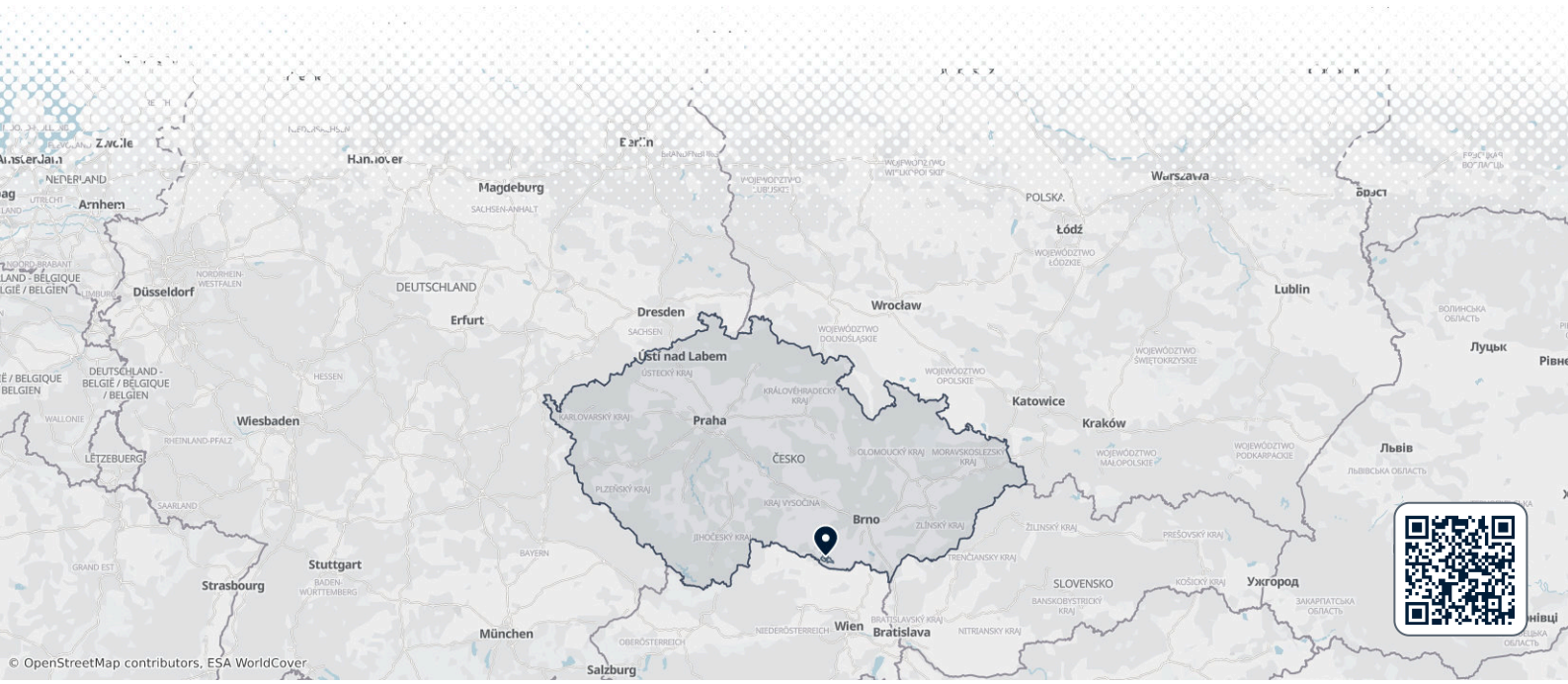


Znojmo

South Moravian Region · Czech Republic

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Znojmo sits on a rocky bluff above the Dyje river, on the border with Austria. The old town's medieval streets, church towers, and a ring of surviving walls look out over a deep river gorge that marks the edge of Podyjí National Park. Below the streets lies one of Europe's largest networks of underground passages, carved through the rock over centuries.

The town is the unofficial capital of Czech wine country. Vineyards cover the hills around it, and Znojmo is also known across the country for its pickled cucumbers, a local specialty since the 19th century. It suits travelers who want a compact historic center, wine tasting, and hiking trails into a river canyon, all within a short walk or drive of each other.

When to visit

Spring and autumn are mild and pleasant for walking the old town and the vineyards. Summer gets warm and dry, good for outdoor cafes and river trails. Winter is cold, with a small Christmas market on the main square.

Time a visit for the Znojmo Historical Wine Festival in mid-September, one of the largest wine and folklore festivals in the Czech Republic. It fills the old town with a costumed parade, music, and open-air wine tasting.

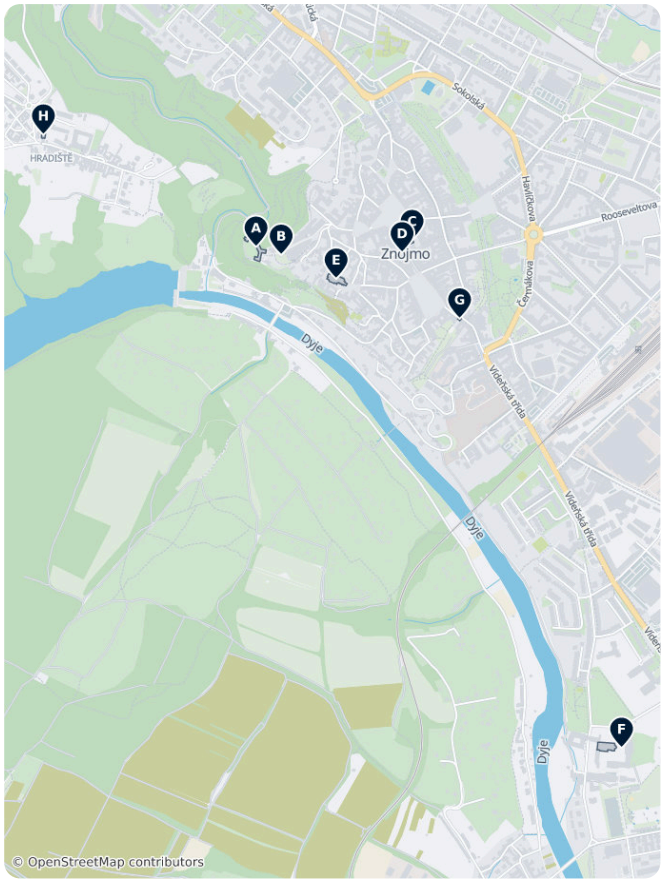
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	1° / 9° Feels like -5°	-5° / -14°	Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	4° / 12° Feels like -2°	-4° / -14°	Dry air
March	Fair Fair for cycling	9° / 18° Feels like 4°	-1° / -7°	Dry air
April	Good Good for cycling	15° / 23° Feels like 11°	4° / -3°	Dry air
May	Good Good for sightseeing	20° / 27° Feels like 17°	9° / 3°	13 rainy days · Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 31°	13° / 8°	13 rainy days · Dry air
July	Great Great for sightseeing	26° / 33°	15° / 10°	14 rainy days
August	Great Great for sightseeing	26° / 34°	15° / 10°	
September	Great Great for sightseeing	21° / 28°	10° / 5°	Dry air
October	Great Great for cycling	15° / 22° Feels like 11°	5° / -1°	Dry air
November	Poor Poor for sightseeing	8° / 15° Feels like 3°	1° / -5°	Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	2° / 8° Feels like -3°	-4° / -12°	Dry air

Best months: June, July, August, September

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

Summer afternoons get hot quickly, and evenings cool fast near the river; winter nights are reliably below freezing, so pack layers even for a short winter trip.

Top sights



A Znojmo Castle rises above the Dyje river on the site of a stronghold first fortified in the 11th century, later rebuilt in Baroque style. Its rooms now hold the Znojmo Museum, with exhibits on the town's history and regional art.

Inside the castle grounds, B Rotunda of Saint Catherine is a small Romanesque chapel from the 11th century. Its interior holds one of the oldest fresco cycles in the Czech lands, painted to honor the ruling Přemyslid dynasty.

Below the streets, C Znojmo Underground is a network of medieval cellars and corridors stretching nearly 27 kilometers. Guided routes lead through storage vaults, a historic water system, and a Cold War-era shelter.

At 66.5 meters, D Radniční věž is the tallest structure in the old town. Climb the spiral stairs to a gallery with panoramic views over the rooftops and the river gorge.

E sv. Mikuláš is a late Gothic parish church built around 1500. Inside, look for the Gothic frescoes and a Baroque pulpit carved in the shape of a globe.

Just outside the center, F Loucký klášter is a Premonstratensian monastery founded in 1190. Today it houses the Znovín Znojmo winery, with a wine museum, tasting room, and a Baroque basilica open to visitors.

G Vlkova věž is a 13th-century tower that once guarded the town's southern gate toward Vienna. It now doubles as a viewpoint and a small wine information center.

On a hilltop northeast of town, H Hradiště sv. Hypolita preserves the remains of a Great Moravian hillfort and an 11th-century church. A small museum and a short trail cover the site's archaeology.

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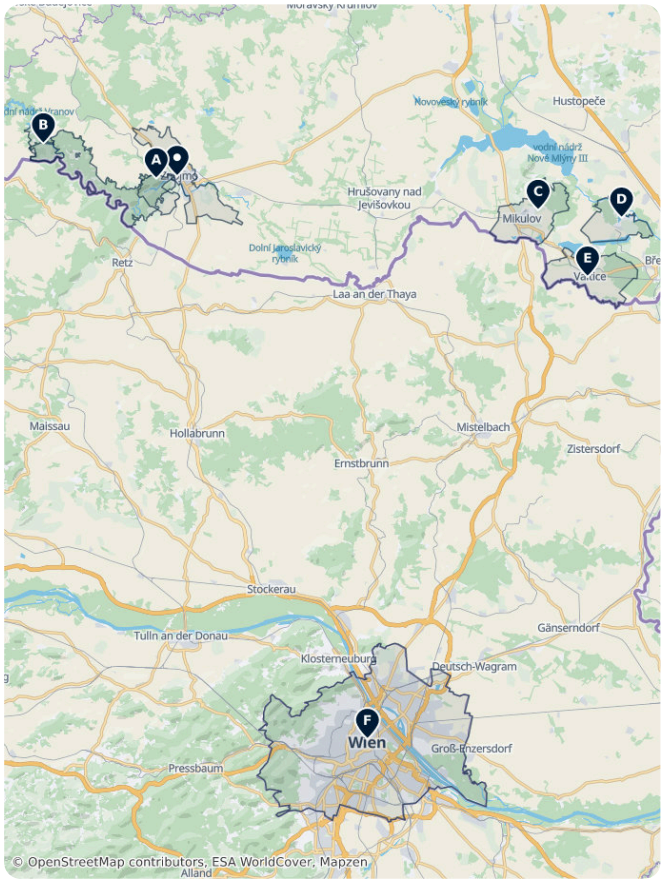
What to experience

Znojmo's rituals are tied to its identity as a wine and cucumber town.

- Taste burčák, the year's young, still-fermenting wine, straight from a cellar during the grape harvest in September and October.
- Browse the wooden barrels of pickled cucumbers sold at stalls on the main square, a local specialty and a point of civic pride since the 19th century.
- During the Znojmo Historical Wine Festival in September, join the crowds watching the costumed procession that reenacts scenes from the town's medieval history.

Day trips

Znojmo sits close to the Austrian border, in the middle of the country's best-known wine region. These destinations make good day trips by car, bus, or train.



- A Podyjí National Park (10-15 min by car or bike): trails follow the Dyje river through a deep, forested canyon with viewpoints over the water. Some trailheads start at the edge of town.
- B Vranov nad Dyjí (about 30 min by car or bus): a small village below a dramatic chateau perched on a rock above a reservoir on the Dyje river.
- C Mikulov (about 45 min by car or bus): a wine town below its own hilltop chateau, with a well-preserved Jewish quarter and cellar tastings.
- D Lednice and E Valtice (about 1 hour by car): twin towns at the heart of a UNESCO World Heritage cultural landscape, with two grand chateaux linked by parkland and cycling paths.
- F Vienna, Austria (about 1 hour by car, or by train): a full day of museums, palaces, and coffeehouses just across the border.

Where to explore

Brno is the region's capital, with a wider mix of museums, nightlife, and functionalist architecture that a smaller wine town cannot offer. Mikulov is Znojmo's closest rival for wine tourism, with its own chateau and cellar culture. Podyjí National Park borders the town directly and is the natural extension of any stay here, with hiking trails through the Dyje river canyon.

Getting there

- By air: Vienna International Airport (VIE) in Austria is the nearest major airport, about 90 km away, roughly 1.5 hours by car. Brno-Tuřany Airport (BRQ) is closer but has only limited seasonal flights, and Prague's airport is about 2.5 hours away by car.
- By train: Regional trains connect Znojmo directly to Brno (about 1.5 hours), with onward connections to Prague, and across the border to Vienna on the ÖBB regional line (about 1.5-2 hours).
- By bus: Long-distance coaches also link Znojmo to Brno, Prague, and Vienna.

Getting around

- The old town is compact, walkable, and hilly near the castle and the gorge — comfortable shoes help on the cobblestones.
- Local buses cover the newer districts and the train station, but most visitors will not need them to see the old town.
- Znojmo sits on the Moravian wine trails, a network of signed cycling routes through the vineyards; bikes can be rented in town for day rides into the countryside.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The old town is compact and easy to explore on foot, though steep lanes near the castle and gorge call for sturdy shoes.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Signed cycling routes through the Moravian wine trails pass through town, popular for exploring nearby vineyards, though the terrain around the gorge is hilly.

Driving

- A car is not needed for the old town itself, which is small and hilly, but it is the easiest way to reach hiking trailheads, nearby vineyards, and smaller villages outside town, where buses run infrequently.
- Paid car parks ring the old town, including one near the castle; the historic core's narrow streets are largely closed to through traffic.
- Czech motorways require an electronic vignette, but the drive from Vienna or Brno to Znojmo uses ordinary roads, so a vignette usually is not needed just to reach the town itself.

Food & drink

Znojmo gave its name to znojemská, a classic Czech dish of pork or beef in a tangy sauce with pickled gherkins, found on menus across the country but born here. The town is also known nationally for its pickled cucumbers, a local specialty sold at market stalls and served as a side dish everywhere.

For wine, look for dry whites from the surrounding vineyards, especially Ryzlink rýnský and Veltlínské zelené. Wine bars and cellars cluster around the main square and the lanes below the castle; many pour local vintages by the glass alongside a plate of cheese or cold cuts.

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

Znojmo is a very safe town for travelers, with a lower crime rate than Prague or Brno. The main risks are ordinary ones: watch personal belongings in crowds during the September wine festival, and take care on steep, cobbled lanes near the castle and the gorge, especially after rain.

History

Long before the medieval town existed, a Great Moravian hillfort stood on the hill now called Hradiště sv. Hypolita, guarding a crossing of the Dyje river. The story of Znojmo itself begins with the Přemyslid margraves, who built a stronghold on the bluff above the river; parts of it survive today inside Znojmo Castle.

In 1134, Duke Konrád II commissioned the frescoes inside Rotunda of Saint Catherine to mark his marriage and to assert his branch of the Přemyslid dynasty's claim to rule. The paintings are one of the oldest surviving fresco cycles in the Czech lands.

As a border town facing Austria, Znojmo built extensive fortifications, including Vlkova věž and the Znojmo Underground beneath the streets, carved out from the late 14th century onward for storage, water supply, and defense. Nearby, the Loucký klášter, founded in 1190, grew into one of the region's most important centers of learning before its later conversion to a winery.

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

Walks

Audio Guides by Tripomatic
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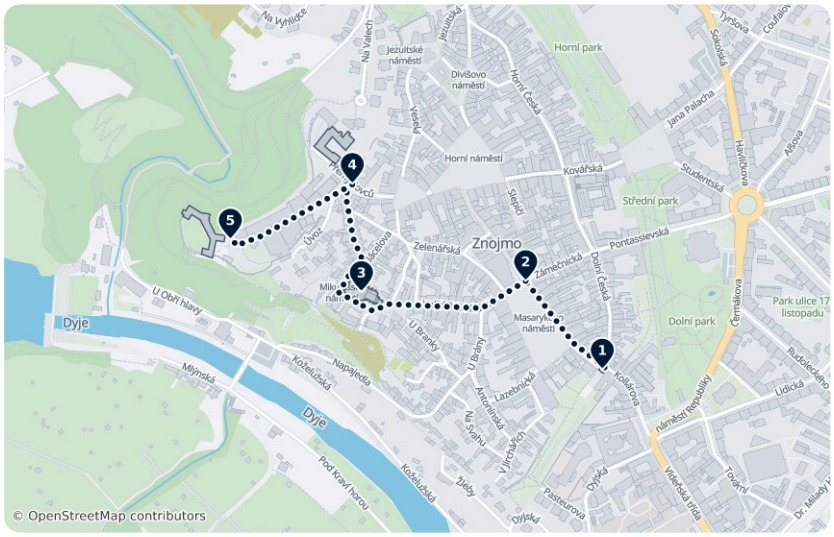
Best of Znojmo

55min · 986 m · 5 stops



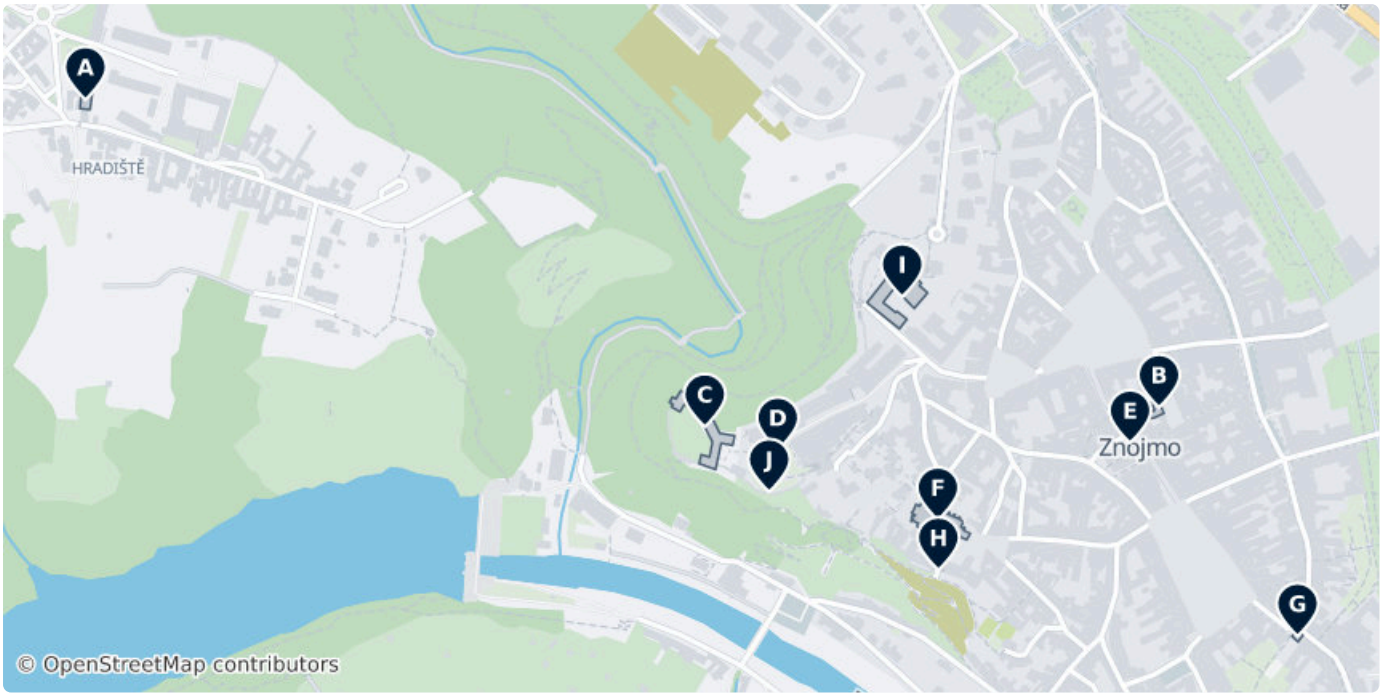
1. Vlkova Tower
2. Masaryk Square and the Town Hall Tower
3. Saint Nicholas' Church and the Karolina Gate
4. The Minorite Monastery
5. Znojmo Castle and Saint Catherine's Rotunda

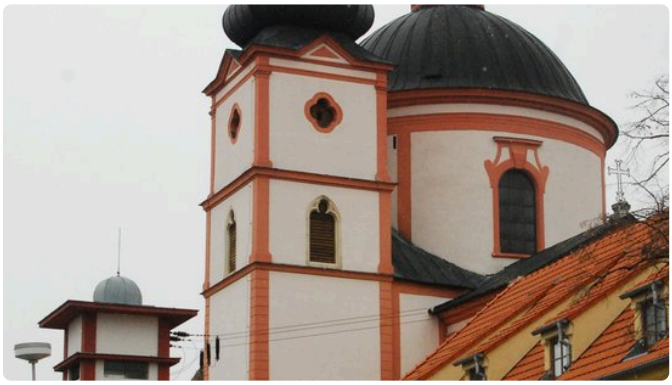
Walk through the compact old town of Znojmo, a medieval royal town on a rocky spur above the Dyje River gorge. The tour starts at Vlkova Tower, a medieval tower on the town walls at the lower corner of Masaryk Square, and climbs the square to the Gothic Town Hall Tower, above the tunnels of the Znojmo Underground. It continues to St Nicholas' Church and the Karolina Gate viewpoint, passes the old Minorite monastery, and ends at the castle and the Romanesque Rotunda of St Catherine. Five stops, about one kilometre, roughly an hour.



Znojmo's Essential Wonders

Znojmo’s landscape is defined by its position on a rocky promontory overlooking the Dyje River. This collection highlights the city's medieval core, featuring one of Central Europe's largest underground passage systems and the 11th-century Romanesque Rotunda of St. Catherine, which houses rare Přemyslid frescoes. The selection includes Gothic landmarks like the 80-meter Town Hall Tower and St. Nicholas Church, alongside defensive structures and former monastic complexes that now serve as museums documenting Moravian history.





A St. Hippolytus Hillfort

Site of a significant Great Moravian fortified settlement dating from the 9th century. The area includes an archaeological museum and the Church of St. Hippolytus, located on a plateau overlooking the Dyje valley.

3072/1 Mašovická, Hradiště 66902, Czech Republic
(48.85886, 16.03318)

znojmoregion.cz/cs/velkomoravska-naucna-stezka



B Znojmo Underground

Extensive medieval underground passages and cellars dating from the late 14th/early 15th century. The system spans nearly 27 kilometers across up to four levels and includes historic water circulation works.

275/2 Slepičí trh, Znojmo 66902, Czech Republic
(48.85584, 16.04923)

Sep-Jun Mo–Su	09:00–12:30, 13:15–17:00
Jul-Aug Mo–Su	09:00–12:30, 13:15–18:00

znojemskabeseda.cz/turismus/znojemske-podzemi



C Znojmo Castle

Historic castle with origins reaching back to the 4th millennium BC that later served as a defensive stronghold, mint and residence of regional margraves. Parts of the complex house the Znojmo Museum with permanent and temporary exhibitions.

84/10 Hradní, Znojmo 66902, Czech Republic
(48.85565, 16.04244)

muzeumznojmo.cz/Znojemsk%C3%BD-h..., +420515282211



D Rotunda of Saint Catherine

The Rotunda of St. Catherine, known as the Znojmo Rotunda, is a Romanesque rotunda located in Znojmo, Czech Republic.

85/5 Hradní, Znojmo 66902, Czech Republic
(48.85542, 16.04353)

muzeumznojmo.cz/en/Exposure/The-Rotunda-of-St-Cath...



E Town Hall Tower

An 80-meter-tall Late Gothic tower built between 1447 and 1448. It features a distinctive multi-tiered roof and an observation gallery offering panoramic views of the city and the Podyjí National Park.

1/12 Obroková, Znojmo 66902, Czech Republic
(48.85549, 16.04880)

znojmocity.cz/radnicni-vez-ve-znojme-se... , +420515222552



F St. Nicholas' Deanery Church

A triple-aisle Late Gothic church founded in 1338. Key features include a unique 18th-century Baroque pulpit shaped like a globe and a high altar decorated with scenes from the life of Saint Nicholas.

13 Mikulášské náměstí, Znojmo 66902, Czech Republic
(48.85473, 16.04592)

Mo–Su 09:00–19:00

farnostznojmo.cz/historie



G Vlkova Tower

A 13th-century Gothic tower that served as a key part of the city's southern fortifications. It currently functions as an observation point and houses a center for local wine tasting.

385/6 Kollárova, Znojmo 66902, Czech Republic (48.85359, 16.05130)

znojmoregion.cz/cs/vlkova-vez



H Karolínina brána

A scenic viewpoint located near the historic city walls, providing perspectives of the Dyje River valley and the surrounding Podyjí National Park landscape.

482/12 Mikulášské náměstí, Znojmo 66902, Czech Republic (48.85424, 16.04593)



I Jihomoravské muzeum; bývalý Minoristský klášter

Located in a former 13th-century Minorite monastery, this museum features Gothic cloisters and Baroque interiors. Permanent exhibitions focus on regional archaeology, history, and the natural sciences of the Znojmo area.

130/6 Přemyslovců, Znojmo 66902, Czech Republic (48.85692, 16.04539)

Mo–Fr	09:00–11:30, 12:00–17:00
Sa–Su	10:00–17:00



J rotunda Sv. Kateřiny

A vantage point offering views of the 11th-century Romanesque rotunda and the historic castle complex set against the Dyje River valley.

83/7 Hradní, Znojmo 66902, Czech Republic (48.85501, 16.04340)

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Route	HERE, GraphHopper

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