

2nd half of the 12th century – the presumed foundation of a Romanesque castle (*based on structural and historical research*), the founder of which is considered to be **Vladislaus I.**, King of Bohemia, or the ministeriales of Emperor Frederick Barbarossa

1227 – the first preserved written record of Locket

13th and 14th century – the Romanesque castle is gradually reconstructed in Gothic style

15th and 16th century – the castle is rebuilt in Late Gothic and Early Renaissance styles to serve as the stately mansion of the Šlik family

1602 – the castle falls into the possession of the town and goes into decline

1797–1822 – the castle is rebuilt and converted to a state prison (*in operation until 1948*)

1992 – the castle is repossessed by the town of Locket

2013 – the exhibits of the so-called **Locket Collection** are returned to the town



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The castle and the so-called Locket Collection are in the possession of the town of Locket and their management is entrusted to the HRAD LOKET registered institute.

Translation: YES – překlady a tlumočení, s.r.o.

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LOKET CASTLE



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ON GUARD FOR CENTURIES

The castle was built at the rocky top of a spur, around the entire circumference of which the Ohře River flows. A number of notable personages is associated with its history, the most famous being **Prince Wenceslas** (*later Roman Emperor and Bohemian King Charles IV*), the son of **John of Luxembourg** and **Elizabeth of Bohemia**.

Young Prince Wenceslas stayed at the castle involuntarily while he was imprisoned here at the age of three by his father. Despite the grim memories from his childhood, he always gladly returned to the castle. The legend says that during one of his stays at Locket, Charles IV discovered the beneficial thermal springs and founded *Teplé Lázně* (*literally meaning "Warm Spa" near Locket*), present-day **Karlovy Vary**.

The overall layout of the castle complex has been preserved to this day. Exhibits belonging to the so-called **Locket Collection** are displayed in the castle interiors. The exceptional set documents the colourful provincial life in the region.

The castle offers a visitor route for individual, as well as guided tours

WHAT NOT TO MISS

Meteorite
One of the oldest findings of its kind in Central Europe.

Torture
The display featuring moving figures introduces torture of the Middle Ages.

Romanesque Rotunda
Dating to the third quarter of the 12th century, it was rediscovered in 1964; with its 3.5 m internal diameter and 6.5 m height, it is considered the smallest rotunda in the Czech Republic.

Castle Tower
The 26 m high tower offers a view of the town and its surroundings.

North Palace
The interiors, including the Šlik Chapel, are newly renovated.

District Office
An exhibition of historic porcelain and Gothic murals.

Eastern Wing
The Knight's Hall with frescoes and the Ceremonial Hall with murals from 17th century.

REGULAR EVENTS

◇ current event dates can be found at www.hradloket.cz



BURGRAVE PŮTA'S FESTIVAL

Jousts, dancers and Gothic music, a parade featuring the sovereign and the burgrave, flag bearers and troubadours, masters of the hunt with eagles and falcons, crafts fairs, period cuisine and mead.

ST. WENCESLAS VINTAGE

Winemakers from Moravia and Bohemia serve the delicate wines from their vineyards to the sound of music of Moravian cymbal bands and Czech musicians

CHRISTMAS FAIRS MARKETS

Carols and nativity scenes, fairs selling original Christmas gifts, traditional Christmas dishes, and beverages.