







# Inspirational programs

Discover the castles and palaces of 5 regions of the Polish-Czech border







## About the project

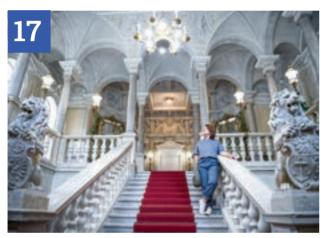
## **European Route of Castles and Palaces**

## Discover the Heritage of the Czech and Polish Border

The "Castles and Palaces Connect Us II" project is a unique initiative aimed at utilizing the rich cultural potential of the Czech-Polish borderland, one of the most fascinating regions in Europe. By leveraging the resources of tangible heritage such as castles and palaces, the project creates a new, comprehensive tourism offer. These historical gems, which tell stories of European tra-

ditions and history, especially in the context of the Polish-Czech borderland, become a key element of the broader tourism product "European Route of Castles and Palaces Czech Republic-Poland." This is a continuation and development of the "Castles and Palaces Connect Us" project implemented in 2019-2021 under the Interreg CZ-PL program. As a result of this initiative, a cross-border offer was created, covering castles and palaces in Lower Silesia and the Pardubice Region.

The second phase expands this offer to other border areas, including the Lower Silesian and Opole Voivodeships, and the Pardubice, Hradec Králové, and Olomouc Regions. The goal of this cross-border cooperation is to increase tourists' awareness of available attractions and promote them, which will directly contribute to the growth of tourism in the border region. Thanks to the "European Route of Castles and Palaces Czech Republic-Poland," tourists can fully appreciate the rich historical and cultural heritage of this part of Europe. It is a chance to create a new quality of tourism that combines tradition with a modern approach to travel and discovering the unknown treasures of Europe.



Tovačov Chateau



Kuks Hospital

### **CONTENT**

- 2 About the project
- 3 Regions are introduced
- 8 Olomouc Region
- 10 Witchhammer -
- 12 Seats of bishops and arcibishops ===
- 14 Treasures from museum collections
- 16 Starring: monuments
- 18 Castles and cheateaus without barriers
- 20 Pardubice Region
- 22 From Sissi to Rumburak
- 24 The history and beauty of the Iron Mountains
- 26 From the gothic to rococo grace
- 28 In search of knightsy
- 30 A two-day trip to the past
- 32 Hradec Králové Region

- 34 Both a piece of England and the High Baroque
- 36 A trip not only to the Babiččino údolí 🛌 🚃
- 38 For fairy tale creatures and architectural gems
- 40 Manor houses in the foothills of the Orlické Mountains
- 42 Châteaux on the Orlice River with a French touch
- 44 Lower Silesia
- 46 In the Footsteps of Medieval Fortresses
- 48 In the Valley of Palaces and Gardens of the Jelenia Góra Valley
- 50 Castles, Palaces, and Extinct Volcanoes
- 52 Count in the Embrace of Nature
- 54 Architectural Gems ===
- 56 Opole Region
- 58 On the Piast Trail
- 60 Seduced by history and nature
- 62 The traditional cuisine specialties in the palace interiors
- 64 The castles just like in a fairy tale!
- 66 The museum treasures of a past **—**
- 68 Contact



## **Olomouc Region**

We kindly invite you to the Olomouc Region. Discover the beauty of Haná and the magical mountains - Jeseníky. The fairy-tale castles and chateaus that this catalogue will guide you through, unique natural treasures, culture, traditions, gastronomy, crafts and various sporting activities - all this is offered here.

You can start your exploration right in its centre - in the historical capital of Moravia - in Olomouc. You will be enchanted by the historic centre with the medieval town hall with the astronomical clock and the Holy Trinity Column - UNESCO. You will be amazed by the Baroque beauty of the churches and fountains as well as the blending of architectural styles in the grounds of Olomouc Castle. At the place Svatý Kopeček you can visit the magnificent pilgrimage Basilica Minor, which offers breathtaking views not only of Hana but also of the foothills of the majestic Jeseníky Mountains.

### What else can you experience with us, what to taste, where to go, what to try?

You will learn the most about the history, folklore and traditional crafts not only during visits to castles and chateaus. You can also visit the Haná Museum Příkazy, the gold-mining museum in the Zlaté hory or be fascinated by the interpretation of the art of the masters of their craft in the Carriage Museum in Čechy pod Kosířem and the Handmade Paper Mill in Velké Losiny. The Dlouhé Stráně Pumped Storage Power Plant is also a technical marvel.

Don't miss the chance to try the only original Czech cheese with a specific taste and aroma - tvarůžky! You can find them

Jeseníky



Haná Museum Příkazy



in many local restaurants, and you can learn more about them at the Tvarůžky Museum in Loštice.

Strengthen your health during your stay in local spas - for example, crystal clear air awaits you in the Priessnitz Spa in Jeseník, the thermal park and spa in Velké Losiny. Recharge your batteries during your stay in the Jeseníky Mountains, which are a great choice whether you go there on foot, by bike or cross-country skiing. You can have fun in the Bike Parks and on the trails, and for paddlers the ideal trail on the Morava River with the most beautiful section leading through the Litovelské Pomoraví.

The deepest flooded abyss in the world is located in the Olomouc Region - the Hranice Abyss. You can explore the depths of the earth during a visit to five unique caves.

More detailed information including tips for interesting trips, sights or events can be found at: **www.ok-tourism.cz** 



**Pardubice Region** 

The Pardubice region is located in the very heart of the Czech Republic, in East Bohemia. It is a region that is easily accessible. It lies on the main railway corridor connecting Germany, Austria, Poland and Slovakia and it also has an international airport. The journey from the capital to the region's metropolis, Pardubice, takes just an hour.

The Pardubice Region is highly diverse. While the area around the Elbe is flat with a favourable climate for those who love fun in the water, hiking and cycle trips, the Eagle Mountains and the area of Králický Sněžník attract those who love mountain hiking and winter sports.

In addition to the wonderful nature, visitors will also find a large number of monuments ranging from castles, chateaux and ruins through to church buildings. Probably the best-known monument is the renaissance château in Litomyšl that is included in the UNESCO list of cultural heritage. It hosts a significant international operatic festival known as Smetana's Litomyšl every year

You can also become acquainted with a variety of folk and folklore traditions, including unique types of craftsmanship. The Pardubice Region can also boast a number of other listings on the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in this area. This involves the traditional "Shrovetide processions and masks from the Hlinsko area", about whose traditions you can learn more at the Vysočina Outdoor Museum and especially at the Betlém Hlinsko heritage reserve and Veselý Kopec. The UNESCO list also includes "Puppetry in Slovakia and Czechia", which has a long tradition in this country. You can learn more about the magical world of puppets in this region at the Museum of Puppetry Culture in Chrudim.

Traditional products mainly involve Pardubice gingerbread. Horses are the region's family silver. The oldest and most difficult horse race on the continent, the Pardubice Grand Steep-

Pardubice gingerbread



lechase, has been held in Pardubice since 1874. The National Stud at Kladruby nad Labem is a true gem. It is one of the oldest stud farms in the world and also home to the oldest original Czech horse breed, the Kladruber. The Kladruby area around the Elbe has been included in the UNESCO list as a region for the breeding and training of ceremonial carriage horses in Kladruby nad Labem since 2019.

For more information, including tips for interesting trips or events, go to: **www.vychodnicechy.info.** 

Kralický Sněžník



Museum of Puppetry Culture in Chrudim





**Hradec Králové Region** 

Join us in the east of Bohemia, in the diverse Hradec Králové region. There is something for everyone in the Hradec Králové region! The region, which is best known for the monumental Krkonoše Mountains, the Dvůr Králové Zoo and sandstone rock towns, will even appeal to those who want to avoid the crowds.

The heart of the Hradec Králové region is Hradec Králové, a city of 100,000 people. In the so-called Salon of the Republic, you will not only find examples of the brilliant work of architects Josef Gočár and Jan Kotěra, but also a lot of greenery. No one should miss the view of the city from the gallery of the White Tower. After a stroll along the embankments and pedestrian boulevards, stop for some famous Hradec Králové gastronomy specialities accompanied by a glass of beer from one of the local microbreweries. In Sadová, near Hradec Králové, you can walk around the site where the 2nd largest battle of the 19th century took place.

In addition to the numerous castles and châteaux, you should not miss a visit to the 18th century fortress town of Josefov near Jaroměř. In the border area, you can visit a number of accessible objects of the first-republican Czechoslovak fortifications. These not only include the Dobrošov Fortress and Stachelberg Artillery Fortress, but also dozens of others. You will come across them, for example, on the Hřebenovka peak trail, which runs along the top of the picturesque 'Kačenka' Orlické Mountains, then continues over the Broumovské walls to the Krkonoše Mountains. Hřebenovka is dotted with lookout towers offering breathtaking views of Bohemia and Poland.



Fortress Stachelberg



Křížový vrch

Throughout the region you can climb a total of 37 lookout towers and lookout points, which are reached on 4,097 steps. You can also admire the Hradec Králové region from the saddle of your bicycle. Families with children can enjoy pleasant routes in the lowlands, such as the Elbe cycle path or the cycle path following the Orlice River with four châteaux and two castles. Hard-core cyclists can get their exercise in the mountains or in the increasingly popular single-trail resorts. The Hradec Králové region is also great for lovers of water sports, golf and adrenaline sports. In winter you will be enchanted by perfectly groomed ski slopes and cross-country skiing trails

Regardless of why you choose to spend time in the Hradec Králové region, you will leave with many pleasant experiences from the picturesque nature, beautiful sights, cultural and sporting events.

For more information, including tips for interesting trips or events, go to: www.hkregion.cz.



Lower Silesia ranks among Poland's most captivating and diverse regions. Its landscape is a stunning mosaic of monumental mountain ranges and picturesque valleys, intersected by rushing mountain streams.

A realm of varied landscapes, it boasts a rich abundance of unique flora and fauna, charming towns and villages renowned for their magnificent historical monuments and multicultural heritage. This region has a rich and complex past, filled with unexplained mysteries and secrets. As a place that has witnessed numerous wars and invasions, its tumultuous history is evident in the ruins of castles, fortresses, and fortifications scattered across the land. The vibrant history of Lower Silesia has led to a fascinating layering of cultures, with various styles and traditions, including culinary ones, intertwining over the centuries. Architectural gems and historical landmarks can be found at every turn in Lower Silesia. From the Cistercian route monuments in Lubiąż and Krzeszów, Wrocław's Centennial Hall, and the UNESCO-listed Wooden Peace Churches in Świdnica and Jawor, to industrial heritage sites like the Paper Mill in Duszniki Zdrój, there is something to captivate every visitor. Lower Silesia is also a paradise for active tourism. Stone castles and fortifications have been built here since the 13th century. Often constructed on towering rocks and hills, they guarded the borders of Silesian principalities. Reconstructed into palaces over the centuries, they now serve as popular tourist attractions. Treasure hunters continue to explore the

The Underground City Osówka



region's unexplored mines, mysterious underground passages, and the dungeons and corridors of Kłodzko and Srebrna Góra fortresses. This region is also a true natural gem. Approximately 17% of its area consists of land with high natural values, including national parks, nature reserves, and protected landscapes. In the incredibly attractive Sudeten Mountains, alongside the picturesque Karkonosze Mountains, which hide natural wonders, and the Table Mountains with their fantastic rock labyrinths and sandstone formations, there are also the Kaczawa Mountains and Foothills, with the Land of Extinct Volcanoes inscribed on the UNESCO Global Geoparks List. The Milickie Ponds, home to unique bird species, are a paradise for birdwatching enthusiasts. Lower Silesia is an ideal place for cycling. The scenic Barycz Valley and the famous singletrack trails in the Kłodzko region will satisfy even the most demanding cyclists. By adding to the region's image the largest number of therapeutic spas in Poland, renowned for their excellent waters, we obtain a unique oasis for tourists seeking relaxation. Lower Silesia truly has it all: from fascinating journeys through history and culture to extraordinary experiences in nature. It is a region to which one wants to return again and again to discover its secrets anew.

For more information, including tips for interesting trips or events, go to: www.dolnyslask.travel and www.dot.org.pl.

www.dolnyslaskrowerem.pl





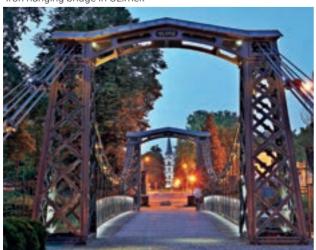
## Opole Region So Much to Discover!

Although the smallest in Poland, Opolskie proves that size doesn't matter when it comes to diversity and the richness of tourist attractions. Hundreds of historical monuments, unique museums, a vibrant cultural life combined with picturesque landscapes and exceptional nature create an extraordinary mosaic of attractions that draw thousands of tourists every year.

Opole – the Capital of Polish Song, is primarily known for the National Festival of Polish Song, which has been held for years – an event that has become a permanent part of the Polish popular music calendar. It's no surprise, then, that it is home to the most musical museum – the Museum of Polish Song. The region combines history and the present. One of many relics from past eras is the skeleton of a prehistoric dinosaur – Silesaurus Opoliensis, which can be seen in Krasiejów. In Ozimek, one can admire the unique, oldest iron hanging bridge in Europe. In Lipno, there is the oldest dendrological garden in Poland. The spirit of the past accompanies visitors during climbs to the Piast Tower in Opole, strolls along the medieval defensive walls of Paczków, or during the reenactment of the Siege of Nysa Fortress.

The history of Opolskie Silesia is encapsulated in over two hundred castles and palaces. It is here that Polish, Czech, and German influences have blended for centuries, making the region home to an extraordinary wealth of former estates. From Moszna Castle, with its 99 towers and turrets that could inspire even Disney, to elegant residences transformed into luxury hotels and restaurants.

Iron hanging bridge in Ozimek



Opolskie also offers a rich variety of water-based leisure activities, including sailing and canoeing. The Turawskie Lakes, Nyskie Lake, the bathing areas in Opole, and the wild, meandering Mała Panew River attract lovers of active recreation every year. Another element of this exceptional mosaic is the cuisine. Centuries-old traditions and the blending of various cultures

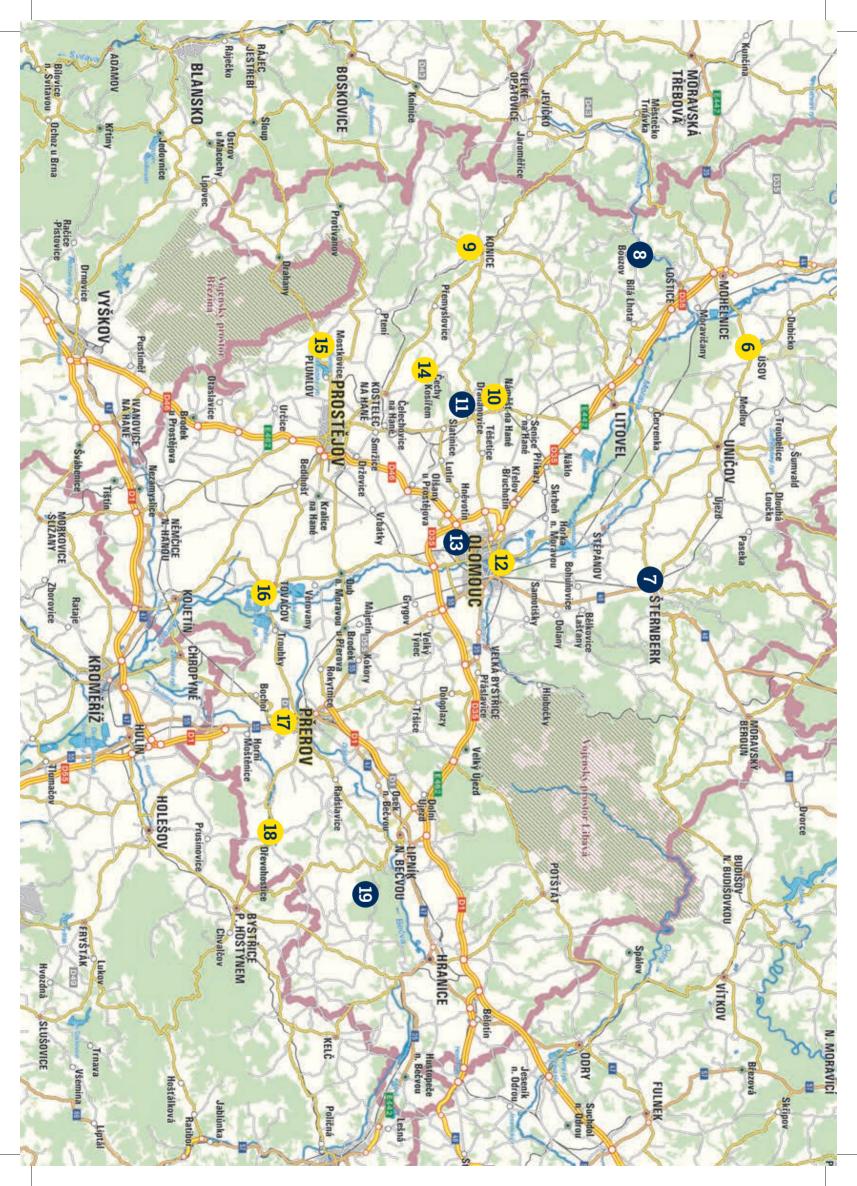


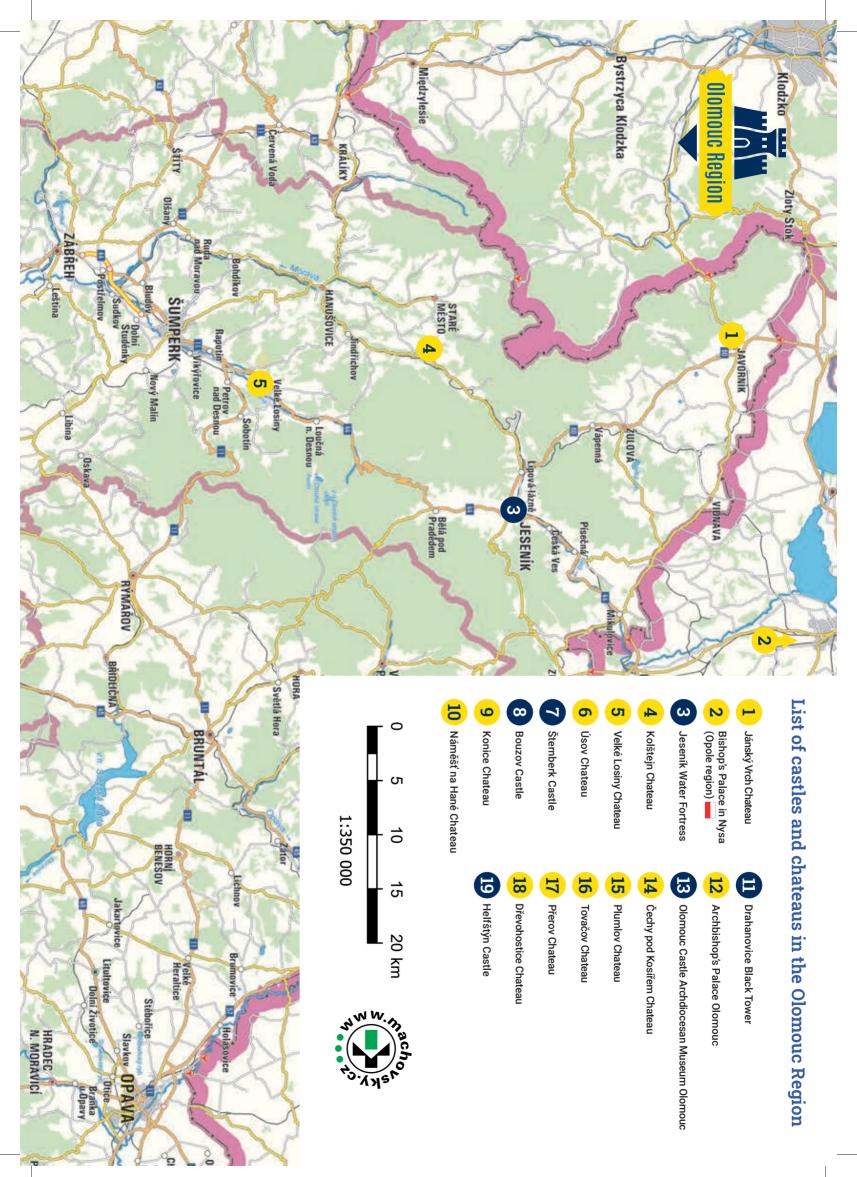
The Turawskie Lakes

and influences are also reflected in the local food. The best way to discover it is by following the Culinary Trail "Opolski Bifyj" and sampling traditional specialties: sour rye soup with buttermilk, Silesian roulade with red cabbage and Silesian dumplings, Silesian blood sausage, or the famous ceremonial cake – kołocz śląski.

All of this, and much more, is what Opolskie Voivodeship has

For more information, including tips for interesting trips or events, go to: www.opolskibifyj.com and www.visitopolskie.pl.







When someone says "witch trials" in this country, we think of Velké Losiny, well-known from a book and its film adaptation. However, the trials involved the whole of Silesia. The first ones date back to the turn of the 15–16th centuries in Wroclaw, and then, during the Thirty Years' War, afflicted the region around Nysa, Zlaté Hory, and Jeseník, while the last stage is associated with Velké Losiny.

#### DAY 1: Witches of Jeseník

In the Czech lands, it all began in 1622, when Europe was suffering from the Thirty Years' War and rinderpest plagued the region around Jeseník. On his deathbed, a local shepherd accused his younger, beautiful wife Barbora Schmied of witchcraft. Hundreds of innocent people died during the witch trials that also afflicted Zlaté Hory and its surroundings. The trials are associated with inquisitor Bobliq of Edelstadt.

#### **JESENÍK WATER FORTRESS**

The late-medieval fortress has a moat, gate, and a stone bridge. It has been estimated that a citadel was established there as early as 1328. It now houses the Jeseník Regional Museum.

The Witch Trials Exhibition presents, in an engaging way, one of the saddest periods in the region's history. The exhibition unveils the hysteria of that period thanks to modern technology including an audio-guide, touch screens, and a film about the first victim of the Jeseník/Freiwaldau Inquisition, projected onto a wall of dry ice fog. Verbatim, hand-made copies of important documents and replicas of torture implements are also on display.

Jeseník Water Fortress



#### BISHOP'S PALACE IN NYSA – DISTRICT MUSEUM

Witch trials reached unprecedented dimensions in and around Nysa. An actual pogrom against witches took place there during the 17th century, which reached its peak in 1622, 1639–42, and 1651–52. More than a thousand women, young girls and even children were burnt to death within nine years.

The palace houses the Nysa District Museum with an exhibition on the witch trials, divided into three parts: the herbwoman's room, the courtroom, and the dungeon. A witch "at work" can be seen in the room, while the courtroom features the feared "iron maiden of Nuremberg" – a cabinet with spike-covered interior, into which women suspected of witchcraft were confined. The dungeon includes other torture devices from the 17th century, which are exact copies of implements used to force confessions from persons suspected of witchcraft, while the manacles, executioner's sword, and furniture are authentic period artefacts.

#### Tip for trip in the area: Zlaté Hory Municipal Museum

One of the rooms in the museum – the torture chamber – is devoted to the sad history of witch trials, which also affected Zlaté Hory in the 17th century.

#### Tip for accommodation and catering:

- WELLNESS & SPA HOTEL VILLA REGENHART, Jeseník
- Hotel Praděd Thamm, Zlaté Hory





Jeseník Water Fortress - Witch Trials Exhibition

#### DAY 2: When an inquisitor takes over

In the Velké Losiny domain, it all started in the Church of Saint Laurence in Sobotín, when beggarwoman Marina Schuch was caught stealing the Host during communion. She was arrested and taken to prison at Velké Losiny Chateau.

The Countess of Galle, administrator of the domain, invited inquisitor Heinrich Franz Boblig to the chateau to investigate the case. With the consent of the countess, Boblig settled at the chateau, cranking up the relentless wheels of the murderous trial machinery, causing several dozen innocent poor souls to be burnt at the stake and their possessions confiscated. Even a priest, Dean Kryštof Lautner, was burnt to death.

#### VELKÉ LOSINY CHATEAU

The chateau has one of the most prominent displays of late-Renaissance living and architecture in Europe. The



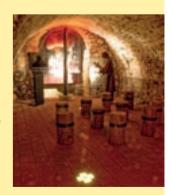
Velké Losiny Chateau

chateau was built in the last quarter of the 16th century by John the Younger of Žerotín, who was also instrumental in the development of the local spa and founded the handmade paper mill, still in operation. At the beginning of the 19th century, the House of Žerotín was forced to sell the indebted domain with chateau to the House of Liechtenstein, who later adapted part of the "low" chateau in the Biedermeier style and arranged the park into its present-day form. In 1945, the chateau was confiscated from the Liechtensteins based on the Beneš Decrees.

The Velké Losiny domain is infamous for inquisition trials between 1678 and 1692. It was also the setting of a famous Czech novel and later a film – Witchhammer.

#### Tip for trip in the area: Witch Trials Exhibition in Šumperk

The permanent exhibition, documenting the infamous inquisition trials of 1679–94 that shook the history of Šumperk and its surroundings, is located in the cellars of Geschader's House. The audio-guide features the voice of inquisitor Heinrich Franz Boblig of Edelstadt who will guide you through the exhibitions.



#### Tip for accommodation:

· Resort Sobotín · Villa Aurelia, Velké Losiny

#### Where to eat:

· Motorest Permoník, Sobotín · Restaurant Losín, Velké Losiny



# Seats of bishops and arcibishops

Two adjacent dioceses have been important since the Middle Ages: Olomouc and Wroclaw. On your way, you will visit magnificent seats of the bishops and later archbishops and see artistic treasures church officials collected for centuries.

### DAY 1: Treasures of the Bishops and Archbishops of Olomouc

At first, the tour will take you to Olomouc, where you can visit the Archbishop's Palace – the current seat of the Archbishop of Olomouc. When visiting the former Olomouc Castle, you will find out where the original Bishop's Palace once stood. It is now the Archdiocesan Museum, where you can admire unique treasures from collections of the archbishops.

#### **ARCHBISHOP'S PALACE**

Since its establishment in the early 16th century, the Archbishop's Palace has been the permanent residence of the Bishops and since 1777 of the Archbishops of Olomouc. Currently, one tour is open to visitors, showcasing the luxurious representative halls. These rooms are associated with the most important events that took place in the building, such as the stay of Empress Maria Theresa, the crowning of Emperor Franz Joseph I, and the visit by Pope John Paul II.

### OLOMOUC CASTLE AND ARCHDIOCESAN MUSEUM OLOMOUC

The castle was first mentioned in the Chronicle of the Bohemians by Cosmas of Prague, stating that a stone castle stood there in 1055. At the time, the Olomouc castle was the seat of the Přemyslid princes. The Diocese of Olomouc was officially established in 1063, and in the 1130s, Bishop Jindřich Zdík built his residence in close vicinity of the castle and the newly constructed St Wenceslas Church. At the time, the appanage princes of Olomouc shared the castle with the Bishops of Olomouc. It now houses the Archdiocesan Museum, which exhibits real liturgical and artistic treasures from the collections of the church officials of Olomouc.



Olomouc Castle and Archdiocesan Museum Olomouc

Olomouc Castle and Archdiocesan Museum

#### Tip for trip in the area: Museum of Historic Carriages in Čechy pod Kosířem

How did the bishops and archbishops travel? See the splendid carriages they rode in. You can find them in the Museum of Historic Carriages in Čechy pod Kosířem, exhibiting more than a hundred carriages, coaches, and sleighs.



#### Tip for accommodation:

- Long Story Short, Olomouc
- Herbarium boutique hotel, Olomouc Miss Sophie's, Olomouc

- Svatováclavský pivovar, Olomouc
- · Eatery & Bakery Long Story Short, Olomouc
- · Moravská restaurant, Olomouc



Jánský Vrch Chateau

#### DAY 2: Seats of the Bishops of Wroclaw

The tour will now take you to the former Diocese of Wroclaw. You will visit the former summer residence of the Bishops of Wroclaw – Jánský Vrch Chateau – and the Bishop's Palace in Nysa. We recommend stopping by at Kolštejn Chateau, formerly a castle guarding the trade route from the capital of Moravia, Olomouc, to Silesia.

#### KOLŠTEJN CHATEAU

The Renaissance chateau comes from the 16th century when the Gothic castle of Goldek, first mentioned in 1325, was redeveloped. The refurbished chateau, with preserved parts of the original Gothic castle, has lately come to life as a historic hotel, Chateau Goldenstein. The chateau also offers a guided tour, describing the gradual architectural changes across the centuries.

#### JÁNSKÝ VRCH CHATEAU

The first written record of the castle dates back to the late 13th century, when it was owned by Polish House of Świdnica. From the mid-14th century, it was owned by the Diocese of Wroclaw for the next six hundred years. In the 1770s, the charming chateau that overlooks the town of Javorník in the Rychleby Mountains was the centre of cultural and especially musical life of the whole Silesia. This musical fame was associated with composer, top violinist, and conductor Carl Ditters von Dittersdorf.

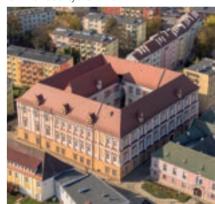
Jánský Vrch Chateau



#### BISHOP'S PALACE IN NYSA

The former seat of the Bishops of Wroclaw was built at the turn of the 17–18th centuries. It is a three-storey Baroque building with irregular square layout and inner courtyard. The

Bishop's Palace was the seat of the Bishops of Wroclaw until 1881, now it houses the Nysa Museum. The museum was established in 1897 at the initiative of the Art History Society in Nysa. The society worked under the auspices of the Bishops of Wroclaw - Cardinal Georg Kopp and later Cardinal Adolf Bertram. Both of them also stayed at Jánský Vrch Chateau. A curiosity for hiking enthusiasts: Georg Kopp was the pioneer of tourism in the Jeseníky, a patron who financed marking a number of hiking trails.



Nysa Museum

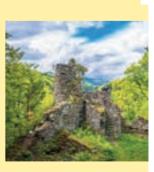
#### Tip for trip in the area: Ruins of Rychleby Castle

The romantic ruins of a castle are a favoured destination in the northwestern part of the region around Jeseník

#### Tip for accommodation:

- Historic hotel Chateau Goldenstein
- · Penzion & Kemp Račí údolí

- · Hotel Café Restaurant Taverna Javorník
- · Hospůdka Isolde Račí údolí





## Treasures from museum collections

Valuable works of art, products by masters of long-forgotten handicrafts, demonstrations of local flora and fauna, how our ancestors lived – these are only a few examples of exhibits from rich museum collections you can admire in the castles and chateaus across the region. Follow in the footsteps of history, art, tradition, and crafts, and discover the region's wealth.

# Usov Chateau Black Tower in Drahanovice Olomouc Castle Konice Chateau Přerov Chateau Dřevohostice Chateau

#### **DAY 1: Extraordinary History**

You can start your journey through the region in the heart of the mountain paradise – in Jeseník. Jeseník Water Fortress will show you the treasures of local nature as well as the infamous witch trials. One of the oldest north Moravian aristocratic residences, Úsov Chateau, houses the Hunting and Forestry Museum, a truly unique collection of hunting trophies and natural science items.

#### JESENÍK WATER FORTRESS

The Water Fortress was established in the 13th century at the junction of strategic trade routes. It now houses permanent exhibits of the local history, flora and fauna, and the cellars offer the interactive Witch Trials Exhibition, which utilises modern technology to present one of the saddest periods in the region's history, one that cost the lives of hundreds of innocent people in the 17th century. Replicas of torture implements are also on display there.



Water Fortress

#### USOV CHATEAU

Originally a Gothic castle from the early 13th century, the chateau gained its Baroque form under the rule of the House of Liechtenstein, who often went on hunting expeditions around Europe, Asia, America, and Africa. You can see approximately ten thousand exhibits here - from stuffed animals, to minerals, to the models of forest buildings. and hunting and poacher's firearms. You will surely be captivated by the interactive Journey Through the Middle Ages, focusing on pottery, the building trade, and extraction of metals. There are also two exhibits for children.



Hunting and Forestry Museum at Úsov Chateau

#### Tip for trip in the area:

Kolštejn - Renaissance chateau with preserved parts of the original Gothic castle, redeveloped into the historic Chateau Goldenstein Hotel.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- · Lovecká chata Horka nad Moravou
- · Family pension Sobáčov

- Restaurant Perk Šumperk Cukrle Šumperk
- · Čokoládovna Troubelice



#### **DAY 2: Master Craftsmen's Art**

Konice Chateau is home to the unique Museum of Local Handicrafts with the largest collection of axes in the Czech Republic. Archdiocesan Museum Olomouc specialises in sacral art of the 12–18th centuries. You surely shouldn't miss the Black Tower in Drahanovice.



The largest axe, Chateau Konice

#### KONICE CHATEAU

The Baroque chateau with two gardens presents handicrafts with long regional traditions, such as milling, blacksmithing, brewing, and dressmaking. The museum also boasts the largest collection of axes, recorded in the Czech Book of Records. There are all existing types of axes – from ancient ones, to axes for various trades, including the executioner's axe, to the largest axe and lumberjack's saw in the Czech Republic.

#### BLACK TOWER IN DRAHANOVICE

A remnant of a Gothic citadel from the turn of the 13–14th century, the four-storey tower, with a height of 28 metres, is a unique monument of the lesser gentry in Central Moravia. Tours of the tower and its exhibition about the history are individual, with a commentary on request. The uppermost floor is now a gallery.

#### OLOMOUC CASTLE

This was one of the most important Czech castle complexes of the High Middle Ages. The permanent exhibition of the Archdiocesan Museum introduces visitors to the spiritual culture of the Olomouc Diocese, showcasing marvellous paintings collected by Olomouc bishops since the 16th century.



Přerov Chateau

#### DAY 3: Step into the Moravian Gate

Přerov Chateau is home to the Comenius Museum – the world's oldest museum of its kind. The Renaissance chateau in Dřevohostice is among the most important monuments of the Moravian Renaissance.

#### PŘEROV CHATEAU

A hill fort stood at the site in the 11th and 12th centuries, and the Gothic castle was rebuilt into a Renaissance chateau in the 16th century. The Comenius Museum, relocated to the chateau in the early 1930s, preserves rare exhibits in its mineralogy, entomology, and archaeology collections, and presents the life and work of John Amos Comenius, complemented by period reconstructions of classrooms. There is also an exhibition of Haná ethnography.



Black Tower in Drahanovice

#### Tip for trip in the area:

**Náměšť na Hané** – visit not just the Neo-Classicist chateau with a round park, but also the nearby chapel and remains of a medieval castle.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- · Long Story Short, Olomouc
- · Herbarium Boutique Hotel, Olomouc

#### Where to eat:

- Balnea and Morava restaurants, Slatinice
- · Bělecký mlýn, near Prostějov · Bistro Nro. 66 Olomouc



Dřevohostice Chateau

#### DŘEVOHOSTICE CHATEAU

The Renaissance chateau has an arcaded gallery and is surrounded by a moat. Visitors can tour its typical chateau exhibits, but the other halls and even the attic include many other items of interest. The tour also includes an exhibit of historic firefighters' helmets and the front buildings house the Fire Brigade Museum.

#### Tip for trip in the area:

**Tovačov Chateau** – its 96-metre-high Slender Tower provides a breathtaking view of the surrounding water kingdom full of lakes and ponds.

- Restaurant U Bukáčků Přerov
- · Restaurant and Pub U labutě Přerov





## Starring: monuments

Once upon a time... Accept our invitation to places where many beloved fairy-tales and other movies have been shot.

#### DAY 1: In the footsteps of famous directors

Did you know that Bouzov and Náměšť na Hané are connected by the name of director Zdeněk Troška? He shot his first fairy--tale, Princess Jasnenka and the Flying Shoemaker, at Bouzov Castle, and the first part of Kameňák at Náměšť na Hané Chateau. However, both landmarks have much more to offer than film "credits"



Náměšť na Hané Chateau

#### **BOUZOV CASTLE**

The original Gothic castle was founded by the knight Búz of Búzov in the early 14th century. Over the centuries, the castle was owned by many significant Bohemian and Moravian families, and between 1696-1939, the Bouzov domain was owned by the Teutonic Order. The castle's current form of a romantic residence dates back to an extensive redevelopment in the 19-20th centuries. You can choose from several guided tours Bouzov is often called a fairy-tale castle, and rightly so. It has been featured in a great number of Czech and foreign fairy-tales. In both parts of Princess Cursed in Time, Bouzov became Tri-River Castle, and it was the seat of Princess Katherine in The Princess and Half the Kingdom.

#### NÁMĚŠŤ NA HANÉ CHATEAU

The chateau was built in the 1760s by Count Ferdinand von Harrach. Through marriage, the chateau soon came into the possession of the House of Kinský, who sold the chateau to ironmonger František Ottahal in 1916. He owned it until nationalisation in 1945. The Neo-Classicist chateau boasts richly decorated Rococo interiors.

In addition to Kameňák, in which the chateau was the place where the miraculous blue spring appeared, better-known films are associated to Náměšť thanks to the chateau's furnishings and collections. Meissen porcelain, the pride of the chateau, was part of Miloš Forman's masterpiece, Amadeus, while the gilded furniture was featured in a TV mini-series about Maria Theresa.

#### Tip for trips in the area: Čechy pod Kosířem Chateau

The chateau houses the Film Exhibition dedicated to the films of Zdeněk & Jan Svěrák, with authentic props from movies such as Three Brothers, Kooky-'s Return, Dark Blue World, and Barefoot. There are also the director's annotated



Castle

screenplays for Kolya and Elementary School on display.

#### Museum of Historic Carriages in Čechy pod Kosířem

The exhibit also contains carriages featured in various movies, like the funeral carriage in the TV mini-series about Maria Theresa and the golden carriage in Sisi.

#### Tip for accommodation:

· Pension Majorka, Slatinice · Pension U Veterána, Slatinice

#### Where to eat:

· Hostinec na Nové, Drahanovice



Tovačov Chateau

#### **DAY 2: Mysterious Places**

#### PLUMLOV CHATEAU

Built in the Early-Mannerism style, the six-storey chateau looms over Podhradský Pond. Especially impressive is its inner façade, spaced with huge columns. The chateau stands at the site of the former castle from the 13th century, the remains of which are still visible in the courtyard. Plumlov Chateau is a truly mysterious place, shrouded in many legends told during the tour of the site. The chateau has not yet been discovered by filmmakers, it has only "played a part" in student films.

#### TOVAČOV CHATEAU

According to legend, the chateau was established in the 2nd half of the 11th century as a hunters' refuge, and later served as a well-protected water fort. The most important ruling dynasties were the Houses of Tovačov and Cimburk and later the House of Pernštejn. The guided tour will show you a number of Renaissance and Baroque interiors. The chateau and the town centre can be seen in the popular TV series Cops and Robbers and Gendarmes of Luhačovice

#### HELFŠTÝN CASTLE

One of the largest castles in Central Europe, Helfštýn is dominated by the Hussite Tower and the Medieval Palace. During the recent redevelopment, the palace was equipped with a unique, modern roof, and thanks to it and newly-built footbridges, the upper storeys of the palace have been opened up.

The castle's monumental fortifications provide a great movie set. It was turned into Konstanz in the historical film The Last Escape of Jerome of Prague, and Helfštýn's towers became part of the alchemist town of Ayra in Princess Cursed in Time 2.

#### DAY 3: Traces of Blood

#### VELKÉ LOSINY CHATEAU

The chateau was built in the last guarter of the 16th century by John the Younger of Žerotín, who was also instrumental in the development of the local spa and founded the handmade paper mill, still in operation. The chateau is inextricably linked with the witch trials that plagued the region in the late 17th century. They are captured in Witchhammer, a film shot here, on location. The historic film Bathory was also shot here – the chateau "played" Sarvár Castle.

Velké Losiny Chateau





Plumlov Chateau



Helfštýn Castle

#### Tip for trip in the area:

Hranice Karst - Hranice Abyss and Zbrašov Aragonite Caves

You definitely should not miss the unique Zbrašov Aragonite Caves and the Hranice Abyss, the deepest flooded abyss in the world.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- Boutique hotel Hrad KunzovZámecký Hotel Zlatý Orel, Hranice

#### Where to eat:

· Stará střelnice Hranice

#### Tip for trip in the area:

#### Resort Sobotín

This multi-functional resort offers almost unlimited entertainment possibilities. Sobotín Chateau was featured in Princess Cursed in Time 2.

#### SUPER TIP FOR FILM BUFFS:

Download the application "Ztracená a filmová místa Olomouckého kraje" and you will find even more film locations incl. authentic takes.



## Castles and cheateaus without barriers

Castles and chateaus in the Olomouc Region are open to all visitors who like history and art. They are an excellent choice for playful people who like mysteries. But what if they are limited in movement, for instance? We invite these visitors – and of course, not just them – to stately homes that are accessible without barriers.

#### DAY 1: Domains of Prominent Noble Families

Šternberk Castle is one the oldest preserved Moravian castles, with a rich history and rare furnishings. It is the cradle of the Moravian branch of the House of Šternberk, but it was later owned by the House of Liechtenstein. Čechy pod Kosířem Chateau, set in the middle of a sprawling English-style park, is linked to the aristocratic House of Silva-Tarouca as well as the important Czech Romantic painter Josef Mánes, a frequent quest at the chateau.

#### **ŠTERNBERK CASTLE**

The first written records about the castle date back to the 13th century. It was originally a defensive Medieval residence with a well-reserved massive cylindrical tower. Visitors can choose from several guided tours, focusing on life in the estate. The rich interior of the castle is impressive for its decorations from the 14–19th centuries and prominent artworks by European sculptors and painters, as well as a very rare collection of Renaissance and Baroque tile stoves. Absolutely unique are the technical facilities of the castle, such as its elevator and fully-equipped kitchen.

The barrier-free tour (No. 1, starting in the park) shows the oldest parts of the castle – the chapel, Knight's Hall, and rooms on the 1st floor with furnishings of the last owners.

#### **ČECHY POD KOSÍŘEM CHATEAU AND PARK**

This picturesque Neo-Classicist chateau was rebuilt in the 18th century from the original stronghold. It offers a classic tour of the chateau interior from the period of the last owners,

including a collection of Mánes's paintings. You can also visit the Film Exhibition dedicated to the films of Zdeněk & Jan Svěrák. Definitely worth visiting is the chateau park (guided during the summer season), with gravel roads passable without major problems, and



Čechy pod Kosířem Chateau

barrier-free access to the chateau tour is available from there. The park is famous for its romantic Red Tower and Mánes Pavilion, the Orangery, and the artificial Dragon Cave. You can also order a picnic basket in the Chateau Café and enjoy its contents in the shade of the mighty trees.

#### Tip for trip in the area:

**Exhibition of Time, Šternberk** – featuring 250 unique exhibits. You will see how time has manifested itself in various periods from prehistoric times to the present day, how it has influenced medicine, music, and the visual arts.

#### Tip for accommodation:

• Central Park Flora, Clarion Congress Hotel Olomouc

- Expedice Hanácká restaurant, Šternberk Restaurant Sobáčov
- · Lovecká chata Horka nad Moravou
- · Olomouc: Eatery and Bakery, Bistro Bistrá káva



Helfštýn Castle

#### **DAY 2: History Carved into the Walls**

St Wenceslas Hill, the location of Olomouc Castle, is a place where Czech history was made. Helfštýn Castle, one of the fortresses that guarded the trade route through the Moravian Gate, is among the largest castles not just in our country, but in Europe.

#### OLOMOUC CASTLE

The castle was the site of an event that changed the course of Czech history – Wenceslas III, the last Přemyslid King of Bohemia, was murdered there on 4 August 1306. It is currently the seat of the Archdiocesan Museum, and the complex also includes St Wenceslas Cathedral. The museum showcases masterpieces of artists from the 14–18th centuries. The building is partially barrier-free, a lift will take you to the upper floor with the picture gallery of masters and St Barbara's Chapel. Also, the views are breathtaking – you will see, for instance, the beautiful Baroque building of Klášterní Hradisko Monastery.



Archdiocesan Museum

#### HELFŠTÝN CASTLE

The castle was probably founded in the last quarter of the 13th century. It is dominated by the Hussite Tower with an observation deck, and the Medieval Palace, equipped with a unique, modern roof and footbridges during the recent redevelopment.

These structural elements opened up the previously inaccessible upper storeys of the palace, offering breathtaking views of the surrounding landscape of the Moravian Gate Valley. The most important event organised at the castle is the international meeting of artistic blacksmiths, Hefaiston. Artworks created during Hefaiston permanently adorn not only the castle itself, but also the nearby town of Lipník nad Bečvou.

You can explore the castle on your own or with a guide. The entrance to the courtyard with the restaurant is wheelchair accessible, with active assistance (wheelchair companion) you can also get to the courtyard with the tower.



Šternberk Castle

#### Tip for trips in the are:

**ORNIS** –an ornithological station of the Comenius Museum in Přerov, which includes a modern, interactive exhibit with programmes for all nature lovers.

#### Where to eat:

· Helfštýn Castle Restaurant



### List of castles and chateaus in the Pardubice Region

- 1 Kladruby nad Labem Château
- Nasavrky Château

Letohrad Château

- 2 Pardubice Castle
- Chrast Château

- Kunětická hora Castle
- Košumberk Castle

18 Lanškroun Château

Moravská Třebová Château

- Choltice Château
- Rychmburk Castle

Svojanov Castle

- Lichnice Castle
- 11 Nové Hrady Château

16 km

- Slatiňany State Château
- Litomyšl Château
- 12 1:300 000

Choceň Chateau

Sarny Castle

(Lower Silesia) Międzylesie Castle

(Lower Silesia)

Litice nad Orlicí State Castle







# The Pardubice area and its treasures: From Sissi to Rumburak

Set off with all us on an adventure in the footsteps of the Empress Sissi and investigate the mysteries of the castles and châteaux of East Bohemia. Tower climbs, walks along city walls and fascinating history await you.

#### DAY 1: Kladruby nad Labem Château, East Bohemian Museum – Pardubice Castle

Would you like to experience something exceptional? Come with us to investigate Empress Sissi's château and the mysteries of the Pardubice Château. Our tours will not only offer an insight into history, but also unique experiences such as an ascent up the château watchtower or a walk around the protective ramparts.

#### KLADRUBY NAD LABEM CHÂTEAU

The Kladruby Château is integrally associated with one of the oldest stud farms in the world. This unique symbiosis between the château and the stud farm creates an atmosphere that enchants visitors. Be transported back to the time of Emperor Franz Joseph I and his wife Elizabeth, known as Sissi. On the tour, you will pass through twelve period appointed halls and rooms, view the church that they had built there and hear about their customs and remarkable fates.

### EAST BOHEMIAN MUSEUM – THE PARDUBICE CASTLE

The Renaissance Pardubice Castle is considered unique in Central Europe, mainly thanks to its size and appearance. It is located in the very heart of the city behind massive protective ramparts with circular rondels. You can admire the replicas of the Pernstein cannons on the ramparts and you are also sure to

Pardubice Castle



come across peacocks there. The most valuable Castle areas are open to the public as part of the Pernstein Residence tour: this involves the oldest renaissance residence in Bohemia. The tours include the interactive Pernstein armoury and family gallery. The Castles cellars house a lapidarium and a denarius treasure, which is part of the permanent numismatic exhibition. The exhibition of contemporary glass art is also remarkable. The civil defence shelter, which has been built in the renaissance ramparts, is a further point of interest.

#### Tip for trips in the area: National Stud in Kladruby nad

Labem – one of the oldest stud farms in the world and at the same time home to the oldest original Czech horse breed, the Kladruber horse. In 2019, the Kladruby Elbe River area was entered into the UNESCO register as a Region for the Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses in Kladruby nad Labem.



**Automatic mills, Pardubicee** – this involves a unique link between history and modern life. This monumental structure, designed by the architect Josef Gočár, has since become a cultural and social centre. You can visit the Gočár Gallery, the Sféra educational centre, the Gallery of the City of Pardubice (GAMPA) or the Silo there.

#### Tip for accommodation:

· Hotel 100, Pardubice · Hotel Zámecká, Pardubice

#### Where to eat:

- · Císařský Inn, Kladruby nad Labem
- · Nejen Dvorek Restaurant, Pardubice

Sadruby nad Labem Château



Kunětická hora Castle

#### DAY 2 - Kunětická hora Castle, Sarny Castle

Set off on a journey through time. Visit unique monuments in East Bohemia: Kunětická hora Castle and the Kamieniec Château. Discover history, enjoy the peace and guiet and create your own unforgettable experiences.

#### KUNĚTICKÁ HORA CASTLE

It is difficult to find a more distinctive dominant feature of the Elbe Lowlands than Kunětická hora with the unmistakable silhouette of the castle that enjoyed its greatest glory during the period of the House of Pernstein. Its current appearance will be imprinted upon your memory: the romantic silhouette of the castle is unmatched in the area. It is certainly worth ascending to the Castle and viewing its restored interiors, the newly reconstructed Castle Palace and the Chapel of Saint Catherine. You may recognise it as "Rumburak's Castle" from the series Arabela and there is even a dragon that waits for the younger visitors. The castle or the observation points below it will provide you with breath-taking views of the wider environs

#### SARNY CASTLE

Sarny Castle is located on a rocky promontory in the valley of the Ścinawka River between Sowie gory and Stołowe góry. The Chapel of Saint John of Nepomuk with wonderful frescoes and ceiling paintings depicting the life of the Saint stands next to the main building, which is open to the public. The older



Kunětická hora Castle

frescoes are also unique. Nowadays, the chapel is mainly used as a venue for concerts of spiritual music. You can try the always fresh cakes, many types of tea and the carefully curated collection of wine and beer at the stylised cafe. The cafe in the guard tower or the castle hall is an ideal place for holding celebrations and weddings. Accommodation is also available in the Writers' House at the Sarny Farmstead.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

**Gingerbread Museum, Ráby** – a gingerbread cottage hides behind the moss and ferns in the area beneath Kunětická hora Castle. The museum on the history of gingerbread making in the Pardubice area will provide you with an alternative fairytale. And if you are good, you may well even receive a piece of gingerbread to help you on your way.

**Polanica-Zdrój spa** – discover the pearl of the Lower Silesian spas, which is located not far from the Czech-Polish border in the foothills of the Bystrice and Stołowe Mountains.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- Accommodation under Kunětická hora, Ráby
  Accommodation at the château in Kamieniec

- · Pod Kunětickou horou Restaurant, Ráby
- · Chateau restaurant in Kamieniec



Sarny Castle



## The history and beauty of the Iron Mountains

Choltice
Château

Slatiňany
Château

Lichnice
Castle

Nasavrky
Château

Discover the magic of the Czech monuments and nature in the heart of the Iron Mountains. Become acquainted with the fascinating châteaux and castle where history combines with wonderful natural scenery. Visit the baroque Choltice Château and then set off to the elegant Slatiňany Château that will transport you back to the period of the House of Auersperg. On the second day, you will experience adventure at Lichnice Castle, where the ruin on a rocky peak offers a wonderful view into the surrounding countryside, and at Nasavrky Château, where you will you learn something about Celtic history.

#### DAY 1: Choltice Château, Slatiňany Château

Are you looking for a trip that will combine history with the nature? The baroque chapel, the Water Sprite Museum and the black theatre in Choltice will enchant you, while Slatiňany will offer you elegant château interiors and an English landscape park. Get ready for a day full of beauty and relaxation!

#### CHOLTICE CHÂTEAU

An early baroque château once stood in Choltice from 1680, but little now remains of its former appearance. It was established on the site of an original fortress that had been reconstructed several times. Its greatest trump card is without doubt the fascinatingly decorated Chapel of Saint Romedius or one of the oldest baroque pharmacies in this country. Young visitors in particular will appreciate a visit to the Water Sprite Museum where, amongst other

Choltice Château

things, they will find out what type of water sprites exist. Specially backlit fairy tales await you in the black theatre. The extensive château park and the game reserve with a number of fishponds, where you can spend hours on walks interrupted by nothing and nobody, are an especial treasure.

#### SLATIŇANY CHÂTEAU

This cosy aristocratic residence in the foothills of the Iron Mountains was built on the site of an original gothic fortress dating from the 13th century. The château interiors look as they did in the period when the great horse lover, Franz Josef von Auersperg, lived there at the beginning of the twentieth century. You will not only be enchanted by the château premises, but also by the adjacent English landscape park with a large number of tree species

and elegant period benches. One point of curiosity is the renewed children's farm, where the aristocratic children learnt how to take care of animals. The château is a national cultural monument. During the period of the House of Auersperg, the château also included magnificent stables for racehorses, which now constitute part of the National Stud in Kladruby nad Labem.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

**The Puppet Culture Museum, Chrudim** – the permanent exhibition entitled the Magical World of Puppets will acquaint you with the puppets used by travelling puppeteers, variety puppets or family puppet theatres. The exhibits also include puppets of Spejbl and Hurvínek, the creations of Jiří Trnka, the famous creator of animated films, and puppets made by Josef Váchal.

**Švýcárna** – the Slatiňany Museum of the Kladruber Horse: the interactive museum enables children to sit on the largest stuffed horse in the Czech Republic, to enjoy sitting in a carriage or two view the unique collection of whips, saddles and yokes.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- U Zámku Guesthouse and Restaurant, Slatiňany
- Hastrman Guesthouse, Choltice

#### Where to eat:

- · U Zámku Guesthouse and Restaurant, Slatiňany
- Choltice Château Restaurant

Slatiňany Château





Lichnice Castle

#### DAY 2: Lichnice Castle, Nasavrky Château

You will find two fascinating places full of history in the Iron Mountains. Lichnice Castle, a ruin located on a rocky peak, offers a wonderful view of the Čáslav Basin and a peaceful environment for contemplation. The Nasavrky Château will take you back to the time of the Celts.

#### LICHNICE CASTLE

Na skalnatém návrší ve výšce 480 metrů nad mořem kraluje v Železných horách zřícenina hradu Lichnice. Tento historický hrad, postavený ve 13. století, se může pyšnit bohatou historií, která sahá až do dob středověkých rytířů a dobrodružství. Hrad Lichnice je ideálním místem pro ty, kteří hledají klid a inspiraci. V jedné z věží hradu se nachází rozhledna Milada, která nabízí ještě lepší perspektivu na okolní krajinu.

#### THE NASAVRKY CHÂTEAU

The exhibition at the renaissance château in Nasavrky presents the history of the Celts in the Bohemian Basin and in Europe. You will see examples of housing and items of daily use and learn about life, farming and crafts at that time. You can try grinding cereal on a millstone and view Celtic armour. The exhibition also presents iron ore processing, a potter's kiln, a weaving loom and Celtic graves, "a quartzite head" and archaeological findings from the oppidum in České Lhotice - Hradiště. A large-scale model of the oppidum with a soundscape will enable you to visualise how people lived there 2000 years ago.

#### Tip for trips in the area: The Berl Lime Factory,

**Třemošnice:** – take a trip through time to the world of lime production. Investigate the unique exhibition at the Berl Lime Factory and be enchanted by the history and technology that drove this industrial colossus.

#### The Nasavrky Outdoor Archaeological Museum

- the outdoor archaeolo-

gical museum involves a reconstruction of a Celtic "town" from the early Iron Age. The structures are based on archaeological findings. The arrangement of the structures into homesteads and the composition of the structures also corresponds to the way settlements looked in the early Iron Age.

#### Tip for accommodation:

• Počátky Guesthouse, Počátky • Pod Čápy Apartments, Nasavrky

#### Where to eat:

• Sitting with the Charváts in Podhradí • Hotel Šustr, Nasavrky







## From the gothic to rococo grace

Set off on a two-day journey through the monuments of the Pardubice Region. On the first day, you will visit Rychmburk Castle, which will enchant you with its mediaeval atmosphere, and the baroque Chrast Château. On the second day, you will discover the ruins of Košumberk Castle and the rococo Nové Hrady Château which was known as the "little Schönbrunn" or the "Czech Versailles".

#### DAY 1: Rychmburk Castle, Chrast Châteaut

Discover two magical monuments: Rychmburk Castle and Chrast Château. Rychmburk Castle will enchant you with its gothic history and renaissance and baroque renovations, while Chrast Château will captivate you with his elegant baroque architecture. Originally a summer seat for bishops, it now enchants visitors with its halls and the Chapel of Saint John of Nepomuk.

#### RYCHMBURK CASTLE

Rychmburk Castle, built in the Gothic style around 1300 and subsequently renovated in the renaissance and baroque styles, towers above the valley of the Krounka River, near Skuteč. Throughout its history, it belonged to significant aristocratic houses such as the Lords of Vartenberk, Wallenstein and Kinsky. After 1945, it was used as a retirement home, but it was once again opened to the public in 2021, 70 years later. Visitors are attracted by the 30-metre tower, the administrator's household with its period furnishings, the exhibitions on torture and beer brewing, as well as a number of short-term exhibitions with attractive themes. The castle gardens are also a venue for romantic walks.

#### CHRAST CHÂTEAU

The Chrast Château was originally a fortress that was converted into a Renaissance château at the beginning of the 17th century. Its current baroque appearance was established in

Chrast Chateau



the mid-18th century and it bears elements of the famous architect, Santini. It served as a summer residence for the bishops of Hradec Králové for three centuries. Nowadays, it houses the Municipal Authority and the Municipal Museum with exhibitions on regional



Chateau Chrast

history. Visitors can also view the Chapel of Saint John of Nepomuk and the representative halls. The château includes a French garden with a unique rose collection connected to an avenue that leads all the way to Podlažice. The château is a popular place for weddings and cultural events.

### Tip for trips in the area: The Skuteč Regional Museum – the

museum offers permanent exhibitions that present two traditional crafts, namely the production of footwear and stone cutting. You will also be able to



see the largest hand sewn Oxford shoe in Bohemia. The outdoor exhibition will take you through the quarry and its typical workplaces.

**Exotic animals at the Bitovany Ranch** – this family zoological garden offers up to 20 examples of exotic fauna, such as llamas, kangaroos, mongooses, raccoons, meerkats, porcupines or rare primates such as vervet monkeys, gibbons and lemurs. There are also pumas, desert lynxes, bush cats and lynxes.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- Sodomkův statek Czap, Zbožnov
- · The U Palečků Guesthouse, Skuteč

#### Where to eat:

• Castle Pantry, Přehradí • The Château Restaurant, Chrast



Nové hrady Château

#### DAY 2: Košumberk Castle, Nové hrady Château

Košumberk Castle and the Nové Hrady Château constitute an excellent trip for history lovers. The ruins of the gothic Košumberk Castle will transport you to the Middle Ages, while the rococo Nové Hrady Château is an elegant château with a French garden and an English landscape park.

#### **KOŠUMBERK CASTLE**

Košumberk Castle, established in the second half of the 13th century, is a monument that conceals a rich history. All that remains of it today are the ruins of the gothic castle and the renaissance annex. The first written mention of the castle dates from 1318. At the end of the 14th century, it was renovated in the late gothic style and it subsequently underwent renaissance renovations after a fire in 1573. The castle became a place of education in the 16th century when an Unitas Fratrum school was established there for young protestant aristocrats. In 1684, it passed into the ownership of the Jesuit College, but it had fallen into obscurity by the end of the eighteenth century and started to fall into ruin. The last aristocratic family that it belonged to was the House of Thurn-Taxis. They only used the burgrave's house, which now houses the castle museum.



Košumberk Castle

#### NOVÉ HRADY CHÂTEAU

Would you like to visit the "Little Schönbrunn" or the "Czech Versailles"? These epithets belong to the rococo château that was built in the style of French summer residences. The monumental entry portal opens the way to a château facility with a French garden or an English landscape park with a sandstone Way of the Cross (1767) leading to the remnants of the ori-



Nové hrady Château

ginal Gothic castle. The former baroque granary now houses a motorcycle museum. Ladies are sure to enjoy the Gallery of English Hats located in the orangery. There is a pleasant walk to a red and fallow deer farm and you can also wind your way through the château labyrinth

#### Tip for trips in the area:

#### Pilgrimage Church of Our Lady, Help of Christians in Luže -

the early baroque building on the basalt hill known as "Chlumek" conceals the architecturally remarkable Marian Chapel in the presbytery, which is vaulted with a dome with a so-called lantern.

The Toulovcovy Stables – sandstone rock formations, the so-called Budislav Rocks, constitute a series of rocky valleys cut in some places up to a depth of 60 m, some of which are divided into independent formations that have been given names such as the Lord's Table, Columbus' Egg or the Donkey's Corridora.



#### Tip for accommodation:

· Harmonie Guesthouse, Luže · The Polanka Chalet, Nové Hrady

#### Where to eat:

• Na Kovárně Restaurant, Luže • The Nové Hrady Château Restaurant



Château, the history of which is interwoven with legends of knights and kings.

Zdeněk Kolářský, ceramic minder of the company of the company

offer a wonderful view of the Divoká Orlice River.

**Litice nad Orlicí Castle**Discover the magic of East Bohemian monuments, namely the Lanškroun Château and Litice nad Orlicí Castle. The château

will take you through the history of the town, while Litice will

#### LANŠKROUN CHÂTEAU

The Lanškroun Château is located on Alois Jirásek Square. It has been reconstructed on multiple occasions throughout its history, during which its appearance has changed significantly. The château has been the property of the town since 1928 and it now houses the municipal museum. You can view the exhibition on Lanškroun's history, where there is also information about a lot of local inhabitants. The Imperial Room recalls the imperial manoeuvres of the Austro-Hungarian army in the vicinity of Lanškroun in 1894 with the participation of Franz Josef I. The museum also houses coins and medallions by

Lanškroun Château



Zdeněk Kolářský, ceramic statues by Lubomír Šilar or a reminder of the composer and conductor Jindřich Praveček. At Christmas time, visitors to the museum can enjoy the annually expanded Lanškroun nativity scene of personalities.

#### LITICE NAD ORLICÍ STATE CASTLE

Litice Castle stretches out on a rocky knoll high above a deep turn of the Divoká Orlice River. The current castle ruins no longer suggest it, but you are walking through the former royal seat of King George of Poděbrady, one of the leading fortresses of the 15th century which was designated as the "Second Karlštejn". You can also climb the observation tower and view the river as it meanders below you and much more. The castle is part of the "Château on the Orlice – the Czech Loire" tourist project and you can visit another castle and four châteaux within just 9 km.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

**The Lanskroun Fishponds:** – discover a unique set of seven fishponds at the edge of the town of Lanskroun. You will find excellent room to rest in this quiet nature park.

**The Žampach Arboretum** – walk through an extensive arboretum with more than 550 tree species and varieties. You will also find a smaller collection of bamboos and cosy nooks for sitting.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- Hotel Forea, Lanškroun
- The Zátiší Guesthouse, Litice nad Orlicí

- The Gourmet Lounge Redstaurant, Lanškroun
- The Zátiší Guesthouse Restaurant, Litice nad Orlicí



Letohrad Château

#### DAY 2: Letohrad Château, Miedzylesie Castle

Visit the Letohrad Château and the Międzylesie Castle where history merges with romance. Baroque halls, the works of Alfons Mucha and exotic animals await you at Letohrad. Międzylesie will take you back to a time of knights and regale you with stories of King Sobieski. Treat yourself to accommodation hotel and enjoy culinary experiences.

#### LETOHRAD CHÂTEAU

The Letohrad Château was originally a wooden fortress which Count Vitanovský had converted into an early baroque château at the end of the 17th century. In 1945, the château was confiscated and transferred to the ownership of the town, whereupon it underwent extensive reconstruction. It houses a private grammar school, a hotel with a restaurant, a library and the château exhibition. During your tour, you'll be acquainted with periods of the baroque, historicism and the art nouveau. You can also admire the works of Alfons Mucha who hired a studio in Letohrad, formerly Kyšperk. The highlight of the tour is the musical cabinet. The château's ground floor houses the Museum and Room of Jára Cimrman.

The château is surrounded by a natural landscape park. There is an Empire-style gazebo, an artificial cave, an aviary with parrots, a pen with kangaroos and an orangery there. You can admire the beauty of exotic plants and in particular Australian fauna with parrots and the sea aquarium in its left-hand section.

Międzylesie Castle





Letohrad

#### MIĘDZYLESIE CASTLE

Międzylesie Castle was built by the von Glaubitz family of knights in the mid-14th century. Of the original buildings dating from the beginning of the 15th century, only the tower, known as the Black Tower, remained. The new owners subsequently added renaissance and baroque wings to it. Jan III Sobieski, considered to be the last of the great Polish kings and one of the greatest fighters against the Turks, also fell for its charms. Some people even claim that the king still wanders the castle corridors there. You can view this unique monument both during the day and at night. Be sure not to miss the opportunity to book accommodation at the local hotel or to enjoy the renowned delicacies at the local restaurant.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

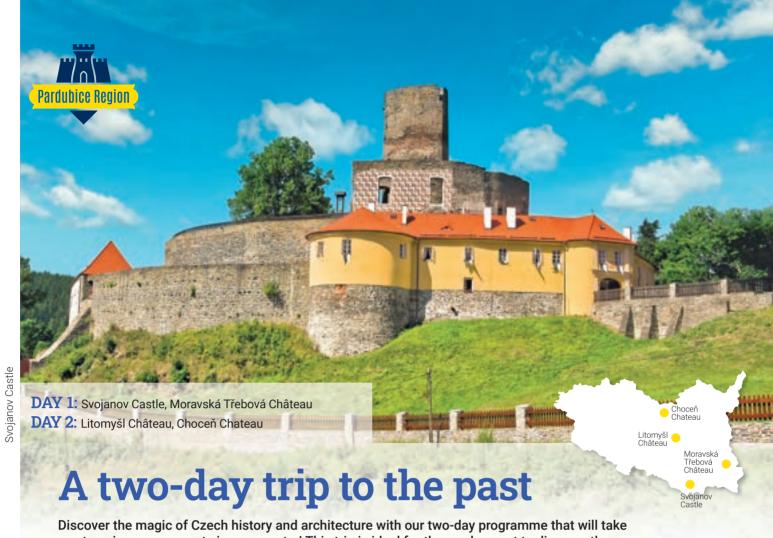
**The Museum of Crafts, Letohrad** – the largest museum of its type in the Czech Republic will take you back to a time when people mainly relied on their skills and craftsmanship.

Zahrada pohádek, Mezihoří – view the unique collection of wooden statues that depict fairytale characters and places.

#### Tip for accommodation:

• Hotel Tvrz Orlice • Accommodation at Międzylesie Castle

- The Sauna Restaurant, Letohrad
- The restaurant at Międzylesie Castle



you to unique monuments in our country! This trip is ideal for those who want to discover the wealth of the cultural heritage and to drink in the atmosphere of the Middle Ages.

#### DAY 1: Svojanov Castle, Moravská Třebová Château

Set off on a journey into the world of the gothic, the renaissance and mysterious stories at Svojanov Castle and the Moravská Třebová Château. These unique treasures of Czech history, surrounded by nature, will take you back to times gone by and reveal their architectural treasures, as well as one secret.



Svojanov Castle

#### SVOJANOV CASTLE

Svojanov Castle proudly towers above the dense forests of the Křetínka River Valley and is a unique mix of the gothic and Empire styles. Its 26 m high watchtower served as the last refuge for its defenders during battle. You are sure to admire the gothic columned hall, the exhibition on the history of the castle, the kitchen,

the pantry, the gothic cellars or the torture chamber. A tour of the castle facilities will acquaint you with a number of the myths, legends and terrifying stories that shroud the castle.

#### MORAVSKÁ TŘEBOVÁ CHÂTEAU

The château in Moravská Třebová is one of the most significant renaissance monuments in all of Central Europe thanks to its unique manneristic arcaded courtyard dating from the beginning of the 17th century. The portal from 1492, which is the oldest preserved renaissance monument to the north of the Alps, is also worthy of interest. The renaissance Flanders tapestry known as "Iphigenia in Taurus" dating from the beginning of the 16th century is one of the rarest exhibits. The courtyard includes a restored set of six sundials. One of the tour circuits will take you to the Alchemy laboratory and mediaeval torture chamber.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

**Bohuslav Martinů's family's room in Polička** – climb the 192 steps up the tower of Saint James' Church, in which the famous composer was born, and enjoy wonderful view of the town and its environs.

The Mladějov Industrial Railway and the Mladějov Industrial Museum – set off on an unforgettable journey into the past and discover the fascinating world of technology. Take the historical train along the picturesque line and view the



unique collection of machines and equipment at the museum.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- Guesthouse at the castle, Svojanov
- Excalibur Guesthouse, Moravská Třebová

#### Where to eat:

- · Castle restaurant, Svojanov
- · Na Cihlářce Restaurant, Moravská Třebová

Moravská Třebová Château





Litomyšl Château

#### DAY 2: Litomyšl Château, Choceň Château

Zámky Litomyšl a Choceň jsou unikátními svědky české historie a renesančního umění. Litomyšl upoutá sgrafitovou fasádou, Choceň pak nabízí fascinující expozice Orlického muzea, které představují historii od pravěku po současnost.

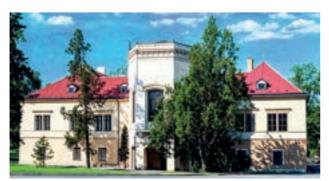
#### LITOMYŠL CHÂTEAU

The renaissance château dating from the 16th century is well known for its unique sgraffito facade decorations with more than 5000 sgraffiti and its valuable interiors with historical fittings dating from the 18th and 19th centuries. It was included among the monuments on the UNESCO Register of World Heritage Sites in 1999 due to its unique nature. The theatre at the château in Litomyšl is the second oldest palace theatre in the Czech lands, immediately after the one located in Český Krumlov.

The château cellars house a collection of sculptures my Olbram Zoubek, who dedicated them to the Town of Litomyšl. You can also find the family flat of Bedřich Smetana in the château facility, specifically in the area of the former château brewery.



Litomyšl Château



Choceň Chateau

#### CHOCEŇ CHATEAU

The renaissance château in Choceň was built on a bank of the Tichá Orlice River by Zikmund of Šelmberk in 1562. At the beginning of the 18th century, it was purchased by the House of Kinsky von Wchinitz und Tettau. However, it burnt down in 1829 and was renovated in the classicist style, which is the style that persists to the present day. It is now home to the Orlice Museum and also to the arts primary school. It is possible to take a guided tour through the château's chapel with its altar made of Carrara marble and beautiful stained-glass windows. As part of the historical exhibition, you can also see a unique trunk that belonged to the famous General Albrecht von Wallenstein. The archaeological exhibition includes a reconstruction of a Lusatian culture burial site from nearby Běstovice. You can also see findings of prehistorical animals. The brick-making section of the museum, which maps out the former brickworks and the individual types of bricks, is somewhat unconventional. There is also a new aviation exhibition that presents aircraft production in the Choceň area from 1935 to the present.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

The Museum of Czech Bodywork Production in Vysoké Mýto – the museum demonstrates the method in which a coachbuilder

the museum demonstrates the method in which a coachbuilder would proceed during the production of automobile bodywork and acquaints visitors with the history of the legendary Sodomka factory.

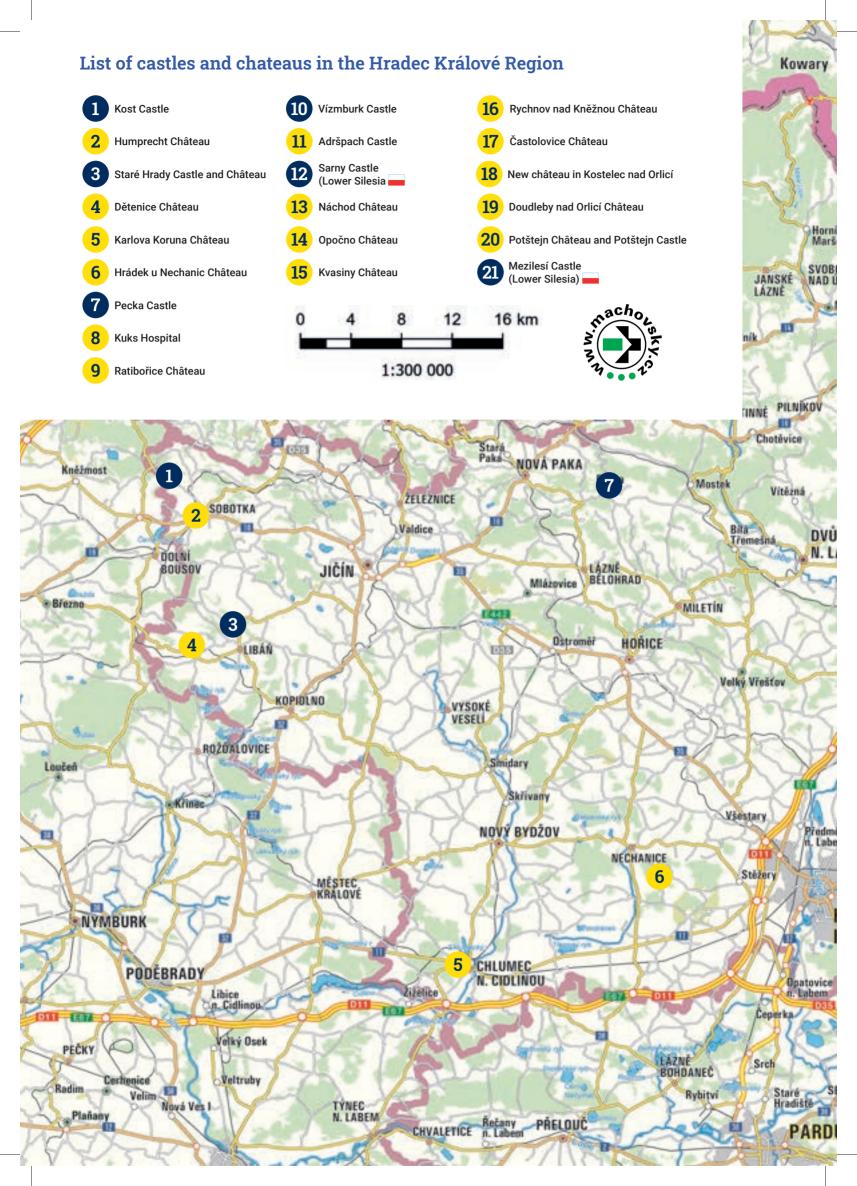
The Labyrinth — a natural maze in Brandýs nad Orlicí try out the natural maze inspired by the book "The Labyrinth of the World and the Paradise of the Heart" by J. A. Comenius. The maze made of hornbeam trees invites you to investigate all its secrets alleys and, if you have the feeling that it will be easy to find the way to its centre, you are sorely mistaken!



#### Tip for accommodation:

Hotel Zlatá hvězda, Litomyšl
 Hotel Peliny, Choceň

- The restaurant at the Zlatá Hvězda Hotel, Litomyšl
- The Splav Restaurant, Choceň







In the Hradec Králové region you can admire the Baroque jewel of the distinguished Italian architect, Jan Blažej Santini-Aichel, which is at the same time a breathtaking example of the Neo-Gothic style of distant England. If you go to Kuks you will find yourself in a landscape from the 18th century, and you will be able to perceive the masterpieces of sculptor Matthias Bernard Braun scattered throughout the area.

### DAY 1: From High Baroque to Tudor Gothic

During the day you will be able to see one of the pearls of Baroque architecture in Bohemia, Karlova Koruna Château in Chlumec nad Cidlinou, set in a landscaped park. If you also visit Hrádek u Nechanic Château, which is located a short di-



Karlova Koruna Château

stance from Hradec Králové, you will find yourself in a landscape that will evoke the English countryside.

#### KARLOVA KORUNA CHÂTEAU

The first written mention of an aristocratic residence in Chlumec nad Cidlinou dates back to 1424. Already at the beginning of the 17th century, the whole estate became the property of the Kinský family. When Count František Ferdinand Kinský inherited it, he began to think about building a new château that would express the status of the family. According to the design of architect Jan Blažej Santini-Aichel, the château was built in 1721-1723 and named Karlova Koruna in honour of the visit of Emperor Charles VI. The château bears the typical elements of Santini's personality and genius, who added three single-storey square-plan wings to the central two-storey cylinder. The Kinský family held the property until 1948, when it was confiscated. It was not until 1992 that the château was returned to the Kinský family. During the season, you can see the interior of the château through a guided historical tour. The château's riding hall, stables and coach house are accessible all year round. The château park is also open year round, and you can make your visit more interesting with the interactive Walk Your Crown game for children



Hrádek u Nechanic Château

#### HRÁDEK U NECHANIC CHÂTEAU

This piece of England in Bohemia was built as a representative and summer residence of the Harrach family in 1839-1857 by František Arnošt, Count of Harrach. A project drawn up by English architect Edward Buckton Lamb and later modified by the Austrian architect Karl Fischer in the Tudor Gothic style served as a model for the romantic château. In 1945 the château was confiscated under the Beneš decrees, and since 1953 it has been open to the public. In 2001 the château was declared a national cultural monument. The local château exhibition is an example of the nobility living in the second half of the 19th century in the original historical furnishings. You can visit the

representative rooms, guest rooms or the Clock Tower within five available tours, including one Christmas tour. An integral part of the château is the 18 ha nature and landscape park, which was founded in 1844.

#### Tip for trip in the area:

#### Hradec Králové

The town at the confluence of the Labe and Orlice rivers, which used to be called the Salon of the Republic, is the metropolis of Eastern Bohemia. In one day you will be able to explore the most important highlights including Jan Kotěra-'s Museum of East Bohemia, the Renaissance White Tower and the Gallery of Modern Art.

#### Tip for accommodation:

· Apartments Novákovi "U Novačky", Lubno u Nechanic

#### Where to eat:

· Beránek Brewery, Stěžery

#### Tip for a good café:

· Café Anna of Harrach, Hrádek u Nechanic



Kuks Hospital - Baroque pharmacy

### DAY 2: Pearl of the Czech Baroque with Virtues and Vicesi

The Kuks Baroque area, with the nearby Bethlehem, is a unique example of a landscape shaped by man, especially in the 18th century. Every intervention in the landscape has deep meaning. At every step you will also come across sculptures from the workshop of Matthias Bernard Braun.

#### KUKS HOSPITAL

The hospital was founded by Count František Antonín Špork at the beginning of the 18th century as a resting place for retired soldiers, who were cared for by the Order of the Merciful Brothers. It is an important Baroque monument, the design of which was created by world-class artists: especially architect Giovanni Batista Alliprandi and sculptor Matthias Bernard Braun, author of the sculptures of the allegories of Virtues and Vices and Braun's Bethlehem. The hospice fulfilled its function until 1938, when the Brothers of Mercy and their inmates had to leave the building due to the Munich Agreement. At the end of the 1950s a gradual journey towards the preservation of the Baroque complex began. In 1995 the hospital was declared a national cultural monument. The most challenging stage of its revitalisation took place between 2013 and 2015. The hospital offers you a choice of 4 guided tours, only dependant on whether you are more interested in history or pharmacy. In addition to one of the oldest pharmacies, U Granátového jablka, there is also an exhibition of the Czech Pharmaceutical Museum. The herb garden behind the hospital building has been freely accessible since the beginning of the 18th century and still serves its purpose.



Kuks Hospital

#### Tip for trip in the area: Kuks municipality and Braun's Bethlehem

A short walk from the hospital is a unique sculpture reserve named Braun's Bethlehem after its author. Without exaggeration, it represents the pinnacle of European Baroque sculpture in the open air. In the Kuks municipality itself, on the other side of the Labe River where Count Špork built a spa, there are other places worthy of attention. In the building of the former spa house is the unique Rentz Museum of Baroque Printing. The Veterans' Museum and Puppet Gallery are also located in the village.

#### Tip for accommodation:

Na Sýpce Pub, Kuks

- Kuks Municipal Inn
- Na Sýpce Pub, Kuks



# From book to fairy tale: A trip not only to the Babiččino údolí

In the Hradec Králové border region there are several unique castles and châteaux set in the beautiful surrounding countryside. During the trip, you will visit buildings built from the Gothic to the Empire period

#### DAY: Through Podkrkonoší Pompeii to Babiččino údolí

You can start your trip near Červený Kostelec, where the remains of a medieval château, which has recently undergone extensive reconstruction, are hidden in the forest. Afterwards, you can cycle along the Úpa River or walk along the picturesque trail to Babiččino údolí, where there is a château and numerous other buildings connected with the Babička novel by Božena Němcová.



Vizmburk Castle

#### VÍZMBURK CASTLE

In the 13th century it was the seat of important Grand Duke Tas of Vízmburk. The ruins of the castle are nicknamed the Pompeii of the Podkrkonoší because life here ceased shortly after the Hussite wars, when the castle was destroyed. The ruins were overgrown for centuries and only the castle hill with the remnants of the tower, moats and ramparts testify to

its location. It was only during archaeological research from 1972-1984 that the castle was literally dug out of the ground. Thanks to enthusiasts, the castle roof was completed in 2020 and is now fully accessible to the public. The castle offers guided tours with historical interpretation and regularly hosts events with a medieval focus.

#### RATIBOŘICE CHÂTEAU

Ratibořice Château in Babiččino údolí is associated with the Babička novel by writer Božena Němcová. The first written record of the local mansion dates back to 1388. In 1702-1708, Prince Lorenzo Piccolomini had a Baroque château built here, modelled on Italian summer houses. In 1800 the château was

inherited by Katherine Bedřiška Vilemína Benigna, Duchess of Sagan, i.e. the famous Princess from the Babička novel. The Duchess hosted a number of important personalities here, such as Austrian Chancellor Metternich and Russian Tsar Alexander I. You can see Ratibořice Château or the entire Babiččino údolí through guided tours. Children can take a tour accompanied by the Princess' ward, Hortensia the Comtesse.



Ratibořice Château

#### Tip for trip in the area:

#### Malé Svatoňovice – Čapek brothers Museum

You will find exhibitions dedicated to Karel Čapek and his publications, correspondence and contemporary documents here. The Josef Čapek exhibition consists of a set of twenty oil paintings, which is a unique cross-section of his entire oeuvre.

#### Tip for accommodation:

· Restaurant & Café Zahradní, Česká Skalice

- Trees Café, Červený Kostelec
- Restaurant & Café Zahradní, Česká Skalice

#### DAY 2: To Náchod and a hop to Kladsko

During this trip you will visit a massive Renaissance castle that towers over Náchod. Afterwards, you will head to Poland, where the former residence of the important family of the Counts of Götzen is located near the border.

#### NÁCHOD CHÂTEAU

The first preserved references to Náchod Château date back to the mid-13th century, when a castle stood on its site. The castle was built along the provincial trade route near the border and was, therefore, of great strategic importance. The Smiřický family from Smiřice then constructed the château from the castle. Further reconstructions were carried out thanks to the Piccolomini family, who essentially gave it its present appearance. At the end of World War II, the château was confiscated from its then owners, the German princely family Schaumburg--Lippe, and since then it has been administered by the state. The château includes a French-style garden called Piccolomini, founded in 1751. There are 4 guided tours in the château, of which "From the cellar to the tower" is an individual tour without a guide. In July and August, there is also a special circuit for children.



Sarny Castle



Adršpach Château

#### DAY 3: A castle saved by the municipality

Visit one of the few preserved aristocratic mansion in the Broumov region, which is also an example of the so-called Saxon Renaissance in the Czech Republic.

#### ADRŠPACH CHÂTEAU

At the end of the 16th century, a Renaissance-style castle was built on the site of the original fortress. At the beginning of



Náchod Château

#### SARNY CASTLE

The castle is located on a rock outcrop in the valley of the Ścinawka River in Lower Silesia near Broumov. In the Middle Ages, a knight's tower stood on its site. At the end of the 16th century, a Renaissance castle complex was built. Another major reconstruction took place in 1660. The pride of the castle is the Baroque Chapel of St. Jan Nepomucký from the beginning of the 18th century. The castle also includes a historical park with approximately 300-year-old pedunculate oaks. For most of its history the property belonged to the family of the Counts of Götzen, but after 1945 it became the property of the state. After the liquidation of the state-owned companies, the castle fell into disrepair and, since 2014, has been owned by a foundation that is taking care of its revitalisation. The castle is open daily.

### Tip for trip in the area:

#### Dobrošov - Dobrošov Artillery Fortress

In addition to its underground spaces the fortress, which was never completed, offers a modern visitor centre with an audiovisual exhibition and cinema, virtual reality and an exhibition of a unique collection of miniature Czechoslovak army figures.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- Hotel Tommy Wellness & Spa Náchod U Beránka Hotel, Náchod

#### Where to eat:

- · U Beránka Hotel, Náchod
- · Sarny Castle

the 17th century, Adam Bohdanecký had the castle enlarged. further modifications took place under Count Prokop Hartman of Karlštejn in 1825, and the last structural changes took place in 1886. In 1945 the castle was confiscated under the Beneš decrees. In the following decades the building fell into disrepair until, in 2012, the Adršpach municipality bought it and started its reconstruction. Since 2014 the castle has been open to the public. Visitors can see several permanent exhibitions or play The Third Prince escape game. It is inspired by a classic, at times mysterious and even scary, fairy tale from 1982, which was filmed in the Adršpach-Teplice Rocks.

#### Tip for trip in the area: **Bohumír Copper Mine**

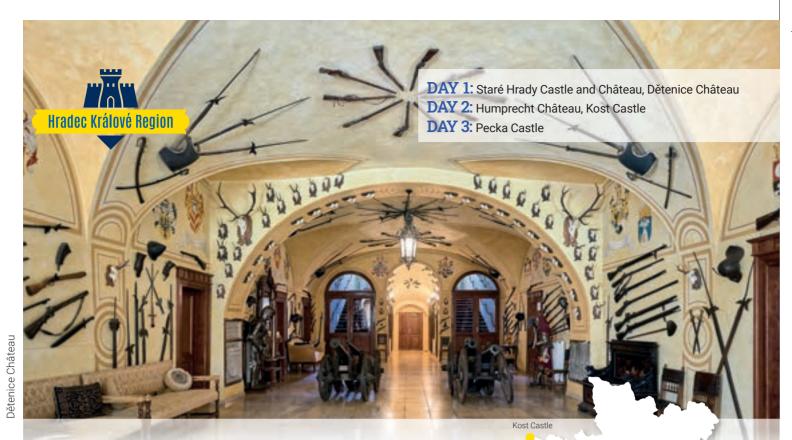
The mine near Adršpach, where ore was mined from the 19th century until the mid-20th century, offers a guided tour, during which you can see part of the mine, learn about mining and ore extraction and numerous other interesting things

#### Tip for accommodation:

· Javor Hotel, Adršpach

#### Where to eat:

· Qadr rest & bar, Adršpach



# For fairy tale creatures and architectural gems

On the border of the Bohemian Paradise Protected Landscape Area there are several aristocratic mansions. You can admire one of the best-preserved Gothic castles in the country, be guided by fairy-tale creatures, look out over the landscape from a hunting lodge or enjoy the Middle Ages for yourself.

## DAY 1: Castles where dragons and witches live

Those who like unusual experiences and unusual tours will enjoy the trip. At both Staré Hrady and Dětenice you can let yourself be carried away into the realm of fairy-tale creatures during the tours.

#### STARÉ HRADY CASTLE AND CHÂTEAU

The first written mention of the Gothic castle, to which a Renaissance château and forecourt were later added, dates back to 1340. One of the first owners of the original fortress was the Pruskovský family from Pruskov. Staré Hrady has also been owned by commander Albrecht von Wallenstein and the Schlick family in the past. During the post-war period the building fell into disrepair and was only saved from demolition and preserved thanks to the enthusiasm of local teacher Vladimír Holman and temporary workers. Its further development is being overseen by the current owners.

Staré Hrady attracts visitors with several unconventional sightseeing tours. You can choose from the Castle Fairy Tale Cellar, the Castle Fairy Tale Soil or the Health World and Dragon Kingdom. If you would like to learn something from the time of Emperor Franz Joseph I, then take the Castle and Château Tour

Staré Hrady Castle and Château



– How Life Was Under Emperor Franz Joseph I. Staré Hrady is open all year round.

#### **DĚTENICE CHÂTEAU**

Originally a Gothic fortress, it was rebuilt in the late 16th century by the Křinec family from Ronov. The current late Baroque appearance of the château dates back to the mid-18th century, when Jan Kristián Clam-Gallas was the château owner. In 1998 the current owners bought the dilapidated building and embarked on its extensive reconstruction to open it to the public in 2000.

There are several themed tours to choose from, including classic, witch or fairy tale tours. The château's interior with 14 fully furnished rooms is based on archival materials from the 18th century and shows visitors the taste and lifestyle of the nobility on a typical country estate. In the welcome hall there is a unique 350-piece collection of weapons of the Knights of Malta, mostly from the Thirty Years' War.

## Tip for trip in the area:

In the town associated with a fairy tale, there are not only numerous places connected with Rumcajs and Cipísek, but also with the commander Albrecht von Wallenstein. The walk along the oldest linden avenue in the country to the Wallenstein Lodge is particularly iconic.

#### Tip for accommodation:

#### Where to eat:

· Restaurant Starohradská Pub · Dětenice Medieval Tavern



Humprecht Château

## DAY 2: Baroque and Gothic pearl of Bohemian Paradise

Humprecht Château forms an exceptional backdrop on the border of the Bohemian Paradise near the town of Sobotka. It leaves no one in doubt that it is an exceptional architectural pearl. Not far from Humprecht Château is one of the best preserved Gothic castles in the country – Kost Castle.

#### HUMPRECHT CHÂTEAU

The château was designed by Italian architect Carlo Lurago in 1666-1668 as a summer and hunting residence for Count Humprecht Jan Czernin of Chudenice. The building was built in the early Baroque style with elements of late Renaissance and Mannerism. Since 1680 it has existed in almost the same form. Humprecht is unmistakably different from other aristocratic mansions in its construction concept. The elliptical shape of its ground plan, the interesting lighting of the upper hall with a lantern and the unusual crescent moon decoration of the roof top make it a unique monument. The château offers 4 sightseeing tours. During the château tour you will see, for example, the 16-metre high banquet hall with its unmistakable acoustics, which is the only one of its kind in Central Europe, private rooms, the black kitchen and the gallery of the château.



Pecka Castle

#### DAY 3: The pearl of Podkrkonoší Pecka Castle

During the trip you will visit the Pearl of Podkrkonoší, as Pecka Castle is called. Its most famous owner was Renaissance scholar and cavalier Kryštof Harant of Polžice and Bezdružice.



Kost Castle

#### **KOST CASTLE**

A visit to Kost will take you back to the 14th century, the time of the stone castle. Its builder was Petr, a member of the ancient Vartemberk family. The owner of the estate, Oldřich of Biberštejn, extended the castle and had a new castle palace built in 1545. Its further building development was taken care of by the Popel family of Lobkowitz, who built a brewery and another palace. Over the centuries the castle changed hands among several owners, the last of which, Anna Maria dal Borgo Netolická, saw the castle confiscated in 1948. During the Communist era it served as a museum of Gothic and Renaissance art. In 1989 it was returned in restitution to the Kinský dal Borgo family, who still take care of the castle today.

The castle offers visitors 4 sightseeing tours, during which they will admire the castle palaces, the Chapel of St. Anna, a medieval torture chamber and a black kitchen. Those who do not have much time can enjoy a shortened and, at the same time, wheelchair accessible tour.

#### Tip for trip in the area:

#### **Prachov Rocks**

This sandstone rock town is popular with both climbers and hikers. The rocks are accessible year round, while one of the circuits is also wheelchair accessible and suitable for strollers. Entry to the rocks can be enjoyed at a discounted price outside high season.

#### Tip for accommodation:

· Post Office Hotel, Sobotka

#### Where to eat:

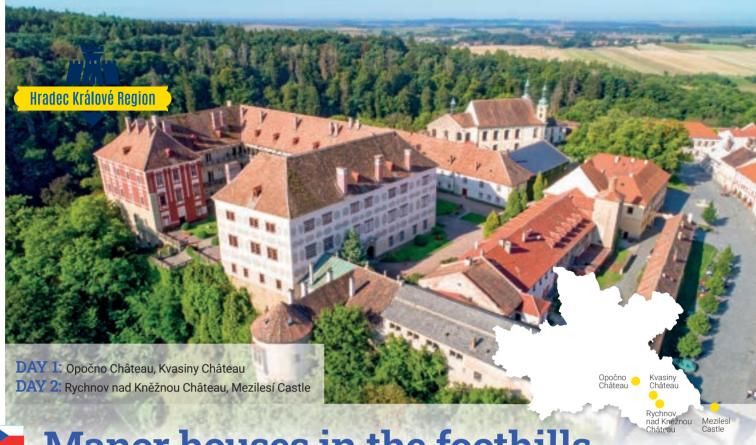
• Post Office Hotel, Sobotka

#### PECKA CASTLE

The first written mention of Pecka Castle dates back to 1322. From the end of the 15th century the castle owners sought to further expand the living quarters – from the second half of the 16th century, under the Škopeks of Bílé Otradovice, a complete Renaissance reconstruction was gradually realised. Kryštof Harant of Polžice and Bezdružice completed the interior renovation at the beginning of the 17th century. After the tragic death of Kryštof Harant on the Old Town execution grounds in June 1621, Pecka was acquired by Albrecht von Wallenstein, who donated the castle to the Carthusian Order of Valdice u Jičína after a year's possession. For more than a hundred and fifty years they only used Pecka as a summer residence. The castle has been used as a tourist object with a sightseeing route since 1968.

## Tip for trip in the area: Borovnice Windmill

Not far from Pecka Castle there is a replica of a historic windmill. The mill stands two kilometres from the site where the last original mill of this type stood until 1968.



# Manor houses in the foothills of the Orlické Mountains

In addition to the Châteaux on the Orlice River, there are other extraordinary manor houses in the foothills of the Orlické Mountains. Thousands of visitors find their way to the Renaissance château in Opočno or the family residence of the Kolowrat Krakowsky Liebstein family in Rychnov nad Kněžnou each year. You can associate the JAWA brand with Kvasiny Château. Just over the border with Poland you will be welcomed by the Mezilesí Castle complex.

#### DAY 1: From Kosmas to the JAWA brand

In the picturesque town of Opočno, in the foothills of the Orlické Mountains, there is a large castle complex with arcades and a beautiful countryside view. Below the castle there is a very valuable park, which is adjacent to a game preserve founded at the end of the 16th century. The current appearance of Kvasiny Castle is of a younger date, but it is also surrounded by a large landscape park.

#### OPOČNO CHÂTEAU

Opočno is one of the oldest settlements in East Bohemia, and the first mention of it dates back to 1068 in the Chronicle of Kosmas. The Renaissance château was built by rebuilding the original Gothic castle in the 16th century. Among its most important owners were the Trčka of Lípa and Colloredo-Mannsfeld families. After the Nazi occupation the château was confiscated and, after 1945, became the property of the state. Inside you will see the Colloredo-Mannsfeld collection of paintings, and a unique collection of historical weapons and armour, one of the most important in the Czech Republic. In 2022 it opened its entire 2nd floor to visitors. This second tour features several rooms, including the Trauttmansdorff bedroom, dressing room and children's room.

#### KVASINY CHÂTEAU

The château was founded as a late Renaissance fortress by Bedřich of Vlkanov sometime after 1608. Over the centuries it underwent a number of building modifications, was rebuilt into a three-winged, one-storey Baroque château and expanded by another floor with a wooden tower. The interior of the

château primarily dates from the 19th and 20th century in a historicist style. The château is significant for automotive, motorcycle and arms history as František Karel Janeček, who chose it as his family residence in 1928, was the founder of the JAWA brand and Janeček arms factories together with his father. He rebuilt a sawmill opposite



Kvasiny Château

the château near the train station and started to manufacture cars there. During the Communist period the factory was handed over to Škoda Auto, which still operates its plant here today. Since the 1990s the château has again been owned by the Janeček family.

#### Tip for trip in the area: Lookout tower on Šibeník

From 2020, a 47-metre high lookout tower has been rising on Šibeník Hill. It is built from a disused wind turbine tube and is open all year round and free of charge. Inside you will find a tourist information centre with a permanent exhibition of unrealised tower designs.

#### Tip for accommodation:

· Jordánek Restaurant and Hotel, Opočno

#### Where to eat:

· Jordánek Restaurant and Hotel, Opočno

#### Tip for a good café:

· Jiný kafe, Dobruška

Opočno Château



Rychnov nad Kněžnou Château

# DAY 2: Rychnov Hradčany with the third biggest bell

The newly reconstructed château complex in Rychnov nad Kněžnou will leave you in no doubt that it is a unique Baroque complex within the whole Czech Republic. On the other hand the large castle in Mezilesí, Poland, is undergoing its gradual restoration, but it already has a lot to offer.

#### RYCHNOV NAD KNĚŽNOU CHÂTEAU

The fortress, which stood on the site of the Rychnov castle, was turned into a castle and later rebuilt into a château during the ownership of several owners. The new look of the château was enforced by the fire of 1704, and another reconstruction followed in the second decade of the 18th century, probably according to the design of architect Jan Blažej Santini-Aichel for Franz Karl II Libštejnský of Kolowraty. The Kolowrat family seat belongs together with the façade of the Holy Trinity Church to the largest Baroque complexes and architectural compositions in Bohemia. The whole forms an exceptional landmark of the city, which is called "Rychnov Hradčany". You can see the château during two guided tours. The first tour takes you to its interiors where you can see, among other things, the rare ceremonial sword called the Moravian Excalibur, while the second tour offers a visit to the château church and the bell tower with the bell of St. Christopher, which is one of the biggest bells in Bohemia. The second floor of the château houses the Museum and Gallery of the Orlické Mountains.



Rychnov nad Kněžnou Château

#### MEZILESÍ CASTLE

The castle, founded by the knightly von Glaubitz family, was destroyed in the 1430s by the Hussites. The torso of the castle was rebuilt into a Renaissance château, and in the 17th century it was expanded in the Baroque style. Today, the complex consists of a Renaissance courtyard with medieval elements, which is connected to the Baroque castle. The oldest part is the medieval stone tower called "Black", which comes from the original castle. The castle is connected by a passage with the Church of Corpus Christi, and a bridge over the castle moat connects it with the square. You can visit the castle during the classic guided tours as well as during the non-traditional ones held on Saturdays after dark.



Mezilesí Castle

#### Tip for trip in the area:

#### Synagogue - Karel Poláček Memorial

Discover the local exhibition of Judaism in Podorlicko and the memorial to the famous writer, who was one of the most important Jewish personalities of the region and a symbol of the horrors of the Shoah.

#### Tip for accommodation:

· Studánka Hotel, Rychnov nad Kněžnou

#### Where to eat:

· Studánka Hotel, Rychnov nad Kněžnou

#### Tip for a good café:

· Café Kolowrat, Rychnov nad Kněžnou



A phenomenon of Podorlicko are the châteaux on the Orlice River, aptly referred to as the Czech Loire, because just like on the French river the wild Orlice River connects the historic estates of the nobility. Within a 9 km radius there are four châteaux, all owned by old aristocratic families or private owners, and a castle ruin.



Častolovice Château

#### DAY 1: The cultural heart of Podorlicko

As the name of the trip suggests, you can not only learn about the history and visit the aristocratic mansions themselves but also enrich yourself with cultural experiences, of which there is no shortage. If you are lucky you will also run into the lords of the châteaux.

#### **ČASTOLOVICE CHÂTEAU**

The history of the château dates back to the 13th century, when it was a water fortress later rebuilt into a Renaissance château. In 1694 the highest purgrave of the kingdom, Adolf Vratislav of Sternberg, bought Častolovice. Since then the Sternberg family has owned the castle, except during the totalitarian period. Inside there are valuable works of art, especially the Renaissance coffered ceilings, paintings mostly by Baroque masters, including the most valuable "The Young Hunter" by Karel Škréta. The Knights' Hall, one of the largest Renaissance rooms in the Czech Republic, houses the Sternberg family gallery. The château is surrounded by an English park, which includes a menagerie with domestic and foreign species of animals.

#### NEW CHÂTEAU IN KOSTELEC NAD ORLICÍ

The château was built in the Empire style in 1829-1833 for Count Joseph Kinský. In 1948 it became state property, and 3 years later the Research Institute for Pig Breeding moved in, which meant the devastation of the building. In 1992 the château was returned to the Kinský family to undergo a complete reconstruction. The preserved Empire-style furnishings were gradually restored and the Life in the Biedermeier exhibition was created on the first floor of the château. On the 2nd floor there is an exhibition space of the Kinský Gallery, and on the ground floor there is an exposition of the history of Kostelec nad Orlicí. You can take a special tour of the château with the owner, František Kinský. The new château is an important cultural centre. The château itself is set in a natural-landscape park.

#### Tip for trip in the area:

Archaeological museum in the nature Villa Nova Uhřínov

Visit a picturesque corner in the Orlické Mountains. The museum presents a medieval colonisation village in the period of the 13-14th century.

#### Tip for accommodation:

U Hubálků Pub, Kostelecká Lhota

#### Where to eat:

· U Hubálků Pub, Kostelecká Lhota

#### Tip for a good café:

- · Tonio's Château Café and Restaurant, Kostelec nad Orlicí
- · Častolovice Château Café



Doudleby nad Orlicí Château



If you head upriver, but also go back a few centuries, you will reach a picturesque Renaissance château that has been owned by the same family since the end of the 16th century. The next destination is a late Baroque château, which the current owners are improving, and it thereby offers an attractive place to visit.

#### DOUDLEBY NAD ORLICÍ CHÂTEAU

This Renaissance château has been owned by the Buben family since 1590, except during the Communist period. Originally a summer residence, later a hunting lodge and finally a permanent family residence, it was built by Mikuláš the Elder of Bubno in the Renaissance style. The château boasts its unique sgraffito decoration on both its exterior and courtyard side, including seven-metre high chimneys. In the courtyard there is a beautiful arcade with a stone gallery. There is also a granary, which houses the Museum of Natural History, Countryside and Tramping. Pet lovers will appreciate the local Grandma's backyard.

#### POTŠTEJN CHÂTEAU

After the Silesian Wars, the estate in Potštejn was purchased by Count Jan Ludvík Harbuval Chamaré, who had a late Baroque château built there. When the family died out after the sword, the heiress Elisabeth married Prokop Jan Dobřenský of Dobřenice. The château was removed from the hands of the



Potštejn Castle

## DAY 3: Can you find the mythical treasure in the castle?

Potštejn Castle used to be an important settlement in the foothills of the Orlické Mountains. It is currently looked after by the municipality. Do not miss a visit and view of the landscape that is worth the climb.



Potštejn Château

Dobřenský family, who held Potštejn until 1945, by the Beneš decrees. Today the château has private owners and offers both classic interior tours and costumed guided tours. For the little ones there is the Fairy-tale exhibition, for the more courageous the Bubákov exhibition in the cellar. The Marble Hall with its rococo stucco decoration and the Chapel of the Holy Trinity will attract visitors during the interior tours.

#### Tip for trip in the area:

#### Vamberk Lace Museum

Embark on a fascinating journey into the history and present day of bobbin lace. You can try this breathtaking craft in the museum and buy a beautiful product in the shop.

#### Tips for accommodation

• Potštejn Château Hotel • Pod Rozhlednou Pension, Vrbice

#### Where to eat:

• Potštejn Clock Brewery • Pod Rozhlednou Pension, Vrbice

#### Tip for a good café:

· Potštejn Château Confectionery · Château Café Doudleby nad Orlicí

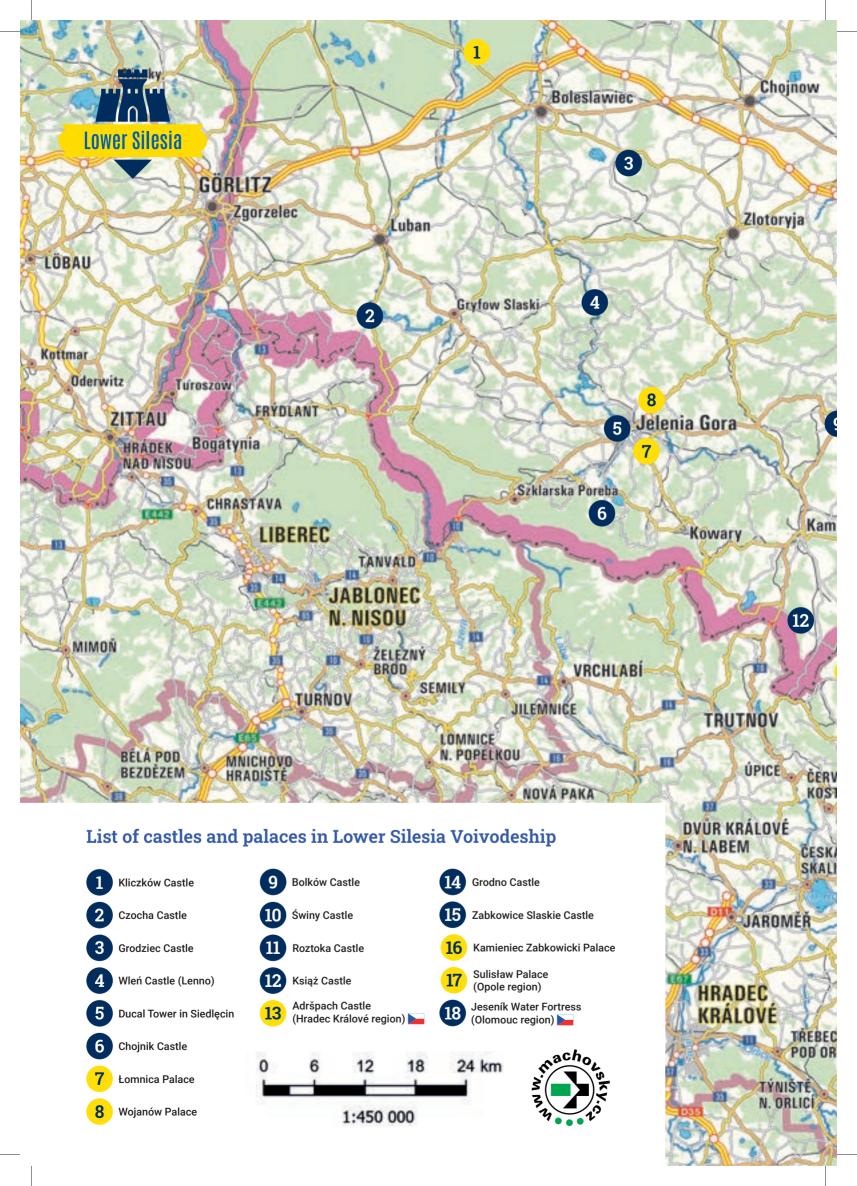
#### POTŠTEJN CASTLE

The village of Potštejn is dominated by the ruins of a once majestic castle. The Gothic castle was built by Puta of the Drslavic family, probably at the end of the 13th century. At the end of the 15th century the castle passed into the hands of the Pernštejn family, who rebuilt it as an administrative seat. Nevertheless, the castle's importance gradually declined. Its destruction was completed by Jan Antonín, Count Harbuval Chamaré, who tried to find the alleged treasure there. Alois Jirásek elaborated this hunt in his short story The Treasure.

During the tour you will see the majestic remains of the mansion, the Chapel of St. John of Nepomuk with the holy stairs, the history exhibition in the entrance gate and the "Tomb of God".

## Tip for trip in the area: Homol pilgrimage site

The Scala Sancta, the holy stairs, lead to the pilgrimage Church of Our Lady of Sorrows from the end of the 17th century on Homol Hill. They feature 153 stone steps and 16 resting places.







# In the Footsteps of Medieval Fortresses

Impressing structures that attract tourists from all over the world. Each of these objects has its unique history, architecture, and atmosphere, but they are united by their original function. They were built for defensive purposes.

#### **DAY 1: Czocha Castle**

We start our trip in the village of Sucha, where Czocha Castle towers over a rocky promontory in the bend of Lake Leśna, formed by the Kwisa River.



Czocha Castle

#### CZOCHA CASTLE

One of the most mysterious and fascinating places in Lower Silesia. It was built in the 13th century as a defensive fortress on the Czech-Silesian border, and its walls have witnessed both the Middle Ages and World War II, when it was used by the Nazis. The castle is famous for its numerous hidden passages that can be explored during a visit. Some of them lead to secret chambers, including a torture chamber and hidden treasuries. The castle is shrouded in legends, including the tragic love story of the castellan and his wife, who were separated forever. Many visitors claim to have encountered ghosts here, making the castle a popular destination for night tours. The facility offers accommodation and a wide range of culinary experiences.

Kliczków Castle

## Tip for trips in the area: SKY WALK Observation Tower -

A unique attraction overlooking the city of Świeradów-Zdrój, reaching a height of 62 meters.

**St. John's Mine in Krobica** – one of the oldest tin and cobalt mines in Poland.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- · Elements Hotel&Spa, Świeradów-Zdrój
- Krasicki Hotel Resort&SPA, Świeradów-Zdrój

- Zielony Piec Restaurant, Leśna Restaurace Babie Lato, Leśna
- · Złoty Potok Resort Restaurant, Złoty Potok





Kliczków Castle

#### DAY 2: Kliczków Castle

On the second day, we travel north in the Lower Silesian Province to the vicinity of Osiecznica, where we are greeted by the pearl of the Lower Silesian Forests - Kliczków Castle.

#### KLICZKÓW CASTLE

A stunning Renaissance residence located in Lower Silesia, near Bolesławiec. Originally built in the 13th century as a defensive fortress, the castle has undergone numerous transformations and today captivates visitors with its elegant architecture and extraordinary surroundings. Its history dates back to the Middle Ages, when it was part of a system of fortifications defending Silesia, and over the years it served as a ducal seat, an aristocratic residence, and a center of social life. Kliczków Castle is open to visitors and its interiors can be toured with a guide. The castle also offers exclusive accommodation, conferences, and special events. On-site, there is a restaurant serving dishes inspired by Lower Silesian cuisine. For visitors, there is also a spa center and a swimming pool, making it the perfect place to relax and unwind in a histori-

cal setting. One of the biggest attractions of the castle is its stables and numerous equestrian events. The castle has long cultivated the tradition of horse breeding, and in its vicinity there are pastures and equestrian centers that attract both horse lovers and professional riders. An interesting feature is the horse cemetery located in the castle park.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

**Bolesławiec Ceramic Museum** – Discover not only finished products but also the entire process of ceramic production.

**Lwówecka Switzerland** – a group of several sandstone rock towers located in Lwówek Śląski with beautiful views of the surrounding area.

#### Tip for accommodation:

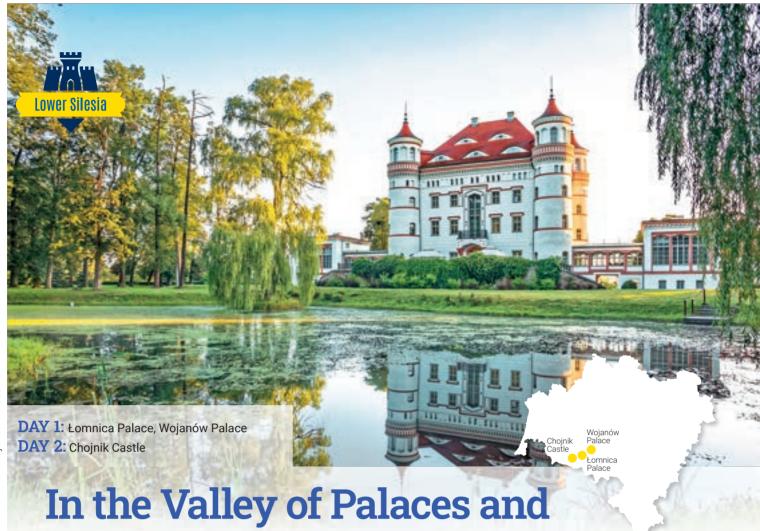
Gospoda Kruszyna, Kruszyn
 Folwark Książęcy, Kliczków

#### Where to eat:

· Gospoda Kruszyna, Kruszyn · Folwark Książęcy, Kliczków







# In the Valley of Palaces and Gardens of the Jelenia Góra Valley

Embark on an extraordinary journey through time and space, visiting unique architectural treasures. These are places where history meets nature, and every corner holds secrets and stories from bygone eras.

#### DAY 1: Lomnica Palace, Wojanów Palace

We will begin our journey with a visit to the exceptional Łomnica Palace, full of history and the charm of Lower Silesia.

#### LOMNICA PALACE

Łomnica Palace, along with the smaller palace known as the Widow's House and the farm buildings, provides a glimpse into what a noble manor, a property entirely owned by a feudal lord, looked like. The atmosphere of an old farm can still be felt here, although the old stable now houses a restaurant, the granary displays an exhibition of old agricultural tools, and a demonstration of a manor kitchen and a shop with regional souvenirs, including linen fabrics, once known as Silesian gold, has been established nearby. The interiors of the palace, which are open to visitors, are furnished as they were when it belonged to linen merchants, a trade for which Jelenia Góra and its surroundings were famous.

#### Łomnica Palace



#### WOJANÓW PALACE

Wojanów, a place where history dates back to the 13th century and has been the heart of many illustrious families. From knights to aristocrats such as the Zedlitzes and Schaffgotschs, each has left their mark here. It is thanks to them that in the palace's architecture we find a unique combination of Baroque and Neo-Gothic styles, testifying to the rich history of this place. Inside, you can see, among other things, a two-story ballroom with a gallery for the orchestra. Behind the palace, there is a landscape park, whose romantic character is emphasized by an arched bridge and a Chinese teahouse pavilion.

## Tip for trips in the area: Attractions: Łomnicka Dairy –

a member of the "Flavors of Lower Silesia" culinary trail, promoting regional cuisine, products, and traditions.

Wang Church in Karpacz – a wooden church brought from Norway in the 19th century.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- · Lake Hill Resort&SPA, Sosnówka
- · Staniszów Palace, Jelenia Góra

- · Siedlisko Pstrąga Restaurant, Myslakowice
- · Lake Hill Resort& SPA, Sosnówka





Chojnik Castle

#### **DAY 2: Chojnik Castle**

On the second day of our trip, we will begin with a visit to Chojnik Castle, a majestic fortress perched atop a mountain offering breathtaking views.

#### CHOJNIK CASTLE

Chojnik Castle is a medieval fortress perched on the summit of Chojnik Mountain (627 meters above sea level) in the Karkonosze Mountains, near Sobieszów, a district of Jelenia Góra. Surrounded by steep cliffs, the castle offers impressive and rugged scenery with spectacular views of the surrounding valleys and mountains. Built in the 14th century by Bolko II, Duke of Świdnica and Jawor, the castle served a defensive and strategic purpose. In the 17th century, it was destroyed by a fire caused by lightning and has remained a picturesque ruin ever since. Chojnik Castle can only be reached on foot, making the trip even more attractive. There are two hiking trails leading to the summit, one gentler (red) and the other more demanding (black), passing through the so-called Robber's Rocks, a picturesque and rocky section of the trail.

#### Tip for trips in the area: Cieplice Thermal Baths

- modern thermal, sports, and aqua parks, as well as a fitness and SPA zone.

Karkonosze Museum in Jelenia Góra – a museum showcasing the history, culture, and nature of the Karkonosze Mountains.



#### Tip for accommodation:

· Pakoszów Palace · Hotel Concordia, Zachełmie

#### Where to eat

• Chojnik inn, Jelenia Góra • Dwór Liczyrzepy in Karpacz







# Castles, Palaces, and Extinct Volcanoes

Grodziec Castle

Wleń Castle
(Lenno)

Swiny Castle
Bolków
Castle
in Siedlęcin

Embark on a journey through the land of ancient volcanoes and discover the secrets of medieval castles. The Land of Extinct Volcanoes Geopark is a paradise for history buffs, geology enthusiasts, and outdoor adventurers.



Bolków Castle

#### DAY 1: Bolków Castle, Świny Castle

Our journey begins with a visit to Bolków Castle, a medieval fortress famous for its unique "tear-shaped" tower - the only one of its kind in Poland - offering breathtaking views of the picturesque Nysa Szalona valley. A visit to the nearby Świny Castle is also planned.

#### BOLKÓW CASTLE

Bolków Castle boasts a long history dating back to the 13th century and is one of the most important historical monuments in Lower Silesia. The castle has a significant history as a defensive and administrative center, but after being damaged in the 18th century, it gradually fell into ruin. Today, it

is one of the best-preserved medieval castles in Lower Silesia. One of the main attractions is the castle tower, which offers stunning views of the surrounding Bolków area and the nearby Kaczawa Mountains. Climbing the tower is a great opportunity to admire the panoramic views of the region. The castle hosts both permanent and temporary exhibitions and is a venue for many historical events and cultural happenings.

#### SWINY CASTLE

A majestic medieval fortress overlooking the landscape of Bolków and the Kaczawa Mountains, its history dates back to the early Piast dynasty. After many years of closure, the castle is regaining its former glory. Visitors can admire the impressive ruins, learn more about its turbulent history, and participate in numerous events organized on the castle grounds. The exhibition space is being continuously expanded.

Tip for trips in the area: Land of Extinct Volcanoes Geopark, a UNESCO Global Geopark

Rudawy Janowickie Landscape Park

#### Tip for accommodation:

- · Red Baron Hotel in Świdnica
- Dworzysko in Szczawno-Zdrój

#### Where to eat:

• Villa Greta in Dobków • Miedzianka Brewery, Miedzianka





Grodziec Castle

#### **DAY 2: Grodziec Castle**

Our adventure continues at the magnificent Grodziec Castle, a medieval stronghold perched atop a volcanic peak. Here, we can experience the thrill of knightly tournaments and enjoy breathtaking panoramic views

#### GRODZIEC CASTLE

Grodziec Castle is one of the most picturesque and popular fortresses in Lower Silesia, located on a volcanic hill near the village of Grodziec, about 15 km from Legnica. Grodziec Castle was built in the 13th century by the Dukes of Legnica as a defensive fortress. Its strategic location on a volcanic cone ensured easy defense, making the castle a key element in the defensive system of Silesia. In the Middle Ages, it was repeatedly expanded and transformed, and its history includes periods of both prosperity and decline. After World War II, the castle fell into ruin, but in later years it was rebuilt and opened to the public.

#### Tip for trips in the area: Gold Museum and Aurelia Gold Mine in Złotoryja (zdjęcie)

#### Tip for accommodation:

- Monte Cuma Uroczysko pod Zamkiem Grodziec, Grodziec
- · Chatka Zimorodka

#### Where to eat:

• Młyn Wielisław, Sędziszowa • Zajazd u Jana



Wleń Castle (Lenno)

#### DAY 3: Wleń Castle (Lenno), Ducal Tower in Siedlęcin

The last day will be dedicated to visiting Wleń Castle, considered one of the oldest castles in Poland, and the unique Ducal Tower in Siedlęcin.

#### WLEŃ CASTLE (LENNO)

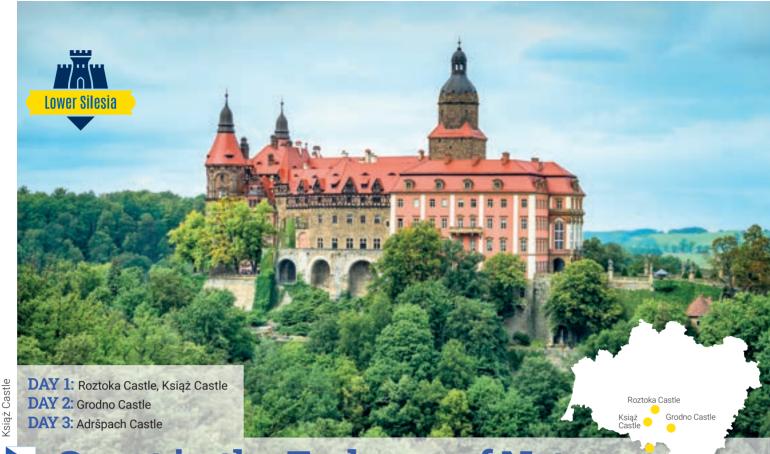
Perched on the volcanic hill Zamkowa Góra above Wleń, this castle holds a special place in Polish history. It was a favorite residence of Saint Jadwiga of Silesia, wife of Henry I the Bearded, one of the most prominent Piast dukes during the period of fragmentation. Around 1160, a Romanesque building, considered the oldest secular building in Silesia, was erected on the castle hill. This makes Wleń Castle one of the oldest castles in Poland. Although largely in ruins, the castle still preserves fragments of walls, a tower, and cellars, making it an interesting attraction for tourists.

#### DUCAL TOWER IN SIEDLĘCIN

Standing at 25 meters tall, the tower is considered one of the most interesting buildings of its kind in Silesia and one of the best-preserved in Europe. The tower's interior is famous for its well-preserved medieval frescoes. The paintings depict the story of Sir Lancelot of the Lake, one of the Knights of the Round Table. They are considered to be the oldest secular wall paintings in Silesia. Covering 33 square meters, they were executed in the secco technique on a lime whitewash.



Ducal Tower in Siedlecin



Count in the Embrace of Nature

A unique journey to the most important seats of the von Hochberg countly line located in Lower Silesia. On the way, we will visit the Bystrzyckie Lake Nature Reserve and the Adršpach-Teplice Rocks National Nature Reserve.

#### DAY 1: Roztoka Castle, Ksiaż Castle

On our itinerary, we will visit the residences of the von Hochberg countly line.



Roztoka Castle

#### ROZTOKA CASTLE

Although not as well-known as other castles in the region, it remains an interesting tourist destination. The term "castle" is used to describe the palace in Roztoka due to the surrounding moat and the fact that there was originally a water castle on this site. For centuries, it was connected with Książ Castle. Both properties were owned by the von Hochberg family for many generations. The original water castle was rebuilt into a Renaissance manor, then transformed into a Baroque palace during subsequent renovations, and finally given its current Neo-Renaissance appearance. Inside, Baroque chambers have been preserved. The historic complex consists of residential buildings surrounded by an English-style park and a French--style garden. Guided tours are available.

#### KSIAŻ CASTLE

Książ Castle is the largest castle in Lower Silesia and the third largest in Poland, after Malbork and Wawel. The castle was built between 1288 and 1292, most likely on the site of a previous defensive stronghold. It guarded the border of the principality and the trade route from Bohemia to Wrocław. The construction of the castle was initiated by Bolko I the Strict, Duke of Świdnica and Jawor, from the Piast dynasty. After the extinction of this Piast line, it became the domain of the Bohemian kings. Over time, it came into the hands of the Hochbergs. Both externally and internally, the castle bears traces of almost every architectural style that existed between the 13th and 20th centuries. The Nazi era also left its mark, with investments made without regard for the surroundings, which remain shrouded in mystery to this day. Picturesquely located in the Książ Landscape Park, it offers day and night tours of the castle's interiors, terraces, and underground tunnels from World War II. Nearby, there is a stud farm, a palm house, and the romantic ruins of Old Książ. The complex also includes hotels and restaurants.

#### Tip for thrips in the area: Church of Peace in Jawor

a UNESCO World Heritage Site

#### Porcelain Museum in Wałbrzych - a collection of Silesian porcelain and applied art.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- Dworzysko, Szczawno-Zdrój
- · Hotel Zamkowy, Wałbrzych

- · Coolturalna Montownia, Wałbrzych
- · Książęca Restaurant, Wałbrzych





Grodno Castle

#### **DAY 2: Grodno Castle**

Today, we will hike to the top of Choina Mountain (450 m above sea level), where Grodno Castle stands guard over the border between the Sowie Mountains and the Wałbrzych Mountains.

#### GRODNO CASTLE

This magnificent medieval fortress was expanded and beautified over several centuries. Opened to the public as early as the 19th century, its history dates back to 1198 when, at the behest of the Piast prince Bolesław I the Tall, a castle was built to guard the border. History and legend are intertwined in the castle's story, making it difficult to separate fact from fiction. Today, it offers guided tours and houses a Multimedia Bioeducation Center dedicated to the Choina Mountain Nature Reserve.



Grodno Castle

#### Tip for trips in the area:

Walim Tunnels and the Underground City of Osówka, built by the Germans during World War II as part of the "Riese" complex.





#### Tip for accommodation:

- Jugowice Palace
- · Hotel & Restaurant Maria Antonina, Zagórze Śląskie

#### Where to eat:

- · Hotel & Restaurant Maria Antonina, Zagórze Śląskie
- Fregata



Adršpach Castle

#### **DAY 3: Adršpach Castle**

On the last day of our trip, we will visit Adršpach Castle, located in the heart of the Adršpach-Teplice Rocks National Nature Reserve.

#### **ADRŠPACH CASTLE**

In the 15th century, a mighty castle was built on the site of today's Adršpach Castle by the Berka of Dubé family. In the early 17th century, Adam Bohdanecký of Hodkov added to its

splendor. However, it was the Nádherný family who, in 1886, gave it the final shape we know today. For over half a century, the castle belonged to this influential family. After World War II, like many other estates, it was taken over by the state. Over the years, it has served various purposes, from a boarding school to an archive. The castle offers visitors a glimpse into life during the time of Baron Nádherný, the operation of a spinning school, and the beginnings of the Czech tradition of sandstone climbing.



#### DAY 1: Sulisław Palace, Zabkowice Slaskie Castle

Join us on a trip to the magnificent Sulisław Palace in Opole region, followed by a visit to the historic town of Frankenstein - Zabkowice Slaskie in Lower Silesia

#### SULISŁAW PALACE

Built in the 17th century, Sulisław Palace captivates with its Neo-Gothic architecture. Its corner towers lend it a fairytale-like charm, and the carefully restored interiors create a unique atmosphere. Over the years, it has been home to many notable figures, including King Frederick William III of Prussia. Today, the palace is one of the most prestigious places in the region. The on-site museum houses a rich collection of porcelain, clocks, and paintings.



Sulisław Palace

#### ZABKOWICE SLASKIE CASTLE

Built around 1300 by the Piast duke Bolko I, although his son Bernard might have been the investor, the castle served as a castellany and a defensive fortress. A new Renaissance castle was erected on the site of the old one by Charles I of Poděbrady. The castle combined defensive and residential functions. After the extinction of the local Poděbrady line, the castle passed into the hands of the Bohemian king. It was inhabited by his starostas. The Thirty Years' War marked the end of the castle's glory. Today, it is a well-preserved ruin open to visitors.

#### Tip for trips in the area: Leaning Tower of Zabkowice Slaskie – the tallest leaning tower in Poland, standing at 34

meters.

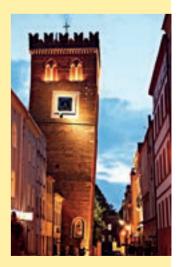
## Regional Museum in Zabkowice Slaskie -

showcasing the rich history of the city and its inhabitants.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- · Hotel Niemcza, Niemcza
- · Villa Hubertus, Špindlerův Mlýn

- · Hotel Niemcza, Niemcza
- Na Skarpie Hotel & Restaurant, Ząbkowice Śląskie





Kamieniec Zabkowicki Palace

#### DAY 2: Kamieniec Zabkowicki Palace, Jesenik Water Fortress

Next, we will visit the magnificent Neo-Gothic palace of Princess Marianne Orange-Nassau, Queen of the Netherlands in Kamieniec Zabkowicki, followed by a journey through the "Polish Carcassonne" - Paczkow, and then to the Czech Jeseníky Mountains to explore a unique water fortress.



Kamieniec Zabkowicki Palace - garden

#### KAMIENIEC ZABKOWICKI PALACE

Kamieniec Zabkowicki Palace resembles a mighty medieval castle, but it is a 19th-century romantic creation from the years 1839-1872. It was built by the Dutch princess Marianna — a woman who was very emancipated, resourceful and wealthy for those times. The princess spent the equivalent of several tons of gold on the construction of the palace. After World War II, the palace was plundered and set on fire by Soviet soldiers, and then fell into disrepair. The building is being systematically renovated. Among other things, the water parterre has been recreated, the corridor surrounding the inner courtyard, around which there are former tea rooms, has been glazed. At the foot of the palace, a fountain once again gushes 30 meters into the air, next to which the building of the former biogas plant has been preserved. The palace and park complex offers guided tours, cultural events and musical events.



Jeseník Water Fortress

#### **JESENÍK WATER FORTRESS**

The history of the fortress in Jeseník dates back to the 13th century. Initially a small tower, it was transformed into a mighty fortress and withstood numerous sieges, including during the Thirty Years' War. After being damaged by fire in the 18th century, it was rebuilt in the Baroque style. For centuries, it served as the seat of the nobility and bishops of Wrocław. Today, it is a valuable historical monument and museum, with exhibitions dedicated to local nature, particularly the history of the Jeseníky Mountains. Of particular note is the exhibition devoted to the infamous witch trials.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

**Paczkow** – Explore the medieval town square with its Renaissance town hall and fortified church, unique in Europe.

Zloty Stok Gold Mine – turistická atrakce zřízená v bývalém zlatém a arzenikovém dole ve

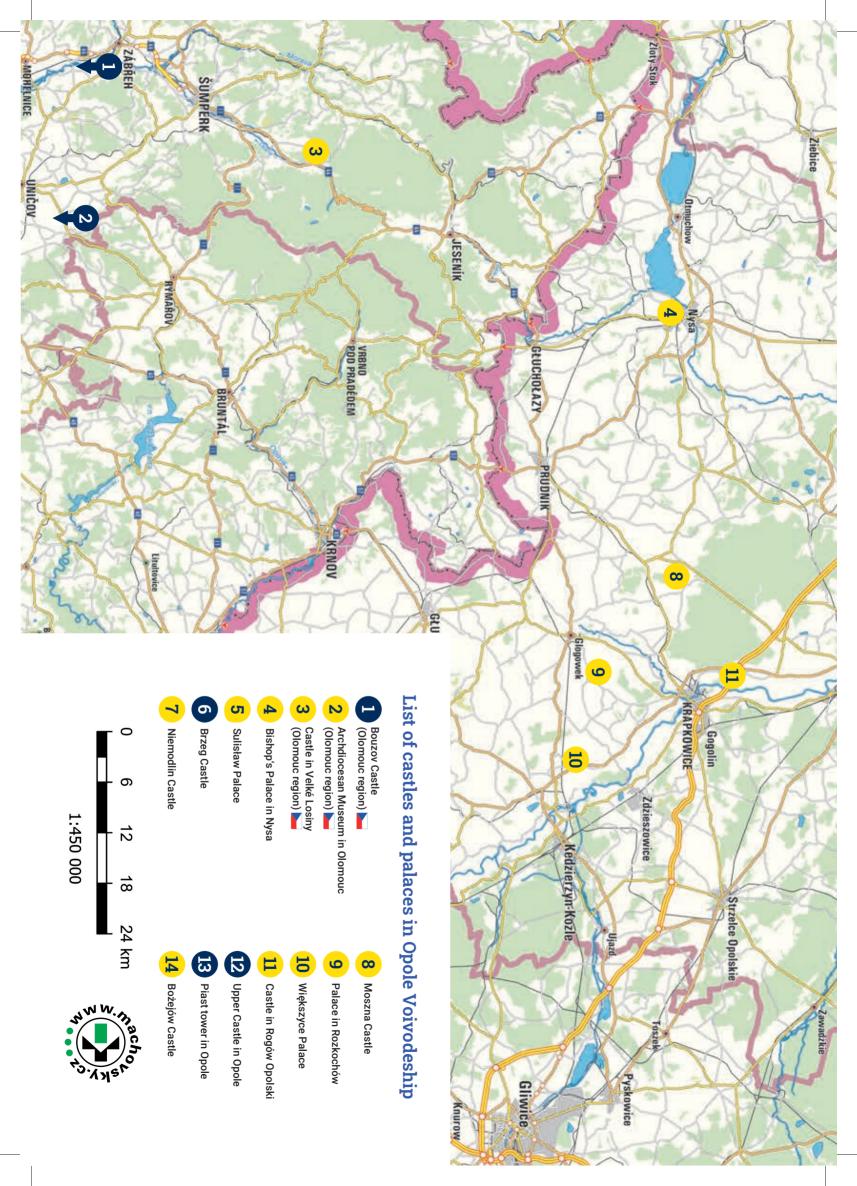
Zlatém Stoku

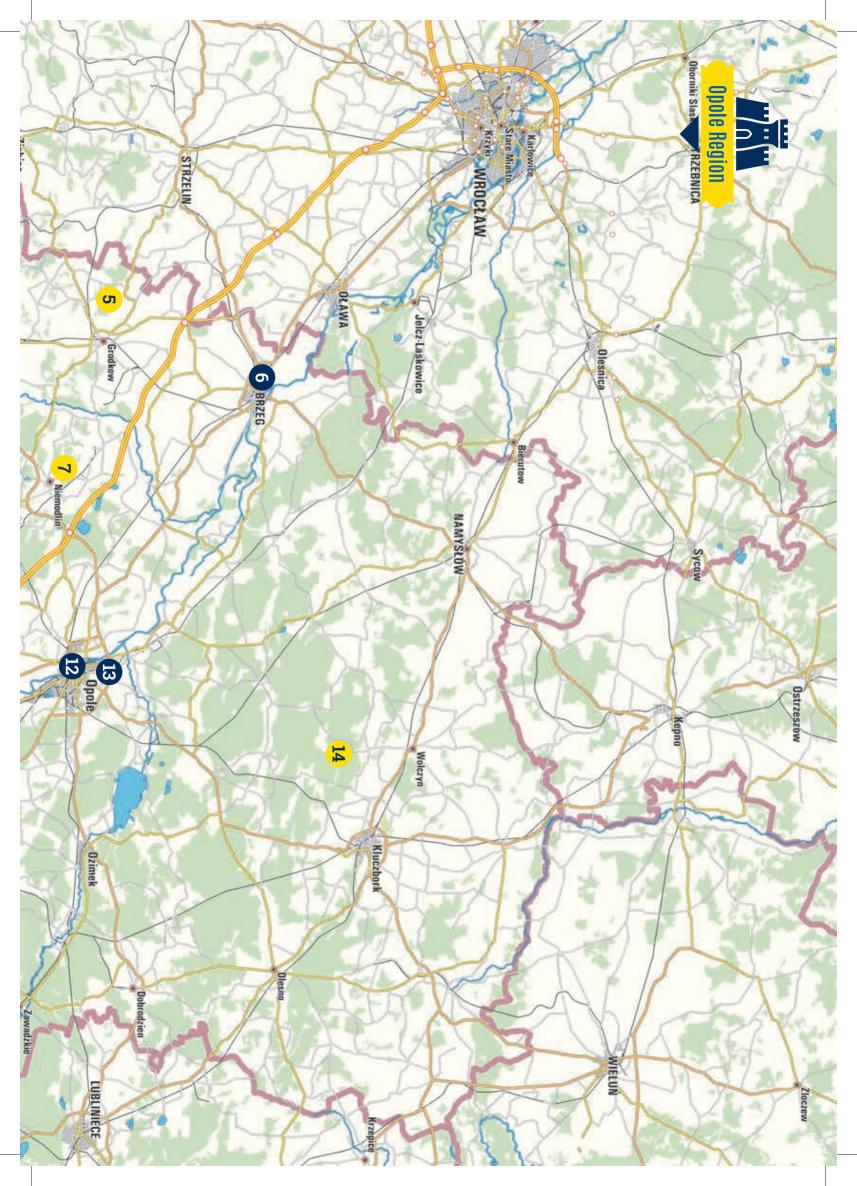
#### Tip for accommodation:

- Złoty Jar, Złoty Stok
- · Zamek Na Skale, Trzebieszowice

- · Kuźnia Smaków, Małe Pułkowo
- Stara Kruszarnia, Złoty Stok









On the Piast Trail

Embark with us on an extraordinary journey in the footsteps of the powerful Piast dynasty, which shaped the face of Silesia for centuries. We invite you to visit four unique places that hide a rich history and extraordinary secrets: the Piast Tower in Opole, the Upper Castle in Opole, the Prince's Castle in Niemodlin and the Silesian Piast Castle in Brzeg. It was within these walls that the lives of the princes took place, great plans were born and the pages of history were written.

#### **DAY 1: discover history** in the heart of Opole!

The day will begin with a visit to the Piast Tower, where you will climb one of the oldest preserved symbols of Opole, from the top of which there is a magnificent view of the city. Then you will go to the Upper Castle, where you will learn about its defensive significance.

#### PIAST TOWER

This impressive building, reaching 42 meters in height, is not only a testimony to a rich past but also a place where history meets modernity. Located on the Apiary Island, it is one of the most characteristic landmarks of Opole and the only remnant of the Piast Castle. The tower, linked to the history of the Opole Piast Dynasty, hides many secrets awaiting discovery. Take an extraordinary journey into the past, learning about its history and the significance of the entire castle for the development of Opole. The interactive exhibitions and multimedia presentations will bring you closer to the lives of the inhabitants of the medieval city. The viewing terrace offers a breathtaking panorama of Opole. You can see the city's most important monuments and the Odra River from there.

Piast Tower



#### UPPER CASTLE IN OPOLE

Visit the remains of the Upper Castle and immerse yourself in the world of the Middle Ages. Walking around the castle you will feel the vibrant history of this place, which is connected with the powerful Piast Dynasty. You will touch the past thanks to authentic artifacts, and the exhibitions will take you back to the times of knights, tournaments and great feasts. Trying on the medieval costumes and armor, you will feel like the heroes of ancient stories. Although only the tower remains today, its walls conceal the secrets still awaiting discovery.

Piast Towe

#### Tip for trips in the area:

Church of the Holy Trinity (Franciscan Church) - the tombs of the Opole Piasts (among them: Duke Władysław II Opolczyk and the granddaughter of the Polish King Władysław Łokietek - Princess

The Opole Cathedral - with the sarcophagus of the last Opole Piast - Jan Dobry

Monuments to the Piast princes in Opole - Kazimierz I Opolski, Władysław II Opolczyk, Jan II Dobry

The Opole Silesia Museum, The Polish Song Museum in Opole, Zoological Garden in Opole

#### Tip for accommodation

- Weneda Hotel in Opole Mercure Hotel in Opole
- DeSilva Hotel in Opole

- · Szara Willa Hotel (restaurant) in Opole
- · Quchnia (Kitchen) in Opole
- · Rose Ida in Opole



Brzeg Castle

# DAY 2: Traces of the Piast Dynasty's power

#### BRZEG CASTLE

Embark on an extraordinary journey through time and visit the Brzeg Castle, one of the most magnificent residences and at the same time the Silesian Piast Museum, which is the only museum in Poland that statutorily deals with the issues of the Silesian Piasts and the Piast traditions in the historical area of the Silesian Land. This Gothic and Renaissance palace, often called the "Silesian Wawel", has witnessed great events for centuries and has been the duchy vibrant centre. Walking through the castle chambers, cloisters and courtyard you will feel the atmosphere of old times. You will see places where important political decisions were made, lavish feasts were held, and works of art were created, and permanent exhibitions such as "From the Past and Traditions of the Silesian Piasts" will enchant you. The castle in Brzeg is not only a beautiful building, but above all a treasury of history.



Brzeg Castle

#### NIEMODLIN CASTLE

Come with us on a journey through time to the heart of the Opole Land, to the Niemodlin Castle!



Niemodlin Castle

This majestic castle, built by the princely family of Bolesław I, has been a defensive fortress for centuries and a witness to the turbulent history of Poland and Europe. Its walls and hidden rooms still hide many surprises, perhaps even treasures left behind by the former owners. Local residents have been passing down legends about the castle ghosts for generations, such as the story of a sad White Lady or a cheerful Aunt Elizabeth. Particularly noteworthy are the courtyard, the chapel with historic frescoes and paintings, and the crypt. In the castle cellars, you can see an exhibition of armor, a collection of icons, numerous passages, corridors and dungeons. At the entrance to one of them, there is a "power stone" - by rubbing it is supposed to give strength and energy - be sure to check it out.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

The Historic Park in Pokój, City Hall, churches in Brzeg, Winnica Jania (Jania's Vineyard) in Krzyżowice

#### Tip for accommodation:

· Sulisław Palace

#### Where to eat:

- · Wozownia restaurant in Brzeg
- Restaurant at the Leśna Przystań Resort in Osiek Grodkowski
- · Na Wyspie restaurant in Niemodlin
- · Dzik i Karp Bistro in Tułowice

59



We invite you to relax from the hustle and bustle of cities and discover history without rushing and stress. Indulge yourself a moment of respite, walking along picturesque paths and discovering the past secrets, where time moves slower.

#### DAY 1: Bożejów Castle

Today we invite you on an unforgettable journey that will reveal the most beautiful treasures of the region! You will begin your adventure at the Bożejów Hunting Castle, located in the heart of the Bory Stobrawskie (Forest).

#### **BOŻEJÓW CASTLE**

The Bożejów Castle is a harmonious combination of history and modernity. This historic hunting palace, built in 1801, has been restored with the greatest care, retaining its unique character. Today it offers guests the highest standard of accommodation services and a wide selection of the attractions. You can go for a walk around the area, take a horse-drawn carriage ride, see the fallow deer bred here or relax in the wellness & spa zone. The restaurant, in turn, is renowned for its excellent game dishes. Bożejów Castle is an ideal place for people who value peace, quiet and direct contact with wild and unspoiled nature.



Bożejów Castle



Bożejów Castle

#### Tip for trips in the area:

Regional Museum Chamber in Zagwiździe The village botanical garden in Zagwiździe The Historic Park in Pokój The Turawa Lakes

#### Tip for accommodation

· The Pawłowice Palace

- · Śtantin restaurant in Stare Siołkowice
- The Pawłowice Palace



Castle in Rogów Opolski

#### DAY 2: Palace in Rozkochów, Castle in Rogów Opolski

#### PALACE IN ROZKOCHÓW

The Palace in Rozkochów is not only a historic residence, but also a meeting place for art and culture lovers. Come for the exhibitions, concerts and other cultural events organised. Visit ART-CAFE and enjoy good coffee and cake in a unique atmosphere. The palace is called the "palace of a hundred rooms" and has a dark legend about a White Lady haunting its ruins. Only part of the facility is open to visitors, but it will captivate you with its rich history.



Palace in Rozkochów

#### **CASTLE IN ROGÓW OPOLSKI**

The castle in Rogów Opolski is an ideal place to relax from the hustle and bustle of the city. Here you can watch, among other things, a film about the history of the castle and the historical collections gathered there, and even buy publications promoting the castle and its collections. Among the most valuable exhibits here are a manuscript from 1324 and a map of Silesia from 1545. Tourists are offered accommodation in the castle and in the "House under the Cockerel". The Renaissance-Classicist castle and the neo-Gothic "House under the Cockerel" are located in a beautiful park in the English style. The rustle of old trees, dominated by oaks, ginkgo biloba, tulip trees and plane ones, encourages walks along the alees. Walking along the walls, you can see the architectural details that decorate them. On the eastern side, a portal in the fence, the tympanum of which is decorated with bas-reliefs depicting domestic fowl, a lavabo on the garden steps, and the retaining wall south of the castle, neo-Baroque groups: "Three warriors" and "Two hunters with a hunted boar". There is also a glorieta in the park - a garden gazebo.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

Farska Stodoła (Farska Barn) in Biedrzychowice

Karolinka Golf Park in Kamień Śląski

The Historic Park in Kędzierzyn-Koźle (Sławięcice)

Manual river ferry in Zdzieszowice

#### Tip for accommodation:

- · Zamkowy Młyn Hotel in Krapkowice
- Court Hotel in Kędzierzyn-Koźle
- Florres Hotel in Pawłowiczki

- The Moszna Castle
- Zamkowy Młyn restaurant in Krapkowice
- · Salve Hotel in Głogówek
- · Kamieniec restaurant in Kamień Śląski
- Restaurant in the Większyce Palace



We invite you on an extraordinary journey through time and space, during which you will discover not only the beauty of historic residences but also the richness of flavors of regional cuisine. A culinary feast awaits you in the restaurants that will ignite your senses. The delicious dishes prepared with fresh, local products will be served in an elegant setting that will transport you to the aristocracy world.

# DAY 1: Moszna Castle – a fairy-tale feast for the senses

#### MOSZNA CASTLE

Take a trip to the fairy-tale Moszna Castle! The 99 towers and 365 secret chambers have been waiting to be discovered. In spring, when the azaleas bloom, the castle's surroundings turn into a magical garden and the Musical Festival of Blooming

Azaleas attracts tourists from Poland and abroad. The castle offers accommodation in luxurious rooms and apartments, and the castle restaurant attracts with its regional cuisine specialties, allowing you to enjoy culinary history, beautifully served not only on a plate but also in the beautiful interior of the restaurant adjacent to the orangery full of exotic flowers. Moreover, while waiting for your meal you can explore the guide to the "Opolski Bifyj" culinary trail, as the castle restaurant is a member of it.



Moszna Castle

#### Tip for trips in the area:

**The Robot Factory in Moszna** is the work of Sebastian Kucharski, a science fiction and fantasy enthusiast. The museum featured exhibits that reach up to 3.5 meters in height and weight nearly a ton.

Local Product Centre in Nysa – the cooking workshops Charbielin House in Charbielin

#### Tip for accommodation:

· Zamkowy Młyn Hotel in Krapkowice

#### Where to eat:

· Zamkowy Młyn restaurant in Krapkowice



Większyce Palace

# DAY 2: Większyce Palace, Bożejów Castle – a taste for history in the heart of nature

#### WIĘKSZYCE PALACE

The Większyce Palace is the perfect place for lovers of discovering flavors. This historic building with a rich history offers, not only beautiful interiors, where the eye is drawn to the paintings on the walls, a beautiful facade and chandeliers but also excellent cuisine. The seven unique dining rooms, each with its specific character, are the perfect places for a romantic dinner, family celebration, or business meeting. After a feast for the senses, you can take a walk through the historic park.



Większyce Palace

#### BOŻEJÓW CASTLE

Discover the Bożejów Castle secrets and enjoy a sensual feast of tastes. The restaurant serves dishes inspired by ancestral cuisine, prepared according to the traditional recipes. You will try bread baked in a traditional oven, which will delight you with its aroma and taste. The restaurant's menu is based on dishes



Bożejów Castle Restaurant

using products supplied by local producers. Game dishes are a specialty, and hunting cuisine is closely linked to the facility's history. Before World War II, the owners of the castle organized hunting parties in which, among others, Archduke Franz Ferdinand and the Prussian aristocracy took part. The restaurant is a member of the "Opolski Bifyj" culinary trail.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

**The Evangelical Church** in Pokój, which regularly hosts the Carl Maria von Weber Festival of Music in Historic Parks and Gardens

The Historic Park in Pokój

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Radomierowice

#### Tip for accommodation:

- Chata w Lesie in Kęszyce
- · Szara Willa Hotel in Opole
- The Pawłowice Palace

- · Śtantin restaurant in Stare Siołkowice
- Magosz Confectionery shop in Krapkowice
- Opolanka restaurant in Opole



Embark on an unforgettable journey through the picturesque region of Opole and Moravia, where history combines with the unique beauty of nature. Start your adventure in a unique place - Sulisław Palace, which will enchant you with its offer. Moszna Castle will delight you with its fairy-tale appearance. Relax in Velké Losiny and be sure to visit Bouzov.

#### DAY 1: The vicinity of Sulisław Palace, Moszna Castle

#### SULISŁAW PALACE

Begin your journey in luxury at the palace, which houses a five-star hotel. This is a unique place where you can enjoy a range of attractions, regardless of the weather. You can relax in the spa, famous for its Ayurvedic massages, in the Roman bath and sauna, swim in the pool, take a walk in the park, or participate in yoga classes. For lovers of active recreation there is a gym, golf driving range and sports hall. The Palace also houses a museum, with wonderful collections of porcelain, gold-framed paintings and clocks.

#### MOSZNA CASTLE

Take a trip to the fairy-tale Moszna Castle! The 99 towers and 365 secret chambers have been waiting to be discovered. In spring, when the azaleas bloom, the castle's surroundings turn into a magical garden and the Musical Festival of Blooming Azaleas attracts tourists from Poland and abroad. The castle offers accommodation in luxurious rooms and apartments, in the castle restaurant history meets exquisite cuisine, creating an unforgettable culinary experience offering a journey through the flavours and traditions of Opole Silesia. In the surroundings of the fairytale castle, especially during the tourist season, tourist fairs, workshops and concerts are held. The castle also offers thematic, fairytale events. For example, the Magical Camps or Hugo Yorck's Green Schools take children into the world of magic and wizards.



Sulisław Palace

#### Tip for trips in the area:

**The Robot Factory in Moszna** is the work of Sebastian Kucharski, a science fiction and fantasy enthusiast. The museum featured exhibits that reach up to 3.5 meters in height and weight nearly a ton.

The Niemodlin Castle Fränkel's Villa in Prudnik

#### Tip for accommodation:

- · Aspen Prime Ski&Bike Resort in Podlesie
- Dębowe Wzgórze Hotel in Pokrzywna
- Conference and Recreation Center Ziemowit in Jarnołtówek

#### Where to eat:

· Zamkowy Młyn restaurant in Krapkowice



Bouzov Castle

#### DAY 2: Chateau in Velké Losiny, Bouzov Castle

#### CHATEAU IN VELKÉ LOSINY

It was built by the Žerotín family on the site of a destroyed fortress at the end of the 16th century. In the early Baroque period, it was richly furnished and survived the Thirty Years' War, allowing visitors to admire well-preserved interiors with valuable tapestries. The castle is home to the world's oldest two-seater stretcher and an extensive library. In summer, evening tours with flashlights are popular, and a walk through the castle park allows you to see rare species of trees. In 1995, the castle was declared as a national cultural monument.







Chateau in Velké Losiny

#### **BOUZOV CASTLE**

A romantic building from the turn of the 13th and 14th centuries. Until 1696 it was the property of various Czech and Moravian families, and then it passed into the hands of the Teutonic Knights. In 1945, the castle became state property. In 1999, it was declared as a national cultural monument. After reconstruction in the years 1896-1910, it gained a typically romantic appearance with battlements and bay windows. The castle's magical charm makes it a regular venue for social events, concerts, theatre performances, exhibitions and weddings. It has also played a role in many fairy tales and historical movies. Bouzov is also very popular among tourists.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

**The Papermaking Museum** in Velké Losiny has been attracting tourists for years, offering an insight into the history of paper craft and traditional paper production.

#### Tip for accommodation:

- · Istria Hotel in Velké Losiny
- · Valáškův Grunt Hotel in Bouzov

- · Istria Hotel in Velké Losiny
- Valáškův Grunt Hotel in Bouzov



Discover the treasures of history in the museum halls of castles and palaces! Embark on an extraordinary journey through the ages and delve into the secrets of the past by visiting museums hidden within the walls of castles and palaces. It is there, surrounded by historic interiors, that you will find unique art collections that tell the story of the lives of ancient rulers and aristocracy. A castle or palace is not just a building, it is also a treasure trove of history and culture. Each castle or palace museum is a kind of portal in time that will transfer you to distant eras.

#### 1. DAY: Brzeg Castle, Sulisław Palace

## CASTLE IN BRZEG -THE SILESIAN PIAST DYNASTY MUSEUM

Embark on an extraordinary journey through time and visit Brzeg Castle, one of the most magnificent residences and at the same time the Silesian Piasts Museum, which is the only museum in Poland dedicated by statute to the issues of the Silesian Piasts and the Piast traditions in the historic area



Brzeg Castle

of Silesia Land. This
Gothic-Renaissance
palace, often called the
"Silesian Wawel", has
witnessed great events
for centuries and was
the duchy's vibrant center. Walking through the
castle chambers, cloisters and courtyard, you
will feel the atmosphere
of old times. You will see
places where important

political decisions were made, lavish feasts were held as well as the artworks were created, and permanent exhibitions, such as "From the Past and Tradition of the Silesian Piasts", will enchant you. The castle in Brzeg is not only a beautiful building but above all a treasury of history.

#### SULISŁAW PALACE – SULISLAW PALACE MUSEUM

In the Museum, located in a picturesque palace, you will find art treasures from around the world. The Porcelain Collection will delight you with its beauty and diversity, the collection of Portraits in gold frames will take you back in time and allow you to learn the stories of extraordinary people, and the Clock Collection, which is constantly being expanded, will present precisely crafted exhibits. Come to the classical music concerts that will transport you to the world of Józef Elsner and Silvius Leopold Weiss, outstanding composers born in nearby Grodków. Discover new exhibitions that change regularly, so you can see works of art you have never heard of before. Be sure to attend the author meetings with artists, historians and other interesting people.

#### Tip for trips in the area:

Town Hall, St. Nicholas Church, Church of the Exaltation of the Holy

Winnica Jania (Jania's Vineyard) in Krzyżowice The Leśna Przystań Resort in Osiek Grodkowski

#### Tip for accommodation:

The Leśna Przystań Resort in Osiek Grodkowski

- Wozownia restaurant in Brzeg
- Restaurant at the Leśna Przystań Resort in Osiek Grodkowski



The District Museum in Nysa

#### DAY 2: Bishop's Palace in Nysa – the District Museum in Nysa

## BISHOP'S PALACE IN NYSA – THE DISTRICT MUSEUM IN NYSA

Do you want to learn about the rich history of Opole Silesia? Be sure to visit the District Museum in Nysa, the oldest museum institution in the region! Located in the historic Bishop's Palace, the museum invites you on an extraordinary journey throughout the ages. Here, among the historic interiors, you will discover unique collections of art, artistic crafts and archaeological finds, you will see works of European painting, a collection of furniture, porcelain and many other exhibits. The museum also hosts many permanent and temporary exhibitions that will introduce you not only to the history of this area but also to the many legends and secrets. In addition to sightseeing, the museum organizes numerous events: workshops, lectures, and meetings with the artists. This is an excellent opportunity to expand your knowledge and have a good time in a relaxed atmosphere.



The District Museum in Nysa

#### ARCHDIOCESAN MUSEUM IN OLOMOUC

We invite you on an extraordinary journey through the ages, to the heart of the spiritual history of Moravia – the Archdiocesan Museum in Olomouc. It is the only museum in the Czech Republic that has been awarded the prestigious European



Archdiocesan Museum in Olomouc

Heritage Label, which proves its exceptional value for the whole of Europe. Immerse yourself in the thousand-year history of the Olomouc Archdiocese and admire unique works of art that have served the faithful for centuries. Discover the secrets surrounding the assassination of Wacław III King and learn more about the stay of the famous composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in Olomouc. Admire the richly decorated bishop's carriage, the treasury, original Romanesque windows and the collection of paintings – these are just some of the over 300 exhibits you can see there.

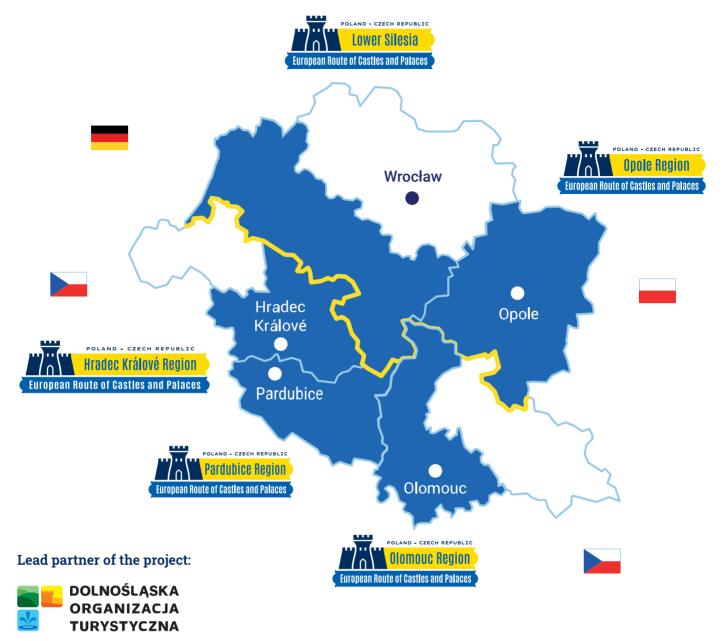
#### Tip for trips in the area:

Basilica of St. James and St. Agnes in Nysa with the Treasury of St. James, The Gas Museum in Paczków, The castle in Otmuchów, Market Square, Church of St. Lawrence, the Upper Gate Tower, Spa Park in Głuchołazy

#### Tip for accommodation:

- Aspen Prime Ski&Bike Resort in Podlesie
- Conference and Recreation Center Ziemowit in Jarnołtówek
- · Dębowe Wzgórze Hotel in Pokrzywna

- BOSQA restaurant, Aspen Prime Ski&Bike Resort in Podlesie
- Restaurant of the Dębowe Wzgórze Hotel in Pokrzywna



www.dolnyslask.travel

#### **Project partners:**



www.ok-tourism.cz



www.vychodnicechy.info

Královéhradecká krajská centrála cestovního ruchu

www.hkregion.cz



www.visitopolskie.pl





### Czechia - Poland

Published within the framework of the project "Castles and Palaces Connect Us II" No. CZ.11.02.01/00/23\_004/0000078. The project entitled "Castles and Palaces Connect Us II" is co-financed by the European Union from the European Regional Development Fund under the Interreg Czech-Polish Cross-border Cooperation Programme 2021-2027.