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# ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

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1/ Gothic Church of St. Vitus 2/ The tower of the former St. Jost Church

3/ The Renaissance castle tower – the largest dominant features of the historical Old Town

## ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

With less than fifteen thousand inhabitants, Český Krumlov is neither one of the largest nor the most populous towns of South Bohemia. All the same, its fame and importance reach far beyond the borders of our country. Its **historical center**, an area only slightly larger than half a square kilometer, holds a concentration of a number of **architectural and cultural monuments** which may be boasted by few places on this planet. Here we find one of the **largest stronghold castles in Europe** with its wonderfully preserved **Baroque Theater** and the **castle tower**, which the writer Karel Čapek termed the “the toweriest of all towers”, and the Baroque-Rococo 11-hectare castle garden. Below the castle, the ubiquitous Vltava River meanders around the original town buildings, which have still preserved their intact medieval character due to fortunate circumstances. It is here, in the labyrinth of winding streets of the old town, where you can feel the strongest unique local atmosphere and the genius loci.

“The story of the town” began to write itself over seven centuries ago, but the biggest boom was brought to Krumlov by the powerful government of the **Rožmberks**. Their architectural legacy has still endured throughout the centuries. It is no coincidence, then, that in **1992** Český Krumlov became one of the first sites in the Czech Republic to be registered on the prestigious **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.

### Did you know that...

*The town's name most likely came from the Latin, respectively the old German, designation of the meanders of the Vltava river bed. The names **Castrum Crumnau**, respectively **Crumbenowe** can be loosely translated as “crooked river” or “crooked peninsula”.*

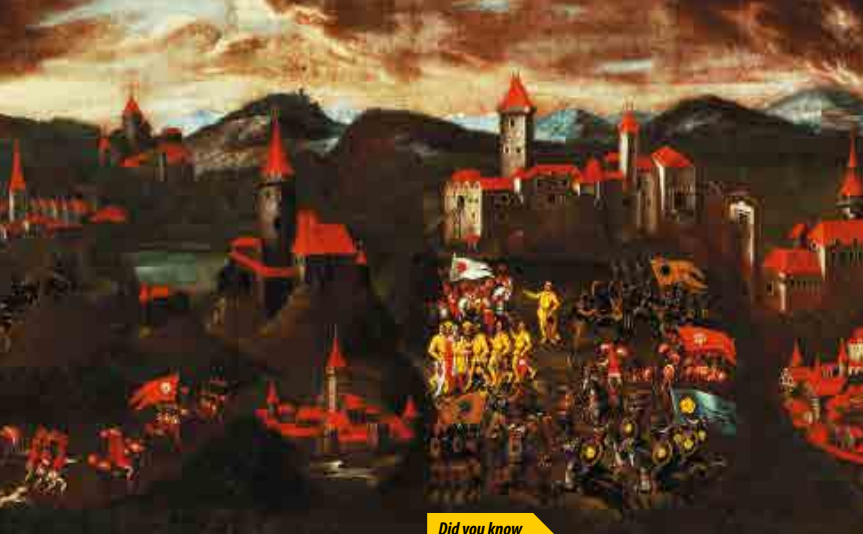


*The **municipal coat of arms** appeared for the first time in **1336** on the seal of **Petr I of Rožmberk**. The motif of the wall with three towers and a gate was gradually developed, as shown by seals from 1406 and 1443. They all bear a small five-petalled rose. The coat of arms from **1593** shows colourful illustrations with a blue shield, silver towers with red roofs, fortress walls with a lifted gate, and a red Rožmberk rose with a golden center. **The coat of arms exists in its present form from 1671**, in which the Rožmberk symbol is held by the beaks of three ravens.*



Rožmberk Rider on facade at Latrán No. 39.





Did you know that...

## BRIEF HISTORY

The ideally situated high location above the river Vltava was probably inhabited at the turn of the older and younger Bronze Age. It is possible that there was a smaller settlement here. It is certain, though, that the Lords of Krumlov, one of the branches of the **Vítkovec family**, based their Gothic castle at this site in the first half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. It was first mentioned in writing in 1253. The Gothic castle was equipped with a cylindrical tower and located on the site of today's **Hrádek**, or "**Little Castle**".

The founder of the House of Vítkovec was **Vítěk I of Prčice in Sedlčany** who came to South Bohemia in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. This nobleman served the important function

... according to legend, **Vítěk of Prčice** had five sons among whom he divided his great wealth? Thus were founded five powerful families with the rose in their coat of arms (see below). On this detail of the picture **Division of the Rose** (A. Streeer, 1742) we can see not only this legendary scene but also an idyllic representation of the Krumlov Castle.

of steward to King Vladislav II. He gradually acquired considerable property in South Bohemia and before his death (1194) **divided it among his five sons**. This pseudo-mythical event is captured in the famous painting of **The Division of the Rose**, a copy of which can be seen in the castle.

The Krumlov Vítkovec descendants died out in 1302, and the town should normally have been accrued to the king Václav II,



Castle owners and family crests: Vilém of Rožmberk, Johann Christian of Eggenberg, Josef Adam of Schwarzenberg.

however, gave it to the other members of this family, the Rožmberks. They then transferred their headquarters from the slightly out-of-the-way location in Rožmberk castle to Český Krumlov and proceeded to become one of the most powerful families in the country, managing their dominion from here for nearly 300 years. The castle, town and all of South Bohemia reached its period of greatest prosperity especially during the reign of **Vilém of Rožmberk**. This is when the former Gothic stronghold began to acquire the appearance of a castle.

Vilém's increasing demands on representation gradually led the dominion into debt. Vilém's younger brother, also the **last Rožmberk, Petr Vok**, managed to avert approaching bankruptcy in 1601 by selling Český Krumlov to Emperor Rudolf II of Habsburg. No member of the Habsburgs, however, ever resided at the castle. From 1612–1619 the owner of the estate was Rudolph's younger brother Matthias of Habsburg. Matthias was

replaced by Emperor Ferdinand II who in **1622** gave Krumlov to the **Eggenbergs** for their financial assistance in the struggle against the Czech estates. Although the Eggenbergs did not hold a historical relationship to Český Krumlov, in the less than one hundred years of their reign they managed to transform the castle into a magnificent **Baroque aristocratic residence**. Their love of art, especially music, raised Krumlov's status into a renowned center of social and artistic life. One of their most important contributions is the creation of the **Castle Baroque Theatre** and the expansion of the castle library.

The **Eggenbergs died out in 1719**, and Český Krumlov's heritage found itself in the hands of the **Schwarzenbergs**. They already owned Hluboká and Třeboň by this time, and thus became the richest aristocratic family in the country. They carried out construction on Krumlov castle especially during the first century of their reign. This was the period of the

## LEGEND OF THE DIVISION OF THE ROSE

**Vítěk of Prčice** († 1194)

<b>Jindřich</b>	<b>Vítěk II.</b>	<b>Vítěk III.</b>	<b>Vítěk IV.</b>	<b>Sezema (Sezima)</b>
<b>Lords of Hradec</b> Family died out 1604	<b>Lords of Krumlov</b> Family died out 1302	<b>Lords of Rožmberk</b> Family died out 1611	<b>Lords of Landštejn and Třeboň</b> Family died out beginning of the 15 <sup>th</sup> century	<b>Lords of Ustí Sezimovo</b> Family died out in the mid 17 <sup>th</sup> century





Did you know that...

... one of the significant Rožmberks was the ambitious and ruthless **Oldřich II of Rožmberk** (1403–1462)? He was capable of anything to serve his ends, was versed in foreign intrigue, and did not hesitate to falsify important documents. During the **Hussite wars**, his enemies prepared a vast conspiracy by which they wanted to help Jan Žižka conquer Český Krumlov. Oldřich's own cook was supposed to poison him and then even burn the castle. The planned scheme, however, was revealed. What became of the other conspirators can be drawn from the fact that the entire event was preserved in the **record book of the Rožmberk executioner**...

reconstruction of the Baroque Theatre to the form as we know it today. It was also the time of the famous **Lederer** paintings in the **Masquerade Hall**, the **Winter**

**Riding School** was erected, the **Cloak Bridge** was reconstructed, and the **Belarie summer house** in the castle garden was built.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, only some interior modifications were carried out. The last owner of the castle, **Dr. Adolf Schwarzenberg**, went into exile in 1939 and his property was occupied by the Nazis. In 1947 a special law ("*Lex Schwarzenberg*" – Act No. 143/1947 Coll.) transferred the castle as well as the rest of the Schwarzenberg's vast property into the ownership of the Czech State, and it was later nationalized.

The development of production and industry during the 19<sup>th</sup> century left the historical old town basically untouched. One noticeable change to the town's medieval character was the destruction of most of the fortification walls, defensive **towers** and **gates**. Only one of these gates has been preserved, the **Budějovice Gate**.

Český Krumlov was characterized by the peaceful coexistence of the Czech and German populations until the rise of nationalism at the end of the 1930's. Following the **Munich agreement**, the town became part of the territory occupied by Germany and was renamed Krummau an der Moldau.

On 7 May **1945**, Krumlov was **liberated by the U.S. Army**. The forcibly displaced Czech inhabitants gradually returned,

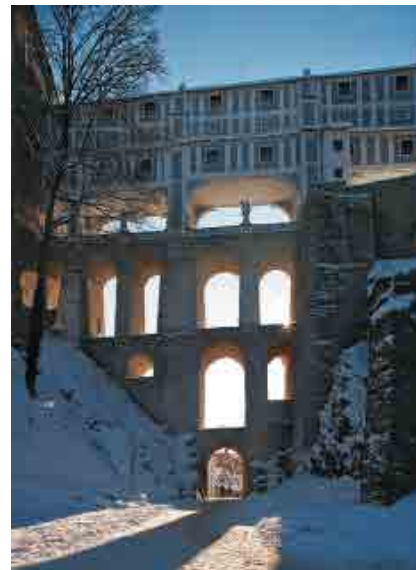


Did you know that...

... **JUDr. Adolf Schwarzenberg** gave the second Czechoslovak president **Edvard Beneš** one million Czech Crowns for the construction of **border fortifications**? This happened during Dr. Beneš' visit to Český Krumlov castle in 1937 (5. May). Even during the troubled times of the impending Second World War, Adolf Schwarzenberg made his anti-Nazi sentiments clear.

and the German population was evicted in 1945–46. This act fundamentally altered the ethnic composition of the town and inevitably brought a number of personal tragedies and injustices.

Over the post-war years, Český Krumlov saw a period of intense building activity. Its historical core, however, remained out of the center of interest, which on the one hand preserved its medieval character,



**Cloak Bridge** – a covered three-storey corridor born by pillars above the castle moat.

but also caused considerable deterioration. The changes after 1989 and new opportunities for private enterprise have permitted the local population to transform their town into the **16<sup>th</sup> most beautiful historical place in the world** – so termed by **National Geographic magazine in 2008**.



The Bellaria Summer Palace, situated in the castle gardens, is one of the most precious buildings in Bohemia and is used during the theatre performances which take place in front of the Revolving stage.



View of the Krumlov Castle complex from the north across the Jelení (Deer) Garden.



KRUMLOV  
CARD

Our TIP

1

## CASTLE AND CHATEAU

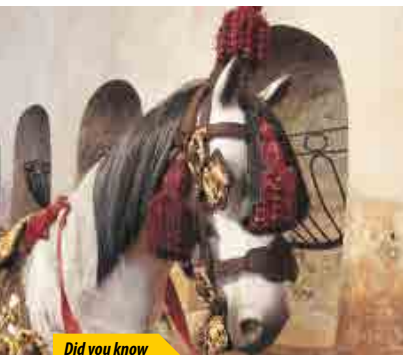
The Český Krumlov Castle and Chateau is **the second largest castle complex in the country**. Its size and architectural level, reflecting architectural styles from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, make it one of the most important architectural monuments in the world.

It consists of over **40 buildings** built over the centuries on a narrow and oblong

rocky promontory above the left bank of the Vltava River. The nucleus of the castle complex began with the **tower** and its adjacent **Hrádek**, or Little Castle. The other buildings and palaces are grouped around **five courtyards** all closed in on the southwest by the 11-hectare **castle garden**, founded in the 1670's.

The castle grounds are **open all year round, guided tours** of the castle interiors are available during the season, and you can visit the **Lapidarium**, the **Castle Museum** and climb to the **castle tower**. The Castle Museum and tower are open throughout the year .

During "unorganized" walks throughout the castle courtyards you can admire the **bears** in the castle moat, the dominating tower over the moat, or the impressive Renaissance fresco decorations on the facades in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> courtyards. The impressive view from the high **Cloak Bridge** overlooks the houses of the historical town center and the steeple of the **St. Vitus Church**. Also well worth a visit in the castle are two galleries, the Gallery of Czech Culture on the 2<sup>nd</sup> courtyard and the International Gallery of Ceramic Design in the Václav Cellars.



Did you know that...

... from May, or July 2015, the castle tour routes are extended by **two new exhibition**: the first is be the "**Smithy**", while the second is **features sled and carriage harnesses**. Visitors can see, for example, an aristocratic coach harness for a team of six horses.

## CASTLE MUSEUM

The *Castle Museum*, which opened on **11 January 2011**, is located in the renovated premises of the Hrádek on the **2<sup>nd</sup> courtyard**. There are 29 rooms set aside for individual exploration. The rooms' interiors are furnished in the style of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, including historical lighting fixtures and original tile stoves.

The „*Hall of the Lords of the Rose*“ and „*Hall of the Dukes of Krumlov*“ are dedicated to the several aristocratic families who previously owned the Krumlov dominion. The faithfully renovated office of former senior officials is shown by the

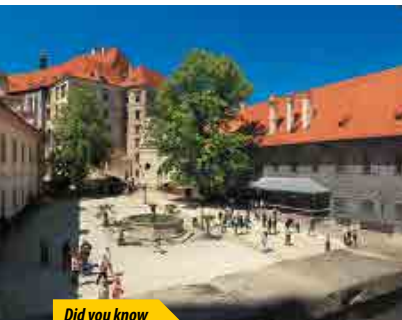
office of the Schwarzenberg administrative director, estate director, and others. The **armory**, as well as the mint with its unique Eggenberg minting machines, is well worth the visit.

The exhibition is supplemented by attractive exhibits from the castle depositories, such as the **reliquary** with the skeleton of **St. Reparat** or the **model of the castle** as it looked in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century. The **cinema** at the end of the tour shows footage from Schwarzenberg family films from the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Open year round (p. 22)



This scale model, designed by Jiří Krampera, captures Krumlov Castle as it looked in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century. The basis for the scale model was a 3D model created by Zlata Gersdorfová.



**Did you know that...**

...the **second castle courtyard** had the same name as the **Guards**? The barracks on the ground floor of the **New Burgrave** was used to house the **Schwarzenberg grenadier guard**, located at the castle for **more than 200 years** – from 1742 to 1948.

During the season from April to October, the chateau garden is open with its Rococo Cascading Fountain and castle pond. The garden area includes the elegant Bellarie Summer House as well as the famous revolving auditorium.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Courtyard

The castle and chateau complex is connected to the town by the **Red Gate**. This gate, just like the **castle stairs**, will bring you to

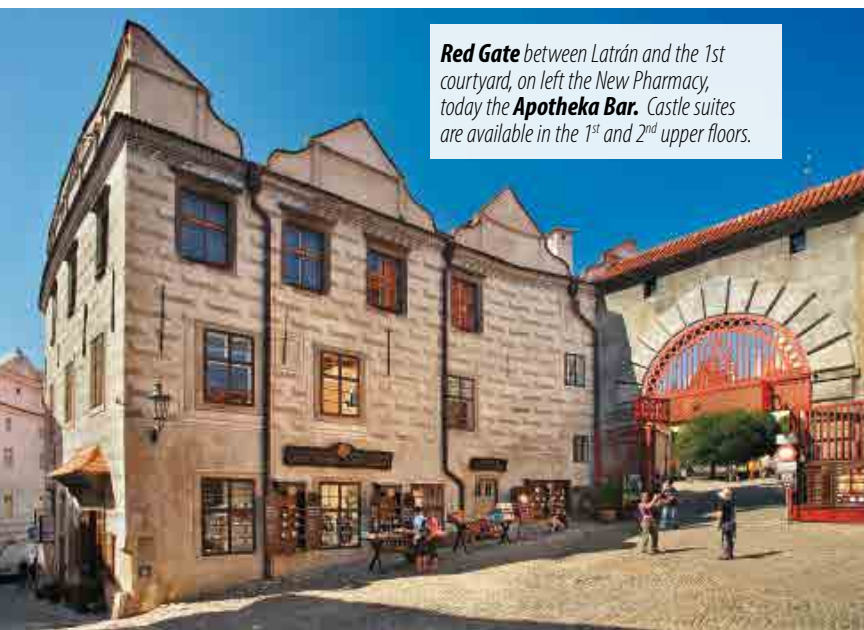
the **1<sup>st</sup> courtyard**. This vast area once functioned as the agricultural area of the castle as well as an enclosure for animals. This is apparently the reason for its earlier name, the Rejdiště, or “animal romping grounds”.

The courtyard is bordered by a series of buildings. At the bottom, just behind the gate, stands the Gothic **Salthouse**. Today this houses the **castle information center**, and once served as a granary and malt. The Lapidarium is located in the large stable building, today serving as a depository and installation for the castle's original Baroque statues. One of the more important buildings in the 1<sup>st</sup> courtyard was also the pharmacy.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Courtyard

The connecting element between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> courtyards is the bridge over the moat. **Bears** have been kept here since 1707. Bears have apparently been kept in the castle, however, since the mid-16th century. Their presence is due to Vilém of Rožmberk's attempt to maintain the legend of a kinship between the Rožmberks, through the Vítkovci, and the Roman noble **family of the Orsinis** (the word *Orsa* means *she-bear* in Italian). The “author” of the legend was apparently Oldřich of Rožmberk

**Red Gate** between Latrán and the 1<sup>st</sup> courtyard, on left the New Pharmacy, today the **Apotheka Bar**. Castle suites are available in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> upper floors.



(1403–1462) (see page 8). The purpose of this legend was to place the origins of the House of Rožmberk to the glorious days of ancient Rome, thus enhancing their own superiority over the other noble families of Bohemia.

Directly above the moat rises the mighty castle tower. This, together with the adjoining palace called the “Hrádek”, is the oldest part of the entire castle and chateau complex.

Other buildings have been connected to the Hrádek through the ages. One of them is the four-storey baroque building, the former **Mint**, on the **2<sup>nd</sup> courtyard**. Its present form comes from a reconstruction in 1731, but it never served its intended purpose of minting coins, having only functioned for accommodations. Today it houses the **central ticket office** for castle tours. The **New Burgrave**, standing opposite, is from approximately the same period. This building is remarkable for its Renaissance facade decoration, created using a dusk-grey technique, relatively rare in Bohemia, called *chiaroscuro*. In the middle of the courtyard stands a **Baroque fountain** from 1641.

In the left corner of the courtyard, next to the Mint, you will find the entrance to the **Castle Tower** and the **Castle Museum**.

At the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> courtyard, the facade and gable of the Dairy is worth noting. This Renaissance building was created by modifying an earlier **Gothic tower** from the upper floor of which led a drawbridge to the



**Did you know that...**

...the **White Lady** sometimes appears at the Krumlov Castle? Bohuslav Balbin established a tradition which associates her with **Perchta of Rožmberk** († 1476, in the picture). This daughter of Oldřich II lived an unhappy life with John of Lichtenstein, who cursed her before his death, according to legend. If the ghost of the White Lady is seen in white gloves, this signifies a joyous event, while on the other hand, black gloves mean impending death; red gloves are a warning of fire. The White Lady was also considered to be a protector of the Rožmberk children.



Bears have been kept in the moat since 1707.

Upper Castle. The bridge spanned the second moat, later filled, and both parts of the castle were joined by a vaulted passage. The Dairy, as its name suggests, was used for the preparation of dairy products for the needs of the castle.

The upper floor of the building now houses the **Gallery of Czech Culture**, while on the ground floor you can visit an old Bohemian style restaurant.



**Did you know that...**

... work on the decoration of the **Masquerade Hall** (1748) lasted **Josef Lederer** a mere six months? It is unbelievable that he mastered the paintings himself, with only one assistant. You can also get an idea of what the author looked like – he portrayed himself with a cup of coffee looking onto the events in the hall (see detail).



### 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Courtyards

Pass through a steep windy hallway, its size rather suggesting a vehicle passageway, and you find yourself in the **3<sup>rd</sup> courtyard** and thus into the area called the **Upper Castle**. This newer and higher-positioned part of the castle is formed by buildings of a palatial character with grandiose aristocratic interiors. The palaces have been preserved in nearly their original Renaissance appearance from



The palaces surrounding the 4<sup>th</sup> courtyard formed from the second half of the 14<sup>th</sup> until the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

the 16<sup>th</sup> century during the reign of Vilém of Rožmberk. The Renaissance character is emphasized by the rich facade decorations from the late 16<sup>th</sup> century. The author of the frescoes on the 3<sup>rd</sup> courtyard was the Rožmberk court painter Gabriel de Blonde, while the decorations on the **4<sup>th</sup> courtyard** are a little older, probably from the year 1588, but their author is unknown.

The underground area under the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> courtyards is remarkable. Known as **Wenceslas' Cellars**, this is a labyrinth of the foundations of the high palace buildings throughout three floors. It is formed by massive columns and arches



based on hewn rock. These unique spaces, accessible from the corridor between the 4<sup>th</sup> courtyard and the **Cloak Bridge**, are also the site of an exhibition of contemporary ceramic art.

### Cloak Bridge

The hallway from the 4<sup>th</sup> courtyard opens onto the **bridge** called "**Plášťový**", or **Cloak Bridge**. This bold structure spans the deep ravine, artificially deepened in the Middle Ages, between Upper Castle and the 5<sup>th</sup> courtyard. The bridge was built in several stages from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and replaced the original wooden footbridge. It is passable through three floors – above the accessible open part below there are two more indoor corridors, located one above the other.

The lower links the Masquerade Hall with the Baroque Theatre, while the upper allowed the gentry to pass unhindered **from the gallery to the castle garden**.



**Did you know that...**

... a **bastard son of Emperor Rudolf II, Don Julius Caesar d' Austria** (about 1584–1609), likely suffering from schizophrenia, lived in the castle from 1605? His series of scandalous acts culminated when, in a fit of rage, he stabbed his dear **Markéta**, the daughter of the barber Pichler. Believing her dead, he threw her from one of the highest windows of the castle. The girl miraculously survived the fall, but was yet to escape her fate. Under the threat of hanging her father, **Don Julius** forced **Markéta** to visit him in the castle again, where she was brutally murdered the very next day. This tragic event happened in 1608. The Emperor's son was immediately imprisoned in the castle, and his internment lasted until his death on 25 June 1609.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Courtyard

This area, and the buildings occupying it, was originally mainly economic in nature. In 1681, the castle theatre was built by **Johann Christian I of Eggenberg**. In 1766, the **Schwarzenbergs** reconstructed it into the form in which it exists today.

The theatre building is connected to the **Renaissance House** which was once part of the **castle fortifications**. The fifth courtyard and the entire castle area are closed off by an **iron gate** with its original gatehouse.



*The Lower Parterre (left) bears elements of the Rococo, while the Upper Garden is designed in Baroque.*

### **Castle Garden**

To the west of the castle, on a slight hill above the 5th courtyard, is the castle garden with an area of more than **11 hectares** (*rectangular-shaped with dimensions of 150 × 765 m*). There are two access roads leading to it from the gatehouse. The path leading up on the left brings you to the main gate of the garden, while the right path first leads you to the great **Winter Riding School**. This was built in 1745 and served for equestrian training during bad weather. The Riding School today functions as a social hall and restaurant. Next to the winter riding school

there are two smaller enclosed terraces. The lower one was designated as the orchard and fulfilled the role of private gardens for the castle lords – it was also known as the **Royal Garden**. Above it leads a passage through which the nobility could walk undisturbed to the castle garden from inside the castle. The higher terraces were used as a **summer riding school**. Above these terraces, the Lower Parterre spreads out, accounting for nearly half the area of the castle garden. It is decorated by flower beds shaped into Rococo ornaments, with several massive oaks and beeches.

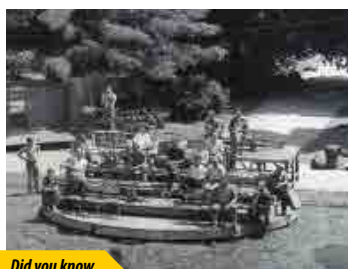


The Neptune Cascade Fountain.

Approximately in the center of the garden, on the boundary between the Lower Parterre and the higher-positioned Upper Garden, stands the rococo **Neptune Fountain**, built during modifications in 1750. It consists of four levels of cascades decorated with sculptures of sea deities, allegories of the seasons and various aquatic animals.

The character of the **Upper Garden** is somewhat reminiscent of a landscaped park, in some places almost like a forest. It was composed as **Baroque** as corresponds to its layout, which agrees with the garden's layout map from 1750. The central point of the whole area is formed by a path leading from the fountain to the castle lake situated at the farthest end of the garden. It overlooks the well-known **Revolving stage** which is very popular among audiences.

This auditorium is located near the architecturally valuable **Bellarie Summer House**, the current form of which comes from a Rococo reconstruction from the latter 18th century. The Summer House is also known for its artificial **grotto** as well as its **"magic table"** – a special lift that brought food from the kitchen to the noble rooms upstairs.



Did you know that...

... the first revolving auditorium, built in **1958**, had a capacity of only **60 seats**? Its great success soon led to the construction of a larger auditorium for 400 persons, moved by 40 soldiers hidden inside the body. Later reconstructions further increased the capacity; today it holds 658 viewers. It's worth noting that the author of the first auditorium, architect **Joan Brems** (1907–1995), distanced himself from the present auditorium.



The pond in the southwest part of the garden.



Our TIP

2

## SUMMER EVENINGS IN ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

Visit the world's unique **Revolving Auditorium**, where the South Bohemian Theatre presents its productions every summer in the unique scenery of the castle garden. The principle of the revolving auditorium draws the audience directly into the action and brings a unique theatrical experience under the open sky. The revolving auditorium is also part of the **Jižní Svéráz** festival, which connects theatre with unique places in South Bohemia. The 2026 summer repertoire will offer titles for adults and families with children – from comedies and romantic adaptations to adventure and musical projects.

Complete program:

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

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

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



Jihočeské divadlo



Did you know that...

The repertoire of the South Bohemian Theatre for the Revolving Auditorium is unique in its use of the castle park, often referred to as the theater with the highest ceiling in the world. Many performances feature not only top-tier actors, opera singers, or ballet dancers, but also live horses, carriages, and hunting dogs that suddenly emerge from the darkness of the garden alleys. This proximity to nature gives productions a raw, magical atmosphere that is impossible to replicate in a traditional theater building.



One of the ruler rooms of Vilém of Rožmberk, now furnished as a bedroom.

## CASTLE TOURS

### Tour No.1

(approx. 55 min.)

Leads you through the Renaissance and Baroque chambers, some of the most spectacular castle interiors. The tour begins in the castle **chapel of St. George**, built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The chapel is originally Gothic but was later modified in the Renaissance. Its current appearance comes from a reconstruction in the Rococo period, 1750–1753. The chapel holds a glass box with the **remains of St. Calixtus**, a martyr from northern Africa. Up until 1614, coincidentally, there were the relics of another saint here with the same name, the 16<sup>th</sup> **Pope Calixtus I** († 222 AD).

In the **Renaissance Hall**, notice the copy of the famous painting **Division of the Rose**. The route leads us onwards to the Renaissance living rooms of the last of the

Rožmberks (*bedroom, dining hall*), richly decorated with biblical motifs. Valuable murals and beautiful coffered ceilings decorate the two Rožmberk anterooms where guests awaited an audience. The **antecamera** on the second floor served the same purpose. This is the anteroom to the vast **Schwarzenberg suites**, first inhabited by the **Eggenbergs**. The anteroom leads to the **Eggenberg Hall** with its legendary **Golden Carriage**. In 1638, Johann Anton of Eggenberg used it to deliver gifts from Emperor Ferdinand III (1608–1657) to Pope Urban VIII on a diplomatic mission to the Vatican. The walls of the hall bear portraits of the individual members of the Eggenberg family. An interesting feature is the table in the dining room which could be extended to sit up to 30 people. The walls of the dining room are decorated by a rich collection of Schwarzenberg **tapestries**. The couch with the canopy gives the

## CASTLE TOWER

The **Castle Tower** is probably the most famous symbol of Český Krumlov. The banner at the top shines at a **height of 86 m** above the **Vltava River**. The tower has a Gothic core, but it was completed in Renaissance style. The **lowest section** was created in the **mid-13<sup>th</sup> century**, while the second floor, slightly narrower and separated from the bottom by a narrow ledge, is about a hundred years younger. The Renaissance Tower was given its shape by completion in 1581, designed by Italian architect **Baldassaro Maggi of Arogno** (about 1550–1619). The exterior decoration of the tower as well as of the Hrádek in 1590 is the work of the Rožmberk court painter **Bartoloměj Beránek**, nicknamed *Jelínek* († 1618). The murals were extensively repaired and partially reconstructed from 1994 to 1996.

The **gallery** is decorated with arcades on **19 columns**.

There are **four bells** hung in the tower, the heaviest of which has an estimated weight of **1,800 kg** and dates from 1406. Other small bells, known as the clock bells, have been hanging in the lucerne atop the tower for 400 years.

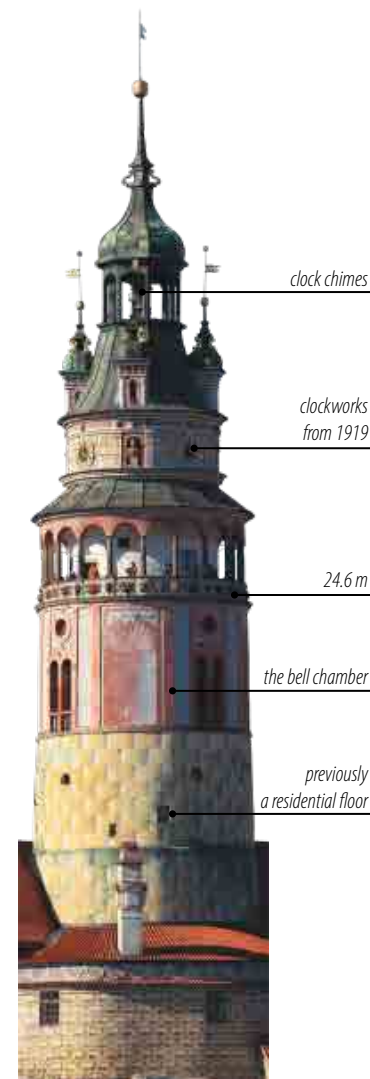
The tower is open year-round (p. 22).

### Interesting technical details

number of steps	162
height	54.5 m
height from the surface of the Vltava	86 m
maximum diameter of the tower	12 m
greatest thickness of the wall	3.7 m
height to gallery	24.6 m

### Bells in the bell-tower

bell	weight	made in	diameter
1.	1,800 kg	1406	1,47 m
2.	1,400 kg	1671	1,36 m
3.	410 kg	1406	0,84 m
4.	75 kg	1744	0,52 m



clock chimes

clockworks  
from 1919

24.6 m

the bell chamber

previously  
a residential floor





The Princess's Salon — one of the private rooms of Eleonora of Schwarzenberg.



Did you know that...

...the Belgian Duchess **Paulina Carolina Iris of Ahrenberg and Aerschot** died in a fire at a ball in Paris in 1810? When the wooden dance pavilion caught fire from overturned candles in the garden of the Austrian Embassy, Emperor **Napoleon**, his entourage, and the Duchess came out of the burning hall safely. But Paulina saw her daughter imprisoned among the dancers in the room, returned to her, and this was her fateful moment... Paulina, mother of 9 children, was a remarkable woman, spoke 5 languages, and had musical and artistic talent. This is why the portrait depicts her with attributes of art. The untimely death of the Duchess is symbolized by the overturned hourglass and bust of Paulina.

tour begins in the gallery where you can see portraits of family members who lived from the 14<sup>th</sup> century to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The guest rooms follow, one of which is dedicated to the Belgian Princess Paulina of Ahrenberg. There is a nice collection of **114 engravings** in the **Men's Parlour**. An interesting item is the hammer piano, still functional, from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century in the music parlour. In the other rooms you can admire the heraldic **tapestries** from the extensive Schwarzenberg collection of tapestries.

The **Marshall room** is dedicated to Charles I Philip of Schwarzenberg and the victory over Napoleon in the famous Battle of Leipzig in 1810. The suite, originally inhabited by Johann Adolf II. Schwarzenberg and his wife Eleonore, still holds its original furnishings. It leads into the library which, with its collection of **55 thousand volumes**, is one of the largest in the country. It is decorated with portraits of several members of the Schwarzenberg family. The tour also passes through the **small dining room** into the private suites of Princess Eleonore. Her study and bedroom are decorated with many rare Dutch and Brussels tapestries. The tour finishes in the **castle picture gallery** which houses a collection of canvases painted by German, Italian, Flemish and Dutch masters.



Our TIP

3

## CASTLE BAROQUE THEATRE

**Tour No. 3**  
(approx 45 minutes)

The theatre building on the **5<sup>th</sup> courtyard** of the castle was built between **1680–1682** by **Johann Christian I of Eggenberg** (1641 to 1710), a great patron of the arts. From **1765–1766**, **Josef Adam of Schwarzenberg** (1722–1782) had it reconstructed into a modern theatre and equipped with new decorations and advanced technical equipment.

Given that the theatre was not subject to further reconstructions or modernizations in the later centuries, this **Baroque scene** has been preserved in its original form from the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century to the present. Nonetheless, the uniqueness of the Český Krumlov

Castle Theatre is not in its age or rich equipment, but primarily in its **authenticity** and **integrity**. In this regard, the Český Krumlov can only be compared to the **Swedish Royal Theatre in Drottningholm**.

It's not only the theatre building with its stage and auditorium that have remained perfectly preserved, but also the stage scenery, hundreds of costumes and props, and the complete machinery for replacing the scenes. There are also approximately **2,400 volumes** of various texts that have survived — **scripts, librettos, partitures** and **scores**. Also remarkable is the stage equipment for imitating sounds of a storm, the wind and so on.

[zamek-ceskykrumlov.cz](http://zamek-ceskykrumlov.cz)

The gallery doors lead into the top of two corridors above the **Cloak Bridge**. The corridor leads to the castle garden, and its walls bear rare historical maps of European countries. The second and lower hallway

leads to the **Castle Theatre**, which is the subject of another guided tour.



KRUMLOV  
CARD

Our TIP

4



KLÁŠTERY  
ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

## ČESKÝ KRUMLOV MONASTERIES

Hidden away from the busy tourist routes behind the burgher homes of the Latrán castle community, the Český Krumlov monastery complex is the town's **second largest historical complex following the castle**. The "triple" monastery of the Brothers and Sisters of the Order of St. Francis was founded in **1350 by Catherine of Rožmberk** together with her four sons. The first **Minorites and Poor Clares** came to the monasteries in 1357 and 1361. Over the following centuries, the monasteries became a center of religious life, culture, and education as well as a destination for religious pilgrims. The convent of the Poor Clares was dissolved in 1782 during the Josephine reforms, while the Minorite convent was discontinued in 1950, exactly **600 years** after its foundation. Today, these objects are used for 3 main exhibitions.

At the heart of the Minorite and Clarissan monasteries is the **Church of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Sorrows**. In its present form, this "triple" monastery is architecturally the best preserved complete monastery complex in the Czech Republic.



### MONASTERY MUSEUM

The former Minorite monastery, now owned by the Knights of the Cross with the Red Star, offers an interesting view into the Chapel of St. Wolfgang, where rare Gothic frescoes were discovered. Once the mold, fungus, and layers of plaster were removed, the frescoes were restored and now complement the Baroque fragments on the chapel walls and the Baroque ceiling decoration depicting the life of St. Wolfgang. The highlights of the church include the statue of the Black Madonna in the Chapel of Our Lady of Einsiedeln and the statue of the Madonna of Krumlov.



### ČESKÝ KRUMLOV GALLERY

Are you a lover and admirer of art? Then don't miss the Český Krumlov Gallery. Each season brings something new and inspiring to see.

#### PABLO PICASSO - Picasso Life throughout 2026

Did you know  
that...

At the Monastery, you have a unique opportunity to explore prints, lithographs, drawings, documentary materials, and films that reveal Picasso's passion for animals, objects, nature, women, and mythology. The exhibition also includes a collection of ceramics and photographs from the artist's personal life, as well as a series of posters from galleries and exhibitions around the world that trace how Picasso's work has been presented internationally.



### HISTORIC PLAYROOM – INTERACTIVE EXHIBITION

A creative space for both children and adults, filled with workshops where you can dream with your eyes open, discover, play, and create. Try on historical princess costumes, explore the art of printing, become a medieval scribe in the Scriptorium, learn about the healing power of herbs, or enter the Alchemical Laboratory hidden underground.

Check the current  
exhibition program at:  
[www.klasteryck.cz](http://www.klasteryck.cz)



### CRAFT WORKSHOPS

Step into a world of imagination through the craft alley, where children can discover traditional glassmaking, dyeing, pottery, or blacksmithing workshops. Experience the life of a craftsman – because every craft is an art.



The only surviving town gate – **Budějovice Gate** from 1602.

## THE OLD TOWN

The historical core is comprised of two parts. The older section, **Latrán**, formed spontaneously beneath the castle on the left bank of the **Vltava River**. The inner town is slightly younger and was intentionally established within the meanders of the river. When viewed from above, the old town gives the impression of an island. The “loop” of the Vltava is so tight that at its narrowest point the two streams mutually converge to less than a hundred meters.

### LATRÁN

The name **Latrán** comes from the Latin word “latus”, which may be translated as “side” or “lateral”. This reflects the fact that this district lay outside the main part of the town and in the past was not even part of its administration. It was subsequently incorporated in 1555 by Vilém of Rožmberk. Latrán was mostly home to people whose work secured the economic operation of the castle. Today, this is the name of the street that starts at Budějovice Gate and ends at Barber’s Bridge. **Budějovice Gate** is the youngest town gate from the original nine gates and the only one to have survived. It was commissioned by Petr

Vok of Rožmberk to the builder **Dominico Cometta** in 1598–1602 and protected Latrán from the north.

Near the **Red Gate**, symbolically guarding the entrance to the first courtyard, a huge ceremonial arch spans Latrán. It houses a corridor that connected the castle interiors with the nearby monastery. The **monastery** was originally Minorite and now serves the Order of the Knights of the Cross with a Red Star. Construction of the monastery with its Church of Corpus Christi was begun by the Rožmberks in 1350. Later the monastery was rebuilt in Gothic style, and the church was reconstructed into Baroque in 1649–1681.

There are a number of late Gothic and Renaissance houses with interesting decor that should not escape our attention on the street Latrán. These include **house No. 53** and **No. 39** with its wall mural of the **Rožmberk rider**. **Houses No. 37** and **No. 15** are architecturally interesting with their valuable Gothic interior paintings. **House No. 54** near the Red Gate belonged to the Schwarzenberg builder, engineer **Josef Rosenauer** (1735–1804), the builder of the famous Schwarzenberg Navigational Canal, from 1782.



Former St. Jost Church.



Did you know that...

... the castle **connecting corridor** measures **900 meters**? It leads **from the monastery**, through the roofs of the townhouses and supporting arch (pictured), to the **first castle courtyard**. It then spans the bear moat, passes through the 2<sup>nd</sup> courtyard, and continues into the Upper Castle. From here it leads over the Cloak Bridge and attic of the Baroque theatre, then heads up to the castle gardens. This interesting architectural feature allowed the nobility to stroll comfortably and uninterrupted through the entire castle complex. In the past, the entire passage was probably never fully passable at any one given historical moment.

On the left side towards the Vltava River, adjacent to Latrán, lies the **New Town** (Nové Město), the location of the widow residence of Anna Rožmberk of Rogendorf, mother of the last Rožmberks – Vilém and Petr Vok of Rožmberk. The former residence and its adjoining Renaissance gardens are now part of the **Eggenberg brewery**.

Above the rooftops of Latrán towers the steeple of the **former St. Jost Church**. It was likely founded sometime before 1343 on the site of a former chapel. It used to be part of the Rožmberk hospital and poorhouse. In the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, the church was rebuilt into Renaissance style and later became the property of the Jesuit order. This is probably the reason that in the 18th century, under the reforms of Joseph II, it was abolished and converted into a burgher residence. The high tower with cupola was preserved, today forming one of the landmarks of the historical district.



Our TIP

5

## LIKE IN A FAIRY TALE. BUT FOR REAL.

*A showroom of the best European illustration in a palace above Krumlov. We see ourselves as the custodians of an exceptional collection in an exceptional place. We want to cultivate a sense of beauty in people. We are in charge of a collection that has bewitched the Japanese Empress, the Spanish King, and Andy Warhol. It has won prestigious awards all over the world, but it is at home here in our castle. The collection was put together by a Czech who was expelled from his homeland by the stupid Bolsheviks. He published children's books in Switzerland for 30 years, brought joy to tens of millions of children, and even managed to make a living doing it. The Illustration Palace is the culmination of his return to his homeland.*

*Český Krumlov is a fairy tale. But you haven't seen this yet. The most beautiful view of the city is from us. We are based in the Mint, a recently renovated palace (the work of the Baroque architect A. E. Martinelli), which in itself resembles a collection of luxury pralines.*



**Palác Ilustrace**  
Mincovna, Zámek 59  
381 01 Český Krumlov  
info@palacilustrace.cz  
+420 728 328 155  
[www.palacilustrace.cz](http://www.palacilustrace.cz)

PI





# PORT 1560

Our TIP

6

## PORT 1560

The former manor brewery complex opened its doors in 2024. A varied program of events, four permanent exhibitions and pleasant facilities for relaxation await you here. History, beer, art lovers and entire families with children will find their place here.

The visit begins in the former cold storage, now a modern visitor center, where you can purchase tickets for individual exhibitions. They will guide you through the brewing tradition, the life of the townspeople and contemporary art. The complex is complemented by the Brewery Restaurant and the Brewery Garden, where concerts, festivals and other cultural events are held throughout the year.

### WORK EXHIBITION

Take a look at the historic **Varna** and discover how beer was brewed in Český Krumlov in the past and today. You will learn about the original technologies and during a guided tour you can



also see the current operation of the brewery. The exhibition will delight not only beer lovers, but anyone who likes to discover honest craftsmanship.

### INTERACTIVE EXHIBITION DREAMS

Do you know what **Hvozd** is? It is a part of the malthouse where sprouted barley was dried. However, ours is a bit mysterious. It will not only introduce you to the original technique, but also reveal dreams woven into interactive installations.

### INTERACTIVE EXHIBITION LIFE

The Renaissance **palace of Anna of Rogendorf**, the oldest part of the complex, will transport you to the life of the Český Krumlov townspeople at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. You will learn the stories of the noble owners and the transformations of the complex itself. A unique view awaits you from the glass walkway into the attic space, and finally you will descend into the impressive banquet hall, whose historic vaults were discovered during the reconstruction in 2021.

### GALLERY

A part of the palace is dedicated to contemporary art, especially the graphics of the Hollar Association of Czech Graphic Artists. The gallery also includes a fully equipped **graphics workshop** with regular workshops and open workshops, where you can try out graphic techniques firsthand.



## HISTORIC BREWERY ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

The brewery continues the more than 700-year tradition of brewing beer in the city. Until the 16th century, beer was brewed directly in the castle grounds, but during the reign of William of Rosenberg, a new manor brewery was built. Under the Eggenbergs, its main building became the former residence of Anna of Rogendorf. From 1719 to 1947, the brewery was part of the Schwarzenberg estate, then it was incorporated into the national enterprise South Bohemian Breweries and privatized in 1991. Current production of Krumlov beer began in 2016, and today the brewery is an integral part of the Port 1560 cultural center. You can taste local beer directly at the source, in the stylish **Brewery Restaurant**, or in the **Lahvárna beer shop**.



### Opening time

May–September daily 10:00–18:00

October–April Wed–Sun 10:00–18:00



### Návštěvnícké centrum Port 1560

Pivovarská 26, Český Krumlov

info@port1560.cz, [www.port1560.cz](http://www.port1560.cz)

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

**Brewery Restaurant:** +420 724 149 771

**Lahvárna beer shop:** +420 776 728 743





Tawn Hall.

Latrán terminates at the **Barber's Bridge**, named after the former **Barber's residence** on the left bank just before the bridge.

### INNER TOWN

The Inner Town, located on a peninsula on the right bank of the river, apparently formed on the site of an original **trade settlement**. Its regular layout of buildings suggests a sophisticated system of formation. Building activity probably started in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century in the **town square**, from whence construction gradually expanded towards the fortification walls.

Starting at the **Barber's Bridge**, we can set off to explore the inner town on one of the narrow streets around the square.



Vlašský dvůr (No. 32).

If we turn to the left past the bridge, direction downstream, we find ourselves on the street **Parkán**. This street was first mentioned in 1443. It is characteristic for its relatively small houses built in the narrow space between the inner and outer fortification walls.

Barber's Bridge leads directly to **Radniční Street**, which soon brings us to the **town square Svornost (Concord)**. The square's regular plan was probably established in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Initially the square would have been lined with many wooden houses, while the arcaded stone houses were built about 100 years later. The town square is dominated by a fountain with Baroque plague column from 1712–1716. Princess Marie Ernestine of Schwarzenberg had it built as an expression of gratitude (*albeit belated*) for the departure of the plague epidemic that haunted the town during 1680–1682. The clear dominant, however, is the **Town Hall**. It originally consisted of two older houses whose facade optically connected them into one unit in 1597. The facade of the Town Hall is decorated **four** coats of arms: the seal of the Kingdom of Bohemia, the town of Český Krumlov, and the **Engenberg** and **Schwarzenberg** coats of arms.

For our tour of the historical inner town, we may proceed along **Panská Street**. At the end there is one of the town's largest



Our TIP

7

★★★★

### HOTEL GRAND & RESTAURACE LUMIÈRE

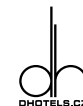
*This hotel is truly exceptional – not only thanks to its location in the historic heart of the town, but above all because it is run by a **family with a deep passion for hospitality**.*

*The entire building has been carefully renovated to preserve its original features and historical charm, while offering modern comfort. The hotel boasts luxurious rooms with beautiful views of the town and surrounding landscape, high-quality services, and much more.*

*A highlight of your stay is sure to be a visit to the **family-run restaurant**, which focuses on modern cuisine made with traditional local ingredients, inspired by culinary influences from around the world. Each dish is thoughtfully prepared and creatively presented to leave a lasting impression. Guests also have the unique opportunity to meet the chef in person and receive cooking tips and advice. In short – if you choose to stay at Hotel Grand, you certainly won't regret it!*



**HOTEL GRAND\*\*\*\***  
Náměstí Svornosti 3  
381 01 Český Krumlov  
+420 380 711 671  
+420 605 268 448  
grand@dhoteis.cz  
[www.hotel-grand.cz](http://www.hotel-grand.cz)





**Švamberký Dům** (Schwamberg House) with fragments of Gothic paintings on the facade.

and formerly most spectacular town-houses – **Vlašský Dvůr** (No. 32). Each of its three facades faces another street, which attests to the house's extraordinary size. The Renaissance sgraffito decoration of the facade and attic gables is impressive, and the huge Gothic entrance portal is also notable.

House No. 19 has an unusually designed roof, likely from the Renaissance. The hall with Gothic portal and the 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.

There is another original burgher house worthy of our admiration – **Švamberký Dům** (No. 35) on the adjacent Soukenická Street. Its facade is decorated with sensitively reconstructed remnants of Gothic frescoes from the late 15<sup>th</sup> century. Among them, note the light-hearted image of a **horse in a cradle**.

The street running parallel with Soukenická is aptly named **Široká**, or Wide Street. This street is home to several notable architectural monuments, one of them being, for example, the two-story **house No. 77**. Its granite entrance portal is equipped with seated niches, and their execution in Saxon Renaissance style is unique in Český Krumlov.

The most expansive and most important monument on Široká Street is the complex of Renaissance buildings of the former municipal **brewery**. It was built in a "U"-shape in 1606–1608 by Dominico Benedetto Cometta of Eckthurn. This Italian-born architect was active in the service of Petr Vok of Rožmberk, having also built the Budějovice Gate and the church of St. Jost in Český Krumlov. The brewery buildings were generously renovated in 1993 to suit the needs of the now world-famous gallery, the **Egon Schiele Art Centrum**.

Nearby the former municipal brewery is the former Renaissance **house No. 74**. An archaeological excavation in the house revealed unique floor fragments inside the house, tiled with pork and beef bones.

On the site where **Široká Streets** ends in a small square, called **Na Louži**, stands the corner **Krčín House** (No. 54). This two-story building formed as a result of a Renaissance reconstruction of the former house in 1580. The Renaissance decorations of its facade are particularly valuable, rich in figural and ornamental motifs.

At the other end of this small square, we can ascend **Kostelní Street** to the **church of St. Vitus**. Its high neo-Gothic tower, creating a visual counterbalance to the Renaissance castle tower, was built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The church itself, however, is originally late Gothic, having been founded in 1309. The walls of its three naves have been standing from roughly the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century. The

## Praha - collection s.r.o.

### Jewellery



Our TIP

8

### PRAHA-COLLECTION JEWELLERY

We represent the world-renowned company **S&A AMBER JEWELLERY**, which creates exclusive collections of jewelry made solely with amber. We own a goldsmith workshop where we offer our clients top-quality services, including the cutting and polishing of moldavites and garnets, which we incorporate into unique, design-forward collections. This opens up a wide range of designer jewelry for our customers – **featuring amber, moldavites, and garnets**. We believe you will find the perfect piece with us, one that highlights your unique personality.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT.



### PRAHA-COLLECTION s. r. o.

Český Krumlov:

**Latrán 20, Latrán 45,  
Dlouhá 100, Dlouhá 29**

+420 380 731 332, +420 721 613 609



Latrán 20, Latrán 45,  
Dlouhá 100, Dlouhá 29

main construction of the church took place from 1407–1439, when the netted ribbed vaulting was built, terminating the triple nave. The vaulting is supported by eight slender pillars. The church was expanded and modified several times in subsequent centuries. In the past there was a **cemetery** adjacent to the church (*several tombstones have still survived in the vicinity of the church*), while the interior of the church itself has often served as the burial place for the members of the ruling families of Český Krumlov. The most significant personage buried here is **Vilém of Rožmberk (1535–1592)**. In addition, the hearts of certain Schwarzenbergs were deposited here in special boxes. Part of the church is the chapel of the Resurrection and the chapel of St. John of Nepomuk. **The St. Vitus Church is freely accessible all year round.**



**Egon Schiele: Meadow, church and houses**, 1912, oil on wood, 37 × 29 cm, private collection; the picture was exhibited in the Egon Schiele Art Center in 2001, then **stolen** on 13.9.2001 – but **tracked down** by police in November 2002, secured, and returned.

From the terrace behind the church there is a nice view of the river with a weir and the southern part of the town behind it.

On the way from the church, to the right of the church steps, notice the prominent corner building with its five-sided **oriel window**. The house is known as **Kaplanka**; this is originally a late Gothic house, but it is also one of the first buildings in Český Krumlov onto which were later applied Renaissance architectural elements.

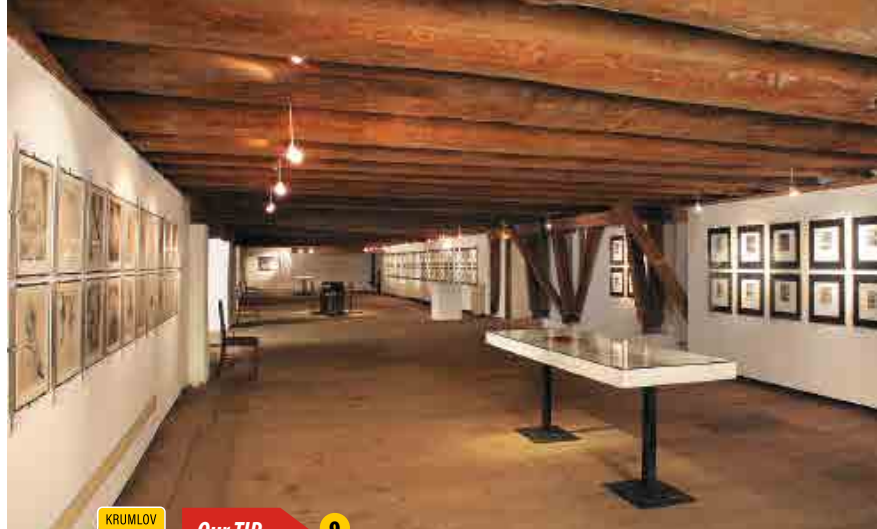
We walk around the Kaplanka back to **Horní**, or Upper Street. On the right side,



The “**Kaplanka**” – the first building with Renaissance elements in Český Krumlov.

the richly decorated neo-Renaissance facade of the **Prelature** immediately appears. This was the seat of the Český Krumlov deans, who were one of the few permitted allowed to use the title of Prelate. This four-wing complex of buildings was originally Gothic and dates from the second half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century. It was rebuilt in Renaissance in 1576, and a **brewery** was added to it later. The brewery caused many fires in later years that gradually necessitated a number of architectural modifications. One of these was in 1768, when Rococo elements were added, including the painting of the Prelature hall by painter **František Jakub Prokyš (1713–1791)**. This artistically valuable room has been preserved to the present day and is named **Prokyš Hall** after this renowned painter.

Close by the Prelature, the **Jesuit College** was built between 1586–1590 as one of the first in Bohemia. The building was designed by Italian architect **Baldassaro Maggi**, also known for building the famous Kratochvíle summer residence near Netolice. The spectacular building of the former college, now the home of Hotel Růže, was



KRUMLOV  
CARD

Our TIP

9

## EGON SCHIELE ART CENTRUM

An important part of the gallery, with an overall **exhibition and studio space of 5,000 m<sup>2</sup>**, is an exhibition about the life and work of the Austrian expressionist, painter and artist **Egon Schiele (1890–1918)**. This famous admirer and friend of **Gustav Klimt** often enjoyed staying in Krumlov. The town of Český Krumlov, as the hometown of his mother Mary Soukupová, became his great life inspiration for his unique drawings and oil paintings. His free Bohemian lifestyle and the daring themes of his erotic drawings upset the residents of Český Krumlov, however, which was probably the reason for his involuntary **departure** from the town in **1911**, although he repeatedly returned here until his untimely death.

Much of the gallery is devoted to exchange exhibitions of 20<sup>th</sup> century art and international studios for contemporary artists; there is also a large **museum shop and café**.



Did you know that...

...**Egon Schiele** often drew the children he met on the streets of Český Krumlov? He met these girls in the summer of 1911 during his regular walks in the castle garden.



**Egon Schiele Art Centrum**  
Široká 71, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
Tue–Sun: 10.00–18.00  
+420 380 704 011  
office@schieleartcentrum.cz  
[www.schieleartcentrum.cz](http://www.schieleartcentrum.cz)



Did you know that...

...the chapel of St. John of Nepomuk was built between 1726–1729 during the reign of the Schwarzenbergs? The chapel's dedication to this Czech martyr has a true historical basis. The spouses Adam Franz of Schwarzenberg and Princess Eleonore Amalia were childless, and the family was threatened with extinction. What's more, the spouses had not spoken to each other for twenty long years because of some distant quarrel and did not maintain contact. In 1721 they met by accident in the St. Vitus Cathedral in Prague, reconciled, and their reunification produced their sought-after male descendant in less than a year (December 22, 1722) – Prince Joseph Adam. And because their fateful meeting in Prague happened to be at the tomb of St. John of Nepomuk, this saint became the new Schwarzenberg patron.

richly decorated with sgraffito and murals. On the walls of the courtyard we find depictions of Vilém of Rožmberk's family coat of arms and of his fourth and last wife Polyxena of Pernstein.

Part of today's Hotel Růže is house No. 153, adapted in 1663 by the Jesuit Order into a theatre. Theatre performances always fulfilled an important role in the educational activities of the Jesuits, but theatre was played here after the revocation of the Jesuit Order, for over 300 years total – until March of 1971.

Opposite the hotel across the street stands another palatial building. It houses



**Church of St. Vitus** – one of the town's landmarks.

the **Regional Museum**, founded in the 17th century as a **Jesuit seminary**. It is interesting to note that this is the first major Baroque building in Český Krumlov. The **Upper Gate** used to stand between today's Hotel Růže and the Museum in the past (until 1839), after which Upper Street was named. The park next to the Museum offers one of the most beautiful views of Český Krumlov castle, with the tower of the former church of St. Jost in the foreground.

Just past the Museum, the Inner Town is separated from the "outside world" by a relatively deep and steep crevasse, known today as the "**Mouse Hole**". This was a defence moat created by breaking down the rock below. At one time it was spanned by a wooden drawbridge. In 1787 this was replaced by a **stone bridge** consisting of four arches on three pillars. It is here that both halves of the meander of the Vltava River converge at their shortest distance. This is the reason that they are connected here by an artificial water channel, technically turning the Inner Town into an island.

Past the bridge on the left is today's **Municipal Theatre**, used for this purpose since 1993.



KRUMLOV CARD

Our TIP

10



Did you know that...

...inside the Český Krumlov Regional Museum there is a **ceramic model of the historical center of Český Krumlov** – the largest of its kind in the world? The model captures the appearance of the town around 1800 and is made at a scale of 1:200. The scale model was created in 1976–84 by Jana and Petr Pešek.

## REGIONAL MUSEUM in Český Krumlově

*"The history of the town and the region from prehistory up to the present"*

- Permanent exposition
- Seasonal exhibitions
- Unique ceramic model of the town
- Baroque Jesuit pharmacy
- Field station of experimental archaeology
- Lectures and workshops
- Cultural events
- Branches: Memorial – the Parental Home of Adalbert Stifter in Horní Planá; Museum Fotoatelier Seidel

**Open:**  
**Tue–Sun 09:00–12:00 h,**  
**12:30–17:00 h**

Horní 152, Český Krumlov  
+420 380 711 674  
info@muzeumck.cz  
[www.muzeumck.cz](http://www.muzeumck.cz)

Follow us  
on Facebook  
and Instagram.





Our TIP

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## DEER BRIDGE WEIR MODIFICATION

### Transforming a fixed weir to a movable weir

The construction is part of a complex of flood control measures in Český Krumlov. The fixed weir body, which formed an obstacle during floods, was removed. In its place, the **Povodí Vltavy**, a state enterprise, built a completely new movable weir body. The structure is complemented by a shorter, bent section of the fixed weir in connection with the left-bank culvert.

The aerial view of the hydrostatic sector lock is clad in wood. The length of the sector lock is 40 m, the dam height is 1.8 m. The left-bank boat culvert, 5.5 m wide and 45 m long, is combined with a brush crossing for fish. The sector lock is fixed in an upright position during normal operation; when the harmless flow rate is exceeded, the operator lowers it and, after the flood subsides, it is raised and fixed again.



**POVODÍ VLTAVY**

#### **Povodí Vltavy, state enterprise**

Holečkova 3178/8, Smíchov

150 00 Praha 5

Establishment Horní Vltava

Litvinovická 709/5, České Budějovice

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

[www.facebook.com/povodivltavy](https://www.facebook.com/povodivltavy)

[www.instagram.com/povodivltavy](https://www.instagram.com/povodivltavy)



The stone bridge over the "Mouse Hole", the former Jesuit Theatre to the left.

#### TOWN SIGHTS ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE VLTAVA

We get to the left bank of the Vltava by crossing the **Dr. Edvard Beneš Bridge**, then we have several options. To the left is the entrance to the town park, founded in 1907. If we go right, we follow **Rybářská Street** along the left bank of the Vltava River to the **Cloak Bridge**. There are a number of original houses set below the steep slope below the 5th castle courtyard, now mostly used as guest-houses and hospitality establishments.

From the area in front of the Linecká schoolhouse, we recommend climbing **Plešivec steps** to the small square above, part of the neighbourhood called **Plešivec**. There are several architecturally valuable Renaissance houses here. From the top of the stairs there is a nice view of the town.

From **Plešivec Square** we'll go down **Horská Street** to the **District Courthouse**. To the right of the courthouse is one of the largest modern attractions of Český Krumlov – the **Seidel Photographic Studio Museum**.

Coming out of the museum we can continue right, along **Linecká Street**, which soon leads us to the southern suburb of Plešivec. Atop the fortification wall, notice the octagonal tower of the Krumlov **Synagogue**. It was built in Neo-Romanesque style and enriched with elements of Art Nouveau by the local Jewish community in 1908–1909. Its designer was the Prague architect Victor Kafka who worked in Vienna. It served its purpose as a synagogue, however, just less than 30 years, until the fateful year 1938. This nearby house on a terrace above the river briefly served as the home and studio for painter **Egon Schiele**.



Old Plešivec above the left bank of the Vltava.

KRUMLOV  
CARD

Our TIP

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## MUSEUM FOTOATELIER SEIDEL

The Seidel Photo Studio Museum is located in the original building that the important early 20th century photographer, **Josef Seidel**, had built in 1905 as a photographic studio. An **archive** numbering **140,000 images**, mostly glass negatives, has still been preserved from the studio's heyday, in which Josef Seidel captured Český Krumlov, its **inhabitants**, the town's surroundings, and a large part of the **Šumava Forest**. The museum still maintains the preserved and functional equipment and darkroom as well as the photographer's personal belongings. You can even have your photograph taken in period dress before an original historical backdrop. In 1948, the son of the famous photographer, **František Seidel**, was subject to the nationalization of a large number of his father's postcard negatives. From that moment, the photographer almost never returned to the studio, working only in his darkroom, and this is probably why the studio is still preserved in its original form.

**Museum Fotoatelier Seidel** is a branch of the Regional Museum in Český Krumlov.

**Tue – Sun: 9 – 12, 13 – 17**  
(last visit one hour before closing)



museum  
fotoatelier  
seidel



**Museum Fotoatelier Seidel**  
Linecká 272, Český Krumlov  
+420 736 503 871; info@seidel.cz  
www.seidel.cz  
fotobanka.seidel.cz Follow us  

Our TIP

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## EGON SCHIELE ATELIER

The house is located on the Vltava **riverbank**, within sight of the synagogue and close to the town park and parking lot P3. It is set amidst **terraced gardens** – a peaceful spot ideal for relaxation, especially during the warm summer months. You can enjoy access to the water, grassy riverbanks, and refreshments at a cozy **café**. What makes this house special? In 1911, the painter **Egon Schiele** lived and worked here. The authentic spaces where some of his famous paintings were created are open to the public during the summer season. **Seasonal exhibitions** are also held here.



Linecká 343  
Český Krumlov  
www.ckrumlov.info



Our TIP

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## SYNAGOGUE ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

The Jewish prayer house was built in **1909**. The synagogue is one of the city's most important landmarks of **Art Nouveau** architecture, though its exterior has a more historical appearance thanks to typical Neo-Romanesque elements (such as the paired windows on the tower). It served its original purpose for only **30 years**—until the annexation of the Sudetenland in 1938. For most of the 20th century, the building fell into disrepair. A **complete restoration** was not carried out until **2012**. Since then, the synagogue has once again become a place of gathering, hosting exhibitions, concerts, and other cultural events. There is a permanent exhibition on the history of the building and the **local Jewish community**. A café now operates in the former rabbi's apartment, and there is a children's playground in the adjacent garden.



Za Soudem 282  
Český Krumlov  
www.ckrumlov.info



Our TIP

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## EXHIBITION OF GARNET AND COMPANY STORE

*Unique gemstones* found exclusively in the Czech Republic are cherished all over the world. Gifts from the **Granát Turnov** workshop have been presented to members of the British monarchy, Pope John Paul II, President and Mrs. Obama, and many other prominent figures. The company is a fully self-sufficient miner of these **deep red stones**, a jewelry manufacturer, and the holder of the trademarks "**Czech Garnet**" and "**Czech Garnet Jewelry**", which guarantee the authenticity and quality of garnet-adorned jewelry and glass. Don't miss the chance to visit our store, located just steps from the Český Krumlov Castle, and take home a beautiful memory from your trip.



**Granát**  
Turnov

Exhibition of Garnet  
Latrán 53, Český Krumlov

+420 380 714 135 • [www.granat.cz](http://www.granat.cz)



Our TIP

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## KRUMLOV MILL APARTMENTS



This is one of the oldest houses in the Český Krumlov old town, a **former feudal mill** situated directly beneath the castle. Krumlov Mill offers accommodations in **four luxury apartments**. Sensitive layout, distinctive design, original ideas, furnishings, traditional materials, attention to detail, and meticulous workmanship all contribute to the apartments' extraordinarily impressive atmosphere. In short: "Exceptional spaces require exceptionality."

- luxury accommodations in the heart of Český Krumlov in a former mill
- choice of four spacious apartments (60, 70, 140 and 250 m<sup>2</sup>)
- view of the river, the mill run, and the Český Krumlov Castle
- combining a historical atmosphere with elements of modern design amenities corresponding to the
- First Class category\*\*\*\*



Široká 82, Český Krumlov  
+420 736 634 466  
[info@krumlovskymlyn.cz](mailto:info@krumlovskymlyn.cz)  
[krumlovskymlyn.cz](http://krumlovskymlyn.cz)





Our TIP

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## MOLDAVITE MUSEUM Český Krumlov

The museum features these “gems of the universe” in their full beauty and tells their whole story. The modern interactive exhibition provides entertainment for the whole family. You will learn plenty of interesting things about Moldavites and other topics as well, from the extinction of the dinosaurs to the latest findings from space research. There’s also a museum shop with a wide range of Moldavite jewelry, souvenirs, and stone collections.



### MUZEUM VLTAVÍNŮ

Panská 19, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
**Open daily 10.00 AM – 18.00 PM**  
 +420 734 174 130  
 muzeum@vltaviny.cz  
 www.vltaviny.cz

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 SHOP České Budějovice

Store with original  
**Moldavite jewelry.**  
 Mariánská Shopping Complex  
 Pražská třída 1



www.vltaviny.cz



Our TIP

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## BAR BRIDGE & CITY LOUNGE MUSIC CLUB

This favorite bar and dance club is located in the heart of Český Krumlov. Set within the original 13th-century **town fortifications** on Hradební Street, it lies near the Egon Schiele Art Centrum. A historic **guard tower** marks the club's main entrance. Since opening in June 2012, the club has enjoyed great popularity. In the same year, it earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the prestigious **Czech Bar Awards** in the club category. Thanks to its riverside location with views of the castle, professional service, stylish **interior design**, and a vibrant lineup of **DJ events**, you're sure to fall in love with this unique venue.



### BAR BRIDGE ČESKÝ KRUMLOV



Hradební 81  
 381 01 Český Krumlov  
 hotel@castlebridge.cz  
 www.citylounge.cz





*Synagogue with a garden offers a revitalization multifunctional space for cultural and social events, concerts, exhibitions etc.*

## CULTURE, LEISURE

The social season begins every year in February or March with the **Masopust folk festivities**. The streets flow with a colourful and cheering procession of masks, accompanied by street entertainers, musicians and theatre performers. An essential and sought-after part of the Masopust is the rich feasting and dancing. “**Magical Krumlov**” – such an appropriate name for of this event, held every year on the eve of the **first of May**. It includes erecting the Maypole, a variety of musical performances, the traditional witch burning, an evening lantern procession, and programs for children. On the first of May,



*Early Music Festival.*

after a fairy-tale night, comes the **May afternoon of open museums and galleries** – a rare opportunity of free entrance into selected areas and exhibitions.

June is the time that the **revolving auditorium** always starts its season. This unique theatre is installed in the castle garden, which, together with the Bellarie Summer House, creates a natural backdrop to the performances, held on summer nights in the open air.

At the time around the summer solstice, during the **Five-Petalled Rose Festival**, the town goes back to the days of the famous Rožmberk family for three days. The festival was first held in 1968, then after a forced pause was renewed in 1990. The atmosphere of the festive medieval town, enhanced by theatre and dance performances, craft markets and a spectacular **costumed procession**, attracts thousands of enthusiastic visitors every year.

Summer is traditionally accompanied by a series of music festivals. The first of these is the **Chamber Music Festival**, a tradition which has lasted a quarter century, intended for listeners and lovers of classical music and other genres. The festival is launched by a unique event called **Baroque Night at the Český Krumlov Castle** – a faithfully executed reconstruction of castle festivities from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. During another musical show, the **Early Music Festival**, performances are held by artists playing in various historical areas of the town on authentic period instruments.

The artistic highlight of the musical season – and not just within the town – is the **Český Krumlov International Music Festival**. The duration and artistic level of this unique event is traditionally sponsored by the Czech president, although its greatest splendour is provided by the participation of renowned artists. The most important include the tenors **Plácido Domingo, José Cura, Ramón Vargas**, conductor **Maxim Shostakovich**, opera singer **Eva Urbanová, Renée Fleming**, cellist **Mischa Maisky** and more.



*Unique outdoor stage – the Český Krumlov revolving auditorium.*

Another successful combination of classical music and impressive surroundings is the **Royal Music Festival** in nearby **Zlatá Koruna**. This takes place at the end of summer in the Gothic spaces of the former Cistercian monastery.

The end of the summer's music season arrives with jazz and alternative music, when the concert halls as well as the local pubs and cafés resound with music during the four-day **Jazzky Krumlov** festival in September.

At the end of September, the town comes alive with the increasingly popular **St. Wenceslas Festival**, held in honour of the patron saint of the Czech nation and Český Krumlov itself. This is a traditional autumn celebration of good food and drink, accompanied by plenty of entertainment. The festival closes with **Open Museum and Gallery Night**.



*Five-Petalled Rose Festival.*

The turn of September and October marks the spirit of the Baroque, when authentic historical spaces echo with compositions by old masters in the **Festival of Baroque Art**.

With the end of the year approaching, **Advent** comes to town. Most of the events associated with it are intended primarily for children – lighting up the Christmas



*Baroque Night*



Did you know that...

... in **Vyšší Brod**, the popular **International Český Krumlov River Marathon** annually starts in October? It is open to amateur and professional boaters and is probably the largest event of its kind in the Czechia.

tree on the Town Square, writing letters to Baby Jesus (*the Czech version of Santa Claus*), singing carols, or Saint Nicholas' Day. A favourite event is the Living Bethlehem, a live nativity scene featuring the town's inhabitants, and the Bears' Christmas – giving Christmas goodies to the bears in the castle moat.

The symbolic ending to the **Christmas season** as well as to the entire previous year is on Three Kings, by "blowing out" the Christmas tree on the town square.



One of the most significant sporting events since 1971 has been the **Český Krumlov Rally**, part of the prestigious European Cup and prestigious Czech championship series. [www.rallyecestykrumlov.cz](http://www.rallyecestykrumlov.cz)



Our TIP

19 20 21 22 23 24

## RING CRUISES

You can also get to know Český Krumlov from the water during a 2-hour cruise around town on a raft or canoe.

## CRUISE THE VLTAVA

... or you can take the Vltava River further downstream to the town of Zlatá Koruna (approx. 2–4 hours), or indulge in a single or multi-day trip down the river (Vyšší Brod – Rožmberk – Č. Krumlov – Zlatá Koruna – Boršov).

- **Rafting-Krumlov (19)**

Pod Sv. Duchem 135, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
Tel.: 777 066 999, [www.rafting-krumlov.cz](http://www.rafting-krumlov.cz)

- **Maleček rafting, canoe a voroplavba (20)**

Rooseveltova 28, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
Tel.: 702 000 802; [www.malecek.cz](http://www.malecek.cz)

- **Vltava sport service (21)**

Hradební 60, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
Tel.: 380 711 988; [www.ckvltava.cz](http://www.ckvltava.cz)

- **Ingetour – půjčovna kánoí a raftů (22)**

Vodácké a outdoorové centrum Vltavan  
Nové Spolí 21, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
Tel.: 775 748 800; [www.ingetour.cz](http://www.ingetour.cz)

- **VOROPLAVBA Radek Štoviček (23)**

Parkán 1, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
Tel.: 605 218 018; [www.voroplavba.cz](http://www.voroplavba.cz)

- **SURFSPORT (24)**

Pivovarská 27, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
Tel.: 775 959 404; [www.surfsport.cz](http://www.surfsport.cz)

**RAFTING  
KRUMLOV**





**Český Krumlov Monasteries** – interactive exhibition.

### OTHER INTERESTING EVENTS

The possibility of getting into places otherwise not accessible with a wheelchair for physically handicapped visitors is offered by the event entitled “**Disability Day – a Day without Barriers**”. Thanks to voluntary assistants, all the stairs, obstacles and barriers “disappear” from the historical center.

In the **Museum of Architecture and Craft**, you’ll see authentic items documenting the building development of the historic old town homes. The exhibits, supplemented by rich visual documentation including video, remind us of the craftsmanship of our ancestors and acquaint us with the technology they used.

### TIPS for families with children

The biggest attraction for families with children in Český Krumlov is undoubtedly



Children’s playground on Hradební Street



**Puppet Museum** – Fairy Tale House open year round, [www.krumlovskainspirace.cz](http://www.krumlovskainspirace.cz)

the Monasteries. The former monastery of the Poor Clares features active explorations of its history through both interesting hands-on craft workshops, creative activities of the interactive exhibition, and competitive animation programs for the whole family to keep you entertained throughout the day.

Certainly the most rewarding attraction for children is the bears in the moat, bred here since 1707. An experience sure not to disappoint young visitors is a visit to the **Marionette Museum** and **Fairy Tale House** with its exhibition of puppets and puppet theaters. In the **Wax Museum** you’ll see the most famous personalities from the Czech Republic and the world. In the **Museum of Torture** you’ll peer into the darkest Middle Ages. The modern **playground** on Hradební Street will let your kids burn off energy while you rest on the benches or in the playground’s café and restaurant. For more tips, we might suggest **horseback riding** on the Slupenec family farm. Ride down Kleť Mountain on a **scooter**, enjoy **in-line skating** on the bike route along Lake Lipno, or **boat cruises** on the lake itself. In the winter you and the family can take advantage of the **family ski resort** in Lipno nad Vltavou (35 min. by car from Český Krumlov), part of which is an educational children’s playground with its riding carpet and the favorite **bob-sled**, which is open all year round.



Our TIP **25**

## Chocolate Museum Český Krumlov

The *Chocolate Museum* is located on the square in the center of Český Krumlov. Visitors can look forward to a unique experience that connects the history, culture and taste of one of the world’s most popular sweet treasures. The new museum offers interactive exhibits mapping the journey of chocolate from cocoa beans to the final product. The exhibit not only introduces the history of cocoa in Central America, but also the development of the European chocolate craft and current trends in confectionery.

A visit to the Museum is also suitable for schools, kindergartens and as a teambuilding activity for companies and other groups visiting Český Krumlov. You can combine teambuilding events with tasting several types of chocolates, pralines and pairing with Old Well Whiskey. The *Chocolate Museum* in Český Krumlov is part of the Svachovka project. The Svachovka project connects experiences from the fields of gastronomy, accommodation and leisure in one place. The *Chocolate Museum* thus naturally expands the offer with another sweet dimension and invites young and old explorers to the world of chocolate stories, history and craft. An integral part of the Museum is a stylish shop that offers visitors a complete range of Svachovka products in one place. Here you can buy fresh chocolate and pralines from a local chocolate factory, selected spirits, liqueurs and whiskey from the company’s own distillery,



as well as other original Svachovka products such as green beer from the Svachovka brewery or the legendary egg cognac. So you can take not only a sweet experience from your visit, but also honest regional specialties home or as a gift for your loved ones.

### Chocolate Museum

Phone: +420 725 009 454  
vedouci@museumkrumlov.cz  
[www.museumkrumlov.cz](http://www.museumkrumlov.cz)





Ruins of the **Dívčí kámen** castle (founded in the first half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century).



The cloister of the Zlatá Koruna Monastery.

## AROUND ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

Like the town itself, the Český Krumlov region is equally attractive for visitors. The very visible feature north of the town is 1084-meter high **Kleť Mountain** with its television transmitter and the oldest stone tower in Bohemia from 1825. The peak of Kleť is easily accessible with the **chairlift from Krásetín**. One most important Gothic monument is the complex of buildings that make up the former Cistercian monastery in nearby **Zlatá Koruna**. It was founded by King Přemysl

Otakar II in 1263, then discontinued by the Josephinian reforms in 1785. A little further downstream, at the confluence of the Vltava River with Křemežský Creek, stands the large castle ruins **Dívčí kámen**. The nearby **oppidum in Třísov**, apparently built in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC, is a monument hearkening back to the early settlement of the Celts.

Northwest of Český Krumlov is the small village of **Chvalšiny**, known as the birthplace of the genius designer and builder of the renowned Schwarzenberg navigational canal, engineer

**Josef Rosenauer** (1735–1804). His memory is preserved by the local museum, and the Gothic **church of Mary Magdalene** with its reticulated vaulting in the main nave is also valuable. Two miles from Chvalšiny is the charming chateau known as Red Court, specifically **Červený Dvůr**. This Baroque chateau from 1672 is surrounded by 105 hectares of landscaped park with a number of romantic garden buildings. While the chateau is now used as a rehabilitation



Tower on **Kleť Mountain** (1 084 m a s. l.).



An aerial view of the top of **Kleť Mountain** with its transmission tower and stone lookout tower, with Český Krumlov visible in the valley below.



While paddling down the Vltava, visitors pass around **Rožmberk Castle** and enjoy views of both its front and back sides.

center, the park is freely accessible with a 3 km long nature trail leading through it.

Another important religious monument is a set of 25 stations with chapels in the open countryside near the village of **Římov**. There is a fresh-water reservoir dam in its immediate vicinity, supplying drinking water to České Budějovice. Not far from here is **Velešín**, where nearby you can see the remains of the **horse-drawn railway** from České Budějovice to **Linz**, built from 1827–1836. This famous technical monument is featured in the **museum in Bujanov** (one of the stops on the current railway line from České Budějovice to Linz).

Fans of technical monuments will enjoy the Museum of Radio Receivers in the town of **Hořice na Šumavě**. This town is also known for its **Passion Plays** that



**Boletice** – most likely the oldest church in the region.

have enjoyed a very long tradition and are held annually in late August.

One of the biggest attractions of the distant outskirts of the town has been **Lipno Lake** since 1959. This is a popular destination for vacationers, fishermen, hikers and summer and winter athletes. The left side is lined with a bicycle path, enjoyed also by in-line skaters. Many towns on the shores of Lipno are renowned tourist destinations for the entire region. **Horní Planá**, now a developing tourist resort, is famous for its local native, writer **Adalbert Stifter** (1805–1868). There are important centers of recreation, tourism and water sports on the left bank of the Lipno as well – **Černá v Pošumaví**, **Frymburk**, and in recent years **Lipno nad Vltavou**. This last town is also famous as one of the most modern **family ski resorts** in the country. There are ferry docks in **Horní Planá**, **Frymburk** and **Dolní Vltavice**.

Not far from the dam of the buffer reservoir known as **Lipno 2** is **Vyšší Brod**, well-known to canoers and the southernmost town in the Czech Republic. Beneath the floor of the church inside the local **Cistercian monastery** is hidden the mythical **Rožmberk tomb**, while other areas



The town of **Lipno nad Vltavou** gave its name to the largest artificial lake in the Czech Republic (4,870 ha).

of the monastery are used by the Postal Museum.

A bit past Vyšší Brod, the Vltava River changes direction, turns to the north, and passes through a deep valley towards **Rožmberk nad Vltavou**. Here, on a high promontory, stands one of the oldest **castles** of the Vítkovec family. This castle is tied in with the famous legend of Perchta of Rožmberk, otherwise known as the White Lady.

The **Boletice** military training area has recently become available as a welcome diversification for walking and cycling – this is a large area north of **Horní Planá** with preserved nature and a number of important architectural landmarks.

The list of attractive excursion destinations is expanded by proximity and easy access to important cities in neighbouring **Bavaria** and **Austria** – **Linz**, **Passau**, and many others.



Lipno treetop walk  
[www.stezkakorunamistromu.cz](http://www.stezkakorunamistromu.cz)



**Vyšší Brod** – Monastery Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary.



The Vltava River above Rožmberk in a place called **U Tří veverek** (The Three Squirrels).

## CANOEING AND RAFTING

The Vltava River provides ideal **boating conditions**. From the waterman's perspective, the Vltava River in the region of Lipno and Český Krumlov can be divided into several stretches:

The part beginning under the **Lipno I** water reservoir is not suitable for normal boating. Since 1959, most of the water that previously flowed down its bed has been running through a turbine power plant and then through an underground tunnel to the surge tank situated above **Vyšší Brod**. The flow rate is artificially increased just for few hours per year for the purposes of **raft races**. At that time the Vltava turns into one of the world's most difficult racing sections and only the most experienced and most skilful paddlers can take part.

Starting from **river km 318.9** (below the Lipno II water reservoir dam situated above Vyšší Brod), the Vltava streams quietly again, with stable flow secured by water outlet from the reservoir. The journey towards **Rožmberk, Český Krumlov, Zlatá Koruna** and further on to **České Budějovice** is livened up by (apart from a beautiful countryside) various sluices. Their description is, however, beyond the scope of this guide.



Did you know that...

**Vltava** – the longest river in Bohemia. It begins as the **Teplá (Warm) Vltava** on the slopes of Černá Mountain near Kvilda. The second main tributary is the **Studená (Cold) Vltava** coming from Bavaria. The total length of the Vltava to where it meets the Elbe River near Mělník is 430 km, with a catchment area (in the CR) of 27,006 km<sup>2</sup>.



The peak of the Vltava boating season in Český Krumlov.



Our TIP

26

## EXPERIENCE KRUMLOV DIFFERENTLY, FROM THE DECK OF AN ICONIC RAFT

Experience unforgettable moments aboard our iconic rafts. We offer unique sightseeing cruises on **traditional wooden rafts** along the Vltava River, right through the historic center of Český Krumlov. During the **one-hour ride**, enjoy a refreshing drink on board and take in stunning views of the town's landmarks, all brought to life by the engaging **commentary of our skilled raftsmen**. The journey includes passing through two weirs, a visit to the so-called "Krumlov Venice" with its **rafting tradition museum**, and a truly exceptional view of the Český Krumlov castle and chateau complex.



**VOROPLAVBA**  
Radek Štoviček

Online booking available!



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

**VOROPLAVBA Radek Štoviček**  
Parkán 1, Český Krumlov  
+420 605 218 018  
[info@voroplavba.cz](mailto:info@voroplavba.cz)



**Our TIP** 27

## TENIS-CENTRUM

*Near historic centre in our complex you can find a range of quality and complete services all year round:*

- Complete services for organising tennis tournaments
- Tennis stays including accompanying programme
- Indoor hall with three courts and comfortable facilities
- Four outdoor clay courts, two with floodlights
- Rebound wall with mini court, multi purpose court
- Beach volleyball

### Tennis – Centrum Pension

- With cosy rooms/ WC, showers, TV/SAT/
- Capacity of pension is 7 rooms, 22 beds.
- Outdoor pool/ with sunbeds for relaxing/
- Children's playground with climbing frame

### Tennis – Centrum Restaurant

- Traditional Czech cuisine, weekly menu
- Organising birthday parties, company celebrations
- Saloon, large-screen projections
- Winter Garden for 45 persons
- Private car park monitored by camera system
- Free internet, Wi-Fi

### Sports services:

- Tennis tuition led by professional trainers
- Organising tournaments for youth and adults
- VIP tournaments according to clients' requirements, company tournaments
- Massage



### Tennis-Centrum

#### Pension Tennis-Centrum

Chvalšinská 247, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
+420 606 066 466, +420 380 711 418  
tenis@tenis-centrum.cz

[www.tenis-centrum.cz](http://www.tenis-centrum.cz)

[www.pensiontenis-centrum.cz](http://www.pensiontenis-centrum.cz)



**Our TIP** 28

## 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 one of two places in the Czech Republic where you can find both 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 SITE IS FULLY ACCESSIBLE.**

### Opening hours:

July to August: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

September to June: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

May, June and September on Fridays

until 8.00 p.m., Saturdays 9:00 a.m. –

8:00 p.m., Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.



### Bobová dráha Lipno

Slupečná 301

382 78 Lipno nad Vltavou

+420 602 780 726

info@slideland.cz

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





Our TIP 29

## How was liquid CAMEL born in Český Krumlov?

This story began many years ago, when the family of Irena and Vašek Kalkuš began making **liquid caramel** to flavor various their own drinks and meals. It had a specific taste that refreshed cold and hot alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, livened up fruit and vegetable salads, sweetened porridge and sundaes, and even added a special flavor to some sauces and meats. Their friends were so dazzled that they decided to share it with the world. They gradually expanded their handmade liquid caramel production to include “**Český Krumlov Caramel from Vašek**” with different flavor variations including, for example, coffee caramel, cocoa caramel with vanilla, various herbal caramels, salty chilli caramel with rosemary, and even “Evin ml”, a specially dried fruit in caramel...

This **local speciality**, awarded by judges in many competitions, is available for purchase at certain information centers and at selected places in Český Krumlov as marked on the map on their website. You can even visit their **caramel factory**, just a 15-minute walk from the historic center.



**Karamel**



### CAMEL DREAM

Irena Kalkušová & Vašek Kalkuš  
**caramel factory:**  
 U Porádku 512, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
 +420 723 367 420, +420 723 550 005  
[www.facebook.com/ceskykaramel](http://www.facebook.com/ceskykaramel)  
[www.ceskykaramel.cz](http://www.ceskykaramel.cz)



Our TIP 30



Imagine a fragrant shop, full of various delicacies to delight all the senses. That's right, right here in Český Krumlov. **The shop's story begins with the discovery of an old wooden carved template for gingerbread.** It provided the impulse to revive this ancient, almost forgotten craft of gingerbread which has deep roots in our town. Starting with hand-pressed gingerbread, soon it included painted gingerbread, pies, cakes, homemade jams, honey, mead, and a whole host of other products. The products sold under this Český Krumlov Original brand are **local traditional products** based on original recipes and production methods. Only quality raw materials and products from producers in the Český Krumlov area are used in their handmade creation.



**Old Bohemian Gingerbread** is made right here, at Latrán 54, according to the original recipe from the 16th century.



**Český Krumlov Original**  
 Latrán 54, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
[www.ceskykrumlovoriginal.com](http://www.ceskykrumlovoriginal.com)



# Slavnosti pětilisté růže

Five-petalled Rose Festival



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



**Our TIP** **31**

## CASTLE APARTMENTS

The Castle Apartments Pension provides accommodations right at the base of the Český Krumlov Castle, in three historic houses on the pedestrian zone on Latrán Street. The **House of the Three Ravens** used to be the castle pharmacy. It holds the largest suites, up to 106 m<sup>2</sup> in size. The **House of the Trumpeter** and the **House of the Chimney Sweep** offer other interesting rooms, including an apartment with an exceptional terrace that provides magnificent views of the castle and the old town. The rooms are tastefully furnished to bring out their authentic atmosphere. Parking is available in the nearby Krumlov Brewery.

What better place to experience the magical atmosphere of this town than in its historical center? Experience for yourself what it's like to fall asleep and wake up just below the castle.

### Castle Apartments – reception

Castle Information Centre  
Zámek 57 – 1st courtyard  
+420 777 723 262

[recepce@zameckaapartma.cz](mailto:recepce@zameckaapartma.cz)  
[www.zameckaapartma.cz](http://www.zameckaapartma.cz)



ZÁMECKÁ APARTMÁ  
CASTLE APARTMENTS





65 seats inside / 95 seats on the terrace

### PAPA'S LIVING RESTAURANT

Latrán 13, 381 01 Český Krumlov  
 Reservation: +420 702 215 965  
[www.papas.cz](http://www.papas.cz) • [papas@papas.cz](mailto:papas@papas.cz)

Homemade pasta  
 Unique steaks & fresh salads



**LINECKÁ CAFÉ**  
 Linecká 46, Český Krumlov  
 +420 728 770 948  
[www.kavarnalinecka.cz](http://www.kavarnalinecka.cz)

- Pleasant, family-friendly atmosphere
- Excellent breakfasts and sandwiches
- Delicious desserts – both traditional and gluten- & lactose-free options
- Quiet outdoor seating in a cozy courtyard
- Comfortable children's play area



Linecká 41  
 Český Krumlov  
 +420 728 567 057  
[ubejka@email.cz](mailto:ubejka@email.cz)  
[www.ubejka.cz](http://www.ubejka.cz)

- Wide range of dishes (beef and pork steaks and chicken breasts, steak tartar, homemade burgers, salads, bread with lard, and more).
  - Several types of Czech beer, Moravian wines, spirits and soft drinks.
  - Folk and country live music, television sports broadcasts.
- We cook every day until midnight.**



**TRAVEL RESTAURANT & PUB**  
 Soukenická 43  
 381 01 Český Krumlov  
 Tel.: +606 814 320  
[karelkoran@email.cz](mailto:karelkoran@email.cz)  
[www.travelhostel.cz](http://www.travelhostel.cz)

- Summer terrace in the house atrium
- Lounge • International cuisine
- Grill specials • Wi-Fi
- Regular live concerts



**NONNA GINA**  
 Pizzeria Italiana  
 Klášterní ulice 52  
 381 01 Český Krumlov  
 +420 380 717 187  
 [pizzeria Nonna Gina](https://www.facebook.com/pizzeriaNonnaGina)

- Typical Italian restaurant
- In the historic centre near the chateau
- Traditional Italian cuisine
- Wide selection of the best Italian wines



Latrán  
 15, Český  
 Krumlov  
[barmanicz@gmail.com](mailto:barmanicz@gmail.com)



[www.zapa-bar.cz](http://www.zapa-bar.cz)

**Zapa Bar**  
 WHISKY,  
 ABSINTHE &  
 COCKTAILS

On the way from Svornosti Square to the main entrance of the castle, in the historic house at **Latrán No. 15**, you'll find a bar set directly into the rock. Bartenders here have been mixing top-quality drinks **since 1998**.



*Chapel on the Mountain of the Cross.*



Krumlovský mlýn, Široká 80  
+420 736 634 461  
[www.krumlovskymlyn.cz](http://www.krumlovskymlyn.cz)



## RESTAURANT



**Krumlov  
Mill**

Traditional Czech cuisine  
Terrace by the river  
Copper beer tanks  
Castle view  
Breakfast



Exhibition of historic motorcycles,  
sales and exhibition gallery  
Tel.: +420 736 634 460  
Purchase and sale of antique objects  
Tel.: +420 736 634 462  
Stylish restaurant and adjacent terrace  
right on the Vltava riverbank  
Tel.: +420 736 634 461



## KRUMLOV MILL

Široká 80, Český Krumlov  
[info@krumlovskymlyn.cz](mailto:info@krumlovskymlyn.cz)  
[krumlovskymlyn.cz](http://krumlovskymlyn.cz)



*Tilia*  
PENZION

**PENZION TILIA**  
Křížová 82  
381 01 Český Krumlov  
+420 777 285 215  
[info@penziontilia.cz](mailto:info@penziontilia.cz)  
[www.penziontilia.cz](http://www.penziontilia.cz)

- Enclosed free parking near the pension
- 5 minutes walk from the square
- Garden with outdoor seating



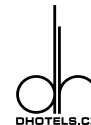
**CANDY SHOP**  
Český Krumlov  
– Klášterní 47  
– Horní 158

## SWEET TREASURES BY THE CASTLE

- unique sweets from all over the world
- Belgian chocolate bars
- candies, jellies, macaroons

**Hotel Grand  
Restaurece Lumière**  
náměstí Svornosti 3  
381 01 Český Krumlov

+420 380 711 671  
+420 605 268 448  
[www.hotel-grand.cz](http://www.hotel-grand.cz)



**Nonna Gina**  
Klášterní ulice 52  
381 01 Český Krumlov

+420 380 717 187  
f **pizzeria Nonna Gina**



**Travel restaurant & pub**  
Soukenická 43  
381 01 Český Krumlov

+420 606 814 320  
[www.travelhostel.cz](http://www.travelhostel.cz)

**TRAVELLERS'**  
RESTAURANT & PUB

**Kavárna Linecká**  
Linecká 46  
381 01 Český Krumlov

+420 728 770 948  
[tereza\\_sv@centrum.cz](mailto:tereza_sv@centrum.cz)  
[kavarnalinecka.cz](http://kavarnalinecka.cz)



**Papa's Living Restaurant**  
Latrán 13  
381 01 Český Krumlov

+420 702 215 965  
[papas@papas.cz](mailto:papas@papas.cz)  
[www.papas.cz](http://www.papas.cz)



**Restaurece – Bar U Bejka**  
Linecká 41  
381 01 Český Krumlov

+420 728 567 057  
[ubejka@email.cz](mailto:ubejka@email.cz)  
[www.ubejka.cz](http://www.ubejka.cz)



**Restaurant  
Rožmberská bašta**  
Rybářská 4  
381 01 Český Krumlov

+420 380 715 073  
+420 777 070 069  
[vaclav.slejmar@seznam.cz](mailto:vaclav.slejmar@seznam.cz)  
[www.rozmerskabasta.cz](http://www.rozmerskabasta.cz)



**Retro café a restaurant**  
Hradební 60  
381 01 Český Krumlov

+420 775 641 008  
[retro@retrocafe.cz](mailto:retro@retrocafe.cz)  
[www.retrocafe.cz](http://www.retrocafe.cz)



**Caffé Klášter**  
Klášterní Dvůr 67  
381 01 Český Krumlov



caffé  
KLÁŠTER

**Bistro Kolektiv**  
Latrán 13  
381 01 Český Krumlov

+420 776 626 644  
f **kolektiv**

**KOLEKTIV**  
CAFÉ • BISTRO • WINE BAR



Our TIP

## MAIN EVENTS 2026–2027

- *Carnival Festivities* (February)
- *Easter Celebrations* (April)
- *Magical Krumlov* (30 April – 1 May)
- *Český Krumlov Rally* (May)
- *Český Krumlov Beer Festival* (May)
- *Revolving Theatre* (June–September)
- *Five-Petalled Rose Festival*® (June)
- *Baroque Night & Festival of Chamber Music* (June, July)
- *Circus Meanders – Contemporary Circus & Theatre Festival* (July)
- *Festival Krumlov – International Music Festival* (July, August)
- *Baroque Arts Festival* (September)
- *St. Wenceslas Celebrations* (September)
- *International River Marathon* (October)
- *Český Krumlov Wine Festival* (October–November)
- *Divadelní Fimfárum – Theater Festival for Children and Youth* (November)
- *Advent and Christmas in Český Krumlov* (November–January)

### INFORMATION, TICKETS

Český Krumlov Infocentre  
náměstí Svornosti 2  
+420 380 704 622  
info@ckrumlov.info  
ckrumlov.info



Our TIP

## WINE FESTIVAL ČESKÝ KRUMLOV



Autumn is the season for fine wine. The Český Krumlov Tourism Association and the Český Krumlov Development Fund (ČKRF) organize the popular Wine Festival Český Krumlov **every year**. Held annually in October and November, the festival offers a vibrant program of events focused on wine and the people who create and love it. Visitors can enjoy tastings of both **local and international wines**, as well as themed gourmet experiences that combine wine with **top-class cuisine**. On **St. Martin's Day**, the first young wines of the season are ceremoniously opened in the town square, accompanied by the **traditional roasted goose** served in local restaurants.

For more information visit  
[www.festivalvinack.cz](http://www.festivalvinack.cz)





Our TIP 32

## The town of VĚTRNÍ

Větrní is a small town located just 6 km from Český Krumlov, in a picturesque landscape near the Vltava River. Thanks to its location, it offers an ideal base for a peaceful stay or an active holiday - a base for exploring the entire region.

### Nature and walks

- The surroundings of the Vltava River are great for walks, jogging or picnics
- Beautiful forests and hills in the area - ideal for hiking or cycling

### Active relaxation

- Cycle paths leading along the Vltava towards Český Krumlov or Lipno
- Possibility of boating trips (popular in the season)

### Sports and relaxation

- Summer swimming pool and indoor pool
- Tennis courts
- Sauna

### Interesting sights and experiences

- Shooting range for sports and recreational shooting - an unusual experience for visitors
- Cultural Summer - Větrní Swimming Pool

### A trip to the area

- You can get to Český Krumlov in a few minutes - ideal for sights, cafes and culture
- The Lipno direction offers more nature, swimming and attractions



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



📍 shooting range



0 5 10 km

🚉 train stop

🏛️ UNESCO World Heritage Site

Visit [CeskyKrumlov.cz](http://CeskyKrumlov.cz)



News, event calendar, accommodation, food & drink, trips, family tips and much more!



Our TIP

33



## TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE IN ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

Complete service and current information on cultural events and programs.

Ticket sales | Guide services | Incoming service

Luggage storage | Currency exchange | Information materials



### OPEN DAILY

náměstí Svornosti 2, 381 01 Český Krumlov

+420 380 704 622-3 | [info@ckrumlov.info](mailto:info@ckrumlov.info)

[www.ckrumlov.info/en/infocenter-cesky-krumlov/](http://www.ckrumlov.info/en/infocenter-cesky-krumlov/)



- |                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1/ Little Castle and Tower       | 13/ Egon Schiele Art Centrum   |
| 2/ Bears                         | 14/ Svornosti Square           |
| 3/ Mint (treasury)               | 15/ Town Hall                  |
| 4/ Upper Castle                  | 16/ Church of St. Vitus        |
| 5/ Cloak Bridge                  | 17/ Moldavite Museum           |
| 6/ Baroque Theater               | 18/ Vlašský dvůr               |
| 7/ Monasters                     | 19/ Regional museum            |
| 8/ Kooperativa Garden            | 20/ Krumlov mill               |
| 9/ Brewery Garden                | 21/ Town park                  |
| 10/ Brewery, Port 1560           | 22/ Museum Fotoatelier Seidel  |
| 11/ Church of St. Jošt           | 23/ Synagogue                  |
| 12/ Barber's Bridge (Lazebnický) | 24/ Egon Schiele Garden Studio |

# Český Krumlov 1 : 7 000

0 100 200 m



The parking system in the city  
www.ckrumlov.cz/parking



Klet' (1 084 m n. m.) ↑ 8 km



Train station  
↑ 1 km

Č. BUDĚJOVICE  
PRAHA  
BRNO

200 m →  
Kemp U Trojice

CERNÁ V POSUMAVI  
HORNÍ PLANA  
STRAŽNÝ  
PASSAU

Traffic information:  
www.ckrumlov.cz/doprava  
www.ckshuttle.cz  
www.green-taxi.cz

LINZ ..... 80 km  
PASSAU ..... 120 km  
PRAGUE ..... 180 km  
HALLSTATT ..... 210 km  
SALZBURG ..... 220 km  
BRNO ..... 240 km  
WIEN ..... 250 km  
MÜNCHEN ..... 300 km

**KRUMLOV  
CARD** see p. 3

- ① Castle Tower
- ② Castle Museum
- ③ Castle Theatre
- ④ Monasteries
- ⑤ Egon Schiele Art Centrum
- ⑥ Regional Museum
- ⑦ Museum Fotoatelier Seidel
- ⑧ Synagogue
- ⑨ Egon Schiele Atelier
- ⑩ Brewery, Port1560
- ⑪ Moldavite Museum

**Our TIP** 1 - 33

- Information Centre
- Theater
- Museum
- Lookout points
- Children's playground
- Post office

Bobovka Lipno  
nad Vltavou  
28 ↓ 29 km

ROŽMBERK N. VL.  
VYŠŠÍ BROD  
LIPNO N. VLTAVOU  
STUDÁNKY  
LINZ

Město  
VETŘNÍ  
32 ↓ 19

300 m ↓  
Kemp Nové Spolí  
Kemp Otavan

Cross Mountain  
500 m ↓



[www.ckrumlov.cz](http://www.ckrumlov.cz)  
[www.ckrumlov.info](http://www.ckrumlov.info)  
[www.visitceskykrumlov.cz](http://www.visitceskykrumlov.cz)  
[www.zamek-ceskykrumlov.eu](http://www.zamek-ceskykrumlov.eu)  
[www.jiznicechy.cz](http://www.jiznicechy.cz)  
[www.visitjiznicechy.cz](http://www.visitjiznicechy.cz)

MCU 

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



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