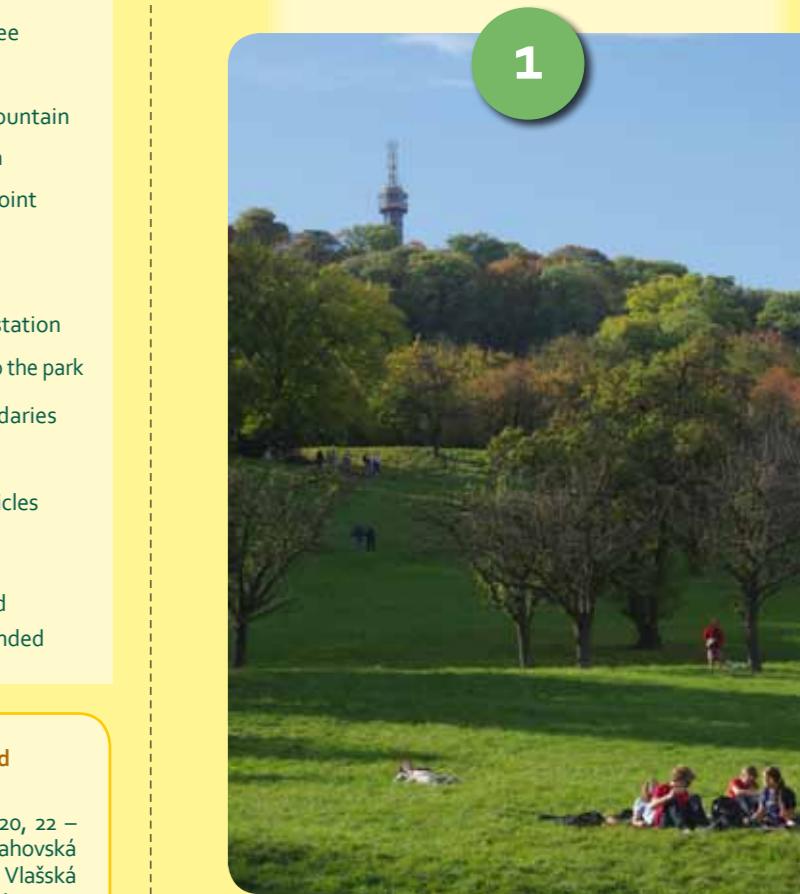


# Petrín

The garden complex on Petřín Hill



## NATURE AND LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION

The complex of gardens at Petřín Hill and Kinský Garden is one of the European protected areas of Natura 2000 network. The entire complex of gardens was declared a natural monument in October 2015. This natural monument includes the Petřín rockeries – rock outcrops and artificial caves in which vicinity are large numbers of tree trunks and stumps that were deliberately left to rot in order to create places of refuge for the strictly protected stag beetle (*Lucanus cervus*).



**Veteran trees in the gardens and surroundings of the Petřín Hill complex**

Ash tree in Strahov Garden

GPS: 50°5'10.382"N, 14°23'29.990"E

Acer campestre in Seminary Garden

GPS: 50°5'2.378"N, 14°23'56.686"E

Platanus acerifolia in Kinský Garden

GPS: 50°4'44.241"N, 14°24'11.492"E



**Natural springs**

Petrínska (in Seminary Garden)

GPS: 50°5'0.420"N, 14°23'53.699"E

Spring of Sir Winton (in Strahov Garden)

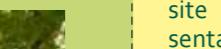
GPS: 50°5'8.523"N, 14°23'30.840"E

The Strahov tunnels and a Ferrous Adit (in Kinský Garden)

GPS: 50°4'44.987"N, 14°23'52.929"E

Spring at Hřebenky (in Kinský Garden)

GPS: 50°4'37.556"N, 14°23'34.442"E



For more information visit the website:

Nature in Prague: [portalzp.praha.eu/zaprirodou](http://portalzp.praha.eu/zaprirodou)

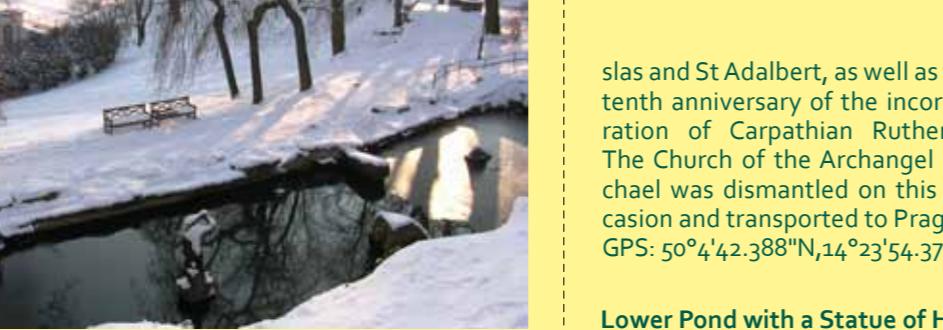
Prague Nature: [www.praha-priroda.cz](http://www.praha-priroda.cz)

Prague tourist portal: [www.praguewelcome.cz](http://www.praguewelcome.cz)

The information on Prague parks and gardens was prepared as part of the Prague Nature project. This project also includes information materials on the Royal Game Reserve at Stromovka, Letná Park and the Park on Vítkov Hill.

The first edition was published in 2017 by the Department of Environmental Protection of the City of Prague (OCP MHMP).

Text and photographs: OCP MHMP



## KINSKÝ GARDEN

Kinský Garden is a major European landscape work. It is currently accessible to the public without restrictions and is used for brief recreation and walks, offering views of the southeast of the city. The area of the garden is 24.3 hectares.

### Kinský Summer Palace

The Kinský Summer Palace, also known as Musaion, is a suburban neoclassical 19th-century villa. The summer palace was commissioned by Prince Rudolf Kinský in the years 1829–1831 using natural springs, increasing the capacity using a system of tunnels. This fascinating technical structure used to supply three large fountains, twenty-three small fountains and three ponds. The lower pond features an early baroque sandstone statue of Hercules that until 1938 was located at Kampa. The statue of a seal, placed in the upper pond in 1953, is by Jan Lauda.

GPS (bottom pond): 50°4'40.100"N, 14°23'53.241"E

GPS (upper pond): 50°4'45.349"N, 14°23'54.106"E



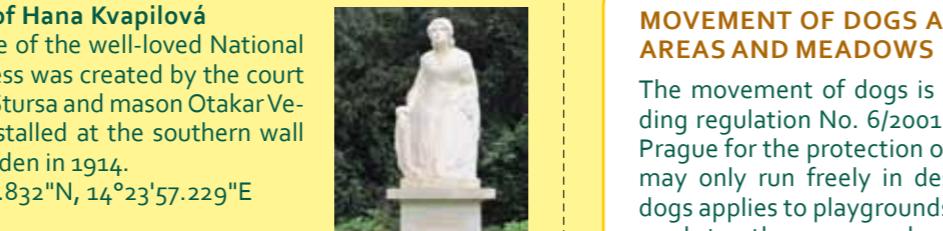
### The Statue of Hana Kvapilová

This sculpture of the well-loved National Theatre actress was created by the court sculptor Jan Štursa and mason Otakar Veřínský and installed at the southern wall of Kinský Garden in 1914.

GPS: 50°4'35.832"N, 14°23'57.229"E

### Church of the Archangel Michael

The three-steeple Church of the Archangel Michael originally served for religious purposes in the village of Velké Lúčky in Carpathian Ruthenia near Mukacheve, then after 1793 in the village of Medvedevy. In 1929, Czechoslovakia celebrated the St. Wenceslas millennium together with the consecration of the completed Cathedral of St Vitus, St Wenceslas and St Adalbert, as well as the tenth anniversary of the incorporation of Carpathian Ruthenia. The Church of the Archangel Michael was dismantled on this occasion and transported to Prague. GPS: 50°4'42.388"N, 14°23'54.370"E



### Playground in Kinský Garden:

Upper playground GPS: 50°4'40.601"N, 14°23'52.279"E

Lower playground GPS: 50°4'45.116"N, 14°24'12.092"E

free movement of dogs permitted  
dogs must be kept on a leash



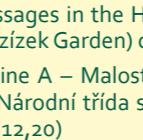
entry to the lawn permitted  
entry to the lawn is forbidden



1 Former Coach-House Švýcárna, 2 Historic Parterre, 3 Kinský Summer Palace, 4 Small Bell tower, 5 The Statue of the actress Hana Kvapilová, 6 Lower Pond with a statue of Hercules, 7 Wooden Church of the Archangel Michael, 8 Place of former Orangery, 9 Water Stairs, 10 Upper Pond with a Seal, 11 Sandstone Outcrops, 12 Baroque Bastions, 13 Hunger Wall with the Citadel; Vista, 14 Rose Garden, 15 Květnice – perennial garden, 16 Monument to the Victims of Communism, 17 Dahlia Garden, 18 Karel Hynek Mácha, 19 Vítězslav Novák, 20 Gallery Roen, 21 Restaurant Nebožík, 22 Štefánik Observatory, statue of Milan Rastislav Štefánik, 23 Jan Neruda, 24 Frog Fountain, 25 Chapel of St. Louis, 26 Restaurant – Petřínské Terasy, 27 Petřinka Spring, 28 Petřínské Terasy, 29 Church of St. Lawrence, 30 Calvary Chapel, 31 Maze, 32 Chapel of the Holy Sepulchre, 33 Petřín Lookout Tower, 34 Stations of the Cross, 35 Jaroslav Vrchlický's Vantage Point, 36 Orchard of the Children Saved from the Holocaust and the Spring of Sir Nicholas Winton, 37 Strahov Monastery; Vista

### MOVEMENT OF DOGS AND THE USE OF GRASS AREAS AND MEADOWS

The movement of dogs is governed by generally binding regulation No. 6/2001 Coll. issued by the City of Prague for the protection of public green space. Dogs may only run freely in designated areas. A ban on dogs applies to playgrounds and picnic spots. With regards to other areas such as lawns and roads, all dogs must be kept on a leash.



Playground

**THE GARDEN COMPLEX ON PETŘÍN HILL**, colloquially known as the Petřín Orchards, loosely refers to the Petřín Hill parks and gardens situated at the top of the hill and on the slopes between Lesser Town and Strahov.

The land was previously dedicated to vineyards and later converted to orchards surrounded by wooded areas, which character has been maintained, albeit in a reduced form, to this day. Some of the gardens were transformed into an English landscape park in the 19th century. The fruit orchards are especially worth visiting in the spring months when the trees are in full bloom, while other sights include the sandstone outcrops, wooded areas and obviously the Rose Garden with its large variety of roses. The green slopes of Petřín Hill comprise an important and dominant feature of Prague, and are essential viewing for any fan of gardens and parks in Prague.



#### BASIC DATA

The garden complex is one area of Prague that has a great significance. It is located in the cadastral territory of Lesser Town, Strahov and Smíchov.

Total area: 70.8 ha

Altitude: 197–328 m.a.s.l.

The garden complex is open to the public all year round.

Owner: City of Prague, Department of Environmental Protection of the City of Prague (OCP MHMP)

Administrator: Lesy hl. m. Prahy

Contact: OCP MHMP, Jungmannova 35/29, 110 00 Prague 1

#### HISTORY

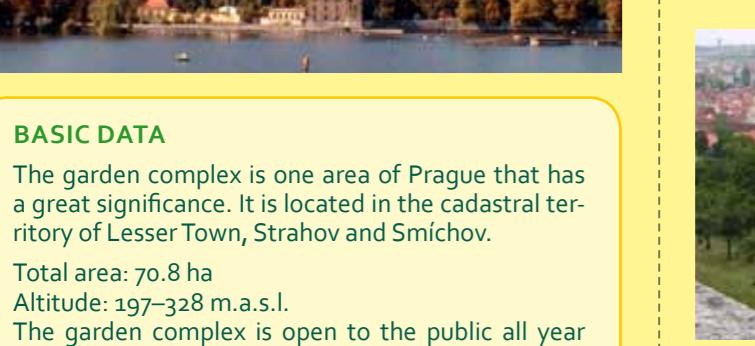
Petřín Hill is one of the largest green spaces in the city. The first written record of Petřín dates back to 1108 and refers to a medieval execution ground situated close to the Church of St. Lawrence. Back in those days, there was a deep forest that stretched all the way to White Mountain.



Its original name in German was Laurenziberg after the Chapel of St. Lawrence (Laurenze), which was built at the turn of the 11th century. In the Middle Ages, the forest began to recede and give way to the emerging vineyards and agriculturally cultivated land. In the 14th century, Charles IV ordered the Hunger Wall to be built, aimed at strengthening the fortification of the Lesser Town and Prague Castle. The numerous springs that have always sprung up in the slopes of Petřín were used to build the water mains. This was a system of tunnels that drew the water towards Strahov Monastery, Pohořelec and Lesser Town. As the centuries came and went, Petřín Hill was divided up into several gardens. The largest of them, Kinský Garden, was founded outside the walls and thus forms a separate unit.

#### Great Strahov Garden

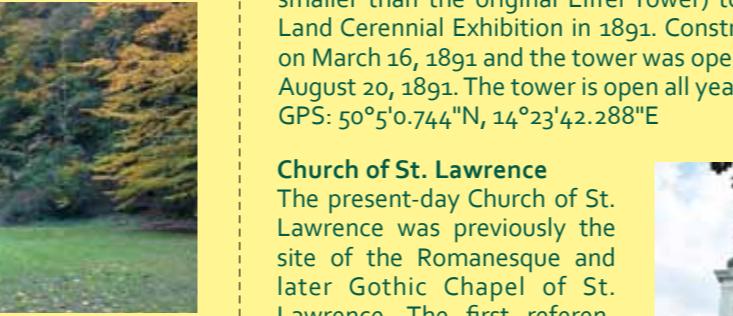
The gardens of Strahov monastery include the Convent Garden, Abbey Garden, Vista with a vineyard and the Great Strahov Garden of 5.8 hectares, which is the only garden accessible to the public for walks and relaxation. The Strahov Garden plots have belonged to the order and the monastery since the early Middle Ages. The garden was always utilised, but today this is limited to a fruit orchard and wooded area.



stratensian Order in the world. The monastery, which was renewed in 1990, also houses the Memorial of National Literature and the famous Strahov Library as well as the Strahov Picture Gallery. Strahov Monastery was declared a national cultural monument in 1989.  
GPS: 50°5'11.602"N, 14°23'21.823"E

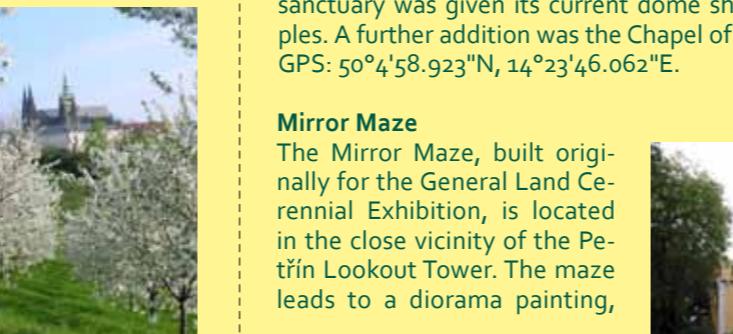
#### Lobkowicz Garden

The Lobkowicz Garden is the main body of a palatial Italian-style baroque garden that was later modified into an English park. Situated on the north slope of Petřín Hill and established as a part of the palace complex at the turn of the 18th century, the garden spreads over 7.1 hectares. In the second half of the 18th century, when the palace fell into the hands of the Lobkowicz family, extensive modifications including intense landscaping of the adjacent plots were carried out in order to create an Italian-style baroque garden that was axially connected to the palace. The garden was modified into an English landscape-style garden at the end of the 18th century. The Lobkowicz Garden is used for short relaxations and walks.



#### Seminářská zahrada

The Seminary Garden extends over an area of 15.9 hectares and is located on the eastern slope of Petřín Hill north of the funicular. The land was turned into vineyards in the Middle Ages and in the 17th century was acquired and used as a vegetable garden by the Discalced Carmelites from the Church of Our Lady of Victorious. The vineyards produced grapes until 1793. The garden was later taken over by the archiepiscopal seminary, based on which the Carmelite Garden was renamed Seminary Garden. One of the rondel houses, the Chapel of St. Louis, was allegedly an observatory.



#### Mirror Maze

The Mirror Maze, built originally for the General Land Centennial Exhibition, is located in the close vicinity of the Petřín Lookout Tower. The maze leads to a diorama painting,

#### The park at Petřín Lookout Tower – also known as Petřín Orchards

The 2.8 ha park at the Petřín Lookout Tower is located at the top of Petřín Hill and surrounds the tower that dominates the hill. Visitors can admire here the Church of St. Lawrence, Chapel of the Holy Sepulchre, Calvary Chapel, Stations of the Cross, the lookout tower itself and a maze. The park underwent extensive changes in 1836. A fundamental change to the original composition of the park was caused by the building of the tower, which began on the occasion of the General Land Centennial Exhibition in 1891.

#### Rose Garden

The five-hectare Rose Garden is located at the top of Petřín Hill. The park is defined by the perimeter wall of the baroque fortification of the city, which was built in the 17th – 18th century, and by the Hunger Wall. It was only in the 30s that the land was transformed into a garden, having been used for military purposes until then. A rose garden and a perennial garden – Květnice – were established. The remaining area consists of lawn areas and trimmed hornbeam hedges.



#### Štefánik Observatory

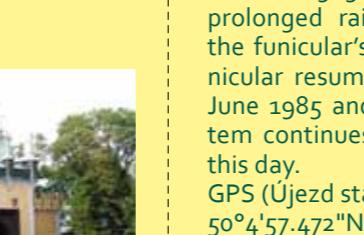
The Štefánik Observatory was opened to the general public in 1928 and serves to popularise astronomy and related natural sciences. The observatory offers public observations of the day and night sky and space objects, as well as popular lectures on astronomy and astronautics.

GPS: 50°4'52.482"N, 14°23'52.810"E

#### Funicular up Petřín Hill

The Petřín Funicular was built to transport people to the top of the hill. Regular passenger transport was launched in July 1891 using a water balance drive system that was converted to an electrical drive system in 1932. Extensive land-slides in 1965 and 1967 due to prolonged rainfall destroyed the funicular's tracks. The funicular resumed operation in June 1985 and the same system continues to function to this day.

GPS (Újezd station):  
50°4'57.472"N, 14°24'12.471"E



which depicts a scene from the end of the Thirty Years War entitled "The Battle of Prague Citizens with the Swedes on Charles Bridge in 1648". It is open all year round.  
GPS: 50°5'0.885"N, 14°23'46.677"E

#### Nebozízek Garden

This public park is located between the Petřín Funicular and the Hunger Wall and extends over an area of eight hectares. In the Middle Ages, most of the garden was covered with vineyards, which from the end of the 16th century were gradually converted into fruit orchards. A restaurant was opened there in the early 19th century. The orchards were partially transformed into gardens and opened to the public in the first half of the 19th century. The Nebozízek Garden features various sculptures and statues of the Czech greats, such as Karel Hynek Mácha. The bottom section of the garden, at the site of the demolished barracks, was transformed into the Dahlia Garden.

#### The Hunger Wall

The wall was built in 1360–1362 at the command of Emperor Charles IV in order to strengthen the fortifications of Prague (Lesser Town) and also those of Prague Castle against a potential attack from the western and southern sides. Another purpose the wall served was to expand the space for urban development. The name "Hunger" appeared later and was derived from the famine in 1361 when some of the poor found at least some form of income in difficult times by working on the fortifications, although these were actually built for solely strategic reasons.

#### Playground near the Funicular

GPS: 50°5'0.111"N, 14°24'10.741"E

#### Playground nearby the Restaurant Petřínské Terasy

GPS: 50°5'5.190"N 14°23'53.048"E

#### Playground in Rose Garden by the Hunger Wall

GPS: 50°0'4'58.77"N 14°23'40.18"E

#### Playground at Vlašská Street

GPS: 50°5'11.890"N, 14°23'47.647"E

#### Sports Court in Seminary Garden

GPS: 50°5'6.146"N, 14°24'9.339"E

#### Picnic spot in Rose Garden by the Hunger Wall

GPS: 50°4'58.947"N, 14°23'38.362"E

#### Drinking fountains in Kinský Garden, Nebozízek Garden, Seminary Garden and Great Strahov Garden

