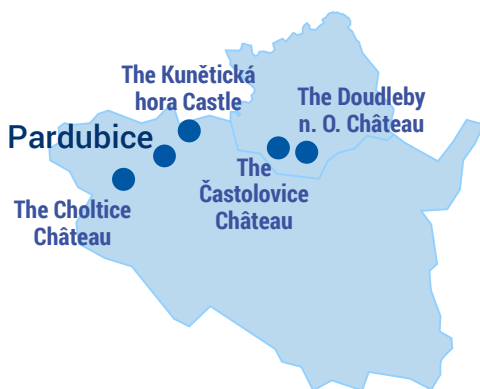




In the world of fairy tales and animals

Take your children to a world of fairy tales and animals! The museum at the Choltice Château will acquaint you with the world of water goblins. The Kunětická hora Castle will introduce you to Rumburak's Castle. The Častolovice Château will captivate you with its château menagerie and you can explore Grandma's backyard. (Babiččin dvoreček) near the château in Doudleby nad Orlicí.



Day 1 – In search of water goblins and Rumburak!

The Choltice Château

Some tips for your trips around: Pardubice, Chrudim, Kladruby nad Labem

The Kunětická hora Castle

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

Day 2 – Meeting the château's animal world

The Častolovice Château

Some tips for your trips around: Zámky na Orlicí, Rychnov nad Kněžnou, Rokytnice v Orlických horách

The Doudleby nad Orlicí Château

Some tips for your trips around: Vrbice, Borovnice, Žamberk, Žampach

DAY 1:

The Choltice Château

www.castlesandpalaces.eu

Are you looking for an **interesting destination** where even your children will feel like fish in water? Come to **Choltice!** The local château in the style of the early **baroque** was established on the site of an original fortress that had been reconstructed a number of times. It was apparently transformed into a relatively large château with 36 rooms, a kitchen, a pantry and 4 cellars in the 2nd half of the 16th century.

The château was constructed as a square with a tower in one corner. The southern wing includes the **Chapel of Saint Romedius** with intricate stuccoed decorations.

There are **two tours** to choose from. The first will take you to the Chapel of Saint Romedius, the Sala terrena with an area that opens onto the garden, the archaeological exhibition, the château's baroque pharmacy, the libraries and the reading room, the exhibition of weapons, the dining room, the ceremonial hall and the trophy stairwell.



Younger visitors will especially enjoy the second tour circuit. They will discover more about the different types of water goblins during a visit to **the Water Goblin Museum**. Specially illuminated fairy tales await them in the black theatre.

The real treasure is the extensive château park and game park with several fishponds, where you can spend hours on uninterrupted walks. It is also a popular place for running and other types of outdoor sports. **A 9-hole disc golf** course is open to the public all year round.

An English landscape garden that merges into the 70 ha game park with a fishpond cascade, ancient oaks, plane trees and hornbeam trees has been established on the site of the old château's ramparts. They are evidence of the more than 400-year old game park that is now a nature reserve.

The château facility includes a **restaurant and a children's playground**.



Some tips for your trips around:

Pardubice – 15.7 km

- The Pardubice Château – The Pardubice Château 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.
- 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!

Chrudim – 17.5 km

- The Museum of Puppet Cultures – Visit the museum with your children and try working the puppets! The permanent

exhibition entitled Magical World of Puppets will acquaint you with puppets used by itinerant puppeteers, vaudeville puppets or family puppet theatres. The museum also has the puppets of Spejbl and Hurvínek made by Jiří Trnka, a well-known creator of animated films, and puppets by Josef Váchal.

Kladruby nad Labem – 18.3 km

- The National Stud in Kladruby nad Labem – This is one of the oldest stud farms in the world and it offers tours of the stables that will enchant adults and children alike. You can also see grey Kladrubers in the fields.



Recommended restaurants: Castle restaurant www.zamek-choltice.cz



Recommended accommodation: Pension Hastrman www.zamek-choltice.cz

DAY 1:

The Kunětická hora Castle

www.castlesandpalaces.eu

Do you know where **Rumburak's castle** is located? The famous category II wizard, Rumburak, as known from the popular Arabela television series, found refuge at the **Kunětická hora Castle**. It was also there that Fantomas saved the kidnapped Princess Arabela at the last minute and it was likewise home to the characters Mekota, Blekota, Pekota and Jekota and other fairytale rascals.

Just imagine that Kunětická hora is also home to the largest of all **Czech dragons!** He mainly guards the torture chamber, but you don't have to be afraid. He won't do anything, as long as you are good.

If you like hills, then that is yet another reason to set out for Kunětická hora. It is the unequivocal dominant feature of the lowlands **along the Elbe**. The unmistakable silhouette of the castle on the peak of an extinct volcano is unrivalled far and

wide. Kunětická hora and its lookout points provide excellent views of the environs, including the more distant peaks of the Giant Mountains and the Eagle Mountains.

The outdoor area offers the option of pleasant walks through the local orchards or along the forest paths 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 beneath the castle. And the **Gingerbread Kingdom**, which includes a gingerbread house, has been created just a stone's throw away.

Children and adults alike will be in their element at Kunětická hora and its environs. The newly opened, western part of the castle, which was closed to the public for four decades and whose appearance was largely determined by the architect **Dušan Jurkovič** in the 1920s, is also worthy of attention.



Some tips for your trips around:

Ráby – 1.4 km

- 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.

Pardubice – 9 km

- The Pardubice Château – The Pardubice Château is considered to be 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.

- 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!

Holice – 15.7 km

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



Recommended restaurants: Restaurant pod Kunětickou horou www.podkunkou.cz



Recommended accommodation: Pension pod Kunětickou horou www.podkunkou.cz

DAY 2:

Častolovice Château

www.castlesandpalaces.eu

Visiting Častolovice **Chateau** is an ideal tip for families with children wishing to spend a pleasant day out. The state was built at the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries in the Renaissance style. It had belonged to the Sternberg family for centuries, so it was also returned to **Diana Phipps Sternberg** in restitution.

The owner of the chateau is known for her love not just to flowers but also **animals**. That is why she has founded and keeps extending the so popular now chateau menagerie. You can stroke and feed various types of domestic and foreign animals with the treats bought here – Emu ostriches, llamas, ponies, donkeys, goats, sheep, piglets, parrots, peacocks, baby rabbits, but also guinea pigs.

You can also watch white fallow deer and Dybovsky deer in a large game reserve. In its neighbourhood, there lives the wild pig Máňa with her four striped babies. You will spot ducks and small fish at the pond near the rose garden. More animals can

be encountered at the chateau during the **dog placement exhibition**, which takes place here regularly.

Numerous attractions will be explored also during the **sight-seeing tour circuit**. The cosily furnished castle interiors, the monumental Knights Hall and the extraordinarily long roofed arcade corridor simply excite.

Art connoisseurs will also get their own back at the chateau. They will certainly appreciate the local gallery with regular exhibitions staged here by contemporary artists.

If you wish to relax a bit, relish a delicious coffee, some of the delicious desserts or bistro specials made with fresh ingredients at **H&H Castle Cafe** in the courtyard. More refreshments are also sold by **Altan Gloriet**, which is situated inside the 40-hectare park.

You can also visit the chateau **in the evening hours** during the summer **Hradozámecká Noc** event.



Some tips for your trips around:

Zámky na Orlicí – in close proximity

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

Rychnov nad Kněžnou – 13 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.

Rokytnice v Orlických horách – 26.5 km

• Sýpka Museum – The interactive Sýpka (Granary) Museum introduces the nature and the still-living crafts typical of the Eagle Mountains and of the Podorlicko region. Test your stained-glass painting skills or weave a piece of rug here.

• Hanička Fortress – Contrary to its girly name, Hanička is actually a massive fortress belonging into the system of pre-war fortifications. Not only boys will be enchanted by the tour of its underground areas.



Recommended restaurants: H&H Castle Cafe Častolovice www.hhcastlecafe.cz, Hostinec U Hubálků www.uhubalku.cz



Recommended accommodation: Hostinec U Hubálků www.uhubalku.cz

DAY 2:

www.castlesandpalaces.eu

Doudleby nad Orlicí Château

Children and adults alike will certainly enjoy **Doudleby nad Orlicí Château**. The Renaissance building dating from the 16th century, which has been the **seat of the Bubnové from Litice lineage** ever since its foundation and is now managed by their descendant Petr Dujka, will catch your eye from a distance with its **sgraffito decorations**. These may remind of bobbin lace work.

The **sightseeing circuit** interconnects the rooms on the 1st floor. You will learn everything about the history of the family and the chateau itself here. You will see, for example, a large tiled stove, a wax figure of one of the former owners, a lushly decorated chapel and beautiful ceiling paintings containing the so-called emblems with hidden puzzles. Will you be able to decipher any of them?

There is an English park near the chateau and the original granary, which today serves as the largest private **Museum of Natural Science and Rural Development** in the Czech Republic.



It also incorporates a diorama of the forest game and an exhibition entitled A Year in the Village. The exposition has been made entirely from cornhusk and is intended to demonstrate the traditions accompanying all seasons of the year.

Explore the **Grandma's Backyard** with various pets, which is located just next door. Cows, chickens, sheep, rabbits, piglets, but also donkey sisters Jája and Pája are all happily living here.

Having walked below the canopy of mature trees and after all the tours, it will certainly come in handy to sit inside the **chateau café** or in its outdoor section.

Every month (except January and February) they stage extremely popular **Chateau Farmers' Markets** here. These feature additional accompanying programs – a crafts fair in the summer, an All Souls' Market in the autumn and special Christmas theme tours and goods sales in December.



Some tips for your trips around:

Vrbice – 4 km

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

Borovnice – 10 km

- Homol Pilgrimage Site – Discover the stairs to heaven leading to the Pilgrimage Church of Our Lady of Sorrows and meet the legend of the Countess who had them built.

Žamberk – 17.5 km

- Prokop Diviš's native house – Learn everything about his life and work. Right next to the house, you will see the scientist's most famous invention - a lightning rod.

Žampach – 18 km

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



Recommended restaurant: Penzion Pod Rozhlednou Vrbice www.penzion-pod-rozhlednou.cz



Recommended accommodation: Restaurace Penzionu Pod Rozhlednou Vrbice www.penzion-pod-rozhlednou.cz