



*The UK Friends  
of Czech  
Historic Buildings,  
Gardens and Parks*

[www.ukczechfriends.org](http://www.ukczechfriends.org)

**THE CZECH REPUBLIC** has one of the richest concentrations of great houses and castles in Europe, numerous important historic gardens and parks and countless enchanting and unspoilt Renaissance and Baroque towns. It has a wealth of churches and monasteries, and an important vernacular tradition, evident in the picturesque wooden churches and gabled Baroque farmhouses. No fewer than 40,000 buildings are listed as being of architectural and historical significance, in addition to 200 conservation zones in historic towns and as many as twelve sites are on the UNESCO list of World Heritage monuments.



Since the Velvet Revolution of 1989 enormous efforts have been made by the state, by municipalities, by the church and by private individuals to restore a patrimony that has suffered so much from neglect and misuse over 40 years. Buildings, which in other countries would have been regarded as beyond hope, are everywhere being brought back to life. But the task is enormous, simply because the Czech architectural heritage is so rich. Funds are urgently needed to safeguard the future of monuments that are part of Europe's common cultural heritage.



**Žďár nad Sázavou**  
*One of the Baroque  
confessionals in a sorry state...*



*...and following restoration*

It is the enterprise and determination, courage and vision shown by the Czech people to restore the damage of the past that has inspired the foundation of The UK Friends of Czech Historic Houses, Gardens and Parks. Our aim is to help fund restoration projects in the country and to promote the exchange of professional and technical expertise between specialists in the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic.

*The UK Friends of Czech Historic Buildings, Gardens and Parks*

is a charitable Trust. Since the organisation was launched in October 2007, the Friends have raised over £30,000 and we are currently providing funds towards the restoration of a garden arbour in the gardens of the chateau of Český Krumlov, a Baroque confessional and a major altar painting in the great church of Žďár nad Sázavou, and an eighteenth-century statue from the gardens of the chateau of Uherčice.

Details of our activities can be found on our website [www.ukczechfriends.org](http://www.ukczechfriends.org)