

WALLACHIAN OPEN-AIR MUSEUM IN ROŽNOV POD RADHOŠTĚM

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- the oldest and largest open-air museum in the Czech Republic
- founded in 1925
- over 100 buildings over an area of 80 hectares

LITTLE WOODEN TOWN

The Little Wooden Town forms the oldest part of the museum. Its founding fathers wished to save and preserve the relics of folk art and handicraft skills of earlier generations which were slowly disappearing from the daily life of Wallachian villages and towns. The museum was meant to serve as their permanent reminder. That is why the founders assembled the last timbered houses from the town square of Rožnov pod Radhoštěm – the town hall and a burgher's house. The Little Wooden Town was later completed with a church, a village mayor's house, two timbered pubs, granaries, barns and a distillery. Nowadays, the area serves as a venue for several international folklore festivals and a number of ethnographic and cultural events.



WALLACHIAN VILLAGE

While walking around the Wallachian village we can see how the inhabitants of different parts of the region would have lived in different historical periods, from 1750s until 1948. Apart from the dwelling of a landless person and several farmsteads of different sizes, we can visit a house of a rich farmer as well as a mayor's house, a windmill or an Evangelical church. The Wallachian village presents the way of life and sustenance of local inhabitants, it teaches us about different trades and crafts, it demonstrates different ways of traditional building including respect towards the natural hilly terrain and the character of the Wallachian landscape. An important part of the Wallachian village life is mountainous farming and cattle and sheep breeding.



WATER MILL VALLEY

The newest part of the museum gives us an insight into the use of water as a driving force for running technical constructions. There is a saw mill, a fulling mill, an iron mill and a flour mill powered by water, and also an oil press, smithy, depot and a homestead of a forest worker. The buildings exhibited in the Water Mill Valley are unique documents of human resourcefulness, respect towards natural materials as well as the ability to use the laws of nature. Almost all technologies can be seen in operation. The aim of the museum is not merely to collect artefacts and exhibit them. The Wallachian Open-Air Museum is a living museum.

