

Map Zeliv



Zeliv Monastery



Mass-Church of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Monday – Saturday 7:30

Sunday 10:30

Visits to the monastery

Monday – Saturday in the season, i.e. from 1st June to 30th September 10:00, 14:00, 16:00

Sunday 14:00, 16:00

A visit takes place if there are at least 5 visitors.
Off-season tours are done by appointment.

Contact

Canonry of Premonstratensians in Zeliv

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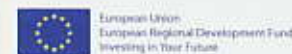


**KLÁŠTER
ŽELIV**

národní kulturní památka



Welcome to Zeliv



This project is financed by the European Union.

Welcome to Zeliv. We wish you a pleasant visit.

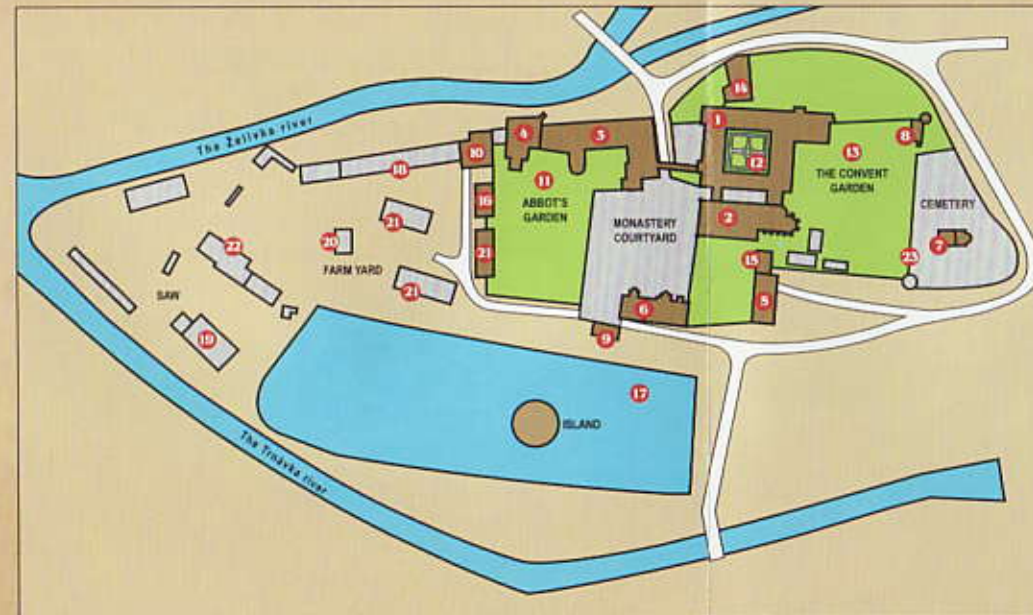
The town of Zeliv has more than a thousand inhabitants. Located on the Zelivka river at its confluence with the Trnávka, archaeological finds show that this region was inhabited as early as the 3rd and 4th century AD. There are also written accounts of the town, although dating from much later, in the 12th century.

The name of the village has gradually evolved from its old Czech name of Zelevo, confirmed by numerous old graves found around the area. A regional road from around the 7th century led through here, renamed in the year 1178 as the Old Road, running from Prague to Zeliv, and on to Moravia.

The village is dominated by a monastery, founded in the year 1139 by the bishop of Prague, Otto, and the Czech prince Sobeslav. The monastery was originally intended for the Benedictine order. The premonstrates arrived in 1149, led by the abbot Gotsalk of the Rhineland Steinfeld. Under his leadership, the religious life in the Zeliv monastery developed promisingly, and during pre-Hussite times, the monastery was an important spiritual and cultural center of the country. During the Hussite wars, the monastery was plundered twice and partially demolished. The premonstratensians were expelled and returned to fortified Jihlava. In 1467, the monastery and its wealth fell under the control of lord Trčka of Lipa. The Trčka family ruled for nearly 156 years until Kaspar, the abbot of Strahov redeemed the monastery. In 1643 the Canony of Premonstrates became independent again, however, the monks had hardly anywhere to stay as the monastery was

in a bad state of disrepair. It took several years to rebuild part of the new convent and decorate the church with paintings and altars. One of the more significant abbots in Zeliv during this period was Siard Falco, who greatly contributed to the development of the monastery.

The first half of the 18th century was a time of great prosperity for the monastery, which was ruled by abbots Hlina and Schindler at this time. The premonstratensian monastery became a center of learning and culture throughout the region. After a fire in 1712, the monastery was restored in the Baroque Gothic style according to the plans of Santini. The monastery burned down again in the beginning of the 20th century, but fortunately the church and the convent were spared from the blaze. The abbey was restored in pseudo-style, while it is decorated in the more modern Art Nouveau style. In 1950, the monastery was abolished and an internment camp for priests was set up. Between 1957 and 1991, the monastery served as a mental hospital, and in 1991, it was returned back to the Premonstratensians.



1. Convent
2. Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
3. Abbey
4. Trčka Castle
5. Old prelature
6. Office house
7. St. Peter and Paul Church
8. House with a bastion
9. Gardener's house
10. Renaissance house
11. Abbot's garden
12. Paradise court
13. Convent garden
14. House below the monastery
15. House no. 52
16. House no. 116
17. Manor pond
18. Stables
19. Saw mill
20. Watch tower
21. Barns
22. Former soap plant
23. Former fortification walls

