

The Štramberg part of the Lachian educational trail was established by the city of Štramberg in the years 2002 and 2003. In 2013 the Štramberg part of the educational trail was also renewed from the funds of the city of Štramberg in connection with the renewal of the Kopřivnice part of the Lachian educational trail. The trail is circular, it is 6 kilometres long, has 13 stops, whereas 4 stops – The Botanic Garden (*Botanická zahrada*), Kamenárka, Virgin Mary (*U Panny Marie*) and White Mountain (*Bílá hora*) – are common with the Kopřivnice branch of the educational trail.

THE ROUTE OF THE LACHIAN EDUCATIONAL TRAIL

The Štramberg part of the Lachian educational trail leads through all important and remarkable places of the city. The rich history, beautiful and interesting countryside, rare plants and animals and also the views of the terrain will be a remarkable experience for you. Thirteen thematic information boards will guide you, four of which are common with the Kopřivnice branch.

General Characteristics of the Route:

The route is circular.

The overall length of the educational trail is 6 km.

The highest point of the trail is the top of White Mountain (*Bílá hora*) with an altitude of 557 m above sea level

The lowest point of the trail is the crossing on Dolní Street with an altitude of 365 m above sea level

The overall elevation is 192 meters.

The stops Botanic Garden (*Botanická zahrada*), Kamenárka, Virgin Mary (*U Panny Marie*) and White Mountain (*Bílá hora*) are common for the Lachian educational trail through Kopřivnice and the educational trail in Štramberg.

The trail officially starts and ends at stop No. 1 – The National Gardens (*Národní sad*) (parking lot by the primary school, near the central parking lot), but the route may be altered in various ways (see, for example, the walking circuits).

Some stops and parts of the trail are accessible with a trolley or on bicycle (depends on the physical abilities of each tourist).

Route Description:

The route starts next to the Primary School building – stop No. 1 – The National Gardens (*Národní sad*) (410 m above sea level). Then you follow the sign of the educational trail via an asphalt road upwards. At the border of the forest the road turns into a forest path which you follow to the right and upwards. The path takes us to stop No. 2 – Šipka Cave (440 m above sea level). Right of the entrance to the cave, there are stairs with a railing, which you take to reach the stone cross above the cave. By the bell tower, there is the Bezruč viewing tower with a typical viewpoint over the city. It is said that one who rings the bell of the bell tower will live until their death. Then carry on along the forest path upwards, where you will pass the memorial of Leoš Janáček on the right and then further there is a memorial dedicated to St. Wenceslaus on the left, until you reach one of the hilltops of Kotouč (517 m above sea level), where we meet with a bust of Bedřich Smetana.

The view of the landscape is beautiful from up there.

After that you pass by the memorial of B. Smetana and the path takes you all the way to the periphery of Kotouč quarry, which is bordered by the fence of stop No. 3 – Kotouč (517 m above sea level). Step down around the fence through a little more difficult, but short, passage to a walkable

forest road until you pass by the memorial of František Palacký and a rock wall in the background – stop No. 4 – Jurův kámen (495 m above sea level). Carry on along the memorial of Alois Jirásek, the plaque of the brother of Jan Čapek, the memorial of Jan Žižka from Trocnov (a chalice) to the memorial of T. G. Masaryk. At this memorial, we turn left and carry on until the road takes us out of the forest, then we turn right to a road between fields and follow this road all the way to the first houses. On the way we pass stop No. 5 – Plňava (44 m above sea level).

Following the sign of the educational trail, walk through a steep rocky road between houses until you reach the joining of the streets Plňava and Dolní. There, turn left and at the first crossing carry on around a timber house to the right up the hill and you will reach the healthcare centre. Directly opposite the healthcare centre, there is a short, but steep, connection of the roads from Dolní Bašta to Horní Bašta, by which you will get to stop No. 6 – Horní Bašta (380 m above sea level). We walk through this street to the right until we reach the Square (*Náměstí*) – stop No. 7 (410 m above sea level), and from the square we take the stairs on the left to the area of Štramberský Castle, where you find stop No. 8 – Zámecký vrch, Trúba (508 m above sea level). Carry on through the area, a stone gate, Jaroňkova Street (the “Golden Street” of Štramberský) and follow the middle road towards White Mountain (*Bílá hora*). On the right, there is stop No. 9 – Skála Rudý (500 m above sea level).

Keep following the sign of the educational trail along the mountainside of White Mountain (*Bílá hora*) until you reach stop No. 10 – White Mountain (*Bílá hora*). This one and the rest of the stops are on both the Štramberský and the Kopřivnice branches of the educational trail. From the viewing tower onwards, take the Slunečná path in the direction of the valley towards Štramberský and it will take you to stop No. 11 – Virgin Mary (*Panna Marie*) (480 m above sea level). Carry on left following the path to stop No. 12 – Horní Kamenárka. Walk down the path around Kamenárka all the way to the stone barricade with the upper gate of the botanic garden; if the gate is open, you can walk through the gardens. Otherwise turn left and around the gas well follow the grassy road which later turns into an asphalt one and takes you to the right to the lower gate of the botanic garden where you find the last stop No. 13 – The Botanic Garden (*Botanická zahrada*).

Carry on from here via the asphalt road to the guide-post under the botanic garden. The sign of the educational trail will take you all the way to the starting point – The National Gardens (*Národní sad*), or you can walk on through the green field to Vaňkův kámen and thus join the Kopřivnice branch of the Lachian educational trail.

TIP: The whole route may also be reversed, starting from the botanic garden, where you can find the only free parking lot in Štramberský. More information on the course of the walking circuit.

Trail established by: The city of Štramberský

Information boards producer: Actaea – společnost pro přírodu a krajinu (texts and interpretation

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Co-operators: The Štramberský Municipality – The Environmental Sector, The Culture, Sports and Tourism Department, The Štramberský Municipality Environmental Commission, The Lachian Gate of

Beskydy, The Zdeněk Burian Museum, The Štramberk Botanic Garden, The Wallachian Kingdom, Josef Adamec, Jiří Kocián.

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Trail administrator: The Czech Tourist Club

1. The National Gardens (*Národní sad*) (410 m above sea level)

During the times of enthusiastic patriotism shortly after the foundation of Czechoslovakia, a park called "The National Gardens" (*Národní sad*) was established in the area of Kotouč and opened in the year 1922. This gallery in the countryside represents prominent personalities of Czech national history and culture in the form of busts and memorials. Today's sculptures laid out around Kotouč are only replicas of the real artworks.

The primary school by the entrance to the national gardens was opened in the year of 1910. It was built thanks to MUDr. Adolf Hrstka. At the beginning, it also served as a museum for the purposes of art exhibitions.

In the entrance part of the gardens, there is a sculptural group from the academic sculptor František Juraň commemorating the victims of World War I and II. All names of Štramberk citizens who died at war are to be found there. A beautiful sculpture of the Madonna, purchased out of gratefulness for saving the region in War II by the faithful citizens of Štramberk in 1946, stands on the rock with the inscription Ave Maria. It is from the production of the academic sculptor Vojtěch Hořínek.

In the village chapel of the former Way of the Cross, which was undergone by Jesuits to the churches on the mountainhill, a Wallachian Bethlehem used to be situated, which was designed by Břetislav Bartoš, an artist from Frenštát, and carved out by Professor Alois Balán. In 1992, it was misappropriated and it was later replaced by a wooden Bethlehem from a local woodcarver.

In 1960, a national natural monument Šipka, an internationally renowned archaeological locality, was set out in the area of the national gardens in the extent of 24.61 ha. The whole of Kotouč hill consists of calcite. Calcites used to accumulate near a big coral-reef far away from here. Then, they would break, subside, accumulate, partly dissolve, mix with other minerals, move and subside, ... And today, here they are. And apart from the calcite, there are also fossils of plants and animals, whose habitat used to be the coral-reef. We can find here, for example, corals, ammonites, belemnites, sea lilies, sea urchins, teeth of sharks and other fish and many more remains of life from the Mesozoic sea.

2. Šipka Cave (440 m above sea level)

The view of Štramberk from the cave in 1850

Šipka Cave is the most famous karstic formation of the Štramberk karst. It was probably formed by the influence of water flow during the times before the ice ages. With the declination of the glacier, the caves were being widened by the unfreezing water. The water probably flushed out the soft minerals, which surrounded Kotouč, from the glacier and the stream network deepened to today's level.

The portal of the cave is 8 m wide, 3.8 m high and faces north. The short entrance passage is followed by the bottom of Propástka, 12 m in depth, which was formed by the collapse of the dome ceiling. It is here, where the Stalactite Passage (Krápníková chodba) and the Jezevčí díra start. The leaking water made many smaller tunnels along the ceiling cleavage. In the front part of the Stalactite Passage, there are apparent remains of former stalactite decorations on the ceiling, which were destroyed by people shortly after the discovery of the passage in October 1880. The passage is 38 m long, 3-4 m wide and up to 5 m high.

The cave used to provide a safe haven for humans as early as more than 32,000 years ago. Neanderthal men, Mousterian culture bearers, Gravettian mammoth hunters and Magdalenian reindeer hunters used to dwell here. They left behind differently worked bones and horns and 550 stone tools from the local silica, silex, hornstone and rock crystal.

Neanderthal child's jaw

Almost on the bottom of the cave in a rock stall in front of Jezevčí díra in the oldest cultural layer, K. J. Maška found a part of a Neanderthal child's jaw on 26 August 1880. It used to belong to a child between 8 and 10 years old and it shows signs of the evolutionary transition from the Neanderthal to today's man. The find is remarkable also because of the fact that it was made only 24 years after a find of a skull and a bone in the German Neanderthal.

The most identifiable remains (12,000) belong to the cave bear, who used to dwell in the cave. Bones of the cave lion, the cave hyena, the woolly rhinoceros, the mammoth, the European bison, the aurochs, the musk ox, the leopard, the wolverine, the polar reindeer, the moose, the arctic lemming and more, together about 130 animal species, have also been found.

A bust of Buhumír Jaroněk, an academic painter who often used to visit and paint Štramberk, can be seen right in front of the cave. The monument from František Juraň was dedicated on 27 June 1926 on the day of Jaroněk's sixtieth birthday.

View from the bell tower

A stone tumulus with a cross was built in 1918 as compensation for the destroyed churches on the hilltop of Kotouč. The cross was originally made of wood. Right of the cross at the Bezruč viewing tower, there is a wooden bell tower which once used to bear the sign "He who rings me, will live until his death".

3. Kotouč (517 m above sea level)

Today a mountain, once a cliff. The minerals which used to accumulate in the Mesozoic sea 140-145 million years ago, hundreds of kilometres to the east from here moved to their current position about 20 million years ago during the folding of the Carpathian Mountains. They are Jurassic calcites that create the outer Carpathian klippen belt.

After the year 1624, the Society of Jesus founded the pilgrimage churches Povýšení sv. Kříže and Tajemství Nanebevstoupení Páně on Kotouč and these could be reached by a road from the city of

Jičín. They were both disestablished by the Cesar Joseph II in 1786 and later demolished and taken apart for further construction. The sculpture of St. Wenceslaus, which the Lachian Kadláček's Oreil district had made from a public fundraiser, fell into pieces as a consequence of damage by calcite mining. A new sculpture from the academic sculptor Jan Kozel was dedicated in 1994 in the presence of the sanctifying bishop of Olomouc Msgr. Josef Hrdlička. Leoš Janáček was an admirer and frequent visitor of Štramberk. His bust placed in the garden house from the year 1927 is positioned in such a way so that his gaze faces his home town Hukvaldy.

The history of calcite mining in Štramberk goes back to the Middle Ages when stone was broken on the more accessible places of Zámecký vrch or Skalky. The lime was burnt from it in clamp kilns. The calcite quarry Kotouč was founded in 1881 by a company of brothers, the Guttamanns from Vienna, who also built the railway Štramberk – Studénka to it on 19 December of the same year. Soon after its foundation, it became the largest quarry in the whole of Austria-Hungary. The stone was quarried by hand with the help of a boring rod. One worker rotated the rod and two others hammered it. After drilling a 1.5 m deep hole, dynamite was put in there and the stone was blasted out. After that, it was loaded by hand onto wagons. For this hard work 4 drillers got 1 gulden 20 kreuzer a day, which equals a weekly wage of a weaver. At the beginning, the workers would even bring their own tools from home! In 1912 the brothers Guttamanns' company built a cement works on the land under Kotouč. Around 100 wagons of calcite were quarried daily. The quarrying culminated in 1967, when 2,285,000 tons were quarried. Until today, the larger part of Kotouč has been quarried away with the ten-hectare hill fort of Lusatian Silesian-Platěnice culture and the site of the pilgrimage churches built by the Jesuits. The tableland with these important memorials was, without any thorough explorations, quarried away by the year 1959.

Kotouč hilltop, before the southern slopes were mined away, had represented a unique habitat of rock steppe with warmth-requiring vegetation and the presence of rare plants with a unique position in the area of southeast Moravia. Not only the sole devastation in connection with calcite mining, but also the developmental ecological succession changes of the vegetation and recent forestation of Kotouč may be considered as probable causes of the extinction of some notable species of plants and animals. Only here used to grow the rhodax rupifragus and other delegates from the south, for example the redstem wormwood, and other missing and probably already extinct plants. The Australian speedwell has been seen here again and in the vicinity of Kotouč even the clove scented broomrape has appeared. Also the today already extinct subspecies of the apollo butterfly or the wallcreeper used to live here.

4. Jurův kámen (495 m above sea level)

A tall rock wall rises above the forest. Štramberk calcites are replaced by other minerals – Baška sandstones. These are softer than calcite and thus in the distant past they used to disintegrate easier and were carried away by water and wind. A calcite cliff 3 to 10 m tall – Jurův kámen – was formed by their erosion.

A favourable natural environment, inaccessible rocky cliffs and the proximity of Moravian Gate, a remarkable passage through the borderline mountains and an important commercial path, the so called "Amber Road", attracted people to populate Kotouč since time immemorial. The inception of the populating of Kotouč fell within the last ice age, 32,000 years ago. Kotouč was occupied by

Neanderthal men, by the end of the ice age by Magdalenian reindeer hunters, in the Neolithic Era (around the year 3,600 BC) by the first agriculturists.

A big amount of articles from different cultures was found on Kotouč – weapons, decorations, sherds from the Copper Age, the Bronze Age, ... Cultures of the Lutasian culture, the Silesian-Platěnice culture, the Púchov culture and more used to be settled here. It is supposed that a Slavonic hill fort used to stand on Kotouč in the period from the 9th to the 11th century. In 1956 a big storage of bronze articles was found in the former Panská viewing point. Such bronze treasures were found quite often on Kotouč in the past – needles, axes, sickles, buckles, bracelets, ...

The oldest silver article ever found on our territory was found here – a silver omphalus, two rare copper axes in the shape of a wedge from the Copper Age (3 400 – 2 600 BC). In the now already mined cave Čertova díra, and so far the biggest money forger workshop from the 2nd half of the 15th century was discovered in 1886 by Karel Maška.

A bust of Bedřich Smetana is installed at the Jurův kámen viewing point. It is a study to the memorial of Bedřich Smetana in the city of Litomyšl, on which the academic sculptor Jan Štursa worked in the years of 1923-24. The memorial was dedicated on 20 July 1924.

There are small karstic cavities, so called abri, in the Jurův kámen. These cavities and kranses were formed mainly by mechanical disintegration. Water played a role only during the shaping of details. Jura's cave is the biggest one, in the slope above the bust of František Palacký. It is 5 m long, 3 m wide and 3 m tall. In the stall closing this little cave, even a small decoration from crystalline calcite – calcareous sinter - can be found. Jurův kámen is the only large outcrop of Štramberské calcites in the area which has never been affected by mining and thus has natural relief.

5. Pláňava (440 m above sea level)

When speaking about Pláňava, we refer to the foot of Kotouč divided by Kobylí stream, which flows out of the Peace Well. A long time ago, its flow hollowed a deep valley, through which led the original road to Kotouč hill fort. The Peace Well was once a strong stream and a source of drinking water for the hill fort inhabitants. A Middle Age habitation from the 13th – 14th century was discovered by the stream by an archaeological exploration. Dwellings partly under the level of the terrain, called earth-houses, used to stand here.

A part of the forest in the vicinity of Pláňava maintained its nature-close character. Talus forests, called honesty and maple forests, grow on the rocky slopes. Oak-hornbeam forests also occur here and there. The forests in the area of Kotouč were very affected by human activities in the past. People used to farm in the forests and changed their natural character. Other types of evergreen woody species were set out in a part of the forest on Kotouč – the Norway spruce, the European black pine or the European larch, which never used to naturally grow here before.

We can find beautiful and interesting plant species, such as the perennial honesty, the snakeshead, the ramsons, the woolly buttercup or a rare species with a very rare occurrence in the northeastern Moravia, the lichwort. In the floodplain under the Peace Well, small-scale valley alluvial plains with hydrophilous species, for example the wood speedwell or the common bittercress, have developed. The local forests enable the nesting of many bird species, such as the Eurasian sparrowhawk, the

spotted flycatcher, the common raven, the Eurasian eagle-owl, the black woodpecker, the great spotted woodpecker or the stock dove. From the numerous forest species, many types of orchids, the especially rare small-leaved helleborine, the white helleborine, the bird's-nest orchid, the greater twayblade and by the base of the forest and the surrounding meadows the early-purple orchid all have their representatives in this area

The rare inedible *cystolepiota bucknallii*, the virulent red-staining *inocybe*, the overripened-pears-like smelling *inocybe bongardii* and the inedible dark-scaled knight grow in the moister areas within the well-preserved forest crops. Very rarely we can also find even the tiny parasitic mushroom attacking carabuses, the *cordyceps entomorrhiza*.

Memorials and Busts along the Trail

The memorial of Jan Žižka from Trocnov was dedicated in 1924 on the occasion of 500 years after his death and it resembles a bronze chalice. The bust of František Palacký from the workshop of Josef Wagner was ceremoniously dedicated on 15 August 1926. The bust of Alois Jirásek and the memorial of T. G. Masaryk are both artworks of the academic sculptor Jan Štursa and were both dedicated on 6 August 1922 on the occasion of the opening of the National Gardens (*Národní sad*).

6. Horní Bašta (380 m above sea level)

This street emerged in the 17th century as a peaceful pilgrimage alley. Processions from the city of Nový Jičín used to pass through this alley with stops by the cross chapels in the direction to the city and further to the pilgrimage churches on Kotouč mountain. Parallel to Horní Bašta Street, is Štramberk's Dolní Bašta Street. Both streets were named after the gothic fort (*bašta*) of the city fortification, which was later modified to a dwelling house and still stands in the alley. In Horní Bašta, many authentic timber houses on stone bedding, typical for the Lachian area, have been preserved. Complicated life conditions gave rise to a scenic composition of poor and richer houses, often stuck to the rock like swallow nests, climbing the steep slope all the way to the city fortifications.

The alley was named after a cannon fort of the city fortification, which was later modified to a dwelling house. It is still there and now it forms a part of a beer spa. In total there were three cannon forts within the territory of the city.

The frequent placement of houses on a slope required galleries to be built and they became a smooth passage between the house itself and the outer space.

The steep slope of Zámecký vrch (Castle Hill) did not allow for a well to be dug in the street. Therefore the redundant water from the well on the the Square (Náměstí) and Kopka was directed to a wooden fountain between Horní Bašta and Dolní Bašta through wooden pipelines. Only stairs called "kašňuvky" have been preserved up to the present.

In the area of the former lower gate, Martin Blažek built a stone house, which was rebuilt to a cityhall in 1895.

How the People Used to Live Here

Local cottagers used to make their living by mercenary work and handcrafts. The richer drapers lived in bigger houses, processing wool into desirable drapery. By contrast, the weaver craft was not that

lucrative; their houses were considerably smaller. Unlike in village houses, the farming background was usually quite limited.

Mixed room-cowshed houses stemming from mountain houses of Wallachian shepherds were a bit altered here. Unlike in village houses, the farming background was usually quite limited. Their inhabitants were cottagers, making their living by mercenary work and handcrafts. The houses had one to three rooms which were entered from the hall. The closet was usually placed next to the living room and the backlighting on the gable side of the house. The trap-door entrance to the basement and the stairs to the garret used to be in the hall, and in its back part next to the door to the living room, there was a chimney with a hole to the bread oven and an open fireplace for the preparation of food. The living room was spacious with a deal floor, pargeted walls and an unwhitened wooden cover ceiling. The saddle, roof covered with shingles, was decorated with poppy heads and clinker brick, where the construction year of the building was written on the crating of the bottom. Older houses were built from rough timber. The gaps between the timbers were stuffed with moss, secured with scotches from hard wood and clayed. The windows were covered with one-piece shutters from the outside. The cowshed was very often under the living room on the level of the basement or under a common roof with the house. The frequent placement of houses on a slope required galleries to be built and they became a smooth passage between the house itself and the outer space.

Why is Štramperk an Urban Monument Reserve?

Look around in Štramperk and you will see that the division to the castle, the city and the settlement around the castle has been preserved up to the present. The mutual arrangement of the characteristic timber buildings creates a unique complex complemented by orchards. Also for this reason, the Ministry of Culture set out an Urban Monument Reserve in the area of Štramperk in 1969. In total, 132 monuments of folk timber architecture are registered.

The City Information Centre and Gallery

The house opposite to the city hall was rebuilt into a slaughterhouse in 1822 by the Butchers' Guild. Five butcher masters and one municipal tenant were selling their goods in six meat shops. After reconstruction in 1955 a City Museum was established here, than a Zdeněk Burian Museum, and today the house serves as the City Information Centre and Gallery.

7. The Square (410 m above sea level)

The square was originally surrounded by 22 timber houses with wooden arcades. These houses were afforded the right to function as taphouses (*šenkovní právo*). The first brick house was built at the end of the year 1779. The other houses were also being gradually rebuilt to their current appearance. As apparent from a contemporary painting from 1730 (see above), a brewery, a well and an essential pillory used to stand in the middle of the square. A city hall was built in 1721 above the malt house. The original city hall had stood on the lower row at No. 13. This newly built city hall was demolished together with the brewery in 1869. The school building by the lower gate was rebuilt into a city hall and in 1895 it was further rebuilt to its current appearance. To the present day, it is the place of residence of the Štramperk Municipality, administration and the city councillors.

The present dominant feature of the square is the St. Jan Nepomucký Church from the years 1721 – 1722, built in the Wallachian style. The tower was added to the church in 1907. Above the altar there is a sculptural group of the Calvary from 1660, which comes from the Povýšení sv. Kříže Church on Kotouč. The decoration of the church from the beginning of the 20th century is the artwork of the painter Jano Kóhler. Opposite of the church in the place of the present guesthouse “The Old School” (*Stará škola*), there used to be a cemetery. The original St. Bartoloměj Church, probably from the end of the 14th century, stood beside the western city wall, outside the square itself, behind the pastorate. This church was demolished in 1782. Only a part of the south-western corner and the tower with the characteristic wooden gallery have been preserved up to the present. An amphitheatre “Under the Old Tower” (*Pod starou věží*), which serves mainly for the purposes of hosting concerts and other cultural and social events, was built beside the tower in 1994.

The mostly wooden buildings of the city were being endangered by fire very often in their times. In one of the most devastating fires in 1855, 40 houses and 2 barns burnt down. The fire started in house No. 13 on the square and spread along the eastern hillside of Zámecký vrch and stopped in the present Jaroňkova Street. A column with a sculpture of Virgin Mary, the guardian against fire, was built here in 1860. Because of the high risk of fire from the fire chambers, the citizens of Štramberk built barns all the way outside the city in the direction towards the spa, where the risk of fire was not as high. Even in spite of this, 26 barns with all the harvest burnt in this place in 1816.

The school was remembered in Štramberk as early as in 1592, when the municipality bought family farm land, so called “grunt”, for the school. In the memorial document from 1614, it is stated that the school was next to the pastorate. The municipality built a school in place of three burnt-down houses opposite of the church in 1862. This school functioned until 1998, when it was closed down in connection with the extension of the primary school by the National Gardens (*Národní sad*).

The first storeyed brick house on the square, originally with arcades, was built in 1779. Today, there is a cultural centre in it. By the beginning of the nineties, it was reconstructed so that it could fulfil many social and cultural requirements of the city in the future. In a dark closet in this house, mysterious sorcerers allegedly turned ore, which they brought from former mines in Libotín, into gold. All houses on the square were rebuilt one by one to the present appearance – with Baroque gables. In house No. 38, MUDr. Adolf Hrstka opened his medical practice in the year 1893. Spokesmen used to give their memorable speeches from the balcony of this house, for example on the occasion of the formation of the Republic in 1918. The Museum in Štramberk (part of the Novojičínsko Museum), which introduces the rich and characteristic culture of the city from prehistory up to this day, was opened in 1985 in the house No. 31. In 2011 the building was reconstructed and now both the Novojičínsko Museum and the new Zdeněk Burian Museum exposition, which was moved here, are to be found here.

A slaughterhouse was built opposite to the present municipality in 1822 by the Butchers’ Guild. Five butcher masters and one municipal tenant were selling their goods in six meat shops. The places in the shops were being switched after a time period, in order for those besides the main door not to have an advantage. After a reconstruction in 1955 a City Museum was established here, in the years 1992-2011, it was the Zdeněk Burian Museum, and today the house serves as the City Information Centre and Gallery.

After a city water conduit was constructed in 1898, a stone fountain with a cast-iron fountain on it, supplied by an iron works in the city of Blansko, was built.

Amphitheatre "Under the Old Tower" (*Pod starou věží*)

Concerts and plays take place in the amphitheatre. It was built beside the tower, which has been preserved from the original St. Bartoloměj church, probably from the end of the 14th century. It used to stand beside the western city wall, outside the square itself, behind the pastorate. The enclosure walls of the church were from stone, it had a wooden painted ceiling, a choir loft and a wooden gallery beside the forefront. This church was demolished in 1782.

The Pistorate

A pastorate used to stand on the hillside of Zámecký vrch. It was first mentioned in a memorial document from the year 1614. It might have been a part of the old castle church, of which only the tower is left now.

House No. 38

MUDr. Adolf Hrstka, later the mayor of Štramberk, opened his medical practice in the year 1893 in this house. Spokesmen used to give their memorable speeches from the balcony of this house, for example on the occasion of the formation of the Republic in 1918.

The Museum

The Museum in Štramberk in the house No. 31 introduces the rich and characteristic culture of the city from prehistory up to this day. It was opened in 1985 in House No. 31. Since 2011, it also has a separate exhibition dedicated to the painter Zdeněk Burian.

The City Hall

The original city hall was built above the malt house of the brewery in 1721. It was demolished together with the brewery in 1869. The school building beside the lower gate was then rebuilt to a city hall and in 1895 it was further rebuilt to its current appearance. To the present days, it is the place of residence of the Štramberk Municipality, administration and the city councillors.

The Fountain

The stone fountain was built after a city water conduit was constructed in 1898. The cast-iron fountain was supplied by iron works in the city of Blansko.

The Cultural Centre

The first storeyed brick house on the square, originally with arcades, was built in 1779. Today, there is a cultural centre inside it.

The Old School (*Stará škola*)

The old Old School (*Stará škola*) is now a guesthouse and a library. The municipality built a school in place of three burnt-down houses opposite to the church in 1862. This school functioned until 1998.

The Church

The present dominant of the square is the St. Jan Nepomucký Church from the years 1721 – 1722, built in the Baroque style. The tower was added to the church in 1907. Opposite the church in place of the “Old School” (Stará škola), there used to be a cemetery.

8. Zámecký vrch – Trúba (508 m.a.s.l.)

The castle and the city of Štramberk are swathed in many mysteries. We will reveal to you at least two of them. It is said that the castle was built by the Knights Templar. It is also said that the citizens miraculously protected themselves from the Tatars on the hill of Kotouč and then found cut-off ears of their victims in the flooded Tatar camp. We can say for sure that the hill used to be inhabited by people of the Púchov culture as early as 100 BC, which is evidenced by findings of ceramic potsherds. The area of Štramberk was colonised in the 2nd half of the 13th century. Also the emergence of the Štramberk castle is covered in mysteries. It was a defensive castle and it is supposed that it was built on the verge of the 13th and the 14th century. It has never been found out for sure, though.

The owners used to change. As early as in 1646 the castle was mostly wrecked, in 1783 its front part collapsed and the castle kept becoming more and more desolate. Only the rounded tower, called the “roundwood” (*kulatina*) by the local citizens, has preserved. The rest was taken into pieces and used for constructions of houses in the city. The first written record of the city of Štramberk is the Foundation Charter, in which the Moravian margrave Jan Jindřich, the brother of Charles IV, commanded to rebuilt the devastated city and to name it after the Strallenberk castle in 1359. He had the city fortified and granted a city rights and many concessions to it.

The Trúba Tower was rebuilt to a viewing tower and roofed according to the plans of the architect Kamil Hilbert in 1903 thanks to Dr. Adolf Hrstka. A shelter called U Mědínů, nowadays called Jaroňkova útulna, was built beside the tower. The common kestrel, the western jackdaw and the common swift nest in the castle tower. In 1925 the Czech Tourist Club built a cosy cottage in the Štramberk style, which was named after Dr. Hrstka.

The Sláma Cavern

A fissure cave of a crawling depth of 54 m was found on the occasion of the bottom digging for the Hrstka cottage in 1924. It is the only one in the Štramberk karst with an undamaged stalactite decoration. It is possible to view the cave in the office hours of the Hrstka cottage after an appointment has been made. The cave was named in honour of the storyteller and a prominent figure of the Czech revival movement Dr. František Sláma, who often mentioned the underground area under the Štramberk castle in his stories and novels.

The Rock Steppes

Above the quarry on the south-western slopes of Zámecký vrch, with isolated rock prominences, we can find rock steppes. They were created as a consequence of the action of extreme natural conditions and the long-term grazing of goats. They host rare plants such as the White Mountain saxifrage, the rue-lieved saxifrage, the biscutella laevigata, the bur medick,... From animals, it is possible to find here the world swallowtail, the marbled white, the apollo butterfly, the common wall lizard or the smooth snake.

The Štramberk Ears (*Štramberské uši*)

Those were bad times, a cruel war with the Tatars started. They were flooding Moravia from all directions, wildly riding their small horses and wrecking, robbing and cruelly murdering. The people of Štramperk were terrified, watching the faraway villages burn one by one. Under the worst distress they ran into the deep forests on Kotouč hill and there they fortified themselves well. Steep rocks enveloped them from all sides but one with a narrow, snake path locked by chopped-down trees and a wooden barrier. The Tatars were starting to force their way onto Kotouč hill. The defenders resisted against the first one, the second, the third and more, but they were beginning to feel they were losing strength. The Tatars eventually camped on the plain under Kotouč. They hacked off the ears of all those who were caught by them in the forests, dead or alive. The Štramperk people were going through very hard times and they started praying to the Mother of God to send them some help. Suddenly, a miracle happened and during the night the Virgin Mary had a mighty torrent of rain fall from the heavens and all the Tatars drowned in a horrible flood under Kotouč. What actually happened? A part of the brave men of Štramperk set forth from Kotouč above the Tartar encampment and dug through the dam of a huge lake, which had all been filled with water. Only a small number of Tatars escaped. After the fight, many robbed valuables and a few bags with salted human ears, which the Tatars used to send to their Khan so that he know how many Christians they had killed in the fight, were found in the laying. In memory of this miraculous saving of Štramperk citizens and to remember the cruelties which the Tartars perpetrated here, strange biscuits of a smoothly flavoured taste in the shape of twisted ears are baked in Štramperk until today.

When standing beside the Hrstka cottage, on the right side we can also see farther places, through which the trail doesn't lead, such as the Libotín mine with the swimming pool area. In its surrounding forests, apparent remains after iron ore mining can still be seen (rumour has it that even gold ore). Further on the right, there is the little wooden church of St. Kateřina, probably built in the 15th century, remains of the former village of Tamovice.

9. Rudý Rock (500 m above sea level)

Rudý Rock is formed by grey-brown calcic pudding sandstones to sandy pudding stones, which differ from the surrounding calcites. The local people, who usually saw white calcites in their vicinity, targeted the different colour of the rock by giving it a folk name "The Devil's Crap" (*Čertovo hovno*). Despite Rudý Rock being very close to the built-up part of the city, it has never been used for mining as a source of construction stone. At some places it is even possible to find petrified ripples of a former seabed. It has been passed down that the rock was named after the tank from the TV show *Čtyři z tanku a pes* (*Four from a Tank and a Dog*), in which a tank was called Rudý. Local boys used the rock instead of a tank and they wrote a sign on the rock. How surprised they were that Rudý Rock has made it onto the maps.

The vicinity of the rock was used as the local grazing. The rocky chine was followed by a system of terrace fields. The individual terraces are hardened by tall stone walls. These remains of terrace fields, balks, former grazings and rocky outcrops are home to rare species of plants and animals.

Some endangered plants grow in the vicinity, such as the early-purple orchid, the greater twayblade, the white helleborine. In the winter, various species of small passerines, such as the great tit, the marsh tit, the Eurasian blue tit, the long-tailed tit, the European robin and the European goldfinch

gather here. Sometimes beavies of the Bohemian waxwing, which breeds in Scandinavia, migrate here for the winter.



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