

Today the building houses the Municipal Cultural Centre and holds a variety of cultural events, as well as regular exhibitions.

Walk along the narrow K Šatlavě Street to arrive at the **Parish Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary**. The church is one of the main dominant points of the town along with the chateau towers. Its tower is 66 m high and is visible from anywhere in the surrounding town. The monumental Baroque building dating from between 1729 to 1732 is based on the severe examples of Nordic Jesuit churches. Visitors can see the original Baroque furnishings inside the church, including the main altar with its statues of Saint Peter and Paul by Olomouc sculptor Ondřej Zahner. The carved wooden benches and confessional dating from the beginning of the 18th century and the altar paintings by E. F. Herbert are also of interest.

As you walk along Žerotín Street you will pass the remains of the town fortifications and the repaired **Municipal Bastion**, dating from 1613, to the right.

Walk up K Nemocnici (Hospital) Street, and pass the post office along the left to reach Janaček's Orchards and the **Church of the Holy Trinity**. This formerly Gothic building was originally called the "Moravian Church" and dates from 1500, the tower was added later on in 1657. You can see interesting Baroque décor from the turn of the 17th and 18th centuries inside the church.

The green oasis of the town – **Smetana's Orchards (Smetanovy sady)** - were created in 1915 and are the result of work by soldiers. There is a music pavilion dating from 1927 in the middle of the park, as well as a granite sculptural group, with a **bust of Johannes Gregor Mendel** in the middle, symbolising the laws of inheritance near the entrance to the summer cinema. Mendel was born in the nearby village of Hynčice. The Silesian sculptor Josef Obeth is the author of the memorial in memory of the world-famous founder of genetics, which dates from 1931. On the opposite side of the park there is a bust of the composer **Bedřich Smetana** dating from 1962.

A footpath along the road, edged with an avenue of trees, leads from the park to the **Skalky** outing site. This is a picturesque place with beautiful views of the surrounding area and offers opportunities for refreshment and relaxation.

But we will remain in Smetana's Orchards to view the **Spanish Chapel**. According to local legend this chapel was built over the mass grave of the Imperial garrison, which was treacherously slaughtered in 1621 by the army of the protestant Margrave of Krnov. Neapolitan soldiers made up a large part of the imperial garrison (the Neapolitan Kingdom was part of the Spanish Domain at that time) and this is the basis of the popular name of the chapel, the Spanish Chapel. There is an enchanting mechanical nativity scene to be seen at the chapel during the Christmas holidays. There is also a remarkable view to the west from this site, and you can see the silhouette of the ruins of Starý Jičín Castle from here.

Continue down Jiráskova Street where you can see the building of the comprehensive school at the bottom. Turn left at the crossroads with Divadelní (Theatre) Street to reach the sports complex.

A football stadium, volleyball court, sports fields, tennis courts and winter stadium with ice rink all provide a venue for sports activities.

Turn right and walk to the main entrance of the **Beskyd Theatre**. This formerly Neo-Renaissance building dates from 1866, when it was used as the German Federal House for Cultural and Social Events. Theatre performances were held here from 1944. The building underwent major modernisation work, which included modernisation of its technical facilities, between 1984 and 1992, providing the town with a beautiful theatre where artists from all over the whole country come to perform.

Our walk through the town ends.

We hope you enjoyed yourselves and that you will visit us again.



TURISTICKÉ INFORMAČNÍ CENTRUM NOVÝ JIČÍN

A WALK THROUGH NOVÝ JIČÍN



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WELCOME TO NOVÝ JIČÍN!

There aren't many towns it is as easy to walk around as Nový Jičín. Everything a tourist should see is conveniently located in one area.

Our walk begins on the square, in the **Visitor's Centre**, in what is called Laudon's House. This is the building where the famous Austrian military leader, Gideon Ernst von Laudon, died in 1790 and there is a bust and plaque commemorating this event on the façade of the building.

The visitor's centre also includes the Tourist Information Centre, where you can buy tickets to the unique exhibition devoted to the technological process of hat making. The exhibition is located on the first above-ground floor of Laudon's House and is divided into three parts: Manufacturing process technologies – where you can learn about the hat making procedure by watching authentic videos, the Studio – where adults and children can make an original souvenir in the form of a mini-hat and the Dressing Room – where visitors can try up to 300 types of various headwear or even take a digital photograph using the web-camera programme and then send it to friends by e-mail. Another very interesting exhibition is General Laudon Exhibition. The exhibition is made up of seven individually themed rooms which will take you in a logical order through all of the stages of the general's life in a comprehensible and fun manner. The original design of the exhibition will ensure you have an authentic experience during the tour. Most of the rooms are supplemented with touch-screen panels in four languages (Czech, German, Polish and English). In addition, you can play here Laudon Caching, equivalent increasingly popular game Geocaching.

After viewing the Visitor's Centre, continue along Lidická Street to **Žerotín Chateau**, whose two small towers attract the attention of every visitor to our town. This formerly fortified stone mansion of the Lords of Kravaře has undergone many conversions. The last major modifications took place under the direction of Bedřich of Žerotín and his wife

Libuše of Lomnice during the middle of the 16th century. After the Žerotín Family left the area in 1558, the chateau was used for administrative and agricultural purposes only. It now houses the Museum of the Nový Jičín Region, with a permanent exhibition of hats, the history of the town and works of art by artists from the town.

Walk along Úzká (Narrow) Street to reach the functionalistic building housing **Květen (May) Cinema**, which dates from 1930. Along the way you can see the remains of the town's stone fortifications, which are located in the municipal car park.

The building of the former **Jewish Synagogue** is located on the same street – Havlíčkova. It was built between 1907 and 1908 and was looted by the fascists in 1938. Its subsequent restoration failed to retain its original decorative appearance.

Walk to the **square** from the cinema along one of the little streets. The picturesque arcades are charming at first glance. The arcades were built after the fire in 1503, which destroyed the original wooden buildings. The Renaissance and Baroque houses, which were built in their place during the 2nd half of the 16th century, were destroyed by subsequent major fires during the 18th century. Their subsequent conversion was influenced by the Classicist and Historicist architectural styles.

The corner building called **Green Tree House (U Zeleného stromu)** is probably the oldest inn in the town. The town purchased it in 1721 to provide military accommodation and Emperor Josef II spent the night here in 1787 on his journey to see Tsaritsa Katherine II. A plaque commemorating this event is affixed to the frontage of the building.

The Plague Column with a statue of the Virgin Mary and saints stands in the middle of the square. The Štirnic family had it created in 1710 in memory of the great plague of 1680. However, tourists remain most interested in the sleeping figure of the Hermit Rosalia of Palermo, who dreams her never-ending dream in her cave.

The fountain in the middle of the square is decorated by a sculptural group, called the dancing farmers, in German Kravaře costume. This work by Professor Barwig has become a characteristic symbol of the town.

Saint Nicholas oversees the square. He is the patron of merchants, children and also Nový Jičín. The statue was returned to the town after an absence of 116 years, during the extensive reconstruction of the square between 2008 and 2009.

The water element called the Fountain of Time is another new component of the square. The water jets are programmed according to the clock on the tower of the Town Hall and create a sort of "water clock" or "water theatre".

The Town Hall is distinguished by its clock tower and gallery and is one of the most distinctive buildings on the square. It was converted into its current Neo-Renaissance appearance in 1930. It houses the Municipal Authority of Nový Jičín.

White Angel (U Bílého anděla) House, which has housed a chemist's shop of the same name since 1716, is also worthy of attention. However, its Neo-Rococo façade originated at a much later date, in 1913 and is the work of the well-known Nový Jičín architect Hugo Blum.

A few steps on further on, don't forget to stop and view the **house with brewery rights**, which contains a mural dating from 1733 on the first floor. The earliest written information dating from 1592 mentions that this house was granted the right to brew and draw beer.

The **Old Post Office** is one of the most beautiful buildings on the square. It dates from 1563 and is distinguished by its two arcades. This building was a demonstration of the wealth of Nový Jičín Burgomaster Ondřej Řepa, who originally intended to build the arcades facing into the courtyard. However, the Italian builders turned them towards the sun, into the square. A hereditary post office was established here between 1787 and 1852. One of its guests was the well known General Suvorov.

