

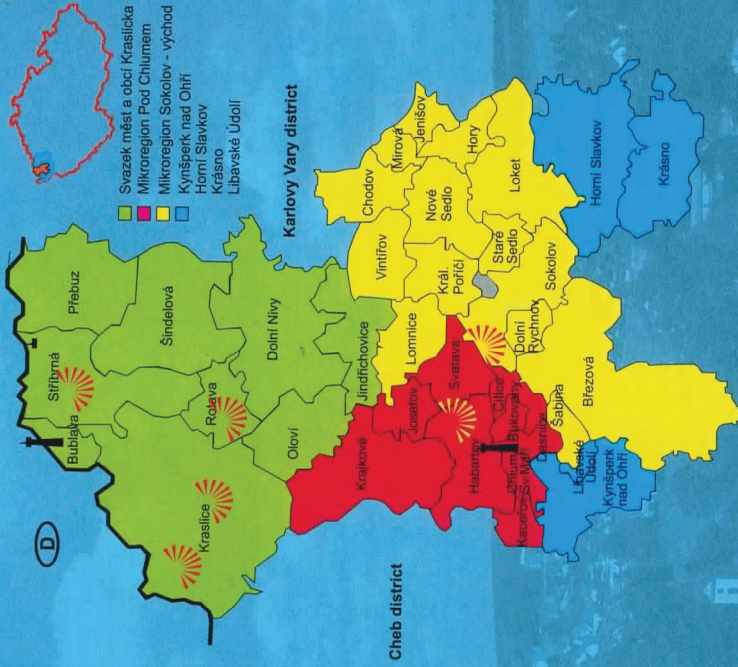
VYHLÍDKY U JEZERA MEDARD

Above the future lake Medard, which is being created by flooding a former mine between Svatava, Habartov and Bukovany in the Sokolov region, you can find several lookouts from where you can watch the formation of its future banks and a gradual filling of the lake with water. The first lookout (12) near Habartov was given the name MASÁk after the association of municipalities which funded its construction. Medard, the future 500 hectare lake (13), should become the new recreational center of the region. Surrounding the reservoir that is the water-rehabilitated former coal mine are beaches, hotels, bike trails as well as a harbour. The extent of this rehabilitation makes it the biggest rehabilitation project of the company Sokolovská ušeliná Corp so far.



On an elevated land-surveying point, preserved from the time of mining activities, a lookout called Frauova Hlava ('Fraus' head') (14) was created. It is unique for the fact that below its top, an exit of the Antonin seam is preserved. Roofed-over seating can be found also not far away from Bukovany at Bukovanská lookout (15). Loops for cyclists and tourists with a total length of 40 km are built here. A small loop should lead along the shore of the lake and it is planned that due to the smoothness of the surface it could be used by skaters as well. The tracks and trails interconnect in two places with the main bike trail along the Ohře.

MAS SOKOLOVSKO



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Project Promotional campaign – Following the beauty of the LAG Sokolov region

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NOT FOR SALE



LOOKOUTS AND OBSERVATION TOWERS

NORTH SOKOLOV REGION



Regional operational program of the North-West Cohesion Region
Supported by the European Regional Development Fund
The vision stops being a dream



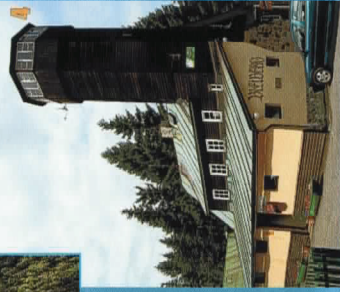
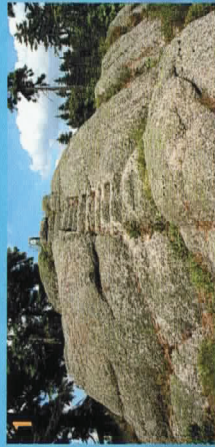
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There are many places with unique views in the Sokolov region, such as views of Krušné hory peaks, rock lookouts equipped with handrails and steps, wooden or bricked alcoves on the hillsides and church or town hall towers open to the public.

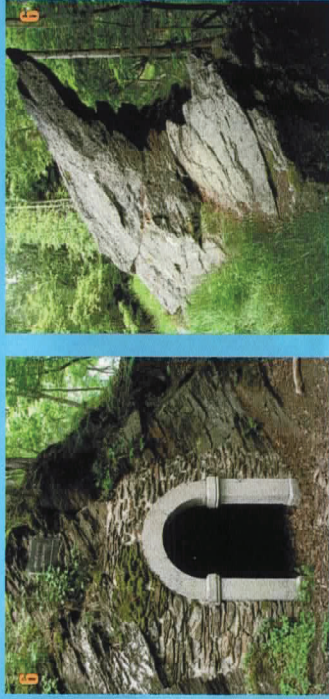
ŠPIČÁK

Špičák is the highest peak in the Sokolov region (991 m) (1) with a rock on the top and a wooden lookout on the northern side. The top offers beautiful views into the Rájecké valley and towards the Czech-German border region. The lookout is partly overshadowed by mature vegetation. Looking west we can see the observation tower on Olověný hill. We can get to Špičák following the tourist signs from the village Stříbrná. There are interesting rock formations – a rock town – along the way. Near the cross-road below Špičák there is a spring of drinkable water called Fischerův spring (2).



OLOVĚNÝ VRCH

Olověný vrch (802 m), better known by its German name Bleiberg (3), rises above the frontier village of Bublava, which is joined to the German village Klingenthal by a pedestrian border crossing. The tourist lodge on the top, together with the sixteen-meter high octahedral (4) wainscot observation tower, serves as a restaurant. There are 74 steps leading to the glassed-in lookout. Significant places in the landscape and on the horizon are marked near the ceiling on the beams. The observation tower is the youngest observation building in Krušné hory; it was built in 1933 according to the design of Karlov Vary's architect Ernstberger. You can visit an animal rescue sanctuary in Bublava (5).

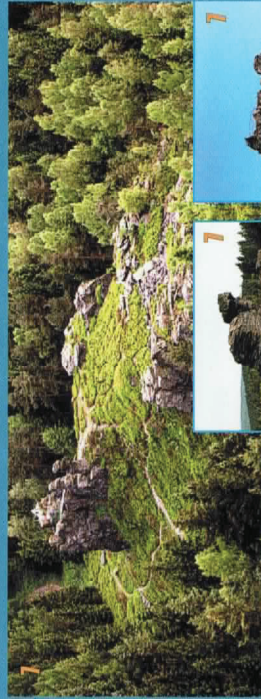


KRASLICKÉ HRADÍŠTĚ

Only very little has been preserved till today from Kraslice's castle which was situated on a rocky hill called Hradiště (6), or also Zámecký hill or Domácí hill (715m). Nevertheless, it occupies an important place in the town's history and it is definitely worth visiting. Before the castle was built in the second half of the 13th century, there was allegedly a wooden barrier fortification of the Chod people on the top of the hill. In the 16th century the castle lost its purpose, was damaged, and its walls were removed and used as building material. Only a cross moat and walling remains are left from the original castle. However, the track to Hradiště is a pleasant walk and upon reaching the end you will find a beautiful view from the rock projection to a section of Krušné hory.

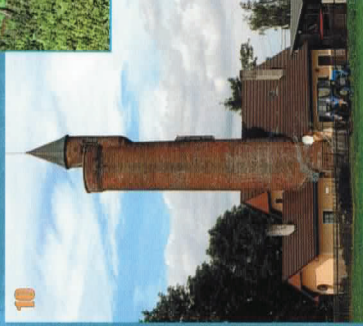
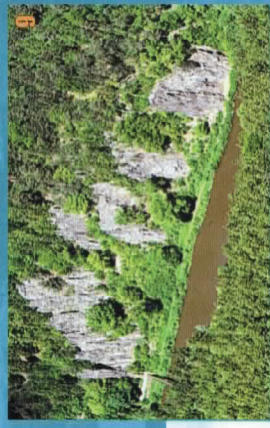
VYSOKÝ KÁMEN (TALL STONE)

An interesting natural monument – Vysoký kámen (7) – spreads out into an area of 2.75 ha approximately 1.5 km west from the village of Kostelní. It is a part of Leopoldovy hamry Nature Park. It rises from tableland above forested surroundings and it creates an impression of a castle ruin. Rock monuments in the form of several-meter to twenty-meter towers rise high above the terrain. Views of Krušné hory, Slavkovský les, Český les, Halštřov and Smrčiny will deeply impress you. A range of rare species of lichen and other plants grow here. There are many legends and tales about fairies, dryads and about a wild horse and a spelled knight who had his castle there and was, for his crimes, turned into stone together with his wild horsemen.



ROTAVSKÉ VARHANY (ROTAVA BASALT ORGANS)

Above the eastern margin of Rotava (8) rises a steep hillock with a beautiful view and a geological reservation – rock organs formed of basalt columns (9). This state-protected natural monument is frequently visited by tourists and gradually has become a symbol of Rotava. The mighty rock wall consists of twelve-meter high cylinders aligned in the shape of a fan that really does resemble organ pipes. The basalt columns were formed as a result of lava cooling, if we climb to the top of the volcano from the left, we may walk along the basalt ridge to a panoramic lookout of the town of Rotava and the Kraslice region.



ZELENÝ VRCH (GREEN HILL)

Approximately 10 km southwest from Sokolov, Zelený hill rises. It was formerly called Drsný (Tough). It is a non-forested hillock with the church in Chlum Sváté Máří being a dominant feature that is visible from far away. Pilgrims come to the church to see the miraculous statue of Virgin Mary (11). An observation tower was built in 1903 on the 570 m high hill (10). One year later a lodge providing refreshments was appended to it. The construction of a classic brick tower began in 1903 and it was opened in the spring of the following year. Since then, up until the end of the Second World War, it had been in the care of a local tourist club. The lodge now serves as a family house and the observation tower is not open to the public.