# 14 – My Down – My village

## History

České Budějovice was settled by Přemysl Otakar II in 1265 as a new royal town. Main reason of creating this city was to make royal settle in south Bohemia because there wasn’t any before 1265.

ČB pass through many hard times, such us during Hussite war. In the 16th century ČB was temporary the capital city of ČR because it wasn’t safe in the middle and north Bohemia for country leaders. One of the hardest times for ČB was great fire in 16th century, when almost 2/3 of town was in fire. But ČB was able to handle it, because it was rich city mainly thanks to nearby silver mines and also its business with beer, salt and fish.

The importance of the city grown in 1785, when ČB become the seat of the bishop of České Budějovice diocese (diecéze).

Inhabitants of ČB had to give up their freedom in 1939 because of German occupation. ČB wasn’t directly involved in fights during Second World War. Just in the end of the war in 1945 – ČB was hit by Americans bomb of its air-planes. Germans leave ČB without fighting.

In 2002, there was a flood [flad] in ČB, which also hit historical part of the city and made some damages.

## Geographical

It’s a **statuary** **city** of south Bohemia. It is placed on two rivers: **Vltava** and **Malše**. There are some forests nearby ČB, for example Blanský les or Šumava.

## Culture

ČB is very interesting city for tourist because there are a lot of **sights** and **museums** (such us South-bohemia museum) in ČB, there is also **university** (South-bohemia university). Beside that, ČB is popular for tourists because it is center of south Bohemia which is very attractive for them. There is also town theatre called South-bohemia theatre.

As I said before, ČB is not the only place is south Bohemia which is interesting for tourists. Another places nearby ČB is town Hluboká nad Vltavou which is mainly visited for its castle. Another interesting place is Rudolfov and its museum of silver extracting. Finally I would like to mention village Dobrá Voda which is place where I live. There is baroque church of Saint Maria. Many people come there during Easter.

## Sights

**Piaristické** **náměstí**: There is Dominican monastery and church of Saint Maria (Gothic). It’s the oldest building in ČB.

**Náměstí Přemysla Otakara II**: It is one of the biggest squares in ČR and also many times classified as the prettiest square. It was used as place of execution in the past and there was also market with meat. Dominant of this square is Samson’s fountain and also town hall.

**Samsonova kašna**: In the middle of this stone fountain, there are four gargoyles. Above them, there are four Atlantians, carrying biblical Samson on his lion. Around the fountain, there are stone pillars, connected by massive chain.

**Černá věž**: Black tower is guardian and fire tower. There are 6 bells in it and it is 70 meters high. Its built in Gothic and Renaissance style. Next to the black tower, there is memorial of Jan Jirsík and Cathedral of Saint Nicholas.

**Katedrála svatého Mikuláše**: Cathedral of Saint Nicholas is the main church of ČB diocese.

There are a lot of hotels because of tourist activity. There is grand hotel Zvon for example, which is located directly on the square. Another famous hotel is Gomel.