



PŘÍBRAM



The city of Příbram is located about 60 km south from the capital of the Czech Republic – Prague. It is connected to the capital via a highway therefore the connection is very fast and convenient. Nearby Příbram, there are the Brdy Mountains which make the scenery and background of the town spectacular.



<http://maps.google.com>

The town is famous for its rich mining history and interesting points of interest in close neighbourhood, e.g. the Memorial of Vojna in Lešetice or the A. Dvořák Memorial in Vysoká.



# Happy 800<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Příbram!

In **2016**, Příbram is celebrating 800 years since the first record of the town. There will be celebrations, a multi-national mining towns meeting and many festivals and events for the public



PŘÍBRAM  
800 LET

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## **Svatá Hora (The Holy Mountain)**

The Holy Mountain is one of the most visited Christian places in the Czech Republic. It was built like a fortress for the statue of Virgin Mary. Large area was built in the baroque style, but in the year of 1978 a part of the area had burnt out and was repaired up to the year 2003.



We can see there a hundred of paintings on the walls in ambits. They show the dangers, accidents and miseries, when Virgin Mary helped her admirers.

There are the Holy-Mountain Stairs, that lead up to the Holy Mountain. There are 365 stairs. The oldest stairs were built in the year of 1658. They were repaired many times. The biggest reconstruction was in 1993.

The worthiest there is the statue of Virgin Mary. It is 49 cm tall and is sculpted of pear tree in Gothic style. By the oldest sources, the statue was made by Arnošt z Pardubic, the first Czech archbishop. It is dressed in different dresses by the occasions. There are two dresses. The statue wears a white dress in feasts



of martyrdom. The statue was made in liturgical inter-timber. The statue was made by Honora from Mantova, the wife of Emperor Leopold I. It was in the year of 1684. The most expensive dress is made of wrought gold and it is perched with diamonds and pearls. One dress was received from Empress Maria Teresia. The statue of Virgin Mary has also dress from Nigeria, Colombia or Trinidad and Tobago.



In 2015 and 2016 there has been a massive reconstruction of the whole site and the exterior colour of the façade has changed.

***The Mining Museum (Hornické muzeum)***

Příbram is well-known for its mining museum. It was founded in



1886 and it is the greatest mining museum in the Czech Republic. It follows the tradition of mining in Příbram. It is divided into 6 expositions. Every exposition represents one period of our history since Celts until now. Visitors can see the underground expositions connected with mining of silver.



The most precious exhibits are state protected technical monuments, that come from years 1889 and 1994 (steam mining

machines), 1928 (mining compressor) and from 19<sup>th</sup> century (waterwheel). The whole tour lasts for 3 hours, but it is possible to visit only some of exhibitions.



What is the biggest attraction of the museum? It is definitely the underground tour by the mining train, which is more than 260 m long. The train takes you to the Prokop shaft, one of the deepest shafts in Central Europe.



The Mining Museum has also many interesting findings, for example meteorites and many precious metals (because there was silver mined).

If you are in Příbram, you definitely have to visit the Mining Museum!

## The castle – Ernestinum (Zámeček Ernestinum)



The castle was originally from wood. Today the castle is from stones. It was founded in 13<sup>th</sup> century. There stayed a lot of famous



and important people for example: Arnošt from Janštejn lived here. Arnošt was an archbishop at 1344-1364. He is a famous historical character. The castle's function was to defend. There was moat around the castle. The building was destroyed in

the Hussite war. Recently the castle has been rebuilt and nowadays it is used as an exhibition centre.



### **Saint Jacob church in Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk Square (Kostel sv. Jakuba na Náměstí T. G. Masaryka)**

It is a Catholic church. It is an early gothic church. The church was founded before 1213. It was rebuilt in 1560 and 1795. There is baroque interior. It is the eldest memory of Příbram. There is a crypt under the main altar. There were discovered some important documents about the city and some valuables. The main altar is made of marble. Every Sunday there is Holy Mass. Sometimes there are concerts primarily of choirs.



There is a new fountain in the square (library at the background)



***Prague Street (Pražská ulice)***



Prague Street is the main shopping street in the centre of the town. It is not only a place for shopping but also a meeting point for local people. There are cafes and little bistros to have some meal or quick bite during a busy day. It is a place for family walks on Sundays.



At the top of the street, there is a little square (Václavské náměstí) with a fountain presenting Příbram's ponds and markets of local products or products related to seasonal festivals are held there.

### ***Obora Leisure Area (Klidová zóna Obora)***

Right in the heart of the town, there is a piece of quietness in the busy city. It is an area around the Obora Pond close to the main square. People come here to relax, to walk and play with children. Music festivals take place here as well as markets of local farm products.



In winter when it is freezing cold, people may skate on the pond.



***Memorial Vojna in Lešetice (Památník Vojna)***



It is a museum exposition dedicated to the victims of the communist regime. It is located 5km from Přebram and it is a part of the mining museum institution. The site used to be a labour camp, first built by German prisoners between 1947 and 1949 and



later in the 1950's political prisoners were kept there and forced to work in nearby uranium mines. The site presents

not only how hard it was for the people to stay here but also it shows the cruelty of communism.



*The Nazi infamous „Arbeit macht frei“ was used here as well („Prací ke svobodě”)*

## ***Antonín Dvořák Memorial in Vysoká (Památník Antonína Dvořáka)***



This memorial presents the life and work of Antonín Dvořák, famous Czech composer, and his family. It is believed that Dvořák composed his most famous opera – Rusalka in Vysoká. Dvořák used to come to Vysoká for holiday and he fell in love with that place and bought his own house on the other side of the village. This house is not open to the public though. The whole site consists of a house with expositions about the Kounic family and the life and work of A. Dvořák, a peaceful park and the Rusalka lake. This place is also used for classical music festivals and other occasions.



### ***Free-time activities***

There are numerous opportunities to spend leisure time in the town. There is a professional theatre company with two stages, cinema and a few music clubs offering live concerts of mostly Czech bands. There are several music festivals taking place every year and they are popular among the public.



Also, people enjoy sports facilities which are available in the town. As spectators, locals support the professional football team and volleyball team which is nation-wide famous for its fantastic fans. Active athletes may go to several modern gyms/fitness centres with the latest equipment or attend lessons with professional instructors. Swimming pool with saunas or whirlpool is also very popular. The ice-rink is used by ice-hockey teams as well as figure skating teams.





Outdoors facilities include playgrounds for many ball sports, beach volleyball courts and cycling paths. In the nearby mountains, people go cycling or cross-country skiing. Příbram is a great place for life.



