

# A Place that Reminds Me of My Hometown



Photo: David Vávra, Centre for Foreigners JMK

**It's an adventure to move to a different country. But it's a downright challenge to find your home within in a foreign land. Not everyone can achieve it, but if they do, it's worth it. However, no matter how many times we change our home during our life, our first one home will stay long in our minds and hearts.**

Did it ever happen to you that you met a stranger and they felt very familiar, as if you knew each other for years? A lot of times this can happen with places as well, places that we visit for the first time but there is something close, heartwarming, and familiar in them.

#### **A calendar of many places and faces**

"A place that reminds me of my homeland" is a topic of the **Multicultural calendar of the Centre for Foreigners JMK for**

**the year 2023.** The photographs in the calendar show places in Brno and its surroundings that remind foreigners of their homelands. Beautiful views, appealing landscapes, and even historical architecture; this is what you can find on the pages of the calendar, which is evidence that Brno is a warm home for all of us, regardless of our nationality.

#### **Elena likes to watch the sunset from Špilberk castle What are the stories of people who recognize their homeland in their favorite places in Brno and its surroundings?**

The favorite place of Elena Lukianenko, from Ukraine, is the observation deck with a panoramic view from Castle Špilberk. Elena says: "Everyone misses their family, friends, their hometown. We are looking for familiar faces in the crowd, to hear familiar voices. In the city we live in, we are always

looking for places and streets that remind us of home. My hometown is Poltava and there is a similar place where I liked to take walks and watch the rooftops. Lately I've been coming to Špilberk. I look into the distance, and I try to see my home – Ukraine."

#### **Everita wants to have a broad view**

Everita Everte is from Latvia and her favorite places have always been far from the town center and a bit higher than things around them. "I guess I just like the feeling when I can see far and wide. When I sit on the edges of the steep banks of the Guajy river in Valmiera, my hometown in Latvia, I have the exact same feeling as in Hádý. In that moving picture in front of me are a couple of tiny details. I'm here, far from everything and I just watch silently. The little trivialities are removed, and I just see the

big picture. It brings me some sort of peace and it reminds me how important it is to do the same in my life as well; take a step back and look at everything as a whole. Some tiny aspects of life can be ugly, but the overall picture can be beautiful, if you can find time to look at it," Everita explains.

#### **Launch of Calendar**

You can find Elena, Everita and ten other foreigners living in the South Moravian region in our Multicultural calendar. Come and launch the calendar together with us. We will meet in the big hall of the **Café Práh on Wednesday 14. 12. at 6 p.m.** You can look forward to live music, a fun pub quiz with prizes and a pleasant evening, thanks to which you can get to know new cultures.

Centre for Foreigners

