

# Behind the Mystery of the Monastery Ambitudes

The magic of light and the mystery of symbols


## 3-day trip

Jan Blažej Santini was a brilliant architect and a unique creator of Baroque Gothic. During his short life he designed almost a hundred sacral, palace and farm buildings. Thanks to the enlightenment of the then leaders of the Cistercian Order, a quarter of Santini's legacy adorns the Vysočina Region today. Come and discover his penchant for cabala, geometry, the play of skies and lights.




## Program


### 1st day - Želiv Monastery

 **The monastery in Želiv was founded in the 12th century by Prince Soběslav.** In the 1950s, the communist regime set up an internment camp for priests and religious here. Today you will find a complex that offers not only spiritual services, but also tours, accommodation and its own beer. An interesting feature is the reconstruction, which was carried out by the famous architect Santini. Between 1713 and 1720, he modified the monastery into a Baroque Gothic style. **He also contributed significantly to the Baroque decoration of the Abbey Church of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary.** A visit to the monastery will be enriched by the popular **guided tours, which try to explain the history of the place in an entertaining way, a tour of the brewery or a beer bath in the local wellness centre.** You can also stay overnight in the monastery.

### 2nd day - Žďár nad Sázavou

 **Tour of the monastery and the monastery church of the Assumption of St. Mary and St. Nicholas** The large castle and monastery complex has the unmistakable Santini imprint. Here you will find history combined with a modern concept of exposition. After the property was returned to the Kinsky family, the Museum of the New Generation was established in the former Premonstratensian monastery and in the immediate vicinity of the pilgrimage church of St. John of Nepomuk (UNESCO). In addition, you can try accommodation and stay overnight in the middle of the herbarium, in the baroque tower or in the old monastery mill.

### 3rd day - Nová Říše

 **The monastery in the New Empire** About ten kilometres from Telč there is a Premonstratensian monastery founded in 1211. At first it functioned as a women's monastery but later it was transformed into a men's monastery. The library with 15 thousand volumes is particularly valuable. During the Hussite wars, the monastery was almost completely destroyed, yet it continued to function until 1596 when the female population died out. In 1641 the Premonstratensians from Zábřehovice came here and male monastery was founded. The most important building of the monastery is the Church of St. Peter and Paul from the second half of the 17th century with rare interior elements (frescoes, organ, wooden pulpit and pews). During a tour of the monastery you can visit the church, the library with rare volumes of the herbarium from the 18th century and the dining room. In the exhibition hall, it introduces the fate of famous natives: the Vranický brothers and the poet Otokar Březina, who worked here as a teacher.



## And if that wasn't enough...

- 📍 Brewing beer in the Želiv brewery
- 📍 Swimming at the Trnávka Dam
- 📍 Protected area Stvořidla  
Surround yourself with nature, which offers activities for everyone who desires active rest or just undisturbed relaxation, and enjoy the romance of the Czech Klondike!
- 📍 Taste the beer of the Sanitary Star! Revolta Brewery's bottom-fermented beer was specially made to order by the city. Žďár nad Sázavou
- 📍 Become a glassmaker and make your own product in the U hrocha Glassworks!
- 📍 Trip in baloon Santini's stars shine on the ground (Ostrov nad Oslavou, Zvole, Bobrová, Obytčov)
- 📍 Tour of the town of Telč and the castle



## Restaurants

Želiv monastery

Pension and restaurant Taferna, Žďár nad Sázavou

Líšeňský dvůr, Žďárské vrchy

Balónový hotel Radešín

Panský dvůr, Telč

## Accommodation

Pension and restaurant Taferna, Žďár nad Sázavou

Líšeňský dvůr

Tálský mlýn, Žďár nad Sáz

Balónový hotel Radešín