



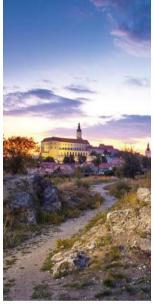
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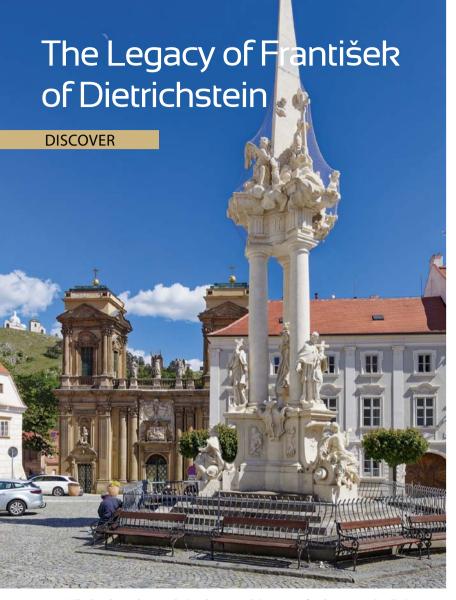


Mikulov is renowned for its unique atmosphere, a genius

loci that can be felt at every turn. As you stroll through the square surrounded by Renaissance houses and historical monuments, it becomes clear that you are in a truly special place. Even the noted Moravian poet Jan Skácel remarked that Mikulov is "a piece of Italy that God brought to South Moravia".

Savour a glass of fine wine from the local wineries and breathe in the fragrance of ripening grapes that mingles with the aromatic flowers and herbs growing on the nearby hills. Surrender to the magic of the majestic château and immerse yourself in the town's living history that unfolds within its streets.

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Mikulov has always thrived as a melting pot of cultures and religions, with each community contributing its best to the town's identity. Despite enduring fires and wars, Mikulov has retained its unique character, drawing visitors from near and far.



The first recorded mention of Mikulov dates back to 1249, and its prominence grew significantly in the Middle Ages. Originally under the ownership of the noble Liechtenstein family, Mikulov passed into the hands of the Dietrichstein family in 1575. It flourished under the leadership of František of Dietrichstein, Cardinal and Bishop of Olomouc, who transformed the town into a cultural centre. During his governance, Mikulov became a residence fitting of his status, as renowned architects left their Renaissance influence, giving the town a southern charm that continues to captivate visitors to this day.

BAPTIST AND JEWISH HISTORY

In 1526, the Anabaptists settled in Mikulov, where for roughly one-hundred years they played a crucial role in the development of winemaking and became known for their craftsmanship, particularly in ceramics. From the mid-15th century, a large Jewish community also began to flourish in the town, leaving a significant imprint. Mikulov eventually became home to the largest Jewish population in Moravia and was the seat of the provincial rabbi. The town's streets reflect the peaceful coexistence of different faiths through monuments like the Synagogue and the **Church of St. Wenceslas** 1 (kostel sv. Václava).





Practical tips

You can explore Mikulov's rich history by following one of the city's guided landmark tours, which showcase Anabaptist and Jewish heritage sites. The Tourist Information Centre offers various guided tours that will immerse you in the historical charm of this beautiful town.







Mikulov Château **DISCOVER**

Visit Mikulov Château and dive into the world of rich history and culture. Check out the Regional Museum of Mikulov, stroll through the château garden and admire its stunning interiors and fascinating exhibitions.

The origins of the **château** (zámek) date back to the 11th century when a wooden fort stood here. In the 13th century, it was replaced by a stone castle of the Liechtenstein family, which served as an important fortress. Under Cardinal František of Dietrichstein's direction, the château underwent a major transformation in 1575, becoming the magnificent Renaissance landmark we see today.





MUSEUM AND SIGHTSEEING TOURS

The château is now home to the Regional Museum of Mikulov, where visitors can enjoy guided tours through the Gothic and Empire periods, uncovering the fascinating history of the château and the lives of the Dietrichstein family. Be sure to explore exhibitions such as The Romans and the Germanic People Below Pálava and Wine Through the Ages, which trace the rich history of winemaking in Moravia. In the château's dungeon, you'll find one of Europe's largest historic wine barrels, dating back to 1643, with a staggering volume of 101,000 litres.



If you're lucky, you might catch a glimpse of the White Lady, Perchta von Rosenberg, said to haunt the château. Visit the château library, which once housed the oldest château theatre in the country. Don't miss the beautifully restored château garden, now returned to its original Italian Baroque style.







Practical tips

Before planning your visit, we recommend checking the château's opening hours.
The garden, however, is open year-round.



A Touch of Heaven



Holy Hill (Svatý kopeček) near Mikulov, towering at 363 meters, is the perfect fusion of natural beauty and spirituality. It offers breathtaking views of the town and historic landmarks such as the Chapel of Saint Sebastian, the Bell Tower and the Chapel of the Holy Sepulchre 3 (kaple Božího hrobu). A Way of the Cross with fourteen chapels will guide you to the summit.



Thanks to its diverse flora and fauna, the area of Holy Hill 4 (Svatý kopeček) was declared a nature reserve in 1946, though its spiritual significance dates back much further. The Pilgrimage Chapel of Saint Sebastian 5 (kaple sv. Šebestiána), commissioned by Cardinal František of Dietrichstein in the 17th century, remains a dominant feature of the hill. Nearby, the historic Bell Tower 6 (zvonice) houses one of the largest bells in Moravia, weighing over four tonnes. You can reach the hill by following the Way of the Cross 7 (křížová cesta), one of the oldest in the Czech Republic, admiring the chapels along the way and learning about the local history from the information panels.



PAGAN TIMES

The history of Holy Hill (Svatý kopeček) may reach far into our past. According to legend, this hill – once known as Tanzberg – was a site for ancient pagan rituals. You can reach it by following one of the several well-marked hiking trails. While exploring, please stick to the designated paths to protect the hill's rare flora, such as the pygmy iris and European feather grass.



Practical tips

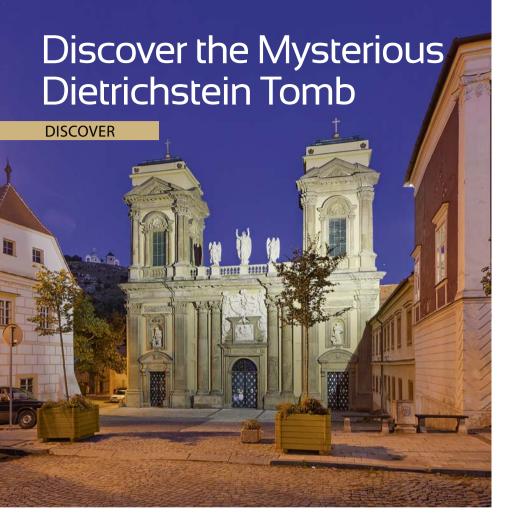


The traditional Marian pilgrimage takes place every year on the first Sunday of September in celebration of the Black Madonna of Loreto at Holy Hill.









The Dietrichstein Tomb is a fascinating historical monument brimming with mystery and history. Follow the tale of this noble family, so closely intertwined with the history of Mikulov.



The Dietrichstein Tomb, 8 (Dietrichsteinská hrobka) one of the landmarks of the town's Historic Square, has a dramatic history. Originally the site of the Church of St. Anne, built in 1625 with a replica of the Holy House of Loreto from Italy, the church was the first of its kind in Czech history. However, it was severely damaged by fire in 1784. Over half a century later, the site was converted into the Dietrichstein family tomb, which today holds 45 coffins and three urns containing the remains of this prominent noble family.

THE FOUNDER'S HEART

The tomb harbours many secrets. Although the tomb's founder, František Josef of Dietrichstein, is buried in Vienna, his heart was brought here for its final resting place. Another intriguing feature is a marble statue of the nobleman, originally intended for the Ancestral Hall of Mikulov Château, but now displayed in the courtyard of the tomb. The building has undergone extensive restoration, including its stone exterior, interiors, and the original organ, giving the tomb a unique and solemn atmosphere.



Practical tips

The Tourist Information Centre offers guided tours of the town.







Tracing Jewish History



For centuries, Mikulov was the centre of Jewish culture in Moravia and the seat of a provincial rabbi. Go back to the past and discover the rich history and cultural heritage of Jewish monuments.



In the 15th century, Mikulov became home to an extensive Jewish community and started to thrive due to its strategic trade location. It later became a hub for Jewish learning in the 17th century, home to yeshivas whose influence extended beyond Moravia. The **Upper Synagogue 9** (Horní synagoga) from 1550 commemorates this era today with its exhibition dedicated to the famous Rabbi Löw and the history of the Jewish Town.



EXCEPTIONAL MIKVEH AND CEMETERY Be sure to visit the Jewish cemetery 10 Practical tips

Be sure to visit the **Jewish cemetery 10** (židovský hřbitov) one of the most significant in the Czech Republic with its 4,000 tombstones. The most frequently visited section is the Rabbis' Peak with tombs of prominent local rabbis.

While exploring the Jewish Quarter, be sure to visit the **mikveh** 11 (mikve) – a Jewish ritual bath – discovered by accident during an archaeological dig. It is one of the best-preserved mikvehs in Europe and has become a hidden gem in Mikulov.



A visit to Husova Street will reveal several important **Jewish heritage sites** 12 (židovská čtvrť). Noteworthy houses include the former Jewish boys' school with Baroque vaults at No. 4, Hotel Tanzberg at No. 8, which features a valuable medieval water cistern, and house No. 50, with its Renaissance core, vaults, and a one-column corner arch on the facade.



You can breathe in Jewish history along the Jewish Quarter Monuments tour, which features 16 stops over a 1.5-kilome-



plaques on the facades of these heritage houses offer additional details.





At the Heart of Wine Culture

As the centre of winemaking in the Pálava region, Mikulov will welcome you with its hospitality and unique wines. The steep limestone hillsides, nutrient-rich soil and sunny climate make this area ideal for growing grapes. Welcome to the region where wine has been cultivated for over a thousand years and where you can taste certified Pálava and Mikulov WOCs.

Pálava is known for its white limestone rocks and the local soil, rich in loess and calcic clay, gives the wines their unmistakable earthiness and mineral notes. Mikulov is famous for its Welschriesling, Grüner Veltliner, Riesling, and its local specialty, Pálava, a variety developed near Perná.





A TRADITION ROOTED IN HISTORY

The winemaking tradition in the Mikulov area dates back to the Great Moravian Empire, when wine was grown for church use. Over time, winemaking flourished, particularly thanks to Emperor Charles IV and the arrival of the Anabaptists in the 16th century. Today, Mikulov stands as one of South Moravia's most significant wine regions.

PÁLAVA AND MIKULOV WOCS

Wines of Original Certification or WOC are the pride of the region. Pálava WOC is renowned for its Welschriesling, while Mikulov WOC offers a number grape varieties typical for the region. These wines meet strict quality and terroir criteria, which guarantee their unique character and high quality.





WINE TASTINGS AND EVENTS

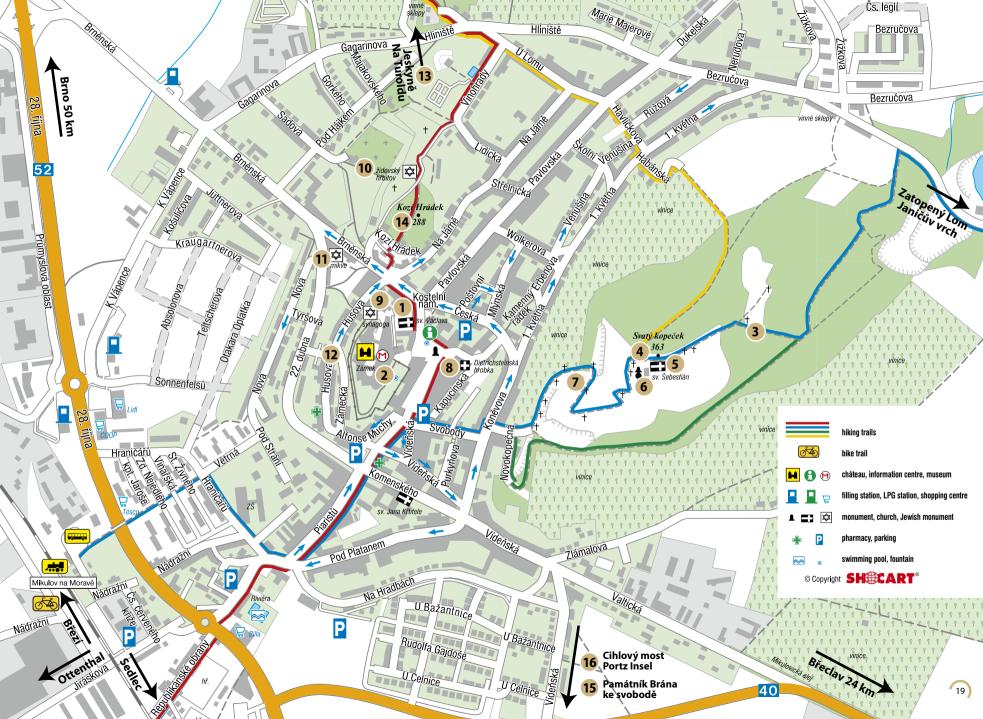
You can taste local wine year-round in various locations, from cosy wine bars and cellars to grand wine festivals. The Pálava Wine Harvest Festival, the Czech Republic's largest wine celebration, attracts tens of thousands of visitors each year. Experience the Open Cellars Festival, where local winemakers open their doors to share the fruits of their labour, or sample new wines during St. Martin's Day in Mikulov.



Practical tipsWHERE TO TASTE

The Tourist Information Centre in Mikulov is ready to introduce you to the current offer of open wine cellars and other spots for great local wine tastings.







Mikulov is a town of refined tastes and gourmet experiences.
The traditional South Moravian cuisine has been enriched by delicacies of national cuisines from all over Europe which, in combination with local wine, create a very tasty composition of flavours and aromas that can't be found anywhere else. See for yourself and visit some of the food festivals or dine in one of the renowned restaurants of Mikulov.







Mikulov is a paradise for those who appreciate good food and drink. Traditional local cuisine was based on simple ingredients such as wheat flour and potatoes, which were served with sauerkraut, milk, or as various pancakes. Holiday meals featured meats like goose, duck, and pork. The region's history of diverse cultural influences is evident in the variety of dishes, including Bulgarian chorba and ljutenica, Jewish specialties such as cholent and challah, and Moravian Croatian dishes.

GASTRONOMIC FESTIVALS

One of the main culinary events is the **Thaya Culture Festival** celebrating diversity of cuisines that have shaped the local food culture. Visitors can sample specialties from various national cuisines, making it a true delight for food lovers.



The Organic Wine and Cheese Festival

is another highlight, where organic food enthusiasts can meet producers and learn about the processes behind their quality products. Mikulov also offers quality cheeses from cow's and sheep's milk year-round.



Practical tips

TRY THE LOCAL BEER

Although Mikulov is famed for its wine, few know that the locals also brew excellent beer. Local microbreweries offer both traditional and speciality beers.



Mikulov is a centre of lively cultural events of all kinds, where shared experiences with family and friends are treasured. No matter the season, you will find at least one cultural event – if not more – taking place. Whether you're passionate about history, music, folklore, or theatre, Mikulov has something for everyone.



The town boasts a cultural heritage that many larger cities could envy. Thanks to its rich history and active community, there are more than 500 cultural events taking place throughout the year, attracting visitors from all over the country.

One of the most important events is **Easter in Mikulov**. The Easter festivities are accompanied by music and dance performances, an Easter fair with traditional crafts and tasting of local specialties. Children can enjoy art workshops and theatre plays.



Every May, the **Mikulov Town Festivities** take place, a three-day festival featuring historical reenactments, concerts, theatre performances, and a market. During the **Museum Night Festival**, local monuments open their doors to the public.

The folklore festival **Neighbours** celebrates traditional dance, music, and wine-making customs, with performances by groups from both home and abroad. Drama lovers will also enjoy the theatre festival entitled **Moravian Parnassus of J. G. Gettner** celebrating the Baroque theatre history of the town.







The highlight of the season is the **Pálava Wine Harvest Festival**, held annually in the second week of September. As the wine season comes to a close, **St. Martin's Day** brings festivities, with the town square buzzing with a craft market and the first bottles of **St.** Martin's wine being opened. In December, the quaint town below Pálava becomes a magical place thanks to the **Mikulov Advent Festival**. A month of concerts, events and the Christmas tree lighting ceremony is concluded with a **festive Christmas Eve celebration**. The year ends with a lively New Year's Eve celebration in the town square.



Practical tips

From June to October, the local amphitheatre hosts a wide variety of events, including

theatre performances, sports, concerts, and culinary festivals.



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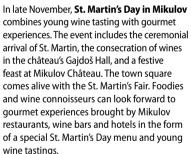
The town of Mikulov and a glass of delicious wine – a pair made in heaven.

Another ideal pairing is Pálava and wine tasting. Mikulov offers plenty of options at many wine events throughout the year.

The biggest wine revelry is undoubtedly the **Pálava Wine Harvest Festival**, which takes place in Mikulov on the second weekend of September. This traditional wine-making gala with historical parades, folklore performances and tastings attracts thousands of visitors each year. They commemorate a significant event from 1403, when the knight John of Liechtenstein freed King Wenceslas IV from a Viennese prison.







Throughout the year, Mikulov hosts numerous other wine events. The **Open Cellars Festival** offers tastings directly from winemakers, while the **Wine Market** in May is an opportunity to taste the best wines from the entire Mikulov region. In July, local winemakers organize the **Night of Open Cellars Festival** with wine tastings in wine cellars, conference halls and production premises well into the night. Another must-attend event is the **Organic Wine and Cheese Festival**, along with many other tastings hosted by individual wineries.





Tips on Wine







24 25



Mikulov resounds with melodies in all seasons. The local music scene offers visitors many festivals and concerts throughout the entire year. From classical chamber music to alternative noncommercial musical, it caters to every taste.



The **Mikulov Guitar Festival** has gained European recognition in its more than thirty years of existence. Prominent classical guitar stars from all over the world perform at public concerts in the beautiful venue of the Mikulov Château. It also includes lectures, seminars and masterclasses, making it the perfect event for enthusiastic students.





The MikuLOVE Festival, the successor to the legendary Eurotrialog, focuses on non-commercial and alternative music. Nicknamed the "festival of unpopular music", the event gives voice to artists of marginal genres, offering a platform for new musical talents and unconventional sounds.

The **Campanile** International Festival of Choirs regularly presents choral compositions and modern interpretations at the château and churches in Mikulov and its surroundings.

Concentus Moraviae brings together thirteen towns, including Mikulov, for an international classical music festival. It is a uniquely curated concept focused on classical music with an overlap into other genres. Each year brings a new theme reflecting important musical milestones and trends.

Another international festival, the **Lednice-Valtice Music Festival**, highlights the area's historical connections with Austria and Slovakia.





The Monastery Music Festival primarily organizes its concerts in sacred buildings or settings that are in some way historically connected to religious institutions.

The Pálava Wine Harvest Festival is an affair combining traditional folklore and wine with concerts of popular bands of various genres, brass bands and dulcimer music.



Practical tips

Tickets for these events can be purchased online. We recommend buying them in advance.







Mikulov merges history and beautiful architecture with art. The local art scene is thriving thanks to internationally renowned events such as the Mikulov Art Symposium and the Křehký Mikulov Festival. No matter when you visit, you'll have the chance to view inspiring works in one of the town's many galleries.



MIKULOV ART SYMPOSIUM "DÍLNA"

Every summer, Mikulov transforms into a hub of artistic creation during the Mikulov Art Symposium "dílna". Artists from home and abroad find inspiration here and contribute to the town's impressive art collection. You can watch the creative process and view the resulting works at the Mikulov Château until autumn. The symposium with a more than thirty-year-old tradition is behind the town's vast contemporary art collection.



KŘEHKÝ MIKULOV FESTIVAL

Art design followers should not miss the **Křehký Mikulov** Festival in May. Held in the historic Mikulov Château, this event showcases the finest in domestic and international applied art and design. It also offers a rich accompanying program featuring creative workshops for the entire family.

MIKULOV GALLERIES

Mikulov's vibrant cultural scene is enriched by a diverse range of galleries showcasing various artistic styles. The **Závodný Gallery** is known for its emphasis on geometric and minimalist art. The gallery building is an architectural marvel in itself. The **Efram Gallery** focuses on Jewish culture and is housed in a former Jewish boys' school. The **Studio Pirsc Porcelain** is synonymous with cutting-edge design and porcelain making. The **Konvent Gallery** in a former Capuchin church hosts exhibitions, theatre performances, and concerts. The **Cibulka Gallery** merges art and wine for a unique experience.





LITERARY HOTSPOT

Mikulov Reading brings the town to life with a vibrant literary scene. Leading contemporary writers come together to create and engage with the locals.



Practical tips

Mikulov is also dotted with an evergrowing collection of sculptures, enriching

the town's public spaces. The works are scattered all around the town and its surroundings and create an integral part of the local landscape. The Art Trail will guide you to them.



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Pálava on Foot



The town and its surroundings are a great place for hiking enthusiasts and history and culture buffs. Located in the heart of the Pálava Protected Landscape Area, Mikulov offers spectacular hiking opportunities amid vinevards, steppes, forests, and limestone rocks.

A popular destination is **Děvín Hill**, home to the ruins of **Děvičky Castle**, where visitors can enjoy stunning panoramic views. Reaching the medieval stone walls, you can enjoy breathtaking panoramic views. Another important site is the middle part of the Nové Mlýny Reservoir

ground. You can also follow the nature trail to the **Dunajovice Hills**, which are home to rare plants and offer beautiful views of the surrounding Pálava.





INTO THE DEEP

Those who enjoy underground fun can visit the unforgettable Na Turoldu Cave 13 (jeskyně Na Turoldu) which together with the Fox Hole forms a two-kilometre-long labyrinth of underground passages. You can admire the unique inner decorations on the almost 300-metre-long trail.

called Věstonice, an important bird breeding



TO THE SUMMIT

Just outside Mikulov, a steep climb up Holy Hill (Svatý kopeček) will lead you to the Chapel of Saint Sebastian, the Bell Tower, and the Chapel of the Holy Sepulchre. The views from the top are breathtaking. Follow the Way of the Cross all the way to the top.



You can also walk along interesting city landmark tours right in the town of Mikulov. For example, try the "In the Footsteps of the Anabaptists" or the "Jewish Quarter Monuments" tour to be reminded of the local Jewish history. Don't forget to visit the **Goat Tower 14** (Kozí hrádek), which provides stunning views over the town. You can explore both town landmark tours and nature trails. The "Holy Hill in Mikulov" nature trail will show you the area's natural and historical sights. Try another trail called "Turold Nature Trail", which is about 400 metres long and partly coincides with the access trail to the Na Turoldu Cave. The information panels explain the history of limestone mining in Pálava, local flora and fauna, the geological structure, paleontological and archaeological finds and the wintering of bats in the caves. Just outside Mikulov, the Freedom Trail 15 (Stezka svobody) pays tribute to those who tried





Practical tips

If you head from Mikulov towards the village of Sedlec, you will come across a restored historic brick bridge with fifteen arches. The nearby Portz Insel Nature Trail will introduce you to the history of the area, the hunting lodge, the restored **brick bridge 16** (cihlový most) and the local countryside. The trail is about 2.6 kilometres long and takes you through the northern, now defunct, part of the former Portz Insel island all the way to Drasenhofen in Austria. If you head to nearby Pasohlávky, you can follow along the "Mušov – Gateway to the Roman Empire" and "Germans at the Gates of the Roman Empire" nature trails, which will take you back to the times of the Roman legionaries and Germanic tribes.









Welcome to a cycling paradise! Pálava offers amazing rides weaving through the vineyards and historical landmarks. Discover its charm while pedalling through the countryside and experience unforgettable adventures full of history, culture and wine.

Mikulov and the surrounding Pálava are ideal spots for cyclists of all levels. The area is intertwined with a dense network of bike trails which will take you through the picturesque landscape and historical gems. Whether you're staying the weekend or longer, you'll discover all that Mikulov has to offer by bike.





THE MOST BEAUTIFUL RIDES

The **Stará hora Wine Circuit** (37 km) will guide you through the surrounding countryside. Learn about the history of the Moravian Croats in Nový Přerov and Jevišovka, walk along the Stará hora Nature Trail in Novosedly and continue to Dolní Dunajovice to visit some wine cellars. Upon your return to Mikulov via Bavory, you will be rewarded with magnificent views of Pálava.

For a relaxing ride, choose the **Small Circuit Around the Nové Mlýny Reservoirs** (26 km) leading around the Věstonice Reservoir to Strachotín with its wine cellars and Dolní Věstonice with the Pálava House of Nature. Families with kids can take the circular trail from Pasohlávky, and advanced cyclists or those with electric bikes can enjoy the scenery of Pálava on their way from Mikulov via Klentnice and Pavloy (45 km).





Choose the **Biking Tohrough the Mikulov Area** trail (50 km) from Mikulov to Valtice and be enchanted by the Rendezvous Monument and the Three Graces Chapel. You can also enjoy the impressive château with its fascinating park and on the way back stop by the Border Lodge in Hlohovec.

Popular bike trails will also take you to nearby Austria. For example, the Mikulov – Ottenthal trail or Mikulov – Nový Přerov, part of the "Visiting Neighbours by Bike" circuit which connects to the Hi Neighbours cross-border bike trail in Nový Přerov, from where you can continue to the Austrian Weinviertel region.



Practical tips

THE FREEDOM TRAIL Located just a few kilometres from Mikulov, this trail takes you to

the sites of the former Iron Curtain and stories of people who tried to cross the once impenetrable border.



Visiting Our Neighbours

TRIPS NEARBY



When you've had your fill of Mikulov and its sights, you can use it as a base for trips to the surrounding area. You can find great destinations full of history and culture on the Czech side and across the border in Austria.









TO AUSTRIA

Just fifteen minutes from Mikulov lies the quaint town of **Poysdorf**, where you can take a ride on a historic tractor among the vineyards or visit the **Vino Versum** wine centre. **Schrattenberg** offers a unique barefoot trail or you can enjoy a beautiful view from the romantic ruins of an 11th-century castle towering over the vineyards of **Falkenstein**. The **Galgenberg Hill** guards 184 wine cellars, some up to 300 years old. You can also relax at a thermal spa in nearby **Laa an der Thaya**.

BEAUTIFUL MONUMENTS

On the Czech side of the border, visitors can enjoy the UNESCO-listed **Lednice-Valtice Area**. Visit the châteaux in Lednice and Valtice, stroll through the château parks, embark on cruises on the Thaya River and discover unique monuments such as the **Rendezvous** or the **Reistna Colonnade**.



Practical tips

For a refreshing swim, head to the Riviera swimming pool in Mikulov with a view of the château and water slide and smaller pools for kids. The flooded limestone Quarry Janičův vrch (Lom Janičův vrch) near Mikulov is a natural swimming area with clear water and beautiful surroundings. The Nové Mlýny system of three water reservoirs offers scenic cruises with gorgeous views of Pálava and wine tasting on board. Those who love water sports can rent a boat and also try wakeboarding and windsurfing. The nearby Aqualand Moravia water park offers dozens of water slides, thermal pools and wellness services for the whole family.



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