



# ČESKÝ KRUMLOV



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# ČESKÝ KRUMLOV







❖ **The coat of arms** of the town of Český Krumlov on the Town Hall facade consist of the town gate with ramparts and a shield with the Rosenberg rose above them. The rose is held on by Eggenberg ravens. The look comes from the year 1671.



*The truly unique town disposition had been created over the course of centuries within the complex terrain along the banks of the **Moldau River**, whose curves closed the town but protected it, too.*

## ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

Český Krumlov, a town populated by fourteen thousand inhabitants, and Prague are the most frequently visited urban reservations in the Czech Republic. In 1992, this little town in South Bohemia was one of the very first Czech monuments included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. Similarly to Prague, the historic centre of Krumlov is situated on the **Moldau (Vltava) River**. While the charming, primeval town that has never lost its medieval character is stretched on one bank, the other bank is dominated by a magnificent castle and chateau seated on a huge rock. While enjoying the impressive panoramic views, it would be no surprise for many of you to learn

that in 2008 the prestigious **National Geographic** magazine classified this locality as the sixteenth most beautiful historic site in the world.

When introducing the highlights of Krumlov, we have to mention the extensive castle premises. After Prague Castle, the residence of Czech Kings, the castle and chateau in Český Krumlov is the **second largest noble residence** in the Czech Republic. The astounding feudal residence clearly demonstrates a very important rule of this country. From the 15<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, it was a matter of fact in Bohemia that – apart from brief exceptions – the nobleman who possessed Krumlov was the wealthiest one in the Kingdom. The wealth of Krumlov nobility is demonstrated by the Castle The

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wealth of Krumlov nobility is evidenced to this day by castle interiors, some of which are open to the public year-round. The most intensive development period of this South Bohemian aristocratic residence was the Renaissance and Baroque era (16<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> centuries). Every year, the famous history of Český Krumlov is brought back to life by the end of June. On the occasion of the **Five-Petaled Rose Celebrations**, spectacular parades are held in the town and in the castle and crowds of people wearing historic costumes of the noblemen, courtiers and townspeople are everywhere. The lanes bustle with traditional fairs, music and joy. The celebrations were grandiose in **2009** as it was precisely **seven hundred years** since Krumlov was first mentioned as a town. The picturesque houses previously occupied by local townsfolk are now guest houses, galleries, museums, little shops and various themed pubs. The magic of Český Krumlov is accentuated by the fact that the little town is situated in the charming South Bohemian landscape under the Šumava Mountains, at the foothills of the Blanský Forest.

## HISTORY

Although archaeological research mentions ancient and early medieval settlement, any wider colonization was not achieved in this area until the 13th



*During the Summer **Five-Petaled Rose Celebration** the residents recall the history of the town, in particular its bloom under the rule of the last Rosenbergs.*

century. At this place, the Moldau (Vltava) River turns several times, creating a series of meanders. The terrain disposition is also the origin of the local name – Chrumbenowe (Krummau) – which means “crooked plain” or “crooked meadow”. The locality is first mentioned under this name in 1253 as one of the main residential places of the Witigonen (the **Vítkovci**). The large noble dynasty divided into several branches, and their coats of arms were distinctive with roses: each family branch used a different color. The Witigonen, who founded Český Krumlov, are believed to have had the green rose on their shields. When the





## THE RED ROSE AND THE BEARS

❖ Various Krumlov buildings are distinctive due to the coats of arms that show the **Rosenberg rose**. The emblem was mentioned in connection with the Rosenberg ancestors at the turn of the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. Vítěk of Přice, the forefather of the Vítkovci (Witigonen) family († 1194), divided his property among his descendants. In his coats of arms each of them was given a rose of a different color. The Rosenbergs' rose was red. In the course of time, a true event from the end of the 12th century established a family **legend "About rose splitting"**, which was an inspiration for the well-known painting displayed within the Castle Tour No. 1.

❖ In Český Krumlov you may come across a younger version of the Rosenberg (Rožmberk) coats of arms, which comes from the mid 16th century. It was the time when Wilhelm von Rosenberg was developing the fictional story from the 15th century about the affiliation of the Rosenbergs with the **Italian Orsini family**, who had derived its origin from ancient heroes. Wilhelm even imitated the Orsini coat of arms: the red rose, the golden beam



and the red-and-silver oblique stripes. The Italian word "**orsa**" means "**she-bear**" and Wilhelm presented his fabulous Italian ancestors through a clear symbol, the **bears** who were bred at the castle premises. Bears are shown as shield-holders on both sides of the Rosenberg coat of arms. Having kept his armorial animals at the Krumlov residence, he established a breeding tradition that has survived four centuries. The moat between the first and second castle courtyards used to be occupied by Vok the bear († 2016); the moat is presently home to a **bears** named **Marie Terezie, Vilém** and **Polyxena**.

first castle lords died off, their domain went to the hands of their relatives, the **Rosenbergs (Rožmberkové)**, in 1302). The Rosenbergs were the Witigonen with the red rose in their coat of arms. The new lords soon established their residence in Krumlov so the castle and the adjacent fair village developed greatly. In 1309 the village was first mentioned as a town.

The Rosenbergs were considered one of the most powerful noble families in the Czech Kingdom. They obviously were in 1394 and 1402, when – standing at the head of the noble rebellion – they (twice) put Wenceslas IV, Czech King and Roman Emperor, in the jail in Český Krumlov. Their ambitions went even further in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, when **Ulrich II von Rosenberg** took advantage of unrest during the Hussite



Castle owners with coats of arms: Wilhelm von Rosenberg, Johann Christian von Eggenberg, Joseph Adam von Schwarzenberg.

Wars and acquired new, vast domains and developed Krumlov Castle. The Gothic look of the residence was mostly lost during extensive Renaissance renovations under the rule of **Wilhelm von Rosenberg** in the second half of the 16th century. That was the time when the castle was developing into a chateau. The extensive remodeling of the Krumlov residence was initiated by strict requirements for a fit appearance during the rapidly developing political

career of Wilhelm the ruler. This influential member of the Rosenberg dynasty was the Supreme Burgrave in Prague, in fact, the Czech viceroy. He was awarded the **Order of the Golden Fleece** – one of the most prestigious awards within the Catholic aristocracy – by Philip II, King of Spain. Twice – in 1573 and 1575 – he was a possible candidate to the Polish throne.

Under Wilhelm's reign, the Rosenberg dominion bloomed. Many of the





The part of the town called **Latrán** had developed spontaneously near the Castle. The name for the little lanes comes from the Latin word "latus" i.e. "side" or "side part".

town citizens found inspiration in the spectacular remodeling of the noble residence, which is obvious from the Krumlov houses decorated with frescos

and sgraffito. Wilhelm picked up on the previous mining activities in the surroundings of Český Krumlov and established a lot of ponds. However,

## THE WHITE LADY

❖ In the 16th century, noble German families would brag about the White Lady spirit who, depending on her black or white dress (in some versions, gloves) was able to predict a birth or death within the family. The Lords of Krumlov wanted to compete with German noblemen so they took over the concept of the White Lady. In the Rosenberg family, the legend about the supernatural creature **was first mentioned in 1577**. It was not until the 17<sup>th</sup> century that the White Lady was first connected to a specific historical person, the soul of unhappy **Perchta von Rosenberg** (1429–1476; in the picture), who was ill-treated and eventually cursed by her husband. Her portraits are displayed in several South Bohemian castles where Perchta's spirit had allegedly been seen. Český Krumlov, of course, is no exception.



this type of activities – and also many other businesses – were not capable of yielding enough money to satisfy the high demands of the ruler. Wilhelm would have had to sell off the Rosenberg domains and go bankrupt if he had not passed away in 1592. It was his younger brother **Petr Vok** who had to find a solution to the financial problems. Between 1601 and 1602, this very last Rosenberg ruler decided to save Český Krumlov by selling it to Emperor **Rudolph II**, and he moved to the Třeboň Chateau. From a young man in a hurry, Petr Vok grew up to become an extraordinarily distinctive personality with deep interest in culture. His library was extremely valuable and widely

recognized. By his passing in **1611 the Rosenberg dynasty died out**.

After **1602**, when the Krumlov domain was bought by the **Habsburg** family, the building activities and the energy of the last Rosenbergs dwindled away in Český Krumlov, but the name of the chateau was cited across Europe. It was mainly in connection with the scandalous lifestyle of the mad illegitimate son of Emperor Rudolph II – don Julius Caesar d'Austria, who lived in the residence until his death in 1609.

Český Krumlov was in the hands of the ruler until 1622, when it was acquired by the family of **Eggenberg** from Styria. They were just a wealthy ennobled town





The **Budějovická Gate** used to protect the access to the town (1598–1602, Domenico Benedetto Cometta of Eckthurn). Out of the originally nine gates, this is the only one which has been preserved.

family from Graz in Austria. The missing generations of noble ancestors were substituted by the noble title of Duke of Krumlov. The ennobled duchy was established by Emperor Ferdinand II in 1628. Without reference to Moravia and Silesia, the Krumlov dominion of the period between 1634 and 1785 was the only domain in Bohemia connected with the title of Duke. Krumlov dukes were proud of one of the most honored positions at the coronation of Czech kings at Prague Castle. The coat of arms used by the Duke of Krumlov followed from the Rosenberg tradition. The South Bohemian Duchy was symbolized by **five red roses**. This emblem was used by three generations of the Eggenberg family. It was only the last representatives of the family, **Johann Christian** and **Marie Ernestine von Eggenberg**, who settled in Krumlov and in the second

half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century restored the fame of the previously deserted Rosenberg residence. They made the residence a very important social and cultural center because they loved music, opera and ballet. In addition, Marie Ernestine von Eggenberg had the library extended. At present, the library is the second largest castle **library** in the Czech Republic. Out of many deeds of the princely couple, we will mention the construction of the **theater at the 5th Courtyard**, development of the castle gardens and erection of the plague column at the square.

In 1719 Český Krumlov was inherited by the **Schwarzenberg** family, who came from Lower Franconia in Germany. They had other domains in Austria and from the mid 17<sup>th</sup> century they owned the domain of Třeboň and Hluboká in Bohemia. Connecting the dominions with the



The **Cloak Bridge** connects the fourth and the fifth courtyard. In addition, it supports sheltered corridors that are directed to the Baroque Theater and Castle Gardens.

Krumlov domain, the Schwarzenbergs became undoubtedly the wealthiest noble family in the country. They used the title of Duke of Krumlov as well. **Joseph Adam von Schwarzenberg**,

in particular, loved Krumlov Castle. His wife, Marie Therese von Schwarzenberg, once described the Krumlov residence as “the little palace full of magic”. During their rule, between 1741





The panoramic picture shows two town parts, divided by the Moldau River: the **Inner Town** and the **Latrán**.



The **Rosenberg Rider** with the family emblem on the shield was not shown only on Rosenberg seals and gravestones. You can see it on town houses, too (Latrán No. 39)

and 1782, the noble residence was given its current appearance. The Castle Theater, the **Cloak Bridge** and the **Bellarie Summer House** were remodeled. The **winter riding hall** was founded near the gardens. New halls were built to provide entertainment for the noble residents – the **Masquerade Hall and the Mirror Hall**.

However, at the beginning of the **19th century** the noble family paid less and less attention to the castle, in particular when the castle in Hluboká became their new family residence. On the other hand, under the castle social activities began developing greatly.

In the middle of the 19th century, the Krumlov townspeople were no longer villains and took administration of the town and town life into their own hands.

... In the right part there is the Minorite monastery with the New Town garden, and Klet Mountain can be seen in the background (1,084 m above sea-level).

The industrial revolution did not change much in the look of Krumlov. A big part of the ramparts was demolished but the medieval appearance of the town was, in fact, preserved. The German and Czech inhabitants lived – more or less – in a symbiosis. However, when nationalism took over, conflicts did appear. The unrest culminated in **1938**, when – via the Munich Agreement – Český Krumlov was annexed to Hitler's German Empire. In May **1945** the town, as a part of restored Czechoslovakia, was liberated by the US Army. The end of the war resulted in **displacement of the German population**. Fundamental proprietary changes affected Krumlov Castle, too. The last owner, Dr. Adolf Schwarzenberg, clearly indicated his attitude towards the developing Nazism in the mostly

German Český Krumlov in 1937, when he invited the Czechoslovak President Edvard Beneš to his castle. Adolf Schwarzenberg was exiled and in **1940** the Nazis confiscated his property. In **1947 it was expropriated by the Czechoslovak government**. During the post-war period the town went through some development. Fortunately enough, the historic center, in fact, was not disrupted by the modern building technologies. The end of the communist regime in **1989** offered Český Krumlov an opportunity to become one of the most attractive tourist destinations in the Czech Republic.





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Vltava →

← Vltava

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Access to the castle premises from the area in front of the **Red Gate**.

THE CASTLE AND CHATEAU Lower Castle

The extensive castle and chateau premises, after Prague Castle the second largest noble residence in the Czech Republic, has developed over the course of seven centuries. The spacious residence was touched with various architectonic styles – Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, Rococo and Classicism. The hillock above the Moldau (Vltava) River is built up with **nearly forty structures of the medieval castle and new age chateau**. During the development, the builders followed an interesting rule. Except in one case, you would not identify two identical chimneys.

The borderline between the town and the castle is created by the Castle Steps and the **Red Gate**. They both provide access to **Courtyard I**, formerly the economic background of the noble residence. The little houses were inhabited by craftsmen and servants. In addition, it was the place where domestic animals were bred. No wonder then that the locality used to be known as **Rejdiště** (“run for domestic animals”). Despite the regulation by Wilhelm von Rosenberg, hogs owned by the townsfolk used to run into the courtyard, which was punished by confiscation and slaughter of the guilty animal. The courtyard

CASTLE TOWER

❖ The notional centre of Český Krumlov is the **Little Castle (Hrádek)**, the tower and the adjacent palace. It is the oldest preserved part of Krumlov Castle. According to the recent dendrochronological analysis (age determination in preserved wooden elements by means of year rings), the third story of the castle tower was built during the 1291–1313 period (or even earlier). The oval defensive tower (called “berkfrit”) was, for the sake of defense, only accessible at the level of the second story. In addition, we are reminded of the medieval origin of the building by two bells dated 1406.

❖ The Little Castle lost its Gothic character during the remodeling at the end of the period of Wilhelm von Rosenberg, in the 1580s and 1590s, when architect **Baldassar Maggi from Arogno** added more stories, making the tower 54.5 m tall (6 stories). The tower was provided with an arcaded gallery at the top. The Little Castle was decorated with mural paintings in the mannerism style by Bartoloměj Beránek-Jelínek. It seems that the decorations inside the tower symbolize the period’s alchemistic and astrological ideas: perhaps the specific astrological situation connected with the birth of Wilhelm of Rosenberg is displayed. The Renaissance wall decorations in the Little Castle were restored at the end of the 20th century.



Tower height	54.5 m
Number of steps	162
Maximum tower diameter	12 m
Maximum wall thickness	3.7 m
Number of bells	4

❖ **The gallery** is accessible by means of the period staircase that had been built despite the thick peripheral wall. If you climb up, you will be amazed by the impressive historical center and by the panoramic views of the surroundings, too. The spaces of the Small Castle adjacent to the tower are used for exhibits for the Castle Museum, which is open year-round.

is surrounded by several buildings: the Gothic **Solnice (Salt-house)** was originally used as a malt plant and granary (today’s **Tourist Information Centre**); the old Burgrave’s Residence; the former Rosenberg Brewery, Lordly Hospital, Baroque carriage halls and large stables, now used as expositions

of original Baroque sculptures (so-called **Lapidarium**) – refer to Page 21.  
The path to **Courtyard II** is directed over the bridge across the moat in which **bears** are kept. The most distinctive element is the **Little Castle with the Tower**. This oldest preserved part of the castle is extended with



## CASTLE MUSEUM

❖ The Castle Museum was **opened on 11 January 2011** in reconstructed, previously unused premises of the so-called **Little Castle**. An **Exhibition, open all year round**, introduces the history of the Český Krumlov Château as a whole. Most of exhibits have come from the Château depositories and been presented to the public for the first time. The overall concept of the exposition drew inspiration from “the Golden Era of the European Museum Installations” in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

❖ The **Hall of the Lords of the Rose** and the **Hall of the Dukes of Krumlov** evoke the history from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Apart from other things, you can have a look at Gothic stained glass windows dating back to the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the original edition of **Schedel's Chronicle** from 1493, the **Order of the Golden Fleece**, and the family trees and paintings of the Krumlov estate owners. In the Museum you can see a furnished **office of the estate management** or an **apartment of a high official of the princely family** dating back to the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The exhibits showing the everyday spiritual life and piety of our ancestors are on display in the so-called **Treasury of Ecclesiastical Art**, dominated by the **relics of St Reparata**.



*A reliquary with the relics of **St Reparata** from the catacombs of Rome is on display in the part called the “Treasury of Ecclesiastical Art”.*

An **armoury** shows, besides Persian armour, firearms and cutting weapons to hunt and fight with from the 17<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Rifles, sabres, uniforms, and musical instruments act as a reminder of the **Schwarzenberg Grenadier Guard** which guarded the Krumlov Château in the period of 1742–1948. The Castle Museum exposition ends with period photographs and a **Cinema** – scenes of the Château, town, from hunting or sporting activities of the Schwarzenbergs.

❖ Individual tours take place all year round; foreign-language texts and audio guides are available; you can combine your visit with climbing a tower.



*Autor of the model: Jiří Krampera*

*A model of the **Castle** shows what the complex looked like in the middle of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Visitors can have a look at it in an entrance centre where they can also find a **café** and **museum shop**.*



***Courtyard II** – From the left: Baroque **Mint** (ticket office), access to the **Upper Castle** over the filled moat, hidden behind the tree: **Maseľnice** (churn). On the right: **New Burgrave's House**. The powder guns are reminiscent of the period of the **Schwarzenberg Guard**.*

two wings of the **New Burgrave's House** (Buchhalterie), decorated in various shades of gray with use of a specific Renaissance technique called **chiaroscuro**, which is unique in central Europe. The Buchhalterie, built between 1577 and 1578, was the administration center of the large domain (now the archive and the castle library). In the 1580s the **Mint House** was built on the opposite side of the courtyard, today's main Ticket Office. In front of the entrance in the Upper Castle you will see the **Maseľnice** (Churn) with Renaissance front, whose main part is an older Gothic house. The name recalls that the building was used for butter and dairy manufacture. The second castle



*The Renaissance gable of the **Maseľnice** (Churn) building.*





*Courtyard III still keeps its Renaissance character. The abundant paintings inspired by **ancient history** are probably the work of **Gabriel de Blonde** (around 1575).*

courtyard was also called the guard yard as the first floor of the Buchhalterie, at the cannons, was occupied by the **Schwarzenberg Grenade Guard** (1742–1948).

### Upper Castle

The vaulted, steeply climbing corridor with a wooden floor connects Courtyard II with the large palace complex of the Upper Castle, representative and private premises of the noblemen and their closest courtiers. The palace wings, situated on top

of the rock massif, encircle **Courtyard III and IV**, decorated with Renaissance wall paintings. Artists' brushes had created an illusion of various building elements, with statues inspired by ancient history and mythology. The frescos are completed with characteristic sgraffito. There are the seven Planets, the four Natural Elements and the five Senses. As regards older architectonic elements, **Courtyard IV** is distinctive with late Gothic profiled window reveals and a decorative alcove. From the passage after Courtyard IV you can access the large, three-story Wenceslas Cellars where a permanent exhibition of present artistic ceramic creations is offered. **The rear part of**

**the castle** was protected by robust adjacent fortifications called a “cloak”, which was later used for the name of the monumental **Cloak Bridge** (Page 11). It arches over the rock gap between the Upper Castle and **Courtyard V**. Two corridors above the bridge were built sometime in the second half of the 17th century. They allowed the noblemen to access the Castle Gardens and Theater unnoticed. The building of the court theater was built in the 1680s on order by Johann Christian von Eggenberg. Nearly a hundred years later, the theater was remodeled in the rococo style. Along with the Renaissance house and medieval fortification wall with partially preserved crenelation the Theater outlines the space of the fifth courtyard.

The nearly eleven– hectare-large **Castle Gardens** were developed behind it.

Immense cultural heritage is found in particular in the Upper Castle rooms, where a variety of facilities, artistic pieces and other exhibits are stored and in part presented, too. Altogether, the facilities, furniture and equipment are considered one of the richest castle depositories in the Czech Republic. The premises are now open within **Tours**: two of them offer the area of the Upper Castle while the third will offer the **Castle Theater**. In addition, you can climb the **Tower** or visit the castle **Lapidarium**.



*Courtyard IV is connected with Courtyard III by means of paintings. The author is unknown.*





The rooms, formerly the residences of the **last Rosenberg rulers**, have been furnished in the Renaissance style / **Tour No. 1**.

**The Rosenberg Room I** is now — like in the period of the 1600s — furnished as the Dining Room. The walls are decorated with wall carpets (17th century) / **Tour No. 1**.



The wall paintings in the **Renaissance Room III** (1577) with biblical motifs also express the ambitions and longing of the last Rosenbergs for a successor / **Tour No. 1**.

**The Renaissance anterooms** are decorated with ceiling cassettes depicting the Rosenberg five-petaled rose / **Tour No. 1**.







**The Castle Chapel** consecrated to **St. George** is first mentioned in 1334. The present rococo decorations come from the middle of the 18th century / **Tour No. 1**.



**The Baroque Dining Room** with an expandable table is decorated with a tapestry. The floor comprises various precious woods / **Tour No. 1**.



**The bedroom** was used by **Princess Eleonore Amalia von Schwarzenberg**. It includes a lounge in the Oriental style and a private chapel / **Tour No. 1**.

**Baldachin Lounge**. It was used as a visitor's lounge, for informal guests, for conversation and board games. It is decorated with — once fashionable — decorative items brought from the Orient and Venetian mirrors / **Tour No. 1**.





## GOLDEN EGGENBERG CARRIAGE



❖ The oldest preserved carriage in the Czech Lands was made in Rome in **1638** by Guiseppe Fiocchi on order by Johann Anton von Eggenberg, the Duke of Krumlov, who was asked to lead an important political mission, a journey to Rome to visit the Pope. The magnificent carriage, a part of an imposing parade in the streets of Rome, was carrying **gifts for Pope Urban VIII**. It was pulled by six horses whose shoes were silver, while the shoes of the Duke's horse were made of gold. In addition, the participants

in the parade were wearing clothes orphreyed with gold and silver. The carriage is decorated with carvings and gold stamping. Besides a variety of ancient motifs, there are Rosenberg roses, the armorial symbol of the Lords of Krumlov. The carriage has been kept in Krumlov Castle since the 17th century as a reminder of the pompous legation to Rome (now **Castle Tour No.1**). At that time, the Report on the mission to Rome was kept in the castle dome.

**Tour No. 1** offers the visitors the oldest and the most representative premises. St. George's Chapel was an integrated part of the noble residence. Its oblong windows indicate that it was originally built in the Gothic style in the first half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century. After a series of adaptations, today's appearance comes from the Rococo period in the middle

of the 18th century. The main altar – besides the sculpture of St. George, the patron, is decorated with relics of St. Calixte. Another very old, preserved part of the castle interior is a small Gothic chapel consecrated to St. Catherine from the 15<sup>th</sup> century. It is distinctive for the original medieval mosaic window. In private rooms of the last members

## MASQUERADE HALL

❖ The Masquerade Hall is one of the most charming interiors in Krumlov Castle. Its walls were decorated in **1748** by **Josef Lederer**, whose paintings depict noblemen enjoying a fancy-dress ball full of masks and foreign costumes.

❖ The merry aristocratic company comprises **135 figures** of Turks, Chinese, soldiers, gardeners, pilgrims, villagers and other figures. The space is occupied mostly by figures connected to the then very popular **Italian commedia dell'arte**. The gentleman in the mask of Il Dottore, the "educated" man who only knows nonsense, is provoking ladies with a syringe, hidden at the upper balcony. Then there is the cheating wife of jealous Pantalone, together with another figure making derisive gestures. There is no doubt that the king of the commedia dell'arte is **Harlequin**. His mask, decorated with color patches, is worn by a gentleman and his lady – but by a tamed monkey, too. One cannot miss the most famous theater figure – the melancholic lover with the French name **Pierot**.



❖ The wide range of the masks in the style of commedia dell'arte is completed by Austrian and Bavarian comic figures of Hans-Wursts and by a ghost. At the gallery, where musicians used to play, you can see pictures of their instruments. On the wall that hides the changing rooms you will identify the disguise garments hanging on hooks. The Masquerade Hall is full of hidden symbols, jokes and clues. Even the painter, Josef Lederer, is looking up, checking his creations. He painted himself as a participant in the ball. The famous Hall is included in the Castle Tour No. 1.







*The rooms of Princess Eleonore von Schwarzenberg are now furnished exactly in the same way as they used to be, following the inventory lists and photographs from the 2nd half of the 19th century / Tour No. 2.*



*The study room of Princess von Schwarzenberg is decorated with tapestry collections. They were woven during the 1620–1630 period / Tour No. 2.*

of the Rosenberg family, furnished in the style of Renaissance interiors at the end of the 16th and beginning of the 17th century, you can admire preserved wall paintings (1577) with biblical motifs. The theme of the decorations

in this section of the castle clearly indicates the immense desire of the last Rosenbergs for a successor. The Tour then continues to the fifth story of the southern wing, where Baroque interiors used by princes in the second half of



*Most of the paintings in the castle gallery come from Dutch Masters of the 17th century / Tour No. 2.*

the 17th and first half of the 18th century are located. Besides the Eggenberg Hall with the **Golden Carriage** there is the so-called antekamera (ante-chamber), the dining room with expandable table, the Baldachin Room and the bedroom with a decorated furnace and a gold-plated stove. Precious tapestries are worth mentioning, too. The set of tapestries, installed along the route of either tour here and in the Hluboká Chateau too, is among the richest noble collections in Europe, after papal and

royal sets in the Vatican City, Vienna, Stockholm and Cracow. The jewel of the tour is the Masquerade Hall whose walls are decorated with figures of fancy ball attendees.

**Tour No. 2** is connected with generations of the Schwarzenberg family, who lived in the castle at the end of the 18th century and in the 19th century. The princely family lived in the rooms furnished in the fashion style of classicism, Biedermeier and pseudo-



## BAROQUE CASTLE THEATER

❖ The older castle theater, built under the rule of the Eggenbergs at the 5<sup>th</sup> courtyard, was remodeled to the present look between **1766 and 1768** by the design of Schwarzenberg architect

and thunder, falling raindrops, a moving boat on rough sea and flying machines. Anyway, the magic theater world of Baroque illusionism keeps the spectators breathless through the still perfectly working coulisse changes. In a mere 12 seconds, the enchanted audience is transferred from a temple into a jail or from the castle gardens into the seized



Andreas Altomonte. The Schwarzenberg castle scene is not considered one of the oldest or most magnificent European monuments of its type, such as the pompous theater of the French royal family in Versailles or the Emperor's theater in Vienna. These, and also other famous theaters were later rebuilt, losing most of the original equipment and interior design. Fortunately, this did not happen to the Castle Theater in Krumlov: Its original equipment has been – more or less – preserved, maintaining the period authenticity. Along with the castle theater in **Drottningholm** (Sweden), the Castle Theater in Český Krumlov is one of the **best preserved Baroque theaters in the world**.

❖ Up to the present day, there are **13 basic scenic settings**, such as the Baroque hall, the forest, the military camp, the harbor and the town. A truly charming atmosphere was evoked by means of acoustic and visual effects, such as colored fire and smoke, artificial heavy seas,

town. The whole exchange is controlled by the technology installed under the stage and in the gridiron above the scene.

❖ The theater is equipped with **540 costumes and costume accessories, 100 props and 50 effect-creating machines**. They are placed in the adjacent Renaissance House that is open to the public

on special occasions. Several times a year the suggestive world of the Baroque theater is brought to life during opera performances. Operas composed in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century are performed, with application of theater effects and choreography of the period. The tickets for the Theater Tour are available at the ticket office (Courtyard II).





## CASTLE GARDENS

❖ The nearly **eleven-hectare-large castle gardens** were designed for quiet relaxation and fun in mazes or on boat rides. Their history goes back to the mid 16th century. The gardens were then developed under the Eggenbergs in the second half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century and remodeled by the subsequent owners, the Schwarzenbergs, in the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. **Andreas Altamonte**, at that time the royal architect built the adjacent winter **Riding Hall**, and the central part of the garden was completed with the **Neptune Cascade Fountain** decorated with sculptures of sea gods. The fountain pool was already home to **goldfish** in 1781.

❖ In addition, the Schwarzenbergs had the **Bellarie Summer Chateau** rebuilt: its interiors are decorated with rococo paintings that depict ideal countryside bathing in the spring sun. There is a true curiosity called the **Magic Table**. In the first part of the 19th century the rear part of the gardens became an English park with a romantic lake and an island.



The nobility used to access the gardens from the castle rooms through a long **corridor** that is directed above the Cloak Bridge. Nowadays, the charming green foliage with the Bellarie Summer House is used as a setting for theater performances that the spectators watch from the **Revolving Auditorium** in the middle of the gardens.



*The **Bellarie Summer House**, remodeled in the rococo style in the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, is presently used as a setting for theater performances in front of the revolving auditorium.*



*The "**Magic Table**" in Bellarie. The curiosity (1746) was designed for transport of trays with meals to the Summer House level – hence the servants did not interfere in the entertainment of the noble company.*



*View of the Castle premises with a part of the Castle Gardens.*

historic styles. The rooms are equipped with various exhibits that recall famous members of the family – e.g. the talented Princess Pauline, whose life ended very early in Paris in 1810 due to a fire at a dancing ball. There is Karl Philip Schwarzenberg, who defeated Napoleon in 1813 at the Battle of Leipzig. There is Felix Schwarzenberg, first Prime Minister of Emperor Francis Joseph I, and his brother Cardinal Friedrich Schwarzenberg, honored Archbishop in Prague and Salzburg. Tour No. 2 ends with the gallery with paintings by Dutch

Masters of the 17<sup>th</sup> century and two corridors above the Cloak Bridge that offer unusual but very attractive views of the historic town.

## LATRÁN

The name Latrán is obviously derived from the Latin word "latus" i.e. "side" or "side part", which corresponds to the fact that this quarter had developed rather spontaneously, next to the castle. Originally it was a separate administration



unit that was not a part of the town. It was **Wilhelm von Rosenberg** who united Latrán and Krumlov into one (in 1555). In order to protect the part of the town, **Petr Vok**, Wilhelm's younger brother, had a gate built, designed by Italian architect Domenico Benedetto Cometta of Eckthurn. It was named the **Budějovická Gate** and it is the only preserved gate of the original defensive system.

The people who settled in the area of Latrán would originally have provided economic support to the castle and they were connected with the adjacent noble residence in the following periods, too. The most distinctive element demonstrating this connection between

the castle and the under-castle area is the arch that carries the Rosenberg emblem above Latrán Street, which supports the **connecting corridor**. The corridor begins in the Castle Gardens, and continues over the roof of the Baroque Theater and the Cloak Bridge to the top story of the Upper Castle. In the past, it was possible to pass through the castle rooms and corridors in the roofs to Courtyard I where – crossing over the Bear Moat – the corridor continues above the streets over the above-mentioned arch, through the roofs of townspeople's houses to the monastery. The corridor was built gradually from the 16<sup>th</sup> century and is presently preserved as it looked in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Its total length measures



*Latrán Street is traversed with an arch hiding a corridor that connects the castle buildings. It ends in the monastery premises. The emblems above the arch belong to Wilhelm von Rosenberg and his third wife Anna Maria von Baden.*



*Former Minorite Monastery with Church of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Sorrows, and the monastery garden known as Tramín.*

nearly a full kilometer and was used by the aristocracy as an undisturbed connecting route between the castle and town below. It especially served as a covered path for the nobility when visiting the **Minorite and Poor Clare Monasteries**. These two (now former) monasteries were founded in the second half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century; today they

are modestly concealed behind the burgher houses of the Latrán quarter and offer solace from the crowded tourist streets. The size and importance of the monastery grounds make them the second largest historical complex in Český Krumlov, right after the castle. The two monasteries of the Minorites and Poor Clares are architecturally



connected by the heart of the complex, the Church of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Sorrows. The church is immediately surrounded by three convent buildings, agricultural buildings, and the gardens. In its present form, this dual monastery is architecturally the best-preserved monastery complex in the Czech Republic. You enter the Minorite Monastery through a majestic gate from Klášterní ulička, and the bustle of the city instantly disappears, replaced by the calm of the monastery gardens. Several monastery buildings are open



*Chapel of St. Wolfgang with its rich medieval paintings and baroque frescoes / monastery exhibitions.*

to the public, including the cloister of the former Minorite Convent with the chapels of St. Wolfgang and Our Lady of Einsiedeln, featuring an exhibition on the history of the monastery and a number of rescued monastic works of art. The former Monastery of the Poor Clares is accessible through the main gate from Latrán Street. It has recently undergone a comprehensive reconstruction and now features active and playful center for children and adults to learn about history. It offers unconventional experiences for both young and old through creative interactive expositions and craft workshops. The central courtyard of the Poor Clares Monastery, which is now a public area connecting Latrán and Pivovarská Street, is today's gateway to both monasteries. The Visitors' Center is



*In the Workshop Alley in the monastery courtyard, you can visit a bakery, a blacksmith's forge, a pottery, glass-making, fabric dyeing, and bag-making workshop, and you can even craft your own original creation.*



*The monastery courtyard and former Poor Clares Monastery feature a range of creative interactive expositions and craft workshops.*



## MONASTERIES OF THE MINORITES AND POOR CLARES

❖ In 1350, Kateřina of Rožmberk, together with her four sons, founded the dual monastery for the brothers and sisters of the order of St. Francis of Assisi. The first Minorites and Clarisses arrived to the monasteries in 1357 and 1361; throughout the following centuries, the monasteries became a center for cultural, social, and religious life, a destination for pilgrims, and a source of artistic works.

The Rožmberks contributed generously to their monasteries, providing them with revenues from a number of villages and estates. The sustenance for the monastic community was also ensured by the extensive gardens and the agricultural facilities of the Poor Clares Monastery. It is notable that the Poor Clares brewed beer, and part of their monastery complex was what is now Krumlov's oldest brewery.

Over time, the life of the monastic communities began to meet with unfortunate events. The Rožmberks died out at the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, later shifts in property ownership affected the Poor Clares Monastery, and the women's order was abolished by the Josephine reforms in 1782. The Minorite Monastery was

abolished in 1950, 600 years after its establishment. In later times, the monasteries were used as a military school, housing for civil servants, and for various educational institutions, even as warehouses.

Today, the former Minorite Monastery is owned by the Order of the Knights of the Cross with the Red Star while the former Poor Clares Monastery is owned by the Town of Český Krumlov. The entire monastery complex underwent extensive reconstruction in 2014–2015. The monasteries are now open all year round and offer visitors several exhibitions, craft workshops, and a variety of programs and activities for both old and young.



*The interactive exposition playfully leads old and young visitors from the cellar to the attic of the former Poor Clares Monastery.*



*The cloister of the former Minorite Monastery contains a number of rescued works of art / monastery exhibition.*



## THE MONASTERY CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI AND OUR LADY OF SORROWS

❖ The monastery church is the heart of the entire monastery complex and separates the convents of the Minorites and the Poor Clares. The church has a Gothic core, but it gained its present appearance in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century under the rule of Johann Christian of Eggenberg. The castle architect Jacob de Maggi also took part in its reconstruction. Most of the church's decoration and furnishings, as well as the unique organ on the Minorite choir loft behind the main altar, date back to the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Even today, however, the church's original Gothic decoration is evident in the altar mensa, a barred window leading to the cloisters of the Poor Clares, mural paintings, the original entrance from the neighboring monastery to the Poor Clares, and the Pieta statue placed in one of the side altars. The church was also associated with an extraordinary annual liturgical celebration during which holy relics were displayed in the Trávník courtyard in front of the church on the day of the Feast of Corpus Christi. The celebration reached its pinnacle at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, and the Krumlov monastery became a sacred place of pilgrimage visited by pilgrims from far beyond the borders. For centuries, the church served the



*Baroque facade of the Church of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Sorrows in the Trávník monastery courtyard.*

monastic communities as well as the inhabitants below the castle and the castle lords. There is a 16<sup>th</sup> century covered connecting corridor nearly a kilometer long leading from the castle chambers, through the roofs of the local houses, down to the monastery church. Today, the monastery church is accessible daily as part of the exhibition located in the cloister of the Minorite Convent



*Richly decorated interior of the monastery church of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Sorrows with the Gothic statue of Pieta / monastery exhibition.*





located right off this courtyard and offers tickets to the monastery exhibitions. It is accessible from both parts of the monastery complex.

As regards decorations on **town houses** one cannot miss **House No. 53** opposite the castle Red Gate. Blind arcades on the facade are decorated with alchemistic and cabbalah signs that originate from the alchemist group who lived at the court of Wilhelm von Rosenberg. The arcades on the front present a cycle of Renaissance paintings that depict ten stages in the life of man – from early childhood to late old age and death. The fresco of the Rosenberg Rider is worth mentioning, too. It is on the front of House

**No. 39**. Another remarkable building is House **No. 37** whose second story is supported with corbels. In addition, there are unique Gothic wall paintings that depict Czech holy men. You can see them in the interior of House **No. 15**, which was used by Gabriel de Blonde, author of many Renaissance paintings in the castle interiors. The labyrinth of side lanes may bring you to the adjacent **New Town**, which has not lost its original authority either. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, corridors connected the castle and this town part too because it was where Anna von Rogendorf, mother of the last Rosenberg, used to live. Her widow's residence, at that time with a Renaissance garden, is now a part of the Brewery House. Right next to the Brewery Garden you will come across



*The church tower of St. Jošt Church, founded in the 14th century.*

a little square called Na Fortně, where the International Ceramic Art Studio is situated.

You definitely can not miss the dominating feature of Latrán, the **church tower of St. Jošt Church**, founded in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The originally Gothic chapel was neighbor to the Rosenberg Hospital and Poorhouse. In the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century the church was transformed into town houses – on condition that the tower would be maintained as an adornment of the town.

The place near the former church, at the bridge over the Moldau River, was known at least from the 14<sup>th</sup> century for the **Lazebna** (House No. 1), occupied at the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> century by





*The Castle Steps connect the Courtyard I with Latrán Street. At that point, a wonderful view of the tower of the former **St. Jošt Church** opens up. Not many visitors are lucky enough to notice the facade of the nearest house with a picture of a bear looking out of the window.*



***Latrán.** You should not miss the Renaissance facade of the house in the street called Nové Město (New Town) with a **remarkable house sign** between the windows (the house on the right). The house signs – and there are more of them in the town – demonstrate the association of the house owner to the guild.*

Markéta Pichlerová, nicknamed Mušle (Shell), who was the mistress of the illegitimate son of Emperor Rudolph II – **don Julius Caesar d'Austria**. The Emperor's mad illegitimate son, who had lived in the castle, in a fit of rage seriously injured his mistress with a rapier and threw her out of the window. The young Markéta survived the fall but her life ended soon afterwards. Julius forced her to visit him at the castle again and in 1608 she was brutishly murdered by his hand. On Rudolph's order, the errant son was interned at the castle and treated. In his jail, the so-called Pelican rooms, he would sit at barred

windows and shouted across the town. According to Václav Březan, chronicler, the illegitimate Habsburg ended his life in 1609 at the adjacent privy. Up to the present time, the lavatory supported by corbels protrudes from the southern wall of the Upper Castle above the Moldau River. As a reminder of the dark times, it is well-visible from Lazebnický Bridge. The Emperor's son was buried at the cemetery in the Minorite Monastery at Latrán, where his poor mistress Markéta had been buried before. Due to the public scandal, the burial ceremony of the Emperor's son was conducted at night and very quickly.





*The Lazebnický ("Tonsorial") Bridge connects the town parts, Latrán and Vnitřní Město (Inner Town). On the left: former Tonsorial House (No. 1).*

## INNER TOWN

The historic center of the town is nearly encircled by the **Moldau River**, which – along with the fortifications – used to provide protection to Krumlov residents. The main connecting line between the town and the bank where the castle and Latrán is situated is a wooden bridge named **Lazebnický Bridge**. If you cross it, you will reach the downtown area, which is a labyrinth of charming lanes. Going along the bank downstream, you will come across the street named **Parkán**, where – as there was very little space indeed – very small houses were built between two fortification lines. The

buildings were attached to the robust fortification walls, as you can see at House **No. 104** (today's tavern named "U Dwau Maryí"). Recently, in **Radniční Street**, in House **No. 29** (now the Fairy Tale House – see the picture) Gothic wall paintings were revealed, the oldest in Krumlov (2nd half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century).

If you continue behind Lazebnický Bridge to the right, you will pass the **Italian Court (Vlašský Dvůr, No. 32)**. It is the most remarkable building in the town, and in its time it was one of the most expensive houses. It is very large and it has its front directed towards three streets. Among other things, the house is decorated with a Gothic ogival portal. The Renaissance paintings include a portrait



*Radniční Street connects the Lazebnický Bridge and the square (on the right: House No. 29).*

of Řehoř Schamper, the Rosenberg trumpeter. Another attractive piece of art is the decoration in the **Švamberk House** (Soukenická Street No. 35). The author, a period painter (1470s) seems to show a good sense of humor as the frontage displays a horse in a cradle.

The owners of house No. 19 on Panská Street have been known from the year 1459, while the ground floor and cellar are probably from the 14<sup>th</sup> century. In the cellar vaults, imprints of boards have been preserved after burning frameworks. The spaces are accessible today as the Moldavite Museum, featuring this rare local stone with interactive exhibitions for the entire family.

Behind Soukenická Street you

cannot miss **Široká Street** with the House **No. 77** whose entrance portal was built in the style of the Saxon Renaissance. In the second half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century it was occupied by the mine janitor and – primarily – Rosenberg **alchemist Anthony Michael of Ebberbach**. Wilhelm von Rosenberg had hired up to fifty laboratory experts. Out of them, some were real experts while the other were deceivers and pretenders. For example, there were renowned alchemists John Dee and Edward Kelley. The Rosenberg ruler had a small laboratory installed right in the castle, in close vicinity to his private rooms. The close connection between the private rooms and the alchemist vessels, elixirs



## SVORNOSTI SQUARE

❖ The square shape was designed in the 13th century. **Burgess houses** are mostly built in the Gothic or Renaissance style. Their facades were often connected with arcades. The original dwellings were wooden. Stone houses are first mentioned in the 14th and 15th centuries. Today's **Town Hall** (No. 1) was built in the second half of the 16th century by connecting two older Gothic houses. The two buildings were visually unified around 1597 by means of the Renaissance gable wall which was, after two centuries, lowered. The front facade is decorated with four emblems: the town of Český Krumlov, the Czech Kingdom and the coats of arms of the owners of the domain – the Eggenbergs and the Schwarzenbergs. One should definitely pay attention to the distinctive

Gothic and Renaissance elements – vaults, little portals, window reveals, the fragment of the Gothic window with the tracery in the arcades and – in particular – the late Gothic painting from the first half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The painting is installed at the lounge of the **Museum of Torture**, situated in very impressive medieval cellar rooms.

❖ The original Town Hall (before 1519) was in the **House No. 3**, whose rear part used to be just next to the town **jail**.

❖ Other distinctive elements at the square are the **fountain and the plague column** decorated with a statue of Virgin Mary Immaculate (1712–1716). It was erected on order by Princess Marie Ernestina von Schwarzenberg to give thanks at the end of the plague outbreak that had seized the



town during the 1680–1682 period.

In the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the plague column was encircled with the fountain that had been originally installed in the middle of the square.

## ❖ SQUARE OF LOVE

Český Krumlov is known for its local curiosity, based on the fact that in May the Svornosti Square is renamed as the Square of Love and it keeps this name for the whole month. In addition, the spring season is connected with a variety of cultural events, for example, **Magic Krumlov** (for more detailed information refer to [www.ckrumlov.info](http://www.ckrumlov.info)).



*The Baroque Plague Column and the Fountain used to be separate. The two architectonic jewels decorating the square were connected in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.*







View of the **Regional Museum** (former Jesuit Seminary) from Parkán Lane.



The house No. 35 in Soukenická Street, called **Švamberk House** (Švamberský dům) is distinctive with fragments of late Gothic paintings.

and astrological horoscopes provide clear evidence that this type of science was extremely important at the court of Wilhelm von Rosenberg.

Another large building in Široká Street is the former **Town Brewery** (Houses No. 70 and 71). It was built in the place of four medieval houses between 1606 and 1608. The former brewery is now occupied by the **Egon Schiele Art Centrum**. In the House **No. 74** you can see a fragment of a truly unique floor: it was cobbled from **pig bones**. It is the first finding of this kind in the Czech Lands. Tourists are attracted by the original Renaissance decorations on House **No. 54** – abundant ornaments, illusive architectonic elements and figural



The front of the Italian Court (Vlašský Dvůr) in Panská Street, one of the largest town houses. The Renaissance sgraffito shows a Rosenberg trumpeter, perhaps trombone player Gregor Schamper, a member of the music orchestra of Wilhelm von Rosenberg.





*Široká Street, with the Egon Schiele Art Centrum in the background (former brewery).*

motifs. At the western frontage of the house, a man, a woman and a monkey are looking out of painted-on windows. If you walk across a little square called **Na Louži**, you can have a rest for a while in the restaurant of the same name that is furnished in the style of a traditional pub as it used to be between the wars. You can continue along Kájovská Street to the **Edvard Beneš Bridge**. In front of it, in **Hradební Street**, you can come across a part of the preserved medieval fortification.

From the Edvard Beneš Bridge you will go along Kostelní Street to **St. Vitus' Church**. Along with the Castle, this church is the dominating feature of the historic center. At the church steps, you

will be intrigued by the architectonically perfect building, called **Kaplanka** (No. 159) with a remarkable corner alcove and the five-petaled Rosenberg rose. This building, built in the late Gothic style, is the very first one in Český Krumlov where Renaissance elements were applied.

Behind the **Kaplanka** you will come across a complex of buildings – the prelateure. It was developed from the 14th through the 18th century. It was the residence of the prelate – the top local church dignitary. The **Prelature** as you can see it today is the result of a series of remodeling due to frequent fire events from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The most

## EGON SCHIELE ART CENTRUM



*Egon Schiele (1890–1918).*

❖ Egon Schiele, an artist who is one of the most significant European **expressionists**, would come and stay in Český Krumlov, his mother's hometown, very often – and he loved it. The town was his inspiration for many sketches and pictures, often called the **Dead Town**, the Yellow Town or the Town on the Blue River. Krumlov citizens took offence at Schiele's Bohemian life-style and erotic motifs in his pictures, which was the reason why he did not settle in the town for long. The life and the work of the artist is presented in the prestigious **modern art gallery – Egon Schiele Art Centrum** – situated in the former brewery that was built in Široká Street (16<sup>th</sup> century). The gallery, occupying more than 4,000 square meters, offers mainly classical art of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, exchange exhibitions of modern art, and administers international studios.

### → Egon Schiele

*Portrait of Poldi Lodzinsky (daughter of a Krumlov coachman), 1910, oil on canvas.*







Little bridge in Široká Street over the **mill run**. On the left: buildings of the former mill, first mentioned in the middle of the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

extensive repair work was completed at the end of the 1760s, when the representative hall was decorated with original rococo paintings by **František Jakub Prokyš** (it is now called the Prokyš Hall). Another significant ecclesiastical institution in Český Krumlov was the Jesuit Order, which had been invited to the town by Wilhelm von Rosenberg. In the 1586–1590 period, Wilhelm had the **Jesuit College** built near the **Prelature**, which was rather costly. It was built according to the design of architect Baldassare Maggi of Arogno. The Jesuit College was one of the first institutions of this Order in Bohemia. The facades are decorated with sgraffito and wall paintings in lunette ledges. At the

courtyard you will find coats of arms of two founders – Wilhelm von Rosenberg and his wife, Polyxena of Pernštejn. At present, the magnificent building is used by the **Růžě Hotel**. A part of the hotel complex is the adjacent house No. 153, where the Jesuits founded the theater (in 1613). In the middle of the 17th century the Society of Jesus had their **Seminary** built (House No.152). It was the very first Krumlov building in the Baroque style. This magnificently conceived building currently houses the **Regional Museum** and a ceramic model of the historic centre of Český Krumlov, the largest of its kind in the world, is located there. The afore-mentioned ecclesiastical buildings (the Prelature, the







Horní Street – **Kaplanka**, one of the first structures in the town with Renaissance elements, and the steps towards **St. Vitus' Church**.

Jesuit College and the Seminary) were built along Horní ("Upper") Street. The street used to defend the town above the cut through ground neck (called the Mouse Hole) which arches over a robust **stone bridge** (18<sup>th</sup> century). The building of the **Town Theater** is situated behind the bridge.

← From **Masná Street** you can enjoy the view of the Castle tower.

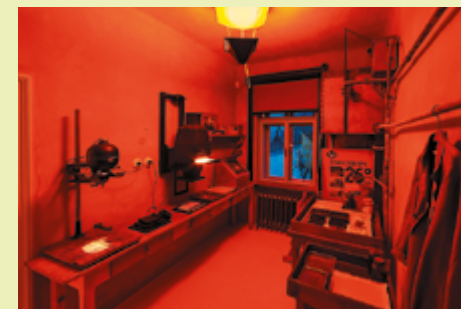
### Town and its surroundings

When you return to the Edvard Beneš Bridge, you will go over the bridge. On the other bank you will identify the town park. Behind the park, in Linecká Street, the **Museum Photo Studio Seidel** is situated and, not far from there, there is the **Jewish Synagogue**, built at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The place is a part of the town part called **Plešivec**, whose historic part was declared an urban monument

### SEIDEL MUSEUM AND PHOTO STUDIO

❖ The magic of Český Krumlov has enchanted many an artist or photographer. One of the best-known was, without doubt, **Josef Seidel** (1859–1935). He came to Český Krumlov in 1888. He would picture the life in the town and in a large part of the Šumava. He is considered a pioneer in modern photographic methods.

When he died, his son **František** continued the business. Some **140,000 pictures made by both Seidels were preserved** and they are kept and presented to the public by the Seidel Museum Photo Studio. The Museum is located in Linecká Street, in the original building that was rebuilt into a studio by J. Seidel in **1905**.



*You can see there a unique number of preserved historical photos of considerable documentary value as well as factory equipment, very modern for that time.*







## ST. VITUS' CHURCH

❖ The second most dominating feature of Český Krumlov (after the large castle) is St. Vitus' Church. It is a common belief that there was a shrine in the 13<sup>th</sup> century already. Anyway, we are quite sure that in the first half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century the construction of the Gothic church began on the order of **Petr I von Rosenberg** according to the design of German master-builder Linhart of Aldenberg.

❖ The church was remodeled between 1407 and 1439, when the new, magnificent triple-aisle was connected with reticulated and cross vaulting following the design of the master Jan. Above the **entrance portal** you will see the wall painting that depicts the Assumption of the Virgin Mary (early 15<sup>th</sup> century). Until 1585 the church was surrounded by a **cemetery**, which is suggested by several **gravestones**. The

church itself used to be the burial place for some of the owners of the domain.

❖ Between 1593 and 1597 the church interior was completed with a monumental tomb with an epitaph of Wilhelm of Rosenberg. The tomb columns are well-preserved and were incorporated in the canopy above the baptismal font. Gravestones of **Wilhelm von Rosenberg** and his third wife **Anna Marie von Baden** have been preserved, too. They are installed on the side wall, near the Baroque **Chapel of St. John of Nepomuk** that was built during the 1726–1729 period. The side shrine was used as the burial place for Eleonora Amalie von Schwarzenberg († 1741) and hearts of another seven members of the noble family. The fact that the church was consecrated to John of Nepomuk is no coincidence. St. John of Nepomuk was the patron of the Schwarzenberg family and it is believed that it was him who saved the family line.

❖ The already mentioned Princess **Eleonora Amalie** did not get on well with her husband, **Adam Francis von Schwarzenberg**, and did not live with him for some twenty years. They did not have a son and the family line was about to die out. It was in 1721 when the couple accidentally met in St. Vitus' Cathedral at Prague Castle, at the grave of John of Nepomuk, reconciled, and after a year, allegedly by intervention of the saint, the **long-wished-for male heir was born**.



*View in the vault. The sign recalls Linhart of Aldenberg, who built the Gothic part of the church after 1340.*



*Chapel of St. John of Nepomuk. On the sides, tombstones of Wilhelm von Rosenberg (left) and his wife Anne Maria von Baden, moved from the original tomb to leave the space for a new main altar.*



*Looking through the **main aisle towards the altar**, you will notice the huge space in the church – the triple aisle whose net vaulting is supported by eight columns.*





The **Cistercian Monastery in Zlatá Koruna** (about 5 km northeast of Český Krumlov, in the Vltava River valley) was founded by King Přemysl Otakar II in 1263 mostly to strengthen his royal influence in South Bohemia.

zone. From the Edvard Beneš Bridge you can enjoy the views to the other side, too – towards **Rybářská Street** with original little houses, today's guest houses and restaurants. You can continue along this street and the river to the weir, to watch or cheer on the water rafters.

#### **In conclusion, a few tips for a trip**

In Chvalšinská Street, you can visit a **graphite mine**. The tour around the mine is very interesting and offers a ride on the mine train, too. From the Upper Gate you can take an easy trip to climb to the **Baroque Chapel** on top of **Křížová Hora**. Another popular destination is 1084-meter high **Klet** Mountain; the trail begins at the Castle, takes 3 hours and it is marked with tourist



**Vyšší Brod** – the Monastery Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary; the tomb of the Rožmberks lies below the chancel.



The **Rožmberk State Castle** is one of the oldest castles of the Vítěk family, the forerunners of the Rožmberks. Originally this was a complex of two castles (Lower and Upper Castle). Only the **Jakobínka tower** (in the foreground) remains from the Upper Castle today.

signs. The hike to the top is worth doing as there is a wonderful lookout point. If the weather is favorable, you can identify the summits in the Alps. To get back, you can hire a scooter or take the cableway to Krásetín and return to Český Krumlov by train. There is a variety of historic monuments in the surroundings of Český Krumlov, out of which the most

recommendable is the former **Zlatá Koruna Monastery**. The **Cistercian Monastery in Vyšší Brod**, which for more than three hundred years has been the burial place of the Rosenberg family, is still in operation even at the present time. **Rožmberk Castle** is connected with and named after the noble and powerful Rosenbergs.





Aerial view of the top of **Klet** with a transmitter and a stone lookout tower. Down in the valley: **Český Krumlov**.





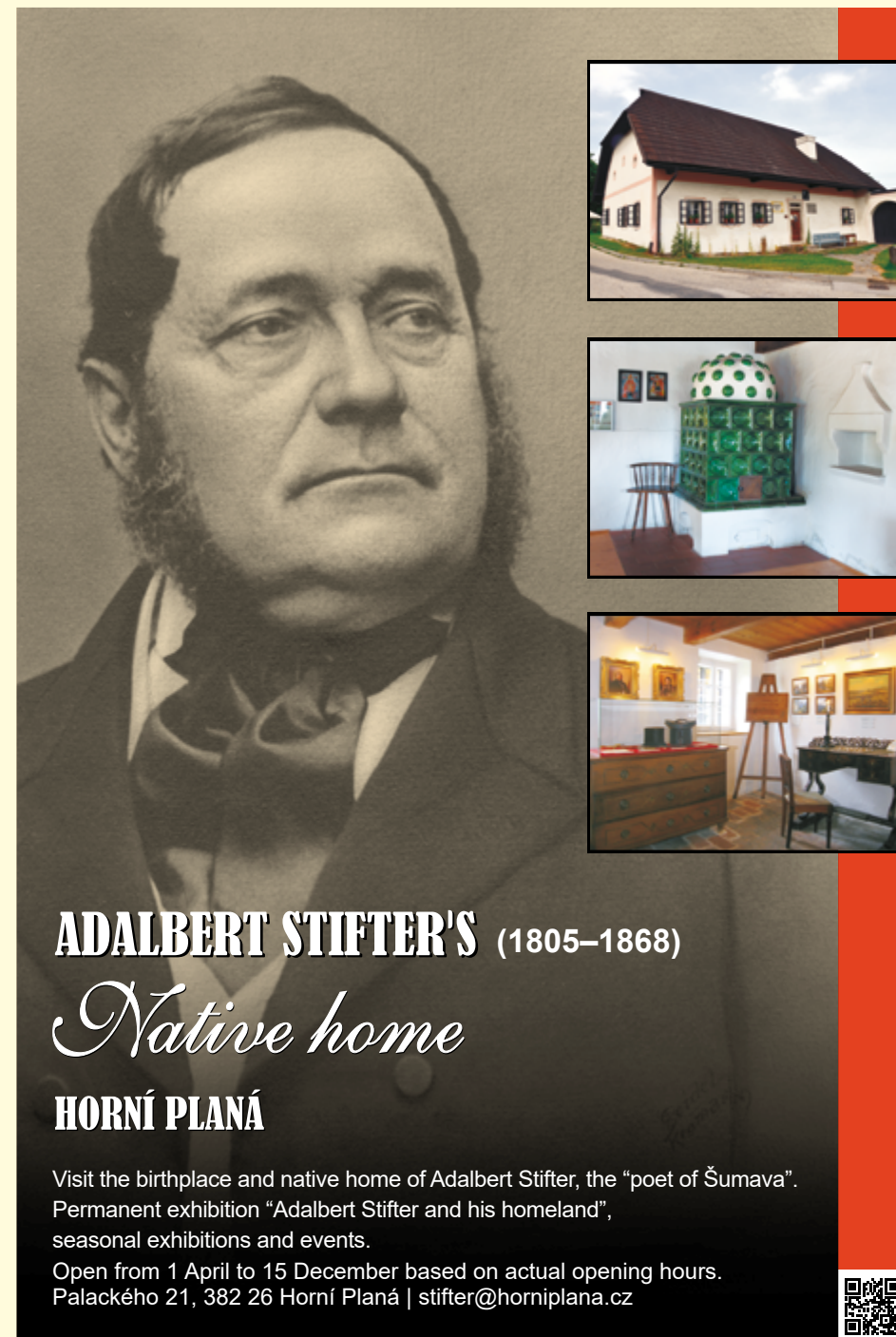




**REGIONAL MUSEUM  
IN ČESKÝ KRUMLOV**

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Horní ulice 152, 381 01 Český Krumlov | [info@muzeumck.cz](mailto:info@muzeumck.cz)  
[www.muzeumck.cz](http://www.muzeumck.cz)


**ADALBERT STIFTER'S** (1805–1868)

*Native home*

**HORNÍ PLANÁ**

Visit the birthplace and native home of Adalbert Stifter, the "poet of Šumava". Permanent exhibition "Adalbert Stifter and his homeland", seasonal exhibitions and events.

Open from 1 April to 15 December based on actual opening hours.  
Palackého 21, 382 26 Horní Planá | [stifter@horniplana.cz](mailto:stifter@horniplana.cz)







### A visit to Český Krumlov isn't merely a tour of the castle!

How would you like to visit the real Český Krumlov underground, learn something about the town's mining history, and get a closer idea about how mining works? Visit the graphite mine in Český Krumlov!

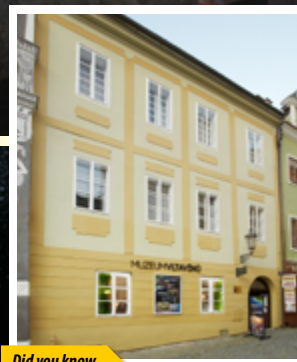
**What's in store?** Before embarking on a tour of the mine itself, we'll equip you with special clothing, including a miner's lamp. Then we'll take you underground on a mining train, the same one that the miners took for their shift. We get off at the first station, from where we continue on foot. During the tour, you'll see for yourself the conditions the miners worked in and what kind of machinery they used. You'll also learn how mining was actually carried out, how graphite was processed, and what it was used for in production.

**The tour is led by a guide..**  
**Number of people in the tour:** 10–36  
**Tour duration:** ca. 70 min.  
**Length of tour:** 2 km  
 (1,200 m by train, 800 meters on foot)

**Note! You should wear warmer clothes for the tour – the temperature in the mine is about 10° C!**



**Grafitový důl Český Krumlov spol. s r. o.**  
 Chvalšinská ul. 243  
 381 01 Český Krumlov  
 Contact: Ing. Viktor Weis  
**Reservations: +420 380 711 199**  
[grafitovydul@seznam.cz](mailto:grafitovydul@seznam.cz)  
[www.grafitovydul.cz](http://www.grafitovydul.cz)  
 48°49'1.594"N, 14°18'17.547"E



**Did you know that...**

... Moldavites formed through an impact of a cosmic body to the Earth?  
 ... they are a rarity not found anywhere else in the world?  
 ... Moldavites were known about and used by people as far back as the Stone Age?  
 ... Moldavites flew through the air to Bohemia from Bavaria?

## MOLDAVITE MUSEUM

Český Krumlov

The museum presents these "space gems" in their full beauty for you to experience their entire story. The modern interactive exhibition provides entertainment for the whole family. You'll get to learn plenty of interesting things not only about moldavites, but also other topics ranging from the extinction of dinosaurs to the latest news on space research. The museum shop offers a wide range of jewelry with natural and cut moldavites, as well as souvenirs and collection stones. Shop featuring original moldavite jewelry.



Panská 19, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
**Open daily 10.00–18.00**

**Tel.: +420 734 174 130**

[muzeum@vltaviny.cz](mailto:muzeum@vltaviny.cz)

[www.vltaviny.cz](http://www.vltaviny.cz)

GPS: 48°48'40.354"N, 14°18'52.201"E







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A representative of the world-renowned company **S&A AMBER JEWELLERY**, who creates jewelry collections exclusively with amber. We own a goldsmith workshop where we offer our clients the best service, including shaping the moldavites and garnets that we offer in our novel design collections. We offer our customers a wide range of **design jewellery from amber, moldavite, and garnet**. We're certain that you'll choose the right jewel here to support your unique personality.

We look forward to your visit.

**Praha - collection s.r.o.** **S&A**  
Jewellery jewellery design

**Praha-collection s. r. o.**

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Dlouhá 100, Dlouhá 29

Český Krumlov

Tel.: +420 380 731 332, Mob.: +420 721 613 609



Latrán 20



Dlouhá (Radniční) 100



Horní 158



• café • bistro • wine • bar •

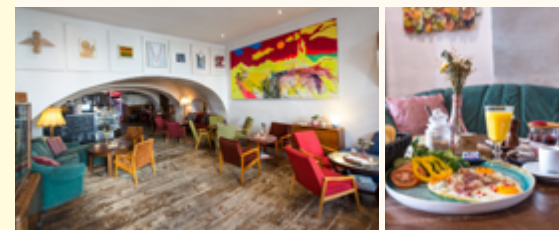
We are a family café in the center of Český Krumlov. We are part of the Egon Schiele Art Centrum. Our assortments include a fine selection of coffee specialties, Austrian wines, homemade desserts, toasted sandwiches, panini, and wine snacks. Friday and Saturday evenings feature cocktails and evening entertainment. We can also prepare family celebrations, banquets, and social events.

Široká 71, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
Tel.: +420 775 574 510

info: [egoncafe@email.cz](mailto:egoncafe@email.cz)

[www.egoncafe.cz](http://www.egoncafe.cz)

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## FAMILY-STYLE APARTMENTS in the center of Český Krumlov

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Choose from 4 spacious apartments with kitchenette and views onto the river and historic center.

### Apartment Baron

Spacious 90 m2 apartment for 2–4 persons. Modern furnished interior. Summer terrace overlooking the river.

### Apartments Linecká 312

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### Info – recepcie

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Tel.: +420 775 574 510

info: [apartmanyckrumlov@email.cz](mailto:apartmanyckrumlov@email.cz)

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# CASTLE APARTMENTS



ZÁMECKÁ APARTMÁ  
CASTLE APARTMENTS



View from the window of the House  
U Tří Havranů (At the Three Ravens)

## ② i RECEPTION

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Zámek / Castle 57, 1<sup>st</sup> courtyard  
CZ – 381 01 Český Krumlov

Tel.: +420 380 725 110  
GSM: +420 777 723 262  
Fax: +420 380 712 424  
reception@castleapartments.cz  
www.castleapartments.cz

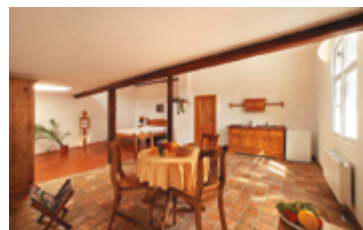
Zámecká apartmá Český Krumlov



Dům U Tří Havranů  
(At the Three Ravens)



Dům U Kominíka  
(At the Chimney Sweep's)



Dům U Trumpetisty  
(At the Trumpeter's)



## Český Krumlov Centre – Square

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nám. Svornosti 11  
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Tel.: +420 380 712 310  
info@hotelzlatyandel.cz

[www.hotelzlatyandel.cz](http://www.hotelzlatyandel.cz)



## Krumlov Mill Apartments



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[www.millapartment.cz](http://www.millapartment.cz)



## Authentic Café Restaurant



The "At the Blue Horse" ("U modrého koně") house at Náměstí Svornosti No. 9 is of Gothic origin, apparently from the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The interior of the building in which the Authentic Café Restaurant is located features an extraordinary **marble lavabo** basin from the Late Gothic period, reputedly one of the first in a burgher house.

Although the history of the house owners is complicated, it is interesting that **William of Rosenberg** donated the house to the town in 1589 on the condition that the inn operation must continue.

Even at present, the house features the Authentic Café Restaurant, which has been owned by the family now for **25 years**. The restaurant is particularly popular with the locals for its confectionery art. The family is proud of its **cakes** baked according to **traditional Czech recipes** and its **famed caramel cream puffs**.

Although the restaurant interior is more of a café type, do not hesitate to come in for a bite. We serve classic meals like **roast duck with dumplings and red cabbage** as well as international cuisine such as slow-cooked roast beef with steak fries and homemade tartare sauce. And you should also try the house special – **fruit dumplings** with marzipan and cottage cheese. You'll be impressed by the care with which the owners designed the interior of the restaurant in the **Art Deco** style dating to the period of the **First Czechoslovak Republic**.

**In summer, you can enjoy home-made ice-cream on the terrace with a view of the castle tower.**

### Open:

in the summer from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.,  
in the winter from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Tel.: +420 380 711 558  
[www.authenticcafe.cz](http://www.authenticcafe.cz)





## ČESKÝ KRUMLOV ORIGINAL TRADIČNÍ REGIONÁLNÍ PRODUKT



All our authentic great tasting products sold under the registered trade-mark CZECH KRUMLOV ORIGINAL are local traditional entirely handmade products. Only original recipes and high quality ingredients from Czech Krumlov surroundings are used.



We make old Bohemian gingerbread directly in our shop according to the original recipe from the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

## TRADITIONAL REGIONÁLNÍ PRODUKT



*Žít život je hned sladší*

## How did LIQUID CARAMEL see the light of day in Český Krumlov?

This story, which is almost like a fairy-tale, began years ago in the family of **Irena** and **Vašek Kalkuš**. For long years they made liquid caramel to flavour various beverages and food. Its specific flavour refreshes cold and hot alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, adds an interesting touch to fruit and vegetable salads, is used to sweeten porridge and sundaes, and to flavour sauces and meats. This delicacy impressed their friends to such an extent that the Kalkušovs decided they could no longer keep it to themselves. Moreover, they even gradually expanded their production of liquid caramel, and Czech caramel was thus joined by the Český Krumlov caramel from Vašek with a **variety of flavours**. For instance, coffee, coffee with vanilla, various herbal variations, salty chilli caramel with rosemary and Eve's treat – dried fruit in caramel. Flakes of real gold glitter in Golden caramel ...

You can purchase this **local specialty**, which is rate highly by the judges in many competitions, including international contests, at information centres and selected locations in Český Krumlov, which you will find on their website. You can also visit their **caramel shop**, where all these fragrant processes take place. It is just a 15-minute walk from the historical centre.



**Irena and Vašek Kalkuš**  
**Karamelový sen s. r. o.**



Production / the Karamel  
headquarters at U Poráků 512,  
381 01 Český Krumlov

Tel: +420 723 367 420 & +420 723 550 005

**[www.ceskykaramel.cz](http://www.ceskykaramel.cz)**

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f pizzeria Nonna Gina



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VisitBohemia GUIDE



VisitCeskyKrumlov.cz





# BOBOVKA PARK Lipno nad Vltavou



[www.bobovkalipno.cz](http://www.bobovkalipno.cz)



## Year-round family park Bobovka Lipno nad Vltavou

**Would you like to bobsleigh in any weather at any time during the year?** If so, then let's go to Lipno nad Vltavou! There is a central parking lot, and just a 100-metre-walk away you will see: two bobsleigh tracks, **Alpine Coasters** and **Sports track**, intertwined. This is the only place in the Czech Republic where you will find both types of bobsleigh tracks together.

On the Alpine Coaster you will get a bit of a bird's-eye view, and its highlights are the 2 turns of nearly 360 degrees. The roller coaster has safety belts and automatic brakes, making it suitable for families with children. The second kilometre long slide coaster will be appreciated especially by more sport riders. In both cases, you will control the speed yourself with the help of brakes.

Children aged 3 and up must be accompanied by adults, and children aged 8 and up may go on the ride alone. **The complex also boasts a stylish pub with a year-round hot kitchen and a pleasant outdoor seating area in the summer with a barbecue and many attractions for your children.**

**The entire complex is barrier-free.**

**CONTACT:** Slupečná 301, CZ – 382 78 Lipno nad Vltavou  
Tel.: +420 602 780 726, [info@slideland.cz](mailto:info@slideland.cz)  
**GPS:** 48°38'47.377"N 14°13'18.811"E



# FRUKO



# SCHULZ



One of the best-known and most successful companies in Jindřichův Hradec specialises in producing spirits and liqueurs and it is one of the five largest companies in its branch in the Czech Republic.

The predecessor of this company was the Moritz Schulz – fruit wines family company, the first producer of fruit and dessert wines in Austro-Hungary. After the February revolution in 1948 the communists nationalised the company and it was state-owned until 1993 when it was returned to Rudolf Schulz, the son of the former owners, during the restitutions. The Fruko–Schulz, spol. s r. o. Company was established.

Jiráskovo předměstí 629/III | 377 01 Jindřichův Hradec

Tel.: +420 384 321 081, fax.: +420 384 321 087

[www.fruko.cz](http://www.fruko.cz)

## FRUKOIL

Did you know that you can "refuel" on Tuzemák (Czech rum) at one of the fuel stations in Jindřichův Hradec? **The FRUKOIL fuel station** (Jiráskovo předměstí 629) launched this unique method of sale in 2002. All you have to do is bring a suitable container and you can take home a unique souvenir from Jindřichův Hradec – draft RUM.















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