

### 3 PARDUBICE



The city of gingerbread and horses is located in the east of Bohemia – approximately 100 km from Prague. It has a great advantage in that it has good transport links to the outside world. Pardubice can boast not only of being on the main railway line, but also of having an international airport. So come and see the city whose rich history will enchant you so much that you'll simply fall in love with it...

90 688

Pardubice Airport

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[www.ipardubice.cz](http://www.ipardubice.cz), [www.vychodni-cechy.info](http://www.vychodni-cechy.info)

### MUST-SEE PLACES

If you enjoy having a nice cup of coffee in a place situated against the backdrop of breath-taking historic buildings headed by [a city hall](#), then [Pernštýn Square](#) is exactly what you're after. There you can find building no. 50 called [„U Jonáše“ \(Jonáš's\)](#), which is a perfectly preserved Baroque monument. For those of you who are fond of religious places of interest, it is worth visiting either [St Bartholomew's Church](#) or the [Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Church](#).

[www.vychodni-cechy.info](http://www.vychodni-cechy.info)

#### Pardubice City Hall

Are you looking for a spot to take amazing pictures and selfies? Head to Pardubice City Hall. You will be stunned by its ornate facade, which looks great in the glare from both sunlight and the 'spotlight' shine coming from streetlamps. The building was built in the late 19th century, and is decorated with unique medallions of Czech kings and sgraffiti.



#### Green Gate

Would you like to gaze down at the city from up above? No problem. All you have to do is run up a few stairs. The Green Gate and its distinctive tower built in 1538, the dominant landmarks of Pardubice's historic centre, are more than worth the visit.

#### Dům U Jonáše (Jonáš's House)

If you are on a hunt for all things unique, make sure this Baroque building doesn't slip under your radar. Its dominant feature is the biblical figure of the prophet Jonah in the mouth of a whale. Today, the East Bohemia Gallery is located in this building, which boasts a highly valued and fully preserved diamond vault ceiling dating back to the 16th century.



#### East Bohemia Museum in Pardubice

The museum, which doesn't limit itself to displaying artefacts only from Pardubice, has found its home on the premises of a Renaissance chateau near the city centre. This building is extraordinary due to the fact that it's a unique example of the transition from a castle to a chateau. This building is unparalleled in Central Europe. The chateau is also surrounded by a large park, where you can easily recharge your energy to do more exploring.

[www.vcm.cz](http://www.vcm.cz)



### NEARBY TRIPS

[Kunětická Hora Castle](#), where you can find a [dungeon](#), [torture exhibition](#), and even a [dragon](#), is then sure to appeal to all sightseeing enthusiasts. Below the castle, you can visit a gingerbread house, a.k.a. [the Museum of Gingerbread](#). There you can learn not only how this sweet treat is made, or how it can look, but also how great it tastes. Just under ten kilometres northwest of Pardubice lies [the Bohdaneč Spa](#) (→ p. 63), which specializes in treating the musculoskeletal system thanks to its special beneficial mud. The spa is also a great place to unwind and relax.

If you head south from Pardubice, you can stop at nearby [Chrudim](#), a town alive with puppets. [The Chrudim Puppetry Museum](#) can be found in the [Mydlář \(Soaper\) Building](#) in the town square. The town of [Slatiňany](#) is just a few kilometres from Chrudim. This place is the home to horses. You can visit [the Slatiňany Stud](#), where the [Old Kladruber black horse](#) is bred, or you can go visit the exhibition in [the Museum of the Old Kladruber](#), where you'll learn about the tradition of breeding this black horse. For the outdoorsy types of tourists, [Železná Hory Geopark](#) is a true paradise on Earth. If you would like to see locations where a lot of popular Czech fairytale movies have been shot, visit [the Vysočina Open-Air Museum at Veselý Kopeček](#).



#### Chrudim Puppetry Museum – 12 km from Pardubice

Its permanent exhibition will take you through the history of Czech puppetry – from travelling puppeteers' graceful marionettes, variety show puppets and naive art, all the way to the modernist period when [Spejbl and Hurvínek](#), the most famous puppets in Czech lands, were created. You can also see the creations of well-known puppet film makers, and explore the world of shadow puppets from Asia.

[www.puppets.cz](http://www.puppets.cz)



#### Museum of the Old Kladruber, Slatiňany – 17 km from Pardubice

Its permanent exhibition will show you the history of breeding the Old Kladruber, and in the hall you can watch films about the Old Kladruber and its life. There is also an interactive room where parents and children can try their hand at saddling up a horse called [„Svycárek“](#), or pretend to be a coachman.

[www.svycarna-slatinany.eu](http://www.svycarna-slatinany.eu)



**Železné Hory Geopark**  
– 33 km from Pardubice

The Geopark stretches over 777 km<sup>2</sup>, of which roughly one-third is part of the Železné Hory Protected Landscape Area. As well as being a natural treasure, the area has a wealth of precious cultural and historic sites, unique museums and a range of sports and leisure facilities. The geopark is a true paradise for both hikers and cyclists.



[www.geoparkzh.cz](http://www.geoparkzh.cz)



**Vysočina Open-Air Museum, Veselý Kopec**

– 36 km from Pardubice

Nestled in a picturesque landscape, the open-air museum offers the largest outdoor exhibition on folk architecture in East Bohemia. The exhibition showcases how rural people lived and farmed between the mid 19th century and the 1950s. Veselý Kopec is host to many programmes that unveil the region's folk culture, such as traditional customs, crafts, folk food, and others.

[www.vesely-kopec.eu](http://www.vesely-kopec.eu)

**Vysočina Open-Air Museum, Betlém, Hlinsko**

– 40 km from Pardubice

Do you know what the lifestyle and housing of petty craftspeople living between the mid-18th century and the end of the 19th century were like? You can see all that in Betlém Conservation Area at Hlinsko, stretching on the right bank of the Chrudimka River. Here, log cabins house exhibitions on the crafts of toy-making, shoemaking, and file cutting. Some of the cottages serve a special purpose to this very day, e.g. as a loom house, or a pub.

**Kladrubské Polabí**  
– 27 km from Pardubice

In 2019, the area of Kladrubské polabí has been put on the **UNESCO list** as a landscape for breeding and training of ceremonial carriage horses at Kladruhy nad Labem.



[www.betlem-hlinsko.cz](http://www.betlem-hlinsko.cz)

*If you go 50 km southeast from Pardubice, you will come across a true treasure of the Pardubice Region, the town of **Litomyšl 1**. Its main dominant feature is the local chateau (→ p. 42) a **UNESCO** World Heritage Site.*

**REGULAR EVENTS**



**JANUARY**

GRAND Festival of Laughter, Pardubice

**JANUARY-FEBRUARY**

Hlinecko Shrovetide Processions

**MARCH-APRIL**

Pardubice Music Spring, Pardubice

**APRIL**

Lázně ducha in Litomyšl – Tourist Season Opening

**MAY-JUNE**

European Festival of Aviation, Pardubice

**JUNE**

Night at Pernštýn Square, Pardubice

Loutkařská Chrudim Puppet Festival  
Smetana's Litomyšl

**JULY**

Czech Open, Pardubice

**AUGUST**

Sport Park – family event in Pardubice  
Koně v akci – International Horse Exhibition in Pardubice

**OCTOBER**

Golden Helmet, Pardubice  
Velká pardubická steeplechase

**DECEMBER**

Christmas Market, Pardubice  
Andělská Litomyšl Christmas Markets