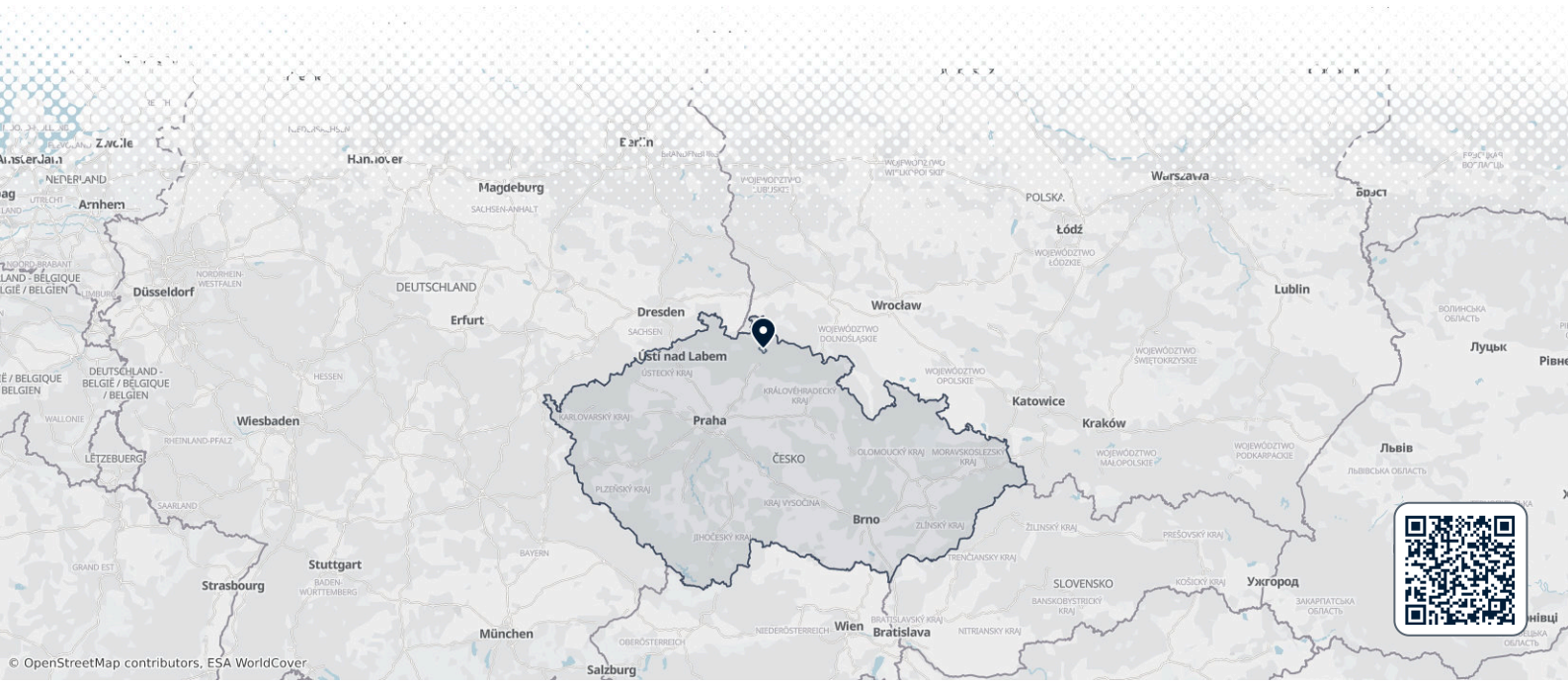


Jablonec nad Nisou

Jablonec nad Nisou District · Czech Republic

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Jablonec nad Nisou is a hilly city at the southern edge of the Jizera Mountains, about 10 km from Liberec. It became famous for glass beads and costume jewellery, known in Czech as bižuterie. This trade made the town rich in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Its best buildings date from that time, especially from the 1920s and 1930s.

Jablonec suits a short, relaxed stay. You can spend a day on architecture and the glass and jewellery museum, then swim or walk around the reservoir. It is also a good base for hiking and cross-country skiing in the mountains to the north. The Olympic javelin champion *Barbora Špotáková* was born here.

When to visit

Summer and early autumn are the best time for walking, swimming and hiking. Winters are cold and snowy, which suits cross-country skiers. Spring is often wet, and snow can stay in the hills until April.

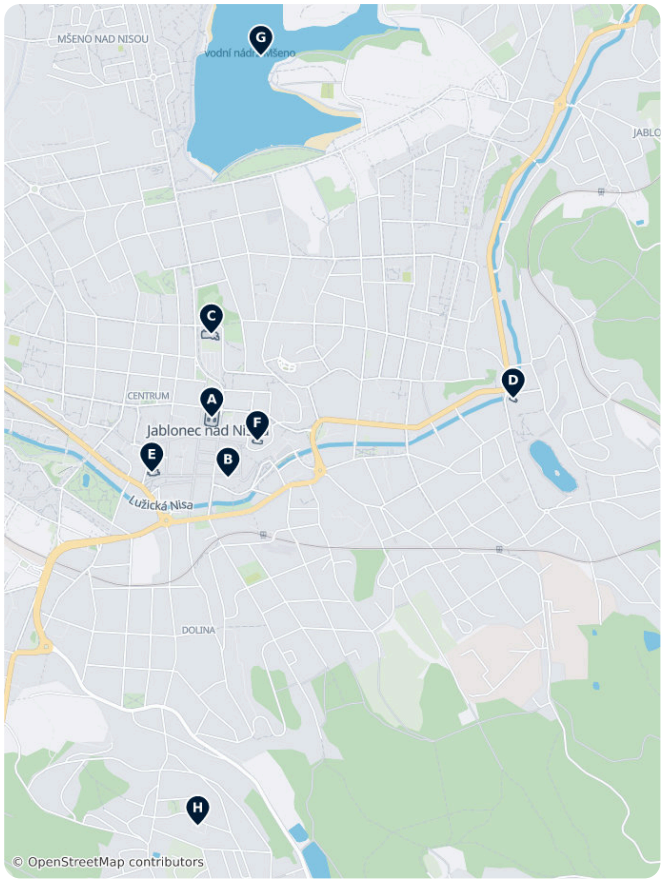
The biggest event nearby is the Jizerská 50, the largest cross-country ski race in Central Europe. It takes place in the Jizera Mountains above Jablonec, usually in February. Thousands of amateur skiers take part, so book accommodation early for that weekend.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	-1° / 6° Feels like -6°	-7° / -16°	14 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	2° / 9° Feels like -4°	-5° / -15°	Dry air
March	Poor Poor for sightseeing	6° / 14° Feels like 1°	-3° / -9°	12 rainy days · Dry air
April	Fair Fair for hiking	12° / 20° Feels like 8°	2° / -4°	Dry air
May	Good Good for hiking	17° / 24° Feels like 14°	6° / 1°	14 rainy days · Dry air
June	Good Good for sightseeing	21° / 28°	11° / 5°	15 rainy days · Dry air
July	Good Good for sightseeing	23° / 30°	12° / 8°	16 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
August	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 30°	12° / 8°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
September	Good Good for hiking	19° / 26°	8° / 3°	Dry air
October	Good Good for hiking	13° / 20° Feels like 9°	4° / -3°	Dry air
November	Poor Poor for sightseeing	5° / 12° Feels like 1°	-1° / -7°	Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	1° / 6° Feels like -5°	-5° / -14°	14 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: August

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights



A New Town Hall on Mírové náměstí is the symbol of the city. *Karel Winter* designed it, and it was built in 1931–1933. In July and August you can join a guided tour of the ceremonial rooms and climb the 51 m tower.

B Museum of Glass and Jewellery is the most important museum in town. It holds a very large collection of Czech glass and costume jewellery. A modern glass building next to it displays a large collection of glass Christmas ornaments.

C Church of the Sacred Heart is the main Catholic church, built in the early 1930s to a design by *Josef Zasche*. Its plain brick exterior is typical of the modern style of that time. Inside, look for the coffered ceiling and a bronze statue of Christ.

D Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is an Art Nouveau church from 1900–1902, also by *Josef Zasche*. It belongs to the Old Catholic Church and is one of the best-preserved Art Nouveau churches in the region.

E Saint Anne's Church is the oldest church in the city, built in 1685–1687. Today it is used for concerts and exhibitions.

F Dr. Farský Church has a tall, slim neo-Gothic tower that you can see across the centre. It belongs to the Czechoslovak Hussite Church and hosts organ concerts.

G Mšeno Reservoir was built in the early 20th century to protect the town from floods. Today it is the city's summer playground, with free beaches, a promenade and a walking path around the water.

H Petřín Restaurant and Lookout Tower is a restaurant with a 20 m lookout tower from 1906 on a hill south of the centre. From the gallery you can see the Jizera Mountains and the Ještěd ridge. Check the opening hours first, because you reach the tower through the restaurant.

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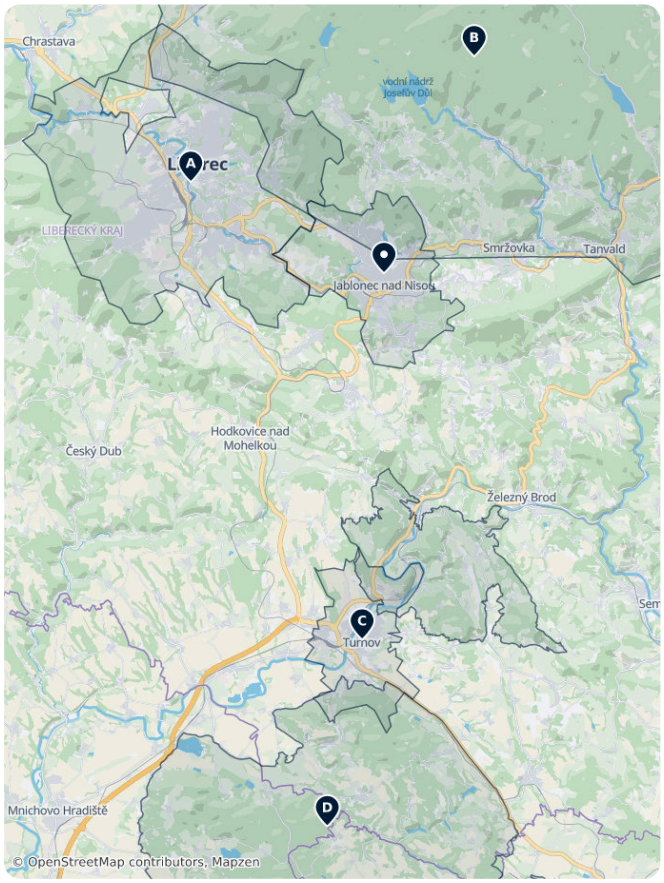
What to experience

Jablonec is at its best when you combine its architecture with time outdoors.

- **Summer by the water**: Swim from the free beaches of Mšeno Reservoir or rent a paddleboard. On warm evenings, locals walk the path around the reservoir.
- **Town hall tower tour**: In July and August, join the guided tour of New Town Hall and climb its tower for views of the mountains.
- **Concerts in churches**: Look for organ and chamber concerts at Dr. Farský Church and Saint Anne's Church, especially in summer.
- **A night at the theatre**: Jablonec Municipal Theatre stages drama, opera, ballet and concerts in a historic building.
- **Skiing in the mountains**: In winter, take the bus to Bedřichov and ski the long cross-country trails of the Jizerská magistrála.

Day trips

Jablonec is close to mountains, glass towns and sandstone rock landscapes. These trips are listed from closest to farthest.



- A Liberec: about 30 minutes by tram 11, or by local train. See the town hall, the zoo and the tower on the Ještěd summit.
- Bedřichov and B Jizera Mountains: about 20–30 minutes by bus or car. Bedřichov is the main centre for cross-country skiing in winter and for hiking and cycling in summer. The stone Královka lookout tower is a pleasant walk from there.
- Železný Brod: about 20 minutes by car. This small town has a long tradition of glassmaking and glass art.
- C Turnov: about 30 minutes by car. The town is known for garnet jewellery and is the gateway to the rock towns and castles of D Bohemian Paradise.
- Frýdlant: about 40 minutes by car. Its large castle and chateau stand on a rock above the town.

Getting there

- **By air**: Prague Airport (PRG) is the nearest major airport, about 1.5 hours away by car. By public transport, go into Prague first, then take a coach to Liberec and continue by tram or train.
- **By bus**: Frequent coaches run from Prague (Černý Most) to Liberec in about an hour. From there, tram 11 or a local train takes you to Jablonec. Check the journey planner for any direct buses.
- **By train**: Jablonec is on the railway from Liberec to Tanvald and Harrachov. Trains from Prague need at least one change and are slower than the coach. Plan and buy tickets at České dráhy.
- **By tram**: Tram 11 links Jablonec with Liberec on a long line through forests and villages. It reopened in 2024 after a full rebuild.

Getting around

- **Public transport**: City buses and tram 11 to Liberec are part of the regional IDOL system. You can buy a ticket with a contactless bank card from the driver on buses, or at the ticket machine inside the tram. See DPMLJ for routes and fares.
- **On foot**: The centre is compact, and the main sights, the museum and the reservoir are all within walking distance. The city is hilly, so expect some steep streets.
- **Cycling**: Cycling in town is limited by the hills, but bike routes around the reservoir lead into the Jizera Mountains.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The centre is compact and walkable, but the city is hilly with some steep streets.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Hills limit cycling in town, but routes around the reservoir lead into the Jizera Mountains.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?** You do not need a car in the city. A car is useful for the Jizera Mountains and for smaller towns that buses serve less often.
- **Parking**: The city centre has paid parking zones. Pay at a parking machine or by mobile app. Shopping centres near the centre have large car parks.
- **Mountain roads**: In winter, roads into the Jizera Mountains can be snowy, and parking at Bedřichov fills up early on weekends.

Food & drink

Jablonec has no special local dish. You eat the usual Czech food here, such as roast pork with dumplings, goulash and fried cheese. Restaurants in the mountains also serve simple, hearty meals for hikers and skiers.

The best places to eat are around Mírové náměstí and the streets near the town hall. In summer, try the cafés and beer gardens along the reservoir promenade.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Fruit Dumplings · Ovocné knedlíky
Sweet dumplings filled with seasonal fruit (like plums or apricots), topped with cottage cheese and sugar.

DINNER

Svíčková · Svíčková na smetaně
Marinated beef sirloin in a creamy vegetable sauce, served with bread dumplings and cranberries.

Goulash · Guláš
A hearty stew, typically made with beef, onions, and paprika, often served with bread dumplings or potatoes.

Roast Pork with Dumplings and Cabbage · Vepřo knedlo zelo
A traditional Czech dish of roast pork, bread dumplings, and sauerkraut or stewed cabbage.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Fried Cheese · Smažený sýr
A thick slice of cheese, breaded and deep-fried, usually served with fries and tartar sauce.

Potato Pancakes · Bramboráky
Crispy pancakes made from grated potatoes, flour, and spices, often served as a side dish or a snack.

Chlebíčky
Open-faced sandwiches on slices of white bread, elaborately decorated with various toppings.

Fried Cauliflower · Smažený květák
Breaded and deep-fried cauliflower florets, similar to fried cheese but made with cauliflower.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Trdelník
A sweet pastry made from rolled dough, wrapped around a stick, grilled, and topped with sugar and walnut mixture.

DRINKS

Pilsner Urquell · Plzeňský Prazdroj
The world's first pale lager, originating from the city of Pilsen, known for its crisp, refreshing taste.

Becherovka
A traditional Czech herbal liqueur with a distinctive bitter-sweet taste, often enjoyed as a digestif.

Kofola
A popular Czech herbal cola-like soft drink, often described as having a unique, slightly medicinal flavor.

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Safety & health

Jablonec is a safe city for visitors. Take normal care with bags in crowded places and on public transport. Tap water is safe to drink.

In the mountains, the weather can change quickly. In winter, check snow and trail conditions before you leave, and keep to marked trails.

History

Jablonec was first recorded in the 14th century as a small Czech village. German-speaking settlers arrived in the 16th century. From the 18th century, glassmaking and bead production grew quickly, and Jablonec became a world centre for costume jewellery. It gained town status in 1866.

The wealth of the early 20th century built the churches of *Josef Zasche* and the modern New Town Hall. After the Second World War, most of the German-speaking population was expelled. Many of them settled in Kaufbeuren in Bavaria, where they founded Neugablonz and restarted their jewellery trade. In Jablonec, the industry continued, and Museum of Glass and Jewellery tells its story.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for the Czech Republic at a glance:

CURRENCY

CZK Kč

EMERGENCY

112

ELECTRICITY



Type C / Type E
230 V · 50 Hz

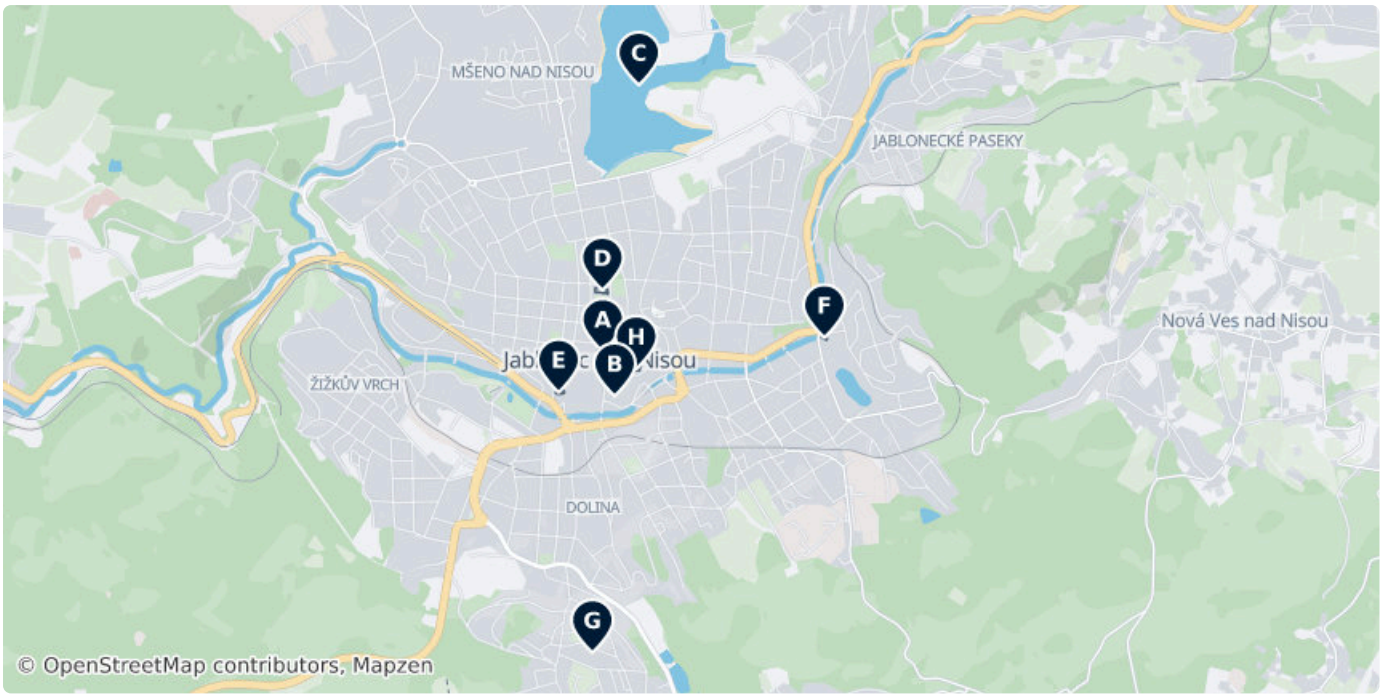
LANGUAGES

Czech

TAP WATER

Safe to drink

Top sights





A New Town Hall

Functionalist municipal building and national cultural monument constructed between 1931 and 1933. It serves as the seat of the city administration and features an accessible observation tower providing views of the surrounding mountains.

3100/19 Mírové náměstí, Jablonec nad Nisou 46601, Czech Republic (50.72450, 15.17129)

jablonec.com/jablonecka-radnice/



B Museum of Glass and Jewellery

Specialized institution housing the world's largest collection of costume jewelry and the largest public collection of glass Christmas ornaments. It features permanent exhibitions of Czech glass spanning seven centuries and a unique numismatic collection of coins and medals.

U Muzea 398/4, 46601, CZ (50.72263, 15.17208)

Tu–Su 10:00–17:00

msb-jablonec.cz, +420483369011



C Mšeno Reservoir

Historic gravity dam built between 1906 and 1909 according to the Intze principle. It serves as a site for swimming and summer recreation while providing flood protection and water supply for the region.

Jablonec nad Nisou 46604, Czech Republic (50.73575, 15.17370)



D Church of Sacred Heart

Functionalist deanery church constructed in the early 1930s featuring a distinct exterior of sharp-fired bricks. This cultural heritage site serves as an active place of worship and center for the local Roman Catholic parish.

Jablonec nad Nisou (50.72709, 15.17127)

farnostjablonec.cz



E Saint Anne's Church

Oldest church in the city, originally built as a Baroque sacral building between 1685 and 1687. It serves as a cultural venue for concerts and exhibitions while maintaining its liturgical consecration.

13 Soukenná, Jablonec nad Nisou 46601, Czech Republic (50.72278, 15.16834)



F Exaltation of Holy Cross

Art Nouveau church completed in 1902 and designed by architect Josef Zasche. The building is a protected cultural monument.

1560/2 Husova, Jablonec nad Nisou 46601, Czech Republic (50.72509, 15.18608)



G Petřín Restaurant and Tower

Historic excursion restaurant featuring a 20-meter observation tower. Panoramic views of the Jizera Mountains and Ještěd Ridge are visible from the open gallery.

177/6 Petřínská, Jablonec nad Nisou 46606, Czech Republic (50.71179, 15.17060)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

H Dr. Farský Church

Neo-Gothic church and architectural landmark that serves as a venue for musical events. It hosts organ concerts as part of a summer series during the holiday season.

4963/9 Podhorská, Jablonec nad Nisou 46601, Czech Republic (50.72377, 15.17353)

DATA SOURCES

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- Mšeno Reservoir — "Mseno hraz zapad" by Ajrocket1, cc-by-sa-4.0
- Church of Sacred Heart — "Jablonec nad Nisou - kostel Nejsvětějšího srdce Páně 11" by Dominik Matus, cc-by-sa-4.0
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