



Black Finned Shark



Northern Musk Ox

THE OLOMOUC ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

The present zoo has its origins in a small zoo corner in Smetanovy sady (Smetana Gardens) in Olomouc which consisted of several deer and roebuck, peacocks, pheasants and various smaller exotic birds. Increased interest in this project led to the idea of expanding the collection into zoological gardens. For this purpose land of the former monastery adjoining the well-known pilgrimage church on Svatý Kopeček (The Holy Hill) was chosen and in the year 1956 the zoological gardens were ceremonially opened. The first inhabitants of the new zoo included roebucks, deer, foxes, a racoon, porcupine and various species of birds. At the present time approximately 300 animal species are housed in numerous pavilions and outdoor exhibits, out of which 46 are included on European preservation pro-



Japanese Macaques in the open exhibit



Barbary Lion

grammes. Apart from numerous breeding successes, the Olomouc zoo is rightly proud of possessing the largest herd of antelopes in Central Europe. It has also successfully bred as many as 37 Rothschild Giraffes, with even giraffe twins born in the year 1999, a rarity in the world. The birth of Siamang and Gibbon young served to confirm the suitable conditions in existence for further reproduction of this particularly demanding species of primate. In the area of birds, there have been breeding successes with Pearl Vultures, Turkey Condors, Bar-headed Geese, Crowned Cranes as well as Greater Rheas. Recently a tropical pavilion has been opened where the Olomouc zoo presents the fauna of South America including two species of anteaters, lemurs, armadillos and three species of monkeys – Weeping Capuchins,

Squirrel Monkeys, out of which eight babies have been born and Pygmy Marmosets. In terms of birds there are two species of parrots: Black-crowned Parrots and Greenwing Macaws. Additionally, there are False Water Cobras and three species of tropical tree frogs, out of which certain kinds are equipped with some of the strongest poisons in the entire animal world. The free range for Japanese Macaque monkeys, the most northern inhabiting species of monkey, originally hailing from Japan, is only for “brave” and “disciplined” visitors. The path leads across a slightly rocking suspension footbridge, often at a height of 10 metres above the valley, leading directly among the animals. The creative design of the bat pavilion is only lighted by the so-called starry sky and several points of coloured light. The inhabitants, flying over visitors’ heads in an environment of semi-darkness with relaxation music, are actually a rare colony of Rodríguez Flying Foxes, threatened by extinction in the natural world. This species presently only lives on the island of Rodríguez in the country of Mauritius. In the year 2003 a second sea aquarium was opened. The giant kidney shaped basin is home to two Blacktip Reef Sharks and one Whitetip Reef Shark. They are joined by approximately 60 tropical coral reef fish. This 9 metre long, 3.5 metre wide and 1.5 metre deep aquarium contains 42,000 litres of water and is the largest of its kind in the Czech Republic. In the autumn of the year 2005 a run for lynxes will be completed, the breeding of which has a long tradition in the Olomouc zoo. The natural exhibit for these beasts of prey, bred continually here since the year 1970, will make it possible for visitors to move along a footbridge directly above them. Another attraction is the 30 metre high viewing tower providing a unique view of the historical city. Additional attractions include examples of tame or artificially reared young on a walk with their keeper, the petting zoo in which visitors can look at and

ZOOBUS



even touch pelts from a tiger, leopard or giraffe, touch the skull of a lion, the barbs of a porcupine or even weigh in their hands an egg from the largest bird on the planet, an ostrich. A popular attraction for children is the feeding of goats in the open exhibit and the train ride through the zoo which is supplemented by a recorded speech from a tour guide. The two kilometre ride lasting 22 minutes can be ordered ahead of time by telephone. Visitors may also make use of the various refreshment stands, sales of postcards and souvenirs and the paid car park right next to the zoological gardens. A new quick bus line has also been established in Olomouc in order to improve the transport situation.

Zoological gardens Olomouc

Darwinova 29, Olomouc – Svatý Kopeček
Tel.: +420 585 385 348, +420 585 385 382,
+420 585 385 125
Fax: +420 585 385 260
E-mail: zoo@olomouc.com
http://zoo.olomouc.com

Opening Hours:

January – February, October – December	8.00 – 16.00
March, September	8.00 – 16.30
April – August	8.00 – 18.00

TRANSPORT

City Buses:

Bus line no. 11 (Main Railway Station – Svatý Kopeček)
Bus line no. 111 (Foerstrova Street – Svatý Kopeček)

Orientation map of the Zoo



Selected trails

HIKING

BYSTRŮICE VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

The valley of the Bystřice Stream leads through a remarkable wooded environment with steep slopes, dividing the Oderské hills from the Nizký Jeseník mountain range. The territory contains rare natural formations – slate quarries, the protected natural area of the Hrubovodská detritus. This locale with its 16 parts containing rare flowers and animal life was declared a national park in the year 1995 in order to protect the character of the landscape.

SVATÝ KOPEČEK INSTRUCTIONAL TRAIL (7,1 km)

From Svatý Kopeček, partially along yellow and blue hiking trails to the village of Radíkov. The way is marked with the symbol of the instructional trail with special attention paid to the local woods.

KARTOUZKA (3 km)

Along the instructional path from Svatý Kopeček to the village of Dolany and the ruins of a former monastic Carthusian monastery. Due to its location as well as its behaviour in relation to the local population, Kartouzka, built over the years 1388–1409 was attacked in the year 1421 and consequently became a defence point for the Hussites against Catholic Olomouc. That same year the citizenry of Olomouc purchased it and eventually destroyed it in the interests of protecting the town.

Kartouzka



Bystřice Valley National Park

RADÍKOV FORTRESS (2,5 km)

From Svatý Kopeček to the north-east to the village of Radíkov and the preserved parts of a military fortress. This fortress built over the 1871–1876 as part of the Olomouc fortification system was to have housed 26 cannons. It is surrounded by a 15–20 metre deep moat quarried out of the rock.

CYCLING

The local and regional cycling trails link up with one of the major European cycling trails known as the “Amber Trail”. Trail no. 5 measuring 332.5 km leads from Hať through Přerov, Olomouc, Prostějov, Protivanov, Brno all the way to Hevlín. The majority of the trails in the vicinity of Svatý Kopeček lead through pleasant undemanding terrain, although the actual ascent up to Kopeček consists of a raise in altitude of around 70 metres.

Cycling trail No. 6030 Olomouc

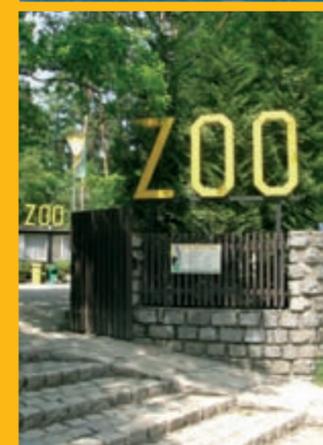
Hlušovice – Dolany – Svatý Kopeček – Posluchoy – Mariánské Údolí (20 km)

Cycling trail No. 6102 Bělkovice

Laštany – Dolany – Toveř – Samotíšky – Svatý Kopeček (6 km)

Cycling trail No. 6103 Bělkovice

Dolany (crossroads) – Radíkov (crossroads) – Svatý Kopeček – Bystrovany (13 km)





The Church of the Visitation to the Virgin Mary

Svatý Kopeček (The Holy Hill) near Olomouc and its environs

Svatý Kopeček (The Holy Hill) is a popular excursion and pilgrimage site in the region and is situated in the foothills of the Hrubý Jeseník mountain range at an altitude of 382 metres above sea level, a mere eight kilometres from the centre of the City of Olomouc. Its location, varied terrain and lovely forest plant life along with its valley streams and rivers amount to ideal conditions for sports and recreation. The area is also criss-crossed by an abundance of trails for both hiking and cycling. The Church of the Visitation to the Virgin Mary makes up the most prominent feature of the locale offering up, weather permitting, a view all the way to Praděd peak. The local zoological gardens are spread out over approximately 42 hectares of land in the neighbouring mixed forests. Not far from

the baroque church is a cross placed there in the year 1909 by the grandparents of the poet Jiří Wolker in order to express their joy on the birth of a grandson. The house where the poet lived and wrote the famous poem Svatý Kopeček in the year 1921 has been preserved. Members of the Ander family, well-known for their renowned department stores Ander and son ASO which prospered both in Olomouc as well as other towns were among the rich owners of the pilgrimage shops, made affluent from the annual flocking of pilgrims. An orphanage was founded on Kopeček in the year 1930 within which was established an institution for children with hearing problems. Svatý Kopeček is also the birthplace of the painter and graphic artist Karel Svoboda as well as the writer and translator O.F. Babler.

The Church of the Visitation to the Virgin Mary Basilica Minor

A chapel from the end of the 17th century originally stood on this site but was burned down by Swedish soldiers in the Thirty Years War. A church was then built here over the years 1669 – 1679 according to the plans of the baroque architect G.P. Tencalla and over the years 1714 – 1717 was reconstructed into its present look in all probability according to the plans of D. Martinelli. A residence area was added and the grounds were expanded to include a cloister and Chapel of the Virgin Mary. The entire grounds served as the summer home to the Premonstratensians from nearby Hradisko Monastery. The monumental baroque structure contains impressive sculptural, painting and stucco décor. The facades are particularly impressive and along with the side wings measure almost 100 metres. The roofs of both wings are decorated with 14 sandstone statues: the 12 apostles and the patron saints for protection from the plague, Saint Sebastian and Saint Roch by the sculptor J.A. Winterhalter who also contributed to the figural décor on the main portal of the church and along with his brother created the sculptural group of Saint Norbert in the middle of the cloister behind the church. A sculptural group of Saint Jan Nepomucký by J.A. Heinz is situated in an adjoining small park to the south of the church. The interiors of the church are decorated with magnificent early baroque stucco, the excellent work of which was carried out by Northern Italian stuccoers under the supervision of Quirigo Castelli. A wide range of artists contributed to the rich painting décor. Of particular interest are the frescoes in the vaults of the presbytery and the dome which are the work of the Italian painter Jacob as well as J. Steger and P. Troger. Also impressive is the painting with personifications of the "Four Continents" by J.K. Handke. The wall paintings in the chapels document the legend regarding the origin of the pilgrimage site as well as the founding of the church. The church on Svatý Kopeček (The Holy Hill)

The Church of Blessed Virgin Mary – Interior



Sadové náměstí (Orchard Square)

is the work of a number of well-known Viennese, Transalpine, Moravian and even Olomouc artists. The church's architectural and artistic beauty places it among the most successful examples of the baroque style in Moravia. On the occasion of the visit of Pope John Paul II in the year 1995 the church was raised to the status of a "Basilica Minor". The preserved sections of a pilgrimage trail leading from the village of Chválkovice to Svatý Kopeček were recently restored. At the present time, the church is the home to not only pilgrimages and numerous masses, but also occasional concerts.

Church administration:

Roman Catholic Parish
Sadové nám. 1, Olomouc Svatý Kopeček
Tel./fax.: +420 385 342
Email: svkopecek@volny.cz

Main pilgrimage:

- » 31st of May (Feast of the Visitation to the Virgin Mary)
- » The Sunday after the 15th of August (Feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary)

The Church of the Visitation to the Virgin Mary – view from the south



Refreshment, dining and accommodation

RESTAURANT – HOTEL FOJTSTVÍ
Svatý Kopeček 91, Olomouc
Tel: +420 585 385 005
E-mail: Restaurace.Fojtstvi@seznam.cz
<http://www.restauracefojtstvi.unas.cz>



A rich selection of international and traditional food including local specialties. Seating in the pleasant surroundings of a newly reconstructed historical building with a summer terrace and an outdoor garden. Possibilities for various social events with accommodation available in garret rooms.

Mon – Sun 10:00 – 22:00

Handicapped accessible, Olomouc Region Card

CHALUPA NA SCHUDKÁCH

Sadové nám. 28, Olomouc Svatý Kopeček
Tel.: +420 585 385 343

A rich selection of traditional and interesting meals from various national cuisines. A pleasant and unusual setting with an outdoor and a covered terrace, as well as seating by the fireside. Available for various social events.

Tue – Sun 11:00 – 22:00

Handicapped accessible with ICS certification

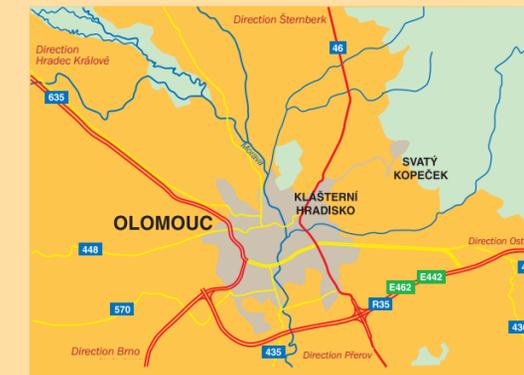
RESTAURACE U MACKŮ

Dvorského 32, Olomouc – Svatý Kopeček
Tel.: +420 585 385 344

A wide choice of traditional meals from Czech cuisine as well as various specialties.

Tue – Sat 10:00 – 22:00, Sun 9:00 – 22:00

Restaurant – Hotel Fojtství



LACHOVA CUKRÁRNA (Cake Shop)

Sadové nám. 3, Olomouc Svatý Kopeček
Tel.: +420 585 385 368

A traditional cake shop with a lovely view, seating over a cup of coffee and a rich selection of traditional cakes and pastries.

Mon – Fri 10:00 – 17:00, Sat – Sun 9:30 – 17:00

OBČERSTVENÍ U POUTNÍKA

Sadové nám. 18, Olomouc – Svatý Kopeček
Tel.: +420 585 385 381

Both hot and cold drinks, fast food available.

Near the pilgrimage church on Sadové náměstí are a number of stands selling fast food, postcards and souvenirs.

UNDERGROUND CAR PARK

AT THE CZECH RAILWAYS STATION

Make use of the possibility of parking in the two floor car park at the Czech Railways station and you will be entitled to travel for one hour free of charge on the city transport system. The parking ticket can be made use of for one hour from its issue as a free ticket throughout the local transport network (including the ZOOBUS) for one person.

ZOOBUS –

A QUICK CONNECTION TO THE ZOO

In addition to bus 11 which runs on a regular basis to Svatý Kopeček (The Holy Hill), a new special quick connection has been established in order to improve the transport situation bus 111 "ZOOBUSES". The bus stop is located in front of the main railway station in Olomouc. A two floor car park is located directly near by the two above-mentioned bus lines.

Horní náměstí (Upper Square) – The Town Hall
Opening hours: daily 9 am – 7 pm
infocentrum@olomouc.eu
Tel.: +420 585 513 385, +420 585 513 392, Fax: +420 585 220 843
<http://tourism.olomouc.eu>

IC Olomouc provides the following services:

1. Tourist information and accommodation
 - tourist information about Olomouc and the environs
 - travel information
 - guide services
 - daily tours of the Town Hall tower at 11 am and 3 pm
 - tours of the Town Hall including entrance into the tower
2. Information about cultural, social and sports events
 - advanced ticket sales for cultural events taking place in Olomouc
3. Sales of souvenirs and maps
4. Information about the activities of the city government and other institutions within the territory of the city
5. EUROPE DIRECT – European information centre



A tourism card that saves you money!

A tourism card valid for 48 hours or 5 days, in Olomouc, in Central Moravia and Jeseníky:

ADMISSION FREE: Castles, chateaux, museums, zoos, Olomouc city public transport, mini-golf, adrenalin attractions and others
DISCOUNTS: Aqua-parks, spa treatments, caves, restaurants, accommodation and others

The card can be purchased at information centres and from other authorised sellers.

More information at: www.olomoucregioncard.cz