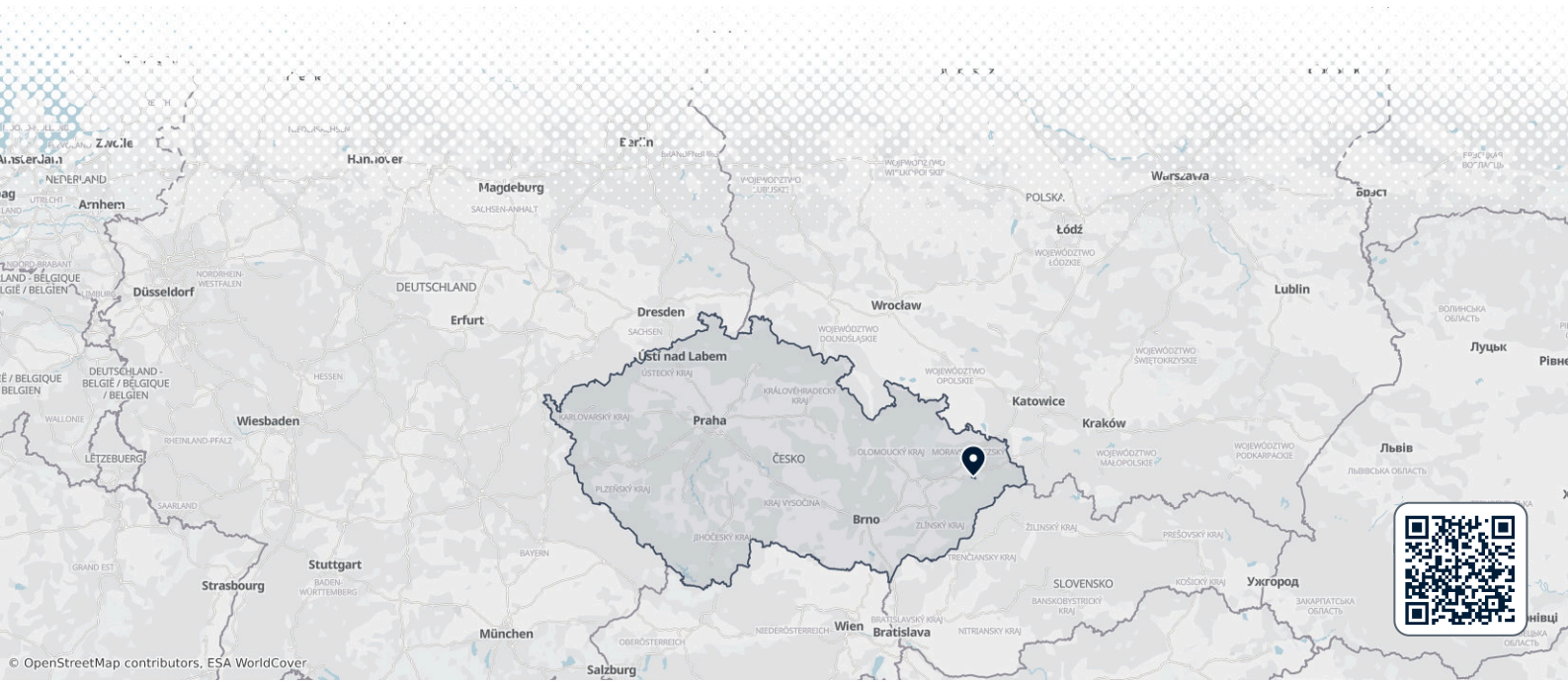


Štramberk

Nový Jičín District · Czech Republic

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Štramberk is a small hill town in North-East Moravia, at the foot of the Beskydy mountains. Wooden houses climb the slopes of a limestone valley below a round castle tower. Because of this setting, people call it the "Moravian Bethlehem". The historic centre is protected as an urban heritage reservation.

The town is best known for its castle tower, a cave with Neanderthal finds, and a spiced gingerbread called Štramberk ears. It suits a relaxed day or a weekend of short walks, viewpoints and local sweets. The painter *Zdeněk Burian*, famous for his pictures of prehistoric life, is closely linked with the town.

When to visit

Late spring to early autumn is the best time. Summers are mild and good for walking, but expect some rain. Winters are cold with regular snow, and the snowy town looks like a Christmas nativity scene.

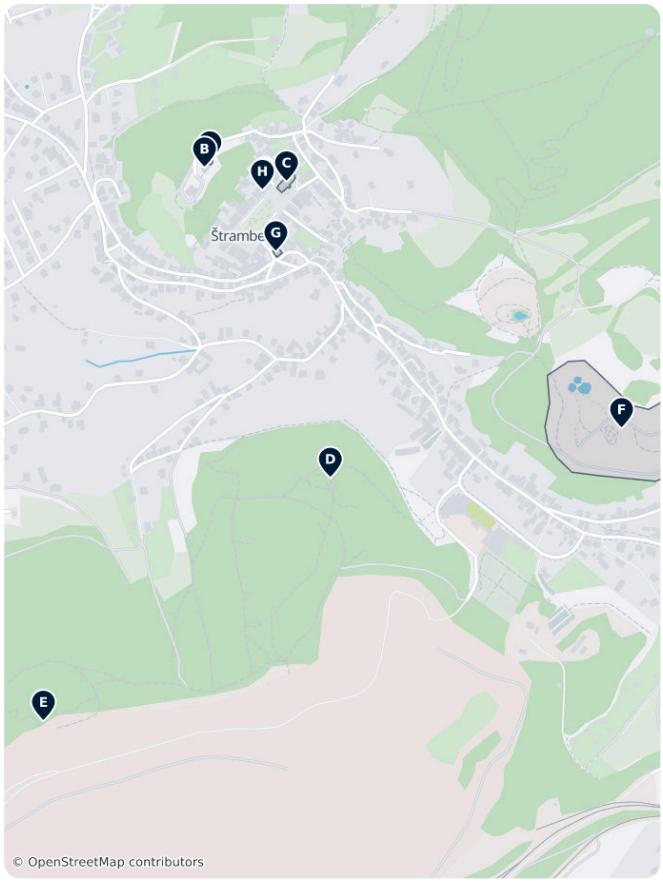
The main annual event is the **Štramberk Ears Festival** (Slavnosti Štramberských uší), held on the town square in spring. Bakers make the famous gingerbread in front of visitors, and there is music and a show about the town's legend.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	-1° / 6° Feels like -6°	-7° / -16°	12 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	2° / 9° Feels like -4°	-5° / -16°	Dry air
March	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 15° Feels like 2°	-2° / -10°	12 rainy days · Dry air
April	Good Good for hiking	13° / 21° Feels like 9°	3° / -4°	Dry air
May	Good Good for sightseeing	18° / 24°	7° / 2°	15 rainy days · Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 28°	12° / 6°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	24° / 31°	13° / 9°	16 rainy days · Calm winds
August	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 31°	13° / 8°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
September	Good Good for sightseeing	19° / 27°	9° / 3°	Dry air
October	Good Good for hiking	13° / 21° Feels like 9°	4° / -2°	Dry air
November	Poor Poor for sightseeing	6° / 14° Feels like 2°	0° / -6°	Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	0° / 6° Feels like -5°	-5° / -14°	Dry air

Best months: June, August

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

Top sights



- A Štramberk Castle Tower is the symbol of the town. This round Gothic tower is the main surviving part of a medieval castle. It became a lookout tower in the early 20th century, and the top gives wide views over the Beskydy foothills.
- B Jaroňka Shelter is a timber-framed chalet at the foot of the tower. It has a painted folk interior, and today it holds the tourist information point and the tower's ticket office.
- C Church of St John of Nepomuk is the Baroque parish church on the main square. It was founded in 1721, and its tower was added only in the early 20th century.
- D Šipka Cave is a karst cave on the slope of Kotouč hill. In 1880 researchers found the jaw of a Neanderthal child here. It is one of the oldest traces of people in the Czech lands.
- E Kotouč is the limestone hill south of the town. Its wooded slopes hold the National Garden park, with memorials, caves and viewpoints. A large active quarry has cut away part of the hill.
- F Botanic Garden and Arboretum fills a former limestone quarry. It has a stone labyrinth, a small wetland and plants that grow on limestone.
- G Muzeum Šipka on the square shows the finds from the Šipka cave and the history of the town.
- H Muzeum Zdeňka Buriana displays the painter's scenes of prehistoric life and adventure books. **The building is closed for renovation in 2026**, so check before you go.

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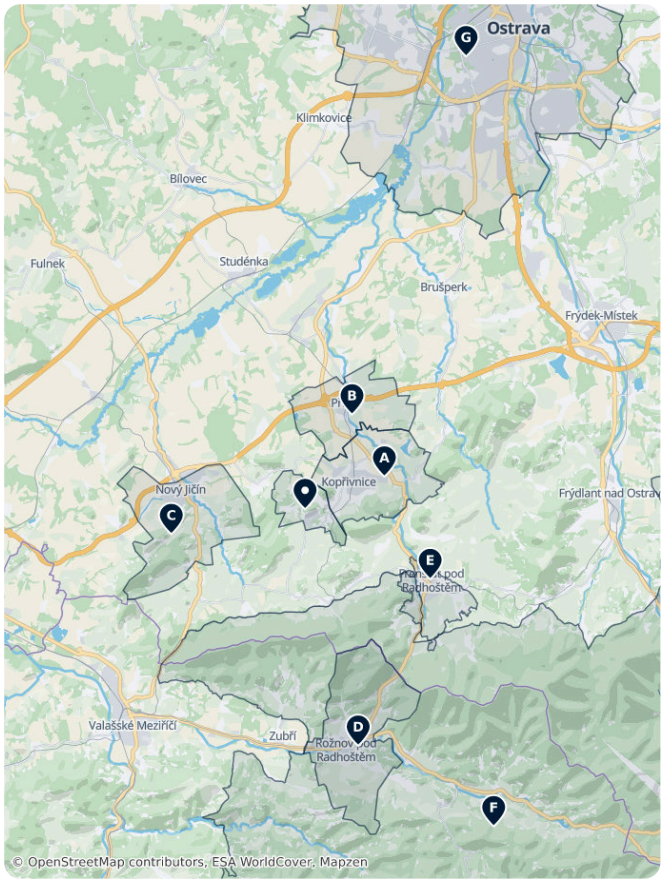
What to experience

The best moments in Štramberk are small and local:

- **Watch the ears being baked**: Several licensed bakeries make Štramberk ears by hand. At some shops you can see the dough rolled into cones, and the spring festival has public baking.
- **Climb the tower at sunset**: The views from Štramberk Castle Tower are best in the evening light, when the wooden roofs below turn gold.
- **Walk the National Garden trail**: A short nature trail climbs Kotouč past memorials, caves and viewpoints above the rooftops.
- **Advent in the Moravian Bethlehem**: Before Christmas, the town lights its Christmas tree and holds an Advent fair on the square. On a snowy evening, the town matches its nickname.

Day trips

Štramberk sits among several interesting towns, and most are less than an hour away.



- A Kopřivnice — about 10 minutes by car or train. The Tatra car factory town has a large technical museum of Tatra cars and trucks.
- B Příbor — about 20 minutes by car. A small town with a pretty square and the birthplace of *Sigmund Freud*.
- **Hukvaldy** — about 25 minutes by car. Walk up to large castle ruins through a game park, and visit the birthplace of the composer *Leoš Janáček*.
- C Nový Jičín — about 25 minutes by car. Its square is lined with arcades, and the chateau has a hat museum.
- D Rožnov pod Radhoštěm — about 30 minutes by car. The Wallachian Open-Air Museum shows wooden houses, a mill and village life of the region.
- E Frenštát pod Radhoštěm and the F Beskydy Protected Landscape Area — about 20 minutes to the town, then up to the Pustevny ridge and Radhošť mountain for hiking and wooden mountain chalets.
- G Ostrava — about 1 hour by direct train. The former steel city has the huge Dolní Vítkovice industrial complex.

Where to explore

Štramberk lies in the hilly area between the Odra valley and the Beskydy mountains. These nearby destinations have their own guides:

- **Next door**: Kopřivnice and Příbor are the closest towns, each with its own museums.
- **Regional centre**: Nový Jičín is the district town, with a historic square.
- **Into the mountains**: Frenštát pod Radhoštěm, Rožnov pod Radhoštěm and the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area are the base for hiking and Wallachian folk culture.
- **Big city**: Ostrava is the regional capital and main transport hub.

Getting there

- **By air**: The closest airport is Leoš Janáček Airport Ostrava, about 20 minutes by car, but it has only a few scheduled flights. Most international visitors arrive at Prague, Vienna or Kraków and continue by train or car.
- **By train**: Direct regional trains run about every hour from Ostrava to Štramberk via Studénka and Kopřivnice; the ride takes about 1 hour. From Prague, take a fast train to Ostrava or Studénka and change there. Plan trips on Czech Railways.
- **By bus**: Regional buses link Štramberk with Kopřivnice, Nový Jičín and Frenštát pod Radhoštěm. Check times on IDOS journey planner.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The centre, the tower, the cave and the National Garden are all within a 15-minute walk. The streets and paths are steep, so wear good shoes.
- **Local transport**: There is no town transit. Trains and buses belong to the regional ODIS system. Buy a ticket in the ODISapka app, from the bus driver, or on the train. See ODIS for fares.
- **Cycling**: Marked cycle routes connect nearby towns, but the hills around the town are steep.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The old town, tower, cave and National Garden are all within a short walk, but the streets and paths are steep.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Cycle routes link nearby towns, but the hills around the town are steep.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Not for the town itself, which is small and walkable. A car helps if you want to visit several nearby towns and the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area in one day.
- **Parking**: Use the paid car parks at the edge of the centre. The lanes in the old town are narrow and steep, with very little space to park.

Food & drink

The town's famous speciality is **Štramberk ears** (Štramberské uši). These are cones of honey gingerbread with spices, often served filled with whipped cream. The recipe has EU protected status, and only licensed local bakers may use the name. Buy them fresh at bakeries around the square.

Local food is hearty, with potato dishes, sauerkraut and plum brandy from the Beskydy foothills. Most restaurants and cafés sit on the main square and in the lanes just below it.

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

Štramberk is a very safe small town, and crime against visitors is rare. The main risk is a fall: the paths to the tower and the cave are steep and can be slippery after rain or in winter. Stay on marked paths near the Kotouč quarry, which is still in use.

History

People lived on this site long before the town. Neanderthals used the Šipka Cave in the Stone Age, and later a hillfort stood on Kotouč.

Local legend says that in 1241 the townspeople hid on Kotouč from Tatar raiders. A storm on the eve of Ascension Day broke a dam and flooded the enemy camp. The fleeing raiders left behind sacks of cut-off ears, and the town began to bake gingerbread ears to remember the victory.

A castle stood on the hill by the late 13th century, and its round tower survives today as Štramberk Castle Tower. In 1359 Margrave *John Henry* of Moravia gave Štramberk the rights of a town. The Jesuits owned the town from 1624, and they left a Baroque mark on the square, including Church of St John of Nepomuk. The railway arrived in 1881. Limestone quarrying on Kotouč grew into a large industry, while the wooden old town stayed almost unchanged.

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

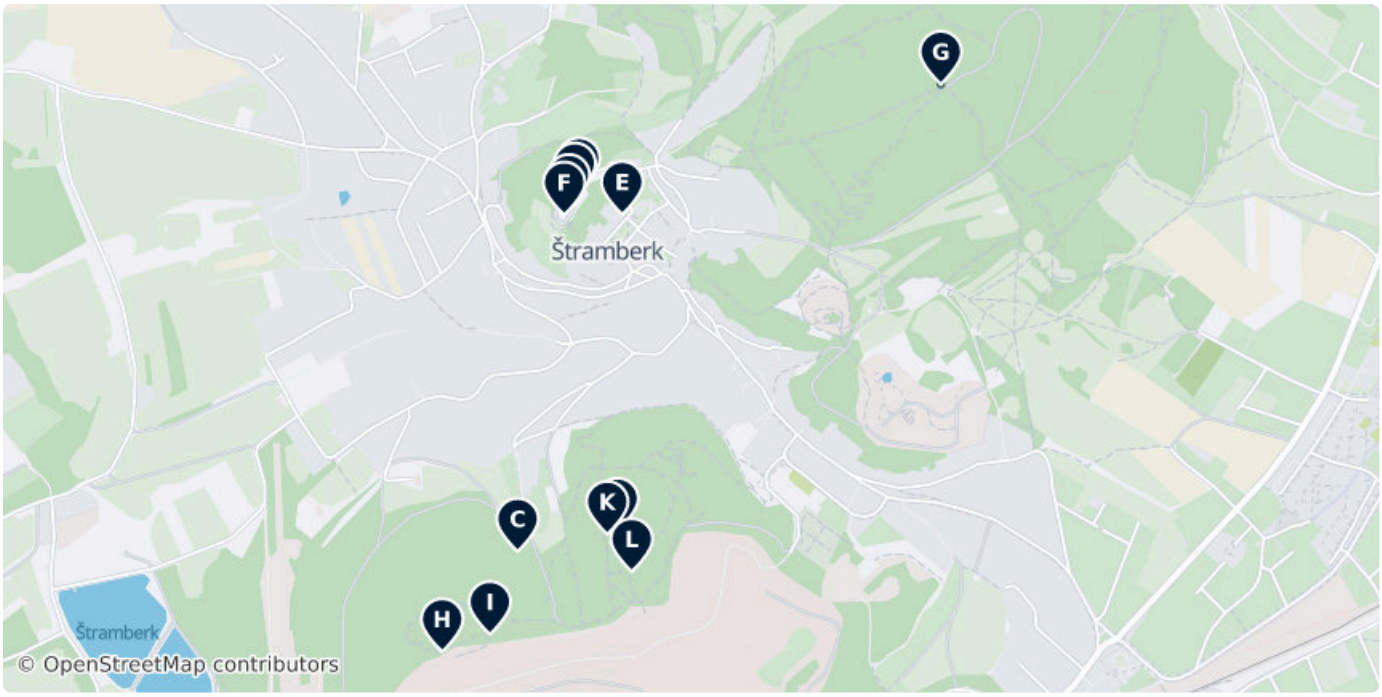
Czech

TAP WATER

Safe to drink

Ctramberk's Essential Treasures

Štramberk is defined by its 14th-century Gothic castle tower, the Štramberská trúba, and the surrounding timber architecture of the Wallachian region. The area is historically significant for the Šipka Cave, where Neanderthal remains were discovered, and the Museum of Zdeněk Burian, honoring the famed illustrator of prehistoric life. The nearby Bílá hora lookout offers views of the Beskydy Mountains, while the Kotouč hill preserves traces of ancient prehistoric settlements.





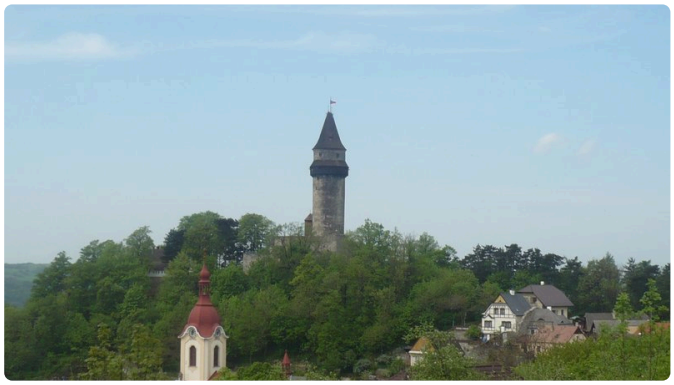
A Štramberk Castle Tower

A 40-meter tall cylindrical Gothic tower from the 14th century, adapted into a lookout point in 1903.

77 Jaroňkova, Štramberk 74266, Czech Republic (49.59236, 18.11625)

Apr Tu–Su	09:00–12:00, 12:30–17:00
May Tu–Su	09:00–12:00, 12:30–18:00
Jul-Aug Mo–Su	09:00–12:00, 12:30–18:00
Mar Sa–Su	09:00–12:00, 12:30–16:00
Jan Mo–Su	Closed

+420731134125



B Stramberk Castle

This small Gothic castle with a 40 m tall Gothic tower makes for an epic panorama. The town below is also worth a visit.

Jaroňkova 136, 742 66 Nový Jičín (49.59205, 18.11596)

stramberskatruba.cz

C Šipka

Karst cave and nature reserve famous for the 1880 discovery of a Neanderthal child's jawbone.

74266, Czech Republic (49.58580, 18.11452)

wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/EEA:Nationally_designated_...



D Jaroňka Shelter

Historic wooden shelter and gallery situated near the castle tower, featuring architecture inspired by regional folk styles.

77 Jaroňkova, Štramberk 74266, Czech Republic (49.59226, 18.11613)



E Zdeněk Burian Museum

Museum dedicated to the Štramberk-born illustrator known for his scientific reconstructions of prehistoric life and animals.

31 Náměstí, Štramberk 74266, Czech Republic (49.59193, 18.11746)

May-Sep Tu–Su	09:00–12:00, 13:00–17:00
Oct-Apr Tu–Sa	09:00–12:00, 13:00–16:00
Oct-Apr Su	10:00–12:00, 13:00–16:00
Jul-Aug Mo	09:00–12:00, 13:00–17:00

zdenekburian.cz, +420558840619

F Chata doktora Hrstky

Mountain chalet and restaurant built in 1925, named after Adolf Hrstka, a local physician and tourism pioneer.

136 Jaroňkova, Štramberk 74266, Czech Republic (49.59192, 18.11583)

G White Mountain Viewing Tower

Modern 43-meter tall observation tower designed in the shape of a DNA helix, providing views of the Beskydy Mountains.

74221, Czech Republic (49.59430, 18.12640)

Tu–Su 09:00–18:00

rozhledna-bila-hora.cz



H Kotouč Hill

Peak and former archaeological site known for limestone quarrying and findings of ancient artifacts.

74266, Czech Republic (49.58397, 18.11240)

I Hradiště Kotouč

Site of a prehistoric fortified settlement with archaeological findings dating back to the Bronze Age.

(49.58429, 18.11374)

J Jurův kámen

Limestone cliff and site of a former small medieval castle located near the Šipka cave.

74266, Czech Republic (49.58617, 18.11733)

K Bratru Janu Čapkovi

Stone memorial dedicated to Jan Čapek.

(49.58611, 18.11704)

L Bedřich Smetana

Memorial dedicated to the prominent Czech composer Bedřich Smetana.

(49.58543, 18.11773)

DATA SOURCES

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