

Fortress Portrait



Fortified Ideal City

Czech Republic

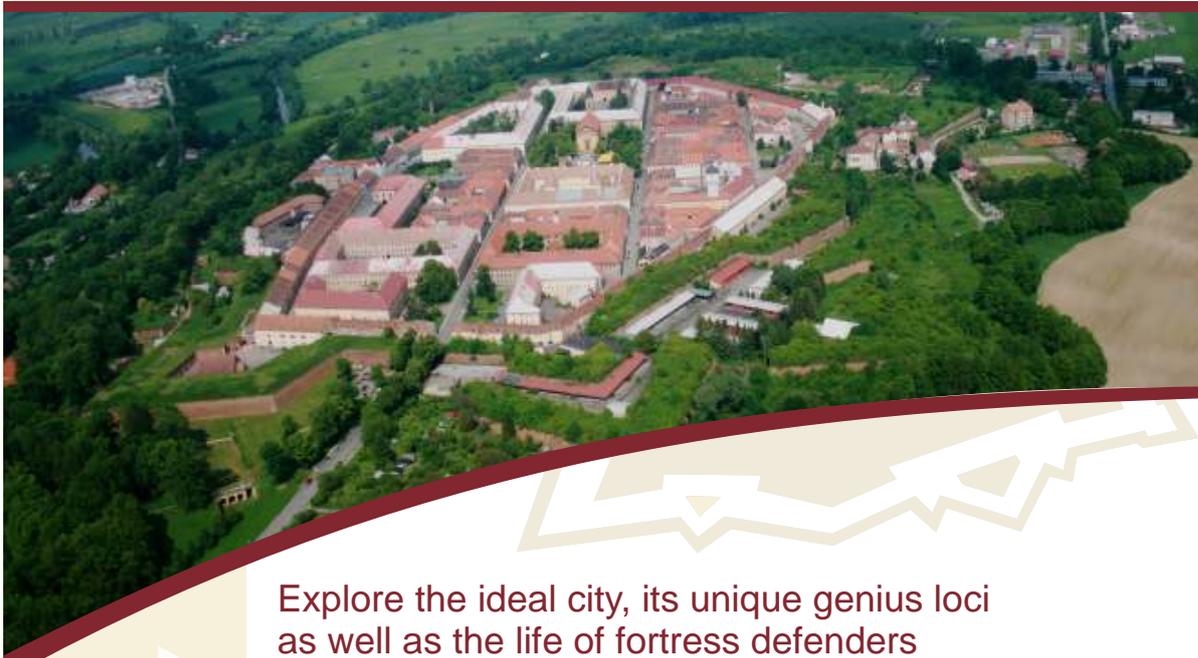
The Fortified Ideal City Josefov

Culture, leisure time and living history



European Culture Route of Fortified Heritage

Monuments of power full of life



World of Experience

Explore the ideal city, its unique genius loci as well as the life of fortress defenders

If you want to explore harsh military life in the fortified city, experience adventure during a walk through the underground corridors or admire a gallery of original statues by Matthias Bernhard Braun, you are warmly welcome! There are many places worth seeing in the city of Josefov - three different museums, the scale model of ideal city exhibited in Bastion IV and renovated artillery casemates in Ravelin XIV nearby.

The large exhibition "Medical service of the German Army during World War 2" is located in the Traxler Granary, where you can admire a unique collection of antique plans of bastion fortresses in Bohemia, too.

Nature lovers should not miss the visit of the equestrian area "Stable Paradiso" or the first private ornithological reservation in central Europe "Josefovské louky" in the surroundings. The specific atmosphere of the city creates an attractive destination for filmmakers, music festivals (such as Brutal Assault) or mock battle re-enactments.

The baroque fortress of Jaromer-Josefov is a stop on kilometre 67 on the international Elbe Cycle Route.

History

Fortress Josefov was built as a fortified ideal city between 1780 and 1787 under the Emperor Josef II. Main purpose of the 289 hectare big fortress was to protect the northern border of the Austrian Empire against the Kingdom of Prussia.

It was actually a huge armoury, storehouse of gunpowder and food supplies and, last but not least, the fort offered safe accommodation for soldiers and civilians, too. Because the army of the Prussian Kingdom didn't arrive to Bohemia until 1866, the Fortress never became besieged, but served its purpose; for a long time even as a military prison.

Architecture

The layout of the planned city respects the chosen terrain above the confluence of two rivers.

The river water protection is combined with the very ingenious set of bastions, ravelins and other entrenchments on the north side.

The unique system of the countermines with about 40 km is probably the largest one in Europe after all. Similar countermine systems can be found in Klodzko and Petrovaradin (Novi Sad).

Contact

Pevnost Josefov
Okružní 34
55102 Jarom
Tel: +42 491 812 343
info@pevnostjosefov.cz

Website

www.pevnostjosefov.cz

Links

www.facebook.com/festungjosefstadt

Tourism Service



Tourism Infrastructure



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Impressions

