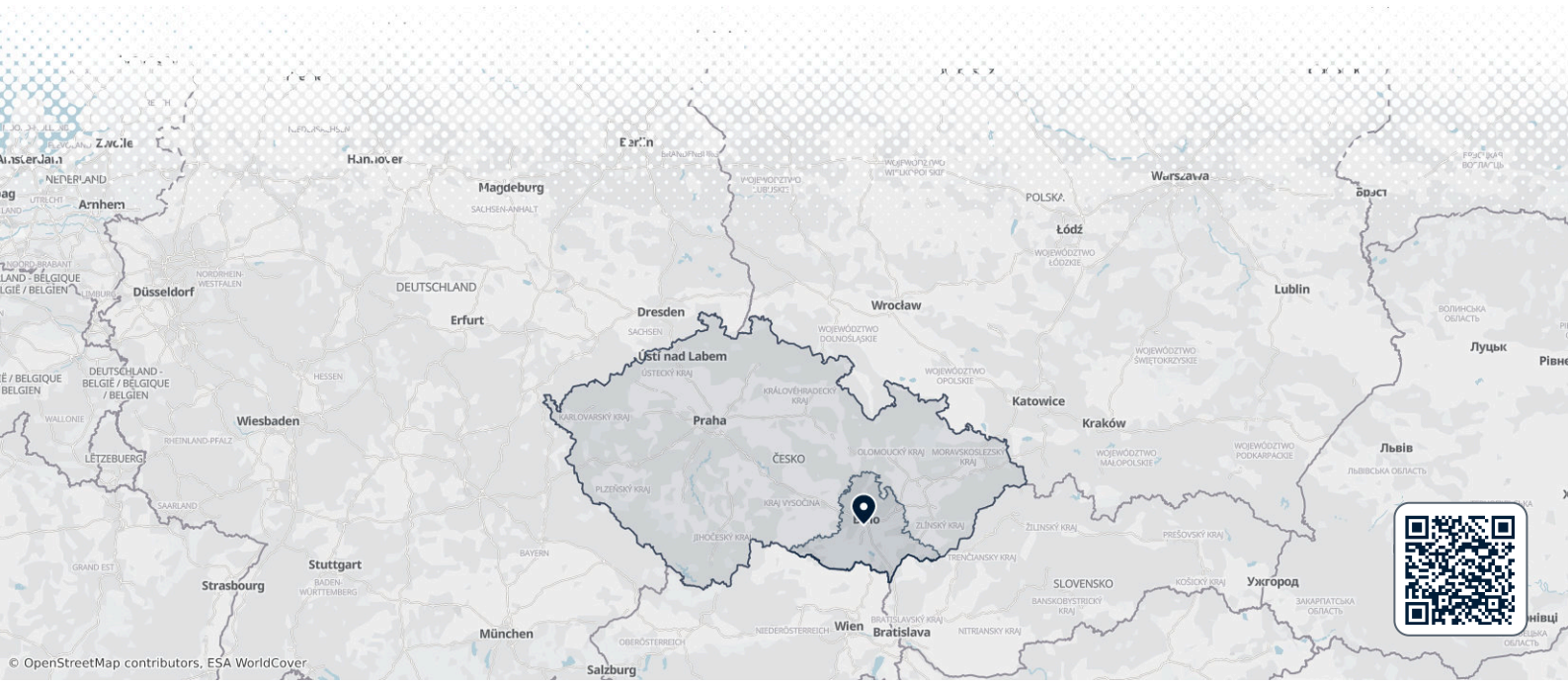


South Moravian Region

Czech Republic

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

South Moravia is the Czech Republic's wine country: rolling vineyards, Baroque chateaux, and villages built around wine-cellar lanes, in place of the forests and mountains found elsewhere in the country. The regional capital, Brno, anchors the north; vineyards, limestone caves, and border towns spread out to the south and east.

The region suits travelers who want to combine a short city stay with a few slower days in the countryside — wine tasting around Mikulov and Valtice, walking above a dramatic karst gorge, or visiting Gothic and Baroque castles. Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, Czechoslovakia's first president, was born in the region, in the town of Hodonín.

When to visit

Spring and autumn are mild and the best times to visit, with fewer crowds than summer. Summers are warm and pleasant for the countryside and vineyards. Winters are cold, with occasional snow, and the region quiets down outside Brno.

Time a visit for mid-September if you can, when the Znojmo Historical Wine Harvest Festival fills the old town with costumed parades, wine stalls, and live music to mark the end of the grape harvest.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	1° / 9° Feels like -4°	-5° / -15°	Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	4° / 12° Feels like -1°	-4° / -14°	Dry air
March	Fair Fair for cycling	9° / 18° Feels like 5°	-1° / -6°	Dry air
April	Great Great for cycling	15° / 23° Feels like 11°	4° / -3°	Dry air
May	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 27°	9° / 3°	12 rainy days · Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 32°	13° / 8°	13 rainy days · Dry air
July	Great Great for sightseeing	27° / 34°	15° / 11°	13 rainy days
August	Great Great for sightseeing	27° / 35°	15° / 10°	
September	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 29°	10° / 5°	Dry air
October	Great Great for cycling	15° / 22° Feels like 12°	5° / -1°	Dry air
November	Fair Fair for cycling	8° / 16° Feels like 4°	1° / -5°	Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	2° / 8° Feels like -3°	-4° / -12°	Dry air

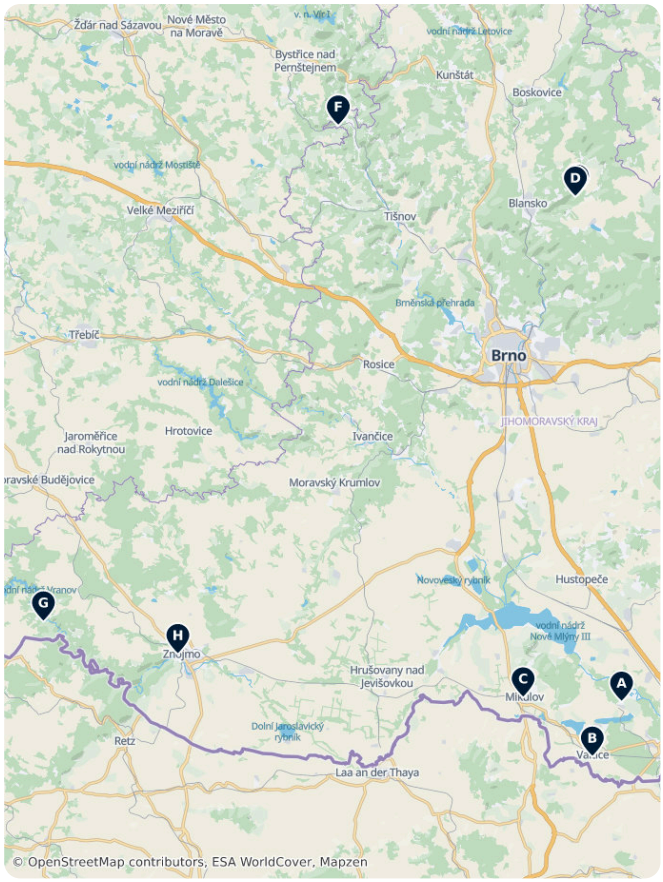
Best months: June, August

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

September and early October bring warm, mostly dry days — good for cycling the vineyard trails around Mikulov and Valtice.

Top sights

South Moravia's biggest sights sit outside the capital, spread across wine country and karst hills.



A Lednice Château is the centerpiece of the Lednice-Valtice UNESCO landscape, a Neo-Gothic chateau surrounded by an English-style park, glasshouses, and a minaret built purely for the view.

B Valtice Castle was one of two great estates of the princely House of Liechtenstein for more than five centuries, and its cellars beneath the town hold some of the region's best wine tastings.

C Mikulov Castle overlooks the wine town of Mikulov from a hilltop, with a restored library and exhibits on the region's Jewish and wine-making history.

D Punkva Caves lets you ride a boat along an underground river deep inside the Moravian Karst, past stalactites and a canyon carved into the limestone.

E Macocha Abyss is the collapsed sinkhole above those caves, worth seeing from the rim and, on the longer cave tour, from the bottom.

F Pernštejn Castle is one of the country's best-preserved Gothic-Renaissance castles, its white towers rising over a bend in the Svratka river.

G Vranov nad Dyjí Chateau perches on a cliff above the Dyje river near the Austrian border, its Baroque ancestors' hall frescoed and lined with portraits of the Althann family who once owned it.

H Znojmo Castle rises above the wine town of Znojmo, with a network of medieval cellars and tunnels underneath the old town worth exploring separately.

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What to experience

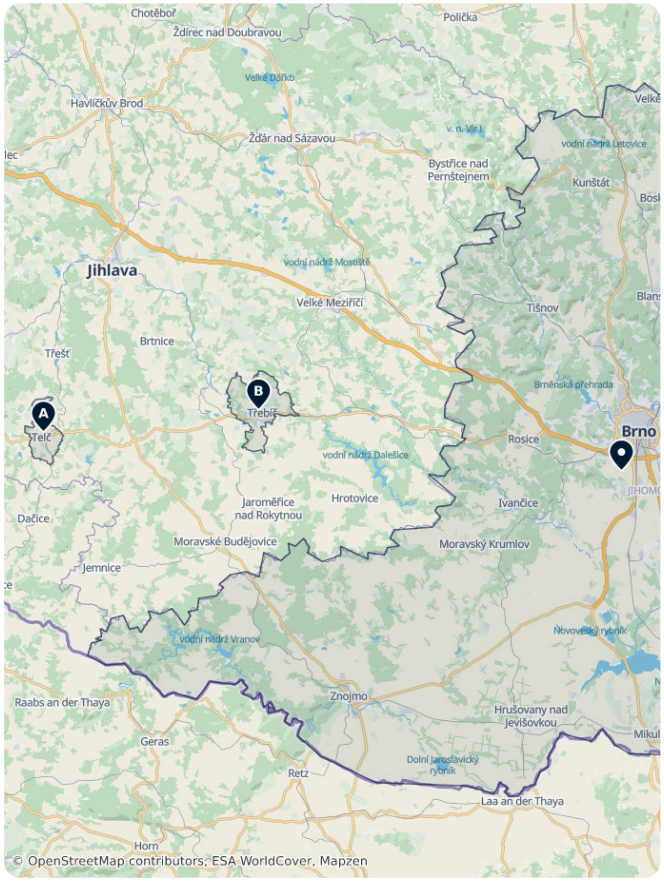
Autumn is when the region's wine culture is most visible — a good season to plan a trip around.

- Join the grape harvest crowds each September and taste burčák, the year's young, still-fermenting wine, straight from a cellar tap.
- Cycle the flat, marked wine trails linking Mikulov, Valtice, and Lednice, one of the best-signed cycling networks in the country.
- Take a hot-air balloon flight over the Pálava vineyards at sunrise, weather permitting — a popular way to see the wine region's patchwork of hills from above.
- Follow a wine cellar lane in a small village like Pavlov after dark, when the cellars light up and locals gather for informal tastings.

Day trips

South Moravia borders both Austria and Slovakia, and two capital cities are within easy reach. Combine them with a stop in the region's own UNESCO towns just across the border in Vysočina.

- Ⓐ Telč — about 50 minutes by car, a small UNESCO town of pastel Renaissance houses around a single long square.
- Ⓑ Třebíč — about an hour by car, known for its well-preserved Jewish Quarter and Basilica of St. Procopius, both UNESCO-listed.
- Vienna, Austria — about 1.5–2 hours by train or car, with direct rail connections from Brno several times a day.
- Bratislava, Slovakia — about 1.5 hours by car or bus, an easy add-on if flying in or out of Vienna.



Where to explore

South Moravia's wine country and historic towns pair naturally with a stay in the regional capital.

Brno is the country's second city and the region's capital, with its own historic center, museums, and nightlife — worth two or three days on its own.

South of Brno, Mikulov, Valtice, and Lednice form the heart of the Lednice-Valtice wine region, connected by flat, well-marked cycling trails.

To the southwest, Znojmo guards the border with its castle and underground tunnels, while Slavkov u Brna — better known abroad by its German name, Austerlitz — is where Napoleon won his most famous battle in 1805.

Getting there

- **By air**: Brno–Tuřany (BRQ) has only limited seasonal and charter flights, so most travelers fly into Vienna (VIE) or Prague (PRG) and continue overland. From Vienna Airport it takes about 2 to 2.5 hours by train or bus to reach Brno.
- **By train**: Brno's main station has frequent connections to Prague (about 2.5 hours), Vienna, Bratislava, and Ostrava, plus regional trains reaching Znojmo, Břeclav, and Blansko.
- **By bus**: Long-distance coaches connect Brno with Prague, Vienna, and Bratislava — a cheaper, slightly slower alternative to the train.

Getting around

- **Public transit**: Each town runs its own local buses, and a region-wide integrated system, IDS JMK, covers trains and buses across South Moravia, including Brno's trams. Buy tickets through the IDS JMK app or at station machines; contactless bank-card payment is accepted on Brno's trams and buses. IDS JMK Journey Planner
- **Taxi / ride-hailing**: Bolt and Uber operate in Brno; smaller towns rely on local taxi companies.
- **On foot / cycling**: Wine-region towns are compact and walkable, but seeing more than one in a day means renting a car or bike. The region has one of the country's best networks of marked cycling trails through the vineyards.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

Town centers across the region are compact and walkable, but seeing more than one in a day means driving or cycling between them.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

The region has one of the country's best-developed networks of marked cycling trails, especially through the wine country around Mikulov, Valtice, and Lednice.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Yes — a car is the easiest way to link the wine villages, castles, and caves, since public transport between them is infrequent outside Brno.
- **Parking**: Historic centers like Mikulov, Znojmo, and Valtice have paid parking just outside the pedestrian core; pay by app or at a machine.
- **Restrictions**: Brno's historic center has restricted traffic near the main square during the day — park in one of the ring-road garages and walk in.

Food & drink

South Moravian cooking leans toward hearty, wine-friendly food: roast duck with dumplings and cabbage, cured meats, and fresh bread topped with lard and raw onion. The bigger difference from the rest of the Czech Republic is what's in the glass — this is wine country, not beer country, and a meal here usually comes with a local Veltlínské zelené or Ryzlink rýnský.

Skip picking individual restaurants and head for a wine cellar lane instead. The row of cellars in Pavlov, at the foot of the Pálava hills, and the historic cellars beneath Valtice and Znojmo let you taste directly from small producers.

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

South Moravia is very safe for travelers, including at night around Brno's main squares. The most common issue is pickpocketing in crowds during festivals — keep bags zipped at wine festivals and Christmas markets.

Tap water is safe to drink throughout the region. Wine tastings at small cellars are informal and sometimes free, but pace yourself: burčák, the young partially fermented wine sold every autumn, is deceptively strong and keeps fermenting after you drink it.

History

Vineyards have covered these hills since Roman times, and South Moravia was the heartland of the ninth-century Great Moravian Empire, the first major Slavic state in Central Europe. Archaeologists have uncovered one of its largest fortified settlements at Mikulčice, near the region's southeastern border.

The region's most famous single day came much later. In December 1805, Napoleon defeated the combined armies of Austria and Russia nearby at the Battle of Austerlitz, still studied as one of his greatest tactical victories. The armistice that followed was signed at Slavkov Castle, in the town now again known by its Czech name, Slavkov u Brna.

Long before any of that, people were already living near Dolní Věstonice: the Venus of Dolní Věstonice, one of the oldest known ceramic figurines in the world, was found here and is more than 25,000 years old.

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

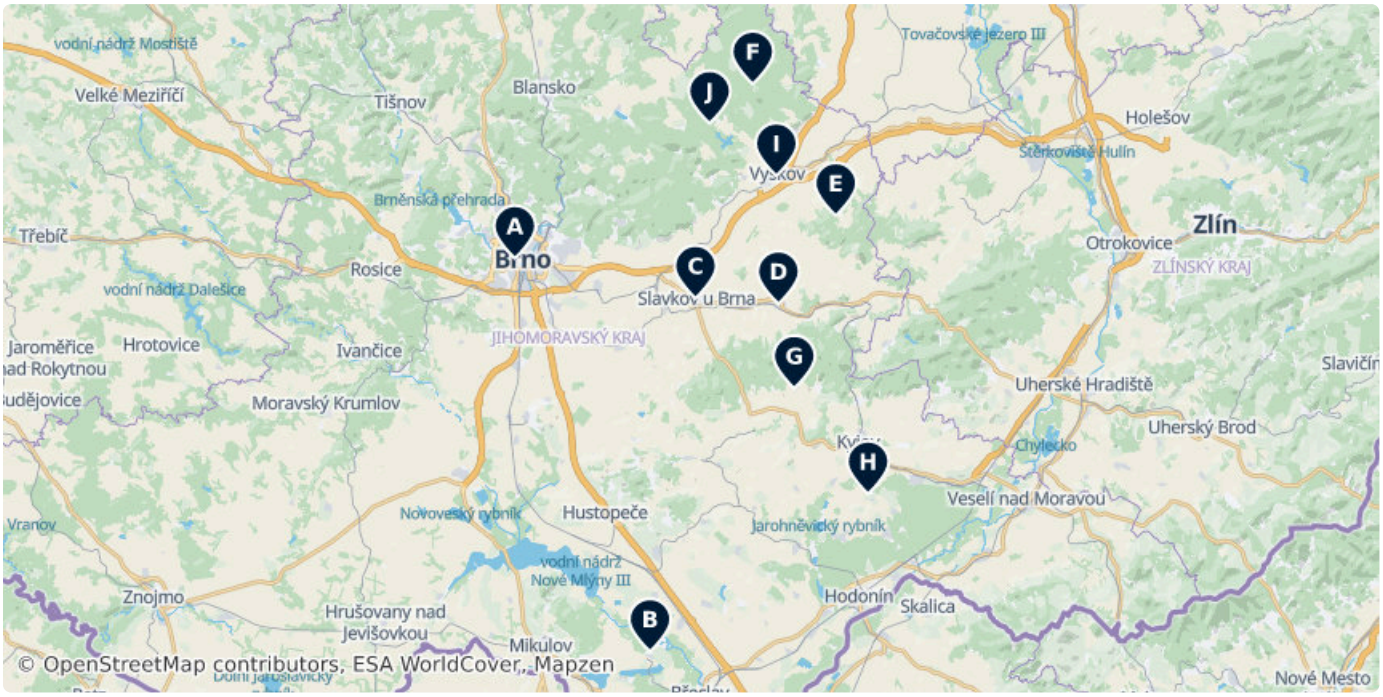
Czech

TAP WATER

Safe to drink

Castles & Chateaux Highlights

Discover a selection of castles, chateaux, and ruins in South Moravia, including UNESCO protected sites like Lednice Château, Baroque palaces such as Austerlitz Chateau, Renaissance architecture at Bučovice Chateau, and historic fortresses like Spilberk Castle, offering diverse architectural styles and cultural heritage.





A Spilberk Castle

Historic castle and former fortress with over 700 years of history, now serving as a museum and cultural venue. Notable for its medieval origins, military significance, and architectural styles spanning Gothic and Baroque periods.

Špilberk 1, 662 24 Brno, Czech Republic (49.19444, 16.59957)

Mo–Su	06:00–23:00

spilberk.cz, +420 542 123 661



B Lednice Château

A romantic chateau placed in UNESCO protected area of beautiful parks.

Zámek, 691 44 Lednice, Czechia (48.80161, 16.80559)

Feb Sa–Su	10:00–16:00
Apr Sa–Su	09:00–16:00
May-Aug Mo–Su	09:00–17:00
Sep Tu–Su	09:00–17:00

zamek-lednice.com, +420 519 340 128



C Slavkov Castle

Austerlitz Chateau is a historic Baroque palace known for its architectural significance and connection to the Battle of Austerlitz. It houses exhibitions and offers access to richly decorated interiors and a museum dedicated to the battle.

Palackého náměstí 1, zámek Slavkov u Brna, 68411 Slavkov u Brna, Czech Republic (49.15480, 16.87487)

Mo–Su 09:00–17:00

zamek-slavkov.cz, +420544221685



D Bučovice Chateau

Renaissance castle notable for its Italian-style architecture and richly decorated arcade courtyard. It is a significant cultural monument offering insights into 16th-century noble life.

Zámek 1, 685 01 Bučovice, Czech Republic (49.14918, 17.00127)

zamek-bucovice.cz, +420 517 383 135



E Orlovice

Orlovice is a village and municipality in Vyškov District, in the South Moravian Region of the Czech Republic.

68201, Czech Republic (49.23698, 17.08862)



F Ferdinandsko

Former hunting lodge of the Olomouc bishops located in the Drahan Highlands forest.

Dědice, 683 21 Vyškov, Czechia (49.36766, 16.96216)



G Ždánice Castle - Vrbas Museum

Historic castle and regional museum showcasing local history, architecture, and cultural heritage. The museum features exhibitions about the castle, town, and surrounding region.

1 Zámek, Ždánice 69632, Czech Republic (49.06497, 17.02535)

Tu–Fr	09:00–16:00

+420725920846



H Milotice Castle

Baroque chateau situated on the northern edge of Milotice municipality in South Moravia.

Zámecká, 696 05 Milotice, Czechia (48.95949, 17.13791)

Sep 01-Sep 27 Tu–Su	09:00–15:00
Sep 29-Oct 25 Sa–Su	09:00–15:00
Oct 28-Nov 01 We–Su	09:00–15:00

zamekmilotice.cz, +420 518 619 643



I Vyškov Castle

Originally a Gothic castle, later rebuilt into a Renaissance chateau owned by Olomouc bishops.

1/2a náměstí Československé armády, Vyškov 68201, Czech Republic (49.27653, 16.99792)

facebook.com/TuristickeInformacniCentrumVyskov/



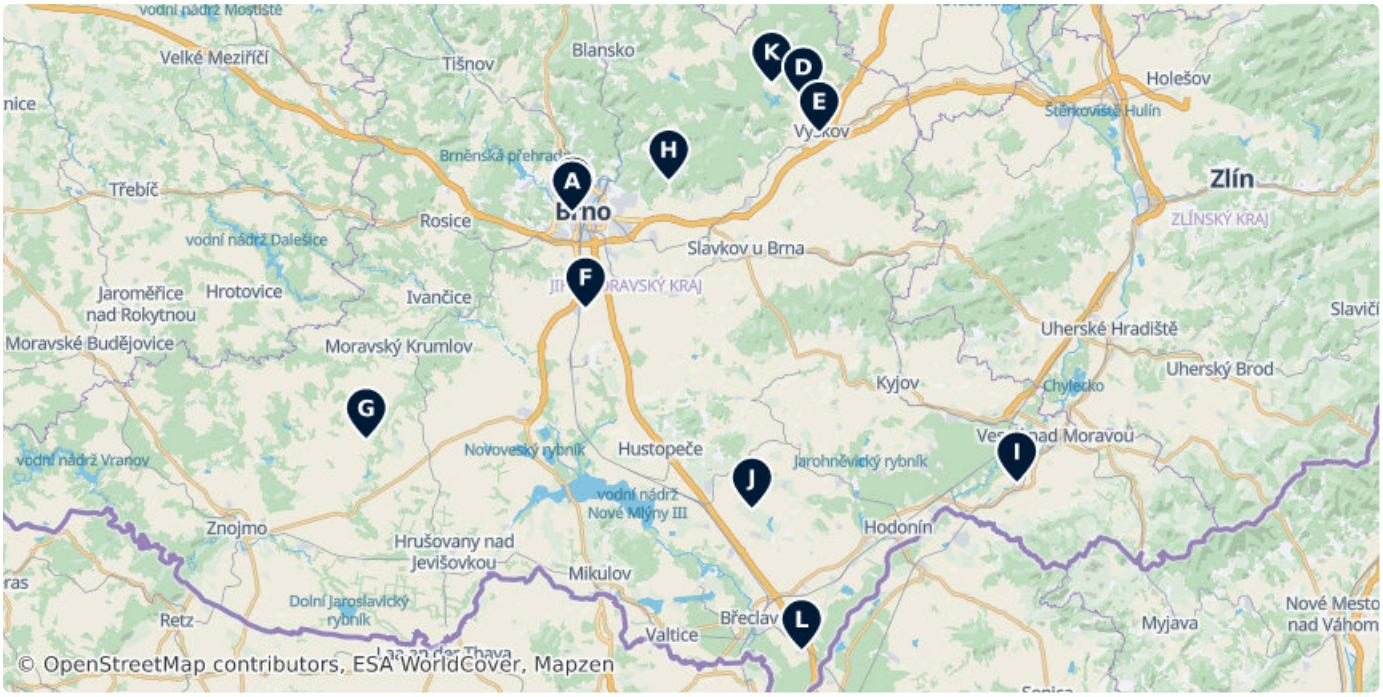
J zřícenina Hrádek (Stagnov)

Ruins of Stagnov Castle located on the southeastern slopes of the Drahan Highlands.

68201, Czech Republic (49.32848, 16.89640)

Historic Churches & Monasteries

This collection features twelve significant religious sites in South Moravia, including Gothic and Baroque churches, monasteries, chapels, and a synagogue. Highlights include the historic Augustinian St Thomas's Abbey with its Mendel museum, the high Gothic Basilica of the Assumption of Our Lady, and diverse Christian denominations represented by Catholic, Orthodox, and Jewish places of worship.





Ⓐ St Thomas's Abbey

St Thomas's Abbey is a historic Augustinian monastery featuring Gothic, Baroque, and Neoclassical architecture. It houses a museum dedicated to Gregor Mendel and serves as a cultural and religious site.

Mendlovo náměstí, 656 53 Brno, Czechia
(49.19180, 16.59399)

Apr-Oct Mo–Su	10:00–18:00
Nov-Mar Mo–Su	10:00–17:00

opatstvibrno.cz



Ⓑ Basilica of the Assumption of Our Lady, Brno

The Basilica of the Assumption of Our Lady in Old Brno Abbey is a high Gothic, monumental convent temple.

1b Mendlovo náměstí, Brno 60300, Czech Republic
(49.19187, 16.59440)



C Kostel svatého Václava

Orthodox cathedral church of the Czech-Slovak Orthodox Church in Brno.

52/8 Gorazdova, Brno 60200, Czech Republic (49.19656, 16.59565)

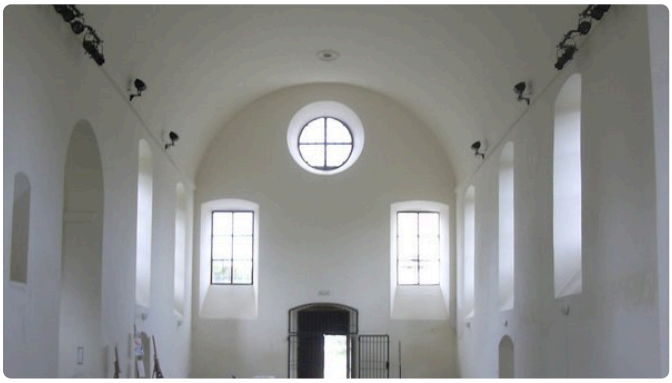
mujweb.cz/pravoslavbrno/



D sv. Cyril a Metoděj

Roman Catholic chapel located in the Vyškov-Dědice parish.

68201, Czech Republic (49.31240, 16.96985)



E Virgin Mary Cemetery Church

Church situated by the town cemetery near Vyškov city center.

1 Hřbitovní, Vyškov 68201, Czech Republic (49.27609, 16.99552)



F Rajhradský klášter

Benedictine monastery dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul, east of Rajhrad.

1 Klášter, Rajhrad 66461, Czech Republic (49.08944, 16.61578)

rajhrad.benediktini.cz

G Kostel svaté Kunhuty

Roman Catholic church in the village of Hostěradice, Znojmo district.

90 400, Hostěradice 67171, Czech Republic
(48.94998, 16.25908)



H kaple Proměnění Páně

Chapel dedicated to the Transfiguration of the Lord.

20, Mokrá-Horákov 66404, Czech Republic
(49.22499, 16.75098)



I Synagoga

Jewish synagogue representing local Jewish cultural heritage.

1212 Sadová, Strážnice 69662, Czech Republic
(48.90373, 17.31671)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

+420 737849303



J Hradištěk - kaple sv. Cyrila a Metoděje

Chapel dedicated to Saints Cyril and Methodius in Hradištěk.

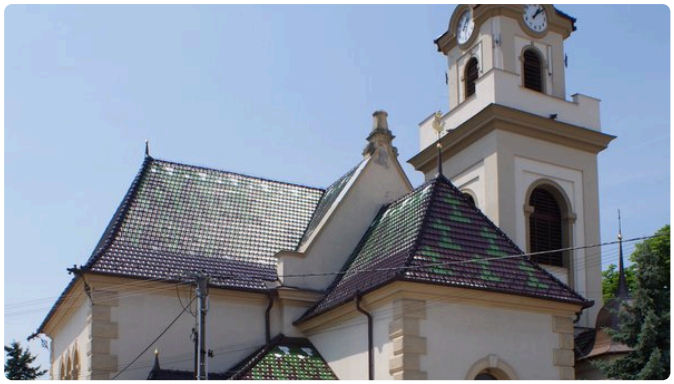
(Unnamed Road), 69102, Czech Republic
(48.87575, 16.88635)



K Nanebevzetí Panny Marie

Roman Catholic parish church built in 1783 in Vyškov Rychtářov.

14, Rychtářov 68201, Czech Republic (49.32856, 16.91832)



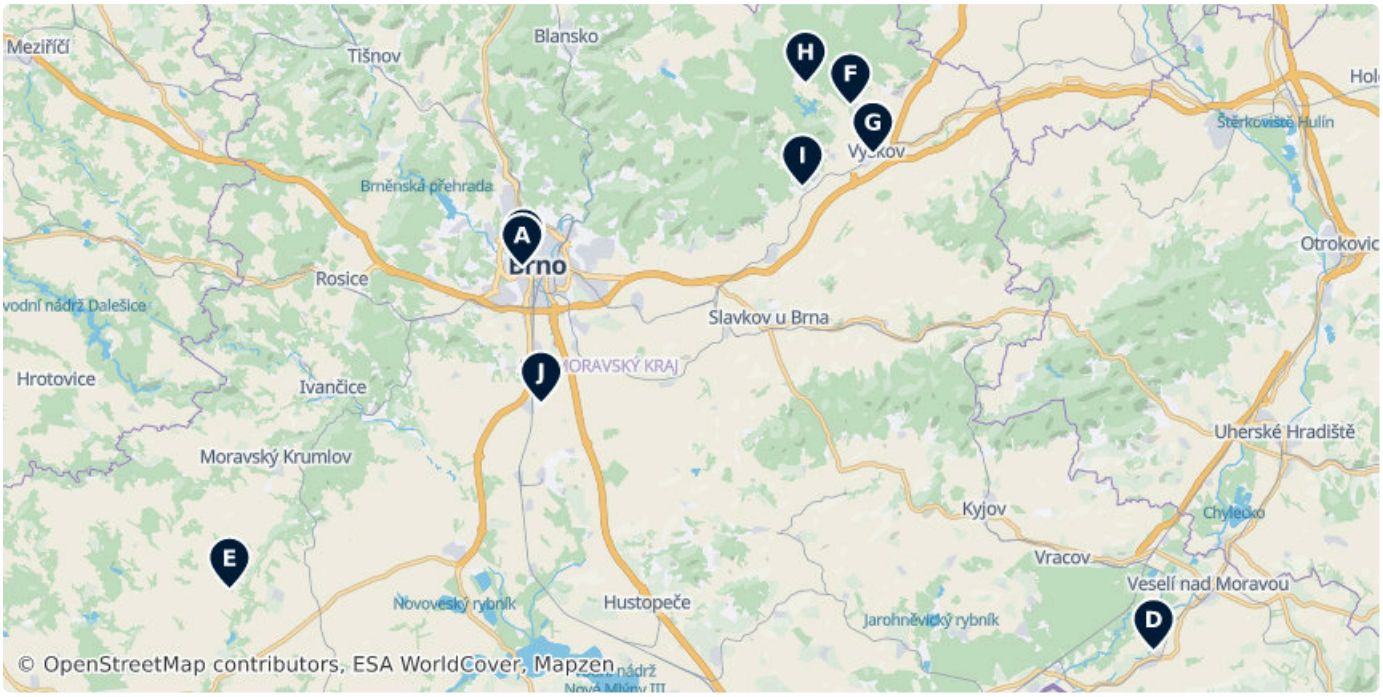
L Povýšení svatého Kříže

Roman Catholic church located in the town of Lanžhot.

89/10 Náměstí, Lanžhot 69151, Czech Republic (48.72426, 16.96695)

Historic Churches & Shrines

This collection highlights ten significant religious sites in the Jihomoravský kraj region, featuring diverse architectural styles from Gothic and Baroque to Neoclassical. Included are historic monasteries, basilicas, Orthodox and Catholic churches, chapels, and a synagogue, reflecting the area's Christian and Jewish cultural heritage.





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C Kostel svatého Václava

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52/8 Gorazdova, Brno 60200, Czech Republic (49.19656, 16.59565)

mujweb.cz/pravoslavbrno/



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Mo–Su Open 24/7

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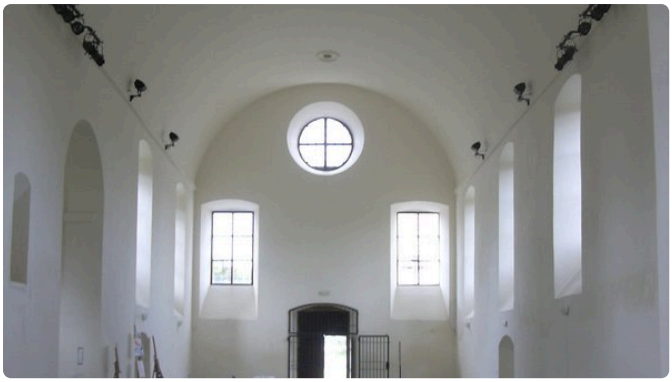
68201, Czech Republic (49.31240, 16.96985)



G Virgin Mary Cemetery Church

Church near the town cemetery in Vyškov, dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

1 Hřbitovní, Vyškov 68201, Czech Republic (49.27609, 16.99552)



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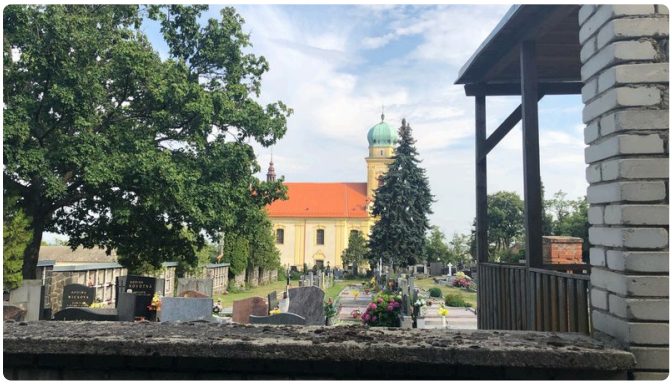
Roman Catholic parish church built in 1783, located in Vyškov Rychtářov.

14, Rychtářov 68201, Czech Republic (49.32856, 16.91832)



I sv. Martin

Roman Catholic parish church of Saint Martin situated on Liliová hora hill above Luleč.

95, 68303, Czech Republic (49.25140, 16.91485)



J Rajhradský klášter

Benedictine monastery east of Rajhrad dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul.

1 Klášter, Rajhrad 66461, Czech Republic (49.08944, 16.61578)

rajhrad.benediktini.cz

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