



The charm of hidden places

Take your children to places that have previously not been generally accessible. The Slatiňany Château offers the “You Can’t Stop Progress” guided tour, while Pardubice has its château bunker. The cellars of the Potštejn Château are home to the mysterious Bubákov and you can pretend to be a hero at the Polish Międzylesie Castle.



Day 1 – Château treasures

The Slatiňany Château

Some tips for your trips around: Slatiňany, Chrudim, Rekreační lesy Podhůra

The Pardubice Castle

Some tips for your trips around: Pardubice, Ráby, Holice

Day 2 – The mysterious Bubákov

The Potštejn Château

Some tips for your trips around: Zámky na Orlici, Vrbice, Rychnov nad Kněžnou, Žampach

Day 3 – Pretend to be heroes!

The Międzylesie Castle

Some tips for your trips around: Międzygórze

DAY 1:

The Slatiňany Château

www.castlesandpalaces.eu

This cosy aristocratic residence at the foothills of the Iron Mountains is located on the site of an originally Gothic fortress dating from the 13th century which gradually grew into a comfortable princely seat for one of the most prestigious aristocratic house, the House of Auersperg, over the course of the centuries.

The elegantly appointed **château interiors** will take you back to the period when the great horse lover, František Josef von Auersperg, lived there with his family at the beginning of the 20th century.

Be sure to take your children on **the You Can't Stop Progress tour** which will take you to some unconventional and usually inaccessible parts of the château. Another tour of **the château garden** includes the courtyard and the château garden with an area of 9 ha and a collection of foreign tree species, flower beds, a romantic pond, two gazebos, a small chapel and the children's play farm.



This was where the prince's children learnt how to take care of animals, till flower beds, breed poultry, write letters or cook.

Older children may be interested in the Auersperg Summer residence tour. It passes through the social, private and representative rooms, as well as the childhood bedrooms of Princess Charlotte and Prince Vincent and their classroom. The Whole Château tour includes the 16 interiors on the 1st floor and the château's service areas, including the ice room, the kitchen, the crockery washing room and the historic boiler room.

The château also included magnificent stables for race horses during the time of the House of Auersperg. They are now part of the Kladruby National Stud.

The traditional events include the Night of Castles and Châteaux and unconventional château tours.



Some tips for your trips around:

Slatiňany

- The Slatiňany National Stud – Take a guided tour of the stables which have been home to black Kladruber horses for more than 70 years.
- Švýčárna – The Kladruber Horse Museum – The interactive museum offers children the chance to sit on the largest plush horse in the Czech Republic, enjoy sitting in a carriage or view a unique collection of whips, saddles and horse collars.
- The Cat Castle (Kočičí hrádek) – This is a miniature castle that Princess Wilhelmina Auersperg had built for her children at the end of the 19th century.

Chrudim – 4.1 km

- The Museum of Puppet Cultures – The permanent exhibition entitled the Magical World of Puppets includes the famous puppets of Spejbl and Hurvínek created by Jiří Trnka and puppets by Josef Váchal.

The Podhůra Recreational Forests – 2.2 km

- The Podhůra Recreational Forests – A rope park, a climbing wall, a children's playground, an outdoor gymnasium, a cycle park, the Kometa fitness circuit, orienteering and the Bára lookout tower.



Recommended restaurant: Castle Restaurant www.ubytovani-uzamku.cz



Recommended accommodation: Castle Pension www.ubytovani-uzamku.cz

DAY 1:

The Pardubice Castle

www.castlesandpalaces.eu

The **Pardubice Castle** is considered unique in Europe due to its area and appearance. This rarest treasure of early renaissance architecture is located in the very heart of Pardubice, behind **massive protective ramparts**.

You and your children can also go into the **secret bunker** there. You will see for yourself how people could communicate with their environs from the bunker, how the diesel generator produced electricity and what it took to manually keep the air filtration system running.

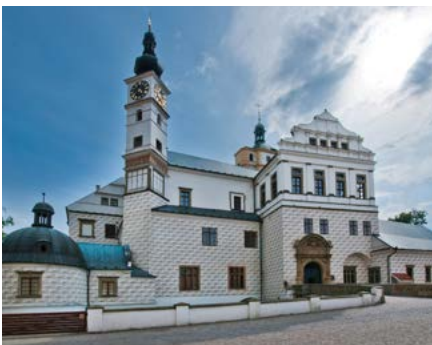
The ramparts not only offer relaxation zones with views of the centre of the city, but also various types of castle animals, especially peacocks, a quail aviary and a goat pen.

The château treasure hunt will help children enjoy **the castle exterior**. You can pick up a map from the ticket booth.

Young scientists will be attracted by the **Against the Flow of Time** archaeological exhibition that mainly presents the prehistoric and early medieval development of the Pardubice area. The exhibition is not only about findings. You can also see models of prehistoric settlements or a crouched skeleton corpse from the early bronze period.

Parents at the castle are bound to be fascinated by the **new S.K.L.E.M.** exhibition which bears the name the World of Beauty, Lightness, Elegance and Magic according to Ivo Křen. You can be sure that Pardubice's collection of modern Czech glass is highly respected at home and abroad both for the number and the quality of its exhibits.

The Pardubice Castle also offers the entire family entertainment at a wide **range of events**, such as the Pernštejn Love theatre festival, the shooting of the Pernštejn canons or the Zámkohraní event.



Some tips for your trips around:

Pardubice

- Na Špici Park – Are you looking for an exceptional place for active or passive relaxation that is just a short walk from the centre of Pardubice? Come to Na Špici Park for a walk, with your dog or for sport!

Ráby – 8.1 km

- The Kunětická hora Castle – Take the pleasant walk that the castle's exterior area offers all year round. There is a game park with Czech forest animals (fallow deer, mouflons), domestic animals (goats, sheep, donkeys and ponies) and a children's playground directly beneath the castle.
- The Gingerbread Kingdom – Who is eating my house? Do you

know the real story of Hansel and Gretel and the witch? All will be revealed in the Gingerbread House near the Kunětická hora Castle.

- The Ranch under Kuňka (Ranč pod Kuňkou) – Come and ride a horse or bring your children to see all the animals that live at the ranch. Goats, donkeys, rabbits, Monty the marten and Dixie the fox are all waiting for you.

Holice – 18.8 km

- The African Museum of Dr. Emil Holub – Touch Africa! Try out some of the interactive components in the exhibits when exploring this museum in Holice. For example, look in the secret boxes that contain remarkable African items.



Recommended restaurant:

Restaurant Nejen Dvorek www.nejendvorek.cz, Bohémská hospoda www.restauraceboheme.cz, Restaurant Na Staré Rybárně www.nastarerybarne.cz



Recommended accommodation:

Hotel 100 www.hotel100.cz, Pension Hacienda Ranchero www.haciendaranchero.cz, Pension Birdie www.birdie.cz

DAY 2:

Potštejn Château

www.castlesandpalaces.eu

Would you like to travel back in time with your children? We suggest you visit the late Baroque **Potštejn Château**, which was built in the mid-18th century under Jan Ludvík Harbuval Chamaré.

It is an ideal spot for both kids and adults. In addition to the **traditional sightseeing tour**, which will guide you through the cosy interiors of the chateau, including the chapel and the Marble Hall, you can also venture on a **costumed dramatised tour** in the summer. You will transcend back to the Baroque period and meet the servants or the counts themselves of the Chamaré family.

The mysterious **Bubákov** (Bogy Land) is awaiting children from the age of 8 in the vaults. Unveil the Potštejn's past full of mysterious ghosts of historical figures and experience education, fun, with a pinch of spooky chills running down your spine.

They have not forgotten about the youngest children at Potštejn either. In the magical **Pohádkov** (Fairy Tale Land), they



can acquaint themselves with the popular characters from no fewer than 10 fairy tales. You can experience a true Advent atmosphere before Christmas during the **Bethlehem story** – a journey, on which you will learn numerous new facts about Christmas traditions.

You can admire the French-style **rose garden** surrounding the chateau, which is seamlessly passing into an **English park**. While there, you will encounter not only some highly interesting species of trees, but also several benches and niches suitable for relaxation.

Do not forget to enjoy some of the delicious cakes and scoops of ice cream in the **chateau patisserie** located in the courtyard, as well as a cup of coffee and genuine hot chocolate. Would you like to feel like a real prince or princess? Why not stay overnight at the chateau then. The **chateau hotel** offers accommodation for 18 persons in castle rooms and suites furnished to superior standard.



Some tips for your trips around:

Zámky na Orlici – in close proximity

- Doudleby nad Orlicí Château, Častolovice Château, Nový Kostelec nad Orlicí Château, Potštejn Castle and Litice Castle – Visit the breath-taking aristocratic residences of the Czech Loire!

Vrbice – 7 km

- Vrbice – Climb onto the wooden lookout tower on the Kastel hill overlooking the region from a height of 25.5 meters.

Rychnov nad Kněžnou – 11 km

- Toy Museum – In the building of the former town hall in Rychnov square, girls and boys of any age will have fun with toys of mostly Czech and Czechoslovak origin.

Žampach – 13 km

- Žampach Arboretum – Practice your senses in the local sensory park and try out the wooden play areas and cosy seating spots.



Recommended restaurant: Restaurace Pod Lipami, Potštejn www.podlipamipotstejn.cz

Recommended brewery: Pivovar Clock, Potštejn www.pivovarclock.cz



Recommended accommodation: Zámecký hotel, Potštejn www.zamekpotstejn.cz

DAY 3:

The Międzylesie Castle

www.castlesandpalaces.eu

The first medieval site was established in Międzylesie in the second half of the 19th century. A 14th century brick, **gothic castle** was built by representatives of the knightly family of von Glaubitz who bought the town from the abbot of the Cistercian monastery from Kamieniec Żąbkowicki.

However, the period of peaceful and happy development of the region did not last long, because as early as at the beginning of the next century, a significant part of the Kłodzko Valley was affected by barbaric invasions of the Hussites, burning and destroying everything that stood in their way. From among the buildings that existed until the beginning of the 15th century, only the blackened tower survived, known from that time as the **Black Tower**.

Many years later the new owners added Renaissance (1580-1590) and Baroque (1686-1695) wings of the complex. Thus, the medieval castle, almost completely wiped off the face of the earth by a violent gust of history, turned into an architecturally interesting castle and palace complex. Currently, more than ever, the castle spaces open to visitors coming to Międzylesie.

In addition to a restaurant and a hotel, the facility offers tourists, among others, the possibility of sightseeing both during the day and at night, participation in various types of role-playing and city games (including an escape room), using the educational path, especially for children and teenagers, as well as many other **attractions**.



Some tips for your trips around:

Międzygórze – 15 km

- A waterfall on the Wilczka River and a nature reserve in the Śnieżnik Massif, near Międzygórze.
- Garden of fairy tales in Międzygórze. A kind of an open-air museum – an extraordinary, long-standing collection of wooden sculptures depicting fairy-tale characters and places.

Bear's Cave – 30 km

- The longest cave in the Polish part of the Sudetes, in the Śnieżnik Massif, in the Kleśnica valley, discovered in 1966 within the Stroma hill (1166 m above sea level) near the village of Kletno, discovered during the mining of a marble quarry.



Recommended restaurants: Castle restaurant www.zamekmiedzylesie.pl



Recommended accommodation: Accommodation at the castle www.zamekmiedzylesie.pl