***2. AREA AND CLIMATE***

*The Czech Republic is a land-locked country with the area of 78 871 square kilometres lying in the central part of Europe in the middle of the Northern Temperate Zone of the Northern Hemisphere. The country has borders with Germany (818.9 km), Poland (795.8 km), Austria (460.4 km), and Slovakia (251.8 km). The values come from the latest measurements and are valid as at 9 February 2021. With the population of 10 701 777, the Czech Republic ranks 9th among 27 countries of the European Union according to data of Eurostat (as at 1 January 2021).*

*Since 1 January 2000, the Czech Republic has a new territorial structure; current Districts make up 14 Regions, including the Capital City of Prague*, *which forms a separate* Hl. m. Praha *Region. Activities of the former district offices (authorities) were terminated at the end of 2002 and a significant part of their powers was delegated to 205 municipalities with extended powers, which began to function on 1 January 2003.*

*The main European watershed separating the basins of the North Sea, the Baltic Sea, and the Black Sea passes through the territory of the Czech Republic. The mountain of* Klepáč *(altitude 1 144 m) located in the massif of* Králický Sněžník *is the divide node of the three seas. The major rivers are as follows: the*Labe *River (370 km), the*Vltava *River (431 km), and the* Ohře *River (254 km) in Bohemia, mainly the*Morava *River (269 km) and the*Dyje *River (194 km) in South Moravia, and the*Odra *River (135 km) and the*Opava *River (131 km) in the north of Moravia and in Silesia.*

*Geographically, the Czech Republic lies on the boundary of two different mountain systems, which differ in their age as well as their geological and geomorphological evolution. The western and the central part of the Czech Republic are covered with the uplands of* Česká vysočina*, formed basically at the end of the Palaeozoic era and being for the most part of a hilly nature, and with highlands (the mountain ranges of* Šumava, Český les, Krušné hory, Krkonoše, Orlické hory*, and* Jeseníky*). The mountains of* Západní Karpaty*, which gained their current appearance in the Tertiary era (the mountain range of* Beskydy*), projects into the eastern part of the country. The boundary between the two mountain systems is filled with a belt of valleys.*

*The climate of the Czech Republic is influenced by mutual penetration and mingling of ocean and continental effects. Prevailing westerly winds, intensive cyclonic activity causing frequent alternating of air masses, and relatively ample precipitation are characteristic for the climate. Maritime effects are mainly felt in Bohemia, whereas Moravia and Silesia are more affected by the continental climate. The Czech Republic’s climate is strongly influenced by the country’s altitude and its geographical relief: 52 817 km2 (66.97%) of the country’s territory are located at an altitude of up to 500 m, 25 222 km2 (31.98%) lie at an altitude from 500 to 1 000 m, and only 827 km2 (1.05%) are at an altitude above 1 000 m. The average altitude of the Czech Republic is 430 m.*

*Also wild fauna and flora species of the Czech Republic bear evidence of the mutual penetration of principal directions, in which wild fauna and flora species spread across Europe. Forests, mostly coniferous, cover approximately 34% of the total area of the Czech Republic.*

*The soil mantle also features considerable variability in terms of both – the soil texture composition and the distribution of respective soil types. Brown soils are the most frequent soil type in the Czech Republic.*

*\* \* \**

*Further information can be found on the website of the Czech Statistical Office at:*

– [www.czso.cz/csu/czso/regions\_towns\_](http://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/regions_towns_)

*or on websites of other institutions at:*

– [www.chmi.cz/?l=en](http://www.chmi.cz/?l=en) *– Czech Hydrometeorological Institute*

– <http://www.vugtk.cz/en/> *– Research Institute of Geodesy, Topography and Cartography (a public research institution, v.v.i.)*

**Zeměpisné zajímavosti České republiky v roce 2020**

*Geographic features of the Czech Republic in 2020*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Zeměpisná zajímavost / *Geographic feature*** | **Hodnota/*Size*** | **Lokalita*/Locality*** |
| Největší obec *Largest municipality* | Praha | 1 335 084 obyvatel *inhabitants* | hlavní město*Capital City* |
| Nejmenší obec *Smallest municipality* | Vysoká Lhota | 14 obyvatel *inhabitants* | okres PelhřimovPelhřimov *Distric*t |
| Nejvýše položené sídlo*Highest settlement* | Filipova Huť | 1 093 m n. m.*Altitude 1 093 m* | okres KlatovyKlatovy *District* |
| Nejníže položené sídlo*Lowest settlement* | Hřensko | 130 m n. m.*Altitude 130 m* | okres DěčínDěčín *District* |
| Nejvýše položený bod *Highest point* | Sněžka*Mount* Sněžka | 1 602 m n. m.*Altitude 1 602 m* | pohoří KrkonošeKrkonoše *Mountains* |
| Nejníže položený bod*Lowest point* | výtok Labe u Hřenska*Discharge of the* Labe *River near* Hřensko | 115 m n. m.*Altitude 115 m*  | okres DěčínDěčín *District* |
| Nejhlubší propast*Deepest chasm* | Hranická propastHranická *Abyss* | 473,5 m1)*473.5 m1* | okres PřerovPřerov *District* |
| Největší národní park*Largest national park* | Národní park ŠumavaŠumava *National Park* | 680,6 km2*680.6 km2* | pohoří ŠumavaŠumava *Mountains* |
| Největší chráněná krajinná oblast*Largest protected landscape area* | CHKO BeskydyBeskydy *PLA* | 1 160 km2 | pohoří BeskydyBeskydy *Mountains* |
| Nejdelší řeka*Longest river* | VltavaVltava *River*  | 431 km | Čechy*Bohemia* |
| Největší plocha povodí*Largest catchment area* | povodí LabeLabe *River catchment* | 51 103,9 km2*51 103.9 km2* | Čechy*Bohemia* |
| Největší jezero*Largest natural lake* max. hloubka */ maximum depth* | Černé jezero*Lake* Černé | 18,47 ha*18.47 ha*39,8 m / *39.8 m* | pohoří ŠumavaŠumava *Mountains* |
| Největší rybník*Largest manmade lake*max. hloubka */ maximum depth* | rybník Rožmberk*Lake* Rožmberk | 489 ha 10 m | okres Jindřichův HradecJindřichův Hradec *District* |
| Největší přehradní nádrž*Largest dam reservoir*max. hloubka */ maximum depth* | přehradní nádrž LipnoLipno *Dam Lake* | 4 870 ha 25 m | pohoří ŠumavaŠumava *Mountains* |
| Nejteplejší minerální pramen*Hottest thermal spring* | Vřídlo Vřídlo *Spring* | 72 °C | Karlovy Vary |
| Nejvyšší denní maximální teplota vzduchu *Highest daily maximum air temperature*  | Dobřichovice, 28. 7. 2020Dobřichovice, *28 July 2020* | 35,6 °C*35.6 °C* | okres Praha-západ*Prague-west District* |
| Nejnižší denní minimální teplota vzduchu *Lowest daily minimum air temperature* | Kořenov, Jizerka, Horní Jizera, 1. 4. 2020Kořenov, Jizerka, Horní Jizera, *1 April 2020* | -23,9 °C*-23.9 °C* | okres Jablonec nad NisouJablonec nad Nisou *District* |
| Nejvyšší denní úhrn srážek*Highest daily precipitation* | Bílý Potok, Smědava, 19. 6. 2020Bílý Potok, Smědava, *19 June 2020* | 129,1 mm*129.1 mm* | okres LiberecLiberec *District* |
| Nejvyšší výška sněhové pokrývky *Deepest snow cover* | Labská bouda, 1. 4. 2020Labská *Chalet, 1 April 2020* | 179 cm | okres TrutnovTrutnov *District* |

1) dosud největší potvrzená hloubka k 27. 9. 2016 *1) The deepest point recorded so far as at 27 September 2016.*