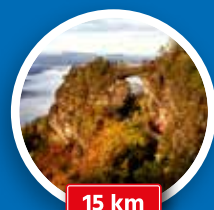


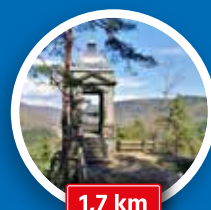
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Explore Děčín

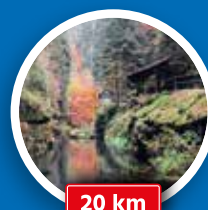
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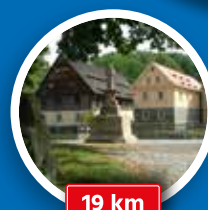
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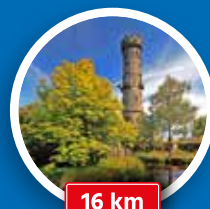
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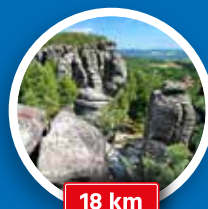
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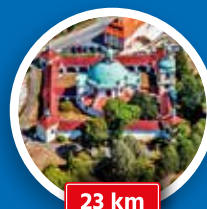
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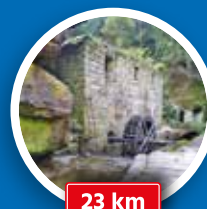
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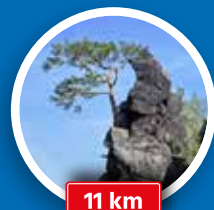
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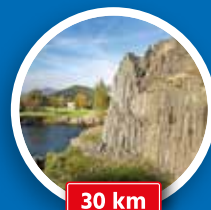
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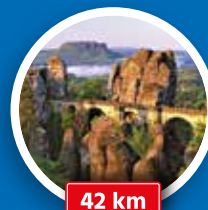
Vrabinec



Panská skála cliff



Pirna



Bastei



*“Děčín is where
you want to be.”*

Dear visitor,

If you're looking for an active vacation, Děčín is where you want to be. Page through our guide and find what appeals to you. Whether you want to take it easy or test your limits, enjoy a bit of history or hike out to breathtaking viewpoints, there's something for everyone.

Each year we put together this guide to the best, most intriguing, and original attractions available in our region. And although there are still some restrictions in place this year after a devastating fire in our nearby national park, you needn't worry about missing out. Just the opposite. It's a great opportunity to discover new places off the beaten path and enjoy them in peace, without the crowds.

On behalf of the whole team at the Municipal Culture and Tourism Center, I wish you luck in finding your new favorite spot.

Markéta Lakomá
Director
Municipal Culture and Tourism Center

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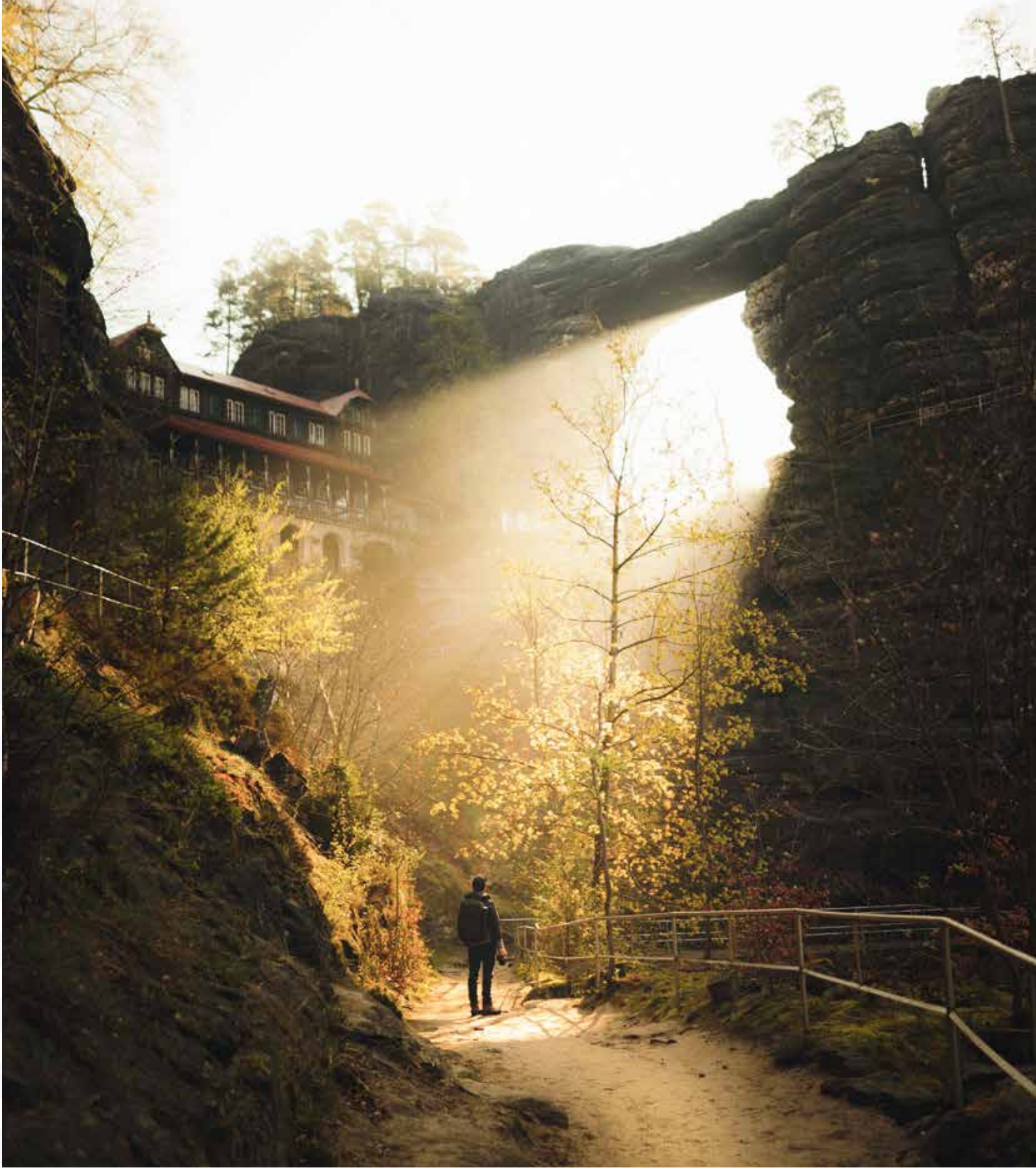


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VISITOR INFORMATION CENTERS

LIBRARY
Karla Čapka 1441/3, CZ-40502 Děčín 1 | +420 412 532 227
MAIN STATION
Čsl. mládeže 89/4, CZ-40502 Děčín 4 | +420 727 975 773

 Visit North Bohemia
 [visitnorthbohemia/idecin](https://www.instagram.com/visitnorthbohemia/idecin)
 www.idecin.cz/en





Děčín brings together the river, natural surroundings, and cultural sights into one unique package. Panoramic viewpoints are an easy walk from the city center, with romantic spots and natural scenery that will sweep you off your feet.

Active recreation in Děčín



Děčín, one of north Bohemia's loveliest cities, lies at the edge of Bohemian Switzerland National Park. This is a river town – the Elbe runs right through it – so when the days get warm the city center fills with rafters and paddleboarders, rock climbers, cyclists, and history buffs too. Each can make memories in their own way.



The city's unique location makes it a gateway to towering cliffs, wild nature, and waterscapes and shapes the lives of its inhabitants as well as the recreational opportunities available to visitors. There are few places that can offer such a variety of activities. History goes hand-in-

hand with adrenaline pastimes. In a single day, you can clamber up an anchored via ferrata route and admire the local landmarks from above, then take in a spot of culture and treat yourself to a meal. Děčín is multifaceted. It's just a matter of choosing what to explore.

Rising over the city center is Děčín Castle, a majestic building on a rocky bluff overlooking the River Elbe, and a major historical landmark. Visitors can explore its galleries, historical exhibitions, and grounds as well as its cafés and restaurant. The castle grounds are especially magical at Christmastime, when they are decorated and lit up.

Děčín has rightfully been called the greenest city in the country. It has several wooded parks with impressive viewpoints overlooking the countryside and the Elbe Canyon. The river has stamped the city with a unique atmosphere that you can experience for yourself on a riverboat cruise. And if you enjoy physical activity, you can get out on a raft or paddleboard too.

Whether you come to Děčín for sports or culture, in summer or winter, there is always something interesting to do.



Going there
tomorrow!



Apidenos aut
ulpa imus
aut vel et ma
doles aliqua
mus



Bragging rights

There are lots of things that make Děčín special. Did you know, for example, that this is the country's greenest city, or that we have the longest castle drive and the northernmost synagogue? Here are ten things we can claim bragging rights for.



Lowest lying city

Děčín may be full of hills and cliffs, but it is actually the lowest lying city in the Czech Republic with an elevation of only 135 meters above sea level. The country's lowest elevation is in the village of Hřensko near the German border – only 115 masl.

Most popular bike trail

The Elbe cycling trail is one of the prettiest and most diverse long-distance cycling routes in Europe and is part of the continental EuroVelo 4 and EuroVelo 7 routes. The most traveled route in the Czech Republic, it runs through Děčín, connecting it with Ústí nad Labem in the south and Dolní Žleb in the north, continuing in Germany as the Elberadweg. This riverside trail lets you enjoy the scenery of the Central Bohemian Uplands and Porta Bohemica upstream and the sandstone canyon downstream.



Greenest city

Děčín confirmed its status as the Czech Republic's greenest city in 2015, when the Czech broadcasting service undertook a project with the support of the European Environmental Agency to see which cities were greenest. An impressive 63 percent of Děčín's total area is green, putting the city in the lead, followed by Jeseník and Vsetín.

Biggest via ferrata

Scaling a cliff in the very heart of town is the biggest *via ferrata* installation in the country. Not only does Pastýřská stěna (Shepherds Bluff) offer the longest single anchored trail, it also has the greatest number of routes in one place. It is one of just a few *via ferrata* sites in Europe located in a town center. The first anchored climbing trail opened here in April 2014, soon to be followed by 15 more of varying degrees of difficulty. Climbing sets can be rented at local outlets at the foot of the cliff.



Northernmost synagogue

The synagogue in Děčín's Podmokly neighborhood was erected in 1905–1907 in Art Nouveau style with Moorish elements. It is the only Jewish house of worship in the region to have survived the Nazi rampages in 1938 as well as the socialist era, making it the northernmost synagogue in the country. You'll find it at the start of the road leading up to the zoo.



Europe's largest natural sandstone arch



Pravčická brána arch is one of the most stunning natural formations in the Czech Republic. It is the largest natural sandstone arch in Europe and is estimated to be tens of thousands of years old (maybe as many as 100,000). The arch spans a distance of 26.5 meters and is 16 meters high. Its gigantic proportions have attracted tourists since the late 18th century. Visitors can stop at the foot of the arch at the restaurant pavilion built in the late 19th century by the lord of the estate, Prince Edmund Clary-Aldringen.

Europe's deepest sandstone canyon



The Elbe Canyon is a valuable part of the Elbe Sandstones Nature Preserve. The river has cut itself a path 300 meters deep in the local sediment, creating the deepest sandstone canyon on the continent. It is home to a range of endangered, protected, and rare forms of flora and fauna such as European beaver, peregrine falcon, strapwort, and more.

Oldest tied-arch steel bridge

Where else would you look for the country's oldest functioning tied-arch steel bridge than in the river port of Děčín? Spanning the Elbe River in the heart of Děčín, Tyršův most (Tyrš Bridge) took the place of an older suspension bridge in 1933. At the time of its construction it was an absolute rarity, the largest bridge of its kind in Czechoslovakia. Its 180-meter length rests on the original pillars of its predecessor, the Empress Elisabeth bridge.



Highest mesa

Another Děčín superlative is Děčínský Sněžník, the country's highest mesa. This flat-topped mountain rises to 723 masl and is topped with a stone watchtower built in 1864 at the initiative of the lord of the local estate, Franz Anton Thun. Děčínský Sněžník offers sweeping views of the countryside. Catch the view from the Dresden viewpoint and look for a Swedish graveyard dating from the Thirty Years' War. At the mesa's eastern edge is a rock formation known as the horse's head. Sněžník is popular with hikers and cyclists.



Longest castle drive

The fittingly-named Long Drive leading to Děčín Castle is a Baroque structure you won't see the likes of elsewhere in Bohemia. At 292 meters long and 10 meters wide, it is the longest castle approach in the country. The drive was part of a massive reconstruction of the castle complex in the second half of the 17th century. Renovations on this unique structure are currently underway to restore its historical appearance.





Děčín Castle

Open year round, the castle is a popular destination for history lovers. During its more than thousand-year history, it has served as a military fortress and a sumptuous residence, European heads of state have gathered in its chambers, and Fryderyk Chopin composed his famous Děčín Waltz here.

The terraced garden is a beautiful spot to relax and unwind with friends, perhaps over a game of chess. Then there's the Baroque rose garden (under renovation until 2025), where roses perfume the air. The castle's cafés and the restaurant on the main courtyard offer delicious refreshments and coffee.

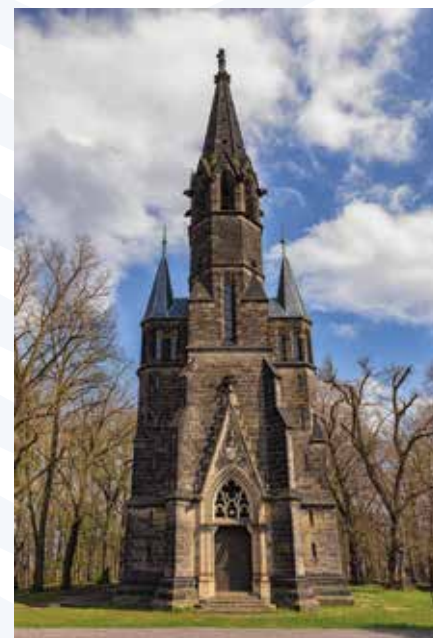


Perched on a sandstone bluff over the river, the castle is just about impossible to overlook.

Castle tours

Guided tours take visitors to private chambers and receiving rooms with valuable collections on display and a charming view of the Elbe Valley. Special tours also explore the cellars and the outer bailey.

Over the summer holidays, children can look forward to a visit with a costumed countess as well as fun and games on the grounds.



Chapel of St. John of Nepomuk in Chrast

The Thun burial chapel was built by Josef Mocker, 1868–1872. An exhibit of statuary from the chapel terrace is on view inside. This striking Neo Gothic structure is open on summer weekends (see www.zamekdecin.cz for details).

Stay the night

Visiting Děčín? Book a stay at the castle in a fully equipped apartment or double room.



Cultural programs

The castle hosts a full calendar of cultural events throughout the year, including a historical May fair, guided tours, concerts and open-air theatre performances. Visit www.zamekdecin.cz for the latest.

Clockworks exhibit

The castle attic holds an ever-expanding exhibit of historical clockworks and technical exhibits on loan from private collectors. New additions include a working model of the Prague Astronomical Clock, a mystical clock, and a timer used to drop pamphlets of propaganda from weather balloons.

What you may not know about the castle

... Děčín Castle is one of the oldest historic buildings in the country. The earliest record dates from the late tenth century, so its story has been unfolding for over a thousand years.

... It often hosted prominent guests. For example, Fryderyk Chopin composed his Děčín Waltz here. Another high point was the visit of Emperor Franz Joseph I and his new bride Sissi in her debut in her official capacity.

... It is the most visited castle in northern Bohemia. Around 55,000 people have visited each year for the past several years.

... It has a unique approach. The Long Drive, at 292 meters, is an architectural gem of national significance. Two thirds of the drive's length was hewn directly into the rock, a feat completed by miners from nearby Krupka, who toiled at it for six years.

... The castle boasts a wonderful rose garden (closed for renovation until 2025) with a gloriette and sala terrena dating to Baroque renovations done in the late 17th century. It became known for its roses, with 80 varieties grown here at one point.

... There were 18 heated greenhouses in the heyday of its southern gardens when renowned gardener Franz Josst put Děčín on the map with an excellent collection of orchids, camellias, and other tropical plants. It was here, in 1852, that the *Victoria amazonica* was first coaxed into bloom on the European continent.

... The Thuns had one of Bohemia's best libraries, numbering more than 70,000 volumes. Among them were tomes that legendary Czech historian František Palacký consulted for his work.

... After the assassination in Sarajevo, the castle offered safe haven to the orphaned children of Franz Ferdinand d'Este, heir to the throne of Austria Hungary. Young Sophie, Ernst, and Maximilian became wards of Count Jaroslav Thun, the archduke's brother-in-law.





Děčín – River city

www.muzeumdc.cz/en

1146 records a salt duty and in 1183 a salt duty was granted the Plasy monastery.

The founding of the town of Děčín in the latter 13th century was clearly connected with

No other place in Bohemia is so closely bound to shipping as Děčín. The geomorphology of the Elbe River in the area around Děčín makes navigation a constant challenge, yet local life has always been inherently linked to the river. In addition, the surrounding forests provided ample timber for boat building.

Archeological evidence indicates there was boat traffic on the Elbe in prehistoric times. Salt was imported to Bohemia on the river. By the 10th century a fortified settlement in Děčín was a base for tow boats running upstream. A customs register from

its position on the river, as is evident from the municipal coat of arms – the Bohemian lion grapples with a large fish (likely a barbel). Děčín's municipal rights were modeled on those of Magdeburg, and Saxon merchants certainly played an important role in its founding.

The very existence of the original town center – just south of the castle where Marian Meadow now lies – was threatened by numerous floods, which led the settlement to relocate to the other side of the castle rock in the late 14th century to the site of today's city center. That the river played a major role in local life is evidenced by landmarks such as the hunger stone in the Elbe and the flood markings on the castle rock where there are records of water levels going back to the 15th century, among the oldest in Europe.

The town was home to the first Bohemian guild of sailors and shipbuilders, which was especially active in the 16th and 17th centuries as merchants from Děčín were profiting from booming trade on the Elbe. In fact, Jonas Paust, a shipper from Libstadt, was so successful

in Elbe shipping to Hamburg that it earned him a noble title.

Local agricultural production was also geared for export, with fruit shipped out along the river. Meanwhile, the local forests were already supplying pitch and timber for the construction of naval craft in Holland and Hamburg. From the end of the 17th century though, trade into Germany was hampered by customs barriers and the protectionist policies of Saxony and Prussia.

In the early 19th century, local shipbuilders were making wooden boats to export into Germany complete with cargo. As German ethnographer Max Rosenthal notes, Berlin was built on Bohemian ships. There was also an effort to engage Bohemia in overseas trade supported by the lord of the Děčín estate, Franz Anton Thun, who offered 1,000 gold coins for the first voyage to Hamburg. Local shipowner Franz Anton Stolz collected the reward in June 1822. Merchants and shipowners from Děčín provided transport for the shipping company Prager Schifffahrt-Gesellschaft, which started bringing goods to Prague in 1822. The company warehouse in Děčín was the first logistical transit warehouse in Bohemia moving cargo from the larger craft plying the Elbe to smaller boats that could navigate the Vltava River.

In 1838, Děčín became the first city in Bohemia you could get to by steamboat, three years before Prague. The boat in question was the Saxon steamer Königin Maria, which dropped off spa guests in Děčín before continuing on to Teplice. Passenger transport is still a popular service in Děčín to this day.

The town prospered in the latter 19th

century as the railway came to the area. Děčín was in an exceptional position, served by five railways, three of which connected to onward river transport. Elbe river traffic boomed in 1874 when the Austrian railway Österreichische Nordwestbahn began running transit of Danube cargo from Vienna to Děčín by rail to be forwarded north on the Elbe. The use of steam powered chain boats and cargo steamers enhanced river transport. The company was one of the biggest investors in Děčín.



The company also stood behind the creation of the Elbeverein association, which lobbied for the waterway and included banks, railways, mines, and manufacturers connected to shipping. The association helped establish shipping schools in the area, the successors of which are still actively training crews today. Děčín's secondary shipping school, Střední škola lodní dopravy a technických řemesel, is the only one of its kind in the country, and its graduates are in demand on waterways throughout Europe.

With the creation of Czechoslovakia in 1918, one of the first things the new republic did was to secure international agreements for access to European waterways and seaports. It also established a national navigation authority for the Elbe, Československá plavba labská, in 1922. In 1961, now as Československá plavba labská oderská, its headquarters moved from Prague to Decin. The move

brought the city a new shipyard, transit yard and a headquarters building, which can still be seen by the riverside.

Over the last thirty years, freight shipping in Bohemia has fallen on hard times, not least because no real investment has been made since the 19th century in maintaining the navigability of the Elbe River for larger vessels. Passenger shipping and recreational boating, on the other hand, are experiencing some growth. Děčín now also has a dock for small recreational craft and the town is a frequent stop for river cruise lines.

Děčín plays an exceptional role in the tradition of riverway navigation. In the Czech Republic, nearly five thousand people currently make their living on the water, roughly 1,200 of them as riverboat captains, an all-time high. A significant majority work on the waterways of Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg and France. More than half of all Czech crew and captains working today come from Děčín.

Vlastimil Pažourek,
Director, Děčín Regional Museum

Děčín Regional Museum waterways exhibit

For decades now, the museum in Děčín has been documenting the history and current state of shipping – particularly on the Elbe River. The collections also include copious material related to Danube shipping and in recent years the museum has also focused on telling the stories of Bohemia's sailors.

You might say that all of the museum's long-term exhibitions are more or less connected with shipping. City on the Meadow is an archaeological



exhibit documenting the long-abandoned medieval settlement of the 13th and 14th centuries. The original town's close connection to the river is indicated by its town seal, in which the Bohemian lion grapples with a large fish (a barbel). Even the Gothic Art exhibit includes a sculpture dating to 1507 of the Virgin Mary, patron saint of sailors, with a boat depicted on relief on its base.

Of course, a whole permanent exhibit is dedicated entirely to shipping, with countless model ships of various shapes and sizes, documents, paintings and photographs related to river navigation, life rings, tackle, anchors and more. The oldest (and longest) piece on display is a prehistoric dugout canoe – a monoxyle – carved from a single



log. There's also a diving suit, an interactive model of a lock, and for kids, a treasure hunt with toy sailors. The inquisitive can study interesting material on large, interactive panels. For early elementary school groups there is a program where kids can play at crewing a ship. But the biggest attraction for young and old alike is probably the riverboat simulator, where visitors can step into a riverboat cockpit, take the wheel, and try their hand at navigating the Elbe.



Děčín Zoo

The zoo in Děčín is one of the region's top tourist destinations. Covering only six hectares, it is one of the smallest zoos in the country but is all the more beautiful. With a focus on endangered and lesser-known species, it is home to more than 500 animals representing 150 species. Its main star, since 2019, is Bruno, a Kamchatka brown bear. The zoo has the largest group of crested black macaques in the country, rare vicunas, loveable capybaras, and remarkable fishing cats as well as great anteaters, Indian takins, South American tapirs, caracals, Arctic foxes, and black-handed spider monkeys.

Bird lovers will enjoy the zoo's aviary, an enclosed habitat where small, brightly colored warblers fly overhead. It's also worth visiting the Bohemian-Saxon Switzerland

exposition to see animal species common in local forests. There's the Eurasian lynx, wildcat, European badger, Eurasian wolf, owls, and birds of prey.

In 2006 the zoo expanded to include a remote pavilion located in the heart of town, Rajské ostrovy (Paradise Islands). This unique exhibit presents fauna from several geographical regions – a coral reef, a mangrove coast, the desert. One popular inhabitant is the clownfish – just like the little hero of Finding Nemo. Your zoo ticket will get you into the exhibit at no extra charge (valid on day of purchase only).

Every season has its own charm at the zoo. Whether you visit in spring, summer, autumn, or winter, you'll take home great memories.



Photo: Jindřich Pavelka



Děčín Zoo is open daily year round
May–Aug 8am–7pm
Sept–Oct, Mar–Apr 8am–6pm
Nov–Feb 8am–4pm
(Last entry half hour before closing time)

Zoologická zahrada Děčín – Pastýřská stěna, p. o.
Žižkova 1286/15, CZ–40502 Děčín IV | +420 412 531 164
info@zoodecin.cz

Rajské ostrovy (Paradise Islands)
May–Aug 9am–7pm
Sept–Apr 9am–6pm
Lunch break 12:00–12:30pm
(Last entry half hour before closing time)

Rajské ostrovy (Paradise Islands)
Teplická 19, CZ–40502 Děčín IV | +420 412 531 531 | tic@zoodecin.cz

Visitor services

- Refreshments, souvenir sales, parking, safe boxes, toilets, changing tables, children's wagon rentals, playground, jungle gym
- Free Wi-Fi in refreshments area
- Commented feeding (in season), tour guides, educational program, special events

The zoo accepts cash and credit cards. Euros are not accepted. Dogs are not allowed at the zoo.



How to get there

The city's zoo shuttlebus (line 216) is easy to recognize with the big bear on the side. It makes several stops in town and takes passengers to the zoo gate. See the timetable at www.dpmd.cz.

We also recommend the zoo trail that opened last year. This forest path from the foot of the hill up to the zoo has a photo point as well as activity stations featuring zoo animals.

Aqua Hotel – Come to relax and recharge



Discover the magic of Aqua Hotel Děčín, an ideal destination for a family vacation or relaxing stay. The hotel is situated within the Aquapark complex in Děčín, an easy walk from the city's historical center.

The hotel is convenient to the Elbe bike trail near the dramatic landscapes of Bohemian and Saxon Switzerland. Guests can look forward to stylish decor, great facilities, and unique experiences in Aquapark's many pools. Guests can take advantage of the wellness center, saunas, and massages too. Near the hotel are countless hiking and cycling trails, perfect for nature lovers. Your perfect vacation starts here!



www.aquahoteldecin.cz
+420 778 427 130
hotel@aquaparkdecin.cz
Ploučnická 1297/10, CZ-40502 Děčín

Aquapark Děčín



Děčín's thermal aquatic park is one of the largest sports and recreational complexes in the region. It offers visitors a unique experience that combines relaxation and active recreation. Aquapark lies directly on the Elbe cycling trail. It has an indoor hall as well as a large outdoor pool area.

Indoors are a 25-meter pool, a learners' pool, three toboggans, a water mushroom, a lazy river, spouts and geysers, massage jets, two whirlpools, a wading area, and a buffet. The wellness center upstairs has sauna facilities, a club area with a private sauna and jacuzzi, massages, a gym, and a sun terrace.

The park's outdoor attractions include 50- and 25-meter pools, a recreational pool with attractions, a water slide, a massage bench, a lazy river, a wading

pool, and a stainless-steel water polo pool with a six-meter diving well. And of course there are also refreshments and a large lawn. A natural thermal water source means that the outdoor 25-meter pool is open year-round with water temperatures of around 27°C.

The outdoor area includes a playground and sports facilities with two beach volleyball courts that can be adapted for beach soccer, and a foot tennis and basketball court and can host two pick-up games at once. Court reservations can be made online through the Aquapark website.

Aquapark is the ideal spot, whether you're looking for relaxation, sports, or fun with the family.



www.aquaparkdecin.cz
+420 412 704 211
info@aquaparkdecin.cz
Oblouková 1400/6, CZ-40502 Děčín



Taking the city's pulse in Křížová ulice

Křížová is no ordinary street. It is the pulsing cultural heart of the city. We sat down with Eliška Střelková from the Municipal Culture and Tourism Center to learn more.

Eliška, what's the first thing that comes to mind when you hear Křížová ulice?

Křížová is a pedestrian zone in the shadow of the castle. It's a place to stop for coffee or a drink, for a little fun and culture. It's known for the Church of the Elevation of the Holy Cross and lately it has become a place for friends to meet up.

How would you describe it?

One side of the street is lined with historical buildings. On the other is the Long Drive leading up to the castle. A fountain on a plaza, a Catholic church, the Rose Garden's gloriette, all give it the atmosphere of a Mediterranean city. And since it's a pedestrian zone, it's a quiet corner of town.

Křížová has become a popular spot. People come here for cultural entertainment.

Yes. Křížovka, as locals call it, has turned into a place where people meet up. There are lots of cultural events here throughout the year. You'll find restaurants, cafés, wine shops. It's a great place to stop on the way home from work or after a trip.

Sounds interesting. Is there anything in particular you'd recommend visitors to Křížová?

In the summer there's live music every Wednesday evening. We call it Živá Křížovka, which means "live Křížovka." Concerts last up to two hours, rain or shine, and have unbelievable atmosphere. People sing and dance. Just everyone has fun. Vendors sell great food and good wine. On hot days, it's like a cool oasis.

That's summer. Is there anything going on in winter?

Before Christmas, Křížovka turns into Christmas Alley. We bring in wood stalls, a manger scene, deck out the street with trees and fairy lights. There's something going on here every day for all of Advent.

Really, every day?

We want to give people someplace to soak up the Christmas atmosphere. So they have someplace to take the kids, and so we try to have a diverting program with something for everybody. During the Advent season, the castle is also all lit up and other streets around here too, which gets people out for twilight walks. Christmas Alley has a certain charm. It offers a more intimate experience of the Advent season and that's its great strength.

Do you hold other events here?

We don't have any other regular events planned. We don't want the street to lose its charm and turn into just another place for mass entertainment.



"Křížovka" has become a place to meet. With events here year-round, it's an ideal stop on the way home from work or after a trip.





Děčín straddles the Elbe River where Bohemian Switzerland meets the Central Bohemian Uplands. Take advantage of the area's geological diversity to explore two very different, but beautiful landscapes.



Nordic walking puts Děčín at your feet

Nordic walking has grown in popularity as a sport that not only strengthens the body, but offers boundless opportunities for exploration. Děčín is home to several Nordic walking routes. This one includes some wonderful scenic views of the city and the river canyon.



Distance: 4.5 km

(basic route)

Climb: 240 m

Difficulty: Medium

Trail marker:

Nordic Walking – Red

Grab your walking poles and head to the parking lot near the roundabout on ulice Práce. From here, pass under the railway viaduct and make a sharp right to get to the trail head. The path winds its way up to the first outlook point, known as Jahn terrace, from which there is a nice view of both banks of the river as well as a railway tunnel dating from the mid 19th century. A shady bench provides a good place for a rest on a sunny day.

From the terrace, continue along the red trail up to the top of Pastýřská stěna (Shepherds Bluff), where the city spreads out at your feet. From here a number of other viewpoints are visible, such as Quaderberg and Sokoli vrch. There's also a nice view of the sandstone cliffs along the Elbe River.

From the clifftop, turn away from the river and follow the ridge for 350

meters, then turn off for a descent to Bělská ulice. Take a right and follow the road to the intersection with Červený vrch, where you'll turn left. Soon the route leaves the paved road and follows the red Nordic walking trail markings to the right, over to a viewpoint marked Červený vrch. From this spot, there is a wonderful view of the ridge and a good part of the Děčín valley.

After that you can turn back or continue on the wooded path to another viewpoint. There are several of these along the trail, each with a bench for enjoying the view. If you're lucky, you may even catch a glimpse of the paragliders who use the slope to launch flights over the valley.

Make your way back to the main viewpoint on Červený vrch and follow the marked trail to the spot above the flag painted on the cliff. Take in the view of Děčín Castle, then continue along the trail back to the road. This will take you back down to the river and, ultimately, to the parking lot where your trek began.



Elbe Canyon panoramic hike

Lace up your walking shoes for this trek from Děčín to Hřensko.

Děčín (Nemocnice bus stop) ► Quaderberg 1 km ► Elbe viewpoint 2 km ► Nad Loubím signpost 4 km ► Spálenisko viewpoint 5 km ► Růžový hřeben viewpoint 6 km ► Belvédér 11.5 km ► Suchá Kamenice river 15 km ► Hřensko riverside 16 km

This scenic walk starts at the stop for the 201 bus on Lužická ulice, near the hospital, and follows the red trail into the park. A mostly paved path leads up to the panoramic terrace and sandstone obelisk at the top of the Quaderberg bluff. The spot offers a great view of the city and the Elbe Canyon. From here the red trail sets off along the ridge. A quick detour leads to the views at Sněžnická vyhlídka.

Take the broad, pleasant trail to the stone pavilion Labská stráž. The red trail continues along the ridge over the Loubí valley with its sandstone cliffs and rock formations. The path descends and heads to the village of Ludvíkovice. There it skirts a small cemetery and meets the green trail at a signpost marked Nad Loubím. There the trail continues up a wooded slope to a sandstone shelf overlooking the river. Enjoy the nice view from Spálenisko of Prostřední Žleb. The trail continues to Růžový hřeben crossroads, where a detour of 300 m leads to a gorgeous panoramic viewpoint overlooking wonderful sandstone formations.

The viewing area, Růžová vyhlídka, has a railing and a bench.

Around the bend, the red trail follows a level course through the forest. After 1,100 m a side path leads off to the signpost Pod Kamenským vrchem. At this point, hikers can take the green trail to Bynovec or stay on the red. The path goes along the plateau above the village of Labská Stráž. Our route doesn't head straight for the village, but continues straight past a string of gardens to Belvédér, Bohemian Switzerland's oldest man-made viewing terrace. From Belvédér, hikers can retrace their steps along the green trail to the river below.

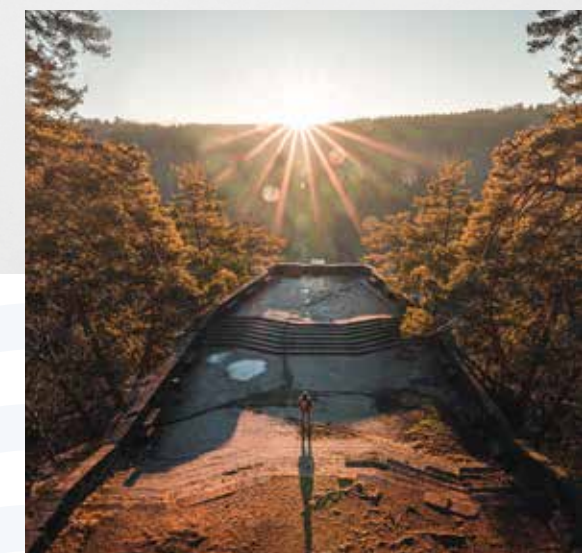
You can follow the riverside highway to the right to the nearest bus stop for the 434 or 438 line to return to Děčín or stay on the green trail where you'll ultimately find bus stops on the same route to take you back.

BELVEDÉR TERACCE

The oldest outlook in Bohemian Switzerland, Belvédér has a stepped terrace with a sala terrena in the form of a grotto with a high arch bearing the Clary-Aldringen coat of arms. It is situated on a sandstone bluff 160 meters above the Elbe River.

The clifftop terrace offers a spectacular view of the Elbe Canyon, Dolní Žleb, northern Germany, Zirkelstein, Kaiserkrone, Schrammsteine, and Großer Winterberg. Summer sunsets are lovely here.

Belvédér is accessible from Labská Stráž on the red trail. The hiking trail along the old carriageway from Děčín is also nice. Hotel Belvédér offers lodging and in warm months there is a stand selling food and drink.



Riverboat timetable: www.labskaplavebni.cz

Bus schedule: www.jr.kr-ustecky.cz / bus 434 and 438

Ferry: Hřensko – Schöna (passengers and bikes)

Train: Schöna – Děčín

Unlock adventure in Wild Gorge

Among the greatest treasures in Bohemian Switzerland National Park are Wild and Edmund gorges, where the Kamenice River winds among rocky cliffs with sandstone formations at every turn – a dragon, a monster, a watchman, and more.

Did you know that Hřensko is the lowest lying spot in the country?

The deep gulley cut by the Kamenice River offers ideal climatic conditions for plants that thrive in cool temperatures and are only otherwise found in alpine and subalpine areas. A flat-bottomed boat ride takes you past alpine yellow violet, northern firmoss, and claspleaf twistedstalk. If a blue streak whizzes past, it's probably the common kingfisher. Other creatures you might spot are the white-throated dipper, grey wagtail, black stork, and maybe even the Eurasian otter.



The area around the river has always had an air of mystery. In the past it was all but inaccessible. Even today, a certain otherworldliness hangs over the place as the cool rock walls crowd in above the water and the sun retreats to a narrow space far, far overhead. Keep an eye on www.hrensko.cz for the latest on whether **Edmund Gorge** has re-opened to the public after the 2022 forest fire. Meanwhile, be sure to check out **Wild Gorge**, one of the best-preserved areas of the national park. It first opened to boaters in 1898 and continues to awe tourists with its wild beauty to the present day. How to visit? It's best to start in **Mezná**, where there's car parking as well as bus service. Take the green trail and descend into the valley on the long set of stairs. Visitors can also get to the gorge from the Rosehill Indian camp in **Janov**, a hike of two kilometers.



Contact: Hřensko Visitor Center
+420 412 528 344 | www.hrensko.cz (information in Czech only)
Take the bus
Bus 438: Děčín main station – Mezná
Bus 432: Děčín main station – Janov (Na Hájenkách)

Pravčická brána arch

This magnificent rock formation is the largest natural sandstone arch on the European continent. Nature took millions of years to form it, and nature will ultimately take it back. Don't pass up your chance to see this natural wonder with your own eyes.

Located near the village of **Hřensko**, Pravčická brána is accessible only by foot. There are two marked trails to choose from. The first starts in Hřensko and follows the red trail along the road before turning into the woods to continue two kilometers to the arch. The other starts in **Mezní Louka**, where you can follow the yellow **Mlýnská cesta** trail, which offers interesting views of the arch

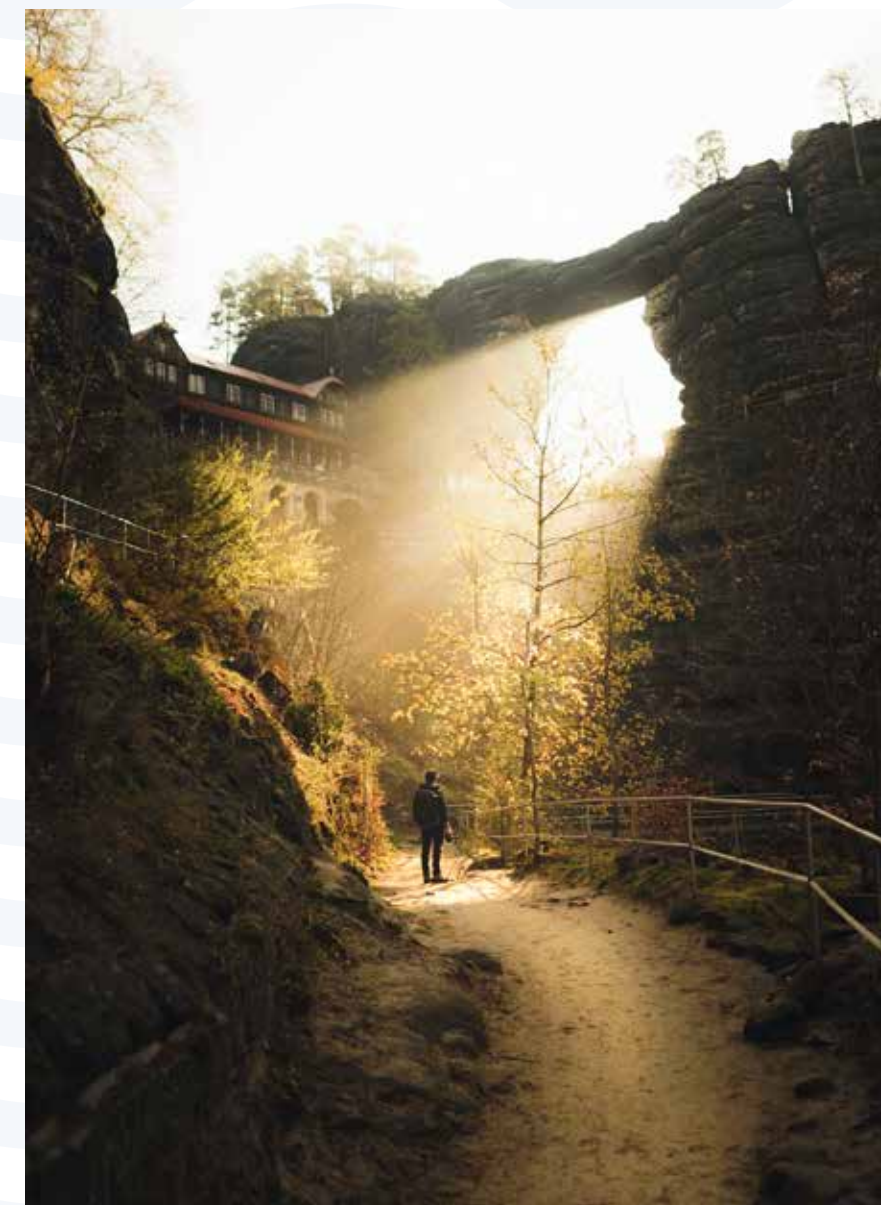
and even a panoramic viewpoint with a binocular station. Standing at the foot of the immense natural arch will give you an appreciation for its size – **26.5 meters wide** at the bottom, **16 meters high**, and **7–8 meters wide** at the top. There are plenty of vantage points for getting a good look, although the top is no longer accessible. It was closed in 1980 for preservation reasons – the footfalls



of visitors over the decades had worn away 60 to 80 cm from the surface. The arch has been reinforced using a special resin compound.

Sokolí hnízdo, the restaurant at the foot of the arch, has been serving visitors since 1881. It was built by **Edmund Clary-Aldringen**, lord of the estate – his Italian work crew took only a year to complete the structure, despite the difficult terrain. It made the trip more attractive for tourists, who had, of course, discovered the arch years before. As early as the 1870s a paved access road led from Hřensko and a trail from Mezní Louka. The first tourists were wealthy burghers and members of the nobility. At the time it was customary to rent horses or a group of porters for the trip, with obligatory litters for the ladies of course.

Today, Bohemian Switzerland National Park is popular with hikers, but its sandstones attract rock climbers too. The sport has a local tradition going back to the early 19th century, but today certain guidelines must be observed and some of the rocks are open only at certain times of year.



Jetřichovice

The main draw in Jetřichovice, hands down, is the Mariina vyhlídka viewpoint. The first wooden pavilion at its top, named for Countess Marie Anna Kinsky, was built in 1856.

Count Ferdinand Kinský, then lord of the estate financed the installation of a stairway with 240 steps and had the clifftop prepared and a pavilion erected there (designed by master carpenter Franz Fescher of Česká Kamenice). That first pavilion was built in the style of a Greek temple. In the years that followed, a series of structures occupied the spot. After a devastating fire in 2005, a new pavilion was built, but it lasted only until 2019 when it had to be closed for safety. Today, however, visitors can enjoy the view of the national parklands from a new pavilion, one based on the original 1856 design with a few changes made in line with

This pretty village in the national park has long been popular with hikers and day-trippers, a fact borne out by the multitude of pubs, restaurants, and panoramic viewpoints that still draw visitors today. The Kinský family once owned these lands. They supported tourism to the area, blazing trails through its woods and building clifftop viewpoints.

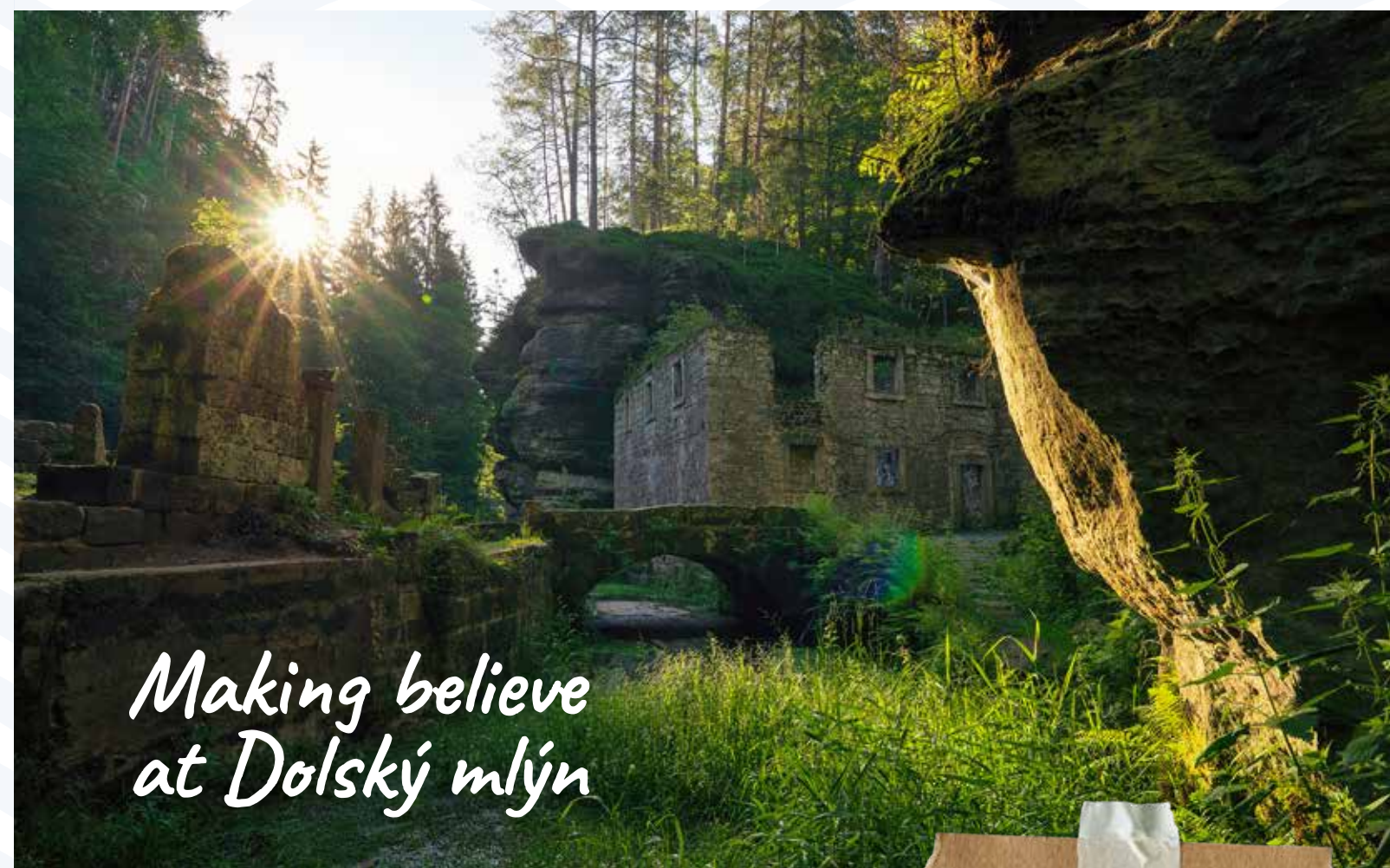
current park regulations. Whereas the original structure was enclosed, this one is open, with circular seating in the middle so that the view can be fully enjoyed. It was placed on the clifftop with the help of a helicopter in February 2021.

The walk to Mariina vyhlídka isn't a long one. From the parking lot it's only about a kilometer. It's the climb that's the tough part, nearly 200 m straight up.

Mariina vyhlídka is not the only viewpoint in Jetřichovice. Just 800 m on and a few meters up again is Vilemínina vyhlídka. This is the northernmost face of the Jetřichovice cliffs. It also gets its name from a member of the Kinský clan, Wilhelmine Kinský. Yet another viewpoint, Rudolfův kámen, lies only 1.4 km away. It is named for Rudolf Kinský.

The green trail leads back to Jetřichovice for those who do not wish to continue on for a visit to Šaunštejn and Mezní Louka. A visit to the three Kinský viewpoints, starting and ending in Jetřichovice, is a walk of about 10 km.

For those with no intention of clambering along the clifftops, the village itself has something to offer too. Visitors can admire the folk architecture – timbered cottages against a stunning backdrop. You'll even find fairytale creatures hiding in the woods. Don't believe it? Take the trail to Rynartice. Along the way you'll come to a sandstone cliff where folk artist Eduard Vater carved a stairway and a relief of Snow White and the seven dwarves. Today it is a protected landmark.



Making believe at Dolský mlýn

No visit to Bohemian Switzerland should fail to include the spooky old mill Dolský mlýn, a fairytale spot if ever there was one.

The ruins of the old mill in the deep gorge where the Kamenice and Jetřichovická Bělá rivers meet are enchanting year-round. But when the days are long and temperatures high, this cool, shady spot is especially lovely.

The mill, Dolský mlýn, is a favorite with filmmakers and has served as the backdrop for a number of well-loved children's films. The ruins also figure in a local mystery that volunteers reenact several times a year. The mill dates from 1515. It was named a cultural landmark in 2007.

Originally the mill had three wheels. Two turned the grinding stones and the other a saw, all rattling along merrily until 1814. When business

was slow, the miller brewed beer and made schnapps. By the end of the nineteenth century, the old mill was a favorite destination for outings where travelers could get a bite to eat. The site was abandoned after the Second World War and today all that is left are ruins.

The easiest way to the mill is from Jetřichovice along a well-kept forest path on the yellow trail, a walk of 3 km that can be made with a stroller. Or take the bus to Vysoká Lípa and then walk down to the Kamenice river on the blue trail and 2 km along the riverside. There is another bus stop in Jetřichovice. You can also get there on the blue trail from Kamenická Stráž or the green trail from Srbská Kamenice.





Watchtowers and scenic views

If you love taking in the scenery, we've got some tips for you.

Děčín is full of places where a little effort is rewarded with a great view. Some of these spots are open non-stop, year-round, and free of charge, while others have paid entry and limited hours.

Velký Chlum

Of these viewpoints, Velký Chlum lies nearest Děčín, on the basalt hilltop Chlum. Marked walking trails lead there from various Děčín neighborhoods – Březiny, Staré Město, Boletice – or you can drive up and park nearby. Cyclists can get there by bike.

Designed by Děčín architect Jahnel, this 16-meter stone tower was opened in 1930 and was an immediate hit with the public. After the war, interest waned and it was used as a broadcast tower. In 1997 the structure was renovated and reopened.

Our tip

At the foot of the tower is seating with wooden sculptures and a campfire pit where you can roast hot dogs (bring your own :) Remember to follow safety guidelines and keep the area clean.

Janov

This 40-meter iron tower on Janovský vrch at the edge of the village of Janov also serves as a telecommunications tower. Located alongside the local golf course, it's easy to get there by bus or car as well as by bike or on foot on the yellow trail between Hřensko and Růžová.

The tower is fairly new, built in 2013 and opened with fanfare the following April. A spiral staircase leads up to the observation deck 30 meters above ground. If you have the feeling that the tower is swaying, you may be right; you shouldn't make the climb in windy conditions, rain, or frost. Illustrations on the observation deck point out what can be seen in each direction.

Our tip

A vending machine sells commemorative coins not far from the foot of the tower. A short walk away, near the pond in Janov, is an old Dutch windmill (with the sails removed) that has been adapted for use as a private cottage.



Růženka

In 2018, a few kilometers from Děčín, in the village of Růžová, an odd structure rose on the hilltop Pastevní vrch. They call it Růženka. The organic, futuristic design is the work of studio Mjolk in Liberec and may remind you of buildings by the Czech architect Jan Kaplický. Calling this a tower may be a bit of a stretch – it stands only six and a half meters high – but its rounded portals afford a nice view of the countryside.

Our tip

Check out soap shop **Mýdlárna Rubens** in the village below for natural, herbal products. Or get the kids out for a walk on Petřinská educational trail.



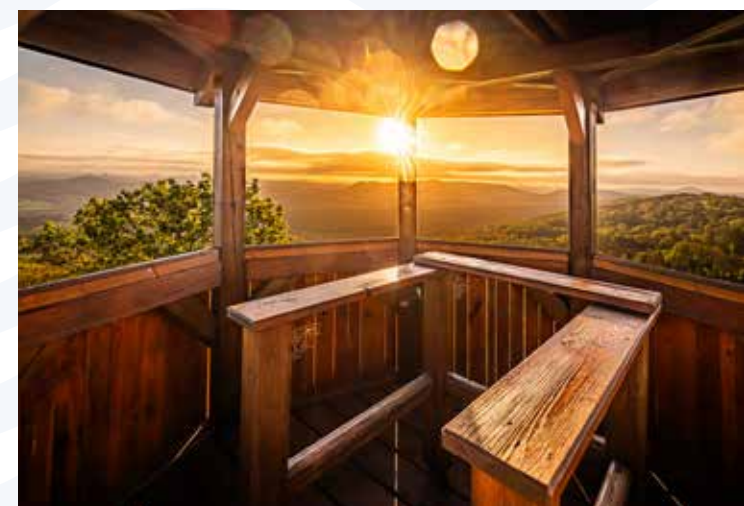
Strážný vrch, Merboltice

The Strážný vrch view tower stands on a phonolite cone rising to 601 masl by the village of Merboltice. The tower offers a sweeping view of the surroundings, including the Central Bohemian Uplands, Lusatian Mountains, and the area around Česká Lípa. The tower was constructed by a local builder. It opened

to visitors in November 2006. Getting to the viewpoint is a hike of 1.5 km on the blue trail from Merboltice, where you can leave your car. The nearest railway stop is Starý Šachov.

Our tip

utting up from a field below the tower is a rock formation known as **Zvonkový kámen (bell rock)**. Local legend ties dwarves and hidden treasure to the spot, which is supposed to have strong positive energy. The rock gets its name from the sound it makes when struck with a hammer or stone.





Kohout (the rooster)

Kohout is one of the older towers in the area. In 1908 the German hiking association commissioned a grand 16-meter tower with a stone base. But when money ran out the project was reimagined as a wood and metal structure with a deck at 12 meters. After the Second World War the tower was abandoned like so many of the others in this area. In 2010 it was refurbished and reopened.

The rooster is located between Benešov nad Ploučnicí and Valkeřice on the blue trail. When the tower was opened, an inn operated

alongside it, doing a booming business from 1908 until after WWII. Its foundations are still visible.

Our tip

As you head back towards Benešov on the blue trail, turn off on the green trail to visit the Ostrý castle ruins in Františkov nad Ploučnicí, which date back to at least 1268.

The following three viewpoints each charge an entry fee. Check their hours online before heading out.



Sokolí vrch

This tower, located near the village of Dobrná is easy to get to by car – there's parking a stone's throw away. But if you prefer to walk, there are a number of options – take the local road from Dobrná or the green trail from Huntířov or from Folknáře.

As is so often the case, this viewpoint owes its existence to a telecommunications company. A reinforced concrete broadcast tower has been wrapped in an elegant spiral staircase with landings to rest on. The climb of 162 steps is rewarded with sweeping views from a crow's nest that extends beyond the support column – the deck is made of steel grating, so you can see the ground far below, giving visitors a little bit of an adrenalin rush. The observation deck is 34 meters up, but the tower rises an additional 17 meters into the sky.

Our tip

Visit the St. John of Nepomuk chapel in Dobrná.



Děčínský Sněžník

If you love a great view, you really owe it to yourself to visit Sněžník

(723 masl). The stone watchtower atop this flat-topped sandstone mountain was built in 1864 by Count Franz Anton Thun as part of a surveying network. Of course, the structure was rather more imposing than the usual wooden survey tower. Built of sandstone blocks, Děčínský Sněžník stands 33 meters high and looks more like a Gothic keep than anything else. Its first users were Austrian, Saxon, and Prussian surveyors, but it soon caught on with the hiking public who, for a small fee, could take in the gorgeous view of the countryside.

There are a number of ways to get there. The simplest, shortest path follows the paved asphalt road from the intersection at the restaurant Hraničář, a half-hour's walk to the top. Along the way you can enjoy forests and countryside with a nice view into Saxony from the Dresden viewpoint. There's also a marked trail

for cyclists. For a longer hike, trek all the way from Děčín on the red trail, roughly ten kilometers. The walk from Jílové on the green trail is about half that. For a change of pace, try riding downhill on a rented scooter. Services at the foot of the tower include a restaurant, lodging, and a refreshment stand.

Interesting fact

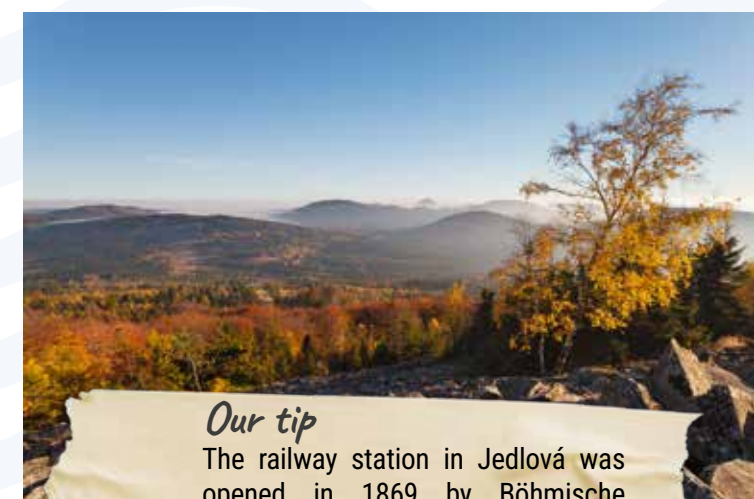
The very first television signal ever picked up in Czechoslovakia was caught in 1936 at the tower. The broadcast? A report from the Olympic games in Berlin.

Jedlová

Of the towers featured here, Jedlová (774 masl) is the farthest from Děčín. The hill itself is made of phonolite and was covered with fir trees (jedle) until the end of the nineteenth century. According to historical records, Hapsburg Emperor Joseph II enjoyed the view from the top on a tour of inspection around northern Bohemia in 1779, becoming its most celebrated visitor. The hilltop became popular with tourists when the railway opened the region to leisure travel in the late 19th century.

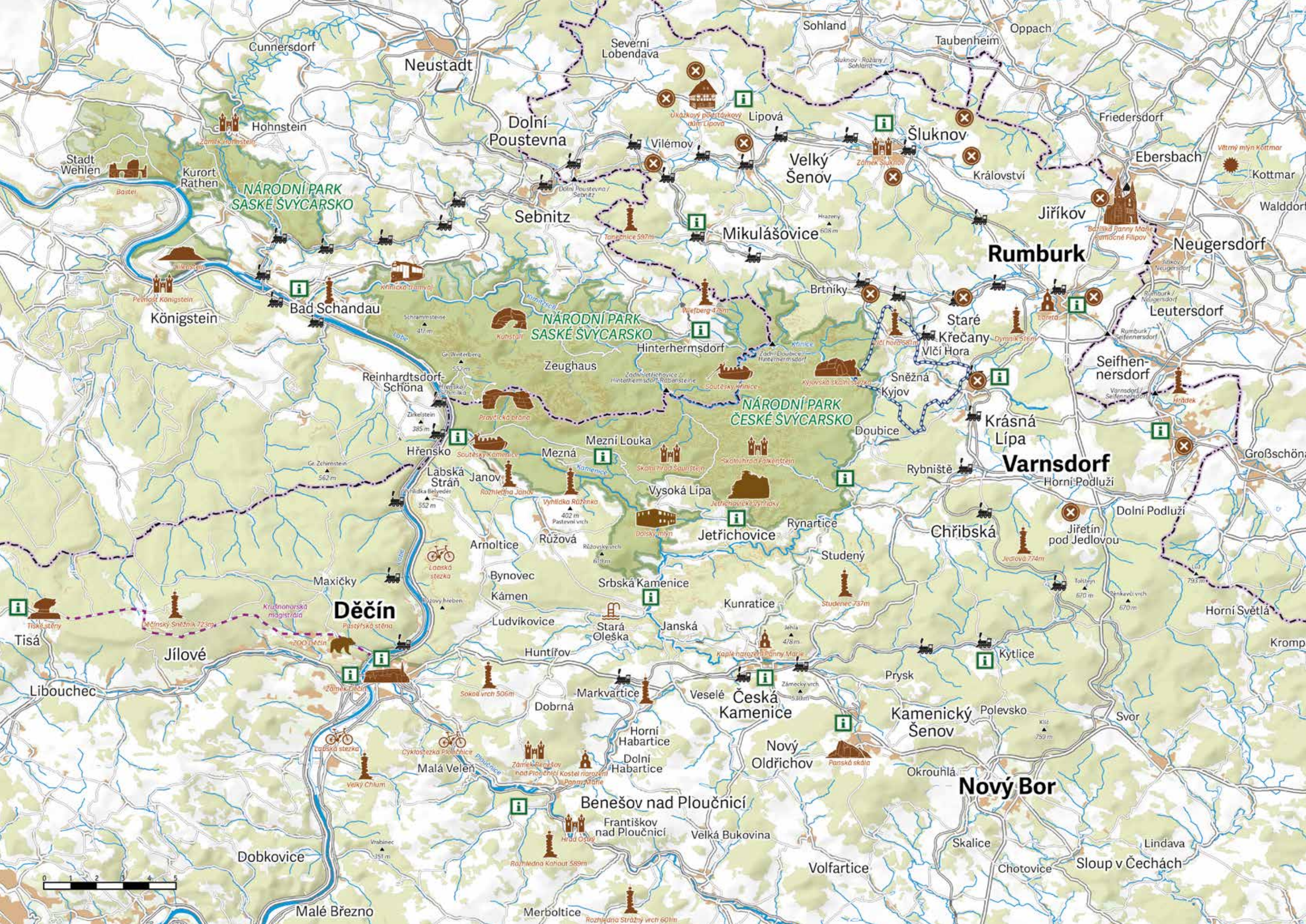
In September 1890 construction began on a round, stone tower with an observation deck at 23 meters. The project, which cost 5,200 gold pieces, was opened to the public within a year. At the same time, an inn was opened on the summit by Ferdinand Kinský, who owned the estate. There were bunks for hikers, guest rooms, and a social hall with an organ.

The hilltop was a bustling tourist destination until World War II. It was abandoned in 1943 and by the 1950s the observation tower and restaurant had definitively shut down. In 1993 the tower reopened to the public, and the pub welcomed back the first thirsty visitors just two years later. The area has plenty of outdoor fun to offer in all seasons. In summer, hikers can choose from a range of trails and destinations, like the castle ruins at Tolštejn and the Stations of the Cross in Jiřetín pod Jedlovou. In winter, visitors enjoy downhill and cross-country skiing.



Our tip

The railway station in Jedlová was opened in 1869 by Böhmsche Nordbahn. Today it remains a popular stop for tourists heading for the hiking paths, cycling trails, and cross-country skiing routes in the area. An overnight stay can be an unforgettable experience and a nice opportunity to enjoy the Lusatian Mountains. It's fun for railway enthusiasts, bucket listers, friends on cycling trips, and families. You can eat at the restaurant and stay in one of 3 suites in the old station building.



A visit to Česká Kamenice

Unique architecture, an astronomical clock, a compelling pilgrimage site, a great little swimming pool, and breathtaking views where three protected landscape areas meet. These are just some of the attractions of Česká Kamenice. It's all in one place, and there's always more to discover. You could spend your whole holiday in this pretty town just outside of Děčín and never run out of things to do. Coming for the weekend? Here are a few things to see and do.



You can see a lot of what Česká Kamenice has to offer from the **Vyhledky-Brand** viewpoints trail. The walk starts on the main square (náměstí Míru) and follows the yellow trail out of town. But before you get even get started, turn your steps to the imposing **St. James Church**. The great Czech composer

Clock, chapel, miniature millraces

Right in the center of town, at Nerudova 241, there's a real rarity. It's an **astronomical clock**, restored in 2024, complete with 12 saints, the grim reaper, and a dashing Sir Roland. The figures are made of

metal and glass. Their restoration is the work of the nearby school of glasswork in Kamenický Šenov. The figures appear every hour on the hour from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm.

From the clock it's only a short walk to the pilgrimage **Church of the Birth of the Virgin Mary**. This fabulous Baroque structure invites quiet contemplation. A guided tour takes you through the ornate interior with its altar, statue of the Virgin Mary of Kamenice, and ambit with four corner chapels. In the summer, the church is open 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and in June and September on weekends only.

Passing the swimming pool with its terrific outdoor bistro (and soon a campground too) you come to the **Mlýnky-Brand** miniatures park. Little models are arranged along a stream that turns their tiny mill wheels and other moveable parts. You'll see a miniature flourmill, sawmill, and windmill. The park is open to the public free of charge.



Antonín Dvořák once was a regular at the pipe organ here. Climb to the balcony for a look at the interior and ascend the tower for a sweeping view of the city.



Take a ride on the wooden pull ferry that lets you cross the pond under your own power. Can you make it without taking a spill? This short walk is fun for all, is easy enough for small children, and packs so many sights into just one kilometer. It's suitable for strollers too.

Up to the heights

If you're ready for more, there are some great viewpoints to discover. You'll just have to do a little climbing. The first is at the top of the **sandstone formation Ponorka** (the submarine). The second is



on a basalt tower called **Jehle** (the needle). Both have renovated approaches with sturdy new steps and railings.

On the way from Ponorka to Jehle, you can take a quick detour to see **Bratrské oltáře** (fraternal altar). This partially refurbished pilgrimage site is a Calgary hill with new copies of the original images in their niches at each station of the cross. There are also copies of some of the original statuary. Then, from Jehle it's an easy walk on the blue trail into town. The whole loop is less than five kilometers.

There is also a gorgeous view of Česká Kamenice from the basalt **Zámecký vrch**. At the top of the hill are the ruins of Kamenice castle and a wooden viewing tower that is visible far and wide, no matter which direction you come from. When you get to the top, you can ring the bell and make a campfire to roast some wieners.



Last year a new **anchored climbing trail**, or via ferrata, was installed on Jehla. The route is called **Uchem Jehly** (eye of the needle). It was laid out by Karel Bělina, measures 50 m, and is suitable for beginner and intermediate climbers, and even children. It is open to the public, but requires adequate gear, which you can rent at the swimming pool bistro.

Nearby **Rabštejn valley** has a paintball arena that offers 5,000 square meters of fun with an outdoor area, two floors, two stairways, and a tank. A trip to Rabštejn valley is fun for families and history lovers alike. There is little traffic on the



paved roads, so you will feel safe on your bicycle, scooter, or in-line skates. It is also a nice walk with a stroller. About halfway into the valley there is a **children's traffic**



playground, complete with child-sized street signs and stoplights. At the end of the trail, history buffs will be interested in the **underground airplane parts factory** dating from WWII, where guided tours are available.

On hot days visitors flock to Česká Kamenice for its **swimming pool**. Relax on the lawn and enjoy the new



outdoor bistro. The pool is open from June through August from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm. When the weather is fine, the opening hours are extended to 9:00 pm. You can take advantage of bike boxes to store (and recharge) your bikes and gear.

Text:
Evžen Belanová
and Tereza Havlíčková

Photos:
Radek Timoftej

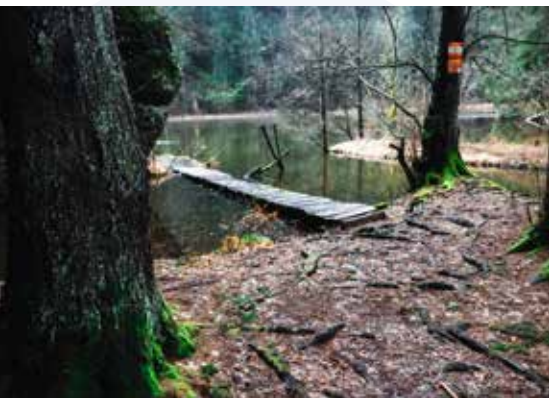
2 Česká
Kamenice

Valley trail in Pavlínino údolí

This pretty trail winds through the enchanting cliff-bound landscape of the Pavlínino údolí, a wooded gorge near Jetřichovice. The short loop around Griesel pond will be a hit with children. Grown-ups can take the full hike into the valley.



Enjoy the atmosphere along Chřibská Kamenice stream any time of year. Start your hike at Grieslova kříž (Griesel cross), arriving by bus 436 or by car. Take the red trail to Jetřichovice swimming pool and Griesel pond, where children are



guaranteed to have a blast. The Pavlínka trail takes them into a world inhabited by mysterious fairytale creatures with magical caves and an old waterway.



Srbská Kamenice nature trail

Explore this attractive village in the Kamenice River valley and discover its historical and natural treasures on the nature trail, a nice walk for kids and adults alike.

The route is roughly 2 km long, starting at the little café Kavárnička v přírodě, where there is parking and wooden tables and chairs beckon for a leisurely break. The trail is lined with beautifully painted signs pointing out historical and natural

The red trail continues into the valley itself following the meanders of the stream at the bottom of the gorge, sometimes ascending for a glimpse from above. The sheer cliff walls and thick forest provide changeable scenery along the way. The trail goes all the way to the village of Studený, where you can catch a bus or visit the viewpoint Studenec. If you want to make a full loop and hike back to your car, turn off the red trail onto the blue Hřebenovka and then turn at Pod Suchým vrchem onto the yellow trail for Jetřichovice and back to the parking lot where you began.



trivia along the way. Nearby are an outdoor agricultural museum, a playground, wooden footbridges, even a forest theater. A path leads from the forest theater down to Kriegsloch cave for a nice view of the village. Descending from this viewpoint, you come to a pool (look for its fairytale keeper). The yellow trail heads from here past Arba nature preserve, which erupts in the little white blossoms of spring snowflakes every spring. From here, the trail takes you back to the parking lot.



Kyjov valley

Dotted with little cottages, the Kyov valley stretches along the Krinice River.

Kyjov valley has been a popular recreational destination since the 19th century. And it's no wonder. You'll find a romantic natural setting full of gullies, cliffs, rock towers, and all sorts of sandstone formations. There are several viewpoints, built starting in 1884 by the local climbing association, which also made the most interesting rock formations accessible. The area is home to a number of rare plant and animal species.



Over the years, the valley has seen more than just hikers and backpackers though. This area was also important for floating lumber into Saxony and

was once an important land route too, with a road connecting the castles Vlčí, Brtnický, and Kyjovský. Records show that this highway lead all the way to the German castle Hohnstein. Today, though, you'll find footpaths and cycling trails in criss crossing the forest in addition to a number of unmarked paths leading to the cliffs. The Kyjov valley offers enchantingly intimate views of cliffs and forest. The romantic atmosphere is underscored by unique sandstone formations and wooded viewpoints.

A popular attraction are the valley's caves and rocky overhangs. Visitors



seek out Jeskyně víl (fairy cavern), fabulous in winter with its unique icicle formations and ice curtains. Another popular destination is the Lví jeskyně (lion cave), Bratrské kameny (fraternal rocks), a cave known as Vinný sklep (wine cellar), Kyjovský hrad (Kyjov castle) and the cliff amphitheater Klenotnice (jewel box). All of these natural wonders can be found within a 5 km section of the Krinice River.



photo: A. Kubiček

What's more, the Kyjov valley is traversed by the Kögler trail, the oldest educational nature trail in Bohemia. Rudolf Kögler from nearby Krásná Lípa created it in 1941. Other regional figures have left their marks here too. Plaques commemorate Dr. Johann Hille, chairman of the north Bohemian hiking club and brothers Eduard and František Bienert, local historians from nearby Šluknov. The Kyjov valley lies near the village of Kyjov, which also begs a visit for its folk architecture. Or stop by the Kinsky viewpoint. Kyjov also has a water reservoir that offers wonderful swimming when temperatures rise.

Other attractions around the Kyjov valley include the Bohemian Switzerland House in Krásná Lípa, the forest theater in Kytlice, Tokaň, Všemily, Tanečnice view tower, and Vlčí hora. Come experience the wonder.

Enjoy local products

Locally made with regionally sourced material, high quality, original, hand crafted – these are the defining traits of products and services bearing the Central Bohemian Uplands regional product stamp – ČESKÉ STŘEDOHOŘÍ regionální produkt®.

Part of the national association of regional brands since 2014, the Central Bohemian Uplands currently lists 40 products, services, and activities that have earned the rating.



Organic beef – Agrokomplex, s.r.o., offers beef from cattle bred at its organic farm in Verneřice. The cattle graze on pastureland in the Central Bohemian Uplands protected nature area and are fed on the company's own organically-made feed.

Pasture Festival – This daylong educational event for the whole family takes place in the village of Hlinná in Central Bohemian Uplands. It is organized to raise awareness about sustainable agriculture and environmental



Products from around Děčín

Fruit and jam from Central Bohemian Uplands – Fruit-packed jams with reduced sugar are a natural choice. These 100% natural fruit jams have no additives and are made with hand-picked fruit from orchards in the Central Bohemian Uplands. They come from Valdemar Grešík, one of the Czech Republic's leading producer of teas, spices, ciders, and other natural products. His **dried fruits** also bear the regional product stamp.



preservation and is open to the public. Visitors can try their hand at various folk crafts and come into contact with wild and domesticated animals. The festival also showcases local products and ecological and artistic groups from the area. The event takes place in late August and September every year in the village of Hlinná and nearby Holý vrch.

Handmade leather goods – Petra Valešová makes all of her products from cowhide – belts, pouches, handbags, wallets, and keychains – using saddle making tools from the early part of the last century. Each piece is an original, crafted by hand in Ústí nad Labem to the customer's specifications.



PASTUdomov wooden decor – “Comfort and style make a cozy home” is the motto of Pavla Gollová of Ústí nad Labem, who creates hand-painted wood products of various shapes and sizes. Each shape is individually shaped, sanded, and treated by hand. The process is repeated several times. Finally, each piece is sanded smooth to obtain a patina and given a final paint job.

Kauboy ciders from the wild north – Premium apples and pears and other flavors, no artificial additives, all made naturally, those are Kauboy (read “cowboy”) ciders from Ústí nad Labem. The fruit comes exclusively from local orchards around Ploskovice and Těchobuzice in the Central Bohemian Uplands. Kauboy barrique cider 2020 earned an international award. Natural fruit sodas are now available too.



Na Rychtě beers – The full line of beers from Na Rychtě brewery includes Mazel 12° light lager, Vojtěch 12° amber lager, Rychtovar 14° light special, Ústecká rychtářka 11° Weizenbier wheat beer, flavored lagers 12° (cherry, raspberry, cranberry), Ústečan 14° light special and Ústecká 11°. The brewery in Ústí nad Labem includes a restaurant and a hotel.





Fun for the family in Tisá

Explore the rock formations and unleash your fantasy

Tisá has been discovered by filmmakers. So don't be surprised if you feel like you're walking through Narnia or could run into a lost mermaid around the next corner.

The bizarre rock formations at Tisá have been amazing visitors for centuries. They were mapped out in the early 19th century, which is when many of the formations got their nicknames. Today **Tiské stěny rock formations** are a natural landmark and part of the **Elbe Sandstones nature preservation area**. The site is divided into two parts, the Greater and Lesser Rocks. Visitors can follow marked trails, including an **educational trail**, and enjoy fun for the whole family. The rocks are a natural playground for children young and old. You can also **walk along the top of the cliffs** on the red trail. You are sure to run into groups of rock climbers overcoming the cliff walls in whenever the weather is dry and sunny. There are **113 climbing routes**

of various difficulty levels on the site. A little off the beaten path are the rock formations at **Bürschlické stěny, Rájecké skály, and Ostrovské skály**. They are just as beautiful and offer a little more peace and quiet.

You can enter Tiské stěny from two sides. If you are coming from the village of Tisá, don't pass up a chance to peek into **St. Anne's Church**. Hapsburg Emperor Joseph II participated in the foundation laying ceremony here. The other entrance is from the highway from Děčínský Sněžník next to the **Turistická chata** restaurant. There is parking at both entrances.

Access to the rocks

Tiské stěny rocks are open daily year-round. In the summer, there is an entry fee of CZK 50 and CZK 25 for children. Out of season, entry is free of charge.



Getting there

It's easy to reach Tisá by bus. From the bus stop on ulice Prokopa Holého in Děčín hop on **bus 432** with regular service on the route Janov – Labská Stráň – Děčín – Libouchec and get off at "**Libouchec, ObÚ.**" Or from the same place you can take **bus 471** serving Ústí nad Labem – Libouchec – Jílové Sněžník and get off at the stop marked "**Tisá, kulturní dům.**" From there, just go around St. Anne's Church and take the unpaved path to the Tisá rocks.

If you're driving, there is parking available in two large lots. The first is the paid lot across from St. Anne's Church, just a ten-minute walk to the rocks. Parking will cost you only CZK 50 per day, even in the summer months. Payment is accepted by cash or card. The other parking lot is at the second entrance to the park, **next to Turistická chata** restaurant. The latter lot offers free parking, but it fills up quickly. We recommend setting out early if you want to catch a spot.



While you're in the area

Take advantage of the cross-border bus line 217 on the Pirna – Tisá – Sněžník – Rosenthal – Königstein route and plan a hiking or cycling trip. For example, you can board in Tisá or Sněžník and head to Rosenthal. There's a nice hike past the Hercules columns, Grenzplatte, and Ostrov to Tisá rocks. This pretty hike is 12 to 14 kilometers long depending on which way you go.

Useful resources

Bus timetables: jr.kr-ustecky.cz
News and information from Tisá: www.idecin.cz/en, www.tisa.cz





Děčín welcomes active visitors. Climb the via ferrata, head out on your bike, take a raft down the river, or just hit the hills. There are plenty of challenges out there just waiting for you.

Three tips for cycling trips

The area around Děčín is crisscrossed with hiking and cycling trails. Here are our tips for three great bike trips in the area.

From Jetřichovice for Elbe Canyon views

This ride starts in Děčín, where you hop on to the DÚK bike bus for Jetřichovice. From Jetřichovice, cycle route 3076 leads you through lovely natural scenery along the



Jetřichovická Bělá river to Dolský mlýn, the spooky ruins of an old mill from 1515 that now welcomes curious tourists and filmmakers.

From Dolský mlýn, the ride continues on cycle route 3076 to Růžová, where you can turn off and climb Pastevní vrch to check out the odd little viewing tower known as Růženka. From here you have a full-circle view of Grosser and Kleiner Zschirnstein, Pfaffenstein, Papststein and Lilienstein in Germany and Vlčí hora,

Pravčická brána, Sněžník, Jedlová and Studenec in the Czech Republic.

Near the village of Růžová is another minor attraction, a well-preserved



along the heights, collecting beautiful views along the way. Take the red hiking trail, no problem if you're on a mountain bike. Stop for the view at Růžová vyhlídka and Labská stráž. You're looking at Europe's deepest sandstone canyon. You can



end your ride at the Imperial viewpoint atop Kvádrberg (Kvaderberk) back in Děčín.



Bike bus from Děčín to Jetřichovice: Line 436 – Děčín-Dobrná-Huntřívov-Srbská Kamenice-Jetřichovice, host. Line 434 – Děčín-Hřensko, Jetřichovice-Chřibská-Krásná Lípa. Selected lines transport bicycles on weekends and public holidays April through October; over the summer, bikes are carried on selected lines on weekdays too (capacity 20 bicycles).

For more information on bike transport, visit www.dopravauk.cz

Route: Děčín – Jetřichovice (by bike bus) – Dolský Mlýn – Růžová – Arnoltice – Labská stráž - Belvédér viewpoint – Růžová viewpoint – Labská stráž viewpoint – Kvádrberk – Děčín | **Distance:** 29 km | **Elevation profile:** Descent 496 m, Ascent 586 m | <https://mapy.cz/s/fadotosuva>

Kamenice River ride to hidden gems



The trip starts in Česká Kamenice, where you can visit the astronomical clock or Mlýnský miniature park. You'll ride from Česká Kamenice on cycle route 21 along the Kamenice River passing the ruins of Fredevald Castle (Pustý zámek), some pretty chapels, and a forest theater. In Dolní Falknov, you can turn off the route for a cool dip in a forest pond. A second opportunity for a swim comes at the pond called Hraniční, also on the route.

From Hraniční, follow cycle route 3013 along the nice forest path by Malý Stožec. From the crossroads, cycle route 3052 then takes you

square, Radnice, in a neo-Gothic building that used to be the town hall.

After your break, hop back on your bike and continue on cycle route 3052. Dolní Chřibská is full of interesting examples of folk architecture. And near Chřibská you'll find a unique aqueduct, built at the end of the 19th century to channel water for Florian Hübel's weaving mill. The double-arched aqueduct is the best preserved part of this ambitious project.

From the aqueduct, cycle route 3052 takes you through the village of Studený, along pretty Pavlínino údolí



valley to Lipnice and Kunratice. From there, it is only a few kilometers back to Česká Kamenice. You can end your ride here at the local pool, which has secure boxes for locking up your bike and gear.



Route: Česká Kamenice – Mlýnský – Hraniční rybník – Horní Chřibská – Chřibská aqueduct – Studený – Kunratice – Česká Kamenice | **Distance:** 39 km | **Elevation profile:** Descent 578 m, Ascent 578 m | <https://mapy.cz/s/pabubenaro>

Ploučnice trail chateau and pilgrimage ride



The trip upstream from Děčín along the Ploučnice River is 45 km round trip and manageable for an average cyclist. There are some nice stops along the route.



Start your ride in Děčín, hitting bike route 15 from the Old Town Bridge along the Ploučnice. The trail passes the city ice rink and takes the form of a broad, paved cycling path all the way to Březiny, where we recommend a stop at Caffé 08 for a cup of the local roast and a snack. From the café, the bike route officially follows a busy road (not great if you are riding with children). Some cyclists choose to take an unofficial detour on a dirt path over private land along the river. We leave the choice of route up to you. From the village of Soutěsky, bike route 15 leads through beautiful countryside via Malá Veleň to Benešov nad Ploučnicí. Here you

will find one of the main destinations of this cycling trip.

The chateau in Benešov nad Ploučnicí is a unique example of architecture from the cusp of the Gothic and Renaissance, a period known locally as the Saxon Renaissance. The complex encompasses seven historical buildings in the heart of town – the upper and lower chateaux, three palaces, a church and a chapel. The lower chateau itself is made up of three historically distinct palaces. The whole site is a protected landmark, with the lower and upper chateaux, houses 44 and 54, Starchedel House and Konojed House declared a national cultural landmarks in 2001. Parts of the chateau complex are open to the public and offer an impressive exhibition mapping the life of the nobility. There are three tour options available from April to October, as well as costumed tours and other special events.

After visiting the chateau in Benešov, continue along the Ploučnice trail. You can look forward to a nice climb coming out of town before the route descends into Františkov nad Ploučnicí.

Between Františkov and Starý Šachov, the trail is not paved and can be pretty rocky. From Šachov, cycle route 15 follows a minor road to Dolní Police, where you turn onto bike route 3098 heading for the village of Horní Police, the site of the second major stop on this cycling trip, the Pilgrimage Church of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary.

The pilgrimage site dates to the 18th century, when the church and its surroundings were rebuilt in the Baroque style. The history of the site goes farther back though. According to local lore, in 1523 a wooden statue of the Virgin Mary washed up on the bank of the river Ploučnice. The local inhabitants brought the mysterious statue to their parish church (a Gothic church, probably dating to late 13th century), where it was put on



display and soon attracted pilgrims, establishing the tradition of Horní Police as a pilgrimage site. Interest in the pilgrimage demanded greater capacity and ultimately construction was begun on a larger church in 1689. It was completed, with the support of the Grand Duchess of Tuscany, Anna Maria Franziska, in 1723. This national landmark underwent extensive renovation in 2019–2020.

From Horní Police you can trace the same route back to Děčín or simply catch a train. If, on the other hand, you're itching to get more kilometers in, take cycle route 15 from Žandov for a climb through Volfartice on the Varhany cycle path, which follows the old railway embankment. Cycle route 15 takes you to Česká Lípa, but it doesn't end there. The route continues through Mimoň and Stráž pod Ralskem to Osečná and all the way to the source of the Ploučnice River.



Route: <https://mapy.cz/s/cusutadomu> | Distance: 43 km | Elevation profile: Descent 450 m, Ascent 450 m



View from Chmelník

photo: Karel Veselý

Chmelník is on the left bank of the Elbe at the outskirts of Děčín nearest Chmelnice, Vilsnice and Chrochvice. The hill is an old volcanic peak, making it part of the Central Bohemian Uplands, and has an altitude of 508 masl.

Route map: <https://mapy.cz/s/gojasotere>
The Czech Tourist Club regularly organizes a New Year's climb on Chmelník. The climb in 2025 was its twenty-ninth.



To hike up Chmelník, start at the Vilsnice train station, at the trail head for the yellow hiking trail. The path climbs 350 meters in 3 kilometers to the top of the hill. There are nice views here of the Elbe valley and the town below. Until 1914 a lookout tower with a restaurant welcomed visitors; today, you'll find seating and a fire circle at the top.

To make your descent, take the yellow trail towards Chrochvice. Interesting sights along the way include the rock formation Břečťanová jehla (ivy needle) and the tomb of Josef Frittsche. When you reach the bottom, you can hop on a city bus in Chrochvice or take the train back to Vilsnice. The whole circuit is about 6.5 kilometers long with an ascent of 360 meters.



photo: Karel Veselý





Discover sandstone climbing

Ever longed to scale a cliff? You're in the right place. Of course, climbing the Elbe Canyon sandstones is no small matter. These are monumental cliffs, and while they may be tempting, they demand a certain level of climbing experience. But the Elbe Sandstones are way more than just the canyon. They cover a big area and there are routes to suite any climber. So, if you're just starting out, head for Rájec, Tisá or Ostrov. The climbs there are beginner-friendly and beautiful too.

Sandstone climbing is a world to itself. If you're used to the climbing gym or limestone, your first touch of sandstone will be a bit of a surprise. For one thing, there aren't bolts set every meter, some of the old routes have them 5 meters apart and the current standard is 3 meters, 2 meters on especially tough spots. That means the climber must often rely on their own protection and sometimes on a fair bit of bravery.

When climbing older routes made years ago when gear was nothing like today, you've sometimes got to wonder if the climbers who made them were crazy. In Rájec, Tisá and Ostrov, the rocks reach a height of 7 to 15 meters with grades from IV to VIII – sandstone grading applies here. Of course, a lot also depends on who made the route, because everyone has a slightly different approach to

a problem. That's why sometimes a route can surprise you.

The advantage of these areas is that you can often climb the rocks from the back and throw down a rope from the top. The places mentioned above are also pretty family friendly. The space at the foot of the rock is usually flat and sandy with some shade. So you can string up a hammock in the trees and even climbers with small children in tow can enjoy a day out without worrying too much about the kids or lugging a load of toys, pails and shovels from the car.

If you can manage to climb VIIa, have gained some endurance and got a feel for the sandstone, or if you have more experienced buddies along, it may be time to try your hand at the canyon walls of "Labák." You might even run into Mára Holeček or Jindra Hudeček there. The deepest sandstone canyon in Europe with climbs up to 80 meters

is a great training ground even for such climbing icons.

On the left bank you'll find shorter climbs of about 40 meters. New climbs by Richard Litochleb or Zbyněk Homola are better protected and also correspond more to standard grading. In Dolní Žleb you'll also find a great climbing pub that gets pretty lively on weekends. From the left bank you can easily reach the right bank by ferry (for up-to-date information on ferry operations, see www.idecin.cz/en). The rock is harder and less "salty" here and the high cliff faces get blazing hot in summer. The long VIIa to XII routes are beautiful, with amazing views of the river and cliffs. Just remember, before you start a climb, always be sure to check that your rope is the correct length.

If traditional climbing seems too scary, you can always get a taste of it on the relative safety of a via ferrata.

It's a good way to see how you handle heights and if rock climbing may be the thing for you. There is a via ferrata with sixteen secured routes in Děčín, right at the start of the canyon. The anchored routes were laid by climbing matador Karel Bělina. The via ferrata is right in the heart of town and some of the climbs are easy enough for beginners and older children. Rent all the gear you need and hire an experienced guide at the foot of the via ferrata. Now nothing can stop you from discovering the magic of sandstone climbing.



Via Ferrata

Climbs take about an hour on the more than 150 meters of anchored routes in the heart of town. Note, do not climb when the rock is wet.

Via Ferrata routes and grades

A-E
Easy to extremely difficult, stemple rungs used as holds and steps

1-4
Easy to extremely difficult, free climbing

1. Path to Heaven **C/3+**
2. Silent Tolerance **C**
3. Confederacy of Dunces **C**
4. Memento **B/2+**
5. Hungry Wayfarer **B/2+**
6. Silver Will **D/3+**
7. Delusions of Grandeur **E**
8. Shepherd **D**
9. Frona **E**
10. Charles Bridge **B**
11. Tinker **E**
12. Air Ballet **A/B**
13. Memento HTW **D**
14. Rock Empire **D**
15. Brewery **E**
16. Adrenalin Challenge **C**





"Want a via ferrata climb that's got it all? There's one in Děčín.... Get all the satisfaction, plus climb with a pro, stop halfway for a canned coffee, and the best comes a minute or two later... an unbelievable sunrise and a stunning view. See what you can do if you set your mind to it."
Marta Nováková / client

Via ferrata at sunrise

Do a sunrise climb in the heart of town with a professional guide

It gets pretty hot on the via ferrata in the summer. Here's a morning climbing workshop that beats the heat and has the added benefit of a great sunrise. Over the past four years sunrise climbs have become very popular.

How it works

Groups of up to five meet in the early morning about an hour before sunrise. Everyone puts on their ferrata sets and then safety instruction takes place at the foot of the cliff and climbers practice using the carabiners.

Why have a guide

Lots of people think that they'll never climb a gym wall, much less a cliff face, but with expert instruction and the security of a ferrata set, it's a piece of cake. Others, even those used to extreme sports or skydiving, might not manage without the help of the instructor's rope. Another thing to keep in mind is that the fall brake is designed to work for people from 40 to 120 kg. Outside of those limits, as for children, climbers have to secure themselves, so an instructor is needed. The recommended age for children is 6 and up.

Find out more at www.ferrata-decin.cz

Jiří Skorpion Hovorka
mountain guide

Course for kids



Advanced course / climbing overhangs



"Unless you're just plain lazy, you've got to try the sunrise workshop. Not only will you get a beautiful view and learn something new, you'll also have a great time and maybe find a new hobby. Got the guts to try it?"

Adam Marien Hrdina / client

Contact

Jiří Skorpion Hovorka
Licensed mountain guide

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Cruises year-round!



Elbe cruise operator Labská plavební společnost welcomes passengers for Elbe River excursions from Mělník, Litoměřice, Ústí nad Labem, and Děčín to Dresden and Meissen.

We now offer cruises on the historical paddle steamer Labe. This year, it will be operating for wine cruises from Ústí to Roudnice and back. Starting this spring, it will also run cross-border service on the routes Ústí nad Labem – Königstein and Děčín – Meissen, among other attractive cruises you can find online at www.parniklabe.cz.

Passenger favorite – Round-trip cruise from Děčín to Dresden

Admire gorgeous natural scenery on a riverboat cruise. Passengers will enjoy a two-course lunch, dinner, a wine tasting, live music, and the services of a tour guide. The boat docks in the heart of Dresden at the Elbe terrace near the Frauenkirche

and the world-renowned Zwinger Gallery. A guided walking tour of the historic center follows.

Advent cruises, Christmas parties, and Saint Martin's feasts

In winter, the cozy interior of a riverboat decked with all the holiday trimmings whisks off passengers for Advent cruises to the unforgettable Christmas markets at Königstein fortress, historic Pirna, the Christmas light display at Pillnitz Castle gardens, and world-class shopping in Dresden for the whole family. Other holiday cruises depart for Saint Martin's Day, Saint Nicholas' Day, glittering Christmas parties, New Year's Eve, as well as weddings, corporate events, and family celebrations.

More information available online:

WWW.LABSKAPLOVEBNI.CZ

Tickets can be purchased online:

WWW.ESHOPLABSKAPLOVEBNI.CZ





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ELBE RIVER BOAT & BIKE TOUR

A unique combination of boating and cycling. Paddle downstream, then cycle back on the Elbe bike route.

- 2-6 hrs
- Groups of 2-100
- Kemp Děčín campground



GUIDED VIA FERRATA TOUR

A breathtaking via ferrata experience in the center of Děčín. You're guaranteed to take some amazing stories home.

- 2 hrs
- Groups of 1-5
- Děčín rental shop



DOWNHILL SCOOTER TOUR

Head out to Tíša rocks and hit the country's highest mesa, Sněžník, on the way back.

- 2-6 hrs
- Groups of 2-50
- Děčín rental shop

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Smart walks in Děčín

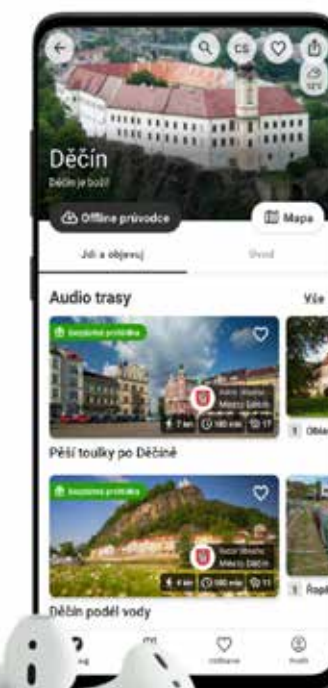
You can enjoy Děčín with all your senses, especially if you explore it on foot. A leisurely stroll gives you a chance to soak up the atmosphere of this port city bound by forests and rocks and to notice all the little things. And now you can have a personal guide in your pocket thanks to the Smart Guide app. There are four guided tours.

Riverbank poetry jukebox

Take a walk upstream on the river's right bank and enjoy the romance of the embankment with its view of Děčín Castle overhead and the little fairytale castle on Shepherds Bluff across the way. You might see the historic Labe paddle steamer docked here, or maybe a visiting cruise boat. You can also check out the new Poesiomat, poking out of the ground like a periscope. This unusual jukebox serves up Děčín-related music, poetry, legends, and the sounds of a passing steamboat. Just crank the handle.

Zoo trail

Do you know the way to the Děčín zoo? Not only is it a nice walk through the forest on a historical footpath, but there are also seven fun challenges from the animal kingdom to make the walk more interesting. You can race a wolf, measure up to a bear, or maybe help a capybara find his way to the waterhole. The route starts at the viaduct on the Elbe embankment and climbs up into the forest via the Jahn viewpoint to the zoo. Don't let the climb put you off. The zoo trail is only half a kilometer long and as you tackle each activity station, you'll be at the top before you know it. Discover two more walks in the Smart Guide app.



Smart Guide Děčín

Use the QR code to download the Smart Guide app and enjoy guided walks around town. Audio plays automatically when you near a point of interest. See routes on the map and get tips based on your current location.



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Hřebenovka long-distance trail

Hike Bohemian Switzerland from the Ore Mountains to the Lusatians on a renewed historic trail

What can be accomplished in 6 days? The first thing that comes to mind is “create the universe” of course. But since we’re mere mortals, we’ll have to set a more achievable goal. Something that makes you feel divine and puts you on top of the world... hmm... Aha! Walk the Hřebenovka ridge-top trail! Six stages, six days and endless adventures.

How did it start?

To keep with the metaphor, it’s really a small miracle that two neighboring regions, Ústí and Liberec, that usually compete for visitors sat down together one day a few years ago and agreed that instead of turning their backs on each other or, heavens forbid (!) building a wall, it would be much better to build a bridge bringing together people, cultures, regions.

And what did they build? Why, a bridge! In 2021 a new footbridge

was built at the pass Stožecký sedlo across a busy highway. For years that highway had meant that hiking, cycling and cross-country skiing trails on both sides always dead-ended at a place called Šebr, leaving people staring sadly across the highway before turning back.

From connecting the area where Bohemian Switzerland ends and the Lusatian Mountains begin, it was just a small step to bringing the long-distance Hřebenovka trail back to life. This once great route measuring 1,200 kilometers had been cut apart not just by a single road, but by larger historical events and prejudices. The revived route, marked by a four-toothed blue comb (hřeben is both “ridge” and “comb” in the Czech language), does not follow the original route exactly. Times have changed and the aim of today’s wanderer is not so much to get from place to place as to explore and experience as much of the local atmosphere as possible.

What is it like?

Today’s Hřebenovka wanders a bit more as it tries to connect as many places and people as possible. It is designed to be easily accessible by public transport with plenty of rest

stops, good restaurants, and great scenic points along the way. It offers solitude in the wilderness and the joy of meeting others, sleeping under the open sky and comfortable lodgings, fun for children and adrenaline for risk-takers. Basically, divine.

Who is it for?

Everyone. It’s just good to know what to avoid and what not to miss if you’re travelling with children, adventurers, dogs... or food lovers.

Kids on the Hřebenovka trail are no problem. Just hold your squirming child against the wall for a second, make a line and plan your route according to how big they are. With tiny tots, who still travel strapped on your chest or back, you can manage a long distance route with a little courage and wit. With toddlers, portion out the hundred-kilometer route of Hřebenovka to complete over a course of several years into the future :) and consider well whether to attempt climbing routes like Šaunštejn in the fourth stage or Kyjovská skalní trail in the fifth or rather spend the whole day at the jungle gym by Kocanda in Děčín. On the other hand, you can enjoy outdoor adventures with bigger children, just be careful and don’t overdo the lazy

parenting bit. Teenagers, on the other hand, should be fully involved in the joys and sorrows of a long-distance hike. They can handle it and it will be the experience of a lifetime.

Hřebenovka with adventurers is exactly what you’re looking for. Instead of four-star hotels, you can sleep in camps or under an overhang (but not in the national park itself). There are countless detours along the trail leading to other undiscovered treasures. Forgotten viewpoints such as Spravedlnost near Doubice, forest lakes (like Vlčák near Sněžník) for a quiet evening float, and glorious sunsets seen from freely accessible watch towers (Janov, Růženka) long after all the other watchers have gone home.

You can walk Hřebenovka with your dog too. Take the word of Katka Hrňová, a Czech-Swiss patriot and a great traveler, who has walked the route with her twelve-kilo sweetheart (not to be confused with Kubajz, her boyfriend). You should be careful on stages four and five. Iron steps, ladders, and slippery platforms on viewpoints are not for our four-legged friends. Smaller dogs will fit in a backpack, larger ones will have to take a detour with their owners. There are also affordable places along the route that can accommodate you and your pooch (like Kemp Děčín campground or the Janov guesthouse U Rytíře).

Hiking Hřebenovka with a food lover is the best scenario by far. Just check out the blog on the Hřebenovka website and choose from the many tips in each stage. To name a few, consider Wellness Hotel Ostrov, Kocanda in Děčín, U Fořta or Resort in Mezná, Wellness Hotel Zámeček in Jetřichovice, Kortus Hotel in Vysoká Lipa and Falkenštejn Brewery on the square in our home base of Krásná Lipa. Looking forward to seeing you on Hřebenovka, the wildest, most portionable long-distance route in the Czech Republic!



All information, individual stages, GPS coordinates, tips on lodging, dining, services, transport and much more can be found on hreibenovka.com | #HREBENOVKA

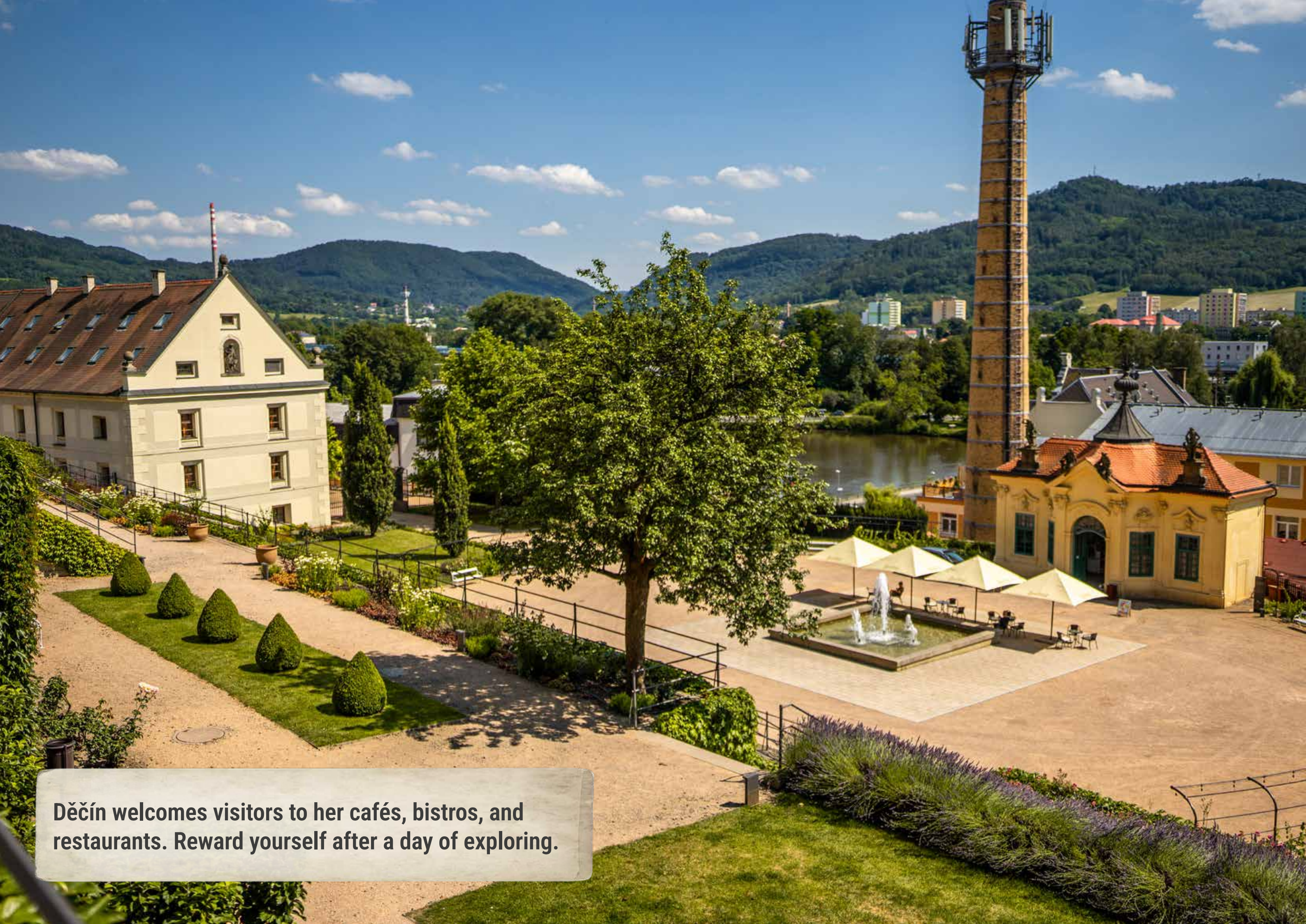


HŘEBENOVKA
Českým Švýcarskem



Discover Bohemian Switzerland with a new app

In collaboration with Tasty Air, we’re working on a mobile app that combines modern technology and adventure to thrill kids and adults alike. There will be two routes to choose from, the viewpoints in Jetřichovice and Tolštejn ruins. A friendly wolf will guide users through interactive stations as augmented reality brings the surroundings to life! Users will earn virtual rewards for every task they complete that can be exchanged for real rewards in the Bohemian Switzerland center in Krásná Lípa. The app will be available for free download on the App Store and Google Play. Get ready for a unique adventure. We can’t wait to play!



Děčín welcomes visitors to her cafés, bistros, and restaurants. Reward yourself after a day of exploring.

Stopping for coffee in Děčín

Děčín may have its share of lovely natural scenery and cultural landmarks, but it is also a place where people who appreciate good food and drink have more than a few options. Discover the unique atmosphere and great coffee at each of Děčín's cafés and bistros. There are modern establishments with fancy interiors, local places with a bit of history and bistros with a great view. Each offers good coffee and a place to unwind. Just follow your nose...

OKR espresso bar

Okr is an espresso bar in the heart of Děčín offering a selection of coffee from Czech and German roasters. In warm weather, try the back patio. Stop by for a coffee, something sweet, or their fabulous egg salad!



Prosecco Děčín

Come enjoy a taste of Italy at Prosecco, a friendly bistro, wine bar and café in the heart of the city. It is a great meeting place for friends and family, an ideal setting for first dates and a popular stop for cyclists and day trippers. The proprietors import wine, prosecco and coffee from Italy, and on tap they offer Falkenstein beer from nearby Bohemian Switzerland. They also put together charcuterie boards with delectable cheeses, hams, salami and antipasti to order.

Cukrárna Kamélie

This pastry shop beckons customers to linger over coffee, tea, or a glass of

wine and taste their cakes and ice cream. Everything is made with care from quality ingredients. They also make cakes to order.

Opravdová kavárna ARRIGŮ

This fashionable café occupies a shared space with the renowned local restaurant ARRIGŮ. The airy, modern premises are home to an à la carte restaurant, an artisan bakery, and a modern pastry shop too. Coffee comes from local roaster Nordbeans. Choose from espresso-based drinks as well as Batch Brew, quality teas, local beers, hot and cold mixed drinks and fine wine by the glass.

Bistro Les

The proprietors of this vegan bistro create their daily specials with love and clearly enjoy every minute of it. The spot won second place in the national competition Czech Vegan Awards.

Euforia Cafe & Bar

Euforia's select coffee, seasonal drinks, refreshing homemade soft drinks, and delicious cocktails delight throughout the day, from morning espresso to evening nightcap. The modern interior with original paintings hanging from the walls and plenty of leafy green foliage combines elegance and comfort for a pleasant retreat from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Discover a place where cravings become euphoria.

Čokoládovna Jordan

Jordan chocolate shop attracts a following for its fine selection of handmade chocolates, whether to satisfy one's own sweet tooth or as a gift for someone special. You will be pleasantly surprised by the incredible range of perennial and seasonal chocolates to choose from, alongside rich hot chocolate and delicious coffee. Both are sourced from regional producers in Děčín with freshness and quality guaranteed.



Danino pekařství

Dana's artisan bakery, with its tiny bistro, offers sourdough baked goods both savory and sweet made to original recipes. Daily specials include homemade soups, sandwiches and quiches. Coffee from a local roaster.

Kavárna Koušek lásky

This family-run café in Křížová ulice prides itself on homemade products – from cakes to soft drinks. Coffee comes from a local roaster.

Caffè08 Kafárium

This family-owned coffee roaster in Bohemian-Saxon Switzerland is dedicated to the aroma and flavor of good coffee. The cleverly named "kafárium" is a shop and café on the bike trail, so it's easy to get to by car or by bike. Make a stop.

Café Fresca

Enjoy fine coffee with a view of the castle, indulge in a first-class ice cream or a delicious dessert and relax on the terrace by the bubbling fountain or take a stroll through the castle grounds.

Coffee & Books

Discover a book-lined space full of friendly people where you can get breakfast no matter when you wake up. Delicious Brazilian coffee, the legendary oversized "chlebiche" sandwich, sweet and savory treats, homemade soft drinks and iced teas. What are you waiting for?

LUPER bistro

Luper bistro strives to combine great taste, fresh ingredients and honest cuisine so that customers can enjoy great food in a friendly atmosphere. Serving breakfast, lunch and Friday dinner.

Franz Josef Bistro-Zmrzlina Děčín

Discover the charm of bygone days at Franz Josef bistro and ice-cream parlor in Děčín, where traditional Bohemian dishes meet modern cuisine. Enjoy homemade specialties, desserts, Julius Meinel coffee, and refreshing Italian artisan ice cream, produced for 17 years here at the foot of Děčín Castle. Stop by for a unique experience.

Kytky pod komínem

This little café, whose name can be loosely translated as "posies by the chimney," offers a selection of coffee, freshly baked cakes, a quiet courtyard to sit in, and bouquets of fresh cut flowers from the owners' own garden. Breakfast and brunch.

Pekárna Martin

This combination bakery and bistro offers a wide selection of products from top quality baked goods to a full menu of daily meal specials.

Cafe & Bistro Slunečnice

Cafe & Bistro Slunečnice is a unique establishment with full wheelchair access. Enjoy a healthy vegetarian meal or take a break for a good cup of coffee in a pleasant atmosphere away from the main bustle of the shopping mall.

Lázeňská kavárna

This café, with its own shop of selected and certified products, is located in the attractive surroundings of a former spa building. Coffee is prepared to professional standards and the homemade soft drinks are among the best in town.

Cukrárna SŠ řemesel a služeb

This apprentice pastry shop is operated by Děčín's Secondary School of Crafts and Services. It offers student-made sweet treats, coffee and tea, sandwiches and more.

Prostor

This corner café prides itself on offering desserts and dishes made in-house. Stop in for your choice coffee, iced tea, cake or other dessert, homemade hummus or baked cheese. Treat yourself, have a casual meeting, or get together with friends and family. Prostor is more than a café.



Hajja kafe

The folks at Hajja caffè prepare something different every day. And every month they feature a coffee that they have imported and roasted themselves. Quality coffee comes with a quality dessert. How about a fresh waffle with whipped cream and berries? Come for a treat!

Národní kavárna a cukrárna

This café and pastry shop is located on Masarykovo náměstí, the main town square in Děčín. Choose from a wide range of cakes, ice cream and coffee. Cakes baked to order too.

Prosecco Děčín



A bit of Italy in the heart of Děčín

Step into Prosecco Děčín on the town square and be transported to an Italian bistro. There are a wide range of wines, prosecco and prosecco cocktails, great coffee, homemade desserts and fantastic charcuterie boards with delicious cheeses, hams, salami and antipasti, all served to the swaying rhythm of Italian music. All of our prosecco comes from small family wineries. We bring it to Děčín ourselves, just like the coffee from Bin Caffè in Trevignano. For beer lovers, there's ice-cold local Falkenstein on tap. Our friendly staff will also be happy to serve you soup, bruschetta, pinsa and salads. In summer, enjoy a seat in the shade on our outdoor terrace on the square or in one of our three cozy dining rooms. This year, we have expanded the drinks menu to include premium non-alcoholic cocktails. We highly recommend booking your table in advance.



Prosecco Děčín
Masarykovo nám. 21
405 02 Děčín

+420 778 031 889
www.prosecco-decin.cz
[@prosecco_decin](https://www.instagram.com/prosecco_decin)



KOCANDA

HOTEL - RESTAURACE - WELLNESS

Gateway to Bohemian Switzerland and traditional cuisine



Our modernly equipped **wellness hotel** is located right next to the **Elbe Cycle Trail** and just a short distance from Děčín. From there you can set off to the Bohemian **Switzerland National Park**. On the roofed terrace with a view of the Elbe, enjoy excellent Czech cuisine along with Pilsner beer from the tank and relax in our wellness area in the evening.

Polabí 77/1
405 02 Děčín 3



+420 736 481 003
hotel@kocanda-decin.cz

www.kocanda-decin.cz



ARMEX LiveCentrum

In the heart of Děčín, just a short walk from Děčín Castle and the town square, you will find the modern ARMEX LiveCentrum complex, which opened in 2020.

ARMEX LiveCentrum offers a range of services, from comfortable lodging in a 4-star hotel and unique gastronomy in its restaurant ARRIGŮ, to a full gym for active relaxation.

shower unit, toilet, and washing machine. Each suite has a large-screen television, air conditioning, and wireless internet service. There is also a place to lock your bike and

equipment from Gym80 and a cardio zone with state-of-the-art Matrix and Precor machines. Our professional trainers are always on the floor to give you tips. After your workout



It is rated among the top accommodations in Bohemian Switzerland for quality and comfort. You can enjoy your holiday in one of 38 spacious, fully equipped apartment suites for up to four people. Suites have a living room with a fully equipped kitchenette and dining table, fold-out sofa, separate bedroom with built-in cabinets, and bathroom with

a parking lot right in front of the building. Deluxe units have a large balcony. The rooftop terrace offers an attractive spot to sit and relax with a view of the area from above.

The fitness gym is one of the best equipped in the country. It offers 1,000 square meters of workout space with the latest workout

you can charge your batteries in the modern MegaSun solarium.

The center's ground floor is home to ARRIGŮ, an à la carte restaurant, café, artisan bakery, and bistro shop. The restaurant is the proud holder of two Golden Lion awards and ranks among the best restaurants in the independent ranking of the TopLife Czech publishers. Head chef Marek Šternér spent many years under the guidance of Zdeněk Pohlreich in his restaurants in Prague and Switzerland.

The menu offers US Prime steaks, venison, Bohemian cuisine, homemade pasta, fish and seafood and many healthy, nutritious dishes



served in novel and interesting ways. Marek rotates the menu seasonally and works only with fresh, quality ingredients. The restaurant aims to offer its guests a unique dining

experience. In addition to the à la carte menu, it also offers a breakfast, brunch or lunch menu. There is a spacious outdoor terrace that is heated in winter.



ARRIGŮ café offers a selection of coffee specialties, homemade desserts, mixed drinks and local beers. In the bistro shop you can purchase sandwiches, bagels, baguettes, bruschetta, wraps and salads to go as well as pizzas and fried dough, or langoš, to enjoy in the bistro or in the comfort of your own home. You'll also love the freshly baked pastries, sweet and savoury, from the artisan bakery and delicious Italian ice creams.



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Vinotéka Děčín

This wine shop is located in the very center of the city in the pedestrian zone below the castle and rose garden gloriote in Křížová ulice 435/9 Děčín. Run by Martina and Jan, it has a long tradition.

We offer year-round seating both inside and out. A large selection of wines from Moravia and Bohemia means there is always something to discover. We pour more than 80 wines by the glass and 8 types of sparkling wine daily. What more could you ask? Enjoy a bottle with friends, have a bite to eat and revel in the unique location.

We regularly organize tastings with winemakers as well as larger events in the form of wine festivals (Day in Pink, King of Wines, St. Martin's, Young Wine). Learn about events at www.vinotekadecin.cz

Since May last year we have been Děčín's "cork point" – we carry all 15 wineries that are members of the Dunajovské kopce association and also stock wines from 7 wineries in the Velkobílovice wine makers association.

As natives of Děčín we enjoy promoting regional products from Děčín, its surroundings and the region.

Vinotéka Děčín, tel. +420 777 822 052 | www.vinotekadecin.cz
Facebook [vinotekadecin](https://www.facebook.com/vinotekadecin) | Instagram [vinotekadecin](https://www.instagram.com/vinotekadecin)


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