

States castle Kunětická hill

Accessibility card

Basic information



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Description

The castle from the second half of the 14th century, located in a unique natural location, was one of the best fortified castle buildings in the Czech kingdom. To this day, the remains of a sophisticated fortification system can be seen, which included, among other things, 6 guard gates, 3 roundels, etc.

It offers visitors two guided tours - the castle palace and the chapel of St. Catherine, with the possibility of their combination. The basic sightseeing tour includes the entire castle palace from the cellars to the viewing tower. There is an archaeological exhibition with medieval objects, castle models, an exhibition on contemporary architecture, armoury, etc. The tour takes place independently (without a guide) and lasts about 45 minutes.

Chapel of St. Catherine was built at the turn of the 15th and 16th centuries. Among others, the interior features present a Baroque altarpiece depicting Saint Catherine, the patron of scholars. The sightseeing is available only with a tour guide and it lasts about 10 minutes.

The castle is open seasonally from April to October. A number of cultural and social events take place here during the summer season.

Accessibility

Access to the castle and entrance to the castle premises

- ❖ The castle is situated on the top of Kunětická hill. (307 m above sea level)
- ❖ From the car park, which is located up the hill about 700 m from the castle, leads a maintained asphalt road uphill - climb usually 6%, sometimes 10%, at the end of the climb to the hill (section from the castle well to the castle gate) up to 13%. There is a ban on the entry of motor vehicles and a pillar approximately halfway along the road (a barrier for cars without permitted entry). People with reduced mobility may ask the castle administration for the permission to enter and go with the car up to the entrance gate. The access road is sufficiently wide. Along the way there are resting places for sitting - log benches.
- ❖ The entrance to the castle premises is wheelchair accessible. Entrance gates (there is one entrance, but the remains of several castle gates are behind) are sufficiently wide (a vehicle can pass through them) without thresholds.
- ❖ There is a ticket office (and a souvenir shop) in the main entrance gate. In front of the gate there is 1 low step and a threshold higher than 5 cm, the door is 70 cm wide. *A new, wheelchair accessible ticket office should be available from 2020.*

- ❖ Access to the chapel: stone steps (+25) with railings and stone wall. There are another 5 steps in front of the entrance.
- ❖ Entrance to the castle palace: higher threshold (5 cm). Entrance door is min. 80 cm wide.



From left: Main gate (entrance to the ticket office and the courtyard), entrance to the ticket office, entrance to the castle palace, stairs to the chapel, courtyard surface

Interior premises

- ❖ Most of the corridors in the castle palace are min. 150 cm wide (exceptionally narrowing to 60 cm), doors and the passages are min. 80 cm wide. The surface of the roads is solid and non-slippery - sandstone, toast tiles, concrete, gravel (the northern wing of the palace and part of the palace courtyard inside the palace).
- ❖ The exhibition is spread over 6 floors (from the basement to the tower), which are accessible only by stairs. Staircases have different parameters; most are equipped with railings. Some stairs are narrow (70 cm) with steep spiral stairs. There are also individual stairs and high thresholds on individual floors (especially on the 2nd floor). At places there is also reduced height in the passage so it should be taken in the account.
- ❖ At the entrance to the exposition on the ground floor (Knight's Hall and exhibition on the development of the torture law) is an elevated threshold and 3 steps. On the ground floor there is a sufficient manipulating area for moving the person in a wheelchair or a pram.
- ❖ In the interior there are seating areas for resting - benches.
- ❖ It is not possible to touch the exhibits, but most of them can be seen from close distance.
- ❖ The descriptions of the exhibits and the information panels are usually well visible and legible both from sitting and standing position and also for the visually impaired (large enough font, simple font, good text and background contrast).



From left: Staircase to higher floors, second floor area, entrance to the north wing of the palace, entrance to Knights 'Hall, exit from Knights' Hall

Exterior premises

- ❖ The outdoor area of the castle outside the main entrance gate (includes a wide range of hills with extensive orchards and roundels with views of the surroundings) is freely accessible.
- ❖ Routes are min. 150 wide cm in wavy terrain (inclined) with uneven surface.
- ❖ Route surface: mostly stone paving. The way to the roundels: paths covered with gravel, sand and soil.
- ❖ There are no information or orientation signs in the outdoor area, with the exception of the information sign near the parking with the history of the castle and an overview of fauna and flora.
- ❖ There are seating areas for resting (benches).

Accessible toilet

- ❖ There is only a non-disabled toilet in the courtyard. *At the moment, parts of the area are being revitalized, including wheelchair accessible toilets (available from 2022).*
- ❖ A baby changing unit is not available.

Services and equipment

- ❖ There are: a souvenir shop (in the area of the ticket office, barrier access), a kiosk with refreshments (*in the outdoor area, wheelchair access with moderate inclination, planned in the second half of 2019*).
- ❖ Individual visit to the castle is possible without a prior agreement. An advance booking is required in case of entry permission or assistance at the property. Reservation is required for groups.
- ❖ Guide and registered support dogs are permitted entry.
- ❖ The castle organizes special guided tours for groups of visually impaired people after prior booking.
- ❖ A printed guide text (1 sheet A4, font size 12) is available in English, German, Polish and Russian.
- ❖ Parking under the castle available. Reserved parking spaces are not marked, but the car park has sufficient capacity.

- ❖ Special programs and equipment for children - irregularly organized thematic events for families with children, part of the exhibition is a dragon, charcoal man cottage, animals in the fields (cows, sheep, goats) and other attractions for children.
- ❖ A tourist train on the route from Gingerbread House under the castle to the castle well and back. Timetable on the web <https://www.pernikova-chaloupka.cz/tema/tema.phtml?id=4636>
- ❖ Staff willing to help.
- ❖ There are no induction loops installed in the building.

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