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BRNO

in numbers

Population	more than 370,000
Population in the metropolitan area	approximately 700,000
Number of university students	approximately 65,000
Number of foreigners living in Brno	approximately 65,000
Number of foreigners working in Brno	approximately 65,000
Number of nationalities represented in Brno	approximately 70

● Statue of the Margrave Jobst of Moravia



Cultural Centre of the South Moravian Region

Brno is the centre of a region rich in wine, beautiful castles and châteaux, lively folklore traditions and UNESCO monuments. The region is also exceptional in the number of museums and monuments, as well as folklore groups, of which there are over a hundred.

The city itself boasts an authentic atmosphere, excellent gastronomy and unusual experiences, as well as a specific Brno dialect called Hantec, which combines the Czech, German and Romany languages. Brno often presents itself as a city with both modern and historical faces which are mutually intertwined.

● Mendel University



City of students and science

There are 10 colleges and universities in the city, the oldest of which are the Brno University of Technology, Masaryk University and Mendel University.

Quality education in music and drama is provided by the Janáček Academy of Performing Arts (JAMU), a prestigious public university with an artistic focus.

● Illuminated fountain in front of the Janáček Theatre



Brno culture in numbers

The city of Brno spends about 7 % of its budget on culture every year.

Brno has established **10** major cultural contributory organisations: the National Theatre Brno, Brno City Theatre, Radost Theatre, Experimental Theatre Centre, Brno Philharmonic, Brno City Museum, Tourist Information Centre, Brno House of Arts, Jiří Mahen Library and Brno Observatory and Planetarium.

The city supports the non-established cultural scene in a total of **10** grant programmes – 9 non-investment programmes and 1 investment programme. Applications are usually for one or two year grants for a specific project or a year-round activity. The emphasis is on a peer review and an electronic system.

The last mapping of culture and the creative sectors was carried out in 2014 and it was proven that more than **11** thousand economically-active subjects and almost **20** thousand people are active in culture and the creative sectors, thus constituting **10%** of the total people employed in Brno with a turnover of CZK **24** billion.

● ZET9 rehearsal rooms and studios



Creative sectors

Culture and the creative sectors are an irreplaceable pillar of sustainable development for Brno. The Brno Culture Strategy aims to achieve a distinctive cultural and creative scene with an international reputation.

The city supports the creative sectors through programmes promoting the connection between business and creative industries in the South Moravian Region. These include, for example, targeted grants for creatives and their projects

Creatives are also helped by the Kumst creative centre, the activities of the South Moravian Film Foundation, the Brno Film Office, and the Brno Creative Days festival, which connects creatives with science and technology and includes a gaming festival

Among the strategic projects of the city of Brno is the construction of the Creative Centre Brno, which will be located in the former prison on Bratislavská Street. The nearly 8,000 m² space will include a library, a café, a Place of Memories and a creative centre. Together, these features will help develop the entire area, offer community events, support the development of the creative and cultural sectors, while at the same time saving and developing a brownfield site that has been decaying for years.

● Villa Tugendhat



Cultural heritage

The dominant landmark of Brno is the 13th century Špilberk Castle and Fortress, which in the past served as the seat of the rulers of Moravia or as a dreaded prison.

After 1896, when the „Brno redevelopment” took place, i.e. the demolition of older buildings, Brno received a new impulse to develop and from the 1920s functionalism began to take hold. Buildings by architects of Czech, German and Jewish origin, such as Ernst Wiesner, Bohuslav Fuchs, Josef Polášek and Oskar Poříška, still form the genius loci of Brno today.

The most famous building in Brno is the functionalist Villa Tugendhat by the architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. It is the only monument of modern architecture in the Czech Republic on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Modern architecture is clearly set-out by the Brno Architectural Manual – bam.brno.cz.

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Contributory organisations



National Theatre B r n o

The National Theatre Brno is one of the most visited cultural institutions of the city and the Mahen Theatre, Janáček Theatre and Reduta Theatre fall under its administration. The theatre is composed of **3** ensembles – drama, opera and ballet, each with its own management and dramaturgy.

The National Theatre Brno is the organiser of the Theatre World Brno festival, the Dance Brno ballet festival and the Janáček Brno International Music Festival, which in 2019 was the first in the Czech Republic to receive an award in the best festival category at the prestigious International Opera Awards.

● Brno City Theatre



Brno City Theatre

The Brno City Theatre is one of the most visited theatres in the country and focuses on drama and music – mainly musical – productions.

The theatre has a drama, musical and singing ensemble. In addition, it also has its own orchestra. It operates on three stages – the Drama Stage, the Music Stage and the Summer Stage at the Bishop's Court. Accompanying events also take place at the Theatre Hall and the Theatre Club.

A large space is devoted to completely new works written by leading playwrights and composers, often directly for the Brno City Theatre.

The theatre regularly publishes its own magazine *Dokořán*, a narrative theatre yearbook and calendar, extensive programme brochures for productions, an exclusive large programme full of unique photographs for titles on the Music Stage, and it also produces CDs for its musical productions and organises the *Dokořán* festival for musical theatre.

● Festival On Boards, Pavement, and Grass



Radost Theatre

The Radost Theatre is a professional theatre for children and youth with separate programmes for the public as well as schools and kindergartens.

The theatre of form is specific to this theatre, with the use of puppets in a broad concept and in the combination of the ensemble's musical talents with the expressive artistic representation of the productions.

The theatre organises its own international theatrical Festival of Joy for children, teenagers and adults in two-year cycles, dedicated to productions focused on working with puppets, objects and artefacts.

divadlo-radost.cz

● Theatre play: Visit



Centre for Experimental Theatre

The Centre for Experimental Theatre is an umbrella for 3 unique, artistically autonomous venues that produce and perform bold works of art year-round – the Goose on a String Theatre, HaDivadlo and the Terén platform for performing arts.

Since 2019, the Centre for Experimental Theatre publishes the quarterly magazine CEDIT, which serves as a space for thinking about theatre, art and culture.

In addition to its own archive and library, which are open to the public, and in addition to publishing the CEDIT magazine, the CET also organizes its own educational events and projects, such as CED_OBSERVER, AudioCafe, Theatre Class and the like.

● Brno Philharmonic



Brno Philharmonic

Each season the Brno Philharmonic offers uniquely conceived subscription series at the Janáček Theatre and Besední dům (for example, in the 2023/24 concert season the series was: Celebratory, Temperamental, Noble and Chamber). In addition it offers family or jazz subscriptions, a series of Cantilena concerts and special concerts (Opening, Advent, New Year's...).

It also organises five festivals: Easter Festival of Sacred Music, Mozart's Children, the summer open-air Festival Špilberk, the Exposition of the New Music and, every two years, the Moravian Autumn.

The orchestra is led by internationally renowned conductor Dennis Russell Davies, with whom the Philharmonic Orchestra completed a successful American tour, where they were applauded by a sold-out Carnegie Hall with Philip Glass in the audience.

The Brno Philharmonic founded its own record label in 2020, and one of its albums was nominated for a prestigious ICMA award.

filharmonie-brno.cz

● Špilberk Fortress



Brno City Muzeum

The Brno City Museum is the leading museum institution in the Czech Republic, which aims to be the memory of the city of Brno. It is housed in several buildings representing the history of the city.

These include the National Cultural Monument Špilberk, where exhibition projects are realized, the Brno City Gallery, Villa Tugendhat and Arnold's Villa. The fourth building it manages is the Měnin Gate, the only historical monument that has survived from the time of the city's fortification.

The Brno Museum collects, protects, preserves and presents rare items, the number of which has already exceeded two hundred thousand.

It is also a scientific research institution focusing on historical aspects of the historical development of the Brno metropolis and their subsequent study from the perspective of history, archaeology, architecture and fine arts. It presents these fields of human activity in exhibitions and also in the form of thematic exhibitions.

muzeumbrna.cz



TIC BRNO

TIC BRNO is a professional city agency promoting tourism and organizing events for the public (e.g. Brno Christmas, UPROSTŘED festival).

At the same time, it operates tourist information centres, the Brno Underground, the TIC Gallery and the Art Cinema, and it is in charge of offices for Brno – UNESCO City of Music, Brno 2028, Janáček's Brno and the Brno Film Office.

It publishes the magazine Where in Brno, which combines what's happening in Brno in a given month with lifestyle content about the city and life there.

It manages the tourism website GOtoBRNO.CZ offering complete information about events in Brno in 3 languages.

It also publishes books and guides for various target groups - the authentic guide THIS IS BRNO changed the genre of city guides and the children's book How Did It Break, a follow-up to the publication Zooming through Brno, scored points in the Most Beautiful Czech Books of 2019 competition.

It organises the BRNO 16 International Short Film Festival, one of the oldest film festivals in the Czech Republic.

ticbrno.cz

● Exhibition: The Next Stop Is a Request Stop



Brno House of Arts

The Brno House of Art is a municipal gallery designed to present temporary exhibitions in the field of contemporary art.

The House of Art operates in two gallery buildings, whose exhibition plans follow a different, complementary dramaturgy. The exhibitions in the main building on Malinovské náměstí are mainly devoted to important contemporary authors whose work is connected with the domestic cultural environment. The exhibitions in the building of the House of the Lords of Kunštát mainly represent the area of current, live, experimental work.

In addition to exhibitions, it organises and develops a number of long-term projects. The most important of these include the Brno Art Open, a biennial of sculptures in urban space, the Brno Architecture Manual, a research and popularization project dedicated to modern and contemporary architecture in Brno, and last but not least, Brno Artists in Residence, a residency project for local and international artists and curators.



Jiří Mahen Library

The Jiří Mahen Library in Brno is the largest public library in Moravia and the second largest in the Czech Republic. It was founded in 1921 by the Brno poet and playwright Jiří Mahen, who became Brno's first librarian.

The library is an important cultural, educational, information and meeting centre and consists of the Central Library, Mahen Memorial, IN-centre and 34 branches.

The library offers a wide range of services, literature, media and music and organises cultural and educational programmes for schools, the general public and the professional community.

The library also has a EUROPE DIRECT Information Centre with an abundant library collection and electronic information resources.

● Planet Festival – Brno Observatory and Planetarium



Brno Observatory and Planetarium

A centre for the popularisation of various sciences, especially in the field of inanimate nature.

The observatory premises are also used for congress and incentive tourism events, specialised events for sponsors and advertising or barter partners and, last but not least, cultural activities such as theatre and music performances.

In addition to the entrance hall, the Brno Observatory and Planetarium also consists of a digitarium (digital planetarium hall), an exploratorium, an astronomical observatory, a small planetarium, an observation terrace and a science trail.

hvezdarna.cz

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Strategy of cultural and creative sectors of the city of B r n o

Timeline

2013–2017	Mapping of culture and creative sectors, preparation of strategy
2018	Strategy approved by the Brno City Assembly
2019	Implementation of the Strategy by the BCM Department of Culture
2020–2022	Action Plan No. 1
2023–2025	Action Plan No. 2
2024–2025	Evaluation of the Culture and Creative Sectors Strategy and preparation of a new strategy including an action plan

B r n o cultural strategy

The strategy for the cultural and creative sectors of Brno was developed in 2017 at many participatory meetings and during individual consultations with representatives of the professional community.

The strategic part, which contains chapters on visions, values and goals, is directed towards 2050, the ultimate horizon of the strategy. The programme part, consisting of priorities and measures, is planned until 2025. The programme part is followed by very specific action plans.

All strategic documents can be found on the website culture.brno.cz.

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Projects

● Brno Cultural Forum



Brno Cultural Forum

The Cultural Forum is an open platform coordinated by the Department of Culture of Brno City Municipality.

Regular meetings with representatives of the cultural and creative sectors take place twice a year. There is space for mutual informing and discussion, strategic planning and the formulation of proposals for the cultural policy of Brno.

Between 2015 and 2017, the platform served mainly for the participatory development of the city's cultural strategy. Since 2018, meetings have been organised on specific topics (the future of the former prison at Cejl, the European Capital of Culture, Brno's cultural infrastructure, etc.).

● Moravian Square



Brno 2028

Brno was a candidate for the European Capital of Culture. This title is awarded by the European Union to selected cities with the aim of highlighting the importance of culture for the development of cities, regions and societies and to draw attention to the diversity and uniqueness of European culture. It is clear that one city from the Czech Republic and one from France will become the European Centre of Culture in 2028. And it wouldn't be Brno if it didn't take this chance.

Although Brno did not win the title of the European Capital of Culture for 2028, we did not forget the partial objectives we set for ourselves during the candidacy and the candidacy itself has already supported and launched a number of projects in the field of infrastructure, strategy or cultural offer.

Brno has also joined the international Culture Next Cities Network, which brings together candidate cities for the title of European Capital of Culture. This network promises to develop international cooperation in the cultural and creative sectors.

● Water Feature on Dominican Square



Sculpture B r n o

Brno is famous for its unique modern sculptures. The Sculpture Brno project brings together information about art in the public space of the city. It informs about sculpture realizations, and takes care of small architecture and sculpture competitions and projects.

The main part of the website socharske.brno.cz is an interactive map of over 800 works of art.

Since 2005, the City of Brno has also been implementing the project Statues for Brno, which aims to revitalize the city's public space and reflect the important personalities who were born or lived in Brno.



Plug and

Play

The aim of the project is to facilitate the organisation of smaller cultural and community events in public space and at the same time to support their expansion into the outskirts of the city.

The organiser of a cultural event can arrange all the necessary formalities from home via the website plugandplay.brno.cz using an electronic form.

Since 2020, four city districts have been cooperating on the project, but more are planned for the future.

plugandplay.brno.cz

Creative Brno

The Platform was created to support the creative sectors. Its main goals include presenting tools for supporting these industries, informing about the Brno scene, and above all building a creative centre in the former prison in Cejl.

There are several important projects, among the most important are the new grant programme to support the industry and creative vouchers, which create new collaborations between companies and experienced creatives from South Moravia.

● Brno Music Marathon

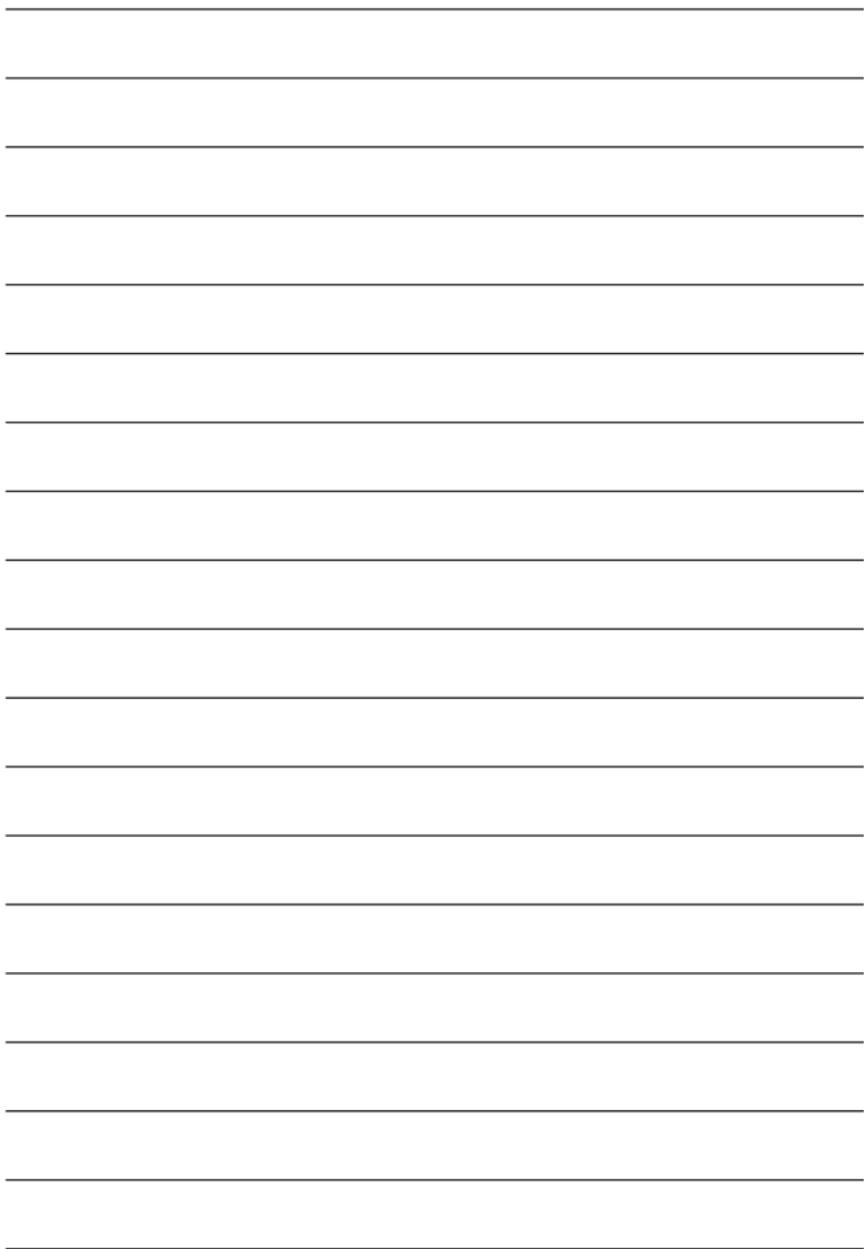


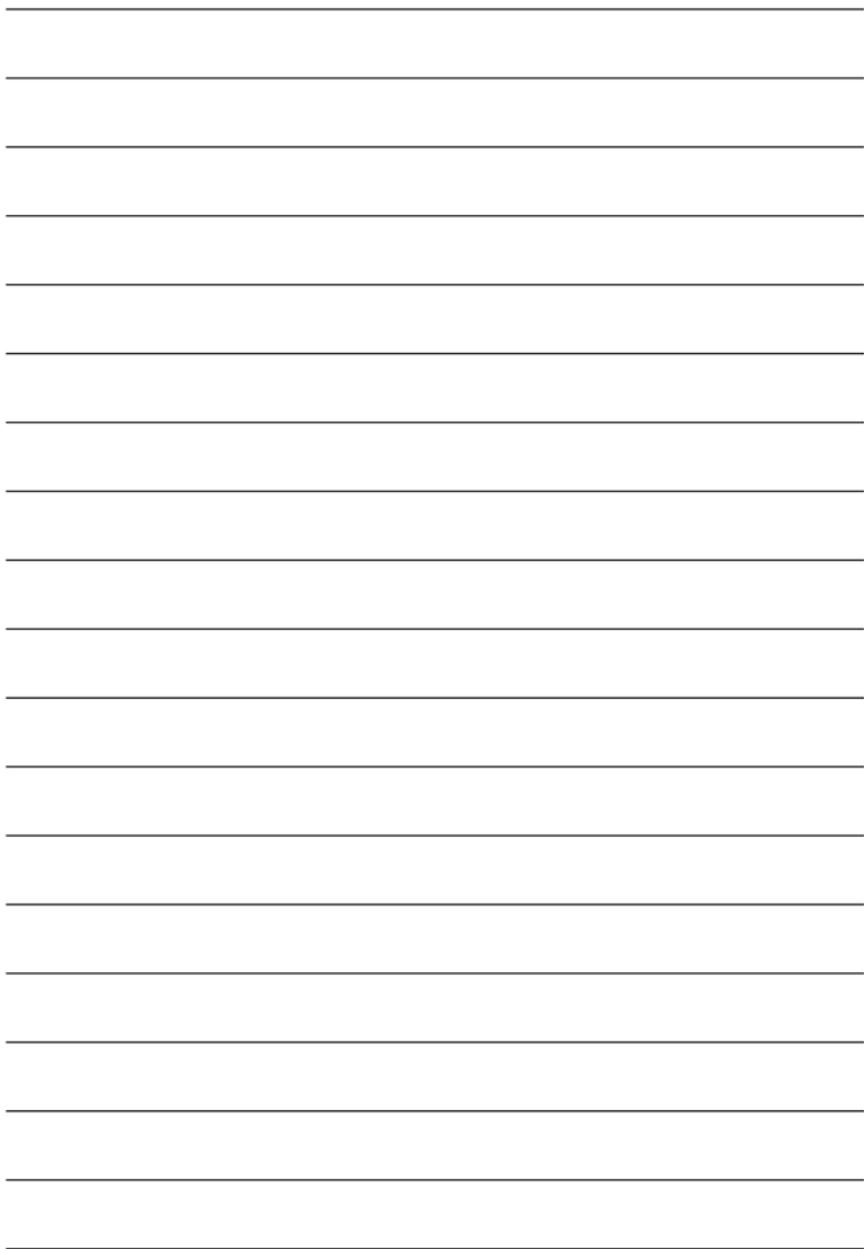
Brno city of music

In 2017, as a city of music, Brno joined the prestigious UNESCO Creative Cities Network, which connects ca. 300 cities from all over the world.

The most important events and achievements of Brno music:

- The International Opera and Music Festival **Janáček Brno** won *The International Opera Awards* for 2018.
- **JazzFestBrno** is one of the most important shows of its kind in the Czech Republic. The festival presents jazz as a living genre that enriches, cultivates and inspires.
- Another of Brno's strategic projects is the realization of the **Janáček Cultural Centre**, a modern concert hall for the Brno Philharmonic Orchestra, whose sound properties are supervised by the world-famous acoustician Yasuhisa Toyota.





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