

Top Breweries and Microbreweries in South Bohemia

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in South Bohemia

Beer is one of the oldest man-made beverages. It was favoured already by the Celts, who came to South Bohemia before the Slavic and Germanic tribes, who loved it no less. Bohemia has always been home to brewing, using malt, water and hops. Almost anyone could obtain brewing privileges, although they were usually held by the aristocracy and clergy. In the 18th century a court decree was made to regulate home brewing as the importance of introducing proper technologies became a priority. One hundred years later, in the period of inventions and technical developments, new breweries were built, equipped with advanced technologies. Nowadays in South Bohemia, apart from world-famous breweries there are also many microbreweries that are open to visitors to come and taste their golden, frothy product.



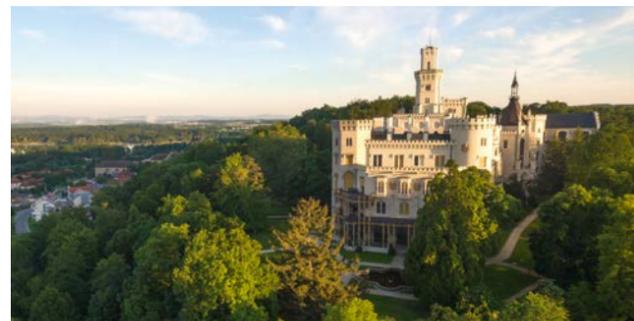
1 Hluboká Brewery

The history of beer brewing at Hluboká (formerly Frauenberg) is proven to have originated as early as in the 15th century. The house with brewing privileges was built in 1898 by Duke Adolf Josef of Schwarzenberg in the heart of the town as a community hall. In 2016 it was purchased by the grandson of the original owner with the aim to redevelop the house and install brewing technology. After a demanding reconstruction with the presence of the castle architects and restorers, the Hluboká Brewery was ceremonially opened in January 2017 and consecrated by the local priest, Father Tomáš. The technology with a planned annual production of 1,000 to 2,000 hl was supplied by Pacovské strojírný. Only Czech and Bavarian malt and Žatec hops are used to produce this craft beer. The beer is packed in KEG barrels and PET bottles.

Where to taste and buy: Exclusively in the following facilities on the town square of Hluboká nad Vltavou: Pivovarský šenk, Solidní Šance, U Hájků, Pivovarský Krámeček (with other brands of beer and souvenirs, too).

Brewery visit: Guided group tours in Czech or English after prior booking, minimum 10 persons up to 20 persons.

www.pivovarhluboka.cz



2 Budějovický Budvar

Budějovický Budvar is one of the most successful brewing companies in the Czech Republic. It was founded as Český akciový pivovar, and the first batch of beer was brewed on 7 October 1895. The founders were brewers of Czech nationality holding brewing privileges whose families had held the right to brew beer since the city's foundation in 1265. The founders thus enriched the new brewery with the famous tradition of Budějovice beer brewing (known as BUDWEISER BIER since the Middle Ages) as well as the professional knowledge of many generations of brewers. Despite a great increase in production, the beer from Budějovický Budvar is still produced using traditional Czech technology, and its taste and quality have remained the same for several generations.

Where to taste and buy: Pivnice Budvar on the brewery premises, Masné Krámy restaurant, Tourist Center on the brewery premises

Brewery visit: Guided tours around the brewery with beer tasting.

www.budejovickybudvar.cz

3 Solnice Brewery

The new brewery in the very centre of České Budějovice got its name from the Gothic Salt House (Solnice), which was built in 1531 as an urban granary. Afterwards, weapons and salt were stored there. The building underwent a major reconstruction and opened in March 2019 as the Solnice restaurant. Beer from the brewery of the same name in Hroznova Street is transported to the restaurant by a unique underground beer pipeline.

Where to taste: Solnice restaurant on Piaristic Square in České Budějovice

Where to buy: SINOP CB a.s., Pod Stromovkou 205, 370 01 České Budějovice

Brewery visit: Guided tours after prior booking.

www.pivovarsolnice.cz

4 Kněžinec Microbrewery

The Kněžinec Microbrewery prides itself as the first microbrewery in České Budějovice. It was founded in 2012 and since then has been gradually extended and the volume of brewed beer increased. The microbrewery brews typical Czech beer using home-grown raw ingredients and traditional production. Beer is produced in small volumes and consumed in a relatively short time after bottling, thus removing the need for filtering or pasteurizing and preserving the original character of the lager beer. Bottom fermentation is currently the most popular method. You can taste all the produced types of beer in the restaurant and you can also buy and take them home.

Where to taste and buy: The brewery's own restaurants located on the microbrewery premises. Life is a Dream restaurant in České Budějovice.

Brewery visit: Guided tours with beer tasting after prior booking; maximum group size 15

www.knezinec.cz



5 Zvíkov Brewery

Remnants of a medieval brewery can be found at the Zvíkov castle, which was most famous under the reign of the Lords of Švamberk whose coat of arms with a swan still decorates the castle tower. In memory of the past glory of the brewery, the Pivovarský dvůr Zvíkov

still has a swan on its coat of arms and some of its beers are called Zlatá labuť (Golden Swan).

Where to taste and buy: Restaurant and factory shop on the brewery premises – retail sale of beer, sale of advertising goods.

Brewery visit: Guided tours around the brewery with beer tasting; maximum group size 40

www.pivovar-zvikov.cz



6 Dudák – Měšťanský pivovar Strakonice, a. s.

The beginning of brewing in Strakonice dates back to the 14th century when the local townsfolk acquired brewing privileges in the form of a deed issued by Bavor IV. In 1873, the construction of a new steam-powered brewery on the bank of the Otava River was initiated. This is a dominant feature even today, and the brewery premises serve for social events, such as for example the beer pilgrimage. The brewery has recently undergone extensive modernization and offers customers an innovated and stylish design in selected restaurants.

Where to taste and buy: Tasting room and factory shop on the brewery premises – retail sale of beer, sale of advertising goods and gifts

Brewery visit: Commented tour around the brewery with tasting of unfiltered beer drawn directly from lager tanks. Booking in advance, minimum group size 6 persons

www.pivovar-strakonice.cz

7 Hulvát Brewery in Truskovice

Homemade unfiltered and unpasteurized beer has been brewed here since September 2018. The brewery follows the long-proven tradition of home brewing of its founders. That is the reason why Hulvát's success came very early: at the popular Fruit Festival in Jáma near Mičovice, its semi-dark "eleven" was nominated as the best beer by the public. Its rising popularity was underlined by the November Grand Opening of the brewery, when more than 600 visitors drained 28 barrels of beer.

Where to taste and buy: Brewery pub in Truskovice

Brewery visit: A paid tour, including tasting, is possible in the opening hours of the brewery, which can be found on the brewery's website. It is also possible to visit the brewery outside standard opening hours, after prior reservation.

www.pivovarhulvat.cz

8 Prachatice Brewery

Malting and brewing has been part of Prachatice since ancient times, as has the Golden Path that went directly through the town. The Prachatice brewery is originally a redeveloped brewery with a traditional method of beer brewing and Czech restaurant in the historical center of the town.

Where to taste and buy: Pivovar Prachatice restaurant and Klika hotel in České Budějovice

Brewery visit: Based on prior arrangement, you can visit the brewery and taste freshly drawn beer

www.pivovarprachatice.cz

9 Šumava Brewery Vimperk

The Šumava Brewery (Šumavský pivovar) was founded in 2010. It is located on the lower end of the square in Vimperk and follows the long-term tradition of beer brewing in Vimperk based on traditional formulas and procedures.

Where to taste and buy: The restaurant serves cold snacks to go with beer. The factory shop on the brewery premises provides retail sale of beer and advertising goods.

Brewery visit: Guided tours around the brewery with beer tasting; maximum number of persons in the group by agreement

www.sumavskypivovar.cz

10 Glokner brewery

The brewery originated in 2013. The name – Glokner – comes from the bell tower where a bell with the same name is hanging. The entire technology of the brewery and its interior is designed in the industrial style. The spaces where the beer matures are very interesting because they are located on the first floor. Grinding, on the other hand, is carried out above the brewing room, and the malt grist automatically falls directly into the brewing kettle. Another technological rarity is that beer is drawn directly in the pub. The length of the entire beer piping is approximately 50 meters.

Where to taste and buy: Restaurant Glokál in Svachova Lhotka, Svachovka shop in České Budějovice

Brewery visit: Guided tours around the brewery with beer tasting; maximum number of persons in the group: 20. Mladina beer spa

www.svachovka.cz

11 Bohemia Regent, a. s.

The brewery in Třeboň has a truly long tradition. It was founded in 1379, while the historically earliest equipment for beer production was owned by the Augustinian religious canon order as early as in 1367. The beer from Třeboň became famous and gradually acquired a reputation beyond the borders as well.

Where to taste and buy: Regent Gold brewery restaurant and Zbrojnice brewery cellar on the brewery premises, brewery shop in the brewery premises – retail sale of Bohemia Regent beer and advertising goods

Brewery visit: Guided day and night tours around the brewery with beer tasting. Group tours must be booked in advance.

www.pivovar-regent.cz



12 Zevlův Mlýn Brewery

The family craft brewery Zevlův mlýn (Nové Hradý), with a capacity of 7000 litres of beer per month, was opened in July 2018. Beer production is based on precious high-quality brewing, using Czech and foreign hops, malt and water from the mountains of Novohradské hory. The product offer is divided into a constant and seasonal part and includes light lagers of the Pilsen type as well as other types of beers. All produced beers are unfiltered and unpasteurized, thus preserving the original taste and many health benefits.

Where to taste and buy: directly in the mill

Brewery visit: guided tours are available mostly after prior arrangement, especially in the winter.

www.zevlumllyn.cz

13 Obora family brewery

Obora family brewery has been in operation since 2015 at the farm of the Novák family in the village of Obora near Želeč u Tábora. This is a Czech curiosity, because they brew beer from their own hops.

Where to taste and buy: Family brewery of Obora, Špejchar Želeč, Výčep Tábora, Thir Tábora, AUX Café Tábora, Farma u lvušky Tábora, WallClub Sezimovo Ústí, Restaurant Maxim Planá nad Lužnicí, Na Staré Želeči, Mitrowicz Castle

Brewery visit: You can take a tour around the brewery and hopgarden with tasting.

www.pivovarobora.cz

NATIONAL FLAGS = LANGUAGES OF BREWERY TOUR

