

Museum of the Krkonoše Mountains



Visitor Centre of the Krkonoše
Mountains National Park



Get to know the Krkonoše mountains in one place!

01

Why visit it?

- The largest exposition about the Krkonoše Mountains in the world
- The Krkonoše Mountains from the formation of the first rocks to the present
- Aquaria with live fish
- Historical mine galleries
- Modern exposition in the Baroque monastery
- The biggest environmental disasters of the Krkonoše Mountains
- The Krkonoše Mountains influenced by people and people influenced by the Mountains
- DNA helix-shaped staircase
- Games and quizzes for kids

02

How long for?

- 1 hour – 2 days (ticket valid for 48 hours)

03

Who for?

- Suitable for all ages
- Barrier-free
- Programmes and guiding services (MANDATORY booking)

04

Where and when to find us?

- Address: Husova 213, Vrchlabí
- Entrance: from parkingplace in Dobrovského street
- Opening hours: 9 am – 17 pm daily except Mondays (last admission at 4 pm)



01 Majestic Mountains

The Krkonoše Mountains peaks are an impressive memento of the rugged yet enchanting nature of this mountain range. Their spirit and master, the mysterious Krakonoš, has fascinated the locals since time immemorial. They considered him a demon and a powerful entity, which was reflected in the life of the mountain dwellers also against the background of their spiritual world.



02 Nature's Memory

Peat bogs, a glacial lake in the Labský důl valley, cloudberries in dwarf mountain pine, black grouse and stone fields. Get familiar with five of the many jewels of the Krkonoše Mountains' nature that represent the treasures for which this area was declared the first national park in our country.

Paměť míst

Příběhy, v nichž se
lidský vliv na krajinu
obrátil proti svému
kulturnímu smyslu

- Jizvy na svazích hor
- Tajemství jeskyní
- Obranná linie
- Dvě tváře lavin



Paměť míst

Příběhy, v nichž se
lidský vliv na krajinu
obrátil proti svému
kulturnímu smyslu

- Osídlení hor
- Větřec štěrky slupky
- Slavné moře železa
- Průběh modřínů



03 **The Connected Vessels of Civilization**

In nature, even the smallest details often have a significant impact on the operation of the whole system. Humanity's foolish desire to dominate nature has always led to failure, and although it has happened many times, it seems that human memory is short.



04 **The Foundation of the Mountains**

It is important to understand that the history of the Krkonoše Mountains and all their beauty did not begin with the first rock folding, but basically with the beginning of the galaxy and the planet Earth, accompanied by its faithful protector, the Moon. The Krkonoše Mountains, and especially their geological face, are thus also a unique witness of the passage of time. Come explore the journey from the creation of the Blue Planet to the formation of our mountains.



05

The Mountain Surface

The elements that have given and continue to shape the face of the Krkonoše Mountains include water erosion and anemo-orographic forces. The people living in the Krkonoše Mountains had to deal with the typically mountain expressions of these elements in the form of harsh weather, avalanches or floods and had to learn to respect them, even at the cost of casualties.



06

The Krkonoše Mountains Tundra

The word tundra has its origin in the Sámi tunturi, meaning “bare hill”. Although there is no longer any permafrost (permanently frozen soil), nor does the average year-round temperature stay below zero, thanks to the unique biogeographical position of the Krkonoše Mountains, there are many remnants of tundra. Welcome to the Arctic-Alpine island in the heart of Europe.



07 Treasures of the Mountains

The story of the mountains, surrounded by a dense and mysterious forest, hides not only a variety of natural secrets, but also traces of human intrusion into the wild heart of the Krkonoše Mountains as they sought to discover these secrets and their treasures.



08

Settlement

Some of the first settlers were loggers, miners and glassmakers. The complete logging of the forests forced the loggers and glassmakers to significantly alter their lifestyles. Many of them became the first mountain farmers. During the Romantic period, the first tourists and pilgrims appeared in the Krkonoše Mountains, seeking an escape from the greyness of everyday life in the mountains.



Small illustration showing
the early history of the
mountain region.

09 Meadow Enclaves

The meadows here are not only parts of the Krkonoše Mountains that are above the upper boundary of the forest, but also unique remnants of the mountain agriculture. Their uniqueness and charm stem particularly from the diversity of species they are home to. Without human intervention, however, the forest would soon take them back.



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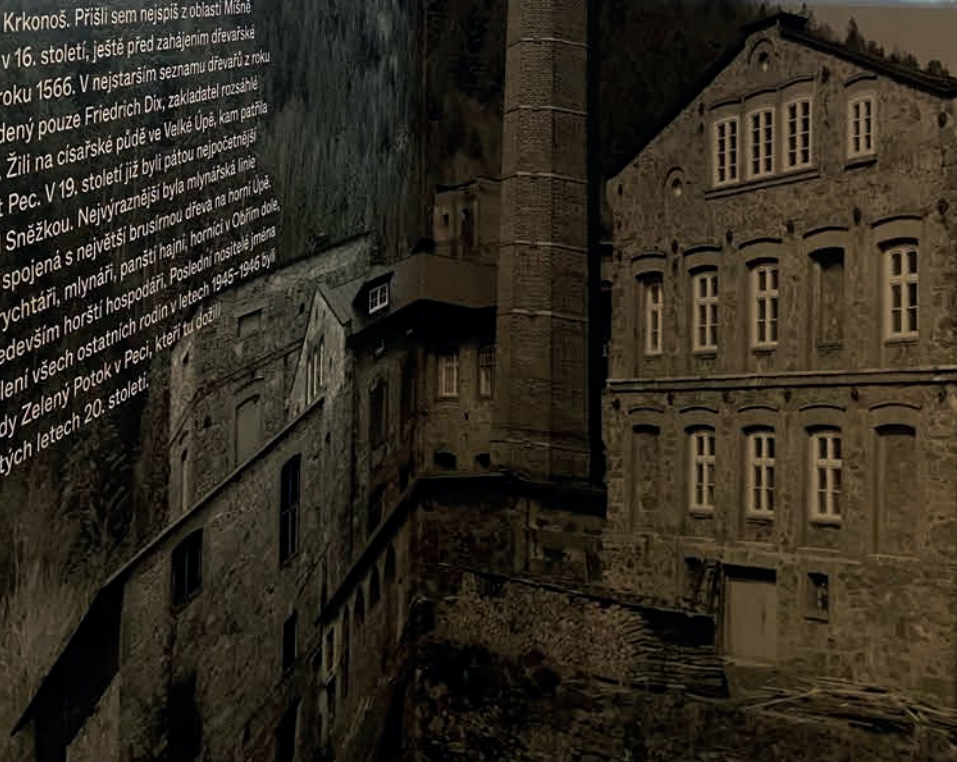
Structured Society

One of the most significant aspects of the 19th century was industrialisation and the formation of industrial dynasties. While modernisation led to a rise in living standards in some respects, it brought along also negative consequences – social inequality and national-political rivalry.

Dix

Jméno Dix je spojováno s prvními kolonisty východní části Krkonoš. Postupně byli dřevaři, mlynáři, horníci, lesníci, budaři a podnikali v turismu. Postavili největší brusírnou dřeva na řece Úpě s výrobou kartónových papírů a dosud fungující papírnu na Labi v Dolní Branně. V posledních generacích prosluli jako mistři lyžování na mezinárodní úrovni.

Nositelé rodového jména Dix patřili k výrazným rodům východních Krkonoš. Přišli sem nejspíš z oblasti Míšeň v Německu v 16. století, ještě před zahájením dřevařské kolonizace roku 1566. V nejstarším seznamu dřevařů z roku 1644 je uveden pouze Friedrich Dix, zakladatel rozsáhlé rodové linie. Žili na císařské půdě ve Velké Úpě, kam patřila i místní část Pec. V 19. století již byli pátou nejpočetnější rodinou pod Sněžkou. Nejvýraznější byla mlynářská linie Ignaze Dixe spojená s největší brusírnou dřeva na horní Úpě. Dixové byli rychtáři, mlynáři, panští hajní, horníci v Obřím dole, dřevaři a především horští hospodáři. Poslední nositelé jména Dix po vysídlení všech ostatních rodin v letech 1945–1946 byli v sedmdesátých letech 20. století.





Imprint of the 20th Century

The 20th century in the Krkonoše Mountains was marked not by evolutionary but rather revolutionary changes. The development of transport and infrastructure helped to fully integrate the Krkonoše Mountains into the national-political scene, the consequences of which dramatically transformed the centuries-old customs and life of the people living in the mountains. All this had a major impact on the Krkonoše Mountains' nature as well.

ŠPINDLE
MLÝN

DLOUHÝ DŮL



12

Noticing the Connections

Radical shifts and changes in the 20th century led to the realisation of the national importance of the Krkonoše Mountains' nature. For the first time, one of the main themes became its active protection and the establishment of a reasonable and harmonious symbiosis between modern humanity and nature.

Symbolem pokroku padesátých let jsou kouřící komíny. Symbolem upadku režimu sedmdesátých let jsou lesní hřbitovy.

...oucí jsou jen posledním dějstvím desítek let útoků na les.

...esní hřbitovy jsou obrazem synergie minulosti a současnosti.



hloubou doby a vítězstvím režimu.

Gallery of the Krkonoše Mountains

Almost every mountain region offers scenery that sooner or later captures the attention of artists and provides them with inspiration for their work. The Krkonoše Mountains were no exception. The Krkonoše Mountains were of the greatest interest to Czech and Silesian artists throughout the 19th century, but it seems that this well of inspiration is bottomless, as artists continue to draw from it today.



Games for Children

The exhibition is full of games and quizzes for young and old alike. Various mechanical games and models, as well as a number of electronic quizzes on the orientation system monitors, will definitely keep you entertained. Test your strength against other visitors. The youngest children can try the Crown of the Krkonoše Mountains search game and find 14 checkpoints where they can print the stamp they have found into a special passport. A small reward is waiting for them at the end.



About the Museum

The Museum of the Krkonoše Mountains in Vrchlabí was founded in 1883 as the Riesengebirgsmuseum by the Austrian Krkonoše Association “to study the nature, history and man of the Krkonoše Mountains and to collect exhibits to prove it.” Since 1966 it has been part of the Krkonoše Mountains National Park Administration.



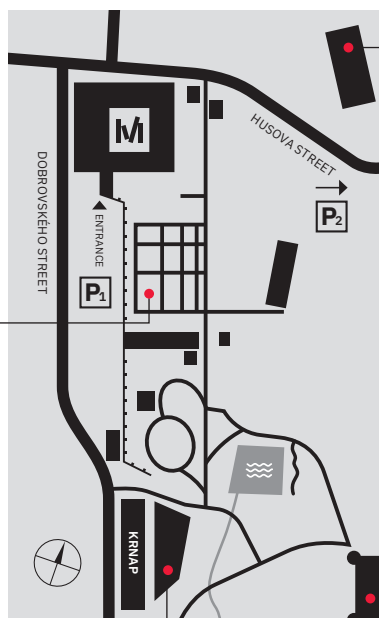
The Museum of the Krkonoše Mountains is a heritage institution of the region and takes care of the preservation of its cultural heritage, including the preservation of approximately 45,000 collection items.

The exhibition of the Krkonoše Mountains Museum – the Visitor Centre of the Krkonoše Mountains National Park – was opened to the public in 2023. The main topic of the exhibitions is the imprint of humans in the Krkonoše Mountains nature, and the themes related to nature and humans are intertwined into one whole – one story of the Krkonoše Mountains.

05 What is around?

Monastery garden with flower beds in the form of a grid, orchard of regional varieties fruit trees, exhibition of Rocks of the Krkonoše Mountains

KCEV
(Environmental Education Centre of the Krkonoše Mountains) Krtek with unique architecture and programmes for the general public (MANDATORY booking)



Exhibition in four historic houses

Palace with entrance hall accessible to the public with paintings of bears hunted down in the Krkonoše Mountains and Palace Park

06 Where to park?

- P1 – Parkingplace Dobrovského (cars only)
- P2 – Cultural centre (cars + buses)



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Ministerstvo životního prostředí



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ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY

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