

# Vysočina Region

**Area: 6,796 km<sup>2</sup>**

nine percent of the overall area of the Czech Republic

**Number of municipalities: 704**

**Highest points:**

**Javořice (837 m above sea level)**

Devět skal (836 m above sea level)

**Number of inhabitants: 515 992**  
(as at 1 January 2010)

**Density of population: 75 inhabitants / km<sup>2</sup>**  
the third lowest, compared to other regions

**Regional capital: Jihlava**

(51 222 inhabitants, as at 1 January 2010)

The Vysočina Region extends into the historical lands of Bohemia and Moravia, but all of its parts have much in common. For centuries, Vysočina's picturesque landscape was moulded by our ancestors, who built countless buildings here, which have become historical monuments. With each step here, one encounters a proud Gothic castle built to protect a trading route, a Renaissance chateau that afforded its inhabitants a life of luxury, or a Baroque ecclesiastical building that stuns its visitors with its rich décor and monumental vision. And, of course, many examples of folk architecture can be seen here as well.

The natural conditions have dispersed Vysočina's inhabitants into more than a thousand settlements interconnected with a dense network of roads. Vysočina is characterised by small villages that are not too remote from a local centre – a quiet small town with three to ten thousand inhabitants. Only three cities have more than twenty thousand inhabitants, with the Region's capital, Jihlava, reaching fifty thousand. With the increasing standard of living and mobility of the inhabitants, we can expect that this arrangement will prove advantageous, as it enables people to enjoy the benefits of rural living, while guaranteeing an accessible urban centre.

The region's metropolis is Jihlava, the oldest mining town in the lands of the Bohemian Crown, which was one of the richest cities in the Bohemian Kingdom in the Middle Ages, primarily due to silver mining. It straddles the border between Bohemia and Moravia.

The region sits in the transportation and population centre of the country. The Czech Republic's main transport artery – the D-1 Motorway – cuts through Vysočina. The economy of the eastern part of the region is influenced by the proximity of the Brno agglomeration, and the north-western part of the region falls into the catchment area of the country's capital, Prague. Due to its strategic position, Vysočina has attracted many foreign investors, who not only concentrate their production capacities here, but also research and development.

History has left countless monuments in Vysočina, of which three have been included among the UNESCO world cultural heritage sites – the historical core of the town of Telč, the pilgrimage church of St. John Nepomuk in Zelená Hora near Žďár nad Sázavou, and the Jewish Town and Basilica of St. Prokop in Třebíč. The traces of history supplement man's work in the landscape, and complete its beauty. The region's natural riches include the Žďárské vrchy and Železné hory protected landscape areas, the Mohelno Serpentine Step and Velký Špičák national nature reserves, as well as many other natural reserves.

Vysočina boasts a well-preserved environment. One could say that our region is a healthy island in the midst of the agglomerations of three cities – Prague, Brno, and Vienna. This allowed Vysočina to be the first of the regions of the Czech Republic to become a member of the organisation of healthy cities and regions.

Vysočina is a good place to live, work, do business, and to visit, if you are looking for learning and relaxation.

Welcome to the Vysočina Region

