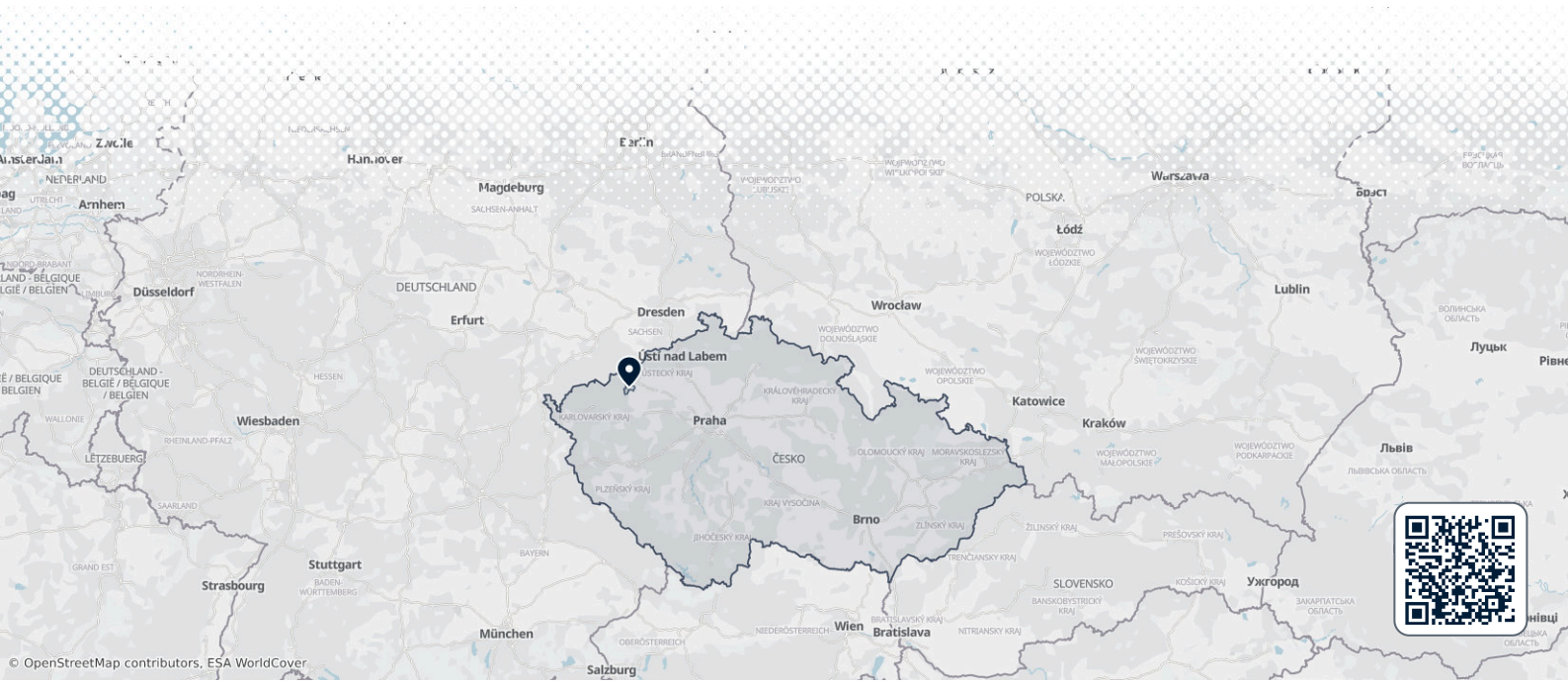


Kadan

Chomutov District · Czech Republic

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Kadaň is a small historic town on the Ohře river in northwest Bohemia. Its German name is Kaaden. It became a royal town in the 13th century, and its compact old town is a protected town reserve.

Kadaň is a good choice for a relaxed day or a quiet weekend. You can see a Gothic castle, a Gothic town hall with a tall tower, a large Franciscan monastery, and the narrowest street in the Czech Republic, all within a short walk. The river, a reservoir, and nearby hills add easy walks and summer swimming.

When to visit

Late spring to early autumn is the best time. Summers are warm and good for walks by the river and swimming in the nearby reservoirs. Winters are cold and grey, and some sights have shorter hours or close.

The biggest event is **Císařský den** (Emperor's Day) in late August. This historical festival in the old town remembers the visits of Emperor *Charles IV*. In late September, the St Wenceslas wine festival celebrates the local grape harvest.

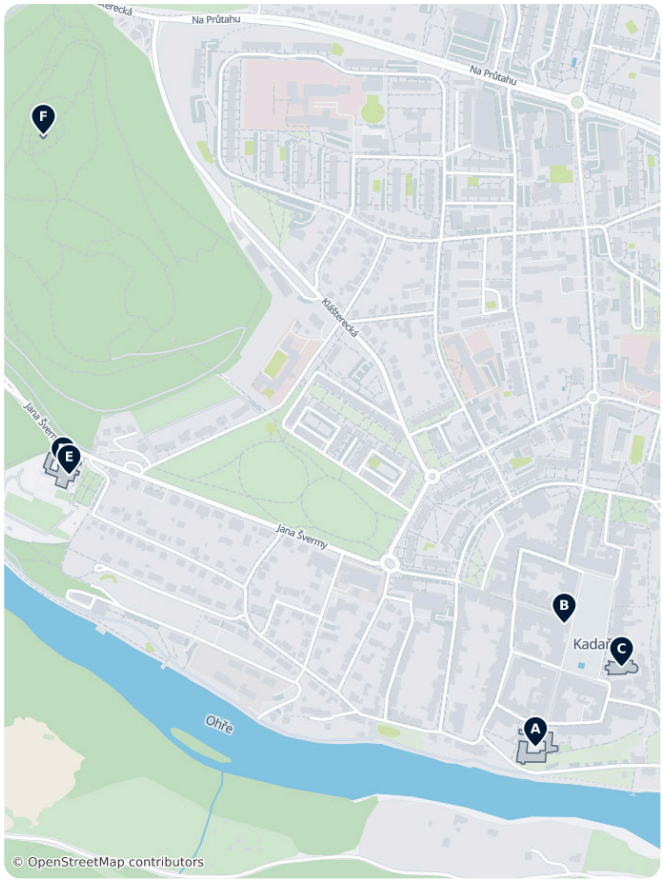
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	2° / 8° Feels like -4°	-4° / -13°	14 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	4° / 11° Feels like -2°	-3° / -12°	12 rainy days · Dry air
March	Fair Fair for cycling	8° / 16° Feels like 4°	0° / -7°	12 rainy days · Dry air
April	Good Good for cycling	14° / 22° Feels like 10°	4° / -2°	Dry air
May	Good Good for sightseeing	18° / 26°	8° / 3°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 30°	12° / 7°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	24° / 32°	14° / 9°	16 rainy days · Calm winds
August	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 33°	14° / 9°	13 rainy days · Calm winds
September	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 29°	10° / 5°	Dry air · Calm winds
October	Good Good for hiking	14° / 21° Feels like 11°	6° / -1°	12 rainy days · Dry air
November	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 14° Feels like 3°	1° / -4°	12 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	3° / 9° Feels like -2°	-2° / -11°	14 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: June, August, September

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

Top sights

- A Kadaň Castle was founded around 1260 above the Ohře river. It was later rebuilt in late Gothic and Renaissance style. Today it holds exhibitions on the history of the castle and the town.
- B Kadaň Town Hall is one of the best-preserved Gothic town halls in the country. It has been a national cultural monument since 2024. Climb its 54 m tower for views over the roofs and the river valley.
- C Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross stands on the main square, Mírové náměstí. It was founded in 1289 and rebuilt in Baroque style in the 17th century.
- **Katova ulička** (Executioner's Lane) leads off the main square. It is only 66 cm wide at its narrowest point and is the narrowest street in the Czech Republic.
- **Žatecká brána** is a town gate with a barbican from 1458. It is one of the oldest defensive structures of its kind in Central Europe.
- D Franciscan Monastery sits on the western edge of town, near the river, about 15 minutes on foot from the square. It dates from the 15th century and is a national cultural monument. Its church has unique wall paintings, and the grounds include gardens and a vineyard. E Kadaň Town Museum has an exhibition inside.
- F Svatý vrch Lookout Tower is a small tower on a hill above the monastery. It gives wide views of the Ohře valley, the Doupov Mountains, and the Ore Mountains.



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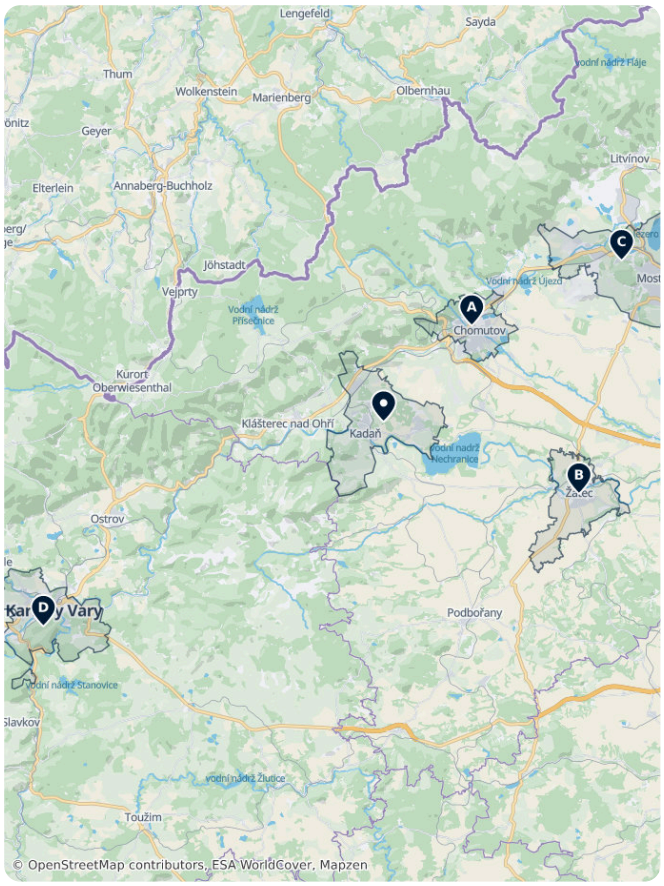
What to experience

A few things to do in Kadaň that go beyond sightseeing:

- **Join Císařský den** in late August, when the old town hosts a historical festival.
- **Climb the tower** of Kadaň Town Hall for a view straight down onto the square and the castle.
- **Squeeze through Katova ulička**, then walk the rest of the old town walls to Žatecká brána.
- **Taste local wine** at the St Wenceslas wine festival in late September, or walk past the monastery vineyard at Franciscan Monastery.
- **Swim in Nechranice Reservoir** on a hot summer day.

Day trips

Kadaň sits between the Ore Mountains and the Doupov Mountains, with several good trips nearby. The list starts with the closest.



- **Nechranice Reservoir** — a large dam lake of more than 13 km² just east of town, about 15 minutes by car. Its shores have places for summer swimming.
- **Klášterec nad Ohří** — about 10 minutes by car up the river. It has a chateau with a porcelain museum and a large park.
- Hasištejn Castle — a Gothic castle ruin in the hills north of town, about 20 minutes by car. Climb the tower for wide views.
- A Chomutov — about 20 minutes by train or bus. It has a small old town and the largest zoo in the country by area.
- B Žatec — about 30 minutes by car. A historic hop-growing town whose hop landscape is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- C Most — about 45 minutes by car. See the Gothic church that was moved 841 m on rails in 1975 to save it from coal mining.
- D Karlovy Vary — about 45 minutes by car. The most famous Czech spa town, with colonnades and hot springs.

Where to explore

The nearest larger town is Chomutov, the district centre, about 13 km to the northeast.

For a wider look at the region, see the Ústí nad Labem Region guide. It covers the Ore Mountains, Bohemian Switzerland, and the other historic towns of northwest Bohemia.

Getting there

- **By air**: The nearest major airport is Václav Havel Airport Prague. From the airport, take public transport into Prague and continue by bus or train. Allow at least 3 hours in total.
- **By train**: Most connections from Prague run via Chomutov, where you change to a regional train or bus to Kadaň. Book and check connections on České dráhy.
- **By bus**: Buses from Prague run to Chomutov in about 2 hours. Local buses continue to Kadaň.
- **By car**: Take the D7 motorway from Prague towards Chomutov, then continue a short distance to Kadaň.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The old town is small and easy to walk. The castle, the square, and the town hall are a few minutes apart. The Franciscan monastery is about 15 minutes on foot.
- **Local buses**: Kadaň has a few town bus lines, but most visitors will not need them.
- **Cycling**: Riding along the Ohře valley is pleasant, but the hills around town are steep.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The compact old town is easy to walk; the castle, the square, and the town hall are a few minutes apart.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Riding along the Ohře valley is pleasant, but the surrounding hills are steep.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Not needed in town. A car helps for the castle ruins, the reservoirs, and the hills around town.
- **Parking**: Use the paid car parks around the edge of the old town and walk in. Space on the main square is limited.

Food & drink

Kadaň has no special dish of its own. Expect standard Czech food: roast pork with dumplings, goulash, and schnitzel, served with local lager. The town has a long wine-growing history, and you can taste local wines at events like the autumn wine festival.

For eating out, head to Mírové náměstí and the streets around it. Most cafés, pubs, and restaurants in the centre are here.

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

Kadaň is a safe town for visitors. The old town is calm by day and at night. Petty theft is the main risk, so watch your bag at crowded events such as Císařský den. When swimming in the reservoirs, use the marked beaches. Tap water is safe to drink.

History

Kadaň was first mentioned in 1183. Around 1260 it became a free royal town, and the king built Kadaň Castle. After a large fire in 1362, Emperor *Charles IV* gave the town new rights, including a vineyard and an annual market. He visited Kadaň in 1367 and 1374, and Císařský den remembers these visits.

In 1421, during the Hussite Wars, Hussite troops took the town. In the late 15th century, the noble *Jan Hasištejnský z Lobkovic* founded Franciscan Monastery, and he is buried there. In 1534, a religious peace between King *Ferdinand I* and the Protestants of Württemberg was negotiated here.

For centuries, most people in Kadaň spoke German. After the Second World War, the German population was expelled. The well-kept old town, with Kadaň Town Hall and Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, still shows the wealth of the medieval royal town.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for the Czech Republic at a glance:

CURRENCY
CZK Kč

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

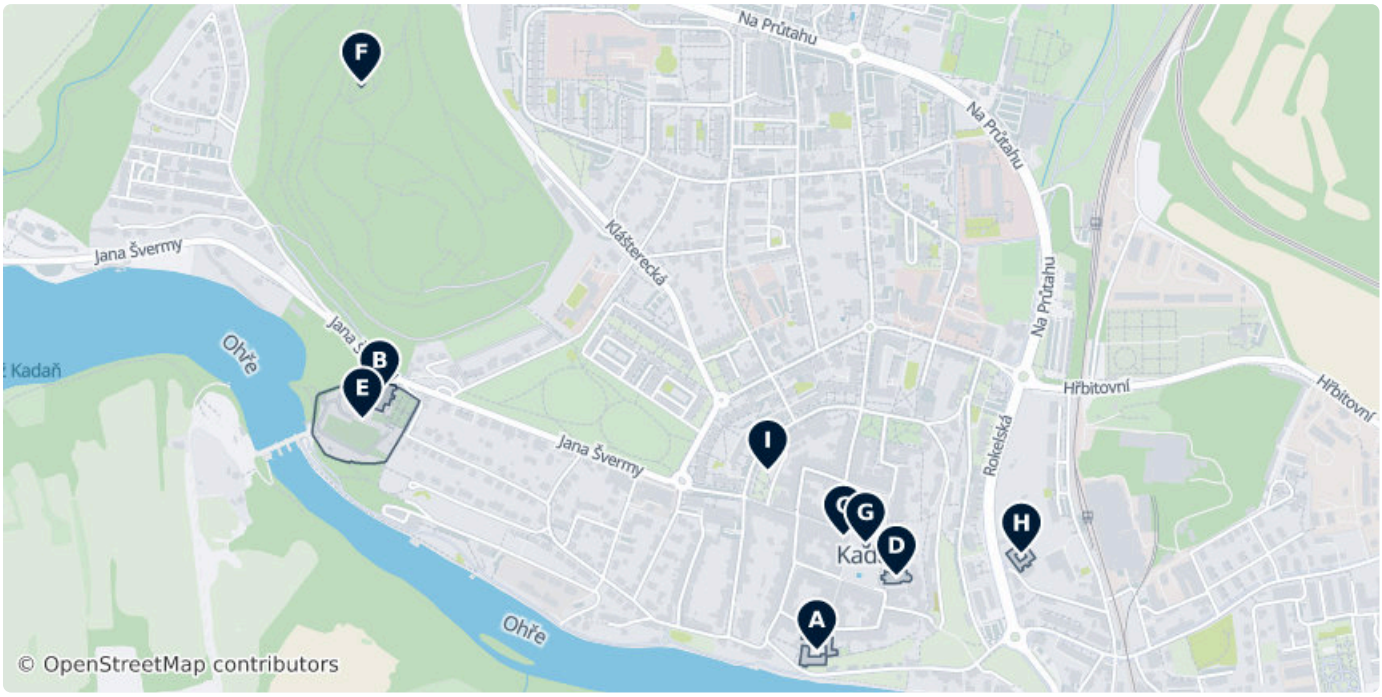
Type C / Type E
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
Czech

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Kadaň Essentials

Kadaň features a remarkably preserved medieval center situated on the banks of the Ohře river. This selection highlights the town's architectural heritage, ranging from the Gothic royal castle and the iconic white town hall tower to the Baroque Elizabethan monastery. Key sites include the Franciscan Monastery, a national cultural monument with unique cell vaults, and the Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. For panoramic views of the Ore Mountains and the Bohemian Central Highlands, the lookout tower on Holy Hill offers a strategic vantage point.





A Kadaň Castle

Gothic royal castle founded in the 13th century by Přemysl Otakar II. It features a preserved fortification system and currently serves as a cultural center and library.

567 Tyršova, Kadaň 43201, Czech Republic
(50.37461, 13.26964)



B Franciscan Monastery in Kadaň

The Franciscan Monastery lies on the edge of the town of Kadaň, Czech Republic and near the river Ohře.

474 Jana Švermy, Kadaň 43201, Czech Republic
(50.37893, 13.25823)

C Kadaň Town Hall

Historic town hall distinguished by its 53-meter-high white Gothic tower topped with a unique helmet-shaped roof. The interior preserves Late Gothic ribbed vaulting.

Jana Švermy, 432 01 Kadaň, Czechia (50.37652, 13.27033)



D Holy Cross Church

The main deanery church of Kadaň, originally a Gothic structure from the 13th century, later rebuilt in the Baroque style. It stands as a dominant feature of the historic square.

86 Mírové náměstí, Kadaň 43201, Czech Republic (50.37585, 13.27172)

E Klášterní zahrada

Historical garden adjacent to the Franciscan monastery, featuring vineyards, orchards, and a herb garden reflecting traditional monastic landscaping.

474 Jana Švermy, Kadaň 43201, Czech Republic (50.37847, 13.25778)

F Rozhledna na Svatém kopečku

A 16-meter-high timber-framed observation tower on Holy Hill, providing panoramic views of the town, the Ohře river valley, and the Doupov Mountains.

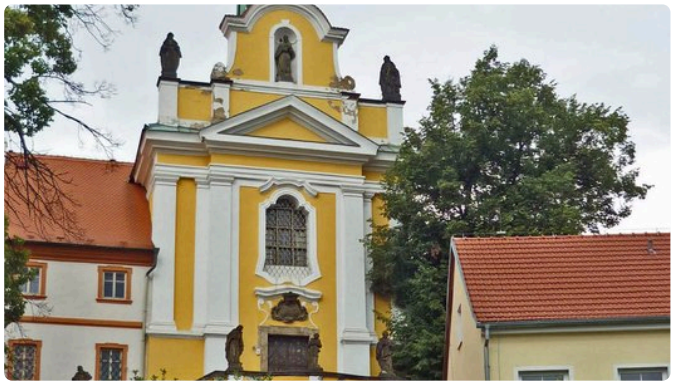
Kadaň 43201, Czech Republic (50.38405, 13.25775)



G Nejsvětější Trojice

A Baroque Holy Trinity column located in the central square, built in the mid-18th century as a landmark of religious gratitude and artistic craftsmanship.

80 Mírové náměstí, Kadaň 43201, Czech Republic (50.37640, 13.27091)



H Elisabethan Monastery Kadaň

A Baroque complex of the Elizabethan Sisters, including the Church of the Holy Family. The site historically served as a hospital and monastery.

Klášterní schody, 432 01 Kadaň, Czechia (50.37622, 13.27498)

Studentské náměstí

A public square located near the historic center, serving as a transitional space between the medieval fortifications and the town's residential areas.

(50.37761, 13.26836)

DATA SOURCES

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