Renaissance wooden timbered Church of St. Martin is situated in the centre of the village of Žárová, which lies 4 km northwest of Velké Losiny. This small church is exceptional due to its authenticity, untouched by any later renovations or alterations. The church can be visited upon prior arrangement.

www.iclosiny.cz

TIP! Church of St Bartholomew, Kočí

This Gothic wooden church, built in the late 14th century, captures visitors' attention with its Renaissance and Baroque murals and wooden ceiling. The church grounds also include a wooden, shingle-roofed belfry and a unique covered wooden bridge.

www.obec-koci.cz/kostel

24 Church of St Catherine, Ostrava

The original church, built in the first half of the 16th century, was destroyed in a fire in 2002. It was replaced by a copy built using the scientific reconstruction method in 2004.



27 Czechoslovak Evangelical Church, Dobříkov

This timbered church, originally a small Greek Orthodox church built in Carpathian Ruthenia in 1669, has been saved from being destroyed by being transferred to Dobříkov.



EXPLORING SACRAL HERITAGE SITES

TIP! Church of St Nicholas, Veliny

This cluster of a Neo-Baroque church, belfry and mortuary was built in the mid-18th century. The church was built in the Late Rococo style in 1752.

Did you know that...? The church vestry presently houses a very curious object called the 'Josephinian coffin' dating from around the 1780s. At that time, in order to save wood used for making coffins, especially when there were a lot of deaths during epidemics, the deceased were lowered into their graves by opening the bottom of their coffins. However, due to strong opposition from the masses, this method of burying existed only for a short period of time.

TIP! Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Liberk

This is the site of an Early Baroque wooden church at the edge of a small town, next to a parsonage and medieval castle ruins. It is composed of a wooden, single-nave church building, a stanchion belfry and a single-storey parsonage.



28 Church of St. John the Baptist, Slavoňov

This is a well-preserved site with a timbered Renaissance church and a fortification belfry, an added morgue, a solid wall fence and a Crucifixion stone. It is one of the oldest preserved compounds of this kind in the Czech Republic. Inside the church is a folk wall painting dating back to 1705.



29 Church of St Nicholas, Hradec Králové

This is a small Greek Orthodox church of the Boikian type, with original historical home furnishings. The church was bought from the Greek Orthodox religious community in Malé Polany, Eastern Slovakia.



30 Church of the Virgin Mary, Broumov

Built around 1450, the church is the oldest wooden church in the Czech Republic. One of its interior features that deserves attention is the ceiling decorated with stencil paintings, probably dating back to 1450, whose motifs revolve around plants, hunting and heraldry, and include texts written in Gothic Fraktur.



TIP! Church of St George, Loučná Hora

These grounds are composed of a timbered rural church with a wooden belfry and an 18th-century fence.

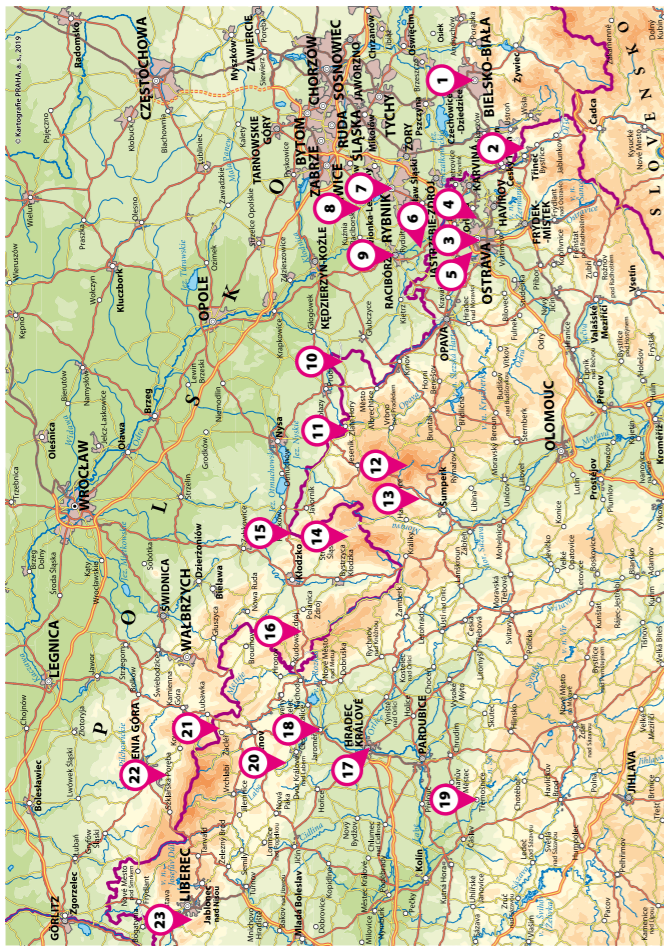


31 Wang Church, Karpacz

This church is a Protestant wooden shrine, situated on the Polish side of the Krkonoše, in the town of Karpacz (previously German Krummhübel). The original Viking church had been in a Norwegian fishing village called Vang since 1175 (the Valdres area), and was named after the village. It was brought to the north side of the Krkonoše in the mid-19th century. Today, over 200,000 tourists visit the church every year.

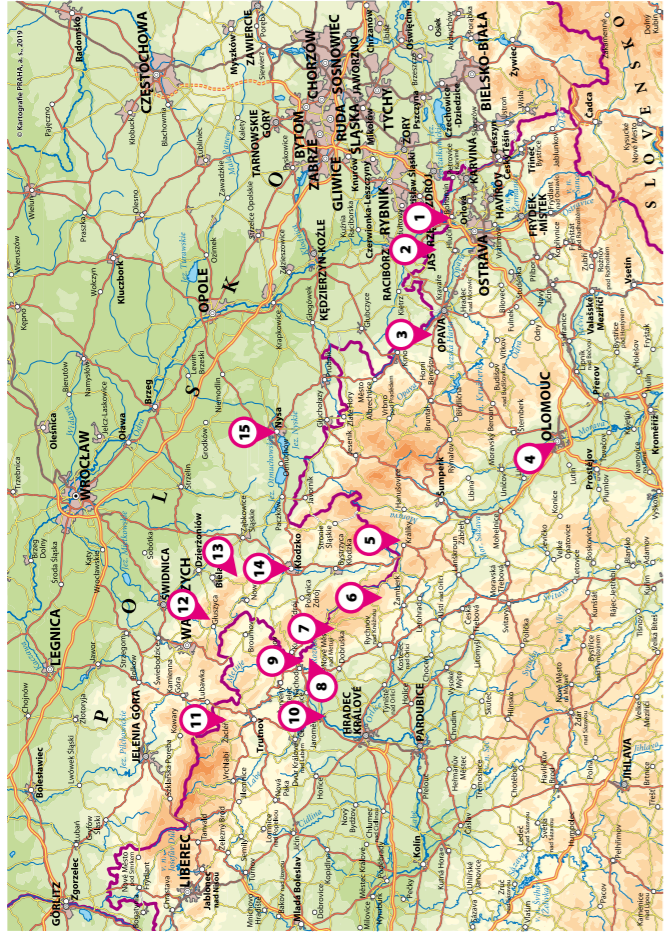
Did you know that...? The church is known as 'the church of happy marriages'.





- 1 | OLD FACTORY – 42,4 km → 2 | LIME KILNS – 46,6 km → 3 | LOWER VÍTKOVICE – 8,8 km → 4 | MICHAL MINE – 9,9 km → 5 | LANDEK PARK – 18,6 km → 6 | WATER MILL IN TWORCÓW – 31,5 km → 7 | IGNACY MINE – 13,8 km → 8 | HISTORIC NARROW-GAUGE RAILWAY STATION – 22,6 km → 9 | SILESIA GEOPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY – 47,9 km → 10 | OSOBLAHA NARROW-GAUGE RAILWAY – 33,8 km → 11 | GOLD ORE MILLS – 62,2 km → 12 | PUMPED STORAGE HYDROELECTRIC PLANT – 12,1 km → 13 | VELKÉ LOSINY HANDMADE PAPER MILL – 48,6 km → 14 | URANIUM MINE – 29,8 km → 15 | GOLD MINE – 41,4 km → 16 | MUSEUM OF PAPERMAKING – 59,9 km → 17 | HUČÁK HYDROELECTRIC PLANT ON THE LABE – 20 km → 18 | VÝTOPNA RAILWAY MUSEUM – 67,5 km → 19 | BERL'S LIME FACTORY – 83,5 km → 20 | LES KRÁLOVSTVÍ RESERVOIR – 39,2 km → 21 | ŽACLĚŘ MINING OPEN-AIR MUSEUM – 55,5 km → 22 | JULIA GLASS WORKS – 66,5 km → 23 | JEŠTĚD

Route length: 862 km



- 1 | MUSEUM 'NA TRATI' – 10,2 km → 2 | HLUČÍN-DARKOVIČKY CZECHOSLOVAK FORTIFICATION COMPOUND – 30,8 km → 3 | CZECHARMED FORCES MEMORIAL AND CZECHOSLOVAK FORTIFICATION IN MILOSTOVICE, OPAVA AND HŮRKA – 68,2 km → 4 | IMPERIAL AND ROYAL FORTRESS, OLOMOUC – 77,6 km → 5 | MUSEUM – FORTIFICATION BOUDA AND HŮRKA – 32,6 km → 6 | HANIČKA FORT – 33,7 km → 7 | SKUTINA FORT – 15,7 km → 8 | DOBROŠOV FORTRESS – 8,7 km → 9 | BÉLOVES FORTRESS OPEN-AIR MUSEUM – 25,4 km → 10 | JOSEFOV FORTRESS – 39,7 km → 11 | STACHELBERG FORTRESS – 66 km → 12 | RIESE COMPLEX – 29 km → 13 | SREBRNA GÓRA FORTRESS – 27 km → 14 | KLODSKO FORTRESS – 55 km → 15 | NYSA FORTRESS

Route length: 538 km

EXPLORING SITES OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND MILITARY HERITAGE

EXPLORING SITES OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND MILITARY HERITAGE

TECHNOLOGICAL HERITAGE SITES

Awaken your curiosity and visit old mines; let the views over the majestic reservoir in the world's third largest hydro-power plant, set in the Jeseníky landscape, carry you away; enjoy an unconventional ride on a narrow-gauge railway; take a peek inside the world-famous Robot Factory; or try to pan for a gold nugget in Zlaté Hory. You can experience all this, and much more, while exploring the unique technological landmarks in the Czech and Polish borderlands.

1 Old Factory, Bielsko-Biala

Established in 1979, the purpose of the Textile Production Museum was to collect artefacts related to the centre of the wool industry in Bielsko-Biala. These mostly include different kinds of machinery and equipment used for spinning and weaving, as well as millinery machinery.

muzeum.bielsko.pl

2 Lime Kilns, Vendryně

The kilns were built in the early 19th century, when iron ore was mined in the village. Around the same time, lime was mined there and then fired in 'Wopienkas', as the kilns were called in the local dialect. These are two circular, shaft furnaces, which were put out of operation in 1965.



TIP! Museum of Ustroń

The museum's permanent exhibition shows visitors the history of the town and local industry.

www.muzeum.ustron.pl



3 Lower Vítkovice, Ostrava

This globally unique site, where coal was mined and crude iron produced between 1828 and 1998, is today an outstanding educational, social and cultural centre. The Gong Multipurpose Auditorium and its gallery, the U6 Small World of Technology and Landek Park, which houses the largest exhibition on mining in the Czech Republic, are all part of Lower Vítkovice.



TIP! Tatra Museum of Technology, Kopřivnice

The most complete collection covering the Kopřivnice Vehicle Production Plant, which later won renown as the phenomenal TATRA Car Manufacturer.



www.tatramuseum.cz

Did you know that...? The site also includes the Big World of Technology, where science and technology are presented as a fun game, and the Hlubina cultural quarter, which attracts musicians and artists.

www.ostravainfo.cz

4 Michal Mine, Ostrava

In this former mine, you can walk along the route the miners used to take before the actual work in the mine commenced. Here you can see, for instance, a chain changing room, showers, a badge storage room, register room, lamp room and a food dispensary. There is also a geologist's office and a medical room. The unique steam machine, dating from 1903 and still in working order today, is the pride of the museum.

www.ostravainfo.cz



5 Landek Park, Ostrava

In this largest mining museum in the Czech Republic, you can go down in a cage lift to a coal seam and experience for a while what it was like for the miners down in the pit. In addition to the mining exhibition, be sure you also visit the exhibition on mine rescue work, mining and excavating machinery, the history of mine transportation and settlements.



www.ostravainfo.cz

EXPLORING SITES OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND MILITARY HERITAGE

6 Water Mill in Tworków

The 1914 Water Mill is still in working order and produces around 3 tonnes of flour per day.



7 Ignacy Mine, Rybnik

The Industrial and Cultural Centre serves not only as a history museum where visitors can see, for instance, steel headframes, an observation tower, distribution substations, steam machinery and many other mining artefacts, but also as a cultural centre for the entire region.

www.zabytkitechniki.pl

TIP! Robot Factory, Moszna

In this museum, you can explore robots, especially sci-fi movie characters, the biggest of which is up to 3.5 metres tall and weighs nearly a tonne. There are also a lot of utility items here. Everything is made mostly from automotive scrap.



www.fabrykarobotow.com.pl

9 Silesian Geophysical Observatory, Racibórz

The observatory was founded in the 1920s to conduct research into the negative aspects of mining activities. Today, you can explore old seismographs displayed in a small museum located in the basement of the building.



www.igf.edu.pl

8 Historic Narrow-Gauge Railway Station in Rudy

Rudy's narrow-gauge railway is one of the most interesting sites along the Industrial Monuments Trail in Silesian Voivodeship. Here we can find, for instance, a station building, a three-track locomotive depot hall, a water tower, eight locomotives and a few train carriages. However, the biggest attraction is the railway rides in historic train carriages available along two routes.



EXPLORING SITES OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND MILITARY HERITAGE

10 Osoblaha Narrow-Gauge Railway, Osoblaha

Both traditional and steam trains have been regularly running on the last remaining narrow-gauge railway between Třemešná and Osoblaha at the foot of the Jeseníky Mountains for over 120 years.

www.osoblazsko.com



TIP! Weaving Traditions Centre, Prudnik

The centre strives to keep alive and interpret the tradition of the textile industry, which has been growing here since the 19th century.

www.muzeumprudnik.pl



TIP! Háj Hydroelectric Plant, Třeština

The hydraulic structure was built between 1921 and 1924. This is a modern architecture gem built during the interwar period.



12 Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Plant, Dlouhé Stráně

It is the third largest pumped storage hydroelectric plant in the world and the largest hydroelectric structure in the Czech Republic. Most facilities are situated underground. The buildings above the surface have been sensitively incorporated into the surrounding landscape, and together they form a harmonious whole. Tours are available all year round. Online booking in advance is necessary. The tour will take you to technological operations carried out in vast underground halls, the lower reservoir and the imposing upper reservoir.

www.dlouhe-strane.cz

11 Gold Ore Mills, Zlaté Hory

The Valley of Lost Adits features a replica of 14th-century gold-ore mills as a remembrance of the golden times of gold mining in the region.



13 Velké Losiny Handmade Paper Mill

Today, the Handmade Paper Mill is one of the oldest working facilities of its kind in Europe. Paper is made here from cotton and flax using traditional methods. Due to its durability, the paper is primarily used in visual arts, for important correspondence, presentation purposes, and in book-making and antique restoration work.

muzeumpapiru.cz



15 Gold Mine, Złoty Stok

(→ p. 29)



14 Uranium Mine, Kletno

(→ p. 27)



16 Museum of Papermaking, Duszniki-Zdrój

(→ p. 26)



TIP! Scythe Factory, Karlovice

This historic, rural building houses a display on the making of small farming tools, a forestry exhibition and an exhibition on rural life. During special tours, you can try washing laundry on a washboard and basket weaving.

technotrasa.cz/kosarna

TIP! Mill in Brzeźnica

The brick mill, built in the 1920s, was put back into operation in 2006.

Did you know that...? *The mill is linked with Joseph von Eichendorff, a German Romantic poet who fell in unrequited love with the miller's daughter and reflected his feelings in his poem entitled 'Das zerbrochene Ring' (The Broken Ring).*



TIP! Royal Iron Works in Zagwizdziej

This 18th-century former royal iron works compound includes brick buildings (a store house, foundry and smithy connected via two channels).



EXPLORING SITES OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND MILITARY HERITAGE

17 Hučák Hydroelectric Plant on the Labe, Hradec Králové

In 1912, a run-of-the-river hydroelectric plant was built beside the 1910 steam power plant. You can see historic artefacts from the National Museum of Technology, and take a look in a power generation process facility.

www.cez.cz/hucak



18 Výtopna Railway Museum, Jaroměř

You can reminisce about the times when trains ran only on steam in an over 100-year-old steam engine roundhouse located near the Jaroměř train station.

Did you know that...? The exhibition features the oldest steam engine that is still in working order, dating from 1879.

www.vytopnajaromer.cz



20 Les Království Reservoir, Bílá Třemešná

Les Království Reservoir is a dam reservoir on the Labe River. It is situated at the Těšnov hamlet in the Bílá Třemešná cadastral area, four kilometres upstream from the town of Dvůr Králové nad Labem. The structure was built in the romanticized pseudo-Gothic style (1910–1919).

prehrada-les-kralovstvi.cz



22 Julia Glass Works, Piechovice

Hand-decorated crystal glass products have been made in the Julia Glass Works for nearly 200 years now. In addition to viewing work being performed by the best craftspeople, visitors can enjoy special demonstrations and workshops here.

hutajulia.com



TIP! Museum of Ceramics, Bolesławiec

Ceramic crockery, dating from the 18th century to the present day, is the museum's main exhibit.



TIP! MSilesian Press Museum, Psczyna

This is the only museum in the country that collects magazines, historic bookbinding machinery, and press equipment (→ p. 36).



19 Berl's Lime Factory, Třemošnice

Berl's Lime Factory is a uniquely preserved memorial of the beginnings of the industrialized production of lime below the Iron Mountains. It was in operation between 1880 and 1960. Presently, it houses an exhibition on the history of the lime industry.



21 Žacléř Mining Open-Air Museum

The Jan Šverma Mine site is the last remaining, well-preserved memorial of deep coal mining in Eastern Bohemia, documented in writing as far back as the 16th century. The mine is open to the public as an open air mining museum.



www.djs-ops.cz

23 Ještěd

In 1973, a new, silver cone-shaped building with a hotel and a television transmitter was completed a few kilometres from Liberec. It has become a unique, dominant landmark of both the Ještěd Ridge and the entire region.



www.rozhlednajested.cz

EXPLORING SITES OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND MILITARY HERITAGE

MILITARY HERITAGE SITES

The Czechoslovak fortification system built between 1935 and 1938 along the border of former Czechoslovakia ranked among Europe's most sophisticated defence fortification systems. The designed fortification was made up from a line of light structures (simple forts) and heavy structures (stand-alone buildings or artillery strongholds).

1 'Na trati' MO-S5 Museum, Starý Bohumín

It is classified as a heavy fortification structure. Construction-wise, it is an atypical, two-sided and two-level infantry blockhouse, which stands alone and has a third-degree resistance strength. The building's original arsenal was formed by two anti-tank cannons and four separate heavy machine guns located in firing rooms. This arsenal was complemented by heavy and light machine guns in two infantry bells, three light machine guns in ancillary loopholes and six grenade chutes.



www.bunkr-bohumin.cz

2 Hlučín-Darkovičky Czechoslovak Fortification Compound

Built between 1935 and 1938, this fortress site is an example of the unique fortification system in the Czech Republic, highly valued across Europe today. The buildings on the site vary in terms of both their design and firing tactics; they also have different degrees of resistance strength. The site is part of the TECHNO ROUTE, a trail of technological attractions, which connects remarkable industrial sights in the Moravia-Silesia Region.

www.szm.cz



3 Czech Armed Forces Memorial and Czechoslovak Fortification in Milostovice, Opava

These are three concrete forts which formed part of the Czechoslovak fortification in the 1930s. Their truly unique features, not to be found anywhere else, are two L1 fortification cannons, which were made in Pilsen's Skoda Factory.

TIP! The annual 'Lights above Bunkers' event is a powerful experience, during which bunkers along the entire fortification line are illuminated.



4 Imperial and Royal Fortress, Olomouc

In Olomouc and its surroundings, you can explore bastion fortification sites dating back to the 18th century, built on the order of Empress Maria Theresa as a defence against the Prussians. In the city centre, you can go and see the Theresian Gate and water barracks; while the Crown Fortress will provide you with information about the military history of Olomouc. You can also take a look in some of the structures that form parts of a fortified stronghold subsequently built in the 19th century. Thirty military buildings, which used to be part of the stronghold, are interconnected via an educational cycle route.

cisarska-pevnost.cz



5 Museum of Czechoslovak Fortification – Bouda 5.1 and Hůrka 5.2 Artillery Fortifications, Králíky

These two structures are the largest fortifications built in the 1930s, which are open to the public in the Czech Republic. Concurrently, they are part of the Králíky fortification site, where a project is gradually being undertaken to save and provide more access to these unique military, technological, and historic landmarks.

TIP! A 6.5 km long educational trail will take you from Great Square in Králíky to the Hůrka artillery fortification, and reveal plenty of interesting facts about the local fortification structures.

www.boudamuseum.com



EXPLORING SITES OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND MILITARY HERITAGE

6 Hanička Fort

A military fortification compound built between 1935 and 1938. It is made up of five combat blockhouses with armoured bells and about 1,750 metres of underground tunnels and halls. The underground, which houses a military museum, is open to the public.



www.hanicka.cz

7 Skutina Fort

The artillery fortification is an example of a 'French-type' fortification – two infantry blockhouses were inserted in a line of stand-alone buildings to protect other structures within the fortress with their gunfire and provide an unbroken artillery barrage. Three other blockhouses were planned for the slope facing from the enemy. However, the construction work stopped in autumn 1938.



www.skutina.cz

8 Dobrošov Fortress

The construction of the fort commenced in 1937, however, the work ceased indefinitely the following year. During the construction work, 1,750 metres of connecting tunnels and 750 metres of underground room were dug 20–39 metres below the surface.



TIP! An educational trail will take you through the entire fortress, and then along the fortification line to Běloves Spa.

www.pevnostdobrosov.cz

10 Josefov Fortress

This bastion fortress is a unique defence compound built in accordance with the best knowledge of fortifications available at that time. When it was built in the late 18th century, the tunnels, whose length totalled almost 45 km, formed the most extensive underground network in Europe. The tour is roughly one kilometre long, during which you'll learn about surprises laid out for unwanted visitors. At the end, you can try what it is like to walk through underground tunnels in complete darkness.



TIP! You can see cannons from the 18th–20th century in a new exhibition.

www.pevnostjosefov.cz

TIP! 1866 War Museum

The War Museum is situated on the site of the battle fought on 3 July 1866 between the Prussian and Austrian Armies. It was the second biggest battle in the 19th century. The exhibition features the arsenal and equipment of the armies involved in the conflict. Nearby is an ossuary, a mausoleum, a Prussian cemetery and a monumental Austrian memorial. On the anniversary of the battle, remembrance events to honour the memory of the fallen take place here.



TIP! 'U Cihelny' K-S 14 Infantry Blockhouse, Králíky

A stand-alone infantry blockhouse with a third-degree strength resistance. A traditional demonstration of a fight for the fort is held near the building at the end of August. The building houses a large exhibition covering the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic, the Czechoslovak Legions, the construction of the fort, and the fate of Sergeant Arnošt HRAD, who tragically died inside the building.



cihelna.militaryclub.info

9 Běloves Fortress Open-Air Museum, Náchod-Běloves

The open-air fortress museum is a unique set of renovated buildings which were part of the Czechoslovak fortification built between 1935 and 1938. The heart of the open-air museum is the 'Březinka' N-S 82 infantry blockhouse, which has been restored back into the state it was in the autumn of 1938.



www.brezinka.cz

11 Stachelberg Fortress

The Stachelberg Fortification was built between 1937 and 1938 as part of the pre-war Czechoslovak fortification above Babí near Trutnov, on the eastern side of the Krkonoše. The exhibition is complemented by a multitude of models of period military equipment and individual fortress structures.



www.stachelberg.cz

EXPLORING SITES OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND MILITARY HERITAGE

12 Riese Complex, Walim and Gluszyca

Situated in the Sudeten, the Riese Complex is the largest construction and mining project created by the Nazi Germany. The majority of the complex is made up of a system of underground tunnels, which were built by prisoners. Filled with mystery to this day, the adits are a unique heritage site dating from World War 2.

TIP! The underground town of Osowka is the most interesting and longest accessible part of the whole complex. There are two routes: the 1,200 metres long historical guided route; and the extreme guided route, which includes a boat ride and tunnels for treasure hunters.

sztolnie.pl; www.osowka.pl



13 Srebrna Góra Fortress

This mountain fortress, built in the second half of the 18th century, was one of Europe's most state-of-the-art military structures of its time. There are six forts and a few bastions in the compound, including an enormous keep in the centre of the defence base. Visitors are taken on tours of the fort by tour guides dressed in historic Prussian uniforms.



forty.pl

TIP! Vok Tower, Prudnik

The castle tower (Wieża Zamkowa), also called the Vok Tower, is the only remainder of the 13th-century fortress, built by Vok of Rosenberg (Rožmberk), a Bohemian nobleman, knight and the founder of Prudnik. The medieval castle burned down at the beginning of the 19th century. Only its 41-metre-tall tower, which is used as a lookout tower, has survived.



15 Nysa Fortress

The fortress is one of the best preserved fortification systems in Silesia. Most buildings – St Hedwig's Bastion, the Water Fort, the Capuchin and Cardinal Redoubt, Prussia Fort, Fort I, Fort II and fortifications were built in the 18th century. They were modernized in the 19th century. The Nysa Fortress structures take up an area of around 80 hectares and encircle an area of around 230 hectares. At the beginning of this century, the fortress underwent considerable renovation work, and became an important tourist attraction and cultural events venue. Historical events are regularly held in the fortress, such as the Battle of Nysa (in August or September during the Nysa Fortress Days), attended by uniform-clad groups from Poland and abroad alike.

www.twierdzanysa.com

TIP! 'Blechhammer – 44' Museum, Kędzierzyn – Koźle

This small museum features the history of the village and its nearby area during the Second World War. Each room features a unique theme: The 15th US Air Force, prisoners of war, labourers and prisoners in the local camps.

TIP! Museum of the 4th Regiment of Podhalański Snipers, Cieszyn

This small private museum features the history of the 4th Regiment of Podhalański Snipers, whose garrison was stationed in this town until 1939.

14 Kłodzko Fortress

Kłodzko Fortress situated on Castle Hill (Wzgórze Zamkowe), built by the Austrians in the 16th century and expanded by the Prussians in the 18th century, is a compound of bastions, casemates and mysterious mazes. Inside the fortress, you'll learn about the lives of soldiers back at that time. Some of the underground tunnels are also open to the public.

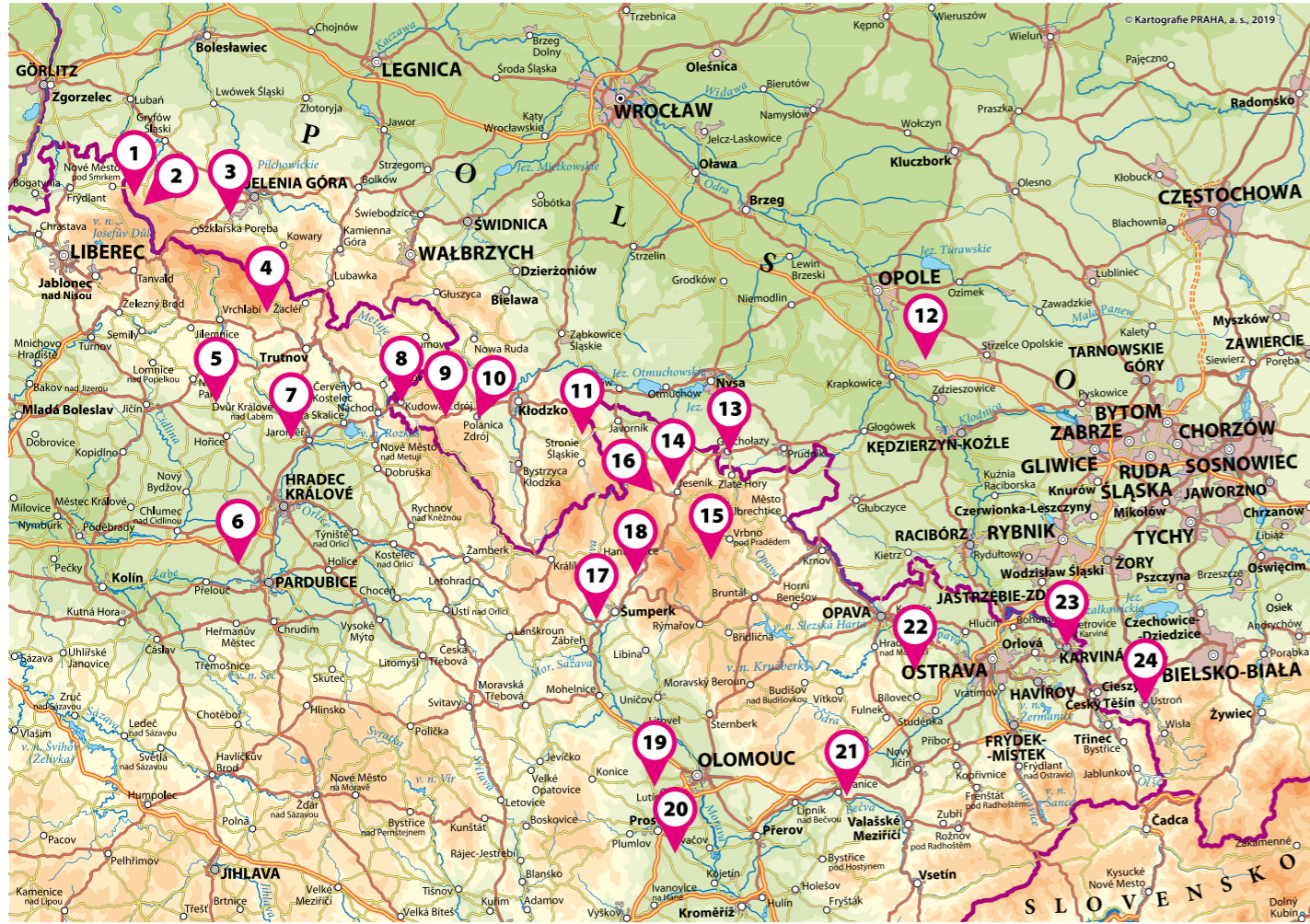


www.twierza.klodzko.pl



RELAXING SPAS

RELAXING SPAS



1 Czerniawia-Zdrój and 2 Swieradow-Zdrój Spa Compound

The spa's natural treasures include mineral water (the so-called 'holy spring') and radon water. The 'Czerniawianka' mineral water rids the body of heavy metals and reduces the level of blood sugar.



uzdrowisko-swieradow.pl

4 Janské Spa

The spa gained world renown in the first half of the 20th century thanks to its successful treatment of the effects of polio, especially polio in children. Janské Spa thus became the very first medical institution in Europe that was able to treat the effects of poliomyelitis.

www.janskelazne.com



3 Cieplice Thermal Spa, Cieplice Śląskie-Zdrój

This spa is exceptional due to its thermal water, which has the highest content of silicon dioxide of all spa water springs in Europe.



www.uzdrowiska-pgu.pl/uzdrowisko-cieplice



RELAXING SPAS

5 Bělohrad Spa

Treatment of the musculoskeletal system disorders is the prime focus of the spa – from rheumatic diseases, spinal pain, Bekhterew's disease, or arthrosis, to conditions after injury and orthopaedic surgeries. Disfiguring scars after burns or injury are also treated here.



www.belohrad.cz

8 Kudowa-Zdrój

The drinking fountain pavilion (Pijalnia) ranks among the architectural marvels in all of Lower Silesia. Three medicinal mineral water springs are found inside.



11 Łądek-Zdrój

The first mention of the local baths dates back to 1241. Water and peat are used during treatments. Its unique feature is a round pool which gathers hot water coming from the thermal spring.



14 Jeseník Spa

The local microclimate is suitable for treating the upper and lower airways, blood circulation and nervous system disorders. Its concept follows the Vincenz Priessnitz traditional water therapy method.

www.priessnitz.cz

6 Bohdaneč Spa

Rare peat is the foundation for treatments in this spa. Bog baths have a beneficial effect, particularly on the musculoskeletal system. It is the only spa in the Czech Republic where special wrap bathtubs are used. They provide treatments for long-term problems with the musculoskeletal system, pre-operative and post-operative conditions, and convalescence after injury.

www.llb.cz

7 Velichovky Spa

Founded in 1897, the spa specializes in the convalescence of patients who have musculoskeletal and nervous system disorders.

www.velichovky.cz

9 Duszniki-Zdrój

The establishment of the spa is connected with the discovery of a large number of medicinal mineral water springs. The spa has won renown for its local springs and climate, which bears resemblance to that of the regions below the Alps.



12 Sebastianum Silesiacum, Kamień Śląski

The spa specializes in treatments where water and herbs are used in accordance with the rules set out by Bavarian priest Sebastian Kneipp.



www.sanatorium.kamienslaski.pl



10 Polanica-Zdrój

The medicinal spring water in this spa comes from the Table Mountains.



13 'Skowronek' Convalescence and Retreat Centre, Głucholazy

A water therapy centre which provides Kneipp and Vincenz Priessnitz treatments was established in the spa park. Good-quality water and the unique microclimate help treat respiratory and cardiological diseases. We recommend that you visit the 15-metre-tall salt tower.



www.skowronek.info.pl

RELAXING SPAS

15 Karlova Studánka Spa

Karlova Studánka Spa is situated at a mean altitude of 800 metres above sea level, on the eastern side of Mount Praděd (1,492 metres). The springs are used in carbonic baths and for fluid intake treatments. The clean mountain and forest environment with a high concentration of negatively charged ions is the source of this healing climate, which has positive effects on the respiratory system.

www.horskelazne.cz



17 Bludov Spa

Nestled within tranquil surroundings below the Jeseníky Mountains, Bludov Spa specializes in effective and healthy weight loss and treatments of the musculoskeletal system.

www.lazne-bludov.cz



18 Velké Losiny Spa

The indoor and outdoor pools form a unique thermal park, the only one of its kind in the Czech Republic. Physical activities and treatments in thermal, sulphurous water provide excellent treatment of diseases of the musculoskeletal system.



www.lazne-losiny.cz

21 Teplice nad Bečvou Spa

Teplice nad Bečvou Spa was founded thanks to rich springs of thermal alkaline mineral water with a high content of natural carbon dioxide.



www.ltnb.cz



19 Slatinice Spa

This is a medical spa with an exceptional, moderately mineralized, natural water spring containing hydrogen sulphide, which has beneficial effects on articular cartilage. Because of its unique mineral composition, the spring water is used to cure the musculoskeletal and cardiovascular systems, as well as neurological, dermatological and oncological diseases.

www.lazneslatinice.cz

20 Skalka Spa

The village of Skalka lies 8 km from Prostějov and is known for its spa, which uses local mineral water.

Did you know that...? The chemical composition of the alkaline-sulphurous water found here is unparalleled. No other Czech spa can offer this content of sylvite. It is only found in Italy and Austria.

www.lazneskalka.cz

22 Klimkovice Sanatoria Spa

This is a spa with a unique, healing natural resource – iodine-bromine brine. This spa resort has an interesting architectural style, is surrounded by a large spa park and provides a lot of services of both a curative and relaxing character.

www.sanatoria-klimkovice.cz

23 Darkov Spa

Darkov Spa helps patients eliminate or minimize lasting consequences of diseases and injuries of the musculoskeletal and nervous systems using balneal physiotherapy.

www.laznedarkov.cz

24 Ustroń Spa

The spa status of the small town of Ustroń is guaranteed by the mineral springs discovered in the 19th century. The spa specializes in cardiological, neurological, oncological and orthopaedic convalescence.

www.uzdrowisko-ustron.pl

16 Schroth's Medical Spa, Dolní Lipová

The spa treatments in Schroth's Medical Spa are based on using the natural healing climatic conditions and unique concoctions made from Lipová's herbs. The spa specializes primarily in treating non-infectious skin diseases (chiefly psoriasis), illnesses caused by metabolic disorders and diseases of the respiratory system.



www.lazne-lipova.cz



OSTRAVA



OLOMOUC



PARDUBICE



HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ



LIBEREC



JELENIA GÓRA



WAŁBRZYCH



KŁODZKO



NYSA



OPOLE



RACIBÓRZ



CIESZYN



BIELSKO-BIAŁA

www.tourism-pl-cz.eu

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