



Best of Moravia

Brno p240

Moravia's brawny capital boasts a spooky hilltop castle, skeletons everywhere, and a masterpiece of early modern architecture.

Telč p248

This small town's colourful Renaissance and baroque main square is so picture-perfect it's a Unesco World Heritage site.

Třebíč p251

This bustling city's former Jewish Quarter is unique in the Czech Republic.

Mikulov p253

A piece of Italy in southern Moravia, with great wine and architecture.

Valtice-Lednice p257

A Unesco-protected heritage landscape amid lush, rolling hills.

Znojmo p259

Pleasant border town with atmospheric alleyways and a magnificent view out over the Thaya (Dyje) River valley.

Olomouc p261

Northern Moravian gem with a main square to rival Prague's, a lively student body and (at least two) great microbreweries.

Kroměříž p267

A Unesco World Heritage site with a magnificent 19th-century chateau.

Moravia



Brno

Explore

Among Czechs, Moravia's capital has a dull rep: a likeable enough place where not much happens. There was even a hit movie a few years back called *Nuda v Brně* (*Boredom in Brno*). The reality is very different. Tens of thousands of students ensure lively cafe and club scenes that easily rival Prague's. The museums are great too. If you add in two excellent microbreweries and at least one of the country's best restaurants, there's plenty to reward a stay of a couple of days. Brno was one of the leading centres of experimental architecture in the early 20th century, and the Unesco-protected Vila Tugendhat is considered a masterwork of functionalist design. The tourist information office has lots of material on the city's rich architectural heritage, including marked-out tours.

The Best...

- ◆ **Sight** Špilberk Castle (p241)
- ◆ **Place to Eat** Pavillon (p245)
- ◆ **Place to Drink** Cafe Podnebi (p245)

Top Tip

Brno is a popular venue for trade fairs, and hotels routinely jack up rates by as much as 50% during large events. Check www.bvv.cz for dates and plan your visit for an off-week.

Getting There & Away

◆ **Train** Express trains to Brno depart Prague's Hlavní nádraží every couple of hours during the day (220Kč, three hours). Brno is a handy junction for onward train travel to Vienna (220Kč, two hours) and Bratislava (210Kč, 1½ hours). Trains arrive at Brno's central **main station** (Brno hlavní nádraží; ☎ 840 112 113; www.cd.cz; Nádražní 1).