

# Dobříš



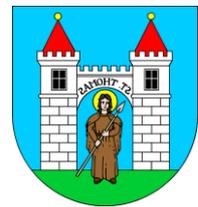
We live in town called Dobříš. Dobříš is a town in the Central Bohemian Region of the Czech Republic with about 8,600 inhabitants. It is the second largest town in Příbram District, located 40 km (25 mi) south of Prague. It is part of the Prague metropolitan area.

This place has been already inhabited in Stone Age. We know it, because there was found an axe which is 3500 years old. The settlement on the Golden Path trade route was first mentioned when in



1252 King Wenceslaus I of Bohemia signed a treaty with the Cistercian abbey of Plasy. Temporarily held by the noble House of Rosenberg, King John the Blind had a hunting lodge erected at Dobříš, which received town privileges by his grandson King Wenceslaus IV. It was devastated during the Hussite Wars in 1421. After the Kingdom of Bohemia had passed to the Habsburg Monarchy, Dobříš was given further city rights by King

Ferdinand I in 1543, confirmed by his son and successor Emperor Maximilian II in 1569. Dobříš Castle was acquired by the German House of Mansfeld in 1630, who had it rebuilt in a Rococo style from 1745 onwards. It was inherited by the Austrian Colloredo-Mansfeld dynasty in 1780. In the nineteenth century the town became associated with the manufacturing of gloves. This industry was first developed by Salamon Abeles. After World War II, a glove factory (Rukavičkářské závody) was still operating here.



In Dobříš you can find some beautiful sights. The most known is chateau Dobříš. The Rococo chateau of Dobříš and its adjacent parks date back to the second half of the 18th century when the original Baroque chateau was destroyed by fire. The present day owners,

the House of Mansfeld, married into the House of Colloredo in 1771. Dobříš was owned by the House of Colloredo-Mansfeld until 1942 when it was appropriated by the German Reich. In 1945 it was confiscated by the Czechoslovak State and a Writers' House was established and run by the Association of Czechoslovak Writers. In the complex of chateau, there is The English park and The French park.

In Dobříš there are a few restaurations where you can go for lunch or dinner. One of them is in château Dobříš. It's mostly for tourists or for special occasions. The other one is called Na Prachandě. It's nearby the train station. The food is really good and for a good price. Next to the church there is a complex of buildings with long history which used to be old farm house. Today you can find here a restaurat which is called U Tří statkářů, boardinghouse, winehouse, hot yoga.. In Dobříš there are two pizzerias, one chinsese bistro and kebab bistro. We also have four cafés and our favourite is Velbloud which means Camel in English.

When you visit Dobříš, you can stay in hotel in château Dobříš (hotel Grani), in boardinghouse Na Statku (in English On Farmhouse) or hotel Heinz.

When you want to spend your day in Dobříš, you can visit the Church of the Holy Trinity, Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. There is also Jewish cemetery, where you can find 250 valuable Baroque gravestones. It is the oldest relic of Jewish people of Dobříš. The oldest gravestone is from 1650.



Another monument that is worth mentioning, is Vargač castle. It was built in 1340. It used to be very important and very popular (Karel IV. turned it into a solid stone castle). But nowadays it is in private holding and it's not opened to a public.

If you want to spend your free time with doing something with your body, you can go to the gym, you can join aerobic classes, play tennis... You can take your bike or skateboards and go to the local skatepark or you can just go for a walk, run.. because of the beautiful landscape that our town offers. In winter you can go ice skating to the stadion.

If you don't like active relaxing you can go to the public library and read some books.

When you want to get to Dobříš you can use a bus or train. And we don't have metro and trams. We use our own feet or bikes. Inhabitants of Dobříš often commute to Prague or Příbram, because there are not so many job opportunities for everyone.

Dobříš twinned with Geldrop-Mierlo in Netherlands and Tonnerre in France. Our school organizes exchange sejour with school in Tonnerre. Our students really enjoy this exchange.



We have annual festival called Májové slavnosti (May celebration). There are lots of concerts, appearances like aerobic, gymnastics... There are also lots of stalls with sweets, fastfood, trinkets... It's for every generation and it's the most liked event in Dobříš. People from other smaller villages come here to enjoy this event.

We spend our free time in café, or we go for a walk to the park or to the forest. But in Dobříš there is not much to do, so we often visit Prague because in Prague there is always something to do. But it doesn't mean that Dobříš is uninteresting or boring town.