

OLOMOUČ ZOO

To see the most visited place in Olomouc head for the Olomouc Zoo at Holy Hill. The zoo boasts a large number of animal species, many breeding successes and splendid forest surroundings of the Jeseník Mountains' foothills.



The Olomouc Zoo first opened its gates to visitors in 1956. The 42.5 ha large wooded area offers the opportunity to observe life of around 400 species. Enclosure shared by arctic wolves and bears, walk-through enclosures of kangaroos or macaques as well as the newly opened safari stir great interest.

The same is true of saltwater aquariums and six pavilions (with giraffes, monkeys, wild cats, bats, the new pavilion of Amur leopards and the South American Pavilion).

The zoo boasts numerous breeding successes. It has managed to breed dozens of young Rothschild's giraffes including giraffe twins in 1999, a world rarity. The birth of another siamang gibbon baby confirmed the favorable conditions for further reproduction of this demanding species of primates. The Olomouc Zoo is one of the biggest breeders of South African oryx antelopes in Europe and also maintains a studbook of Caucasian tur, of which only a few thousand survive in the wild. The walk-through enclosure of Japanese Macaques, the northernmost living primate in the world, is intended only for "bold" and "disciplined" visitors. The walkway runs along a gently swaying suspension footbridge at the height of 10 meters above a valley and then directly among these animals. The creatively designed Bat Pavilion is illuminated only by a starry sky ceiling and colored spot lights. In fact, it houses no bats but rare and critically endangered Rodrigues flying foxes.

In 2003, the second saltwater aquarium was opened. The tank is home to blacktip and whitetip reef sharks and many different species of coral fish. In 2005, a new exhibit was opened for lynxes whose breeding has a long tradition in Olomouc. The natural enclosure for these cats, continuously reared here since 1970, allows visitors to move along a bridge above them. What are the other attractions of the Olomouc Zoo? A train will take you through the first of five **planned safari zones, the Eurasian one**. Here you will get face-to-face contact with

European bison, Eurasian elks, sika deer, Caucasian turs, mouflons and chamois.

Walking through the garden, you can also feed young goats and sheep in a walk-in enclosure or climb the 32-meter high observation tower with a magnificent view not only of the nearby basilica, but the entire surroundings of Olomouc.

Part of the zoo is the **Lanáček Centre** with a children's ropes course. Adults can relax at many inviting recesses scattered along the paths.

Commented feedings belong to traditional attractions of the zoo as well.

Since 2012, visitors to the zoo are welcomed by a new modern entrance featuring a breeding centre of ring-tailed lemurs.

Visitors can satisfy their hunger at the Pod Věží restaurant or at several fast food stalls. There are also souvenir shops and animal food machines available, as well as a toll parking lot located directly off the zoo's main entrance.

Olomouc Zoological Garden

Darwinova 29, Olomouc-Svatý Kopeček
tel.: +420 585 151 609, +420 774 450 419
info@zoo-olomouc.cz, www.zoo-olomouc.cz

I–II 9:00–16:00, III 9:00–17:00
IV–VIII 9:00–18:00, IX 9:00–17:00
X–XII 9:00–16:00

Entrance to the zoo is free with the tourist discount card *Olomouc region Card*.



VEVERÁK ROPES COURSE

You can also experience some adrenaline adventure at Veverák ropes course. Located 100m from the Zoo's exit near a kids' playground, the course offers a total of 39 rope obstacles divided into two routes intended for children and adults.

Darwinova 29, Olomouc-Svatý Kopeček
tel.: +420 773 788 529
info@veverak-kopecek.cz
www.veverak-kopecek.cz

IV, V Sat – Sun, holidays 10:00–18:00
VI Fri 13:00–18:00, Sat – Sun 10:00–18:00
VII, VIII daily 9:00–18:00
IX, X Sat – Sun 10:00–18:00
Outside opening hours by telephone arrangement for groups of 5 or more people.



KARTOUZKA | 3 km

These ruins are connected with the activities the Carthusian monastic order. Construction of the charterhouse started in 1388 and one year later, monks already lived here. In 1425, the charterhouse was attacked by the Hussites and later rendered to Olomouc and demolished for security reasons. Kartouzka is a freely accessible place.



RADÍKOV FORT | 2, 5 km

A redoubt built in the late 19th century as part of the Imperial Royal Olomouc Fortress. It is an architecturally and historically unique fortification object that is unparalleled in the Czech Republic.

Vrchní 75, Olomouc-Radíkov, tel.: +420 777 135 001,
info@pevnost-radikov.cz, www.pevnost-radikov.cz

V, VI, IX, X Sat – Sun 11:00–17:00
VII, VIII Wed – Sun 11:00–17:00
After-hours tours possible by prior agreement.

SPORTS

RideOn Scooter Rental

Enjoy an interesting and unusual trip at Holy Hill on a scooter. Scooters can be rented at Fojtství restaurant; you can also use a guide service.

E. F. Buriana 91/1, Svatý Kopeček
tel.: +420 604 760 476, www.rideon.cz

Nordic Walking

Take a Nordic Walking tour at Holy Hill and its surroundings. Routes of different difficulty from 3.5 to 20 km are available. A prior arrangement by phone or e-mail is necessary.

tel.: +420 605 108 727, e-mail: senkio@seznam.cz
www.nordicwalking-olomouc.cz



HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

Archa restaurant and guest house

A stylish non-smoking restaurant near the zoo. A wide range of food and beverages, children's play area, regular culinary events, concerts.

Darwinova 252/39, Svatý Kopeček, www.archa-zoo.cz
tel.: +420 585 155 287, +420 736 613 569

U Macků restaurant

A restaurant offering traditional Czech cuisine and a wide selection of specialties.

B. Dvorského 32, Svatý Kopeček
tel.: +420 585 385 344, www.restauraceumacku.cz

Fojtství pension and restaurant

The guest house in a historic building, a former reeve house, includes a restaurant with pleasant atmosphere and good food.

E. F. Buriana 91/1, Svatý Kopeček
tel.: +420 585 385 005, www.restauracefojstvi.cz

Chalupa na schůdkách restaurant

A hikers' restaurant with outdoor seating and barbecue for up to 50 people.

Sadové náměstí 9/28, tel.: +420 585 385 343

Kavárna na Kopečku Cafe

A renowned patisserie in a historic building at Holy Hill. Picturesque views of Olomouc from a roof terrace.

Sadové nám. 3/3, Svatý Kopeček
tel.: +420 775 504 074, www.kavarnanakopecku.cz

Šmeral's villa

Cafe and pension, wellness. An example of modern residential architecture of the 1930s.

Radíkovská 196/31 Svatý Kopeček
tel.: +420 727 979 031, www.smeralovavila.com

On Sadové Square, close to the pilgrimage church, there are several little **quirky shops** lining the street. These former merchants' booths form a set of small, architecturally unified objects plastered to southern side of the Baroque residential building. Wooden stalls were used for production and sale of cookies and gingerbread. Today, they sell souvenirs and holy items and you will also find here a snack bar and a pastry shop.



Holy Hill (Svatý Kopeček) near Olomouc

Holy Hill (Svatý Kopeček), the most popular trip and pilgrimage destination of the region, is situated at the foot of the Hrubý Jeseník Mountains at an altitude of 382 meters and only 8 km from the centre of Olomouc. Holy Hill is a true paradise for families with children and for all who like to spend their free time actively.

Diverse terrain and beautiful forests with many hiking and biking trails offer ideal conditions for sports and recreation. The Church of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary is the most striking building at Holy Hill. This architectural gem, dominating the region for centuries, is the pride of Moravian Baroque art.

Holy Hill is the birthplace of the painter and graphic artist Karel Svoboda. Jiří Wolker, one of the most talented Czech poets of the 20th century, used to stay here with his grandparents who had built a cross near the Baroque church in 1900 as an expression of joy at the birth of grandson. O. F. Babler, poet and translator from Samotšický village, also contributed to the fame of Holy Hill.

The Olomouc Zoo, the most visited place of the region, is located here on around 42 ha of mixed forests.

Did you know that...

- Pope John Paul II visited Holy Hill in 1995 and named the Church of the Visitation a minor basilica?
- there is a house at Holy Hill where the poet Jiří Wolker stayed on holidays and where he wrote the famous poem Svatý Kopeček?

Do not miss

CHURCH OF THE VISITATION

The church with beautiful adjacent Baroque premises is one of the most famous pilgrimage places in Moravia. It is one of the unique sights in Central Europe, due to its location, architecture and interiors. The first building at Holy Hill, a small chapel, was built in a clearing amidst forests in the years 1629–1632 at the behest and expense of Jan Andryšek, a wealthy citizen of Olomouc, who was shown the place by the Virgin Mary in a dream.

The church's interior



Church of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary, minor basilica

In the years 1669–1679, Premonstratensians from Hradisko Monastery built for the growing number of pilgrims a spacious new church designed by renowned architect G. P. Tencallo. In the years 1714–1721, the present residence area was constructed to the plans of D. Martinelli and the entire complex was completed by the cloister and the Chapel of the Virgin Mary.

The church's frontage with side wings creates an architecturally impressive structure with rich sculptural decoration. In the top of the sandstone portal, there is a trio of angels, symbols of hope, generosity and abundant grace which we can impetrate from the Virgin Mary. It is the work of J. Winterhlader who, together with his brother, created also the sculpture of St. Norbert in the cloister. In facade niches, there are statues of the Virgin Mary with the Christ Child, St. Stephen, St. Augustine and St. Norbert. The horizontal cornice of both wings is adorned with sculptures of the Twelve Apostles and Sts Sebastian and Roch, protectors against plague.

On the stairway outside the church, there are two statues of Sts. Cyril and Methodius from the year 1909. The church's interior will surprise you with spaciousness, lightness and rich artistic decoration. It is decorated with magnificent early Baroque stucco – an excellent job of Italian plasterers under direction of Q. Castelli. The chancel and dome arches are covered with frescos by an Italian painter named Jakub, Viennese master Jan Steger and frescos with personifications of the then known four continents by J. Ch. Handke. Frescos in the St. Paula's Chapel document the tale of the church's foundation. B. Fontana is the author of the generously designed main

altar. Other altar paintings are the works of famous painters such as J. Spillenberger, T. Pock, P. Troger and F. J. Wickart.

The shrine at Holy Hill was created by first-class Viennese, transalpine as well as Moravian and Olomouc' artists. Its architecture and artistic design have put it among exceptionally successful Baroque buildings in Moravia. The pilgrimage place has experienced periods of prosperity and decline. In May 1945, towers and facade were damaged, but restored soon thereafter. After the communist regime was established in 1950, the Premonstratensians were deported and couldn't return until February 1990. Significant events followed. In 1995, Pope John Paul II visited Holy Hill and upgraded the pilgrimage church to minor basilica.

Major pilgrimages

- Sunday after the feast of the Visitation | 31. 5.
- Sunday after the feast of the Assumption | 15. 8.

Open daily 8:30–17:00 except Monday afternoon.

Tours can be booked by phone or e-mail at the parish office.

In summer, free guided tour available. More at tourism.olomouc.eu.

Diocese: Roman Catholic Parish

Sadové nám. 1, Olomouc-Svatý Kopeček
tel.: +420 585 385 342; +420 777 742 176
e-mail: fasvatykopecekuo@ado.cz, www.svatykopecek.cz

Figural decoration of the main choir with an organ.



The so called "Steps of Sorrow" with a woodcarving depicting the Mourning of Christ by J. A. Heinz.



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|-------------|-------------------|
| parking lot | point of interest |
| restaurant | bus stop |
| pastry shop | public WC |
| outlook | |



Which way to Holy Hill?

Public transport buses: lines no. 11 and 111

By car: see the map

opening hours

our tip

Olomouc region Card

Use the discount tourist card, valid throughout the region. Public transport, museums and castles for free. Discounts at restaurants, hotels, zoo, water parks, etc. www.olomouregioncard.cz

OLOMOUC INFORMATION CENTRE

Horní náměstí (Upper Square) – Town Hall
tel.: +420 585 513 385, 585 513 392
open daily 9:00–19:00
e-mail: infocentrum@olomouc.eu
www.facebook.com/informacni.centrum.olomouc
tourism.olomouc.eu

