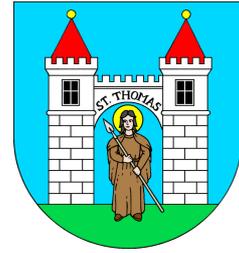


# My area

## Main informations about our town

Dobříš is a small town with about 10 000 inhabitants. It is situated in the middle of the Czech republic about 50 km from Prague in Centre Bohemian Region. Dobříš is surrounded with forests and mountains called Brdy. The altitude is 371 m above the sea. We can also find there three ponds - Bzdinka, Koryto and Papež. Dobříš is also twinned with Geldrop-Mierlo in Netherlands and Tonnerre in France.



## History of our town

The oldest archeological discoveries are from the Early Stone Age - they're approximately 5500 years old. In 10<sup>th</sup> century there was a Golden Path from Prague to Bavaria. The first mention about Dobříš is from 1252. Under the rule of Jan Lucemburský was built fortress Vargač, which was unfortunately devastated after several years.

The most important monument is chateau Dobříš, that's in ownership of dynasty Coloredo-Mannsfeld from 1630. He had it rebuilt in a Rococo style. In 1945 was chateau nationalized and it was used as House of writers. In 1989 was chateau returned to Coloredo-Mannsfelds family. By the chateau there is a magnificent french garden with labyrinths and nice english park.



## Legend of Dobříš and its surrounding

Now I will tell you some interesting legends.

### Legend about small cross

It tells us that there lived one miner, but unfortunately, he passed away by catastrophe. His friends were very sad and they wanted to build something in honour of him. So they built small cross of stone on place where he died. One day, when miners went around the cross, they heard somebody saying: „Oh, my God“, but they didn't see anybody. People say, that ghost of this died miner still scares on this place. Or it is only conjecture?

### Treasure of castle Vargač

One day, small girl strayed to cellar of castle Vargač. She met there little old man, who asked her for help with lighting a lamp. For reward, he gave her small stones. When her parents found her, she took some of them with her. Next morning when she woke up, she was very surprised, because those little stones suddenly became gold money.

### Mill Melmatěj

Back then there was a castle Vimberk where lived kinght with his two daughters. The older one was mean and she hated her younger sister. She was trying to persuade servant Matěj to kill her little sister. Fortunately, Matěj was smart and told it to master, so she had to run away. Then younger daughter gave mill to Matěj, she took him inside and she said: „Matěj, mince!“ That's how the mill got its name. ( „Matěj, mince!“ means in Czech „Mel Matěji!“ )



*Miner's cross*



*Mill MelMatěj*

### **Other monuments in Dobříš**

The oldest monument of the Jews in Dobříš is the Jewish cemetery. There are about 250 baroque tombstones.

We have also nice churches – Church of the Holy Trinity, Church of Exaltation of the Holy Cross and Church of the Evangelical church of Czech Brethern.

Besides churches there is also the Statue of St. Šebestián on the main square, the Statue of St. Jan Nepomucký, the Cultural house, former Jewish synagogue, where usually take place many cultural event, Hlavsa's house, the Capel of St. Anna, the Falcons house, the Grange and Townhall etc.



*Townhall*



*the Jewish cemetery*

### **Leisure time activites**

If you want to take part in any of the cultural events, you can visit our community centre. There take place many concerts or theater performances. Typical event are celebrations of May with funfair and markets. However, the markets are there every Friday and sometimes on Saturday there are lots of farmer markets with traditional czech products. The nightlife is there really varied too,

because there are situated many bars and restaurants.

For people who like sports, there are tennis courts, football field or there is also opportunity to do yoga, aerobics etc. in our fitness centers.

### **Famous people**

Our town is associated mainly with Czech writers. Jan Drda, who is buried there or Karel Čapek popular Czech writer of dystopian literature, who had in near village Stará Huť his summer residence.

### **Means of transport**

We use mainly bus, because there are many bus stops. It is easy and quite cheap, but sometimes it is not very comfortable. Other possibility is a train, but that's not used so much because there is only one station, which is little bit out of town. Somebody may take a taxi, usually at the weekend.

### **Job opportunities**

Job opportunities are quite little, that's why many people work in bigger cities such as Příbram or Prague. In Dobříš people can find work in Bobcat, local schools and shops. There was a big glove factory, but after World War II it was nationalized and the production was decreased.