

On the traces
of Napoleon
and Baťa

THE BEST OF MORAVIA TCHEQUIE TOUR



CZECH FOLKLORE RICH IN FLAVORS AND COLORS,
MYSTERIOUS ROCKS, CAVES AND AN ABYSS

DAY 1 – CENTRAL MORAVIA – THE ARCHBISHOP'S SEAT

Your trip will start at **Olomouc**, a city in the heart of the Moravian region. The region spreads along the Morava river, and the strong agricultural, folklore and Catholic tradition have always been there. Our English speaking guide will welcome you and give you a sightseeing tour. You will discover the beauty of the second largest National historical Reserve in the Czech Republic: **The Holy Trinity Column**, which is listed in the UNESCO World Heritage List. **You will also see the city hall and its famous astronomical clock, the set of six baroque fountains** with figural decoration, which draws on ancient mythology – and much, much more. Among the many religious monuments, you will get to visit the Archdiocese building, **St. Wenceslas Cathedral** and the **Archbishop's Palace**. You will stay for dinner and overnight.



DAY 2 – CENTRAL MORAVIA – A FAIRY TALE CASTLE AND LOCAL CHEESE (95 KM)

The second day will begin with a visit of the Minor Basilica of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a distinctive landmark located on the **Holy Hill** and a place of pilgrimage. The second stop of the day will be at the Romantic **Bouzov Castle**, the former seat of a medieval order of Teutonic Knights. In the afternoon, during the excursion of the **Museum of A.W. Olomoucké Tvarůzky**, you will learn everything about the unique Moravian cheese (tvarůžky) which boasts the Protected Geographical Indication issued by the European Union. At the end of the day, you will be treated to some degustation of desserts made of this cheese in a local patisserie. Dinner and overnight stay in Olomouc.



DAY 3 – SOUTH MORAVIA – THE HOMETOWN OF THE SHOEMAKER BATA AND A LOVELY SPA RESORT (174 KM)



Visit of the city of **Zlín**, well-known for the shoe brand **Baťa**, which has an international reputation, and for its Functionalism style factory complex built by owner Tomáš Baťa in the 1920s. You will visit the shoe museum and Baťa Company Administrative Building No. 21 which was formerly the highest building in Czechoslovakia. The building is equipped with a real technical delicacy – the moving office of the director of the company located in the elevator! The programme continues with the visit of **Luhačovice**, a beautiful small spa town. The popular spa tradition is combined here with Art Nouveau. You will have the opportunity to walk along the colonnade, to taste local spring water and traditional spa wafers. We will also stop in **Vičnov**, a small village well-known for its folkloric festivity “Jízda králů” (Ride of the Kings) which was listed by UNESCO. We will end the day in **Velehrad**, a very important place of pilgrimage. People come to commemorate the apostles Cyril and Method who came to Moravia in the 9th century. The city of Velehrad is also known for the first Cistercian Abbey built in Moravia. Dinner and overnight stay in South Moravia.

OPTIONAL/IN ADDITION

Folkloric evening in a typical restaurant with traditional cuisine: 3-course menu, wine tasting, music group with a cimbalom and traditional dances in costumes



DAY 4 – SOUTH MORAVIA – TRADITIONS, FOLKLORE AND WINE (149 KM)

You will spend the day in South Moravia, a wine region well-known for its strong folkloric tradition. We will stop in the wine-growing village of **Petrov-Plzeň**, a conservation area with wine cellars. At your request, we can organise a meeting with local winemakers and degustation of the “cru” wines. In **Strážnice** you will discover the lifestyle of the Czech ancestors and the popular architecture while visiting the Municipal Museum. You will spend the afternoon at The **Lednice – Valdice** complex (UNESCO) which was a former residence of the family of Liechtenstein and the most extensive cultural landscape in Europe. The visit includes a boat trip on the canals in the park. You can admire the Romantic buildings and an exceptional technical monument – a greenhouse with exotic plants. You will end up the day in Valdice where the National Wine Centre has its seat. The programme includes a visit of a **wine-tasting exhibition**, The Wine Salon of the Czech Republic. You can taste from a selection of the 100 best local wines of the past years, or wines stored in the historical cellars. Dinner and overnight stay in South Moravia.

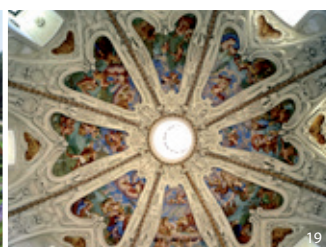


DAY 5 – SOUTH MORAVIA – FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF NAPOLEON, UNESCO GARDENS (209 KM)

You will go to see the **battlefield of Austerlitz** known for the Battle of the Three Emperors which took place here. The armies of the three most powerful countries of the time – Austria, Russia and France – met here, and the battle ended on 2nd December, 1805 with Napoleon's victory. You will visit the **Cairn of Peace Memorial**, which was erected in memory of the victims of the battle, a multimedia exhibition describing the course of the battle and a commemorative chapel in the Art nouveau style. Lunch will be at the **Austerlitz Chateau in Slavkov**. After arrival in **Kroměříž**, you will visit the Archbishop's Chateau, which is surrounded by beautiful gardens (UNESCO). The second most important gallery in the Czech Republic – after the National Gallery – is situated in the chateau. Pieces from Titian, Lucas Cranach the Elder and Antoine van Dyck make up part of the collection. The last stop of the day will be at **Rymice**. The village is situated in the ethnographic and agricultural region of Haná. You can admire the clay and popular thatched architecture. Dinner and overnight stay in Brno.

OPTIONAL/IN ADDITION

Beer tasting in Brno.

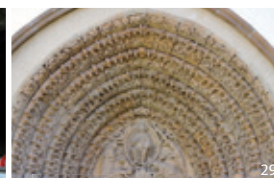




DAY 6 – SOUTH MORAVIA – FUNCTIONALISM ARCHITECTURE, MORAVIAN KARST

In **Brno**, you can visit **Villa Tugendhat** (UNESCO), a timeless creation in the functionalist style built by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe in the 1930s. To relive the real atmosphere of the decade, you will have lunch in one of the most exquisite café-restaurants in Brno.

In the afternoon you will visit the **Moravian Karst** which is one of the most important rock formations in Central Europe. You will visit the caves and Macocha Abyss, the biggest abyss in the Czech Republic, and you will also take a cruise on the underground river, Punkva. Dinner and overnight stay in Brno.



OPTIONAL/IN ADDITION

Stará huť Josefov (technical monument, metallurgical plant), Porta Coeli Convent in Předklášteří with a unique gothic portal

DAY 7 – BRNO – SIGHTSEEING TOUR, FREE TIME

Open visit. You can see the Liberty square with the astronomical clock, Špilberk Castle (former "dungeon of the nations"), the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul, a marketplace, and old city hall with the Brno Dragon.

A guided tour, if time permits. You will see other examples of the functionalist style: Hotel Avion, Café Savoy and Zeman Café, and exhibition halls. Return.



OPTIONAL/IN ADDITION – DAY 8

- 1 – Brno – Wallachia, mountain region with wooden architecture (135 km)
- 2 – Brno – Prague (204 km)
- 3 – Brno – Vienna, Austria (133 km)
- 4 – Brno – Bratislava, Slovakia (130 km)
- 5 – Brno – Budapest, Hungary (326 km)
- 6 – Brno – Auschwitz-Birkenau (259 km). Krakow (333 km), Poland

TYPICAL TRADITIONAL FESTIVITIES Ethnographic festivities are the best opportunity to admire folk costumes, listen to folk music and learn more about the traditions: February – **Carnaval of Strání, Hlinsko**; May – **Asparagus Festival, Wine Salon in Valtice, Ride of the Kings in Vlnov (UNESCO), Erection of Maypoles**; June – **International Folklore Festival Strážnice, Podluží in song and dance in Tvrdonice**; July – **Harvesting of the apricots**; August – **Moravian-Slovak year in Kyjov, Pickle Festival**; September – **Bread Festival in Slup, Grape Harvest Festivity in Mikulov, Saint Wenceslas Festivity in Břeclav**; December – **Anniversary of the Battle of the Three Emperors**

RATES April-October (except public holidays)

starting from 419 €/person in a double room (base 30 pax)

SERVICES INCLUDED:

- 6 nights with breakfast in 3* hotel in Olomouc, South Moravia and Brno
- 6 nights in a hotel, 3-course menu, water, bread
- 5 breakfasts in a traditional restaurant, 3-course menu, water, bread
- English speaking guide for the entire trip, guided tours in the cities
- Admissions fees: Bouzov Castle, cheese museum and cheese tasting, the shoe museum and Baťa Company Administrative Building No. 21, Municipal Museum in Strážnice, greenhouse and gardens in Lednice, tasting of

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local wines in Valtice, the Cairn of Peace Memorial, Archbishop's Chateau in Kroměříž, gardens and gallery, garden of Villa Tugendhat, caves and cruise on Punkva river

- Local taxes

ADDITIONAL SERVICE:

- Coach transport, see blue boxes

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