



We will set out from Nový Jičín to the destination of our trip, to Starý Jičín.

Starý Jičín is situated at the foot of Starojický Hill in the Moravian Gate c. 5 km west of Nový Jičín. The little town of Starý Jičín was founded probably some time at the beginning of the 13<sup>th</sup> century as a trade centre on the so-called Amber Route between the Adriatic and the Baltic Sea. The origins and the development of the town of Starý Jičín are closely connected with the history of the castle and the estate of Starý Jičín.

The dominant of the town is Starý Jičín Castle, which was founded by the stock of Hückeswagen at the beginning of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. At the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century the castle as well as the estate passed to the possession of the stock of Seilem. Owing to the indifference of the owners the castle had succumbed to a quick decomposition. Unfortunately, even the endeavour of Count Bedřich Deym at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century had not prevented the gnawing ravages of time and the once stately castle became a ruin.

The town, which owns the ruins, is gradually trying to repair them. Opposite the remains of the castle palace there is the new dominant of the castle: the castle tower, which has been considerably restored and finished. A castle café has been opened for the castle visitors in the tower; it is open mostly on Saturdays and Sundays. In the upper part of the observation tower

a period exposition of weapons and the dossier on the castle and the estate have been organized. In nice weather there is a beautiful view of the wide surroundings of the Moravian Gate from the tower as well as from all the other places of the ruins.

The ruins are open to the public free of charge all year round.

In summer the castle livens up with various culture events. The castle is accessible on foot by a wood path leading from the square, where parking places for personal cars are available.

The town's culture heritage includes several other sights, e.g. the Parish Church of St. Wenceslas, the stone pillory – a column of the lower capital right, the statue of St. Jan of Nepomuk in the square, the restored wooden courtyard gallery leading from the present Municipality to the ancient church, and others.

In the last couple of years the town started to liven up by holding of regular period jousts in the grounds of the castle courtyard as well as by sports activities, e.g. volleyball matches, competitions of voluntary fire services, speed races, football matches, tennis tournaments, etc.



## *The Trip of Nový Jičín Starý Jičín*

