

CLIMBING IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC: ACCESS TO CLIMBING CRAGS

Dear friends,

As the new climbing season begins, we would like to inform you about the basic rules for practicing rock climbing in the Czech Republic, which foreign climbers should also be aware of and follow.

Most rock climbing areas in the Czech Republic are located in protected areas, where rock climbing is permitted only with a permit issued by Nature Conservation authorities and, in some cases, by landowners. All such permits are negotiated by the Czech Climbing Federation (ČHS).

In the Czech Republic, most rock climbing areas are open to all climbers, including those from abroad. Climbers do not need to be members of the ČHS or any other mountaineering association or organization. This applies to the Adršpach-Teplice Rocks and other rock areas in the Broumov region, all areas of the Elbe Sandstone Mountains, including the Bohemian Switzerland National Park, the Kokořín Rocks, the Bohemian Karst, the Moravian Karst, and other areas.

There are also some exceptions:

- In the Bohemian Paradise, climbing is permitted only to members of the Czech Climbing Federation (ČHS) and members of other mountaineering organizations (UIAA, DAV, etc.).
- There are also several climbing areas in Bohemia where only ČHS members are allowed to climb, and non-members may climb only when accompanied by members. These are minor, small areas that foreigners do not usually visit.

Almost all rock formations are open to all visitors and do not charge an entrance fee. **However, there are exceptions where an entrance fee is required to use the hiking trails established in these areas. This is not a climbing fee!**

These areas are:

- Adršpach Rocks
- Teplice Rocks
- Prachov Rocks
- Tisá Walls

ČHS members who present a valid membership card are granted free access to these areas.

Organizations that operate hiking trails may also offer free access to other visitor groups, but the ČHS does not have reliable information on the situation in individual areas. Foreign

climbers can also become members of the ČHS and thus obtain a membership card, which grants them free access to the aforementioned areas.

All climbers must comply with the conditions and rules established for specific areas.

Violations of these conditions may result in penalties.

Important conditions include:

- climbing only during the permitted period
- respecting local closures due to bird nesting
- respecting the conditions for first ascents (it is always necessary to contact the regional mountaineering commission; in some areas, first ascents are completely prohibited), including the use of high-quality, approved fixed anchors and adherence to the correct technical procedures according to the location and type of rock

In sandstone areas in Bohemia, the following also applies:

- No climbing on wet rock
- No use of protection devices that damage the rock (friends, stoppers)
- No use of chalk or similar substances

You can find complete information about rock climbing areas in the Czech Republic and climbing conditions in our database [Skály ČR](#) (also available as a mobile app for Android and iOS, Czech only; the website can be easily translated using AI tools).

Please share the information above with your members. We thank all climbers for adhering to the established conditions and for treating nature and other visitors with respect!

We wish you a safe start to the spring season! Horám zdar, Berg Heil,
on behalf of the Czech Mountaineering Association

Tomáš Fridrich
Secretary General