



The protected area of national significance is **Jankovský potok (Jankovský Brook)** near Nový Rychnov. The romantic meander belt is interesting due to streamside stands, grass meadow stands and peat-bogs. Jankovský potok (Jankovský Brook) together with **Kladinský potok (Kladinský Brook – nature reserve)** and the adjacent wet meadows with a variety of species of plants and animals represent the only remaining habitat of pearl oyster in the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands.



The best way how to get acquainted with the beauties of nature of Pelhřimov region is on foot or on a bike, therefore the most interesting places of the region have been interconnected by marked tourist routes and new cycling routes are being prepared.



Anglers and fishers will find the area attractive, too. Pelhřimov region boasts of a lot of fish ponds, the most popular water bodies being the Stráž pond or the Trnávka water reservoir near Červená Řečice. Almost the entire area of Pelhřimov region is forested and the woods and forests abound in mushrooms. Mushrooming is among the most fancied activities not only for local people, but also for more and more tourists.



TIC – Tourist Information Centre
Masarykovo náměstí 10, 393 01 Pelhřimov
Tel.: +420 565 326 924
Fax: +420 565 324 927
e-mail: ic@kzpe.cz



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PELHŘIMOV

and surroundings

NATURE



Pelhřimov region lies in the central part of the Czech Republic, in the western (Czech) part of the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands, in the region among the three hills of Křemešník, Svidník and Stražiště, the highest of which being Křemešník (765 above sea level). The main features of the picturesque countryside are rounded ridges and deep river valleys tempting tourists to make trips. One of the places that should definitely be visited is **Křemešník**. At the foothill of this peak lying about 10km from Pelhřimov silver ore used to be mined. The spring of the so-called "Silver Well" with very tasteful water rises from a drowned silver mine. A bit further uphill is the "Miraculous Spring" with a periodical stream of slightly radioactive water, which is believed to have curative effects. The spring starts to well out at the end of winter or the beginning of spring and fades away around the day of the Holy Trinity. At the foothill of Křemešník is the protected nature area called "Ivaniny Ponds" – three clean forest ponds rich in amphibians.



You can get acquainted with the diversity of natural beauties of Pelhřimov region on the discovery trail in the **Municipal Park in Pelhřimov**, which will show you in a natural and engaging way the variety and value of the beautiful and well-preserved nature in the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands. The Municipal Park has been founded for local people as well as for visitors to the town and wooded with a multitude of species of trees.

In Pelhřimov region you can find a lot of places with remarkable trees. Most visitors head for the castle precincts in **Kamenice nad Lipou**. The memorable linden-tree standing in the park round the castle was planted in 1248, its top was cut off by lightning in 1824. The surviving torso of the trunk and two lower branches are constantly given expert care. Later a balcony with railings was erected around it. The span length of the lower branches is 36 metres and the girth above buttress is 6 metres. On the occasion of the 750th anniversary of the town a new linden tree was planted in the castle park.



Another memorable tree is the pedunculate oak in **Proseč-Obořiště**. The journalist and poet Karel Havlíček Borovský used to sit under the wide-branched tree with his sweetheart. The tree has been growing at the pond in the park of the local chateau for at least 300 years and the girth above buttress is 6.23 m. Other memorable trees are to be found on the outskirts of the town of **Červená Řečice**, in **Čížkov**, along the road from **Košetice** to **Buřenice**, in the village of **Božejov** and in **Pelhřimov**.



The nature reserve of **Hrachoviště** is situated around two shallow ponds called Horní Hrachoviště and Střední Hrachoviště with some specially protected species of water, wetland and peat animals and plants. Peat meadows and clumps of alder trees in the surroundings are interesting, too. The nature reserve is to be found 2 km south-west of the village of Ústrašín.



Another place of interest is the **Danube – Elbe European water divide** leading across Pelhřimov region. The roadside station at **Nová Buková**, 668 metres above sea level, lies forgotten in the countryside of the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands not far from Horní Cerekev. The station itself would not be much interesting if it was not standing on the site where rain-water decides which of the two rivers to choose to get to the sea. Yes, the roof of the station building is exactly the place which can be proudly labelled the European water divide.



Yet another place to visit is the detached department of the Czech Hydro-meteorological Institute – **observatory Košetice**, a specialised station through which the Czech Republic participates in international programmes of monitoring the quality of the environment on regional level. The hydrometeorological station is situated in a farming landscape off built-up areas and out of direct reach of sources of pollution. The observatory is open to the public on the occasion of the World Water Day and the World Meteorological Day when experts explain functions of the individual measuring instruments and the process of recording data.