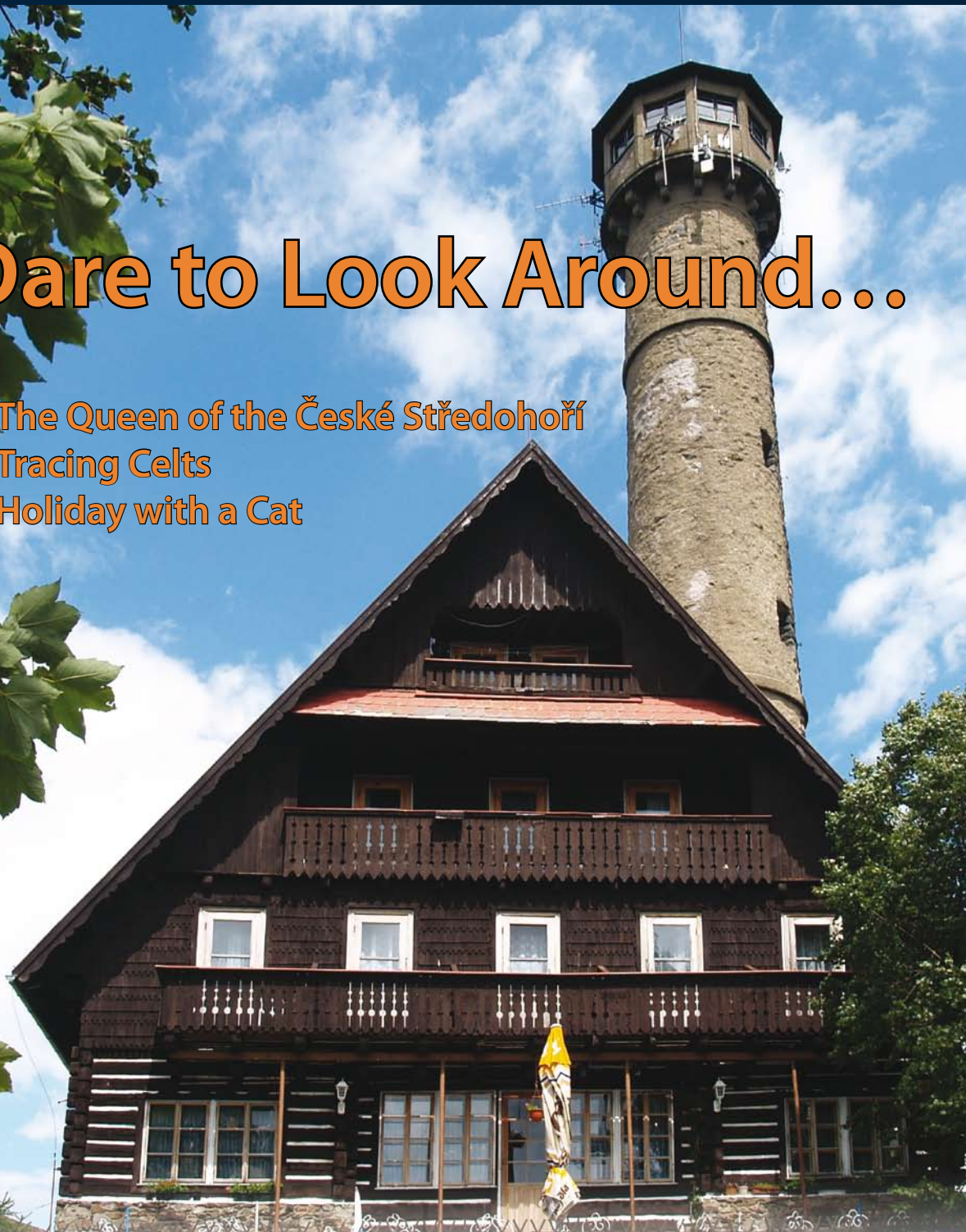




Dare to Look Around...

The Queen of the České Středohoří
Tracing Celts
Holiday with a Cat





AQUAPARK



ALL UNDER ONE ROOF



JESTĚD - 5 km



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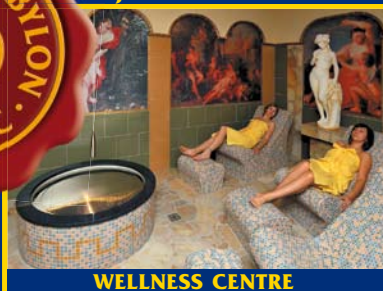
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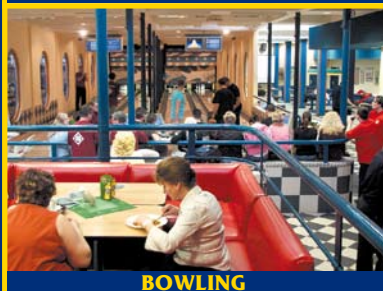
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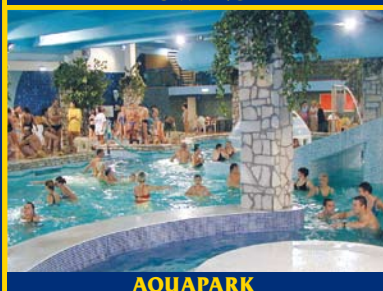
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BOWLING



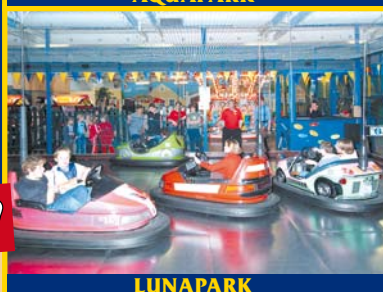
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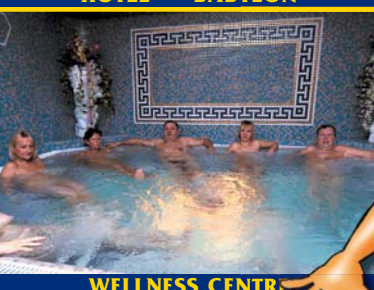
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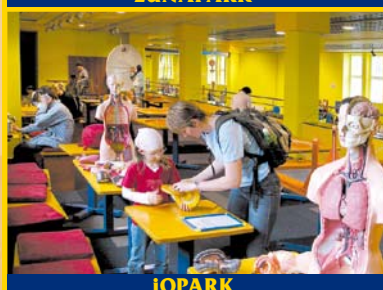


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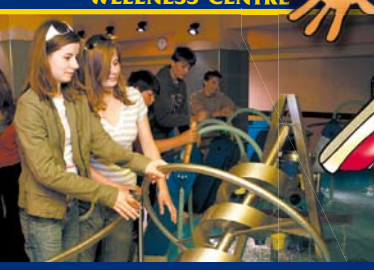
- tens of interactive exhibits from all sorts of human life
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LABYRINTH

Dear Readers,

Having looked outside of the window I have to say that spring is slowly passing and summer is undertaking the rule. The temperature is higher and higher, the Sun is almost already burning. I'm not quite sure if it is a cause of the global warming, or if the weather just got crazy. Anyway, let's be happy to have nice days. Don't forget to use sun-bathing products and sun glasses. They will help you to avoid sun burns and conjunctivitis. Even if there is only June outside, the Sun can be sometimes treacherous.



Nice weather allures to excursions, trips, hikes. A lot of people are roaming on hills and mountains and enjoying countryside. In our magazine you will find many places from where you can watch the countryside – it is devoted to watch towers. Bike lovers will also find several tips for their trips. And for beer lovers there are some articles about their favourite drink too.

In a month the holiday time arrives. School of us children and students are looking forward to it very much, the rest can enjoy several free days and get some new energy for our work which await us after returning back to everyday life. Many people have already planned where they spend their holiday, others are waiting for last minutes tours. They are cheaper, but the choice is limited. But some people like it.

So – stay tuned because the season is high, holiday and free days are ahead and the weather is fine. Enjoy sun and swimming. Swimming pools, swimming baths, ponds and rivers are open to your visit.

Martina Štěpánková
Vice Editor-in-Chief



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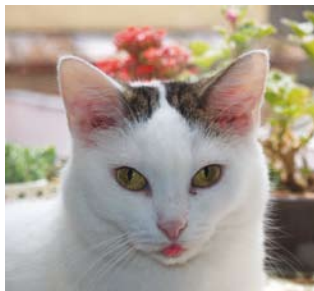
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Holiday with a Cat

We have already written several times about our furry friends – about dogs. But about cats not yet. And as our nation is divided into two main parts in all important things, for instance footballers against hockey-players, beer lovers against wine lovers, the same is with our pets.

Cats are our pets who would like to spend our holiday with us. But not always it is possible. Have you ever tried to smuggle them on a plane board? Then you know for sure that even if you properly packed them in the cabin baggage, either the plane or you won't fly off. Then we should pose a question, WHY to trail somewhere where they can't go with us?



The other possibility is to ask someone to take care about our darling pet. If we manage to find someone, we win. The problem rests on them... The cat is used to her/his favourite meal, and doesn't take everything. The willing tender has to learn how to clean cat's toilet, shut all doors and clean all mess made with proud by the Cat. The Cat is a self-will personality and likes doing what s/he likes.

Next possibility is to put her/him into a pet hotel. But the vision



how your beloved pet is enjoying their time in a luxurious hotel with a view on a bird farm, twenty minutes caressing with the kind tender and in the company of other similarly beautiful creatures, is exaggerated. Pet hotels have their own rules, but your beloved will miss hardly anything, not even you. They make friends with anybody who is willing to feed them at the moment. But they won't forget you, don't worry.

The last possibility is to take the cat with you. Many an accomodation facility abroad enables this. Of course, you will have to pay more for such a stay, but you will rule the situation. Remember, your cat will feel best by your side, which means at home, in Czech, in the country, and even in the middle of the flowering strawberry field. “

Alois Rula



The Secret of the Lords from Žerotín Tomb

In years 1588–1636, when the castle in Brandýs nad Orlicí was owned by the Žerotíns, the foundation-stone of this story was laid. It all started when in the former village Loukotí (Lokotě), today Žerotínova street, had Jan Sr. from Žerotín (1559) built a family tomb. Five years later his son was born, became an important man in our history and was buried there.



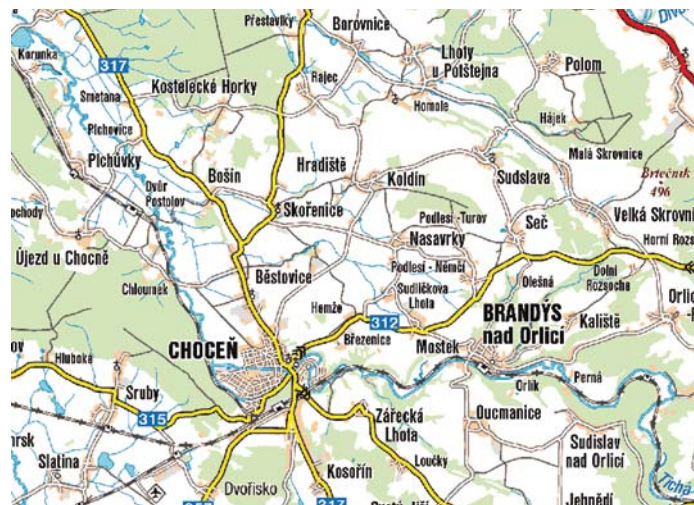
That son was Karel Sr. from Žerotín (1564 Brandýs nad Orlicí – 1636 Přerov), an eminent Moravian nobleman, politician, writer and important personality of that time society. Before his voluntary exile in 1629 he got the permission to be buried in the family tomb after his death. Most sources however state that he was buried in the crypt of the Žerotíns in Bludov. This is a mistake because this crypt was built later, in 1837–1838 by František Josef from Žerotín.

Karel Sr. from Žerotín was after his death really transferred to Brandýs where lots of people came to his funeral. Then he was laid into a copper coffin and buried in the above mentioned family tomb, which is said to be walled up after it. Later the cemetery and the little church lost their function. They changed into a brick heap overgrown by grass. But the legend about burying lords from Žerotín in expensive coffins survived. People tried their luck and search for the lost tomb, but only in 1724 a herdsman found a corridor leading to a round hall with thirteen tombs.



However, they weren't of silver, two of them were of copper and eleven of tintin. But the ghouls longed for their contents. The authorities intervened and seized everything. A long dispute arose among the Žerotíns heirs and the church which lasted twenty-three years and the verdict was really cunning. Jewelry fell to the church, and the Žerotíns descendants got a reparation of five hundred golden coins. After the coffins were open and everything valuable was stolen from the dead, their remains were put into a single oak coffin. It was given back to the empty tomb, the roofs of which slumped with time and the coffin was swallowed up by earth. Only after more than two hundred years Moravian descendants remembered their duty to their ancestors, and had their remains dugged up and transferred to the family tomb in Bludov.

Josef Grof



Meetings in Pilsen

When? In the middle of June!

You will be at the right time on the right place if you are planning to meet your partners, family or friends in the middle of June in Pilsen. You can enjoy events which will change the face of the town for several days. Forget all worries and spread your wings in the fantasy land...



Ghosts invite you to the Historical Weekend June 13–15, 2008

After two years the Pilsen main square will host the biggest ghost festival in the Czech Republic – The Historical Weekend. This year will be in the name of guilds – the smiths, bakers, butchers, brewers will meet there. They will be also a part of Friday and Saturday evening story – The Round of Ghosts with love, combat of the good and the evil, and on Saturday evening Pilsen will be livened up by ghost, watermen, elves, dragons and other beings from the fantasy land, who will meet at their traditional “Vejšlap”.

www.nadace700.cz/hv/hv.htm

12th International Folklor Festival CIOFF Pilsen 2008

June 11–15, 2008

International Folklor Festival CIOFF Pilsen is since 1997 the place of folklor and folk arts lovers meeting and about 20 adult and children folklor groups from all the Czech Republic as well as from abroad take part. This year groups from Slovakia, Moldavia, Sicily, Canary Islands, Columbia, China will come. The events can be seen in the historical centre of Pilsen in the beautiful park Smetanovy sady.

www.mffplzen.eu



Marionette Theatre Festival “Skupova Plzeň” June 15–19, 2008

This festival was held in 1967 for the first time as the 75th anniversary jubilee of birth and the 10th anniversary of death of Josef Skupa and as a homage to this significant Czech marionette. This year is the



27th year of the Czech professional marionette plays and the parade will host 22 Czech groups, as well as groups from abroad, from June 15 to June 19, 2008. The festival offers also the presentation of the Czech marionette theatre for invited guests for supporting “Czech marionette plays export”.

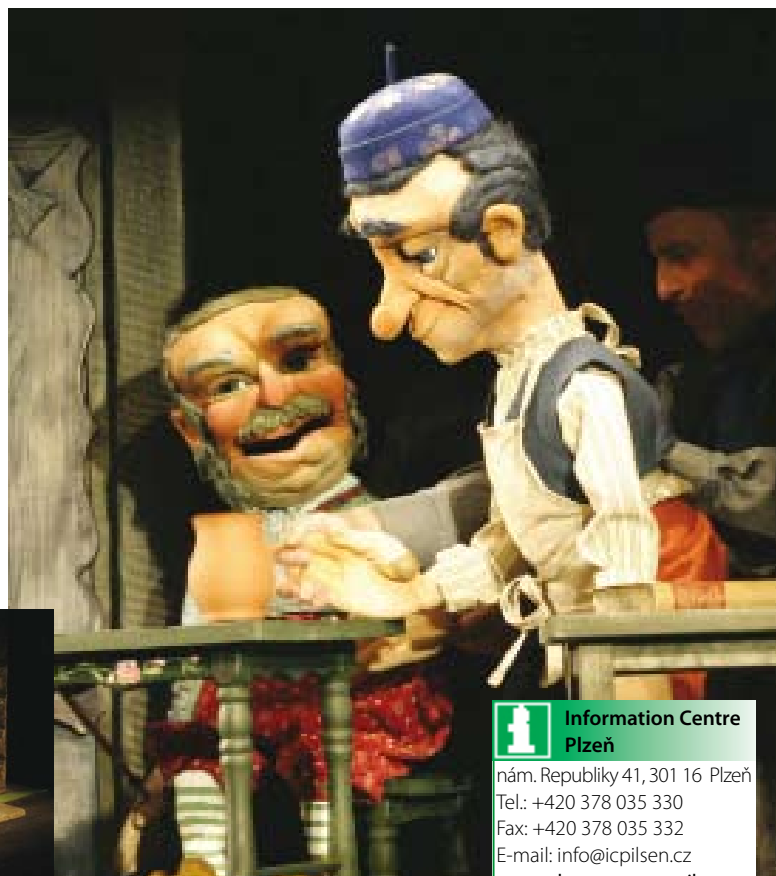
www.divadloalfa.cz



Pilsen will have its own Theatre Summer June 28– July 12, 2008

The festival Theatre Summer under the Pilsen Skies will introduce itself for the first time with the Moliér’s play Don Juan on June 28, 2008. This comedy about hipocrisy, disguise and lies is directed by Vilém Dubníčka in the unique surroundings of historic town walls in the park Křížkovy sady, the vacant lot Theatrum Mundi. Fourteen nights from June 28 to July 12, 2008 you can enjoy performances of the actors from the Prague theatres Jan Přeučil and Viktor Limr, as well as their Pilsen colleagues from the theatres Divadlo J. K. Tyla and Divadla Alfa.

www.divadelnileto.cz



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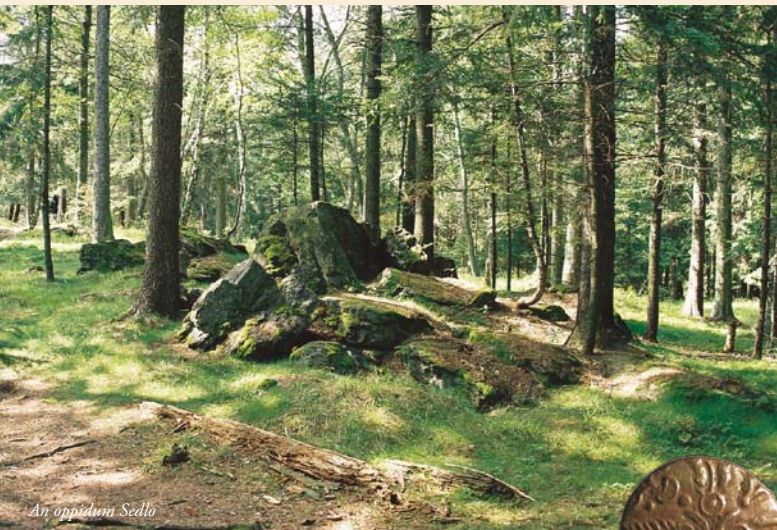
Fax: +420 378 035 332

E-mail: info@icpilsen.cz

www.plzen.eu, www.pilsen.eu

Tracing Celts in Plzeň Region

Tracing Celts in our region means to transfer ourselves into times approximately two and half thousand years ago. The tribe of the Boii, which was gradually infiltrating into forests of Gabréta hylé - Šumava, Bavorský and Český les. In the language of Celts it meant the Ibex Forest or Sheep Mountains. Let's visit places which aren't known very much so far, but for this reason they are even more mysterious. We can start with one of the highest placed oppidum in Bohemia – Sedlo at Sušice.



An oppidum Sedlo

The Oppidum Sedlo

One of the highest placed oppidum in Bohemia (902 above sea level) is located on two peaks of different heights and the gap between them. It spreads in almost one hectare area. It consists of rock and cliffs interconnected by a forcible stone rampart 13 m wide and 10 m high from the outside. The length is more than 900 m. Some of the archeological research showed that it was built about the 10th century BC and most finds come from 2 – 1 century BC, which means the period of Celtic settlement. You can set out for the oppidum from Sušice, the route is 8 km long.



The Giant Castle

It is supposed not to be a fortification, but an enclosure of a sacred place. The evidence of this is the fact that among archeological finds are not shatters of pots and kitchen leftovers, for instance bones. Also Gaius Julius Caesar noted in his "Memoirs of the Gaelic War" that priests and judges of the Celts, druids, "meet in a certain time of

The Giant Castle



Archeo-open air museum of celtic culture in Prášíly

the year... on a sacred spot... which is considered to be the heart of Gallia". The Giant Castle is located on the border between Plzeň and South Bohemian regions, above the valley of the river Losenice near Popelná. The place can be approached from Nicov following the blue and yellow tourist marks to Popelná, then turn to the red tourist mark. Another approach is following the red tourist mark from Kašperské Hory (about 7 km), or from Churáňov (first the blue tourist mark, from Zlatá Studna the red mark – altogether about 10 km).

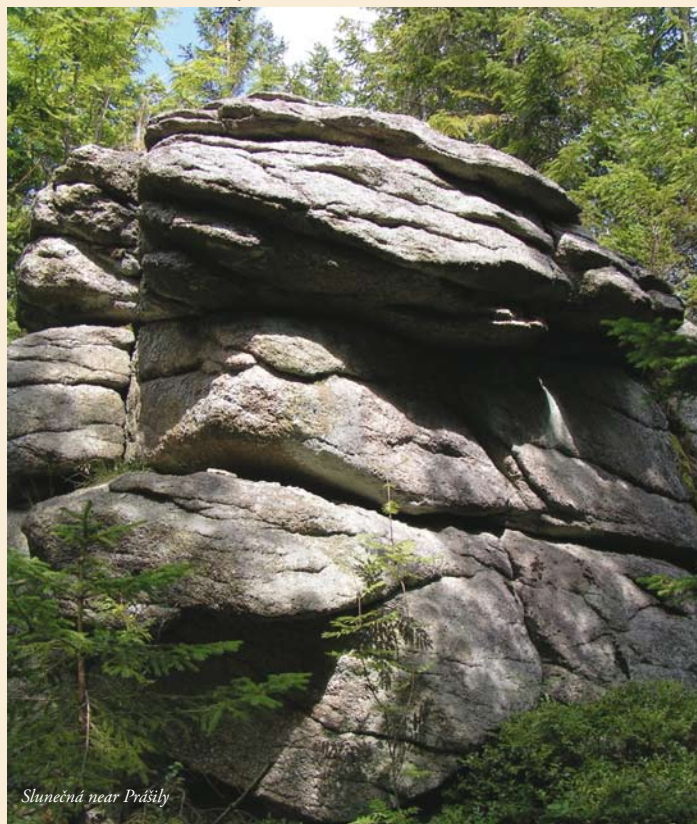
Other settlements and fortifications

Upper Settlement (Horní Hradiště) – the fortification with a preserved rampart of about 1 metre high. Can be easily approached from Plasy.

The Settlement Malechovská Hůrka – enclosed in two so far preserved rampart coils, 250 and 360 m long and even 4 m high, from about 700 BC. Can be easily approached from the village of Dolany.

The Settlement Radná (or Pustý zámek) – Acropolis fortified by an earthen rampart with a wooden construction and a ditch. Can be easily approached from the village of Břasná.

The Settlement Holý vrch (Ověč vrch, Spálený vrch) – a fortified area about 4 ha, the rampart even 4 m high, easily approached from Chrást, in the town part of Zábělá turn left, on the road in the woods follow the educational forestry trail.



Slunečná near Prášíly



Hauswald chapel

Magical and megalithic sights

Maxov Sanctuary – There is an ancient druid sanctuary in the centre of the village Maxov on the route Česká Kubice – Všeruby; it used to be in the middle of four lime trees, today there is a cross

The Hill Slunečná – North-East from Prášíly – climbing is quite demanding because of many big stones and caverns – not far from the peak there is an energetically strong cluster of stones– well-known among the Celts



A German celtic open air museum Gabreta

Žihelské Stones – a natural attraction, not very well-known. You get there following the road from Žihle to the guide-post, across the railway crossing follow the yellow tourist mark up the road along the rock formations Dědek and Bába, then turn to the 500 m far away meadow Uhlířská louka where can be seen a cluster of stones. After 1 km following the red tourist mark to the Glass-works you reach the Place of Sacrifying. The whole excursion is 12 – 14 km long, about 3 - 4 hours of walk.

Gold Fever

Celtic gold washing can be proved by a recent find of several shatters of the Celtic pottery from South-East corner of the Kašperské Hory mountains. The proof that the Celts washed gold in the upper Otava river can be a golden Celtic coins find in Kašperské Hory mountains and the town of Sušice from 2 – 1 century BC. In Podmokly in Rokycany district there were also some Celtic coins found in a bronze pot (on June 12, 1771). On



Hauswald chapel

the place of the find there is a small memorial with the year 1771. In the treasure, there where golden coins weighing 42,5 kg! The treasure was melted into other coin, mostly into Terežian and Fürstenberg ducats.

Excursion tips

On foot/on bike: Prášíly, Gsenget (historical stone of Marie Terezie), Zlatý Stolec, Laka Lake, Former Hürka (Ábel chapel), Vysoké Lávký (19 km)

Hauswald chapel: The place near Srní is again open to public, even to the disabled. You can get there from Srní following the blue tourist mark and then following the educational trail.

Modravský menhir: The starting point is a parking lot in Modrava, then to the right to the crossroad, follow the blue tourist mark to the stream Modravský potok, walk on the road for about an hour (c. 4 km), pass the stream over the iron footbridge and the place is reached after about two hundred metres.

Archeopark Prášíly: Mapping and enlivening the mysterious nation of the Celts which lived on the territory of Bohemia from 6 to 1 century BC – showing their lifestyle to the visitors and reconstructing a Celtic village. More on www.boiohaemum.cz.



Pieces of celtic cloth

See the Beauty of Bohemia and Moravia by Rail

Not only does the Czech Republic offer beautiful monuments that tourists from around the world come to visit, it also boasts one of the world's densest rail networks. The train is thus the ideal choice for travelling and discovering the beauties of this country in the centre of Europe.

SuperCity – comfort on the Czech rail network

Among the most attractive destinations for tourists are those cities that boast monuments on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage list. The most prominent of these are **Prague, Brno and Olomouc**. High-speed Pendolino trains offer fast and comfortable travel between these cities. They will take you from Brno to Prague in 2 hours 25 minutes, and from Prague to Olomouc in 2 hours 15 minutes. These trains are marked **SuperCity** on Czech Railways timetables and riding them can be compared to air



Photo: Czech Railways Archive

travel. Conductors ensure the satisfaction of passengers, and are in this respect more like airline stewards. During the trip you can buy refreshments in the bistro car or take advantage of the minibar cart. Travel aboard SuperCity category trains requires the purchase of a seat reservation for CZK 200 in addition to the regular fare. You can find more information including timetables at www.scpendolino.cz or by telephone at 840 112 113. You can also purchase your ticket over the internet at www.eshop.cd.cz.



Photo: © Vratislav Wolf, Dreamstime.com



Photo: Czech Railways Archive

Castles not to be Missed

By train you can easily get to two castles which are definitely not to be missed. Which ones are these? **Karlštejn** is considered the king of Czech castles and a local train will take you there in 41 minutes from Prague Main Station. After visiting the castle and its surroundings we recommend visiting the historical city of Beroun, where you can have lunch at any one of several pleasant restaurants on the square and admire the renaissance and baroque architecture from your table. It takes only 10 minutes by train to get to Beroun from Karlštejn. From Beroun, you can take the train to **Křivoklát**, the former hunting castle of Czech kings and nobility. Since both castles as well as the city of Beroun are in the Central Bohemian region, we recommend that smaller groups purchase a Czech Railways one-day regional network ticket for this trip. The ticket is called **REGIONet Středočeský** and costs CZK 260. Up to five passengers of any age can use the ticket for unlimited 2nd class travel aboard all local and semi-fast trains in Prague and the Central Bohemian region. The cost of a trip from Prague to Karlštejn, Beroun and Křivoklát thus works out to just CZK 52 per passenger.



Photo: © Lukas Wroblewski, Dreamstime.com

+420 840 112 113



Pilsner Urquell

Visit

The brewery tour: an excursion through the senses.

The brewery is a lively and dynamic place, combining Pilsner Urquell beer's traditional production procedure with the most modern brewing technologies. Since April 2008 a new, modern exhibition has been fully operational which, in an attractive and comprehensible way, initiates visitors in the secrets behind the production of Pilsner Urquell beer. The brewery's tour route has been augmented by a hall with panoramic projection and revolving auditorium presenting the unique production procedure for Pilsner Urquell beer. The modern sensory exhibition makes it possible for visitors to come into contact with the best Czech raw materials used in producing this beer. An exceptional exhibit in itself is the sensitively restored historic brew house from the 1920s which adjoins the current, modern Pilsner Urquell brew house. An unmissable culmination to the tour is a visit to the historic brewery cellars, which are still used to ferment and mature the beer in oak kegs and barrels. This includes a tasting of unfiltered, non-pasteurised Pilsner Urquell beer served directly from the fermentation barrels.



Tour times : for individual visitors without a prior appointment there are daily tours:
10,30; 12,30; 14,00 and 16,00 hrs

Open daily: 8,00–18,00 hrs



Plzeňský Prazdroj, a. s.

U Prazdroje 7; 304 97 Plzeň
Tel.: +420 377 062 888
E-mail: visits@pilsner.sabmiller.com
www.prazdroj.cz

The Brewery Březňák in Velké Březno



The brewery Březňák offers:

- Excursions in the brewery with beers gustation
- A live guide in Czech, English and German languages
- A written brewery guide in 10 languages
- Sale of beer gift packs, branded glass and souvenirs
- A possibility of firm educational and social events
- A bus parking lot

History and presence:

- 1606 The existence of the brewery documented by the purchase contract
- 1753 Ferdinand Bonaventura, the count Harrach, builds a yard and a brewery
- 1900 The brewery brews up 18 sorts of beer
- 1907 77 000 hl. is sold also in the USA, Africa, South America and Europe
- 1910 The supplier to the British House of Parliaments
- 1942 Supplies beer to Rommel's Afrika-korps
- 1945 Confiscated and run by the state control
- 1992 Reprivatized
- 1998 Becomes a part of Drinks Union Corporation
- 2003 Brews up and sells about 200 000 hl. of beer, lager and special



The Excursion Route of 60 min. offers:

- Traditional way of barley malting
- An exhibit of the classical technology of Czech beer brewing up
- Fermentation in open vessels
- Maturing in brewery cellars
- Modern technology bottling links
- Historical brewery objects exposition



www.kr-ustecky.cz

The brewery Velké Březno
 Pivovarská 116
 403 22 Velké Březno
 Tel.: +420 475 309 111
 E-mail: du@drinksunion.cz
www.drinksunion.cz



Žatec – the Hometown of Beer

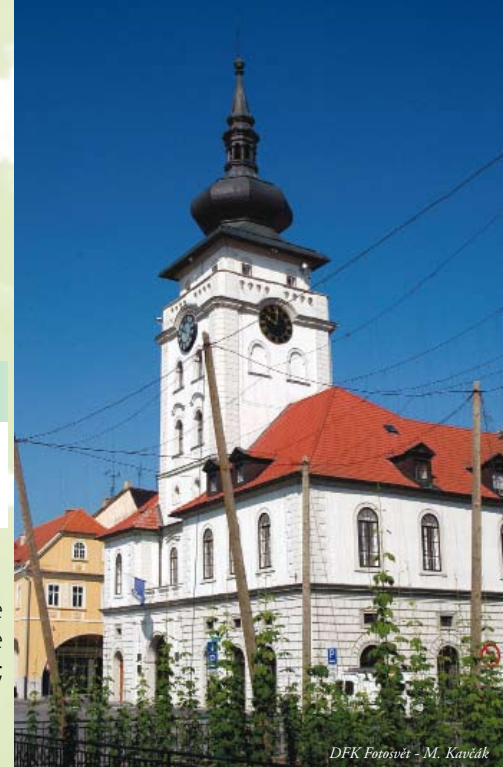
history – hop – beer – atmosphere

- the excellent beer has been brewing in Žatec for more than 700 years (taste 7 sorts of ŽATEC beer)
- hop of the best quality for the branded beers is being grown here (Budweiser Budvar, Pilsner Urquell, Žatec)
- more than 100 Czech and foreign films or commercials have been shot here (Les Misérables, Oliver Twist, Yentl, Edith Piaf)
- there are 5 squares and 500 buildings in different styles in the town centre (Synagogue, Town Hall, Pestilent Pole)
- you can visit mysterious historical buildings with the unique atmosphere (Brewery, Hop-Growing Museum, Dean Cathedral)
- hop-growers' buildings in Žatec are a candidate for the UNESCO list



Town Office Žatec

nám. Svobody 1, 438 24 Žatec
Tel.: +420 415 736 156
E-mail: infocentrum@mesto-zatec.cz
www.mesto-zatec.cz



DFK Fotověř - M. Kavčík

Hop-Growing Museum Žatec

Hop-Growing Museum in Žatec is the biggest exposition all over the world. There is exposed the evolution of hop growing from Middle Ages till present times on 4.000m². You will know why the world's best hop is harvested just in Žatec region and you will remember the smell of the hop forever; and quench your thirst in the hometown of beer!



Open:

From May till October,
From Monday till Saturday,
From 10:00 am till 5:00 pm

Admission:

adult	50,-Kč
children 6-15 years old	30,-Kč
retired	30,-Kč
family admission	110,-Kč

Hop-Growing Museum

nám. Prokopa Velkého
438 01 Žatec
Tel.: +420 415 710 315
+420 415 710 062
Mobil: +420 724 431 422
E-mail: muzeum@chmelarstvi.cz
www.muzeum.chmelarstvi.cz



Welcome to Louny



A Summer Louny Allurement on August 15–17, 2008



The town of Louny would like to invite you to visit the 5th town summer festival called A Summer Louny Allurement – the unique cultural and sport event for all age categories, which culminates in the Olše River Celebration. You could enjoy a rich programme and spend a nice summer weekend in Louny. From the programme: Mňága a Žďorp, David Koller, Mig 21, The Plastic People Of The Universe, drum show from Holland, fireworks with music, dragon ships competition, Olše River Celebration. More information with times can be found in the next copy of EYE and on www.lounskevabeni.cz.



Town Information Centre

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440 23 Louny
Tel.: +420 415 621 102
E-mail: info@mulouny.cz
www.mulouny.cz

A Staircase into Heavens

The countryside of the Czech Republic is very varied and manifold. Almost everywhere you can find a hill, or at least mound, which you can climb and enjoy the view. It might be a reason why this country is a place of numerous watch towers which have a long history. 350 of them can be found here – and new ones are being built!

Even in this age of technology when you can reach almost every place by car, lift or escalator, a part of the population finds attractive to climb – on their own feet! – on a steep hill or mountain. And there, without a fast food van, continue on stairs!!! Watch towers were a favourite destination already in the end of the 19th century, so why to change it nowadays? The building on the top of hills are actually unique, as well as are the views from them. From some of them you can see many, many miles, perhaps to check the neighbours if they aren't planning some intrigues against you, as it was several times in the history. When you next time pass along a hill which has a sharp roof peeping out of the woods, leave the car at the foothill and climb there – we are sure you won't regret your decision!

Jáchym Hruška



The dominanta of Most – the Castle Hněvín

The town of Most in the Northern Bohemia district has a dominanta of the castle Hněvín, which is not only favourite trip destination, but also a place with a lot of mysterious tales.

One of the most bizarre figure connected with the castle Hněvín is Edward Kelley, popularized with the Czech public in a very successful film “Emperor’s Baker and Baker’s Emperor” (“Císařův pekař a Pekařův císař”). He had a patronage of the emperor Rudolf II, but Hunkler was fatal for him a duel with a court official. Duels were strictly forbidden, he was arrested and imprisoned at the castle Křivoklát. After almost three years of prison he decided to escape. He dropped

the rope and started to climb down, but the rope broke and he fell on the rocks. He shattered his leg and it had to be amputated, replaced by a wooden limb and he was dislocated to a safer prison in the castle Hněvín in Most. Even if he had bad experience, he decided to escape again, and again on the rope. History however repeated itself, the rope broke and his leg was broken – the wholesome unfortunately. The emperor felt sorry for him, amnestied him and returned him his estate, but Kelly stayed at Hněvín. He didn't want to spend the rest of his life as a cripple, so he drank some unknown liquid. According to the legend he cursed the castle and the town of Most where he experienced so much wrong, and they should have disappeared from the surface. And his course came true. Today's Hněvín is a replica of an original gothic castle and is used as a restaurant, watch tower and observatory.

From the book “Kuriozity po Česku aneb jednou nohou v nebi“

If you liked the story and would like to read some more, you can buy the book “Kuriozity po Česku aneb jednou nohou v nebi“, which is being sold on the internet (www.baset.cz) or in the Information Centre in Most.



i Centre for tourism
development of Mostecko

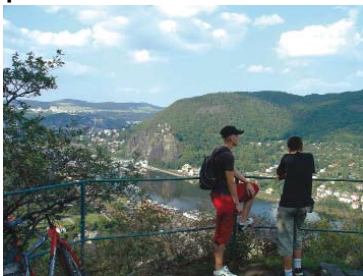
Municipality of Mostu
Radniční 1
434 01 Most
Tel.: +420 476 105 314
E-mail: info@imostecko.cz
www.imostecko.cz

Foto: Jiřina Zachariásová

From the Walkway of Větruše

Perhaps the most beautiful view of the town of Ústí nad Labem and its surrounding is from the beautiful spot chateau Větruše. You can enjoy the view from the walkway of its tower, have a refreshment in the local restaurant, or recreate in a sport areal and a mirror maze.

You can also make a trip from Větruše, on an educational path in the direction to Vrkoč, another favourite view point. This route is 4,5 km long and you can enjoy a lot of beautiful views at the Elbe valley, as well as at the 12 metres high waterfall Vaňovský vodopád, which is the highest in the České středohoří hills. Rock formation Vrkoč is unique due to whinstone columned disintegration and from its peak there is a nice view into the cliff heart and at the town panorama, at the castle Střekov and Vaňov. On the route there are 9 stops with information tables, you can rest on several benches, and you will reach the end stop during 2 or 3 hour at a mild pace.



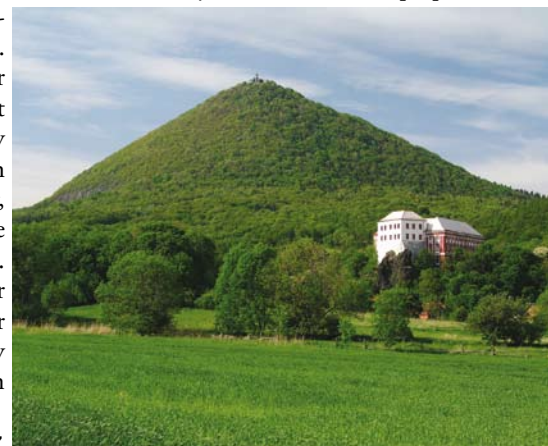
Information Centre of the town Ústí nad Labem

Hradiště 9, 400 01 Ústí nad Labem
Tel./Fax: +420 475 220 233
E-mail: info.stredisko@mag-ul.cz
www.usti-nad-labem.cz

The Milešovka Mountain with a Watch Tower

The Milešovka Mountain, sometimes called "A Thunder Mountain" reaches 837 m above sea-level and its curly surrounding of the České středohoří range surmounts for 350 m! When the weather is nice, you can see it also from some Prague watch towers, and if you are lucky, you can see even the Krušné hory, Krkonoše and Šumava mountains from its peak!

The Milešovka has won several postures in meteorological measuring, not all of them favourable: they say it is the most windy place in the Czech republic with the most frequent storms. But during steep climbing a light breeze would be nice. Milešovka has been favourite destination since the start of the 19th century. In 1825 Antonín Weber, inn-keeper from Milešov, decided to build on a mountain with woods a hut where he sold not only refreshment, but prepared also beds for wanderers, made of moss. Twenty five years later there stood the first brick building. Today there is an observation with a watch tower, built in 1904 as the first one in Bohemia. After WW 2 the tower had been closed for long years, and only in 1998 it was again open to the public.
www.kr-ustecky.cz



Děčín Seen from the High

The Elbe valley is lined by high rock cliffs near the town of Děčín, and they offer superb places for watch tower and view points lovers. Welcome to spots providing unique views on the scenic countryside and on the town of Děčín.



The most popular might be a steep sandstone cliff Pastýřská stěna which is 160 m high. On its top there is a restaurant imitating a middle-age castle with a tower and a walkway. The view of the town Děčín and its surrounding can be reached from the restaurant terrace. The beautiful view is also from the mountain Stoliční hora in the northern part of the town. Sandstone cliff is the most southern point of Labský důl which opens below it into a wide Děčín basin. On its top was build a promenade as a homage to the fifties anniversary of the emperor Franz Joseph I and his wife Elisabeth. This view point is also cal-



led The Emperor's View. If you take a walk along the Elbe valley in the direction to Hřensko, you can also enjoy the view from Labská stráž, Sněžnická vyhlídka or Růžový hřeben. The lovers of traditional watch towers can enjoy the stone watch tower on Děčínský Sněžník watch towers Dymník, Jedlová, Tanečnice or Vlčí hora. All of them will reward your climbing with a beautiful view on the surrounding landscape, so don't hesitate and come to see it!



Information Centre Děčín

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www.ceskosaskesvycarsko.info

Historian Erik Polák

It was the year 1926, when in a Czech Jewish family in Prague Erik Polák was born. Until German Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia he had been growing up in Libeň – which used to be a Prague suburb – and weren't realizing any differences between him and the majority of his equals. Only a Jewish school and some "family" visits to a synagogue during big feasts reminded him a pertinence to the Jewish community. But as he writes in his reminiscences later, it didn't separate him from his non-Jewish friends. Only cruel and from the beginning incredible experience of the Jews persecution unleashed after the occupation by Nazi Germany led to the intensive feeling of his own Jewry.



Erik Polák (the second from the right) in front of the crematory in the Jewish Cemetery in Terezín in 1991.

His childhood, beasty interrupted by the occupation, finished prematurely. Following years severely decimated his family, and he was exposed to the most difficult tests. At first it was a total separation from all ways of a normal life, putting Polák's family into a proverbial "ghetto without walls" which separated Jewish from their neighbours. Then a deportation to the Terezín ghetto followed. This should have been another stop on their way to the unknown. Erik Polák was lucky enough, and was placed into the proverbial "Number One" room, a children's home in the building L 417. This home, with pedagogs and trainers led by a professor Valter Eisinger, had become an informal centre of the children and youth life in the ghetto. Erik Polák was very active there and got educational basics gain in a privy teaching. He couldn't have known that after several decades he would come back to the building to help with its transformation into the Ghetto Museum...

From Terezín his journey continued first to the proverbial "Death Factory", as the concentration camp Osvětim – Březinka (Auschwitz II – Birkenau) was nicknamed. He survived the hell there as well as following working camps, and eventually was heavily ill and deadly exhausted set free.



In a debate at the first educational seminar in the Ghetto Museum study in 1993.

But he wasn't safe before other life trials, when during the years of so called "normalization" hadn't be able to do his profession of the historian for long twenty years and worked as a building worker and later in the office. After November 1989 he became one of the Terezín initiative founders, an organization of former Terezín ghetto prisoners. He concentrated on vacancies in the research and presentation of the Terezín ghetto history. Since November 1990 he had been working in the history department of the Terezín Memorial. Building of the Ghetto Museum, research on the life of children and youth in the ghetto and the reconstruction preparation of the former Magdeburg barracks in Terezín and the initiative educational activity of the Terezín Memorial – all these will forever connected with his name.



Visiting Vienna in 1993.

PhDr. Erik Polák, CSc. died in March 1996 after a serious illness. He contributed to the permanent preservation of the Jewish genocide victims remembrance during WW2. His difficult and often distressful life was only 67 years long, and therefore he managed to fulfil only a small part of his numerous researches and museum intentions.

Vojtěch Blodig

More information about Erik Polák can be found in the book "Tři kapitoly" ("Three Chapters").

Terezín Memorial

www.pamatnik-terezin.cz



Behind the chairman table during the seminar for German memorial workers in Terezín in 1993 (Erik Polák, the first on the left).



At the international conference of Terezín Ghetto History in the garrison house in Terezín in 1995.

Kláštorec Musical Springs

With Jaroslav Svěcený, July 4-13, 2008

The town of Kláštorec nad Ohří together with violin virtuoso Jaroslav Svěcený organize the 4th year of the musical festival with international violin courses. Summer festival with numerous concerts in Kláštorec Castle and the Holy Trinity Church accompanies the courses for violin teachers led by the Master himself.



Kláštorec musical springs will be enjoyed by classical music lovers. The festival offers various genres of different music instruments. Violin by Vivaldi, flutes by chamber orchestra Virtuosi Pragenses, organ, cembalo, viola, piano, the soloist of the National Theatre Zdeňka Kloubová, music group Jablkoň, a former member of the group Lucie, a composer Michal Dvořák, guitar magician Radim Hladík senior, master violin-maker Jan Pötzl, galaconcert violin courses



graduate with Jaroslav Svěcený and other interesting concerts.

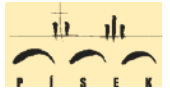


Touristic information centre

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E-mail: icklasterec@muklasterec.cz
www.goklasterec.cz

Písek from High

You can view the town of Písek from two sides. The watch tower Jarník can be found on the hill of Kraví hora east from the town in Písecké hory mountains. It was built in 1997 and if you climb all 182 stairs there, you are rewarded the unique view of Písek and its surrounding. And if the weather is promising, you will see over the gate of Southern Bohemia.



Jarník is accessible for free all year round and two opposite staircases would satisfied even the most demanding watchers. If you get tired after the climbing there, you can have refreshment in a near touristic chalet (BTW, the scenes of the favourite Czech comedy Hogo fogo Homolka were shot there). The view of Písek and its surrounding from west also the watch tower „Na Kamýku“ offers. It is the youngest among its colleagues, being built only in 2007. You can find it over the village Velké Nepodřice, several kilometres from Písek in Strakonice direction. It is also accessible for free and the view confirm that the Písek surrounding is one big “garden“. You can also go mushrooming or berry picking in the local woods. Both places can be easily reached on foot or on a bike.



Information Centre Písek

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www.icpisek.cz
www.pisek.eu



Národní knihovna
České republiky
National Library
of the Czech Republic

Town of Chrást - Municipal museum



The Secrets of the World's Largest Book

Codex Gigas

THE DEVIL'S BIBLE

The exhibition, organised by the National Library of the Czech Republic in association with the National Library of Sweden in the Klementinum Gallery, was visited by 61 768 people. An adapted version of the exhibition set up in cooperation with municipality of Chrást – Municipal museum will be on display in the region, where the world's unique original was created by the hand of an unknown artist.



Inauguration the 13th June
14th June–31st August 2008
Tue-Fri: 8.00–11.00, 13.00–15.30
Sat-Sun: 9.00–12.00, 13.00–16.00

Jižní Morava Spend Summer Near Water

The hot summer months are approaching and we are looking for nice places where to get cooling and recreation. Southern Moravia offers a lot of possibilities, natural swimming baths, ponds, dams. Water pleasures are attractive not only for your children, but also for you.

Aquapark Vyškov

In the outside area there are a 50 m long swimming-pool with heated water, two-trail slide, paddling pool, tobogan and white water. Inside there are a 25 m long swimming-pool, tobogans, massage seats, water spouters, white water canal, paddling pool, jacuzzi, Finnish and steam saunas.

Aquapark Blansko

Newly build aquapark with two tobogans, a river, massage jets, massage seat, children pool and many other water attractions. It has also two restaurants and is interconnected with a winter stadium which offers an unique opportunity to go skating in a swimsuit.



Swimming Bath Slavkov near Brno

This swimming bath has a 50m long swimming pool for swimmers, a pool for non-swimmers, children pool, sport equipment rental, beach volley-ball court, the football-tennis court, basketball court, table tennis. Also refreshment.

Town Swimming Pool in Znojmo

There are a lot of attractions – diving boards, white water river, massage jets, water spouters, water cannons, underwater lights, children pool with 69m long tobogan, double slide and paddling pool with “a water hedgehog”. A calmer place can be found at the recreational pools. There are also a beach volley-ball court, streetball, a ball games court, table tennis, children playground and a restaurant with a bowling alley.

Luleč near Vyškov

This swimming bath “U Libuše” was built from a former stone-pit and has 6 400 m²



Jedovnice – the Pond of Olšovec

Near Moravský kras you can get cooling on shores of a 42 ha pond. You can use also a boat and pedals rental, fishing possibilities, wallowing on the beach, and refreshment. Each September there are international motor boats races being hold.

The Pond of Suchý – Drahanská vrchovina

A popular recreational centre in beautiful woods with a lake of 6 ha. There are over 300 private weekend houses and several pensions.

Smradavka near Buchlovice

A recreational centre with a dam among woods, where you can enjoy fishing or water sports.

The Pond of Níhov

The biggest pond in Tišnov region with very clean water.

Vranov Dam

Traditional recreational area with nice luke water and many a romantic creek, called “Moravian Jadran”.

The Dam Křetínka near Letovice

An open-air swimming bath used not only for swimming, but also for fishing and water sports.

Reservoirs Novomlýnské nádrže

Here you will find an open-air swimming bath in two lagoons of “Horní Novomlýnská nádrž”, naturistic beach, tobogan, pedals and motor boats rental, windsurfing school and rental, bicycle rental, beach volley-ball court, minigolf, tennis courts and restaurant.



Baťa Canal

Historical water path, these days used only for tourist purposes. Baťa Canal is about 60 km long. Some parts run on the river of Morava, parts on artificial canals. You can rent boats, motor boats, canoes and bicycles here, or you can enjoy the ride on a big excursion ship with a captain.

www.jizni-morava.cz



Evropská unie
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ROP
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Jihomoravský kraj

Brno to Children **B | R | N | O**

Travelling with children can be a lot of fun, but town visits might be really demanding. To plan a programme suitable for the youngest is often more difficult than during hiking in the open air. The town of Brno offers many attractions which aspire to enjoy even the youngest members of your expedition.

We offer some tips what to enjoy and see during your visit to the Moravian city, both when the sky is clear and when it is heavily raining.

1st Option – the blue sky is alluring us to go out

Brno Zoo

Take your children to the Zoo. They can see more than 800 animals (almost 200 species) of the six continents there. In springs and in the start of summers, the most attractive are the youngs. Brno Zoo is very proud of the polar bear youngs.



www.zoobrna.cz

The steamboat cruise with Veveří castle visit

Leave the town, set out for hiking, and by an unusual means of transport – on a steamboat in the Brno Dam. The cruise can be varied by climbing to the Veveří Castle, one of the vastest castle sections in this country.

www.dpmb.cz, www.veveri.cz

Climbing the Old Townhall Tower

Even the youngest will enjoy the beautiful view from the Old Townhall Tower, which is situated in the centre of the town. You can see a whole historic heart and even further.

www.ticbrno.cz



2nd Option – the sky is heavy and gray

Moravian Provincial Museum

– Dietrichsteinský palace – Children Museum

Children museum, a part of the Moravian Provincial Museum, explains various museum departments while playing games, and not only to children!.

www.mzm.cz

Pavilion Anthropos

In the pavilionu Anthropos can be seen expositions about the ancient settlement of Moravia and whole Europe, about human evolution and much more. The attraction for small visitors is a mammoth life-size model with its young.

www.anthropos.cz

Technical Museum in Brno

In the collection of the Technical Museum historical vehicles and aircraft history expositions can be found. There is also a craft lane, or a replica of a craft lane from the beginnings of the 20th century which consists of watchmaker's, bookbinder's, locksmith's, tailor's, shoemaker's and barber's workshops, and a grocery with a coffee roaster, dentist's office, pub or an installation of a courtyard gallery house. The most attractive for children is an experimentarium – a technological playground which helps to learn physical laws and their technical applications as a game. The main condition for successful use of the experimentarium sounds: touch – try – observe – learn.

www.technicalmuseum.cz

The Castle of Špilberk

On the hill above the town there is an originally royal castle Špilberk (known as a prison of nations) which offers permanent expositions and also visit to casemate – dark places in the fortifications which had served as a shelter for soldiers and as a storehouse at first, and later changed into a prison. Here you can see a torture chamber with a rack and a cell of well-known prisoners – a baron Trenk, a bandit Babinský and others.

www.spilberk.cz

Permanent Aquarium Exhibition

In the historical centre of the town you can see a Permanent Aquarium Exhibition of the Brno Zoo. These days there are more than 80 individuals of 32 sea fish species, and more than 1 000 ones of 84 freshwater fish species. One of the biggest attractions is a tank with corals.

www.zoobrna.cz

www.brno.cz



Foto: Židlický, Kolařík, Archiv Zoo Brno



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www.ticbrno.cz

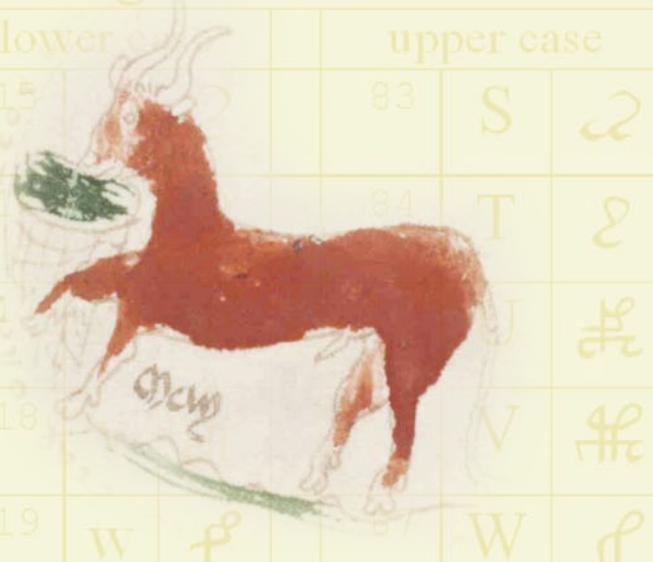
Manuscript without any content?

We know who mysterious magister Kelley was from the film "Emperor's Baker and Baker's Emperor". It is interesting that he really lived in Prague in the times of Rudolph II and died at the castle of Křivoklát. The story by Werich and Brdečka, directed by Martin Frič uncovered one of the great mysteries already in 1951. And it wasn't Golem, as it might have seemed.

All of this started in 1912, when Polish-Lithuanian aristocrat, revolutionary and emigrant Michał Habdank-Wojnicz (1865 – 1930) found a mysterious scroll manuscript in the Italian Jesuit college library in the town of Frascati. It was an illustrated book (15 x 23 cm, originally 272, now 240 pages), written in an unknown language sometimes between 1450 – 1520 AD. The manuscript was named after its "finder", that time already Wilfrid Michael Voynich – "Voynich manuscript". Today it is in the deposit of Yale university.



W. M. Voynich



Kelley was judged for trickery, and his both ears were amputated for it in his native England – so it can be him who is the author of the manuscript. But why? It might be that he wanted to get under a patronage of the respectable scholar Dee and as a



Edward Kelley

member of his mission to escape from England to Prague. And it is clear that the manuscript wasn't written by Roger Bacon because the hairstyles, clothes and castles depicted in the manuscript come from years between 1450 – 1520, which is at least 150 years after Bacon's death. Nevertheless, Voynich manuscript is a nice mystery, and for the Czech even more interesting, since it is fundamentally connected with our territory. Perhaps we might expect an exhibition in short time to appear, which would concentrate just on this manuscript.

A whole article can be found on www.kampocesku.cz.

-lgs-



Dr. John Dee



Roger Bacon

But who was the author of this manuscript? We can only guess, having no proofs. Jan Marek Marci (1595 - 1667), a Czech physician and physicist claimed that the manuscript had been found at the court of Rudolph II. The emperor believed that its author is a British theologist Roger Bacon (1214 – 1294, minor, philosopher and scholar). It is probable that the manuscript was brought to Rudolph by John Dee (1527 - 1609), an English alchemist, astrologer and counsellor of Edward VI and legate of Elizabeth I. Some sources state that Dee got the book from Edward Kelley (1555 – 1597), an English alchemist, who came to the Emperor Rudolph court with John Dee and insisted on having got the manuscript from the Duke of Northumberland.



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