



The town museum

Visitors of the town museum can see an exposition of the town history and mining of precious metals in Middle Ages. There isn't only the permanent exhibition but also some occasional exhibitons.

The Castle Park

The first documents about the garden round the castle come from the year 1665. The present appearance in English style got the park at the second half of the 19 century. The area of the park is 21 hectares (about 52 acres). The surrounding of the castle is a separated park unit.



The Walls

Jemnice was one of the first towns in our region which had strong walls. It was fortified by Přemysl Otakar I in the year 1227. The castle wall was built round the whole town which was

situated on the high and steep headland above the valley of the River Želetavka. Only from the east a narrow home- stretch went to the town. Moats, mounds, gates, a barbican and bastions also belonged to the town fortification. Its defensive target was supplied by the former castle built in the south – east part of the town.

The whole length of inner and outer walls is about 1340 metres. The moats and mounds became destroyed completely. Out of five famous bastions only three have left. One of them can be seen from the southern side of the fortification.



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Provided Services:

- Information for tourists about Jemnice and its surrounding
- Sale of souvenirs, maps, postcards and guides
- Survey of cultural and sport events
- Left-luggage and bicycles-office



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Mon 7.00 - 11.30 and 12.15 – 17.00

Wen 7.00 – 11.30 and 12.15 – 17.00

JEMNICE

king's town



Historical sights in Jemnice



Jemnice is one of the oldest towns in Moravia. Its origin is connected with the settlement near a ford of the River Želetavka. At the turn of 11 and 12 centuries there was an important business crossway. The other development of the settlement and later of the town was increased thanks to a discovery of the mines of gold and silver. The name of the town Jemnice is derived from the word “jamníci” – it means miners. Precious metals were dug in primitive shafts (in Czech – “jamách” – from this “jamníci” – the origin of the name “Jemnice”).

The first written note about Jemnice comes from the year 1226. The town was based as a royal property on the place of the frontier castle. In 1227 the Bohemian king Přemysl Otakar I gave an order to fortify the settlement which became one of the supports of the royal power over the south – west of Moravia. The main part of the fortification with four bastions and two barbicans has left to these days.

The highest increase of Jemnice was reached in the Middle Ages when Jemnice was called a royal mining town. During the rule of the Lucemburks a lot of privileges were given to Jemnice. In that time there was the origin of the historical festival Barchan, which takes place every year on the Sunday after the Saint Vitus day. A legend says that in 1312 the king Jan Lucemburk had to fight against robber-knights. He left his wife Eliška Přemyslovna in Jemnice with local burgesses to care about her. The large fortification brought safety to the whole town. The king sent an information to his wife about his successful campaign with the help of four messengers.

In Jemnice there was even one of the oldest Jewish community in Bohemian countries. The first written note about it comes from the year 1336. The Jewish area made up the south part of the town centre. At the Jewish graveyard we can find some tombstones dated to the 17 century.

In the history of the town the periods of increasing used to be replaced by periods of declines. For example in 1422 Jemnice was besieged by the Hussites. They didn't get the town. No longer than 50 years later the soldiers by Matyas Korvin burnt Jemnice down. In 1530 Jemnice lost the statute of the royal town. Ferdinand I gave Jemnice to Jan Meziříčský. The contemporary appearance was given to the town after a big fire in 1832.

A meaningful period of the town development started in 1890. In that time the first Czech chairman of the town Josef Augusta was elected for the head of the town council. In 1896 a railway line connected Jemnice with Moravské Budějovice. In 1898 the first basic school was built and eight years later State Secondary School of Forestry was opened here.

The town population is about 4300 people and there are two villages Louka and Panenská integrated into the town. The rich history of the town is reminded thanks to 98 cultural monuments written on the state list of cultural sightseeings and monuments. The town has been declared the zone of historical monuments.



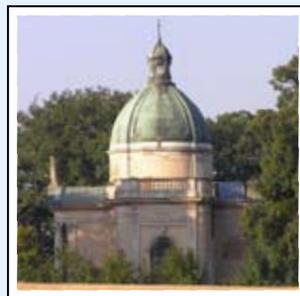
The Saint Stanislav Church

The main dominant of the town is the church of the Saint Stanislav with a slim white tower lightening far to the countryside. Its elegant sky-line welcomes visitors to the town.

The original Gothic chapel coming from the 14 century was rebuilt into a Renaissance church in the 16 century. Its interior is Baroque. Its Contemporary appearance comes from the end of the first third of the 19 century.

The Crypt of the Pallavicini

In the north on the hill near the town next to the road to the village Chotěbudice you can find the nobleman crypt of the Pallavicini kin. It was built in a shape of the cross with round arms vaulted over. In the middle of the crypt there was built a lofty wide cupola. Sculptures in the crypt were made by Ignac Weirich.



The Memorable Lime

Near the church of Saint Vitus you can find one of the original curiosities. It's a torso of the lime stem about 800 years old. Its lot is cast with the order of the Franciscans and the preacher Jan Kapistran in Moravia.

The Saint James Church

In Podolí (a part of Jemnice) you can visit the Church of the Saint James dated to the 14 century with a Roman cylindrical tower, the rest of the original Romanesque Chapel dated back to the 12 century. It is considered to be the oldest one in Moravia and together with the Romanesque Chapel of the Saint George on Říp as the oldest two ones in the Czech Republic at all. Round the church there is an old churchyard.



The Castle

Two-storey-four-winged castle was rebuilt from a Gothic castle into a Baroque style in the second part of the 18 century. In the second half of the 20 century soldiers of the Czechoslovakian army were settled here. After their leaving in 1994 the castle became a town property. The reconstruction of the castle began. The castle is surrounded by a large park in a natural countrystyle (about 21 hectares, about 52 acres).

The Jewish Graveyard

One of the oldest burial places in Moravia is dated back to the beginning of the existence of Jewish community in the 14 century. We can find it about 200 metres to the south – west from the original Jewish area, near the park „Obůrka“. The graveyard is formed in an irregular triangled shape. On a slope there are about 25 irregular lines of tombs settled in a very unusual way – upright to the contour lines. The oldest tombs came from the end of the 17 century the last funeral took place there at the beginning of the Second World War.



The Saint Vitus Church

In the east of the town there is the Gothic church of the Saint Vitus. In the 15 century it was a part of the Franciscan monastery. The interior of the church is dated back to the 18 century – to Baroque. Behind the main altar you can see the wall painting describing the Saint Vitus ascending to the heaven. It was painted by a famous Moravian painter Josef Winterhalter who painted it in 1774. The church with its stone walls has a very idyllic impression. Under the church there are underground premises which were recognized as a cultural monument in 2007.