

Brno ECLAS Conference Field Trips

Litomyšl (UNESCO site)

We are very sorry but this trip has to be canceled due to participants' low interest.

Lednice – Valtice cultural landscape (UNESCO site)

Full day coach trip with lunch and wine tasting in Lednice. The Lednice-Valtice cultural landscape is protected by UNESCO as a unique example of designed landscape continuously cultivated by the Liechtenstein family for over 700 years. We will visit the historic gardens of the Lednice and Valtice chateaux as well as the best parts of designed landscape (Gloriet Valtice, Diana's Temple, Lednice ponds system, etc.). We will discuss the crucial aspects of management within this area. Lunch break for lunch and wine tasting will be arranged within the Faculty of Horticulture campus in Lednice.

Brno

Half-day walks around Brno with a focus on public spaces. Examples of different approaches to contemporary urban landscape in the wider context. Walking tours BRNO I, II and III include a guided visit to the Villa Tugendhat, UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Due to very high interest of conference participants in the trip around Brno, we kindly ask you to sign up for one of the following 4 walks.

Walk	Time	Programme description
BRNO I	8:45 – 14:00	Starting from the Černá Pole district of Brno we will visit two famous villas – the functionalist Villa Tugendhat (UNESCO listed, house and garden) and Art Nouveau Villa Löw-Beer (only garden), the home of Greta Tugendhat's parents. Here, at a lovely garden house transformed to the coffee shop and gallery, it will be possible to enjoy a coffee break and brunch. The next stop of our excursion will be at Lužánky park, the first public town park in Czech lands. After a few minutes of walk, we will enter the Tyršovy sady park, established on a site of a former cemetery. Both these historical parks were recently reconstructed following the projects of professor Ivar Otruba, an internationally recognized Czech landscape architect. We will finish at Moravian square (Moravské náměstí), a focal point of the ring road green belt encircling the historical inner town, where medieval city fortifications once stood. Here we will have the opportunity to explore examples of contemporary public spaces – a redesign of a historical park and a design of a plaza part closer to the city centre well known for its modern sculptures. Both sites are interesting also for its water features and rainwater management solution. We will be joined by some of our colleagues who were involved in the design. The programme is free but the coffee-break with brunch will require an additional payment.
BRNO II	9:00 – 15:00	The grounds of the adapted medieval Carthusian monastery (now used for the purposes of the Faculty of IT of the Brno University of Technology) are an interesting example of a combination of historical layers with contemporary architecture. Since 2004, the faculty campus has been gradually developed there. Behind the former monastery walls, the renovation of the urban district's Božetěch park (Božetěchovy sady) was completed in the spring of this year. The park lies just next to a busy city highway, to which the design had to react to. It is also interesting from the sustainability point of view. The design bears typical features of contemporary Czech landscape architecture, interpreted by

		its authors that will join us during the walk. Their Studio of Landscape Architecture (Brno) also participated in the renovation of the nearby park on the Slavonic square (Slovanské náměstí). This park square was established in 1913 following a construction of a new residential area designed by the German architect Leberecht Migge. A successful renovation highlights the preserved historical elements in harmony with contemporary ones. Close to the square we will have a coffee-break with brunch before moving on to visit the Villa Tugendhat. The programme is free but the coffee-break with the brunch will require an additional payment.
BRNO III	7:45 – 14:00	We will start our walk from Villa Tugendhat, an iconic house listed under UNESCO. The Villa offers a fantastic view of the city panorama from its windows and terrace, situated above a sloping intimate garden. Next we will take a tram to the historical city centre. We will pass through the traditional vegetable market on Zelný trh featuring the baroque Parnassus fountain to the reconstructed terraced historical gardens and Denis' Park on the Petrov hill (within former city walls). A nice and easy walk will take us below the Špilberk Castle. We will walk up the hill with a unique woodland park that was reconstructed using a specific system of rainwater management. The park has various thematic parts reminiscing about the history and offers spectacular views. Our walk will finish in the Open Garden, a model of educational and community city garden (urban farm, community gardening, examples of sustainable building and gardening principles). The programme is free but the coffee-break with the brunch will require an additional payment.
BRNO IV	9:30 – 14:00	This excursion starts in the Botanical Garden and Arboretum of our Mendel University in Brno. This special purpose-built facility was founded in 1938 but the contemporary composition is one of the best-preserved designs by Czech landscape architect professor Ivar Otruba from the 1960s. At the same time it is a popular teaching place for our students. Next, we will move on to a larger-scale project. Socialist housing estates, similarly to residential complexes in Western Europe, were based on the modernist concept of living in contact with nature. The Lesná housing estate in Brno is one of the notable (early) examples that bear the characteristics of the socialist version of modernity. We will see specific forms of public space, use of natural greenery and integration of visual arts. We will also talk about the problematic aspects of mass housing construction and unconvincing results of later efforts to transform the socialist legacy. Coffee break and brunch in a nearby atmospheric Coffee Trail Garden. The programme is free but the coffee-break with the brunch will require an additional payment.

* Please note that the visitor capacity of Villa Tugendhat is strictly limited by the heritage institute and it is beyond our possibilities to ensure entry to the interiors for all the conference participants, however we are doing all we can to get as many of you in as possible.

** The participants will be requested to split into the groups on Monday 11 September in the morning, during the registration.