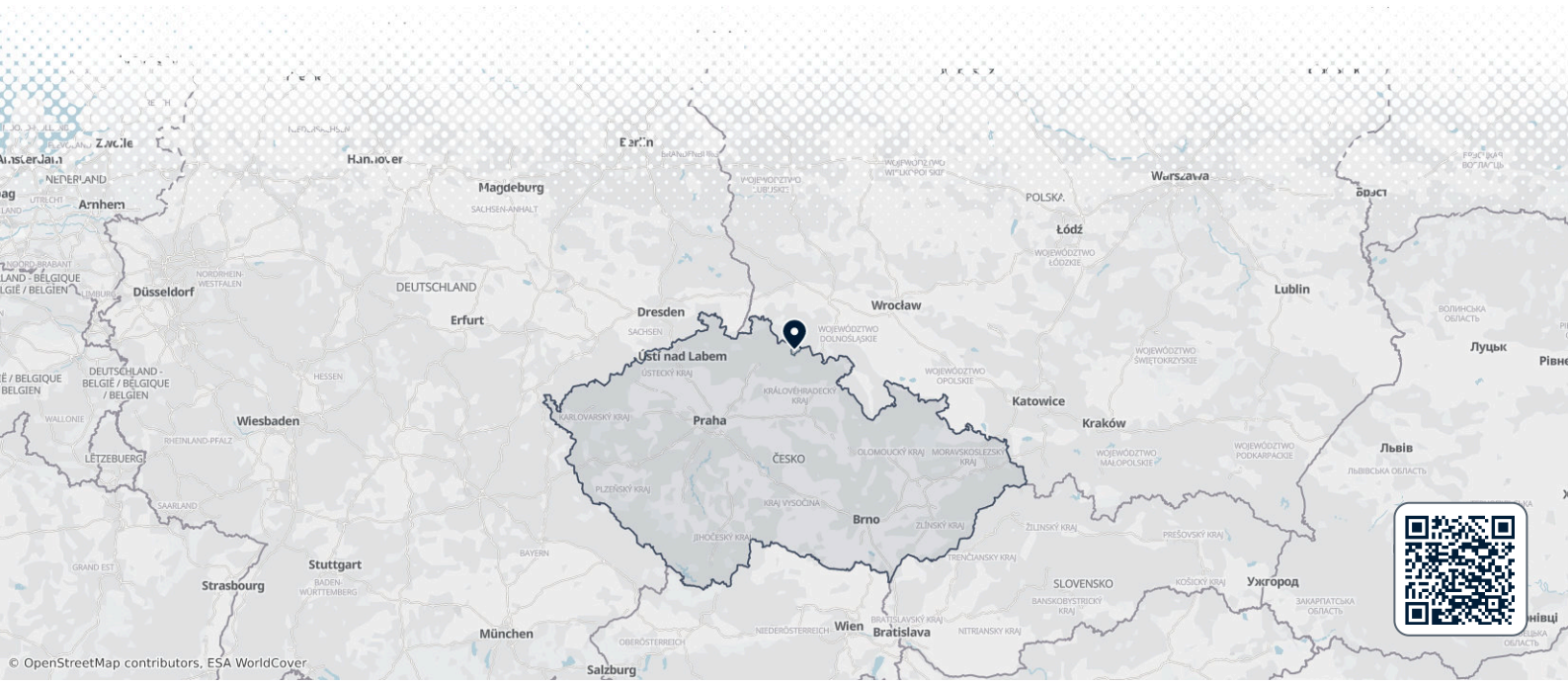


Špindlerův Mlýn

Hradec Králové Region · Czech Republic

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Špindlerův Mlýn is the largest and best-known mountain resort in the Krkonoše, Czechia's highest range. The village sits in a narrow valley along the upper Elbe river, ringed by ski slopes that fill with visitors all winter and by hikers for the rest of the year.

The two main lift areas, Medvědín above the village and Svatý Petr further up the valley, keep the resort busy through the whole snow season. In summer the same trails lead to waterfalls, mountain huts, and the source of the Elbe. It suits travelers who want an active few days outdoors rather than a historic town center — the built-up part of the village is small and modern, built mainly to serve visitors.

When to visit

Winters are cold and snowy, with reliable snow cover from December into March. Summers are mild, and July and August bring the warmest, driest weather for hiking.

Plan around the **Audi FIS Ski World Cup**, women's giant slalom and slalom races held most winters at Svatý Petr, when the resort fills with spectators and the atmosphere is at its liveliest.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Great Great for skiing	-2° / 4° Feels like -8°	-8° / -18°	14 rainy days · Dry air
February	Great Great for skiing	0° / 7° Feels like -6°	-7° / -17°	12 rainy days · Dry air
March	Good Good for skiing	5° / 13° Feels like -1°	-4° / -11°	13 rainy days · Dry air
April	Fair Fair for cycling	11° / 18° Feels like 6°	0° / -6°	Dry air
May	Good Good for cycling	15° / 22° Feels like 12°	5° / 0°	15 rainy days · Dry air
June	Good Good for sightseeing	19° / 26°	9° / 4°	15 rainy days · Dry air
July	Good Good for sightseeing	21° / 28°	11° / 7°	17 rainy days · Dry air
August	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 28°	11° / 6°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
September	Good Good for hiking	17° / 24° Feels like 14°	7° / 1°	Dry air
October	Fair Fair for cycling	11° / 18° Feels like 7°	2° / -4°	12 rainy days · Dry air
November	Good Good for skiing	4° / 11° Feels like -1°	-2° / -8°	12 rainy days · Dry air
December	Great Great for skiing	-1° / 5° Feels like -7°	-6° / -15°	14 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: August

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

Top sights

A Krkonošský národní park covers most of the mountains around the village, and its trails, waterfalls and viewpoints are the main reason most visitors come here.

A cable car climbs from the village center to B Medvědín, a summit with ski runs in winter and a wide network of hiking and mountain-biking trails once the snow melts.

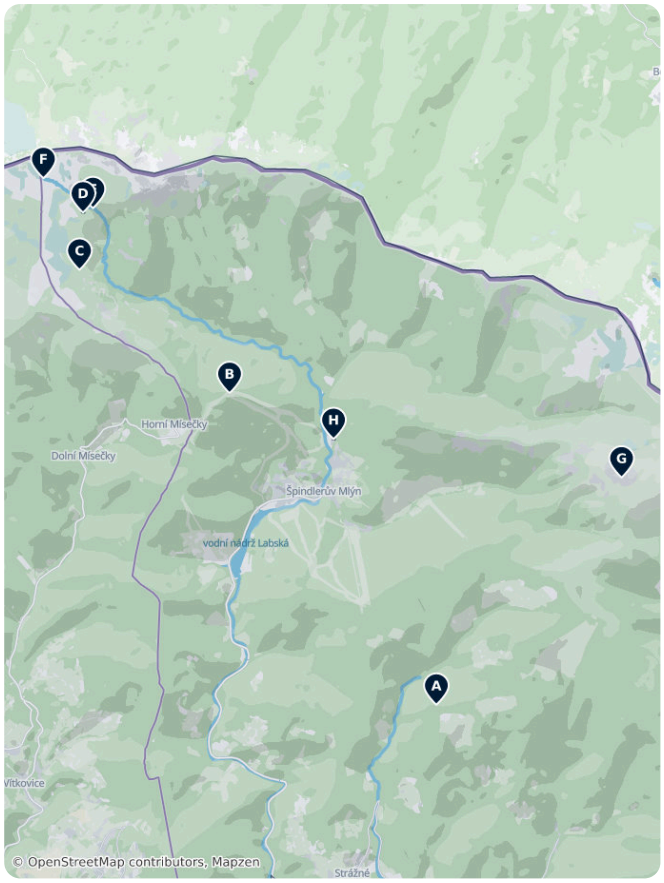
Higher up the valley, C Pančavský vodopád drops 148 meters in stages down a glacial valley, making it the tallest waterfall in the country.

A short walk from D Labská bouda leads to E Labský vodopád, a 35-meter cascade with a viewing bridge and one of the most photographed spots in the range.

A boardwalk across the high moor leads to F Pramen Labe, the symbolic source of the Elbe river, marked by a stone wall decorated with the coats of arms of towns the river passes on its way to the sea.

G Luční hora is the second-highest peak in the country, reached by a ridge trail from Medvědín, with wide views over the valley on a clear day.

Back in the village, H Aquapark is a good option on a rainy or off-season day, with slides and whirlpools.



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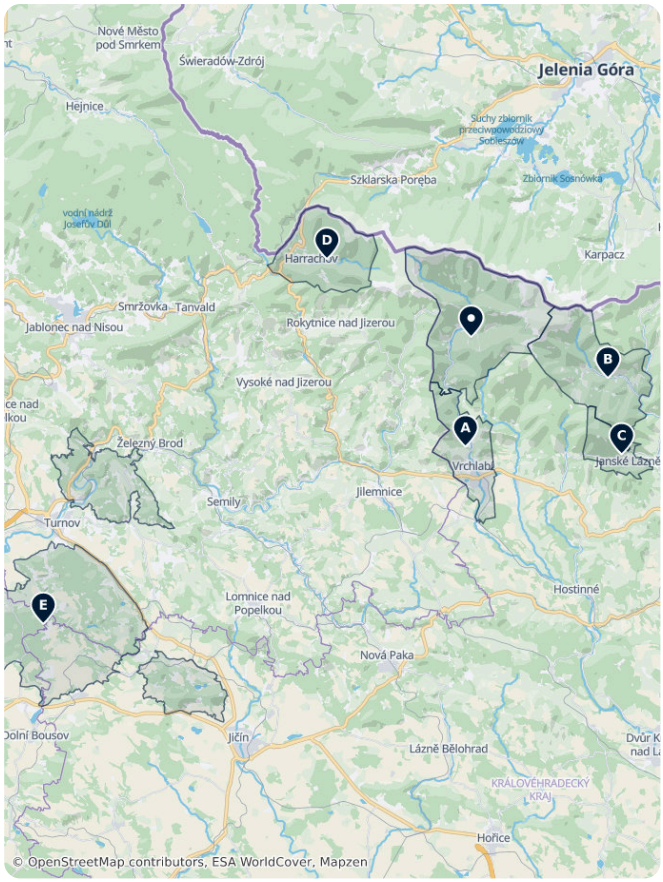
What to experience

- Riding the summer downhill mountain-biking trails from Medvědín — the same lift that carries skiers in winter runs bikes and riders down marked descents once the snow melts.
- Gliding along the groomed cross-country loops on the high plateau near Labská bouda, a quieter alternative to the downhill slopes.
- Warming up with a sauna or wellness session after a day outdoors — most of the larger hotels open theirs to day visitors.

Day trips

Špindlerův Mlýn sits deep in the mountains, so day trips mean either exploring more of the Krkonoše or dropping down into the foothill towns below.



- A Vrchlabí — about 25 minutes by car. The gateway town for Krkonošský národní park, with the national park's visitor center and museum.
- B Pec pod Sněžkou — about 40 minutes by car over a mountain road. A rival resort town below Sněžka, the country's highest peak, reachable by its own cable car.
- C Janské Lázně — about 40 minutes by car. A historic spa town with thermal pools and a cable car onto the same connected ski area.
- D Harrachov — about 50 minutes by car. Known for glassmaking, a historic ski jump, and the Mumlava waterfall trail.
- E Bohemian Paradise — about 1.5 to 2 hours by car. A flagship trip outside the mountains, with sandstone rock towers, forest trails, and Trosky Castle.

Where to explore

Pec pod Sněžkou and Janské Lázně are the other two major resort towns in the Krkonoše, connected by mountain roads and, in Janské Lázně's case, by lifts into the same linked ski area. Pec pod Sněžkou sits below Sněžka, the country's highest peak, while Janské Lázně adds a spa town's slower pace with its own cable car onto the ridge.

Getting there

- **By air**: the nearest airport with scheduled flights is Prague's Václav Havel Airport, around 150 km away — roughly 2.5 hours by car, longer by public transport.
- **By train**: there is no railway into the village itself. The nearest stations are around Vrchlabí, reached from Prague by regional train with a change en route; buses continue from there up to Špindlerův Mlýn. Czech Railways
- **By bus**: direct coach services connect Prague to Špindlerův Mlýn in around 2 to 2.5 hours, with extra departures during the ski season.

Getting around

- **Public transit**: a shuttle bus links the village center with the Medvědín and Svatý Petr lift stations through the ski season — a practical way to avoid parking near the slopes. Ski buses in Špindlerův Mlýn
- **Taxi**: the practical option outside the shuttle's hours; ride-hailing apps have little to no coverage this far into the mountains.
- **On foot / cycling**: the village center is compact and walkable, but the resort stretches along several kilometers of valley, with the lift stations best reached by bus, car, or cable car rather than on foot.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The village center is small and easy to cover on foot, but the resort stretches along several kilometers of valley, with most sights and lift stations reached by shuttle bus, car, or cable car rather than walking.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Road cycling in the valley is limited, but summer visitors come for the lift-served downhill mountain-biking trails on Medvědín.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: a car makes it easier to reach nearby valleys and resort towns like Pec pod Sněžkou or Harrachov, since bus connections between them are limited. Inside the village, most things are within walking distance or reached by the ski shuttle.
- **Parking**: paid car parks line the main road and cluster near the lift stations; they fill up fast on winter weekends, so arrive early or expect to park further out.
- **Restrictions**: some access roads higher into the mountains, including near the source of the Elbe, are closed to private cars beyond certain points.

Food & drink

Beyond the usual Czech classics, look for hearty mountain-hut food — soups, dumplings and stewed meat — served at the wooden *boudy* (mountain huts) dotted along the hiking and ski trails, including Labská bouda near the source of the Elbe. Many only take cash, so carry some.

Restaurants and cafés cluster along the main street through the village center, within easy walking distance of most hotels.

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

Špindlerův Mlýn is a safe destination, with little crime beyond the usual care with valuables in busy lift queues and unattended cars at trailhead parking lots.

The real risk here is the weather. Conditions on the exposed ridges above the treeline change fast, and summer storms or winter whiteouts can catch hikers off guard. Check the forecast and trail conditions before heading above the treeline, carry warm layers, and turn back if the weather closes in.

History

The village grew up around a mill on the upper Elbe river, which is where its name comes from — Špindlerův Mlýn means "Spindler's Mill." Mining and logging supported the settlement for centuries, and most of the surrounding peaks and valleys were protected in 1963 with the creation of Krkonošský národní park, which shaped the resort's growth by limiting new building to the existing valley floor.

Medvědín has an unusual industrial past of its own — the mountain was mined for uranium ore before skiing became its main use — and higher up, the brutalist Labská bouda hotel, built in 1975 near the source of the Elbe, is a striking reminder of the Communist-era push to develop the region for mountain tourism.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for the Czech Republic at a glance:

CURRENCY
CZK Kč

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

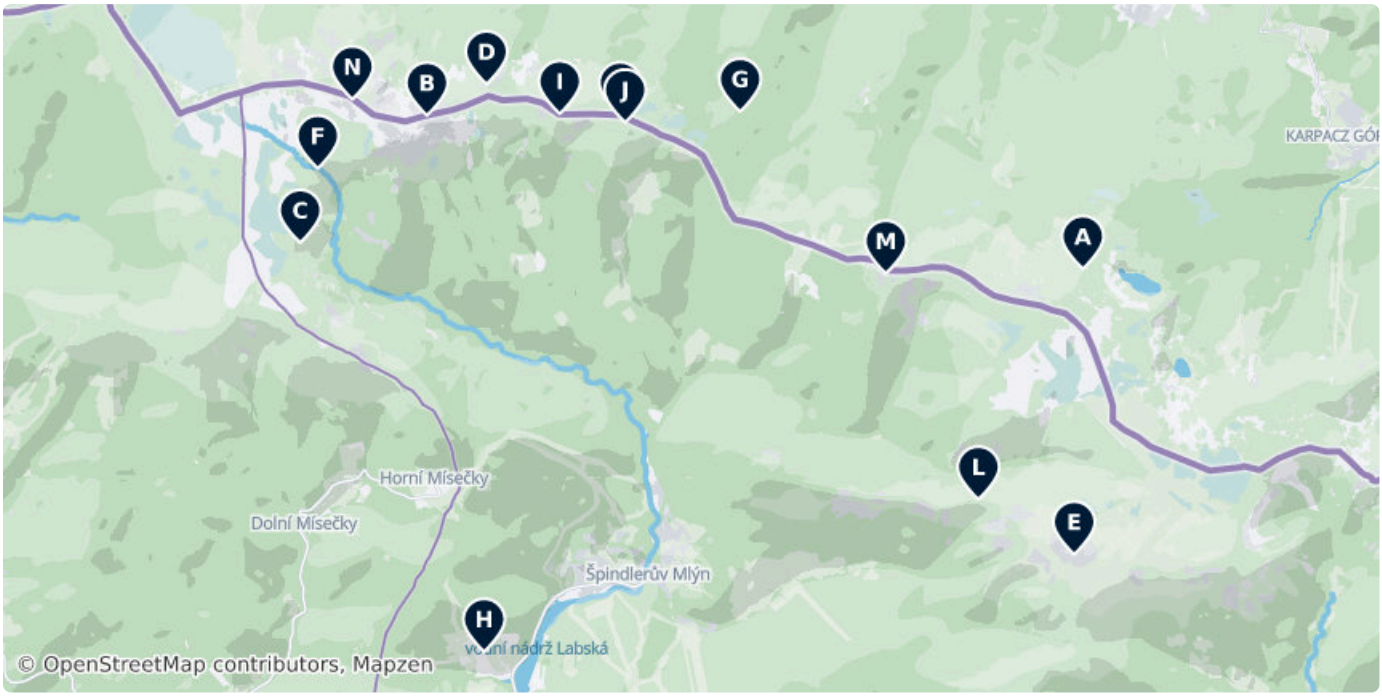
Type C / Type E
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
Czech

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Mountain Peaks & Views

This collection features prominent mountain peaks, distinctive granite rock formations, and elevated viewpoints in the Krkonoše region along the Czech-Polish border. Highlights include twin peaks Czeskie Kamienie and Śląskie Kamienie, the granite Słonecznik formation, and the scenic Labský vodopád waterfall, all offering insight into the area's geological and natural heritage.





A Slonecznik

Granite rock formation located in the eastern part of the Silesian Ridge in the Krkonoše mountains.

(50.75972, 15.68335)



B Wielki Szyszak

Wielki Szyszak is a mountain on the border between the Czech Republic and Poland.

(50.77680, 15.56786)

dolny-slask.org.pl/519310,Wielki_Szyszak_1509_m_npm.h...



C Ambrožova vyhlídka

Elevated viewpoint offering panoramic views within the Krkonoše National Park.

54351, Czech Republic (50.76262, 15.54553)



D Śmielec

Śmielec is a mountain peak situated in the western part of Karkonosze on Polish and Czech border within the Karkonosze National Park.

58-573, Poland (50.78028, 15.57833)



E Luční hora

Luční hora, is the cumulonimbus mountain located in the Krkonoše mountains about 5.5 km northwest of the town Pec pod Sněžkou and 4 km east...

54351, Czech Republic (50.72792, 15.68182)



F Labský vodopád

Waterfall on the Elbe River originating in the Krkonoše mountains.

54351, Czech Republic (50.77090, 15.54862)

G Strzygi

Natural rock formation within the Krkonoše mountain range.

(50.77723, 15.62301)

H Zvonička na Labské

Observation tower located near the Labská area.

(50.71710, 15.57794)

I Czeskie Kamienie

Czeskie Kamienie or Mužské kameny, 1,416 metres and Śląskie Kamienie or Dívčí kameny, 1,413 metres is a twin peak and a rock formation in...

54351, Czech Republic (50.77698, 15.59124)

J Śląskie Kamienie

Viewpoint adjacent to twin peaks in the Krkonoše mountains.

(50.77602, 15.60278)

K Czeskie Kamienie

Czeskie Kamienie or Mužské kameny, 1,416 metres and Śląskie Kamienie or Dívčí kameny, 1,413 metres is a twin peak and a rock formation in...

54351, Czech Republic (50.77685, 15.60187)



L Krakonoš

Mountain reaching 1,422 meters, part of the Kozí hřbety ridge in Krkonoše.

(50.73405, 15.66498)



M Mały Szyszak

Mały Szyszak is a mountain on the border between the Czech Republic and Poland.

54351, Czech Republic (50.75921, 15.64868)



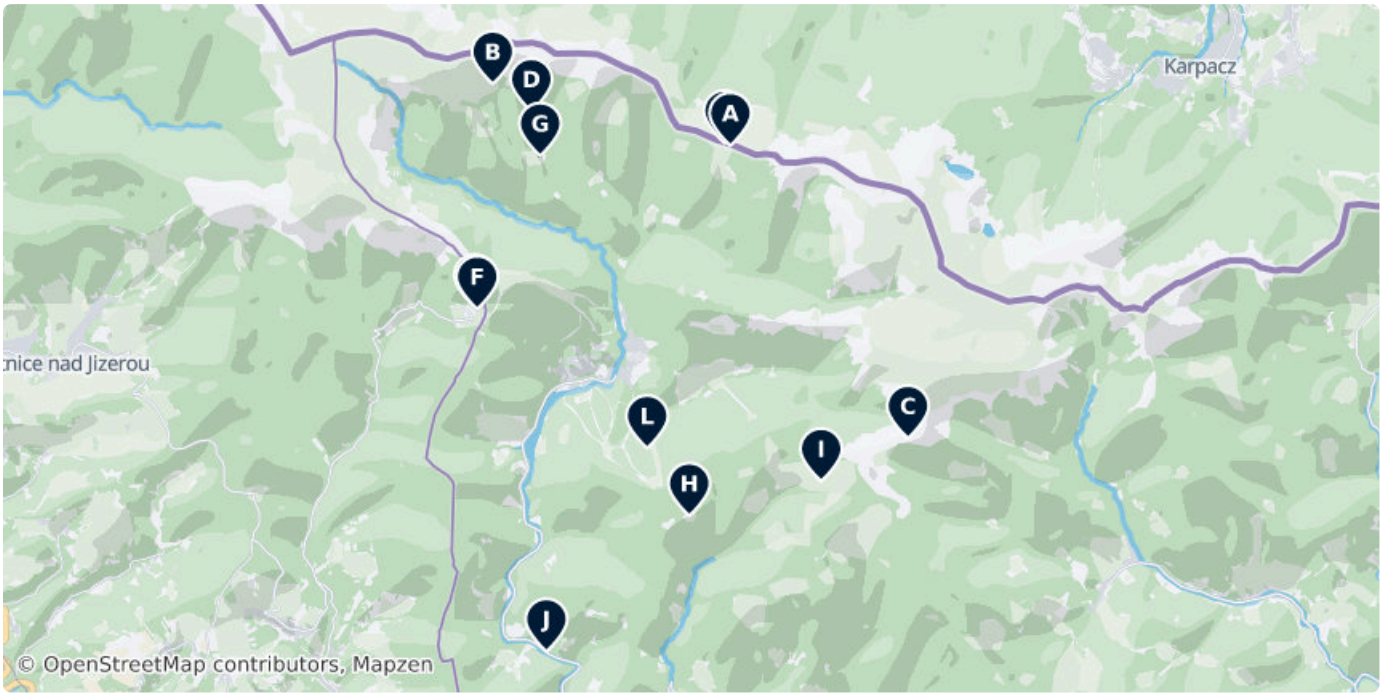
N Vysoká pláň

Highland plateau on the western Silesian Ridge of the Krkonoše mountains.

54351, Czech Republic (50.77861, 15.55472)

Alpine Huts & Mountain Lodges

This collection features twelve alpine huts and mountain lodges in the Krkonoše mountains, many with origins as historic mining lodges. Visitors can experience regional cuisine, free internet access at select locations, and mountain shelters positioned at various elevations, offering authentic cultural and natural settings.





A Hotel Špindlerova bouda

A mountain hotel tracing its origins to a former mining lodge.

Karkonoska Przełęcz, 58-563 Przesieka, Poland (50.76221, 15.63542)

spindlerovabouda.cz, +420 499 329 200



B Martinova bouda

Private mountain hotel located centrally in the Riesengebirge, originally a mining lodge, offering free Wi-Fi and a smoking area.

29, 54351 Špindlerův Mlýn, CZ (50.77206, 15.57534)

Mo–Su 11:00–17:00

martinovka.cz, +420 499 422 235



C Výrovka

Mountain hut situated at 1363 m elevation between Luční hora and Zadní Planina.

(50.71540, 15.68033)

vyrovka-krkonose.cz

D Brádlerovy boudy

Traditional alpine hut in the Krkonoše mountains.

87, 54351, Czech Republic (50.76767, 15.58511)

E Novomísečná bouda

Alpine hut located in the Krkonoše range.

195, Horní Mísečky 51238, Czech Republic (50.73636, 15.57086)

F Staromísečná bouda

Alpine hut located in the Krkonoše range.

141, 51238, Czech Republic (50.73608, 15.57140)

G Medvědí bouda

Alpine hut featuring free internet access and residential facilities.

84, 54351 Špindlerův Mlýn, CZ (50.76056, 15.58732)

medvedibouda.cz, +420 499 421751

H Chata na Pláni

Mountain hut at 1180 m elevation on the summit of Přední Planina, serving regional cuisine and fast food.

54351, Czech Republic (50.70300, 15.62505)

I Nová Klínovka

Alpine hut in the Krkonoše mountains.

Přední Labská 86, 543 51 (50.70854, 15.65840)

klinovka.cz, +420731848487;+420499422280

J Špindlerův Mlýn, Volský Důl

Bus stop shelter in Špindlerův Mlýn, Volský Důl.

(50.68126, 15.58892)

K Špindlerova bouda

Public transport bus stop shelter named Špindlerova bouda.

293, 54351, Czech Republic (50.76261, 15.63397)

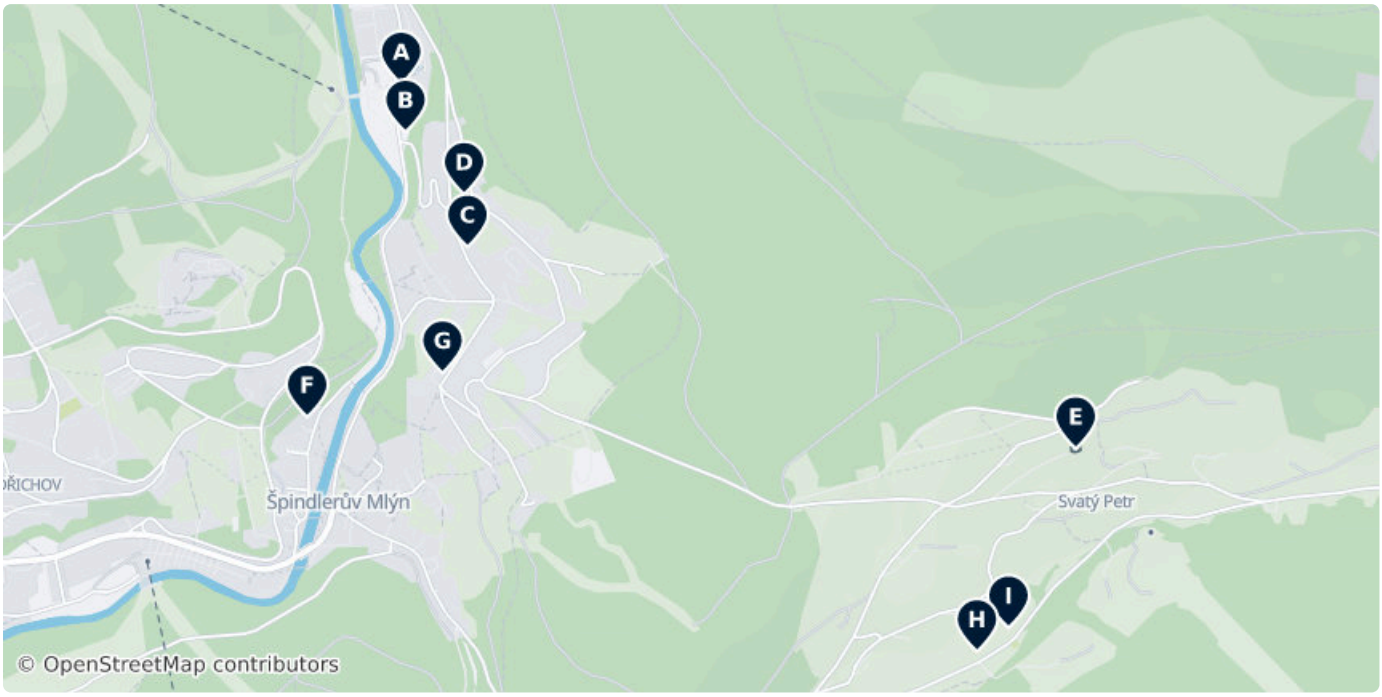
L innogy line Svatý Petr

Heated chair lift station known as innogy line Svatý Petr with a weather bubble.

54351, Czech Republic (50.71382, 15.61440)

Distinctive Stays

This selection features nine accommodations in Špindlerův Mlýn, ranging from hotels and hostels to chalets and a water park hotel. Highlights include lodging options with regional cuisine, Wi-Fi availability, and proximity to recreational facilities, reflecting a blend of cultural and leisure amenities.



A Aquapark Hotel Reception

Integrated water park facility combined with hotel reception services.

301 Špindlerovská, Špindlerův Mlýn 54351, Czech Republic
(50.73404, 15.60875)

aquaparkspindl.cz

B Diana

Regional restaurant serving local cuisine within a hotel setting.

(50.73307, 15.60889)

C Happy House

Mountain chalet offering rustic lodging accommodations.

(50.73077, 15.61085)

D Pestalozza

Hostel providing budget-friendly accommodations in Špindlerův Mlýn.

(50.73183, 15.61074)

E Pension Slunečnice

Standard hotel accommodations in the area.

(50.72673, 15.63012)

slunecnice.svpetr.cz

F Soyka

Hotel featuring Wi-Fi connectivity for guests.

(50.72736, 15.60577)

hotelsoyka.astenhotels.com/en, +420 603 199 151

G Felicity Hotel Sněžka

Hotel with Wi-Fi and central location near local attractions.

(50.72825, 15.61006)

felicity.cz/cz/

H Martin

(50.72267, 15.62699)

martin-kristyna.cz

I Kristyna

(50.72314, 15.62799)

martin-kristyna.cz

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