

## Free Panoramic Tour of Liberec

**3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018**

**09:00** Departure from the conference center

Professional and experienced licensed guide during the tours.

Transportation by a comfortable AC non smoking Luxurious car / Van with professional driver.

**19:00** Returning to the hotel

**Price: ONLY TRANSPORTATION FREE**

Most place charges the entrance fee.

**Note:** The museums **entrance fee and lunch** will be paid by the participants.

### During the Tour will visit the Historical Places

Jested Mountain

Liberec Zoo

Liberec Botanic Gardens

Liberec Town Hall

Liberec Castle

## Historical Places Information

### 1. Jested Mountain



**Ještěd** (Czech pronunciation; German: Jeschken) is the highest mountain peak (1,012 m) of the Ještěd-Kozákov Ridge near Liberec in the north of the Czech Republic. From the summit there are views into Germany and Poland. The Horní Hanychov region of Liberec lies just below the mountain. On the summit is the Ještěd Tower restaurant, hotel and television tower, designed by Karel Hubáček, accessible by road or cable car (Ještěd Cable car). The mountain also has a ski resort. The origin of the mountain's name is uncertain, it is probably from the term Ash mountain, a once dominant tree species in the area. The Czech name for the mountain was first recorded in 1545 as Jesstied (pod horou Jesstiedem). The German form of the name, Jeschke, was first mentioned in 1565. As far back as 1838 the summit hosted a crude stone that serves as a landmark to this day. The first hut on the summit was erected as early as 1844. In the 1860s, the mountain ridge was Station No. 4 of the first order of the Royal Saxon triangulation. For this reason a measuring station was built on the summit. In 1906, the Mountain Club, a mountain hotel, was built. The Jeschke Horní Hanychov cable car to the summit was opened in 1933. On 23 August 1940, at midnight, a Heinkel He 111 from the Second (Lion) Squadron (German: Löwengeschwader) from Lüneburg crashed into the mountain near the summit and tore a long swathe in the woods. This accident killed the four crew. The old mountain hotel burned down in 1963. Between 1966 and 1973, a futuristic hotel, with a 100-metre-high television tower, was built that was designed by the architect, Karel Hubacek. For the construction of the TV tower, Hubacek was awarded the Auguste Perret Prize. The modern building acts as a lookout tower, transmission tower, hotel and restaurant

## 2. Liberec Zoo



**Liberec Zoo** is the oldest zoo in Czech Republic, founded in 1919, on the grounds of the winter quarters of a circus. The Liberec zoological garden is the oldest zoological garden in the former Czechoslovakia. It was founded in 1919, however, its roots can be dated back to the beginning of the 20th century. In an area of 14 hectares up to 160 species of animals from all continents can be admired. Among our most interesting species are the Golden Takin, Hamadryas Baboon, Kea, Barbary Lion, Red Panda, Asian Elephant, Reindeer, a lot of species of apes, Meercats, Reticulated Python and of course, the very popular White Tiger. Only in our Zoo you will also get to see the four biggest species of owls, a rare collection of birds of prey and a lot of unique representatives of the Asian bird kingdom. The route through the Zoo is about 1,8 km long and we recommend to allow at least 2 to 3 hours of your time, but it is also possible to spend a whole day! Apart from our amazing animals in our Zoo you can find a fast food restaurant, relaxation areas, kids attractions, a shop with souvenirs opened seasonally and of course sanitary facilities.

### 3. Liberec Botanic Gardens



**The Botanical Garden** in Liberec is the oldest in the Czech Republic and is now over 120 years old. Its long history gives a sound base for reliability and quality. But mere conservation of the heritage left by previous generations of gardeners in the form of plant collections and traditions is not enough. A botanical garden which wishes to be a prestigious institution, must be prominent in the scientific world while simultaneously inspiring ideas in the form and style of the art of gardening. Its vitality must be evident through professional international contacts, scientific studies, student research fellowships, publications, participation in nature conservation projects and also through the quality of personal development of its own staff. The Botanical Garden in Liberec cares for the richest collections of exotic plants in the Czech Republic. There are around 50 thousand of visitors per annum. The complex of greenhouses was designed by Ing. arch. Pavel Vaněček and resembles a crystal druse. Ten exhibition pavilions of varying size provide an exhibition area of approximately 3500 square metres. Fourteen different botanical themes are presented in these pavilions. Here, the 'pure' science, combined with a romantic approach, produce a blend of ideas. (The creators of the exhibition are: architecture Miloslav Studnička, PhD. and the gardener Zdeněk Eichler.) The Botanical garden has a further nine greenhouses, each with its own microclimate, providing an additional area of 1400 square metres

#### 4. Liberec Town Hall



**Liberec town hall** is a Neo-Renaissance building, which was built from 1888 till 1893 by design of the Viennese architect, Franz Neumann, replacing earlier structures dating to 1602. The building has a richly decorated façade, integrated artwork, and very rare stained glass windows. Above the entrance portal is a sculptural relief by Viennese sculptor Theodor Friedl, showing the establishment of the old and new town hall. At its center is a female figure symbolizing the city; on the left side, figures associated with the original town hall, and figures associated with the emergence of a new town hall on the right, including the architect Neumann. The front of the building is a bronze monument in the shape of a tank strip, commemorating nine victims of the invasion of the Warsaw Pact armies in August 1968. The tower is 65 metres tall. Liberec town hall is similar to Vienna town hall. Today Liberec Town Hall is the seat of The Municipal Authority.

## 5. Liberec Castle



The total population of **Liberec** is about 110 000 inhabitants, rising to 250 000 inhabitants including the area surrounding. The city's unmistakable symbol is the Ještěd television transmitter, which enjoys great popularity among domestic and foreign visitors alike. Liberec lies close to the Jizerske Mountains, which are amply exploited for winter and summer tourism. The city attracts tourists to spend their leisure time with a range of sports activities such as skiing, cycling, hiking and golfing. The historical heart of the city offers an extensive assortment of historical monuments, providing visitors with an unforgettable cultural experience. The highlight of the city center is the Liberec town hall, located on Dr. Ed. Beneš Square. It is commonly used for various social events organized by the city. Next to the square is the Liberec Chateau. Equally interesting is the extensive tradition of the Liberec exposition grounds, which welcomes exhibitors from the Czech Republic and abroad every year.