

## The *Legiovlak* Arrived at the Brno-Slatina Stop

On Saturday, 13 September 2025, a train forming part of the long-term project *Legiovlak* (i.e. *Legion Train*)—a commemoration of the legionnaires' journey at the end of the First World War—was stationed at the Slatina railway depot. This event is closely linked to the life stories of the tens of thousands of Czechoslovak legionnaires who traveled across Russia on such trains between 1918 and 1920 along the Trans-Siberian Railway, often compelled to engage in combat with Bolshevik forces in order to secure their passage. The highlight of the event was a series of guided tours conducted hourly, each led by a guide dressed in a legionnaire's period uniform.



*Photo: the author's archive*

The authenticity of the visitor experience was ensured primarily by the fourteen richly equipped military cars that together represent a historical military echelon. During the tour, visitors were able to learn about the purpose of each car and, thanks to the exhibited artifacts, gain a truly unique insight into this chapter of Czechoslovak history. The Legion Train comprises cars for the field post office, medical services, film production, command and staff functions; a *teplushka* (heated troop car), sales, tailoring, blacksmithing (reconstructed in Slovakia), accommodation, as well as two flatbed cars. Each of the cars contains authentic reconstructions of period equipment, legionnaires

in historical uniforms, original artifacts, and several hundred photographs displayed on panels documenting the history of the Czechoslovak legions.

Representatives of all generations showed their interest in visiting the Legion Train, and the guided tour enabled visitors to spend a pleasant afternoon while deepening their understanding of this remarkable and adventurous chapter in the lives of our forebears.

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