

# **OLOMOUC** Hustopeče nad Bečvou Hranice Lipník nad Bečvou Teplice nad Bečvou Přerov Tovačov 🗓 Wrocław Dresden Katowice Praha Kraków Plzeň Ostrava Olomouc Wien München **Bratislava Budapest**

# THE BEČVA CYCLING ROUTE IN CENTRAL MORAVIA

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## THE BEČVA RIVER

The largest left-hand tributary of the Morava, the Bečva originates at the confluence of the Rožnov Bečva and the Vsetín Bečva streams in Valašské Meziříčí. The river is the last large river in the Czech Republic without a dam. Thanks to this, boaters, cyclists, hikers, and tourists can admire fascinating scenic river areas. The most beautiful parts are located in Central Moravia, around Hustopeče nad Bečvou, Skalička, and Ústí, where the river meanders, trees are left lying in the water, where there are vast gravel bars, all forming a habitat for many rare fauna.

The Bečva is navigable throughout Central Moravia. Its course is suitable for beginner boaters. The riverbed is natural, only regulated slightly in certain places. At the optimum river stage, frequent rock cascades form interesting rapids that liven up boating.

The Bečva Cycling Route runs parallel to the river, almost along the whole length of its course. The cycling route has been newly constructed to a large extent and separated, part of it on less frequented local roads and paved forest and dirt roads. The new parts are also suitable for in-line skaters and for scooters.

# **HUSTOPEČE NAD BEČVOU TO HRANICE**



Take the class III road from Hustopeče nad Bečvou, turn off onto the cycling path at the sand pit and continue to the homestead of Kačena. Go onto the forest road from there. The cycling route continues on the class III road from Kamenec to Skalička and then to Ústí.

A short part of the route is on a class II road, turning off onto a forest path before reaching Teplice nad Bečvou and continuing to the outskirts of the town. Up to Hranice, the route follows urban roads.

### Hustopeče nad Bečvou

Cyclists can reach Hustopeče nad Bečvou by a road that runs past the local chateau and joins the Bečva Cycling Route behind the town. The **chateau in Hustopeč**e is worth the visit, as it boasts the most beautiful arcade courtyard in Moravia. Its history goes back to 1580, when its owners from the House of Žerotín began rebuilding the insufficient stronghold into a two-storied Renaissance chateau. Currently the chateau houses the Museum of the Butcher's Trade, a collection of stone monuments, and the Museum of Film and Music. Various cultural events, exhibitions, and fairs are held in the courtyard.

www.ihustopece.cz

+420 581 626 111

### Červek's Windmill

Before reaching Teplice nad Bečvou, do not forget to stop at Červek's Windmill in Skalička. This unique wooden German-type mill was originally built in Dřevohostice. Its owner had it taken apart and relocated to Skalička in 1850 on twelve waggons. It was used for milling until 1966. The mill's impressive dimensions make it one of the largest wooden mills in the Czech Republic. The original equipment has been preserved and is fully functional. This family-run museum is run by Antonín Červek Jr., continuing the family tradition.

www.obecskalicka.cz

+420 736 180 770





### Hranice Abyss

The Bečva Cycling Route takes cyclists on the left river bank from Teplice directly to Hranice. We recommend going onto the right bank in Teplice. Take the red and green tourist trail over the reinforced-concrete bridge to the Hranice Abyss Information Centre.

The information centre is located in a distinctive building of the Teplice nad Bečvou railway station. Trains still stop there, but the ticket office is closed. Instead, the listed functionalist building from 1939 hosts an interactive model of the abyss and provides useful information about this significant natural phenomenon. A tourist trail leads from the information centre to the abyss.

With the overall depth of 473.5 metres, the Hranice Abyss is the deepest in the Czech Republic. At the same time, the record-breaking water depth of 404 metres makes it the deepest submerged abyss in the world. And the bottom has not yet been reached! The abyss was created through a hydrothermal karst process in which aggressive mineral water coming from deep crevasses etched the limestone massif from below until the roof collapsed, opening the cavity to the surface.

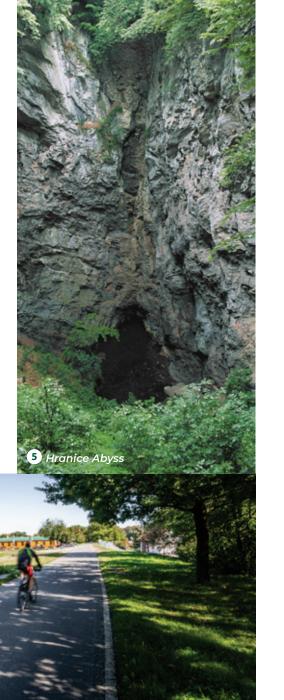
In the past, people thought the abyss was created by supernatural phenomena. It was first mentioned in 1580, and its location was first listed on John Amos Comenius's 1624 map of Moravia. The abyss is currently frequented by tourists but also by many scientists and explorers. It is a habitat of unique flora and fauna. For instance, the only underground summer colony of greater mouse-eared bat in the Czech Republic was discovered there.

### **Hranice Abyss Information Centre**

www.infocentrum-hranice.cz /infocentrum-hranicke-propasti/

www.hranickapropast.cz





### Hranice

Reaching the tourist guide post at the bridge in Hranice, you can decide whether to continue along the cycling route, or to explore the town of Hranice. Not far from the guide post is the **Plovárna open-air swimming-pool** with a number of attractions, not just for children. You can refresh your spirits by a walk through the town centre.

The old, narrow streets and arcades of the burgher houses will lead you to Masaryk Square, the dominant feature of which is the Baroque **Church of the Beheading of Saint John the Baptist**. You can also view the town's beauties from the high tower of the Old Town Hall, the seat of the Municipal Museum.

A short walk from Masaryk Square through Pernštejn Square will lead you to the **chateau**, the current seat of the municipal authorities. The earliest mention of the chateau dates back to the 14th century. This four-wing building with a Renaissance arcade courtyard and a tower, constructed later, bears witness of its history in many places, for instance, the ample stucco decorations of the state rooms and the portal with the coat-of-arms of Cardinal Franz von Dietrichstein.

The chateau underwent complete renovations, with the unconventional architectural design of its arcade courtyard, topped by a translucent roof, thus becoming an integral part of the interior. The ground floor is freely accessible and you can take a coffee break, buy some regional products, or use the services of the information centre with bicycle and scooter rentals.

The existence of the Jewish community in the town is commemorated by the local **synagogue**, renovated in the 1990s. The gorgeous indoor areas are frequently used for cultural events and exhibitions.

### Plovárna open-air swimming-pool

www.aquaparkplovarnahranice.cz

+420 581 674 481

### Museum and gallery Hranice

www.muzeum-hranice.cz

+420 775 854 522

### Synagogue

www.muzeum-hranice.cz

+420 778 777 893



6 Chateau Hranice



The Bečva Cycling Route runs parallel to the Bečva from Hranice almost to Týn nad Bečvou. The whole segment is 9.5 kilometres long, with two rest areas along the route. From Týn nad Bečvou, the route continues to Lipník nad Bečvou on a class II road. This segment is 2 kilometres long.

Use an alternative route if you want to visit the Jezernice Viaducts. Take the yellow tourist trail from Rybáře leading to the viaducts, and then continue to Lipník along route 6240.

### Jezernice Viaducts

The 430-metre stone railway viaducts near Jezernice were built as part of what was then the Emperor Ferdinand Northern Railway to span the valley of the local stream. The older brick-built bridge with one railway track was put into operation in 1847. The newer stone bridge was opened in 1873 when the railway was expanded into a double-track line. The viaduct underwent complete reconstruction between 1998 and 2001 and the arches were newly bricked up. The reconstruction received the Bridge of 2001 Award from the Czech Ministry of Transportation.

### Helfštýn Castle

You can reach Helfštýn Castle by the red tourist trail from the square in Týn nad Bečvou. The castle is one of the largest castle complexes in Europe. Its history dates back to the 14th century, but it was deliberately demolished in the 17th century to prevent its capture by the Turks. The castle's current appearance is that of a fortress with six gates and a number of buildings and ramparts. You can tour the castle premises on your own, or with a guide. The tour also includes a permanent exhibition of smithery and products of the historical minting mill. Several hundred blacksmiths from all over the world come to Helfštýn each year to participate in the Hefaiston festival.







Lipník nad Bečvou, a historical town reserve, maintains all the original features of ancient towns, with a dominant square in the centre. The reserve includes 190 houses and small, usually religious buildings, 105 of which are listed as cultural heritage sites. In addition to burgher houses, you can also admire the **Church of Saint James the Greater** with a vicarage, the bell tower, the town hall, the Chapel of Saint Joseph, and the post office building. From May to September, you can tour the town with a guide for free daily except Monday.

### Town Walls

The remnants of the town fortification walls in Lipník nad Bečvou surround the entire historical centre and are among the best-preserved in Moravia. Although the town gates were torn down in the 19th century, extensive parts of both stone walls with towers and a number of the remarkable details have been preserved to date.

### **Jewish Monuments**

Almost a third of Lipník's citizens were of Jewish origin in the 1st half of the 19th century. The bulk of historical Jewish houses are located in Pernštýnská Street, where the second oldest **synagogue** in the Czech Republic has been preserved. Today it serves as a place of worship for the Czechoslovak Hussite Church. Nearby is the **Guttman Foundation House**, a former almshouse and tabernacle. Both Jewish cemeteries in Lipník were re-established after 1989.

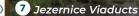
### Tourist Information Centre Lipník nad Bečvou

www.info.mesto-lipnik.cz

**\(\cdot\)** +420 581 773 763



9 Church of Saint James the Greater





### Chateau

The Renaissance chateau was constructed as a two -storeyed building with two tracts. It was rebuilt into the current neoclassical form in the 1860s. Today the chateau houses the municipal authorities. The western wing of the chateau was renovated, and the stables, carriage shelter, and coach drivers' apartments are now a gallery and a community hall with a café called Konírna (Stable) according to its former purpose.

A unique roof garden was constructed atop the stables at the beginning of the 20th century, the first of its kind in countries north of the Alps at the time of its establishment. The garden is open from April until the end of October, daily except Mondays. The roof garden offers nice views of the English-style chateau park, also open to the public.

### Garden of Meditation

The Garden of Meditation is adjacent to the eastern side of the presbytery of the Parish Church of Saint James the Greater. Having the shape of an irregular pentagon, and total area of approx. 3 000 m<sup>2</sup>, the garden was established by the Lípa Association and the Roman Catholic Parish, under the auspices of the town. Flowers and shrubs in the garden blossom gradually until late autumn.

### **Swimming**

You can go swimming directly in Lipník nad Bečvou at the municipal swimming pool where bicycle storage service is available. Those who prefer swimming in natural settings may prefer the gravel lake, Jadran, located halfway between Lipník and Osek, directly off the Bečva Cycling Route.

### Municipal swimming pool

www.ts-lipnik.cz/koupaliste

+420 731 473 306



**ROUTE PROFILE** 

From Lipník nad Bečvou, the cyclina route leads to the guide post on the bridge near Osek nad Bečvou. The route is permanently closed from there, and you will have to take a marked alternative route. The cycling route continues from the bridge in Grymov and leads all the way to Přerov. Behind Přerov. the route follows class II and III roads to Toyačov.

LIPNIK N. BECVOU

Bezuchov

Zakovice

Lhota Blazice

LIPNÍK NAD BEČVOU TO TOVAČOV

Lhota ....

Radvanice

At the entry to Přerov, directly off the cycling route, is the Greater Lagoon natural swimming pond. It is part of a lagoon zone that includes Smaller Lagoons – a valuable wetlands habitat and a natural monument. For a bit of exercise, you can also go to the skate-park and BMX track near the lagoon.

### Michalov Park in Přerov

Zelatovice -

Nature lovers should not miss the Michalov Park on their way. It is an oasis of peace in the midst of the city, a part of nature not far from the housing estates, occupying more than 17 hectares. The park offers quiet corners, inviting you to take a rest. The Michalov Park has been a national monument since 1992. Sporting enthusiasts can take advantage of the dedicated grass plots for sports, and parents can take their children to several playgrounds.

### Michalov Park in Přerov

www.prerov.eu

+420 581 587 777

### Přerov

The Upper Square with beautiful Renaissance burgher houses is the gem within the historical centre of Přerov, a monument conservation area since 1992. Dominating the Upper Square, the Přerov Castle has been the seat of the **Comenius Museum** since the 1930s. Stop there for a while and get to know the local archaeological finds, mineralogy, and entomology. Also, period school classrooms are displayed there.

Not far away, at T. G. Masaryk Square, an important place is held by the **Municipal House** with a stylish restaurant. Built in the neo-Renaissance style, the house exterior is rich in Art Nouveau stucco decorations.

History lovers will surely admire the town walls, protecting the town since the 15th century. The fortification, surrounding the Upper Square in particular, features 10 towers, gunports and wickets, and comprises the conservation area together with the burgher houses.

The location has been inhabited since prehistoric times, as proven by archaeological finds in Přerov-Předmostí. A nature trail will lead you through this part of the town, famous worldwide for its archaeological finds including ancient humans and woolly mammoths. Together with Dolní Věstonice, it is one of the two most important archaeological sites in the Czech Republic.

You will surely be tired after a day of travelling. Take advantage of the services of **LH Hotel Jana**. In addition to a restaurant, it also features a wellness centre. You can find the hotel easily – it stands nearby the Bečva Cycling Route.

### Comenius Museum

\* www.prerovmuzeum.cz

+420 581 250 531

**LH Hotel Jana** 

www.hotel-jana.cz

+420 581 833 111



### Bečva-Morava Confluence

The place where two major Moravian rivers meet is located between the Tovačov Ponds and Troubky Lake. Watching the waves of the two rivers, lapping at each other and flowing together, it might give you a shiver when you realise that they flow all the way to the Danube. In 1997, water overflowed the banks in this very place, almost wiping the village of Troubky off the map in a thousand-year flood. Raging flood waters took the lives of several dozen people. The confluence where the waters from the Jeseníky and the Wallachian mountains mix demonstrates the power as well as the beauty of nature.

10 Přerov

### **Troubky Lake**

A paradise for the anglers and lovers of nature and water bodies, the Tovačov Lakes were established in the 1950s and have been a favourite fishing and relaxation site ever since. The lake system also includes Troubky Lake, situated near the Morava and Bečva confluence. The lake surroundings are interesting mainly in ornithological terms, as you can watch various bird species there like loons, coots, and terns. A sheltered observatory for birdwatchers was built on the bank in 2014





### Tovačov

This town, in the heart of the fertile Haná agricultural region, boasts not just its monuments and the chateau, but also beautiful surroundings full of ponds, lakes, and alluvial forests. The town's dominant feature is its **Renaissance chateau**, rebuilt in the late 15th century from a former castle situated near a swamp at the edge of the town. The chateau's slender tower dominates the town at the height of 96 metres.

If you crave a bit of history, visit this Tovačov gem and get to know its interiors during a guided tour. The chateau frequently hosts various exhibitions. A memorable experience is also the ascent to the tower, offering vistas of the surroundings for miles.

### Tovačov Lakes

Tovačov is surrounded by a system of **lakes** that form a picturesque fishing district. The lakes, established in the 1950s, are in fact flooded gravel quarries. They provide habitat to catfish, pike perch, carp, pike, tench and other freshwater fish. The system comprises the following lakes: North, Annín, Troubky, and Skašov. The area is also hospitable for birds, with more than 70 species nesting there. The Tovačov Lakes complement the local ponds: Hradec, Křenov, and Kolečko. Regular fish harvesting events are attended by people from far and wide.

### Tovačov Chateau

www.zamek.tovacov.cz

+420 581 731 309



JANUARY

Hustopeče nad Bečvou / New Year's Fireworks

### **MARCH**

Hustopeče nad Bečvou / Easter at the Chateau

### **APRIL**

Skalička / Walpurgis Night

**Týn nad Bečvou – Helfštýn** / Easter at the Castle; Night Smithing; Spring Skill Ride as part of the antique motor vehicle rally – Oldtimer Club Helfštýn

Přerov / Easter Festival

Tovačov / Start of the chateau season with the Easter Fair

### MAY

Hustopeče nad Bečvou / Festival of Saint Florian, the patron of firefighters; WW2 Liberation Celebration; Start of the chateau season Skalička / Maypole Felling; Mother's Day

**Teplice nad Bečvou** / Opening of the spa season

Hranice / Jazz Days Hranice; Rock Hranice

Lipník nad Bečvou / Dvořák's Lipník

**Týn nad Bečvou – Helfštýn** / Author Bicycles Šela Cycling Ma-

rathon; Military History Festival

Přerov / May Festival; Dragon Boat Festival

Tovačov / May Festival

### JUNE

11 Tovačov's square

Skalička / Skalička Mile; Fairy-Tale Forest

Teplice nad Bečvou / International Children's Day; Maypole Felling Lipník nad Bečvou / Fairy-Tale Town of Lipník nad Bečvou; Pod nebesy Festival

**Týn nad Bečvou - Helfštýn** / Helfštýn Artistic Blacksmith Studios **Přerov** / Folklore Festival at the Castle; Promenade Concerts (June to September)





Hranice / Hranice Cultural Summer (July to August)

Lipník nad Bečvou / Saint James's Fair

Týn nad Bečvou – Helfštýn / Helfštýn Fair

Přerov / Promenade Concerts (June to September), Music Summer at the City Walls (July to August), Rendezvous with a Play (July to August)

Hustopeče nad Bečvou / Hustopeče Days

Teplice nad Bečvou / Teplice nad Bečvou Day

Hranice / Rock Drey Fest - festival of tribute bands; Hranice Cul-

tural Summer (July to August)

Týn nad Bečvou / Blacksmiths' Forum, Hefaiston

Přerov / Promenade Concerts (June to September), Music Summer at the City Walls (July to August); Rendezvous with

a Play (July to August); Saint Lawrence Fair

### **SEPTEMBER**

Skalička / Festival of Country Music

Lipník nad Bečvou / Metal in the Town

Týn nad Bečvou – Helfštýn / Night Tours

Přerov / Promenade Concerts (June to September)

Tovačov / Saint Wenceslas Fair

### **OCTOBER**

Skalička / Skalička Fair

Přerov / Czechoslovak Jazz Festival

Tovačov / Pond Fish Harvest

Hustopeče nad Bečvou / Christmas at the Chateau

Skalička / Illumination of the Christmas Tree; Pre-New Year's Eve

Hike; New Year's Eve

**Hranice** / Christmas in Hranice

**Lipník nad Bečvou** / Advent Candles in the Square; Christmas

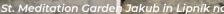
Fair: Advent Concert

Přerov / Christmas and New Year's Eve Festival

Tovačov / Christmas at the Chateau









Hustopeče nad Bečvou









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