



# STUDY OF THE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN CZECH REPUBLIC

## INTRODUCTION TO CZECH HERITAGE

Cultural heritage is an important part of the Czech Republic's intellectual and material resources. Czech cultural heritage plays an **important role in municipal and regional development** and helps advance a positive image of the country abroad.

The many valuable monuments and artefacts in the Czech Republic are equally an important part of European and World heritage. **The National Heritage Institute** has a list of more than 40 000 protected heritage sites, 300 protected national monuments; 12 properties are inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List, and there are 4 items included on the UNESCO List of Masterpieces of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity<sup>1</sup>. In addition to material heritage in the form of such tangible cultural property as artefacts, buildings, and art, Czech cultural heritage also comprises traditional folk culture, which is defined as a form of intangible heritage.

## NATIONAL LEGISLATION

- [Act No. 20/1987 Coll. on state monument preservation \(amended\) defines the protection of collections in museums and galleries, conditions and the means of registration of museum collections and rights and duties of museum collection owners. Standardised public services provided by museums and galleries are regulated](#) (original language only)
- [Law No.114/1992 Coll., as amended 2 March 2008, On Protection of Nature and Landscape](#) (original language only)
- Act No. 71/1994 Coll. covers the sale and export of goods of cultural value
- [Act No. 101/2001 Coll. covers repatriation of illegally exported cultural goods](#) (original language only)
- [Act No. 214/2002 Coll. covers the export of certain cultural goods from the tariff territory of the European Communities](#) (original language only)
- [Act No.203/2006 Coll., on some kinds of cultural support and amendments to related regulations](#) (original language only)
- [Act No.273/2001 Coll., On the Rights of National Minorities and amendments of other Acts](#) (excerpts only)

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.culturenet.cz/en/Czech-in/heritage/an-intro-to-czech-heritage/>





- [Law No. 98/2002 Coll., Government Decree which determines the conditions and way of providing grants from the State Budget for the activities of members of national minorities and the support of integration of members of the Roma community](#) (excerpts only)
- [Act 231/2001 Coll., Broadcasting Act](#) (excerpts only)
- [Act No.29/1984 Coll., as amended 134/1993, On the System of Primary, Secondary Schools and Secondary Modern Schools \('Education Act'\)](#)

## CULTURAL HERITAGE OF CZECH REPUBLIC

Cultural heritage on the UNESCO lists:

- [Historical centre of Prague](#) (1992)
- [Historical centre of Český Krumlov](#) (1992)
- [Historical centre of Telč](#) (1992)
- [Pilgrimage Church of St John of Nepomuk](#) (1994)
- [Historical centre of Kutná Hora](#), the Church of St Barbara and the Cathedral of Our Lady in Sedlec (1995)
- [Lednice-Valtice Area](#) (1996)
- [Kroměříž Castle and Gardens](#) (1998)
- [Holečovice Village Reservation](#) (1998)
- [Litomyšl Castle and Gardens](#) (1999)
- [Holy Trinity Column in Olomouc](#) (2000)
- [Tugendhat Villa](#) (2001)
- [The Jewish Quarter and the Basilica of St Procopius in Třebíč](#) (2003)

4 Masterpieces of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity:

- Slovácko Verbuňk (2005)
- Village Shrovetide processions and masks in the Hlinec Region (2010)
- Falconry (2010)
- The Ride of Kings (2011)

Another intangible heritage:

- Resist Block Printing and Indigo Dyeing
- Puppetry
- Prazdroj Brewery
- Becherovka traditional herbal liqueur

## THE WEAKNESSES IN THE POTENTIAL OF THE CULTURE IN YOUR COUNTRY

The Czech national characteristics include low self-confidence, insufficient openness, and a tendency to follow examples from abroad. We are ironical about everything, and Czechs are known for their typical Svejik-like behavior. We are not capable of pomp, a detached view, and opulence. We should build on tradition and link it with innovation. We used to have a good reputation in puppetry and in the field of animated films, but today these areas are not supported and we are unable to compete. For example,





Maxipes Fik is even knew in Scandinavia, Krtecek in China, etc. There is also a need for improved links between the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

#### TRAINING COURSES – FORMAL AS WELL INFORMAL – IN CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Association for Creativity and Education has implemented a pilot project, which determines what must be improved at the primary school level, based on such things as the pupils' views or the overall classroom atmosphere. Subsequently an artist is identified, who then works with the children and their teacher to find a solution. For instance, at one school a painter became involved to improve skills and knowledge in the natural sciences. The children learn how to work in a team and how to use a creative method to achieve a certain objective; thanks to a more intense experience, they are able to remember better what they have learned. Artists are also hired by companies for similar purposes. A similar programme, entitled KREKR, has been initiated in Plzeň<sup>2</sup>.

#### CREATIVE INCUBATOR - SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEUR IN CULTURE

The activities offered by the Creative Incubator include a three-month course covering the basics of business<sup>3</sup> (moving forward from an idea to a final product or service, to the point of preparing a functional well-thought-out business plan and introducing the product or service on the market). The programme has been designed for businesses involved in product, graphic, and fashion design, the jewellery sector, animation, crafts and trades, and other related creative sectors. In addition to educational courses, the creative incubator also facilitates mutual inspiration amongst companies. Another important aspect comprises the services of a personal mentor, with whom teams often continue to collaborate even after completing the programme. The incubator has been used not only by young, unknown teams, particularly from the field of product design, but also by companies active in graphic design, jewellery design, and the visual arts.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.plzen2015.cz/en/sites/plzen2015.cz/en/files/book\\_one.pdf](http://www.plzen2015.cz/en/sites/plzen2015.cz/en/files/book_one.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.depo2015.cz/>

