

## Lose yourself in the gorges of Bohemian Switzerland



**A mystical landscape of pine forests and deep valleys, with majestic rock towers, gates, walls, ravines, rock cities and labyrinths rising up from them. This description fits the Bohemian Switzerland National Park precisely. This empire of rocks is home to the rarest of animals and also plays host to remarkable plants.**

### **European Destinations of Excellence**

The best way to get to know Bohemian Switzerland is to walk through its fairytale countryside, mystical gorges, to enjoy the views far into the distance and to listen to the murmuring of the crystal clear Kamenice Stream. Only in this way will you appreciate the unique atmosphere of the national park, which has also earned the **EDEN** award.

EDEN (European Destinations of Excellence), it is a special project announced every year by the European Commission, the aim of which is to make less traditional European regions more visible and to point out their charm and unique characteristics. All of this in the spirit of the philosophy of sustainable development of tourism, with an emphasis on diversity, authenticity and originality. The Czech Republic has been taking part in the competition since 2009.

### **The symbol of the park is Pravčická brána**

The Czech natural landscape boasts several European “bests”. One of them lies in the heart of the fabulous Bohemian Switzerland. Its symbol, the Pravčická brána (Pravčice Sandstone Gate), is the biggest natural rock arch in Europe. This rock arch has a span of 27 metres and rises up to a height of 21 metres. Beautiful views of this unique natural formation can

be enjoyed from several nearby look-out points. Directly below the Pravčická brána you can relax at the romantic chateau called Sokolí hnízdo (meaning Falcon's Nest).

### **A place full of inspiration**

Bohemian Switzerland offers much more than just the Pravčická brána. Lace up some good hiking shoes and set off along the marked trails to explore more of its beauty. Do not miss the romantic Hřenské soutěsky (Hřensko gorges) or Gabriela stezka (Gabriela's Trail), which leads past sandstone rock formations. The fact that the Pravčická brána has a fairytale atmosphere is evidenced by the fact that the famous Danish fairytale writer Hans Christian Andersen wrote part of "The Snow Queen" here. The Pravčická brána has also enchanted Hollywood filmmakers, who shot several scenes from the Chronicles of Narnia here.

### **Guided tours of the Bohemian Switzerland**

There is an opportunity to organise an itinerary with guides. Excursions to the Hřensko gorges, views over Jetřichovice or the Pravčická brána, complete the interesting range of options from people who know the national park like the back of their hands. Your guides through the gorges are the ferrymen who punt the boats in exactly the same way as they did when this attraction was created. During the trip you'll learn about the history of the gorges and their weird and wonderful inhabitants. So take a chance and hop aboard for a boat ride into the heart of the base rock!

### **Rock towns in the Czech Republic**

Not only the Bohemian Switzerland represents Czech rock towns. In the north of the Czech Republic there are two more rock towns which are renowned for their bizarre rock formations and are bliss for avid climbers. It is Bohemian Paradise and Adršpach Rock Town. Bohemian Paradise is a UNESCO-listed Geopark and it is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the Czech Republic. For centuries the Bohemian Paradise area has attracted painters, writers, artists, and dreamers of all kinds. The Adršpach-Teplice Rocks comprise some of the most popular rock formations in the Czech Republic. Here you can squeeze through gorges and let your imagination run wild when looking at the various shapes created by the rocks.

For further information, please contact:

**CzechTourism Scandinavia and Finland**

tel. + 46 8 44 04 239

E-mail: [info-se@czechtourism.com](mailto:info-se@czechtourism.com)

Web: [www.czechtourism.com](http://www.czechtourism.com)

**ČCCR — CzechTourism**  
is a state-funded agency  
of the Ministry for Regional  
Development. Its main activity  
is to promote the Czech Republic  
as an attractive tourist  
destination. More information  
is available at  
[www.czechtourism.com](http://www.czechtourism.com)