



**Closer
to Nature**

PRESS RELEASE

On a trip to five natural springs in Modřanská Ravine

Prague, 12 October 2015: The Czech Union for Nature Conservation (ČSOP) has presented the general public with a new educational trail in Modřany (a Prague district), named the "Valley of Springs". The trail leads visitors into a quiet side-valley of the "Modřanská rokle" ravine, where five springs come to the surface. This is already the fourth spot of nature within the borders of the capital city that the ČSOP has made accessible to visitors under the "NET4GAS Closer to Nature" programme.

The three hundred-metre trail begins in the ravine cut by the Libušský potok and known as Modřanská rokle – a favourite destination among Praguers for walks or for sports activities. They may now safely take a detour through an idyllic valley to a place called "In the Foxholes", to see the springs. The water has found various ways to the surface, and thus the ways in which the springs have been secured also vary: some have been put under a canopy, while others have had their wellhead reinforced with wooden palisades (because they surface in swampy surroundings). Also, each of the springs has been given its own name. It is a noteworthy curiosity that the water from one of the local wellsprings contains about as much calcium, magnesium and CO₂ as the Mattoni mineral water.

As part of the NET4GAS Closer to Nature programme, members of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation have cleaned up and re-canopied these springs. Also, three information panels have been installed along the trail, which tell visitors about the local history, hydrogeology and animal and plant life. The springs in the valley are visited by forest game: boars and roe deer, but also by numerous birds. Birdwatchers may, for example, chance upon the Great Spotted Woodpecker, the Common Chiffchaff, the Eurasian Blackcap, and on rare occasions, the Tawny Owl. The location is rich in snails and beetles. The shallow temporary ponds in the lower part of the valley are preferred spots among frogs: the Edible Frog and the Common Toad.

The trail is easily reached coming from the Sídliště Libuš bus stop (bus lines 215 and 165). GPS: 50.0042000N, 14.4572000E

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The **Czech Union for Nature Conservation** is a group of people who love nature and share an active interest in nature conservation. It currently has close to 7,000 members, some of whom hail from the ranks of professional naturalists, but others are enthusiastic volunteers, while some are adults and others are children. Everyone can help. Do you love nature? Then join us! For more information, visit www.csop.cz.

NET4GAS is the Czech Republic's reliable and safe gas transmission system operator, pursuing the responsible policy of protecting nature and the environment for current and future generations. The commercial operations of NET4GAS are very closely connected with the issue of nature conservation, and it is this fact that underlies the firm's long-term strategy of corporate philanthropy that has been implemented within the context of the NET4GAS Closer to Nature programme. Since 2007, NET4GAS has been the general partner of the Czech Union of Nature Conservation, while the firm also supports various other projects for which the slogan "Closer to Nature" is at the heart of sustainable development. For detailed information on the sites that have been opened to the general public, and for lots of additional interesting information related to nature, please visit www.blizpriode.cz.

Overview of the 74 sites opened to the public by Czech Union for Nature Conservation under the NET4GAS Closer to Nature programme

2007

NT Klíč Valley, Svor / Česká Lípa
NT Hloučela Biocorridor, Prostějov
Opičák, Liberec
Jelenice, Pozořice / Brno-venkov
Myslík Quarry, Myslík / Frýdek-Místek
NT Milovice Observation Post, Milovice / Nymburk

2008

NT Footpaths in the Beskid Foothills, Kunčice pod Ondřejníkem / Frýdek-Místek
NT A Forest Full of Senses, Krásná Lípa / Děčín
NT Bludov Hillside, Bludov / Šumperk
NT Vinoř Park – Satalice Pheasantry, Praha-Vinoř
Golden Hill, Bečov nad Teplou / Karlovy Vary
Kamenec, Kamenec u Radnic / Rokycany
NT Zvole Hummock, Zvole u Prahy
NT Fryšták, Fryšták / Zlín
Salamander Spring, Myslík / Frýdek-Místek



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NT Velký Košíř, Litomyšl / Svitavy
NT Mnichov Serpentine, Prameny / Cheb
NT Hasina Valley, Lipno / Louny
Chlum Quarry, Srbsko / Beroun
Mokroš Biocentre, Mořice / Prostějov
NT Zahrady, Český Brod / Kolín
Blahutovice Observation Post, Blahutovice / Nový Jičín
NT Votočnice, Sázava / Benešov

2009

Rezavka, Ostrava
Štěpán Nature Reserve, Děhylov / Ostrava
NT Medník, Hradištko / Praha-západ
Vladař Mountain, Vladořice / Karlovy Vary
NT Podkovák, Lesná / Tachov
Kudlačena, Horní Bečva / Vsetín
Podlešák's Elm, Vimperk-Boubská / Prachatice
Above the River, Bečov nad Teplou / Karlovy Vary

2010

Choryn Wetland Nature Reserve, Lešná / Valašské Meziříčí
NT Water World, Lesná / Domažlice
Poustka, Pozořice / Brno-venkov
Skalka Nature Reserve, Kunčice pod Ondřejníkem / Frýdek-Místek
NT Sudslavice Circuit, Vimperk / Prachatice
Žák's Hill National Nature Reserve, Cikháj / Žďár nad Sázavou
Moses Spring - Emperor's Stone, Vesec / Liberec
Semanín Trail, Semanín / Ústí nad Orlicí

2011

NT Na cvičišti - At the Training Ground, Valašské Meziříčí / Vsetín
Střelenská Meadow, Střelná / Teplice
Capartice Meadows, Capartice / Domažlice
Chlum Mountain Nature Reserve, Chlum / Karlovy Vary
Manor Rock Natural Monument, Habrovany / Vyškov
NT Around Vřesina, Vřesina / Opava
NT Saint Vitus Guild, Trstěnice / Cheb

2012

Litovice Pond Bird-Watching Spot, Litovice / Praha-západ
Kolo Wetland, Slavkov / Uherské Hradiště
NT Vidžín - Telecí potok, Vidžín / Plzeň-sever
NT Housle, Praha-Lysolaje
Pančava, Pozořice / Slavkov
NT Mýto, Nedvězí / Prague
Bohumilice Avenue, Bohumilice / Prachatice
Ořešník, Hejnice / Liberec
NT Heřmanice Pond, Heřmanice / Ostrava

2013

Lačnov Crocuses, Lačnov / Vsetín
NT Umíř, Plachtín / Plzeň-sever
NT Pňov Mead, Pňov-Předhradí / Kolín
NT St. John's Rapids, Štěchovice / Praha-západ
Třemešské rybníky Bird-Watching Spot, Dolní Studénky / Šumperk
Path to Sulphurous Springs, Zádveřice / Zlín

2014

NT Libušín Fortification, Libušín / Kladno
Lušová Valley, Lušová / Vsetín
NT Zásmuky Pheasantry, Zásmuky / Kolín
Canopy Road Beneath Hořínkova Forester's Lodge, Buchlovice / Uherské Hradiště
NT Chlum, Nepřevázka, Mladá Boleslav
NT Through landscape of floods, Jeseník nad Odrou / Nový Jičín
NT Hády Quarries and Surroundings, Brno

2015

NT Vesec Valley, Liberec
NT Choryně Sentinel, Vsetín
Kozmice Bird Meadows, Opava
Shooting Range Trail /Děčín
Velká Homolka, Vimperk / Prachatice
Valley of the Springs, Prague

NT = nature trail

Find more information at www.blizpriode.cz

