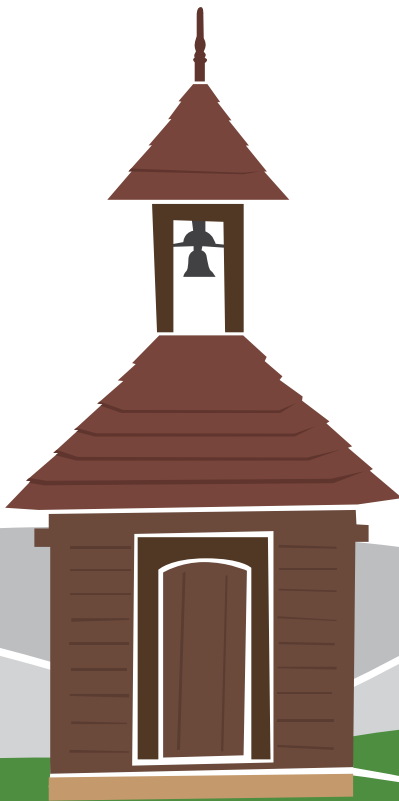




Valašsko moje - srdce Troje 



Dear Readers,

In this leaflet we hope to introduce the villages, towns and cities in our home region Wallachia. The region is famous for its beautiful countryside and the unique culture of people who have long been working the land and making it what it is today. For centuries, Wallachians have built homes of timber here, worked on farms, fields and forests, herded animals and beat paths from house to house so that they could meet, work, pray, celebrate and learn together and from each other. The picturesque villages and towns in Wallachia reflect all these traditional patterns. Although each municipality is unique, they have a lot in common. They are all surrounded by idyllic hills and mountains, fragrant forests and fields. Many traditional farms and timbered houses are still intact and some traditional arts and crafts are still practiced by new generations. Historical and cultural monuments are found in every village. Each municipality holds arts and sports events and maintains venues for sports and leisure.

The leaflet is a product of a project implemented by two non-profit organizations - Local Action Group Valašsko - Horní Vsacko and Local Action Group Rožnovsko. We

thought the idea of promoting our two geographical regions together as one destination will help us share what we know and love about the area we call home. We hope that as you visit, you will come to understand the reasons we are proud of Wallachia and that you come to love it too.

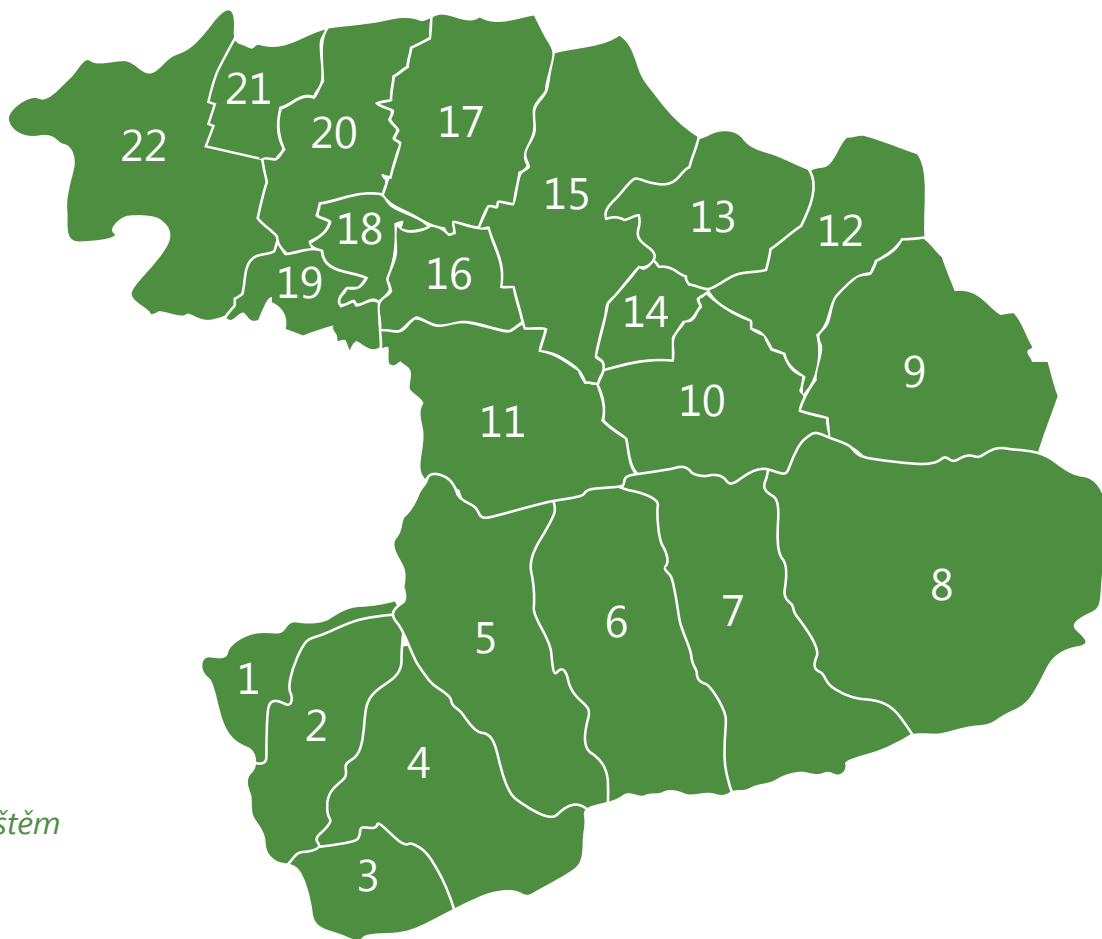
Project Team



Evropský zemědělský fond pro rozvoj venkova: Evropa investuje do venkovských oblastí.

Our Villages

1. Janová
2. Hovězí
3. Zděchov
4. Huslenky
5. Halenkov
6. Nový Hrozenkov
7. Karolinka
8. Velké Karlovice
9. Horní Bečva
10. Hutisko-Solanec
11. Valašská Bystřice
12. Prostřední Bečva
13. Dolní Bečva
14. Vigantice
15. Rožnov pod Radhoštěm
16. Vidče
17. Zubří
18. Střítež nad Bečvou
19. Velká Lhota
20. Zašová
21. Krhová
22. Valašské Meziříčí



Location and Natural Heritage



Janová (originally Johanová) is located at the mouth of the Janovský creek approximately 4 kilometres to the south-west of the town of Vsetín. The village centre is situated at 360 metres above sea level. This is a contrast to Lysný, the highest peak in the vicinity, which reaches a height of 655 metres above sea level. Patches of pasture land and forested areas, long narrow valleys and mountain ridges with breathtaking views characterize the local landscape. A sizeable portion of the area administered by the municipality is part of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area.

Municipality Type: Village

Area: 922 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 753

Metres above Sea Level: 368

First Historical Record: 1505

Postal Code: 755 01

Municipal Website: www.janova.cz



Janová

History and Cultural Heritage:

Visitors have the opportunity to see a bell tower from 1891, a new bell tower and a cemetery chapel with a richly engraved entry. In the village, there is also a memorial dedicated to the victims of WWI.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

The first annual event is usually a community ball held by the village council and the TATRAN sports club. Another ball called the Neighbours Ball, held in cooperation with the three neighbouring villages of Hovězí, Huslenky and Zděchov, has also become very popular. At the end of May, people traditionally take down the maypole and on the third Sunday in September they walk a ram around the village to the sounds of folklore music.

The village has recently renovated a football pitch and built a large gymnasium to accommodate the various sports

interests of its residents and their children who can enjoy their own playground.

Janová also offers opportunities to hikers and bicyclists. The new bicycle trail *Cyklostezka Bečva* running through the village provides visitors with many kilometres of safe riding along the valley. In the area of Horní Vsacko alone, the trail is 30 kilometres long. In Janová, there are several restaurants and accommodation options including family pensions and house rentals. The convenient location of the village near Vsetín makes it easy to access this district centre and enjoy its attractions, such as the castle, the church of St. Mary's, the observatory and the regional museum. To sports-minded visitors, Vsetín provides tennis courts, swimming pools, climbing walls and a variety of hiking and bicycling routes criss-crossing the beautiful surrounding area.



Cyklostezka Bečva bicycling trail



Farmsteads Na Pasekách



St. Hubertus Horse Parade



Sports Hall



Cemetery Chapel



HOVĚZÍ

Municipality Type: Village

Area: 2 211 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 2 401

Metres above Sea Level: 385

First Historical Record: 1504

Postal Code: 756 01

Municipal Website: www.obec-hovezi.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

The village of Hovězí is located to the south-west of the town of Vsetín, the centre of the district. Hovězí is situated in a valley formed by the Bečva River and its tributaries Hořanský and Hovízský creeks. The picturesque hilltops of the Vsetínské vrchy create the panoramic backdrop to the village of Hovězí and the slopes of these hills are a popular location for summer houses and gardens. Filka, the highest peak in the vicinity, is 769 metres above sea level. The character of the village centre is urban rather than rural, with residential areas sprawling into the Hořansko and Hovízky valleys. Forests cover an entire half of the municipal territory. The vegetation in the area includes a protected species of orchids at the natural monument of Stříbrník. This unique natural wonder places Hovězí at the top of the list of natural attractions in the Vsetín region. The entire area of the village is part of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area.



History and Cultural Heritage:

Tourists have the opportunity to see several works of art in the village of Hovězí. The Neo-Gothic church dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene comes from 1890. At the cemetery surrounding the church, there is a statue of St. Hubertus and stone reliefs of a Baroque cross erected in the memory of the Illeshazy Dynasty. At the square, a 1712 stone statue of St. Jan Nepomucký is found and a renovated sculptural group entitled Kalvárie (Cavalry) is located at the outskirts of the village. Those interested in architecture can admire traditional timbered dwellings throughout the vicinity.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

The village maintains a football pitch, a volleyball court and a skating rink next to the school. A ski run equipped with a surface ski lift has been built on the slopes of Galov hill (544 metres above sea level) west of the village. Kateřinský jarmark (St. Catherine Market) and Hovězská pouť (Hovězí Fair) are another two traditional events that draw visitors every year.

Local groups and associations, which organize a wide range of activities, include branches of national associations such as the Czech Tourist Club, the Firemen Association, the Sokol Sports Association, the Czech Beekeeper Association as well as the local folk dance and music group Ovčák. Additional sports venues in the village can be found by the school, including a multi-purpose pitch with artificial turf, a tartan running track, two tennis courts and a grass football pitch. A large new gymnasium has also recently been opened to the public.

The area is attractive for visitors who like to explore the country on foot or by bicycle. The Cyklostezka Bečva bicycle trail provides visitors with many kilometres of quality bicycling along the valley. Several dining and accommodation venues offer their services. The Autokemp Hovězí campground located by the river near the Hovězský Weir is very popular among Czech tourists whose children can use the playground on the premises. Hiking, bicycling and skiing trails run through the area.



Autokemp U Splavu Campground



Village Square



St. Catherine Market, Manor



Kaštyl (Manor)



St. Mary Magdalene Church



ZDĚCHOV

Municipality Type: Village

Area: 1 300 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 587

Metres above Sea Level: 500

First Historical Record: 1623

Postal Code: 756 07

Municipal Website: www.zdechov.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

The village of Zděchov is situated near the border of the Czech and Slovak Republics in a valley surrounded by four peaks of the Javorníky mountains: Žár – located at 689 metres above sea level, Děhýl –725 metres, Radošov –756 metres and Filka –759 metres. The municipality is part of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area. Although almost a half (49.5%) of the territory of Zděchov is covered by forests, there are also quite a few traditional farmsteads.

History and Cultural Heritage:

The 1778 Church of Transfiguration, timbered house No.25 and other timbered houses, including the historical heritage conservation area Hajdovy paseky, as well as the ancient lime trees by the church building all represent points of historical interest in the Zděchov village. Visitors can also enjoy an exhibit of old fire engines and other equipment at the old fire station and those interested in



Zděchov

recent history may also see the monuments to the victims of the World Wars.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

The residents of the small village of Zděchov are very active. With the help of their community organizations, they hold a variety of social and sports events throughout the year. These include the Zděchovská grapa Uphill Motocross Race, the Zděchov 30 cross-country ski competition, local brandy tasting nights, taking down the maypole, Mardi Gras celebrations (fašank) and others.

For children, there is a garden park and a special playground with miniature traffic lights and traffic signs near the school. The village council has also renovated the outdoor swimming pool, the premises of which include a pool for little children and a court for ball games with artificial turf.

The village is a popular starting point for sports lovers who can explore the trails for cross-country skiing, hiking or bicycling. In the winter, there are groomed cross country trails, which wind their way through the beautiful landscape. The varied terrain of the area allows for a diversity of trail profiles including ridge trails with magnificent views of the Javorníky mountains, easy level trails as well as slopes for downhill or uphill ski training. Zděchov is also an attractive location for bicycling enthusiasts who will soon be able to enjoy a dedicated bike park with three kilometres of single track trails in addition to the existing set of trails.

Visitors interested in history have the opportunity to see the historical heritage conservation area Hajdovy paseky. In 2011, the council built a special circuit for Nordic Walking with ten information boards which takes visitors around different points of interest in the village.



Swimming pool



School building, square



Zděchovská Grapa Uphill Motocross Race



Hajdovy paseky natural and cultural heritage area



Church of Transfiguration



HUSLENKY

Municipality Type: Village

Area: 3 508 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 2 217

Metres above Sea Level: 390

First Historical Record: 1505

Postal Code: 756 02

Municipal Website: www.huslenky.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

The village of Huslenky is situated on both banks of the Vsetín arm of the Bečva River. Besides the residential centre, the municipality takes care of 13 side valleys which stretch all the way up to the ridges of the surrounding mountains. The largest valleys in Huslenky are Kychová and Uherská, both of which are part of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area like the entire municipality. Protected species of orchids can be found at Galovské lúky, which constitutes a special nature reserve within the protected landscape area. Papajské sedlo, the lowest saddle in the entire Javorníky mountain range, is also worth mention. It is located in the Kychová valley at a height of 691 metres above sea level, right on the border of the Czech and Slovak Republics.

History and Cultural Heritage:

Tourists have the opportunity to see the Evangelical Church built between the years 1873 – 1902, a small new chapel in



the Uherská valley or a group of traditional timbered houses called U Čemanů. The communal grave of the Czechoslovak Army soldiers who died in WWI at the Huslenky cemetery and monuments to commemorate the victims of WWII may also be of interest. Finally, the entry of the Huslenky school building displays two commemorative plaques – one to a local priest and an avid botanist Adolf Říčan and the other to a teacher, ethnographer and historian Josef Válek, both of whom lived and worked in the village in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Traditional Events, Activities and Things to Do:

Every winter, the village council holds the Neighbours Ball in cooperation with three neighbouring villages: Hovězí, Janová and Zděchov. In autumn, it holds the Huslenky Fair on the first weekend in September. A wide range of events are also held by local groups and associations. These include the local branches of the Firemen Association, the Sokol Sports Association and the Sokol Chess Club, the Red

Cross and the Evangelical Church parish. For local athletes, there is a new multi-purpose pitch at the premises of the Sokol Sports Association and another two pitches are located by the school. The school area also offers a children's playground. In the winter, local or visiting skiers make use of the Huslenky surface ski lift.

Huslenky also offers opportunities to hikers and bicyclists. In the valley alone, the new bicycle trail Cyklostezka Bečva is 30 kilometres long. In Huslenky, the trail includes three sheltered rest stops with maps and information boards. Other trails for hikers, bicyclists and cross-country skiers also run through the village and visitors can eat or stay overnight in one of the local restaurants or pensions.

If you take the Western Javorníky ridge trail, Papajské sedlo located in the Kychová valley is the place to stop and rest before climbing the Makyta peak or heading up the ridge in a westerly direction.



Cyklostezka Bečva bicycling trail



Traditional farmstead U Čemanů



Galovské Lúky natural conservation area



Bell tower and chapel in Uherská valley



Evangelical church



HALENKOV

Municipality Type: Village

Area: 4 220 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 2 459

Metres above Sea Level: 425

First Historical Record: 1654

Postal Code: 756 03

Municipal Website: www.halenkov.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

The idyllic hilly landscape surrounding Halenkov is typical for the area. The village is located right in the middle of the long valley of Horní Vsacko to the east of Vsetín, which is approximately 15 kilometres away. The Vsetín arm of the Bečva River, which serves as the dividing line between the mountain ranges Vsetínské Vrchy and Javorníky, runs through the village. The natural beauty of the Halenkov area and the adjoining valleys (Černé, Břežítá, Dinotice, Lušová, Bratřejůvka) is remarkable. The nature reserve Kutáný in the Dinotice valley protects mixed virgin forest vegetation on the mountain ridge below the Vsacký Cáb peak. It covers an area of almost 15 hectares.

History and Cultural Heritage:

The only historical artwork in Halenkov is of religious nature. It includes the Catholic Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross in Halenkov from 1788, the crucifix in



front of the church and the bell tower in the Dinotice valley. A number of crosses and wayside shrines are also to be found in the vicinity.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

The village council holds three annual events: the Halenkov Festival at the beginning of June, the Community Ball in January and the traditional Halenkov Fair at the second weekend in September. A wide range of events are also held by local groups and associations. These include the Halenkov Library, the TJ Tatran Sports Association, the Firemen Association, the Javořina hunting club, the Motýlek mothers group, the Kotva environmental association, the communities of the elementary school and the kindergarten, the Catholic Charity of the Holy Family and the Roman-Catholic Church parish. These organisations hold popular sports events such as the Wallachian Mountain Bike Cup, the Mayor's Cup Football Tournament and other competitions for firemen and tennis players. In cooperation

with the municipality, the library holds events for children, such as festivals, lantern processions, St. Nicholas parties or Christmas and Advent music concerts.

The Cyklostezka Bečva cycling trail runs through the village. An additional circuit trail makes it possible to bicycle through Halenkov. Here, bicyclists can enjoy the newly renovated sports park which includes a children's playground, a large grass pitch, a bicycle pump track and a trail for roller skating and bicycling learners. In the summer, locals have a new opportunity to play beach volleyball at a new court in another community park. Signposted trails for hikers, bicyclists and cross-country skiers also run through the vicinity in both directions – to the north over Vsetínské vrchy (via Lušová, Dinotice and Bratřejůvka valleys) and to the south up to the ridge of Javorníky (via Černé, Provazné, Břežítá valleys). In favourable winter conditions, the village also operates a surface ski lift in Raškovec and maintains ski tracks along the bicycle trail. Halenkov has a good infrastructure of accommodation and restaurant services which are all available to tourists.



Sports Park



Horní Kobyláčka



Wayside Shrine in Dinotice



Kutaný nature reserve



Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross



NOVÝ HROZENKOV

Municipality Type: Township

Area: 4 358 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 2 668

Metres above Sea Level: 453

First Historical Record: 1644

Postal Code: 756 04

Municipal Website: www.novyhrozenkov.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

Nový Hrozenkov is a beautiful village on the banks of the Bečva River surrounded by rough mountainous country typical for the Wallachian region. It is situated in the valley of Horní Vsacko near the border of the Czech and Slovak Republics. The ridges of Vsetínské vrchy and Javorníky mountains define the valley as well as the area administered by the municipality. Nový Hrozenkov is part of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area. The local nature monument of Brodská protects beech and fir virgin forest.

History and Cultural Heritage:

An interesting place to visit in Nový Hrozenkov is the museum of Antonín Strnadel, a painter who studied and painted local people, their life and culture. This timbered house from 1835 now also serves as the community arts centre holding a variety of events. The Roman-Catholic Church of St. John the Baptist from 1789 with an altar from



1692 and other traditional timbered houses in Hrozenkov are also worth seeing. Tourists may also appreciate the new visitor information centre in the recreation area Kohútka on top of the Javorníky range at the Czecho-Slovak border.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

Since the beginning of the 20th century, local organizations have ensured a vibrant community life. These include the community organisation Rozínek, folklore group HAFERA, the Firemen Association, the TJ Sokol Sports Association, the hunting club Portáš, the Orel Sports Club, the Catholic Charity of the Holy Family and the Roman-Catholic parish.

For sports enthusiasts, the village maintains a football pitch, a volleyball court and tennis courts as well as a dirt park and a skating rink in the winter. At the school, there is also a fitness centre and a weight room for the public.

Nový Hrozenkov is an ideal starting point for hikers,

bicyclists, skiers and other visitors interested in exploring the region. Whatever the season, resorts, restaurants and hotels offer their services. There are two ski resorts in the Vranča valley - Kohútka and Vranča. In the summer, the so-called Balaton lake (officially named Na Stanoch) draws visitors from far and wide. Covering 9.5 hectares, this natural lake invites swimming and sunbathing. The freestyle water ramp used for water ski training makes Balaton attractive not only for downhill ski jumpers but also for their audience. The premises at the lake have recently been renovated, turning it into an attractive resort with a food court, shower and toilet facilities, sand and pebble beaches, children's playgrounds, beach volleyball courts and trampolines. A large parking lot is adjacent. Several annual events take place here - the Valachy Man Triathlon, a tournament in weight lifting and fishing competitions. In the winter, the lake attracts skaters and hockey players who use the icy surface as a rink. The bicycle trail Cyklostezka Bečva runs right by the lake and through the village and bicyclists can make a refreshing stop at either destination.



Balaton lake



Antonín Strnadel Museum



Vranča ski resort



Wallachian wedding ritual, Hafera folklore ensemble



Church of St. John the Baptist



KAROLINKA

Municipality Type: Town

Area: 4 215 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 2 608

Metres above Sea Level: 483

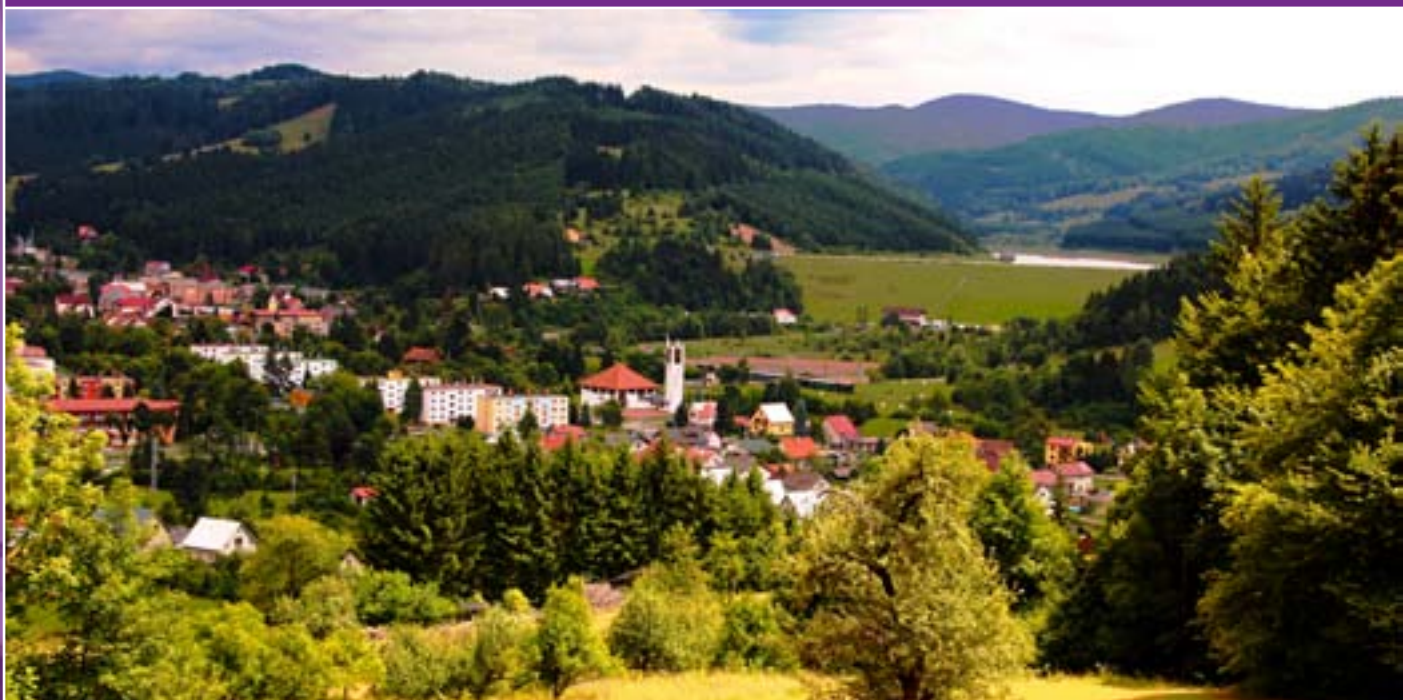
First Historical Record: 1951

Postal Code: 756 05

Municipal Website: www.karolinka.cz

Location and Natural Resources:

The town of Karolinka is situated on the Vsetín arm of the Bečva River in a picturesque valley in the east of the Vsetín district. The town centre is located 485 metres above sea level and the highest point of the area administered by the municipality is the peak of Malý Javorník at 1019 metres above sea level. Similarly to the surrounding villages, the Vsetínské vrchy range forms the northern panorama in Karolinka while the Javorníky mountains tower on the south. The best preserved forest growth can be found in the south part of Stanovnice and in Raťkov and Kobylská valleys. In Stanovnice, there is also the largest fresh water reservoir in the district (its area spans 50 hectares), which serves as the drinking water resource for the districts of Vsetín and Zlín. Karolinka is part of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area. There are three specially protected localities – nature monuments Vachalka, Smradlavá and Skálí.



Karolinka

History and Cultural Heritage:

Tourists have the opportunity to visit the Karolinka glass factory (Crystalex Nový Bor), a museum of glass production or the gallery of a contemporary Wallachian painter Ilja Hartinger. A group of traditional timbered structures in the Račkov valley is also worth seeing. The largest wooden statue of Madonna in the Czech Republic, carved by Ladislav Borák, is another attraction. It is displayed in the local church of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel and it is 2.53 metres tall.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

In addition to the traditional local fair, there is the Karolina Glass Fair every August. A wide range of events are also held by local groups and associations. These include: the Firemen's Association, the Karolinka Tennis Club and the Wallachian National Theatre.

Citizens can enjoy entertainment provided by the town's own prize-winning theatre and the cinema. Sports enthusiasts have the opportunity to play football at the football pitch or tennis at the tennis courts. Visitors with children can enjoy a new children's playground and outdoor fitcentrum there.

Visitors will find information about services, events and things to do at the Visitor Information Centre. The following attractions are particularly interesting: the Stanovnice water reservoir, the Ilja Hartinger Art Gallery, a glass exhibit at the city hall building, traditional timbered houses in Račkov, the St. Mary of Mt. Carmel church building and the Charlotta Gallery of Glass and China. The bicycle trail Cyklostezka Bečva, which ends at the very end of the long valley Horní Vsacko in Karlovice, also runs through the village. At the edge of town, there is a snow park offering a one-kilometre-long ski slope, snowboarding ramps and a surface ski lift.



Stanovnice water reservoir



Karolinka Glass Fair



Glass Production Museum



Račkovský Šenk restaurant



St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Church

VELKÉ KARLOVICE



Municipality Type: Village

Area: 8 079 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 2 477

Metres above Sea Level: 512

First Historical Record: 1714

Postal Code: 756 06

Municipal Website: www.velkekarlovice.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

Velké Karlovice exemplifies the typical Wallachian village in the foothills of the Javorníky and Beskydy mountains. With an area spanning 82 square kilometres, it is one of the largest municipalities in the Czech Republic. The well preserved landscape includes pastureland with small herds of sheep and traditional farmsteads that have remained in operation to this day. The municipality is divided into two areas - Velké Karlovice and Malé Karlovice. The residential centre of the village is located near the Bečva River by the town hall building. Léskové, Tísňavy, Podtáté, Pluskovec, Bzové, Jezerné and Miloňov are other densely populated areas.

The splendid countryside of Velké Karlovice is protected as part of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area. Vysoká, the highest peak of Vsetínské vrchy, is situated in Velké Karlovice at a height of 1,024 metres above sea level. Almost three quarters of the area is covered by forests, making the village the most forested municipality in the district. The only nature preserve is the virgin forest Razula.



Velké Karlovice, Podtáté Valley

History and Cultural Heritage:

Besides the 1754 wooden church of St. Mary of the Snow (Roman-Catholic) and the historical buildings which include a merchant's house now turned into a folklore museum and a farmstead from 1793, tourists have the opportunity to see traditional shrines and crosses dotting the countryside.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

A number of cultural and sports events take place in Karlovice throughout the year. In addition to frequent exhibitions, the museum organizes craft fairs, concerts and folklore events in cooperation with the visitor information centre. A woodcarving festival on the occasion of the traditional village fair is a good example. A well-known sports event in Karlovice is the winter ski competition Karlovská 50 and the Pepi Maraton. Companies and entrepreneurs in the area also hold events for the public. Among others, these include the horse coach festival Formanský Den (held by the local horse track and

stables), the Karlovice Gastrofestival sponsored by local hotels and entrepreneurs, Valachy Tour and the Karlovice Summer Hike.

The following community organizations are active in Karlovice: the Roman-Catholic parish, the Firemen Association, the hunting club, the Wallachia Recreation Society, the Zlín Horse Keeper Association, the Velké Karlovice Heritage Club, the artist's group Urgatina, the Ski Touring and the TJ Tatra Sports Associations, the Friends of the Karlovice School.

The area is particularly attractive to sports-minded visitors. There are many hiking, bicycling and ski trails including groomed signposted trails on the surrounding fields, up mountain ridges and forest roads. There is a wide range of restaurants, hotels and pensions offering accommodation, dining and other recreation services. In the summer, visitors can also enjoy an outdoor swimming pool and tennis courts. The Cyklostezka Bečva cycling trail, which starts in Vsetín, ends at the end of the Velké Karlovice on the border of Czech and Slovak Republics.



Church of St. Mary of the Snow



Swimming pool



A folklore festival



Mountain meadow vistas



Karlovice Museum



Municipality Type: Village
Area: 4 251 hectares
Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 2 441
Metres above Sea Level: 505
First Historical Record: 1659
Postal Code: 756 57
Municipal Website: www.hornibecva.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

The village of Horní Bečva is located 10 kilometres from Rožnov pod Radhoštěm. It sprawls along both banks of the Rožnov arm of the Bečva River in the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area. The municipality covers a large area including a number of isolated traditional timbered houses and typifies a Wallachian mountain village. Local hotels, chalets and over 500 weekend houses accommodate hundreds of tourists all year round.

In Horní Bečva several natural monuments are found. The natural monument of Kladnatá protects wetland spruce forest with peat bogs, springheads and slopes covered by boulders and rocky outcrops. The Kudlačena natural monument is an area with bogs and springheads, which form several pools on the slopes of the valley around the creek of Dížená. The natural monument Pod Juráškou protects a marsh with characteristic wetland vegetation. It is located at the foot of a steep slope of Kotelnice mountain in the valley of Kněžyně creek.



Horní Bečva

The Rožnov Bečva River starts in Horní Bečva. The headspring can be reached via a signposted hiking trail. An interesting feature of this area in the Beskydy mountains is a dark sky with minimum light pollution. The depth of the darkness and thousands of stars can be noticed by the bare eye.

History and Cultural Heritage:

There are several places of interest in Horní Bečva - the Saints John and Paul's Roman-Catholic Church, the parish building and the historical monument in Kladnatá. Erected in the location of a former farmstead owned by the Tkáč family, it commemorates a gunfight between local guerrilla soldiers and the Nazis in autumn 1944. The yellow hiking trail from Kladnatá to Horní Bečva - Valaška hotel passes the monument.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

In the summer, people enjoy swimming, fishing and water sports in the Horní Bečva reservoir. Hotels and chalets offer therapeutic services such as saunas, swimming pools and halotherapy in the form of salt suites. The bowling alley is a popular entertainment option. Bicycle rentals are also available for guests who are interesting in riding the Cyklostezka Bečva bicycle trail, which starts right by the dam.

In the winter, groomed ski trails run from Martiňák to Pustevny and from Třeštílk to Soláň. For downhill skiers, there are 7 ski resorts with slopes of varying difficulty for advanced skiers to small children. All ski slopes are equipped with surface ski lifts.



Skiing in Horní Bečva



Horní Bečva reservoir



Winter in Horní Bečva



Horní Bečva Countryside



Autumn in Horní Bečva



HUTISKO -SOLANEC

Municipality Type: Village

Area: 2 992 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 1 992

Metres above Sea Level: 480 – 860

First Historical Record: 1960

Postal Code: 756 62

Municipal Website: www.hutisko-solanec.eu

Location and Natural Heritage:

The village of Hutisko-Solanec is situated in the foothills of the Beskydy mountains. The current village is a conglomerate of two settlements, Hutisko and Solanec, which joined together in 1960. The name Hutisko is related to the word huť (glassworks). Glassworks were founded in the area at the beginning of the 17th century. Solánec is a derivative of Soláň, the mountain that towers above the village. The village centre is located right on the mountain ridge which divides the watershed areas. The historical need to cut down trees in order to supply the local glassworks with firewood created pastures and clearings in the forest called polanas, in which farmers and sheep herders used to build houses and huts. Mountains in the background, forested slopes, sun-filled fields and deep, narrow valleys create spectacular scenery. This idyllic setting is an attractive location for contemporary country living as well as for holidays all year round.



Merchant House

History and Cultural Heritage:

A unique monument is found in Hutisko-Solanec in the area Za Kopcem. A stone monolith to the first Czechoslovak president's wife Mrs. Charlotta Garrigue Masaryk, who was born here, was erected in 1926 by the school head teacher and his pupils.

Originally, both villages were part of the parish in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm, but in 1732 local believers got their own timbered church on the border of Hutisko and Solanec. However, it burned down only a few years later, in 1748. The restoration of the building, primarily funded by the benefactor Jiří Křenek, turned it into the brick-and-stone St. Joseph Church. The only remnant of the original structure was the church tower, which was later also replaced by stone.

Another historical building worth interest is House No. 15 in Hutisko. It is a 1666 timbered building with a traditional façade and a balcony, which used to belong to the wealthiest farmer in the village. It served as a school and nowadays it is a restaurant in the rustic koliba style.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

Hutisko-Solanec is a popular holiday destination with 300 kilometres of hiking, skiing and bicycling routes. Bicyclists can enjoy a variety of attractions such as the open-air museum in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm, view towers, monuments, historical timbered houses, rocks, dams and swimming pools all set in the beautiful countryside of the Beskydy mountains.



Sports park



Charlotta Garrigue Masaryk monument



Monument to the victims of WWII in Solanec



Hutisko-Solanec



St. Joseph Church

VALAŠSKÁ BYSTRICE



Municipality Type: Village

Area: 3 597 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 2 269

Metres above Sea Level: 465

First Historical Record: 1651

Postal Code: 756 27

Municipal Website: www.valasskabystrice.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

The area of Valašská Bystřice is approximately 36 square kilometres. It is located approximately 8 kilometres from Rožnov pod Radhoštěm, the centre of the district. Valašská Bystřice is situated on the Bystřice stream, which feeds the well-known reservoir Bystřička. The rugged hilly landscape of Vsetínské vrchy around the reservoir is spectacular. The highest peak in the area is Tanečnice at an elevation of 912 metres above sea level. The village centre is located at 460 metres of elevation. Forests cover two thirds of the municipal territory, which is protected as part of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area.

History and Cultural Heritage:

Several buildings and monuments may be of interest to visitors. At the cemetery by the church dedicated to the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, there are 18th century



Historical gravestones

gravestones of men who used to work as portáš (historical Wallachian policemen). There is a chapel at Díly and a timbered bell tower from the end of the 17th century at the Zvonový na Kyčerách peak. A monument commemorating the victims of the WWI and WWII can also be found in Valašská Bystřice. Visitors may also enjoy a museum of paintings by Marie Bogner who was born in the village.

The cultural and social community life is rich and varied. The folklore ensemble Troják preserves regional musical traditions along with the Bystřičanka brass band, which is in demand in the village and beyond. Similarly, shows by the local theatre troupe CHAOS are popular in the whole district. Annual events include felling the maypole, end-of-season hunting rituals, dances and brass music shows, fairs and festivals and others. The most significant traditional event is the Portáš Festival, regularly attended by visitors from all over the country and abroad. The village has a library, a visitor centre and the Community Hall U Pernických, which is equipped with a contemporary theatre stage. The municipality provides free internet in the downtown

area. Community organizations include the firemen club, the hunting club, the senior club, the beekeeper and the gardener clubs and the Wallachian Portáš Union.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

The village is surrounded by mountains on all sides. Groomed ski trails run throughout the entire area and many you can jump into right from the door of your hotel. Hiking and bicycling are enjoyed in Valašská Bystřice all year round. The ski centre Bůřov, offering groomed slopes and snowmaking canons, is found right in the centre of the village. The Sokol Sports Association of Valašská Bystřice operates two football pitches, a tennis court, a gym hall and accommodation and changing room facilities. Visitors to Valašská Bystřice can choose from a variety of dining and accommodation options including family pensions. Horseback riding programmes are available. Visitors interested in traditional cheese production can see how sheep's and cow's milk is processed by a local farm.



Portáš Festival



Bůřov view tower



Traditional Wallachian house



Valašská Bystřice residential area



Church of the Assumption of Virgin Mary

PROSTŘEDNÍ BEČVA



Municipality Type: Village

Area: 2 352 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 1 732

Metres above Sea Level: 430

First Historical Record: přelom 16. a 17. století

Postal Code: 756 56

Municipal Website: www.prostrednibecva.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

The village of Prostřední Bečva is located in the eastern part of the Radhošská hornatina and Vsetínské vrchy hills at 430 metres of elevation. It is situated in three valleys: the Rožnovská Bečva River valley, Kněhyně and Bacov. Similarly to other villages in the region, there are densely populated areas as well as more isolated groups of houses and farmsteads in the valleys and on the slopes of Mt. Radhošť. Čertův Mlýn on the northern border of the municipality, which crosses through the saddle in Pustevny, is the highest point in the area at the elevation of 1,206 metres above sea level.

The entire village is part of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area and includes the National Nature Reserve Kněhyně – Čertův Mlýn. The reserve can be accessed via hiking trails such as the educational trail, which has signposts with information that may be of interest to visitors. The most dominant features of the area are Mt. Kněhyně at an elevation of 1,257 metres above sea level and the rock formation Čertův Mlýn at 1,206 metres of elevation.



Prostřední Bečva

History and Cultural Heritage:

Prostřední Bečva is one of a few villages which have not had their own church. On May 23, 1998, a group of citizens decided to remedy this situation. They started a foundation called St. Zdislava Union and began to fundraise and organize the paperwork and suppliers for a new church building. Soon they celebrated success. In 2001, a new church dedicated to St. Zdislava was built and sanctified. It has become the new pride of the village. Other sights include monuments to the victims of WWI and WWII near the school and a monument to Wallachian partisans in Kněhyně.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

The village of Prostřední Bečva provides its citizens and visitors with a variety of sports venues. In recent years, the multi-purpose sports facility U Zavadilky has been fully renovated. It offers a natural swimming pool filled with spring water, a tennis court with turf, a practice wall for

tennis and courts for indoor and street volleyball. There is also a restaurant and bar called Zavadilka.

Prostřední Bečva is a popular Beskydy mountain resort. An especially attractive destination is the mountain saddle Pustevny. Tourists enjoy seeing the architectural masterpieces Maměnka and Libušín from the turn of the century. These two ornate timbered buildings by Dušan Jurkovič were built in the years 1891-1900 and renovated in the 1990s. In 2014, they were damaged by fire but restoration is already taking place. Other buildings in Pustevny include the Tanečnica hotel and the chalet Šumná, which is the oldest building in the area.

Downhill skiers can use Pustevny ski slopes, all of which offer surface ski lifts. Long groomed cross-country trails run through the area, reaching as far as the peaks of Soláň and Třeštík or the town of Rožnov pod Radhoštěm. Hotels, chalets and family pensions provide accommodation.



Pustevny in the winter



Walpurgis Night in Prostřední Bečva



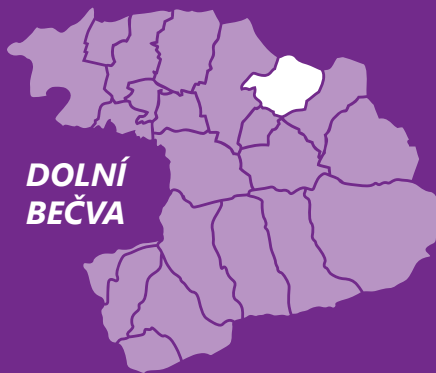
Summer in Prostřední Bečva



Mayor's Cup sports event



St. Zdislava Church



Municipality Type: Village

Area: 2 004 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 1 886

Metres above Sea Level: 427

First Historical Record: 1597

Postal Code: 756 55

Municipal Website: www.dolnibecva.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

The village of Dolní Bečva is located at the foot of Mt. Radhošť in the idyllic Moravskoslezské Beskydy mountains. The district centre Rožnov pod Radhoštěm is 4 kilometres away. As the name suggests, the village is on the Bečva River at an elevation of 427 metres above sea level. Mt. Radhošť, reaching 1129 metres above sea level, marks the northern border of the area administered by the village. Other important peaks include Černá hora (902 metres above sea level), Mešný, Kamenná (747 metres above sea level) and Kyčera. The population size of 1,800 inhabitants and the territory of 2004 hectares make Dolní Bečva a mid-size town in the Vsetín district. Although the centre of the village is situated at 427 metres of elevation, the residential areas sprawl another 400 metres uphill. As mentioned above, the ridge of the Radhošť Beskydy mountains with Mt. Radhošť on top forms the northern border of the municipality. Water from the slopes drains into the Dolní Rozpítý and Horní Rozpítý creeks. Scattered settlements



Dolní Bečva

and farmsteads include Rozpité, Kamenné, Polana, Bilův dvůr, U Hajdů and Kopeček. The Rožnov arm of the Bečva River marks the southern border of the territory. Several community groups are active in the town. These include the Senior Club, Ajax Dolní Bečva, the Firemen of Dolní Bečva, the football club, the hunting club and the skiing club Radhošť.

History and Cultural Heritage:

Buildings of religious and cultural significance include the parish building and the church of St. Anthony of Padua in Dolní Bečva, a bell tower in Pavlova lúka and the St. Mary chapel in Horní Rozpité. The sights located on top of the Radhošť ridge are particularly attractive for visitors. On the mountain tops, they can see a timbered church with a chapel dedicated to the Saints Cyril and Methodius, their statue and a concrete monument to the pagan god Radegast.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

Several hiking and cycling routes depart from the village of Dolní Bečva in the direction of Pustevny and Mt. Radhošť. Pustevny is a saddle below Radhošť with two historical hotels designed by the famous architect Dušan Jurkovič. Unfortunately, these ornate masterpieces of architecture were damaged by fire in 2014 and are under restoration. Visitor services in the town of Dolní Bečva are available all year round.



Dolní Bečva football pitch



Dolní Bečva downtown



Radegast Monument



Saints Cyril and Methodius Chapel



Church of St. Anthony of Padua



VIGANTICE

Municipality Type: Village

Area: 764 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 1 044

Metres above Sea Level: 482

First Historical Record: 1411

Postal Code: 756 61

Municipal Website: www.vigantice.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

*Vigantice is located in the foothills of the northern peaks of Vsetínská hornatina, 3.8 kilometres to the southeast of Rožnov pod Radhoštěm at an elevation of 482 metres above sea level. The creeks running through the village are called Házovka and its tributaries Studený and Měřístek. On the right bank of Házovka you can see the hills of Hůrka, Sůš, Kopec and Poskla. Vigantské Díly peak is located on the left. The highest point of elevation is Stráž hill (536 metres above sea level), situated between the village and the Bečva River. The fields in the vicinity are home to a rare bird species, the corn crane (*Crex crex*). The name Vigantice is a derivative of the personal name Wiegand. The first historical record about the village comes from 1411, when a nobleman, Lacek of Kravaře gave his land title to this and other settlements. The decree is evidence that Vigantice was an independent village owned by the same landlords as Rožnov pod Radhoštěm.*



Vigantice

History and Cultural Heritage:

The Vigantice chapel was built by the municipality in 1860 primarily for the purpose of Sunday mass. In 1889, a cemetery was added to the chapel. In 1911-13, a new Catholic church in Neo-Gothic style was built and dedicated to the Transfiguration of Jesus. Historically, school children in Vigantice used to go to school in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm until the beginning of the 19th century, when the village got its first private school in House No. 45 and later in House No.70. In 1835 this school took on the character of a public school and accepted all children. Two years later, in 1837, a new school building was built to accommodate the children from Vigantice and Hážovice in an ungraded school. Subsequently, it expanded into two grades (in 1889). In 1857, 116 students in total attended the school, 41 of whom came from Hážovice and 75 from Vigantice. In 1926, the community built another new building with two floors. This school was comprised of four grades.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

Vigantice has a swimming pool and a new sports centre. Hiking and bicycling routes run through the village in several directions. The trail to Tanečnice peak (911 metres above sea level) heads southeast via Hutisko-Solanec. A monument on the top of Tanečnice commemorates the murder of local guerrilla fighters who were imprisoned by the Nazis in the course of WWII. The German soldiers invaded several farmsteads in the area and burned to death all the partisans they found. Another trail runs from Hutisko-Solanec to the top of Hluboký (848 metres above sea level). In Hážovice, visitors can enjoy the sight of a timbered bell tower from the 19th century nestled under lime (linden) trees. On the forest road leading south from Vigantice, hikers can also take the signposted trail that leads west to Zvonový peak (743 metres above sea level).



Outdoor swimming pool



Football pitch



Vigantice countryside



View of Mt. Radhošť



Church of the Transfiguration



ROŽNOV POD RADHOŠTĚM

Municipality Type: Town

Area: 3 947 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 16 654

Metres above Sea Level: 378

First Historical Record: 1267

Postal Code: 756 61

Municipal Website: www.roznov.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

Rožnov pod Radhoštěm, located on the Bečva River, was originally all built out of pine wood from local pines, which still grow in and around the town. In the beginning of the last century, Rožnov was a quiet spa town in the idyllic valley below Mt. Radhošť. Today it is a vibrant town with all the modern amenities. This centre of tourism, arts and business is set in the breathtaking scenery of sunny hills and fragrant forests. The friendly and relaxed atmosphere of Rožnov makes it a popular place to visit.

History and Cultural Heritage:

Rožnov is famous for the Wallachian Open-Air Museum. Its exhibits show original timbered buildings from all over the region, which have been transported to the museum for the purposes of preservation. They have been assembled to resemble two settlements - a town located in a park (Dřevěné městečko) and a village on a hill slope (Valašská dědina and Mlýnská dolina). The village and the mill in



Rožnov pod Radhoštěm

the valley below are in full operation to preserve “live” arts and traditions. Mill structures used for timber processing - a water mill, a wool mill and a saw mill - process materials. Local plants, fruits and vegetables traditionally grown in the area are cultivated in the fields and gardens in the village. Farmers keep live animals here as well. Over the course of the year, the museum holds shows of various folklore ensembles in a sequence of 60 events called the Wallachian Year Festival. The Wallachian Open Air Museum was founded in 1925. It is the oldest and the largest museum of its kind in Europe. Every year, it welcomes over half a million visitors from the Czech Republic and abroad. Guided tours are available in four different languages. The rich folklore of the region is preserved as a live tradition by music and dance ensembles, choirs and other Wallachian artists.

Other historical buildings in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm include the All Saints Church, the Evangelical Church the timbered church of St. Anne in the Wooden Townlet in the open-air museum. A statue of the first Czechoslovak president, T.G. Masaryk, can be found at the main square. A view tower designed by architect Jurkovič, who also designed the

historical hotels in Pustevny, is a popular local sight. It is located on top of Karlův kopec. Tourists are also welcome in the old brewery that serves specialty drink and food and offers accommodation.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

Rožnov is a great place for sports and recreation. There are a number of sports venues for summer and winter sports and hiking and bicycling trails. These criss-cross the countryside in elevations ranging from 350 to 1150 metres above sea level. To the pleasure of fishermen, trout is found in the streams and rivers, lakes and ponds in and around Rožnov. Besides the museum, visitors come to visit Pustevny and Mt. Radhošť, both of which can be reached via signposted trails from Rožnov. Other trails head to Mt. Soláň, which has drawn painters and other artists throughout the past. Another route follows the ridge of Veřovické vrchy to the peak of Velký Javorník.



Music Pavilion in the park



The road around Rožnov



Beehives in the Rožnov open-air museum



Ski jumps in Bučickska



Jurkovič view tower



Municipality Type: Village
Area: 1 178 hectares
Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 1 708
Metres above Sea Level: 378
First Historical Record: 1310
Postal Code: 756 53
Municipal Website: www.vidce.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

The village of Vidče is located 4 kilometres to the southwest of Rožnov pod Radhoštěm in a valley formed by the Moravskoslezské Beskydy mountains on one side and the Vsetínské vrchy on the other. The area is comprised largely of pastures and fields. Vidče is the oldest settlement in the region. The first historical records date back to 1310 when it was described as a rural village in an area where iron ore and limestone were mined.

The most popular landmark in Vidče is the viewpoint Vápenka known under the nickname Zuberák. It is located on the hill between the village of Vidče and the village of Zubří at 523 metres of elevation. The name Vápenka suggests the hill is made of limestone, which used to be mined and transported to the ironworks in the neighbouring village of Zubří. Vápenka, a.k.a. Zuberák, offers fantastic views of the valley and the local hills – Veřovické vrchy, the Pindula saddle and Moravskoslezské Beskydy mountains.



Vidče

History and Cultural Heritage:

There are two points of historical interest in the village. The timbered bell tower is said to date back to the 18th century although its origins have not been recorded. It used to ring the bell at noon, the Angelus bell for the evening prayer and on the occasion of funerals, deaths, fires or disasters. Originally, the tower was erected behind the pub in the centre but recently it has been repaired and moved to the church grounds.

A relatively new work of architecture is the Cyril and Methodius church in Neo-Gothic style, which has been designated as a cultural monument. The interesting history of the building is documented in the old school chronicle from the years 1911-1938. 1994, when the church was designated as a cultural monument, was the impulse to begin much needed renovation work. It has been funded from multiple sources: the local people, the municipality and the national authority overseeing historical preservation. Although the church was in a state of severe disrepair in

the decades leading to 1994, the roof had proved to be of such a high quality that it did not call for renovation.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

Farmstead settlements such as Videčské Paseky located at a relatively high elevation of 597 metres above sea level (the highest in the village) offer magnificent views of the surrounding hills and forests. From here, hikers and bicyclists can enjoy views of Mt. Radhošť and of Veřovické, Vsacké and Hostýnské vrchy hill ranges. In the winter, the summer hiking and bicycling routes in the hills turn into ski trails, most of which are groomed for all levels of cross country skiers. One of the sloping fields above the village is used as a training ground for paragliding and hang-gliding. The education trail Hradisko, about the nature and history of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area, also runs through the village. The beautiful setting of Vidče has made the village a popular weekend destination for visitors from far and wide.



Sahara sports park



Videčské paseky



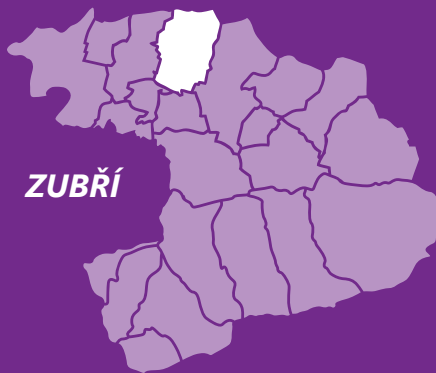
Videč church



Viewpoint



Saints Cyril and Methodius Church



Municipality Type: Town
Area: 2 839 hectares
Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 5 623
Metres above Sea Level: 378
First Historical Record: 1310
Postal Code: 756 54
Municipal Website: www.mesto-zubri.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

*Zubří is located in the foothills of the western part of the Moravskoslezské Beskydy mountains, specifically in the south of Veřovské vrchy. The distance to Rožnov pod Radhoštěm is about 4 kilometres. The road to Rožnov follows the Bečva River and two creeks – Hodorfský ((Zuberský) and Starozuberský. The northern part of the village area is part of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area. The oldest yew tree in the whole region grows next to House No. 181 on the U Tisu Street right in the centre of the village. This tree has been there since the Thirty Year War at the beginning of the 17th century. The upper end of the village hides a secret. Every spring a rare species of wild saffron (*Crocus heuffelianus*) grows in the garden of House No. 137.*



Zubří

History and Cultural Heritage:

The sacral buildings include the St. Catherine Church and the chapel in Staré Zubří, which offers a beautiful view of the long valley of Starozuberský creek. The 360-year-old yew tree (Koláček Tis) and the small leaved lime (linden) at the monument to WWII partisans represent natural attractions. For the architecture enthusiast, the Na Petrohradě House (Petersburg House) may be of interest.

Almost twenty crosses and wayside shrines document the history of the village as each was for a particular occasion over time. There are statues (Wallachian Family by V. Navrátil by the Klub), monuments (a small monument commemorating the tragedy of V. Procházka and V. Sedlák and a monument to T.G. Masaryk) and memorial plaques (commemorating Josef Holíš, a Nazi victim). The most valuable treasure in Zašová, however, is the local embroidery tradition. Mrs. Marie Pырchalová maintains the art of embroidery to this day. For her work she has received the honourable title Traditional

Arts and Crafts Bearer. There is also a museum dedicated to embroidery. Exhibitions about local traditions, history and art are regularly held in the Na Petrohradě House.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

Out of the many sports practiced in Zubří, handball has a particularly long tradition. Athletes from the village can utilize a community gym, a sports hall, a climbing wall, a football pitch, tennis courts, a bowling alley and a bike park. Hiking routes are easily accessible. The trail to the peak of Velký Javorník passes a new view tower offering views of Štramberk, Frenštát and the Moravskoslezské Beskydy panorama. The bicycling trail Cyklostezka Bečva also runs through here.



Sports park



Traditional Zubří embroidery



Zubří museum



Broom maker



Chapel of the Holy Spirit in Staré Zubří



STŘÍTEŽ NAD BEČVOU

Municipality Type: Village

Area: 745 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 858

Metres above Sea Level: 334 - 565

First Historical Record: 1376

Postal Code: 756 52

Municipal Website: www.striteznb.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

Střítež nad Bečvou is situated on the left bank of the Rožnov arm of the Bečva River and on the northern slopes of the Vsetínské vrchy hills in the Vsetín district. The village name Střítež probably originates from třet, an old Czech expression for reed. Unlike all the other villages in the valley of the Rožnov Bečva River, the long narrow shape of the village imitates the river. Bokšinec and Rakovec creeks run through the vicinity and flow together at the bottom end. Approximately 500 metres past Kostelisko they empty into the Bečva. Another stream that flows through Střítež is Videčka. The natural monument Rákosina is located here.

History and Cultural Heritage:

In Střítež, the following sights may be of interest. The Evangelical Church from 1872, originally funded only by the resources of the local people, is fitted with a historical



Střítež nad Bečvou

organ. It was made at the end of the 18th century and restored in 2005. In the park in front of the church, visitors can see a statue of the first Czechoslovak president, T.G. Masaryk.

The history of the piece has been complicated. It was taken down in WWII and hidden to prevent it from damage. Later, it was repeatedly put up and taken down but it was restored recently and is currently on display in the public park. The pedestal has been engraved with the names of soldiers who died in WWI.

The village also has a monument to the victims of WWII. Another historical building is the Community Building in Střítež from 1936, now a restaurant. At the end of the village, there is a stone cross which reads Mercy, My Lord, 1938. There used to be a large wooden cross in its place until 1834 but there is no record of why, when and by whom it was originally erected.

Things to Do:

Visitors and locals alike can enjoy the sports courts and pitches at Pod Hostýnem. A tennis court, a football pitch and a training area are used for sports and for community events such as firemen's or hunting excursions. The primary purpose of the football pitch, however, is to provide a training ground for the sports club of the local branch of the Volunteer Firemen Association SDH Střítež nad Bečvou. Hotel Květoň can be found near the town hall. The Sokolovna building, which contains a gym built by the Sokol sports association in the village centre, was fully restored in 2009. Nowadays, it is also used as an event facility. The Střítež segment of the new bicycling trail Cyklostezka Bečva was opened in 2010. It starts in Valašské Meziříčí and follows the Rožnov arm of the Bečva River along the entire valley up to Horní Bečva. Bicycling trail No. 6219 also runs through the village.



Cyklostezka Bečva bicycling trail



Town hall



Kindergarten



Natural beauty



Parish building



VELKÁ LHOTA

Municipality Type: Village

Area: 932 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 514

Metres above Sea Level: 540

First Historical Record: 1374

Postal Code: 757 01

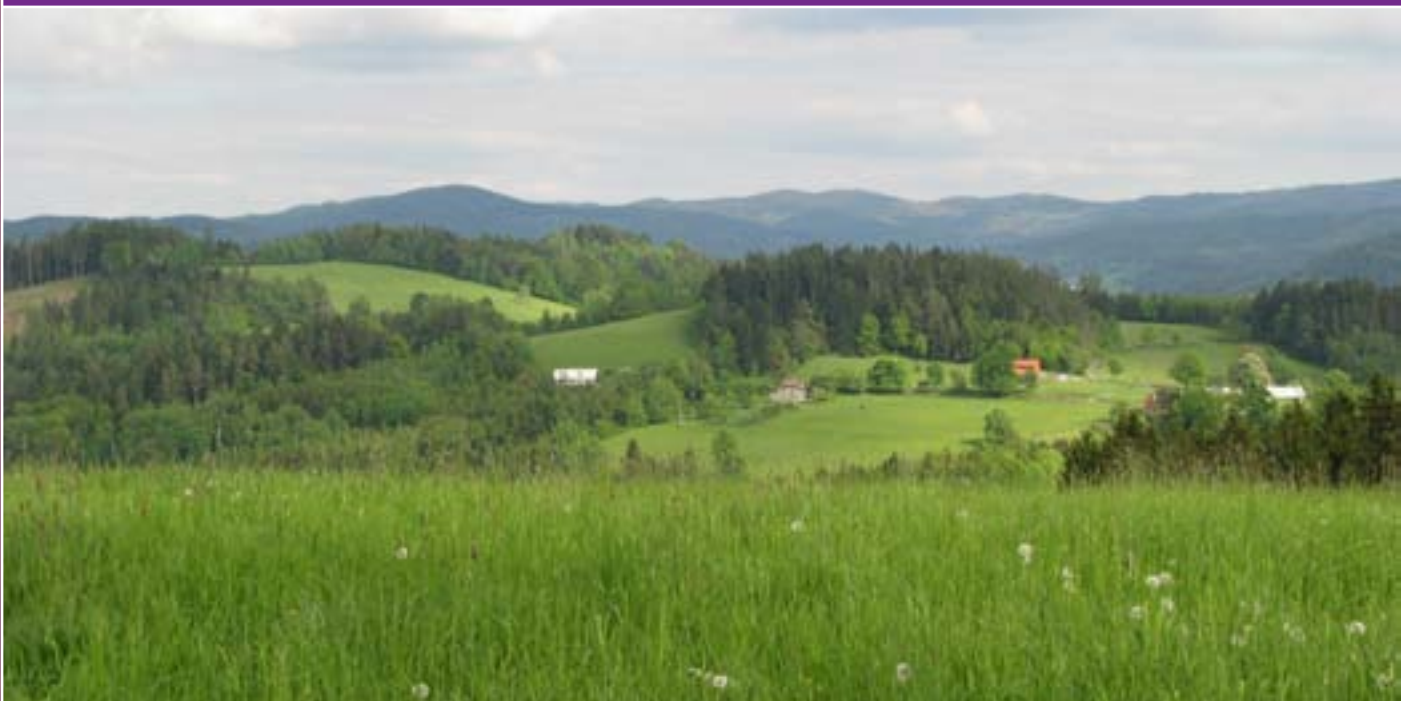
Municipal Website: www.velkahlota.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

The village is situated in the western part of the Vsetínské vrchy hills. It is approximately 9 kilometres from Valašské Meziříčí and its elevation is the highest of all the municipalities in the district. The first historical record of settlement in the area dates back to 1374, when it was mentioned as a part of the Krásno domain. Other records show Velká Lhota as a part of the territory governed by the Rožnov nobility from 1411 on. In 1980, the village of Malá Lhota was subsumed into Velká Lhota. A large field maple tree on the ridge separating the two villages is a prominent geographical landmark.

History and Cultural Heritage:

The Christian Tolerance Church is the most interesting sight in the village. Its history relates to the 1781 Patent of Toleration issued by the Habsburg emperor Joseph II to grant religious freedom to Protestants and free them from persecution. The church building is simple, with no tower,



Views from Velká Lhota

heating or lighting. The entire façade and roof are made of shingles. As the only structure with the original features of tolerance churches of its time in the country, it is protected as a national heritage site. It is still in operation. Mass is held every Sunday and other festivities on occasion. It is also open to visitors and guided tours are available. The church is a part of the project Open Gates, which invites visitors to see interesting religious buildings and monuments in Zlín county.

The timbered bell tower is another place to visit in Velká Lhota. The bell dates back to 1687 when it was bought to be put in the church in Veselé. In 1870 the bell was put back in the bell tower in Malá Lhota where it has remained since, although during the WWII it was temporarily confiscated. The bell tower was restored in 2012.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

Several hiking trails run through the village. Some head to Valašské Meziříčí, Rožnov and Valašská Bystřice (Mt.

Tanečnica and Na Díly), others to Malá Bystřice via Mantov, Vsacký Cáb and the Bystřička reservoir. The route of the annual Wallachia Rally car race also runs through here.

In the vicinity of Malá Lhota, a geologically unique sandstone formation Medůvka can be found. It is the only rock near the Bystřička reservoir that is not a part of the Klenov rock city but towers on the other side of the valley on the ridge to the west of Vrchhůra. Medůvka is a popular rock climbing spot featuring routes that rank among the most difficult sandstone routes in Moravia. Several routes are rated difficulty 9, which represents the hardest possible rank in local conditions. According to the legend, the rock was dropped here by the devil when he collected rocks to build a bridge over the Senice creek in Lidečko. The bridge was supposed to be finished before sunrise and the devil had run out of time and dropped it on his way. This legend about the devil from Lidečko, however, is told about most rocks in the area.



Field maple tree



Evangelical Church



Monument to Russian Legionnaires



Winter in Lhota



Timbered shrine



Municipality Type: Village

Area: 2 252 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: cca 3 029

Metres above Sea Level: 338

First Historical Record: 1376

Postal Code: 756 51

Municipal Website: www.zasova.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

The village of Zašová is located between Valašské Meziříčí and Rožnov pod Radhoštěm and it is formed by the settlements Zašová and Veselá. The Bečva River, running here in the so-called Rožnov Groove, separates the two communities. Zašová is situated on the southern slopes of Veřovické vrchy and Veselá in the area north of Malá and Velká Lhota. Zuštýn, the highest peak in the vicinity of Zašová, is located at an elevation of 749 metres above sea level and is considered a part of the Moravskoslezské Beskydy mountains. The population size of the village is the largest in the district formerly administered by the town of Vsetín. The northern end of the municipality is part of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area. A fresh water spring called Stračka is a unique natural and cultural attraction. Other smaller springs are found in the north part of the village and in the forests around Veselá.



History and Cultural Heritage:

There are five works of art that may be of interest to visitors. They include the Baroque Church of The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Baroque statue of John of Nepomuk, the building of a former convent of the Trinity Church and a rock cross at the village park. St. Martin's Church in Veselá is also worth attention. Other pieces of religious architecture such as bell towers and crosses by the wayside dot the countryside. These landmarks include the plague column by the bottom bridge in Zašová, which commemorates the end of a cholera epidemic in 1836. Other monuments in the village include a monument to the first Czechoslovak president, T.G. Masaryk, monuments to legionnaires and the victims of the World Wars in each village and a statue of a weeping woman by the ceremonial hall at the cemetery. The Stračka spring is particularly interesting. It has been drawing visitors and pilgrims seeking help with their problems for centuries. According to the legend, Virgin Mary saved a knight from death in this place. To commemorate the event, there is a fair at the beginning of July every year to this day.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

The village got a new community hall in 2013 which makes it easier to hold larger cultural events such as the Zašová Fair in July and Zašová Festival in September. A variety of venues is available to the public, including a large gym, a hall fitted with mirrors, a bowling alley, an outdoor pitch, a tennis court, a football pitch and a handball court. Services available in the village range from a sauna with a whirlpool and massage therapy at the sports centre to beauty and hair salons, halotherapy and nutrition counseling in the community service centre. Families can also utilize children's playgrounds, and a view tower at the cemetery park.

Hiking trails designed for families with little children run through Pohoř, Jaština and Černý kopeček featuring signposted stops for exercise, relaxation and a view of the countryside. The 15 kilometre-long trail, used for the Bicycle 24-hour Marathon, is also popular.



Stračka fresh water spring



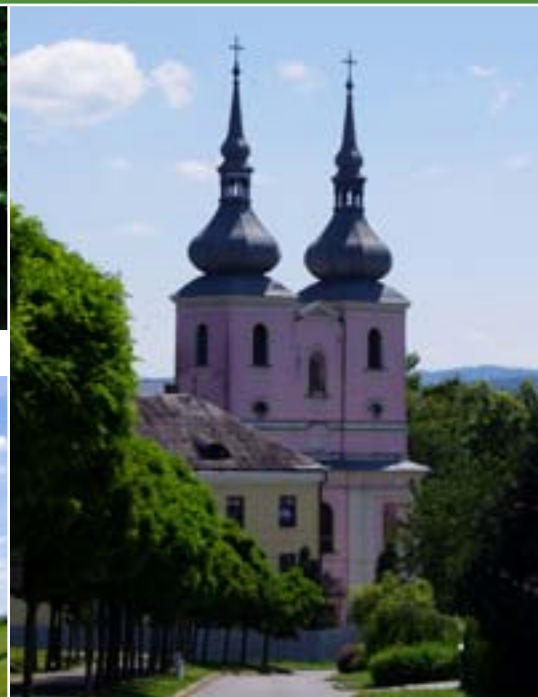
Stračka Statue



Pohoř



Zašová sports venue



Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Location and Natural Heritage:

Krhová is set right in the heart of Wallachia. It is located 2 kilometres from Valašské Meziříčí and was one of its neighbourhoods until recently. The village territory is delineated by the creek of Srní potok, nicknamed Krhůvka. The area administered by Krhová is only 805 hectares and the elevation of the village centre is 312 metres above sea level. As of January 1, 2015 there were 1,966 residents living in 658 houses, most of which are found in the hills of Veřovické vrchy. A portion of the municipal territory is located in the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area.

Municipality Type: Village

Area: 805 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 1 966

Metres above Sea Level: 312

First Historical Record: 1442

Postal Code: 756 63

Municipal Website: www.krhova.cz

History and Cultural Heritage:

The first historical record of the village dates back to 1442. These documents talk about a nobleman called Hudek from Krhová, who seemed to have a farmstead in the area. The next resident was the nobleman Jan Měříčka



from Těškovice, who occupied the Krhová fort. In 1502, the area was subsumed under the territory governed by the nobility from Rožnov until it became independent again in the years 1529-1542. Following the legislative changes in the system of land ownership in 1849, which effectively deprived nobility of their land titles, Krhová became a part of the Valašské Meziříčí district. In 1953 it became a proper neighbourhood and remained so until April 21, 2012 when the citizens of Krhová voted in favour of independence. This administrative change has been in force since January 1, 2013, making Krhová a village of its own.

It prides itself on its history as a spa town called Wittigsbad, famous since 1747. In Jehličné, a spring of water containing sulphur and iron was developed into a small resort in 1861. The therapy utilized the combined healing properties of the local water and fir needles. The popularity of the restaurant in Jehličné has been growing over time and now it is a popular destination for day trippers.

Historical sights in Krhová include a monument to the first Czechoslovak president, T.G.Masaryk, and to soldiers who died in the First and Second World Wars. In the Jehličné restaurant, visitors can also find a commemorative plaque to the Soviet spy group called Karel 20.

Krhová has never had its own church. It has always been a part of the parish in Valašské Meziříčí, but in 1897 a chapel was built in the village to satisfy the needs of the community.

Things to Do:

Krhová, the so-called Gate to the Beskydy Mountains, is a good starting point for exploring the country and its history. In the village, tourists can view the chapel, an ancient oak tree and pay a visit to the famous restaurant in Jehličné. Trails in the hills of Veřovické vrchy abound.



Krhová



Monument to T.G. Masaryk



Krhová arts and culture



Winter in Krhová



Chapel



VALAŠSKÉ MEZIŘÍČÍ

Municipality Type: Town

Area: 3 544 hectares

Population Size as of December 31, 2014: 22 753

Metres above Sea Level: 294

First Historical Record: 1297

Postal Code: 757 01

Municipal Website: www.valasskemezirici.cz

Location and Natural Heritage:

Valašské Meziříčí is located in the foothills of the Moravskoslezské Beskydy mountains, due to which it is sometimes called the Gate to the Moravskoslezské Beskydy. The other label the town has earned for its rich cultural life is The Athens of Wallachia. However, most frequently it is referred to as Valmez, which is an abbreviated version of its name.

Valašské Meziříčí is an important crossroads on the confluence of the Vsetín and Rožnov arms of the Bečva River, protected by hill ranges on three sides -the hills of Vsetínské vrchy, Podbeskydská pahorkatina and Hostýnské vrchy.

History and Cultural Heritage:

In Valašské Meziříčí visitors can see two castles (Zámek Žerotínů and Zámek Kinských), the Church of the Assumption of Virgin Mary, the timbered church of the



Valašské Meziříčí

Holy Trinity with a collection of stone monuments and the town hall in Krásno nad Bečvou. Other buildings of interest include the city hall in Meziříčí, House U Apoštolů, the art nouveau building of the School for the Hearing Impaired, the Baroque memorial plague column with the statue of St. Mary, the evangelical church and parish building in Blahoslavova Street and the Liberation Monument at Helštýn castle. In addition, several unique attractions can be enjoyed here: the observatory, the Moravian Tapestry Manufacture and the Museum of Wallachian Ghosts.

Events, Activities and Things to Do:

Sports enthusiasts have a wide variety of programmes and venues to choose from in Valašské Meziříčí. Facilities in the Kouty neighbourhood include a football pitch with a running track, an ice skating rink and first class outdoor and an indoor swimming pools featuring children's attractions, whirlpools and sauna rooms. Fourteen tennis courts and an indoor tennis hall operated by the Deza Tennis Club are located in close proximity to Kouty. Other

courts and pitches are found near school buildings. The water sports club facilities on the Bečva River include docks and a canoe/kayak slalom track. And bicyclists can enjoy the 160 kilometre-long Cyklostezka Bečva bicycling trail, which follows both arms of the Bečva River upstream. Several hiking trails and education trails make their way through Valašské Meziříčí. These include the T.G. Masaryk and the Jan Karafiát Education Trails and the Velký Javorník, Klenov, Veřovické vrchy hiking trails. Another trail has been made at the premises of the Kinsky Castle and a wheelchair accessible trail can be found in the park adjacent to the former military quarters.

The Wallachian Regional Museum at the Kinsky Castle offers several exhibitions: glass from local production, tapestries, an exhibit about the history of the city and temporary art shows. Art and music performances regularly take place at Žerotín Castle, which has a recently renovated open-air amphitheatre as well as an attractive gallery space open year round.



Swimming pool



Sunset from Žerotín castle



Town square

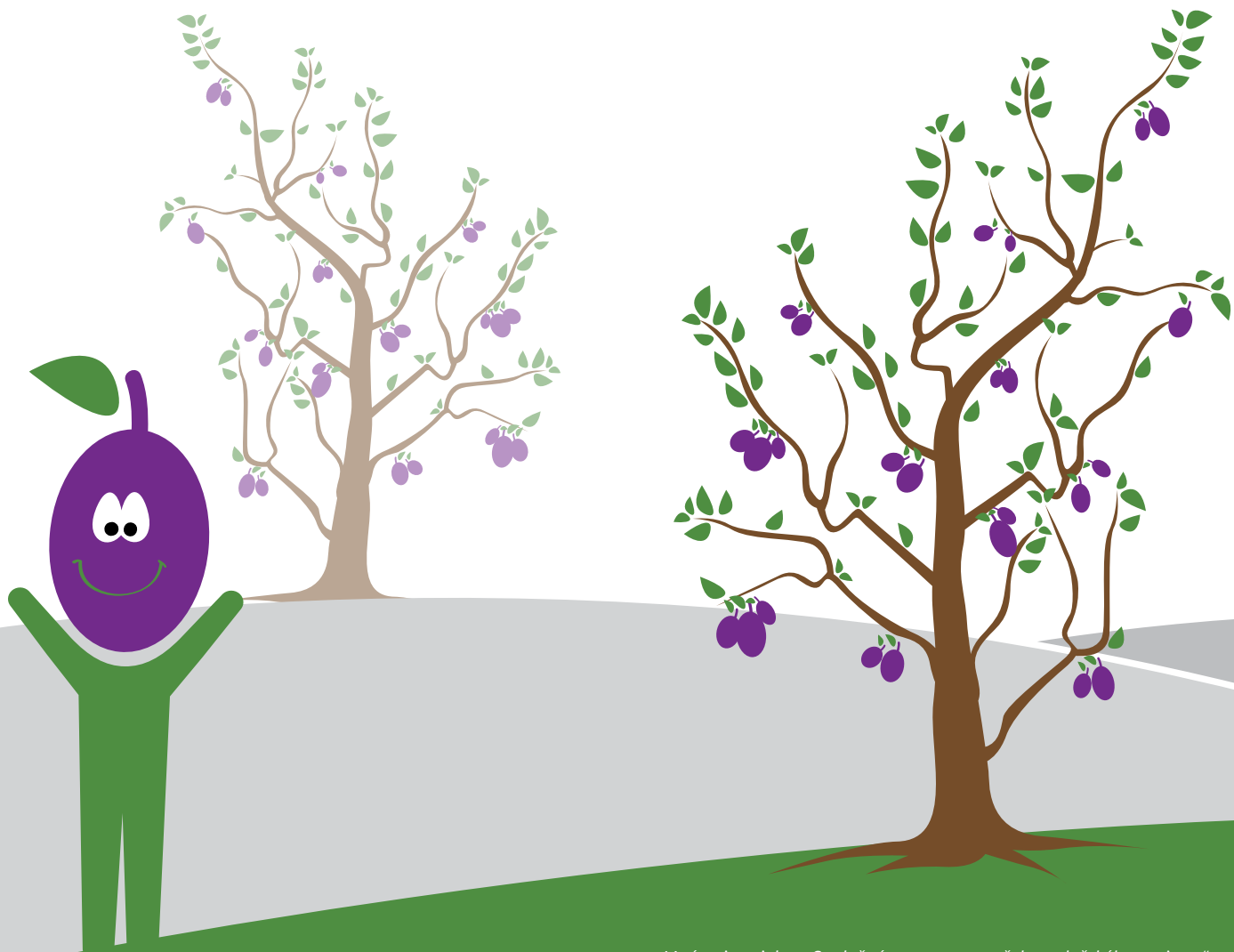


Žerotín Castle



Žerotín Castle Garden

Valašsko moje - srdce Tvoje



V rámci projektu „Společná propagace našeho valašského regionu“ vydala Místní akční skupina Valašsko – Horní Vsacko, z.s. a Místní akční skupina Rožnovsko, z.s. v roce 2015 v nákladu 3 000 výtisků.

Grafické zpracování: www.hoguera.cz, Tisk: HART PRESS, spol. s r.o.