

Czech 2007

From Geilenkotten

Holiday house in Trhové Sviny

South Bohemia/ Šumava Mtns, Czech Republic

Characteristics of the South Bohemian Region



South Bohemia belongs, due to its geographical location and natural conditions, to the areas where the first settlements began to appear in the distant past. At the beginning of the twentieth century, industrial production entered this area, which was originally famous for fishpond cultivation and forestry. The attractiveness of the natural and culturally historical richness of the region is conditioned by the development of tourism. One of the greatest advantages of the region is its situation on the border, which enables co-operation with the neighbouring EU countries.

South Bohemia makes, from a geographical point of view, quite a closed whole whose core consists of the South Bohemian Basin and the Českobudějovická and Třeboňská Basins. In the south-west it is surrounded by Šumava (the Bohemian Forest), and then it is also surrounded by the promontory of Brdy, the Středočeská (Central-Bohemian) Granite Highlands, the Českomoravská (Czech-Moravian) Highlands and the Novohradské Mountains.

The region does not abound with mineral resources. The mining of gravel-sand, stone, brick clay, and, to a certain extent, ceramic clay, limestone and graphite prevails. The forests, which take up one third of the total area, form an important natural treasure.

From the point of view of the international transport, the South Bohemian Region has a strategic position on the north-south axis. Important international roads lead through the region as well as the north-south railway corridor. However, to connect these roads and the railway to the European network is a big problem of the region.

The industrial production is concentrated particularly in, and around, the town of České Budějovice and in the districts of Tábor and Strakonice. The processing industry plays a significant role here, especially food and drink processing. Other important industries are production of vehicles, machinery and appliances, and also the textile and clothing industries.

The agricultural sector focuses on plant production, mostly on growing cereals, oil plants and potatoes. In animal husbandry, the breeding of cattle and pigs prevails. Fishpond cultivation has a long tradition in South Bohemia. Fish husbandry in the total area of 25 000 ha, makes up about 50% of the total production in the Czech Republic.



The South Bohemian Region is becoming an important tourist and recreational resort. The travel industry has been the fastest growing industry in the region in the past few years.

The entire business sector in the South Bohemian Region is comprised of 144 000 entities, where nearly three fourths of these entities are sole traders. The Czech Academy of Sciences, whose institutes operate all over the region, provides a good base for the development of science. These institutes focus mostly on biology and ecology. Scientific work is also part of the activities of the University of South Bohemia with its headquarters in České Budějovice and Jindřichův Hradec.

TRHOVÉ SVINY

Trhové Sviny is a small town on the Svinenský Potok (Sviny Stream) about 20 km south-east of the town [České Budějovice](#), 458 m a.s.l.



The original settlement was founded in the middle of the 13th century below the former Sviny castle (sometimes called Svinice) near the trade route. The settlement was named after the Sviny castle. The village is first mentioned between 1260 - 1281 as property of Ojř of Sviny. In 1420 the Hussites captured and burnt down the town with the castle. Then the town developed in the 15th century and became a market town, which was renamed Trhové Sviny ("Market" Sviny). The castle became ruins and at the end of the 16th century was used as a source of building material.

The dominant building of the town is the [Church of the Assumption of Virgin Mary](#), one of the most valuable Gothic sights in South Bohemia. It originates from the 13th century, but it is first mentioned as late as 1317. It was reconstructed in the Late-Gothic style and enlarged into a three-aisled [church](#) between 1485 - 1510. The second tower was added in 1520. The older one originates from the middle of the 14th century.

The church aisles and the pentagonal presbytery are arched with tracery vaults.

The main altar and furnishings are in the Baroque style from the 18th century. The most valuable monuments are the Gothic wooden Madonna from 1520 (on the main altar) and the boards with the theme of apostles from the first half of the 17th century.



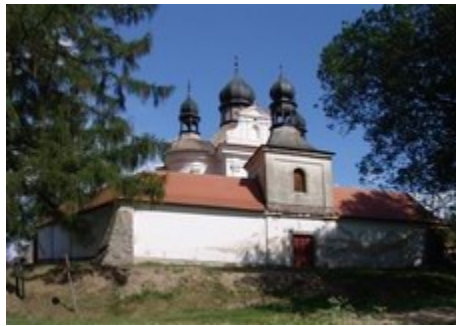
Emil Hácha, the Czechoslovak president at the end of the 1930's, was born in Trhové Sviny. The plaque and bust can be seen on his natal house.

5000 inhabitants, 20 km south-east from Ceske Budejovice. Access: bus service. Austrian border 13 km, at the foot of the natural park Novohradske Hory. Visit the gothic church. Tennis. Walking path. Bicycles paths. Pond 3 km. Swimming pool and indoor swimming pool with slides in Ceske Budejovice. Indoor - outdoor swimming pool in Trebon 30 km.

Things To Do

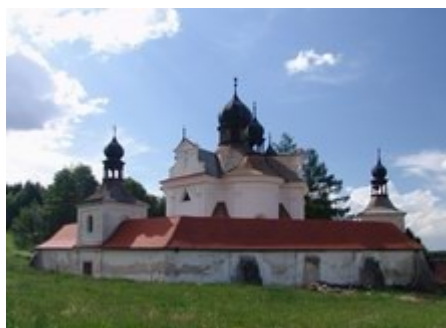
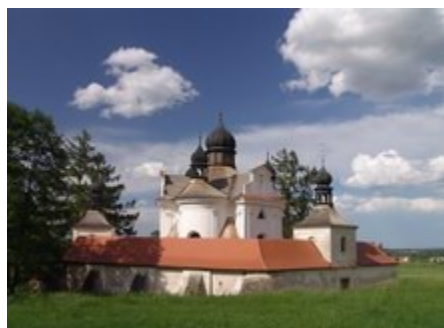
1. Trhové Sviny - Church of the Most Holy Trinity

The pilgrimage Baroque Church of the Most Holy Trinity stands about 1 km south of the small town [Trhové Sviny](#).



The church was built under the design of the unknown creator between 1705 - 1709. It is often attributed to the architect [K. I. Dienzenhofer](#). It has the layout in the shape of a pentagram and in its vertexes there are three semi-circular and three rectangular niches with small turrets. The church is enclosed with the polygonal cloister with three gates. The look of the church with domes is similar to Russian churches.

The central nave is arched with a dome containing a lantern. The frescos in the interior originates from the time of the construction of the church. The furnishings are in the Baroque style, the main altar is by Master V. Jäckel from 1718.



The church can be found on the red marked path leading from [Trhové Sviny](#) (1 km) or near the road from [Trhové Sviny](#) to the small town [Benešov nad Černou](#).

The instructional trail [Trhosvinensko](#) ("Trhové Sviny Region") also passes the church.

Trhové Sviny: INSTRUCTIONAL TRAIL TRHOSVINENSKO

The instructional trail Trhosvinensko ("Trhové Sviny Region") passes the town [Trhové Sviny](#) and its surroundings (about 20 km south-east of the town [České Budějovice](#)).



The trail acquaints visitors with natural, historical and cultural interests of this region.

About 4 km long path with 10 informative boards is passable for pedestrians and with some restrictions also for cyclists. The point of departure and destination of the circular trail is situated next to the bus station in [Trhové Sviny](#). It is marked by the green signs.

Interesting places on the trail:

Nr. 2 - Weisser's Park - town park with series of precious trees

Nr. 4 - [Church of the Most Holy Trinity](#) - pilgrimage Baroque church in style of Russian temples

Nr. 5 - Trajer's Mill - usage of water power, water fauna and flora

[Buškův Hamr](#) (Bušek's Iron-Mill) - technical sight with exhibition of original tools and rustic furnishings

Nr. 10 - Scouts' Park - timbered gully with presence of moldavites

2. ČERVENÉ BLATO

The nature reserve Červené Blato (Red Marshland) is located in the south-western part of the [Protected Landscape Area Třeboňsko](#). It was established in 1953, to protect the peat-bog and its original vegetation. In 1973 the protected area was expanded from original 39 to 300 ha. In present the nature reserve is 144 ha large.

The peat was mined here from the end of the 18th century till the turn of the 20th century and it was used as fuel in the glassworks in the village Jiříkov, which lies on the border of the peat-bog. A lot of draining canals were built here at that time. In present they are dammed for keeping water in the peat-bog.

The peat-bog has very well preserved face of tundra with its vegetation from time after the Ice Age. Some rare plants can be found in this area.



The footpath with duckboards runs through the peat-bog. The most interesting places are connected by [instructional trail](#) with informative notices.



The nature reserve is accessible along the green marked path from the parking-lot near the village Jiříkovo Údolí (1 km). The village can be found on the road or on the blue marked tourist trail between the towns [Nové Hradky](#) and [Třeboň](#).

INSTRUCTIONAL TRAIL ČERVENÉ BLATO

The nature trail Červené Blato (Red Marshland) leads in the [nature reserve](#) of the same name along the south-west border of the [Protected Landscape Area Třeboňsko](#) (in the area along the road from the town [Nové Hradky](#) to the town [Třeboň](#)).

The trail is dedicated to acquaint visitors with the history of the peat-bog and with its environmental importance. It also informs about the history of peat mining.

About 3 km long trail is only passable for pedestrians, most of the way runs on the wooden duckboards.

The point of departure lies about 300 m from the small parking-lot near the small village Jiříkovo Údolí. Along the trail there are 9 informative boards.



Interesting places on the trail:

Jiříkovo Údolí - history of the village and former glassworks, utilization of peat in glassworks

The peat-pool - terrace with a view of a small bog-lake

Evolution of the peat-bog, types of peat-bogs

Glass-making - history of glass-making in this region, production of hyalite glass

Fauna and flora of the peat-bog

3. TROCNOV

Trocnov is the birth place of the important commander and leader of the Hussites [Jan Žižka](#) (born probably about 1360). The complex lies near the small village Trocnov about 14 km south-east of the town [České Budějovice](#).



The memorial was built here in 1960. It comprises the stone statue of [Jan Žižka](#), Museum of the Hussite movement and the so-called Žižka's Stone.

The statue was unveiled in 1960 and it was created by J. Malejovský and A. Beneš. The Žižka's Stone is the coarsely chiseled stone which was placed here by the Schwarzenbergs in 1908. It is in the place of the oak tree, where [Žižka](#) was born by legend. All parts of the memorial are connected with the marked path about 1 km long.

The memorial can be found on the red marked path leading from the village [Borovany](#) (about 3 km) or on the blue marked trail about 1 km far from the railway station Trocnov

(on the railroad between the towns [České Budějovice](#) and [České Velenice](#)). Access is also possible along the road from the small village Radostice (the turning-off from the road [Ledenice - Strážkovice](#)).



4. ŽUMBERK FORTRESS

The Žumberk fortress is located in the village of the same name 7 km south-east of the small town [Trhové Sviny](#), 500 m a.s.l.



The first mention of the castle dates back to the 13th century. It had many proprietors and in 1618 it became a part of the domain of the castle town [Nové Hradky](#). At the beginning of the 17th century it was rebuilt into the Renaissance style and all the village was fortified with walls with six round bastions. The last reconstruction was in the 19th century and the village changed its original appearance.

In the 1970's the village was completely reconstructed and it is now in good condition.

The museum is located in the building of the original fortress.

The original parochial Gothic [Church of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist](#) is first mentioned in 1332. It was burnt down by the Hussites in the first half of the 15th century. The new building originates from 1455. Its interiors were restored after the big fire in the first half of the 19th century. The four-aisled [church](#) with the square layout is arched with the tracery vault.



5. ŘÍMOV

The village Římov is a very well-known and important South Bohemian pilgrimage place. It is situated about 14 km south of the town [České Budějovice](#) on the [Malše](#) river, 480 m a.s.l.



Its history dates back to the 10th century, but the first mention comes from 1383 - it reports about Horní Římov settlement (Upper Římov). The free fortress in Dolní Římov (Lower Římov) is first mentioned in 1395. From 1626 the village belonged to the Jesuits from [Český Krumlov](#). The pilgrimage place with the Loretto Chapel and with the Stations of the Cross arose here in the second half of the 17th century by the idea of Jesuit Jan Gurr.



The Loretto Chapel was built in Římov between 1648 - 1653 and it is an authentic copy of the famous Loretto in Italy. It was the third one in Bohemia. In each of its corners there are altars. Around the chapel there is a cloister with richly painted and decorated walls and arches. The Church of the Holy Ghost was founded a short time after the Loretto Chapel. The rotunda in the Baroque style dates from 1762.

Around the chapel, in radius about 5 km, we can find 25 small Baroque chapels of the Stations of the Cross (so-called Římov's Passion) with wooden statues. The chapels originate from the second half of the 17th and the first quarter of the 18th century. Their positions in the terrain corresponded with the traditional placement of Stations of the Cross in Jerusalem.



Interesting places in the surroundings

The [Římov Dam](#) was built on the outskirts of Římov on the [Malše](#) river.

6. BESEDNICE

The village Besednice lies near the northern foot of Slepíčí Hory (Hens' Mountains) about 10 km north-east of the town [Kaplice](#).



The history of Besednice dates back to the 14th century. In the second half of the 14th century it was under the ownership of the castle village [Velešín](#) and at the end of the same century it became property of the Rožmberks. From 1395 till 1910 the village was a possession

of the [St. Vitus' Church](#) in the town [Český Krumlov](#).
Granite and brick-clay were mined and processed here in past.

The most important sight is the St. Procopius' Church from 1738, which stands above the village. The farmhouses with the Baroque gables can be seen around the square. There is the village chapel of St. John Nepomucene in the square too.



Interesting places in the surroundings

The nature reserves Vysoký Kámen (High Stone), Ševcova Hora (Cobbler's Mount) and Besednické Vltavíny (Besednice's Moldavites) can be visited in the surroundings of the village. The instructional trail [Paměti Slepíčích Hor](#) ("Memory of the Slepíčí Hory mountains") passes through the village.

7. NOVÉ HRADY

The old-time town Nové Hrady ("New Castles") lies in the [Novohradské Hory](#) (Nové Hrady Mountains) near the Czech-Austrian border. It is about 30 km south-east of the town [České Budějovice](#) on the hill above the [Stropnice](#) river, 541 m a.s.l.



The history of the town dates back to 1279. It was known as a small village with the [castle](#), which was built by the Vítkovec family for the protection of the trade route. Later the [castle](#) became property of the Lords of Landštejn and the Rožmberks. In 1620, when it was under the ownership of the Švamberks, the town participated in the revolt against the Emperor. Thereupon it was captured by the soldiers of general Buquoy, who became the new owner of the town.

The [castle](#) from the end of the 13th century stands on the western outskirts of the town. It is enclosed by a huge moat. Only the remains of the original town walls (from the second half of the 14th century), which were connected with the fortification of the castle, and the town gate Dolní Brána (Lower Gate) from 1829 can be seen in the town.

One of the oldest buildings is the Late-Gothic [Church of Sts. Peter and Paul](#) with the monastery of the Servites. It stands in the south-eastern corner of the square.

The Renaissance town hall is located in the western part of the square. It was built in the 16th century and then it was reconstructed in the 18th and 19th centuries.

The residence of the Buquoy family, which was built between 1634 - 1644, can be found in the eastern part of the square.

The Boquoy family founded the new Napoleonic [chateau](#) on the eastern outskirts of Nové Hradky between 1801 - 1810. It is situated in a large romantic park. The Pseudo-Gothic family [tomb](#) of the Buquoy family has been located in the cemetery since the 1890's.



8. NoveHradky: INSTRUCTIONAL TRAIL SOKOLÍ HNÍZDO

The school nature trail Sokolí Hnízdo (Falcon's Nest) acquaints visitors with nature interests of the surroundings of the town [Nové Hradky](#).

The visitors obtain information about majority of typical natural ecosystems of the [Novohradské Hory](#) (Nové Hradky Mountains). The area along the trail is a representative habitat of plant and animal species living in [Novohradské Hory](#) (about 70% of plant and 60% animal species).

The path is for pedestrians only and it is about 3 km long. It is marked by the green sign and there are 15 informative boards along the trail.

The point of departure is near the [castle](#) in [Nové Hradky](#), in front of the school.

Interesting places on the trail:

Nature of rock gneiss headland with rare yew-trees, bats and other plant and animal species

Forest - natural ecosystem, with about 400 years old oak trees

Protected trees (350 years old oaks, 200 years old alley of oak, ash, maple and lime trees

Mixed forest which is similar to the natural ecosystem with its tree species and its structure

500 years old huge oak tree

9. FORESTER INSTRUCTIONAL TRAIL TERČINO ÚDOLÍ

The forester instructional trail Terčino Údolí (Theresa's Valley) leads in the southern part of the nature park [Terčino Údolí](#) in the neighbourhood of the town [Nové Hradky](#).



The path is dedicated to acquaint visitors with forest, its functions and with importance for the country and environment.

The circular trail is about 3 km long and it browses the southern part of the [park](#). The point of departure is near the central gate of the [park](#) in the settlement Údolí near [Nové Hradky](#). Along the route there are 6 informative boards. The first one (with a map with marked path) is situated at the beginning of the trail.

This trail is for pedestrians only and it is marked by the green sign.

Interesting places on the trail:

Memorable trees - interesting trees in the [park](#) and their inhabitants

The height ratio of [Terčino Údolí](#) and generic species composition

Biological protection of forest

Natural and regardful forest management

Hunters challet called "Swiss House"

10. INSTRUCTIONAL TRAIL TERČINO ÚDOLÍ

The instructional trail Terčino Údolí (Theresa's Valley) leads in the [nature park](#) of the same name in the neighbourhood of the town [Nové Hradky](#) on the border of the [Novohradské Hory](#) (Nové Hradky Mountains).



The trail running through the whole [park](#) is dedicated to acquaint visitors with nature and other interests of the [park](#). The main value of the [park](#) is in its dendrological variety and a lot of stands with boards are dedicated to interesting trees.

The circular 5 km long path is for pedestrians only. It starts and ends near the central gate of the [park](#) in the settlement Údolí below [Nové Hradky](#). Along the trail there are 14 informative boards and some rest-places.

The route is marked by the green sign. The map of the trail can be found on the first board near the central gate.



Interesting places on the trail:

Artificial [waterfall](#) on the [Stropnice](#) river

Humenická Přehrada dam - just next to the [park](#)

[Cuknštejn](#) fortress

Lázněčky ("Small Spa")

11. INSTRUCTIONAL TRAIL RUDOLFOVO MĚSTO

The instructional trail Rudolfovo Město ("Rudolph's Town") leads in the small town [Rudolfov](#) and in its surroundings.

The trail acquaints visitors with the history of mining in [Rudolfov](#), the [town](#) and town surroundings. It also informs of technical crafts built for mining of silver and anthracite.



The trail has two circle parts. One of them leads through the northern part of the [town](#) and passes the villages Adamov and Hůry and returns back to [Rudolfov](#). The main topics of this part are the history of the [town](#), mining and water systems built for mining. It is about 5 km long with 9 informative boards and its route is marked by signs with black crossed hammers.

The other part runs from [Rudolfov](#) to the east to the village Hlincova Hora and then returns back to [Rudolfov](#). This trail is about 4.5 km long and it connects places with small reminders of mining. This part is marked with white crossed hammers.

The point of departure is common for both paths and it is in the square in [Rudolfov](#). Both trails are also passable for cyclist.



Interesting places on the trail:

[Rudolfov](#) - history of the [town](#)

feeding system for the Třešeň pit

anthracite mines - the youngest history of mining in this region

Šibeniční Vrch hill - former execution place

St. Elias Pit - last silver pit in this region

mining in Rudolfov region
storage reservoirs for mines

Ceske Budejovice

The town České Budějovice is the biggest South Bohemian town. It is situated in the hollow of the [Českobudějovická Pánev](#) (České Budějovice Basin) on the confluence of the [Vltava](#) and [Malše](#) rivers, 381 - 430 m a.s.l. About 100,000 people live here.

The town is the administrative, cultural, educational and traffic centre of South Bohemia. There are many high schools, the conservatoire, the South Bohemian University, the [South Bohemian Museum](#), the South Bohemian Theatre, the branch of the Academy of Sciences and branch of the State Scientific Library there.

The centre of the town (with the largest regular [square](#) in Bohemia - 133×133 m) is the town reserve from 1980.



The Czech King Premysl Ottakar II established the town České Budějovice in 1265 as a royal town. For a long time the town was a buttress of Czech kings in the region. The historical centre was planned as a complex protected from two sides by the [Vltava](#) and [Malše](#) rivers, with a geometric web of streets around the square and with marked location of the [Dominican monastery](#), which was founded together with the town.

The original name was Budějovice. In the 14th century it was an important centre of trade and crafts in South Bohemia and it surpassed other towns in the region. Kings Wenceslas II and Charles IV gave a lot of privileges to the town and they helped the town to develop quickly. The town was loyal to the rulers during the Hussite Wars (the first half of the 15th century) and during the revolt against Emperor Ferdinand I (1546 - 1547). Then it was rewarded with a lot of privileges. The silver mines were founded on the north-eastern outskirts near the village [Rudolfov](#) and between 1569 - 1611 also the mint was here. The new name of the town - České Budějovice - comes from this era too.



The Thirty Years' War and big fire in 1641 interrupted the growth of the town. The restoration was very slow and the new development started in the 18th century. In 1751 České Budějovice became a centre of the district around the town. A bishop's residence was established there during the Josephin's reforms (the end of the 18th century).

Till the 19th century České Budějovice was a small town enclosed in town walls, with less than 10,000 people. An important turning-point was the construction of the [horse-drawn railway](#) (about 1830) from České Budějovice to the North-Austrian town Linz, the first railroad on the continent (the first one in Europe was in England). During the 19th century the town walls were pulled down, the growth continued and the town enlarged to the present appearance.



Most of all historical and cultural sights are in the [Square of King Premysl Ottakar II](#) and around it in the historical centre.

The [Samsonova Kašna](#) (Samson's Fountain), the typical symbol of the [square](#) with archway of citizens' houses from the Renaissance and Baroque periods, towers above the [square](#).

The Baroque [town hall](#) stands in the south-western corner. The former [monastery](#) with the Church of the Offering of the Virgin Mary, one of the oldest parts of the town, lies near the [square](#). The church was a part of the fortification, which was torn down in the 19th century. Only the remains of the town walls have been preserved, together with the tower called [Železná Panna](#) (Iron Virgin), [Otakarka](#) bastion (both on the bank of the [Malše](#) river) and [Rabenštejnská Věž](#) (Rabenštejn Tower). The most known building is the 72 m high [Černá Věž](#) (Black Tower). It was built in the north-eastern corner of the [square](#) in the 16th century. The [Cathedral of St. Nicholas](#) stands near.

In the "Old Town" there is the Church of Sts. John the Baptist and Procopius, which dates back to the 13th century as a parish church. Its present look is from the reconstruction in the 15th and 16th centuries.



A lot of cultural institutions are located in the historical centre - the Napoleonic building of the South Bohemian Theatre from 1819, the [South Bohemian Museum](#), the observatory and the planetarium, which stand above the confluence of the [Vltava](#) and [Malše](#) rivers.

České Budějovice is a birthplace of many important persons of Czech history, science and culture. The graphic designer and painter [Vlastimil Rada](#), the graphic designer [Karel Štěch](#), the explorer and writer [L. M. Pařízek](#), the actor [Eduard Kohout](#), etc. were born here.

Interesting places in the surroundings

Not far from České Budějovice, near the road [Rudolfovo - Lišov](#), one of seven basic points of the altitude mensuration in the former Austro-Hungarian Empire is situated. It is a stone pyramid called [Locus Perennis](#), which is sometimes wrongly considered to be a centre of Europe. On the north-western outskirts of the town there is the protected area [Vrbenské Rybníky](#) (Vrbné Ponds) with the [nature trail](#).

12. INSTRUCTIONAL TRAIL PO HRÁZÍCH VRBENSKÝCH RYBNÍKŮ

The nature trail Po Hrázích Vrbenských Rybníků (Along the Dams of Vrbné Ponds) leads in the nature reserve [Vrbenské Rybníky](#) (Vrbné Ponds) on the north-western outskirts of the town [České Budějovice](#) in the neighbourhood of the town quarter České Vrbné.



The 4 km long path leads along the dams of the ponds in the [reserve](#): Černiš, Domín, Nový Vrbenský Rybník, Starý Vrbenský Rybník ponds. It has 10 stands with informative boards about the most important places of interest and about the species of animals and plants, which live here - these ponds are favourite rookery of series species of water birds.

The trail also offers a nice outing for town inhabitants and visitors.

The trail is dedicated to both pedestrians and cyclists. The point of departure is on the dam of the Nový Vrbenský Rybník pond, the destination is on the dam of the Starý Vrbenský Rybník

pond.

The path is marked by the green signs.

Interesting places on the trail:

Water vegetation, dabchicks

Waterside growth

Swamp (marsh) alders

Ducks

Gulls and terns

Swamp (marsh) and quaggy grassfields

Cultured grassfields

Geese and herons

13. INSTRUCTIONAL TRAIL **TOTALITA ROZDĚLUJE**

The instructional trail Totalita Rozděluje (Totalitarianism Divides) leads in the surroundings of the small town [Borovany](#) about 16 km south-east from the town [České Budějovice](#).

The trail is dedicated to inform about historical events which formed relations between Czechs and Austrians, especially before and after the Second World War (during coming of Nazism and then post-war building of the Iron Curtain).

The informative boards along the trail illustrate also impacts of these events to this region.

The path is dedicated first to pedestrians, but the major part of the way is passable for cyclists (except the branch to the stand nr. 5).

The circular trail is about 6 km long with 9 informative boards. The point of departure and destination is next to the bus station in [Borovany](#). The path leads along the signed tourist routes (green, red and yellow signs).

Interesting places on the trail:

Nr. 1 - Centuries of good neighbourliness and collaboration

Nr. 3 - Fortification against the enemy

Nr. 4 - Light fortification from before the Second World War

Nr. 7 - Bunker construction

Nr. 9 - private Museum of the Iron Curtain

The region South Bohemia/ Šumava Mtns

This is one of the most appreciated holiday destinations in the summer. Immense lakes surrounding the cities of Jindřichuv Hradec, Třebon, Ceske Budejovice and Nove Hrad, have encouraged the development of fish breeding here. It is a -paradise for fishermen, nature lovers and water sports enthusiasts. Sharing the border with Austria, approximately 45 km from Ceske Budejovice, lies the -barrier lake of Lipno, a perfect place for rest and relaxation. The Bohemian -forest (Sumava) situated at the German border offers many beautiful natural -sights worth visiting.

14.HOLASOVICE - UNESCO - CZECH REPUBLIC



The Holasovice farmhouses from 19th century are a famous example of Peasant Baroque.

Holasovice is a picturesque village from 13th century and its present appearance is considered a true pearl of the rustic Baroque style. Rustic (peasant) Baroque style is characterised by coloured facades with gables and white stucco ornamentation. Farmhouses are situated around a central pond. The pond was used for breeding freshwater fish; the entire area is still known for its fish industry.

Holasovice is on the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List.

Visit restaurant **Špejchar u Vojty** during sight - seeing of scenic village Holasovice near České Budějovice.

The building, which was built in 1857, offers a pleasant sitting for 60 visitors. There is a possibility of accommodation after arrangement. The restaurant is opened daily from 1.5. to 31.10. (11 - 20 o'clock)

Holasovice is founded in the north side of the east ridge of a mountain Blanský les, on the south of Bohemia, near south - Bohemia metropolis České Budějovice. This city (one hundred thousand inhabitants) is 150 kilometres south from Praha and 60 kilometres from borders with Austria far away.



If you set forward 18 kilometres west from České Budějovice, you can visit world - acclaimed historical landmark namely the village Holašovice. This village belongs to a community Jankov, 2 kilometres in the direction of České Budějovice. This is our offer that you can choose from. We wish you to enjoy your meal at our restaurant.

Aperitif:

- a) Slivovitz
- b) Carlsbader Becher
- c) Fernet

Starters:

- a) Pickled sausage + pickled cheese
- b) Bread and butter with onion
- c) Vegetable salad
- d) Garnished farmhouse breadboard

Soups:

- a) Cottage garlic soup
- b) South Bohemian sour soup
- c) Potato soup
- d) "Kulajda" – potatoes-and-milk soup
- e) Cabbage soup
- f) Garlic soup

Main courses:

- a) Farmer style roasted pork off-cuts, greaves pancakes, cabbage
- b) Putim style pork, raw potato dumplings, cabbage
- c) Chicken a la duck, dumplings, cabbage
- d) Farmer style goulash, Old Czech style pancakes
- e) "Rich man's steak", hunter style potatoes
- f) Roasted chicken, potatoes, stuffing
- g) "Good nosh of Holašovice"
- h) Mushrooms in cream, yeast dumpling – VEGA
- i) South Bohemian "kuba" (barley grains and mushrooms), gherkin – VEGA
- j) Grandma's "prskanice", cabbage – VEGA
- k) "Squire style" dumplings with "klevela" – VEGA

Desserts:

- a) Pancake with hot fruits

- b) Pancakes with whipped cream
- c) Bohemian Forest style dumplings with icing
- d) Homemade cakes

15.HLUBOKA - CHATEAU - CZECH REPUBLIC



Hluboka Chateau is regarded as one of the most beautiful stately homes in Bohemia is situated 15 km from [Ceske Budejovice](#).

Hluboka is a monumental Romantic chateau - originally a Gothic castle - remoted in the Baroque style in 18th century. Later it underwent a significant transformation in the 19th century when it was remodeled in the English Windsor-style Gothic into the official seat of the Schwarzenberg dynasty.

The complex includes a glassed-in winter garden, a riding hall, an English park (190 hectares), and a chapel. Sumptuously furnished period interiors feature unique woodcarvings a valuable collections.

July - August 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

September 9 a.m. - 4.30 p.m. (except Mondays)

16. JINDŘICHŮV HRADEC

The town Jindřichův Hradec is an important centre in South Bohemia and the historical part of the town was declared to the town reserve.

It lies around [Vajgar](#) pond on the [Nežárka](#) river about 50 km north-east of the town [České Budějovice](#), 475 m a.s.l.



There used to be a Slavonic fort in the place of the present town in the 10th century. The Romanesque-Gothic [castle](#), first mentioned in 1220, was founded here by Jindřich I of Hradec. Originally it was called Nova Domus or Neuhaus (New House). The market village, which arose around the [castle](#), was called Hradec (or Gradec) from 1242. In 1293 it already was a fortified town. The so-called New Town, the new part which was built on the northern outskirts of the town, was added in the 15th century. The first prints (type of present newspaper) written in the Czech language were published in Hradec.

The biggest progress of the town started in the 16th century. Hradec became a centre of the large domain and most of important trade routes to Austria ran through the town. Drapery, fishing, brewing and breeding sheep developed most of all. The town was reconstructed in the Renaissance style and it was the owner of the largest domain in Bohemia till the 20th century.

The next owners of the town (after the Lords of Hradec) became the Slavata family in the beginning of the 17th century and then, in the beginning of the 18th century, the Černín family.

After 1620 Hradec declined. The new growth came in the 18th and 19th centuries with the development of industry. A big fire in 1801 damaged the town and it also destroyed its medieval appearance.



The most important sight in Jindřichův Hradec is the Gothic-Renaissance [chateau](#), which



Gothic and renaissance town with extensive Castle Complex.

Jindřichův Hradec is a unique Gothic and Renaissance town lovely situated above Vajgar lake. The town is among the most significant tourist destinations in the country. Its center has been declared a historical conservation area for its exquisite historical, architectural, and cultural sights.

The surrounding wooded hills and countless natural lakes provide ideal opportunities for recreation. The Castle is the third largest in Czechia, after [Prague](#) and [Český Krumlov](#).

HISTORY OF JINDŘICHŮV HRADEC



The origins of Jindřichův Hradec are linked to the existence of an ancient Slavic fortified settlement, which became, since at least the 10th century, a center of administration and business. Towards the end of the 12th century, the region of southeastern Bohemia was allotted to Vitek of Prcice, who divided the territory among his five sons, who thus became founders of important South-Bohemian aristocratic families known as Vitkovci (Witigons). In their coats-of-arms, each of the Witigons had a differently colored five-petal rose.

The earliest mention of Jindřichův Hradec dates to the year 1220. Then a gothic castle was built on the grounds of the former fortified settlement. During 13th century, the surroundings of the castle, grew to a sizeable town, which bears his name to this date (in Latin sources, the town is referred to as Nova Domus, in German sources as Neuhaus. The current name of the town appeared in historic sources for the first time only in 1410). The coat-of-arms of the Lords of Hradec, a golden rose on a blue background, eventually supplemented with two golden lions and letter "W" a special privilege granted by king Wladislaw II in 1483 - these remain in the town s emblem to this day.

NARROW-GAUGE RAILWAY



The track gauge is only 760 mm.

The first Czech private railroad owner operates steam trains during the summer season on narrow-gauge routes from Jindřichův Hradec to

Nova Bystřice and from Jindřichův Hradec to Obrátan.
The track gauge is 760 mm. Total length of our narrow-gauge routes is 79 km, with 30 stations and stops. The maximum permitted speed of our trains is 50 km/h. The most recent stop was opened on January 01, 2006

Name:

Jindrichuv
Hradec
Local
Railway
(Jindricho
hradecke
místní
drahy)

Address:

Nadrazní
203/II,
377 01
Jindrichuv
Hradec

Situation:

20 min
walk from

LANDSTEJN CASTLE



A massive fortress from 13th century.

A massive fortress, standing in the heart of the border forests, was built in the early 13th century. The structure was firstly mentioned in 1231. At the time, it was the biggest Romanesque castle in the Czech lands. Its stronghold architecture has survived until.

The two massive towers are connected with a wall defining the upper castle and its courtyard. The six storey southern tower is the main and it is still fully preserved, including a gate in the western wall.

Romanesque style used to be quite stern and did not allow many embellishments. They can be found only in the chapel in the northern tower. Afterwards the castle was rebuilt in the late Gothic style and a new Gothic palace was erected. The stronghold character of the castle was strengthened at the turn of the 15th and the 16th centuries when the outer battlements were added. In Renaissance, new living quarters concluded the major reconstructions. After the fire in 1771 the castle became a ruin.

Name:

Landstejn Castle
(Statni hrad
Landstejn)

Address:

Slavonic
e, 378 81

GPS:

49° 1'
26.76"
N, 15°
13'
49.37" E

SLAVONICE



Pearl of Renaissance architecture.

This spectacular little town is a pearl of Renaissance architecture. The oldest written record dates back to 1260. The historic core has two squares separated by the Virgin Mary Assumption Church. Much of the town walls have survived, including two of three gates.

Many Czech craftsmen established their studios in Slavonice. The "Summer School of Arts" brings new potential artists every year. You can print your T-shirt, table cloth or tea cloth, to work with hard pottery, or paint your own cup.

Name:

Slavon
ice

GPS:

48° 59'
51.12"
N, 15°
21'
5.54"
E

TERČINO ÚDOLÍ

The protected nature park Terčino Údolí (Theresa's Valley - 140 ha) lies 1 km south-west of the town [Nové Hradý](#) in the valley of the small river called [Stropnice](#) in the [Novohradské Hory](#) (Nové Hradý Mountains).



The park was established by [Jan Buquoy](#) according to wishes of his wife Tereza (Theresa) in the second half of the 18th century. The park was reconstructed at the turn of the 19th century and many exotic woods were planted here and most of the spa houses were built here at that time. The oldest building originates from the end of the 18th century and the so-called "Blue House" was built at the beginning of the 19th century. The main building of the spa and the "Swiss House" were built in Art Nouveau style in the 19th century. The former iron-mill from the end of the 18th century and the man-made waterfall on the [Stropnice](#) river can be seen in the valley as well. Near the eastern border of the park there is the very well preserved Gothic [Cuknštejn](#) fortress from the end of the 15th century. The park has been protected since 1949.



Now it is a recreation area. The circular path passes through the whole park. Also two circular instructional trails ([Terčino Údolí](#) and [forester instructional trail](#)) lead in the park. The central gate to the valley is in the village Údolí below [Nové Hradý](#) in the direction of the village [Horní Stropnice](#)

ČERVENÉ BLATO

The nature reserve Červené Blato (Red Marshland) is located in the south-western part of the [Protected Landscape Area Třeboňsko](#). It was established in 1953, to protect the peat-bog and its original vegetation. In 1973 the protected area was expanded from original 39 to 300 ha. In present the nature reserve is 144 ha large.

The peat was mined here from the end of the 18th century till the turn of the 20th century and it was used as fuel in the glassworks in the village Jiříkov, which lies on the border of the peat-bog. A lot of draining canals were built here at that time. In present they are dammed for keeping water in the peat-bog.

The peat-bog has very well preserved face of tundra with its vegetation from time after the Ice Age. Some rare plants can be found in this area.



The footpath with duckboards runs through the peat-bog. The most interesting places are connected by [instructional trail](#) with informative notices.



The nature reserve is accessible along the green marked path from the parking-lot near the village Jiříkovo Údolí (1 km). The village can be found on the road or on the blue marked tourist trail between the towns [Nové Hradý](#) and [Třeboň](#).

ŽUMBERK FORTRESS

The Žumberk fortress is located in the village of the same name 7 km south-east of the small town [Trhové Sviny](#), 500 m a.s.l.



The first mention of the castle dates back to the 13th century. It had many proprietors and in 1618 it became a part of the domain of the castle town [Nové Hrady](#). At the beginning of the 17th century it was rebuilt into the Renaissance style and all the village was fortified with walls with six round bastions. The last reconstruction was in the 19th century and the village changed its original appearance.

In the 1970's the village was completely reconstructed and it is now in good condition.

The museum is located in the building of the original fortress.

The original parochial Gothic [Church of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist](#) is first mentioned in 1332. It was burnt down by the Hussites in the first half of the 15th century. The new building originates from 1455. Its interiors were restored after the big fire in the first half of the 19th century. The four-aisled [church](#) with the square layout is arched with the tracery vault.



ŘÍMOV

The village Římov is a very well-known and important South Bohemian pilgrimage place. It is situated about 14 km south of the town [České Budějovice](#) on the [Malše](#) river, 480 m a.s.l.



Its history dates back to the 10th century, but the first mention comes from 1383 - it reports about Horní Římov settlement (Upper Římov). The free fortress in Dolní Římov (Lower Římov) is first mentioned in 1395. From 1626 the village belonged to the Jesuits from [Český Krumlov](#). The pilgrimage place with the Loretto Chapel and with the Stations of the Cross arose here in the second half of the 17th century by the idea of Jesuit Jan Gurr.



The Loretto Chapel was built in Římov between 1648 - 1653 and it is an authentic copy of the famous Loretto in Italy. It was the third one in Bohemia. In each of its corners there are altars. Around the chapel there is a cloister with richly painted and decorated walls and arches. The Church of the Holy Ghost was founded a short time after the Loretto Chapel. The rotunda in the Baroque style dates from 1762.

Around the chapel, in radius about 5 km, we can find 25 small Baroque chapels of the Stations of the Cross (so-called Římov's Passion) with wooden statues. The chapels originate from the second half of the 17th and the first quarter of the 18th century. Their positions in the terrain corresponded with the traditional placement of Stations of the Cross in Jerusalem.





INSTRUCTIONAL TRAIL KŘÍŽOVÁ CESTA V ŘÍMOVĚ



The instructional trail Křížová Cesta v Římově (Stations of the Cross in Římov) leads in the countryside round the village [Římov](#) about 15 km south of the town [České Budějovice](#).

The trail acquaints visitors with pilgrimage place in [Římov](#), with its traditions and history and with the biblical Jesus Christ way of the Cross.

The Stations of the Cross originated in the second half of the 17th century and the stations illustrate the Baroque style in building.

The path is 6 km long and a walk takes about 2 hours. There are 25 stations with figurations of each station of the original way of the Cross.

The path is marked by the green sign.



NOVÉ HRADY

The old-time town Nové Hrady ("New Castles") lies in the [Novohradské Hory](#) (Nové Hrady Mountains) near the Czech-Austrian border. It is about 30 km south-east of the town [České Budějovice](#) on the hill above the [Stropnice](#) river, 541 m a.s.l.



The history of the town dates back to 1279. It was known as a small village with the [castle](#), which was built by the Vítkovec family for the protection of the trade route. Later the [castle](#) became property of the Lords of Landštejn and the Rožmberks. In 1620, when it was under the ownership of the Švamberks, the town participated in the revolt against the Emperor. Thereupon it was captured by the soldiers of general Buquoy, who became the new owner of the town.

The [castle](#) from the end of the 13th century stands on the western outskirts of the town. It is enclosed by a huge moat. Only the remains of the original town walls (from the second half of the 14th century), which were connected with the fortification of the castle, and the town gate Dolní Brána (Lower Gate) from 1829 can be seen in the town.

One of the oldest buildings is the Late-Gothic [Church of Sts. Peter and Paul](#) with the monastery of the Servites. It stands in the south-eastern corner of the square.

The Renaissance town hall is located in the western part of the square. It was built in the 16th century and then it was reconstructed in the 18th and 19th centuries.

The residence of the Buquoy family, which was built between 1634 - 1644, can be found in the eastern part of the square.

The Boquoy family founded the new Napoleonic [chateau](#) on the eastern outskirts of Nové Hradky between 1801 -1810. It is situated in a large romantic park. The Pseudo-Gothic family [tomb](#) of the Buquoy family has been located in the cemetery since the 1890's.



Interesting places in the surroundings