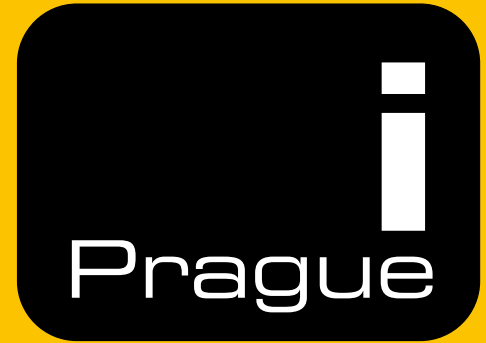


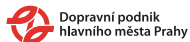
information
and sights



where
to go



CzechTourism



november 18
– january 19



Our brochure welcomes you to the largest Region of the Czech Republic, enveloping the capital city of Prague.

Discover the beauty of Central Bohemia and enjoy our UNESCO World Heritage sites, majestic castles and châteaux, stunning natural scenery and wealth of cultural traditions.

www.centralbohemia.eu

Central Bohemia Region



Central Bohemia
Tourist Board

Currently...

Laterna magika: Cube • contemporary dance with modern videomapping

New Stage of the National Theatre, 16 and 30 November, 1 December, 11 and 12 January www.narodni-divadlo.cz

Missa Sanctissimae Trinitatis • Masses by the Baroque composers J. S. Bach and J. D. Zelenka

Rudolfinum, 13 November www.collegium1704.com

Flamenco Day • the lively Spanish dance done many ways

various venues in Prague, from 22 to 25 November www.denflamenka.cz

Prague's Photographer • well-known and lesser-known views of Prague and its secret places

Malostranská beseda, until 25 November www.malostranska-beseda.cz

František Kupka • an exhibition introducing the Czech-French painter as a Legionnaire and patriot

Museum Kampa, until 20 January www.museumkampa.cz

Fidelio • Beethoven's only opera in a production by the leading Czech opera company

National Theatre, 11 and 22 November www.narodni-divadlo.cz

Ride a steam train • a nostalgic ride on St Nicholas Day

departing from the Prague-Smíchov Railway Station, 1 and 2 December www.prague.eu

Radek Baborák & the Prague Chamber Soloists • a concert by the leading Czech French horn player

Church of St Simon and St Jude, 11 December www.fok.cz

Transformations of Geometry • an exhibition of Czech and foreign artworks based on geometry

Prague City Gallery, from 28 November to 31 March www.ghmp.cz

Christmas Concert at the State Opera • music by Mozart, Dohnányi and Luboš Fišer

Forum Karlín, 17 and 18 December www.forumkarlin.cz

Alfred Nikodém Memorial • the oldest Czech winter swimming contest on the Vltava

Střelecký and Slovanský Island, 26 December www.otuzilci-praha.cz

New Year's fireworks • Prague welcomes the New Year with a light show

centre of Prague, 1 January beginning at 6 p.m. www.prague.eu

Bonjour, Monsieur Gauguin • an exhibition of Czech and foreign artists who worked in Brittany

National Gallery, from 16 November to 17 March www.ngprague.cz

Prague of Charles IV – A View of Medieval Town • a multimedia exhibition at the House at the Golden Ring

City of Prague Museum, permanent exhibit www.muzeumprahy.cz

Did you know that...

► ... the Czech student Jan Palach immolated himself fifty years ago as a protest? This tragic act of a twenty-year-old youth was in reaction to the occupation of Czechoslovakia in August 1968 by troops of the Warsaw Pact. The suppressing of a supposedly planned coup was merely an excuse for ending the “thaw” of the communist regime in Czechoslovakia. A few months earlier, the country had seen the beginnings of the easing of censorship, economic reforms, and the opening of the borders to the West. The thaw was ended by military force, the regime again tightened its grip, and this led to societal apathy. By his act on 16 January 1969, it was from this apathy that Jan Palach wished to arouse the public. Just like another student Jan Zajíc, who immolated himself a month later and was called Torch No. 2. Unfortunately, the resistance to the regime that they desired did not come about, although Palach’s funeral turned into a demonstration, and tens of thousands of people took part. Twenty years later on the anniversary of his self-immolation, there were demonstrations that prefigured the end of the communist regime in November 1989. There are several places in the centre of Prague that commemorate Jan Palach. Standing not far from the Charles University Faculty of Arts on the square that bears Palach’s name are two large, abstract objects. They depict the relationship between



the son who laid down his life and his mother. There is a commemorative plaque on the building of the faculty. It was created by the sculptor Olbram Zoubek using Palach’s death mask, which he had secretly made in 1969. The same artist is also the author of the bronze tombstone at the Olšany Cemetery. Today the remains of Jan Palach are again buried, but after his funeral, the regime ordered that his body be removed from Prague, and the bronze sculpture was destroyed. After the regime fell, it was replaced with a copy. An inconspicuous

► ... in Prague you can find a Hunger Wall and a John Lennon Wall? The Hunger Wall stretches across the Prague hill Petřín, not far from Prague Castle. Its construction was ordered by Charles IV, Holy Roman Emperor and King of Bohemia, who chose Prague as his residence. He had it built from 1360 to 1362, and its purpose was to strengthen the city’s fortifications. Originally it was as high as 4.5 meters in places, and nearly two meters wide. It was intended to protect the city from a possible attack, so it has embrasures and bastions, one of which is today a part of the observatory. The name Hunger Wall comes from an unfounded legend that the king decided to have the wall built to give the poor a way to earn a living during the plague outbreak in Prague in 1361. The Lennon Wall appeared several centuries later, of course. It is part of a wall that surrounds the Maltese Garden in Prague’s Lesser Town. It served as a “bulletin board” for all kinds of messages. The inscriptions on the wall began to appear already in the 1960s, but they were not yet connected with John Lennon, but were intended for the actor Jan Werich, who was living in on nearby Kampa Island. Later, expressions of protest began to appear on it, and from the 1970s it was also nicknamed the

monument incorporated into the pavement on Wenceslas Square marks the place where Jan Palach doused himself with flammable liquid and set himself on fire. He died in hospital three days later. There is also an unassuming column standing near the square by a building that now belongs to the National Museum, but that once housed parliament. The architect of the building intended the pylon as a monument to Jan Palach, but the communist delegates who passed by the column had no idea of its true meaning.



“wailing wall”. It served anonymous creators for the publication of poems, and especially love poems. After the death in 1980 of a member of the famed group the Beatles, someone painted a portrait of Lennon there – the original one disappeared long ago, but paintings of Lennon’s face constantly reappear on the wall. The inscriptions and pictures, some of them with political undertones, were not to the regime’s liking, of course, and the wall was painted over several times; space for posters was even put there. Today it is a part of Prague’s local colour, and neither the city nor the Order of the Knights of Malta, to which the Lennon Wall and the grounds near it belong, interfere. When a group of artists painted the wall white in 2014, they called their act reverse vandalism.



Touch of history Old-New Synagogue

Visit the oldest
extant synagogue
in Europe

www.synagogue.cz



Visiting a Factory for the Arts

Prague is looking for new ways to use old premises that no longer serve their original purposes. Culture and the arts are bringing life to crumbling factories and disused barracks.

Karlín, for example, was once an industrial quarter, but that is no longer the case. The place has been transformed – in part, paradoxically, because of the many repairs made after floods – into a residential area. Logically, buildings that no longer serve their original purpose have also undergone transformation. As an example, there are the **Karlín Barracks**, which are gradually being transformed into a cultural and social centre. The garage has become a club stage for concerts and chamber theatre performances, the former gymnasium has become the gallery Karlin Studios, and the old swimming pool is now a café. The military cinema does, however, still serve its original purpose, and during the summer, there are also outdoor film screenings. Beach volleyball is played in the courtyard in the summer, and there is ice skating there in the winter.

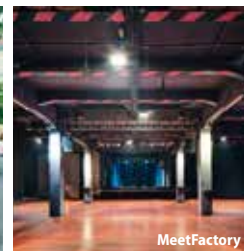
The appearance of the neighbourhood Prague-Smíchov was also influenced by the growth of industry during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Factories remain from that period that have long been in disuse. One of them, a former glassworks and later a plant for the making of diesel engines, has become the home of the arts centre **MeetFactory**. This building, a short distance from the Smíchov Railway Station, can be recognised from the two cars suspended on the building's façade – an artwork by the founder, the sculptor David Černý. MeetFactory focuses on contemporary art from the Czech Republic and abroad and on bringing it closer to the public. Its programme alternates between theatre, music, and the visual arts. Here, on 11 November,

for example, you can enjoy an “orchestral celebration of everyday life” performed by the Czech musician Floex and the British producer Tom Hodge. Together they are presenting the album *A Portrait of John Doe*. On 13 December there will be an appearance by the American heavy metal band *All That Remains*. The theatrical programme also keeps foreigners in mind – a number of performances are given with surtitles in English.

In the neighbourhood Holešovice, not far from the Vltava River, you will find the Prague City Market. The area has only served as a marketplace since the 1980s. It was built a hundred years earlier as Prague's centre for meatpacking. The original purpose inspired the name of the multifunctional theatre facility **Jatka78** (“abattoir 78”). The number 78 refers to the number of the halls



Karlín Barracks



MeetFactory



Jatka78



DOX Centre

from which the facility was built. It was built by Rostislav Novák Jr., who belongs to the eighth generation of a famed Czech family of puppeteers. Puppet theatre, however, is just one part of the programme – there are performances for fans of dance, nonverbal theatre, and other alternative performance genres. The primary focus is on new circus – Novák leads the ensemble Cirk La Putyka, which has greatly contributed to the popularity of the new circus acrobatic genre in the Czech Republic. In December, for example, Na Jatkách 78 is presenting the performance UP End Down, a crossroad of genres. At the beginning of the twentieth century, another factory was built in Prague-Holešovice for a firm that manufactured machines. Over the years, wagons and locomotives were built there, and for a while the site belonged to an aircraft manufacturer. After that, it became a site for a locksmith and plumbing business. At the beginning of the millennium, the abandoned building was bought by a private investor who transformed it into a centre for contemporary art. According to him, this was something Prague lacked at the time. Since then, the **DOX Centre** has made a name for itself as a modern exhibition facility that attempts to reflect current affairs with exhibitions and auxiliary projects. Corresponding to this is the choice of topics. At a current exhibition, for example, DOX has transformed the gallery space into a gym where visitors can strengthen their muscles while encountering the problems of today's world. The installation titled *Welcome to Hard Times* will last until 4 February. An interesting architectural addition to the DOX building was made two years ago – a 42-meter-long airship that serves as a site for debates and lectures. And in January 2018 the activities of DOX have been expanded by a multi-purpose hall that looks from the outside like a sofa. It serves for theatre, dance, music, films, and performance art.

What's Going On in Prague

Jiří Kylián's choreography at the National Theatre.

The ballet troupe of the leading Czech stage is paying tribute to one of the world's greatest choreographers, the Czech native Jiří Kylián. The production presents four of his choreographies under the collective title *Bridges of Time*. They are inspired by the music of Igor Stravinsky, Antonio Vivaldi, and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Kylián's work is primarily associated with the Netherlands Dans Theater. He went out into the wide world in the late 1960s after graduating from Prague's dance conservatory. He worked with ballet companies in London and Stuttgart before catching on at The

Hague, where he worked for a quarter century and took the local dance troupe to a place among the world's elite. The programme opens with the *Symphony of Psalms*, one of Kylián's first choreographies that made him famous in the world of dance. Along with *Symphony of Psalms*, there are three more choreographies. *Bella Figura* plays with the border between reality and dreams, a place where artists are constantly going. Six dances are based on correspondence between Mozart and his wife Constanze. In *Petite Mort*, he employs swords as equal partners with the dancers. Jiří Kylián says: Dance can be a therapy.

View Prague from the New Mill Water Tower.

The New Mill Water Tower at Nové Mlýny near the banks of the Vltava was originally built as a technical structure for waterworks in the seventeenth century. The City of Prague Museum opened it to the public for the very first time in 2017 and prepared the multi-genre exhibition *Prague on Fire* to be given there. The water tower was built after 1602, then in 1655 it was severely damaged by flooding and had to be rebuilt. Between 1658 and 60 the present six-storey tower was built, again with a large observation area. It is in this space that you can feast your eyes on an unusual view of Prague, the New Town, Karlín, and Letná Park. In the past, this room was known as the *Lusthaus*, and it served for parties and entertainment for the city's leaders. The City of Prague Museum multi-genre exhibit *Prague on Fire* on the premises of the tower presents fire as a threat to Prague over the ages. You learn about the role of water towers and also about



the history of the most destructive fires in the Czech capital. Come hear the tales of those whose lives were affected by fire or the whole story of the worst catastrophe for Czech patriots of the nineteenth century, the burning of the National Theatre. New media like video mapping, animations, video art, and virtual reality will give you a comprehensive experience from a combination of period depictions with the current language of the arts.



Strahov Monastery is the oldest Premonstratensian monastery in the Czech Republic



Visit the second oldest monastic library in the country.

Peruse one of the best kept collections of historical books, manuscripts and first editions in Central Europe.

Pore over the maps and globes and be astounded by the unique decorations in the Philosophical Hall, the Theological Hall and by the frescoes and the exhibits in the cabinet of curiosities.

Strahovské nádvoří 1/132, Praha 1

Open daily: 9–12 and 13–17
31. 12. 9–15, 1. 1. 12–17
24. and 25. 12. closed

www.strahovskyclaster.cz

The Strahov Monastery Library: Hundreds of Thousands of Books from Nine Centuries

In the immediate vicinity of Prague Castle is one of the world's oldest Premonstratensian monasteries. The monastery is in full use, and it offers visitors an unparalleled view of both the religious and the secular history of the Czech Lands. The Royal Canonry of Premonstratensians at Strahov was founded in 1143, and the monastery has served as the base of the Roman Catholic religious order for Bohemia and Moravia ever since, almost without interruption. The monastery is home to an order that manages countless vicarages and other estates across the Czech Republic, in addition to educating novices and clerics. There are more than 20 members currently living at the monastery. Worship services take place every day at 6 p.m. and on Sundays at 10 a.m. in the monastery's baroque Basilica of the Assumption of Our Lady. The basilica is exceptional not only for its ornamentation, but also for being the final resting place of the Premonstratensian order's founder

St. Norbert (Norbert of Xanten), who is interred in the northern aisle. At the time of the monastery's founding, a library was established. It currently contains more than 300,000 volumes of books and academic papers. This makes it one of only a handful of historical libraries still in operation. Having survived wars and fires, the original collections were given a new, dignified place in the 17th century in the baroque Theological Hall. This monumental space lined by original bookshelves is dominated by its painted ceiling framed with stucco ornaments. Another unique feature of the Theological Hall is the collection of globes from the 16th and 17th centuries, while there is a preserved compilation wheel made around 1678 for use in assembling texts. As the library collection expanded, an additional room, the Philosophical Hall, was added. This vast auditorium is famous mainly for its ceiling painted by the Viennese artist Anton Maulbertsch, depicting saints and numerous allegories. The library also includes a Cabinet of Curiosities which could be described as a predecessor of modern-day museums of natural history. In addition to the Premonstratensian monks, the library is also used by the Museum of National Literature. Besides the monastery itself, visitors to Strahov can also view the picture gallery featuring a permanent collection of paintings from the 14th to the 19th centuries. The entire monastery complex is open to the public every day, and the Strahov Monastery Library is open daily throughout the year, except for the 24th and the 25th of December and Easter Sunday.



How Christmas Is Celebrated in the Czech Republic


As in other countries with predominantly Roman Catholic traditions, preparations for the Christmas holidays in the Czech Republic begin with Advent. Advent wreaths are commonly found in Czech homes. Of course, the period is no longer viewed only as a preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ, but also more generally as a prelude to holidays of peace, family, and love, regardless of religious beliefs. The wait is made shorter by **St Nicholas**, who brings gifts even before Christmas. The man with the white beard, dressed as a bishop, and carrying a staff visits homes on 5 December, but you can also run into him on the street. He is always accompanied by a devil and an angel. He rewards good children with sweets and little gifts, but for the less obedient he usually has pieces of coal or potatoes in his basket. The tradition refers to Bishop Nicholas of Myra, who lived in the late third and early fourth centuries. He was famed as a guardian against injustice and for his philanthropy. In Prague there is, for example, a church on Old Town Square that bears this saint's name. The highpoint of Czech Christmas celebrations comes on **Christmas Eve**. The Czech name for Christmas Eve, "Štědrý den" (literally "Generous Day") is actually a mistake. For centuries, it was just called "Generous Evening", i.e. the eve of the birth of the Savior. This was overlooked by a parliamentary decree issued in 1990, which made 24 December a state holiday. Since then, the Czechs and Slovaks have been among the few people in the world with Christmas Eve recognized as a state holiday. Christmas Eve is also the last day of fasting, although the fast is not observed in the Czech Republic. There is, however, an observed superstition that anyone who fasts on the 24th of December will see the "golden piglet". Parents often create this promised reward for their children by



using a reflection from a mirror. The "Generous Day" ends with **Christmas Eve supper**. The traditional meal is fried carp with potato salad. In the latter half of the nineteenth century, carp became a widespread menu item for the holiday meal in Czech homes as an inexpensive food that was permitted on fast days. The original recipe with an almond sauce, gingerbread, and sweet beer was replaced by a Viennese recipe for breaded fried carp. Potato salad did not appear as a side dish until the Second World War. The dish probably has its origins in Russian cuisine. Christmas Eve supper usually ends with the ringing of a bell announcing the arrival of the Infant

Jesus. In the Czech tradition, it is he who puts presents under the Christmas tree. A variety of **customs** are observed on this holiday in many families. For example, keeping a carp scale under your plate should ensure you will have plenty of money in the coming year, and slicing an apple will show whether you will have good luck (if the middle of the apple slice appears as a star) or bad luck (if the core of the slice shows a cross). Unmarried girls can toss a slipper to see which way the toe points, revealing whether they will marry in the year to come. Molten lead is poured, as the shape of the casting helps predict the future, or little boats are made from nutshells and candles and are floated on water. Regardless of people's religious beliefs, they often conclude Christmas Eve by attending Midnight Mass. The following two days are also Czech state holidays. In addition, there is caroling in connection with the **Feast of St Stephen** on 26 December. The holiday season continues with **New Year's Eve celebrations**, although only New Year's Day on 1 January is an official holiday, and festivities extend from 31 December to 6 January. On **Epiphany**, decorations are removed from Christmas trees, and Caspar, Balthazar, and Melchior write their initials K (or C) † M † B † in white chalk above doorways, expressing the wish that Christ will bless the household throughout the following year.

Each year, there is a Procession of the Three Kings in Prague. In 2019, the kings will depart on camels on 6 January at 2 p.m. from St Thomas's Church in the Lesser Town, cross Charles Bridge, and proceed to Old Town Square. There, people can bring gifts for children from needy families and shelters.



Betlémy

Christmas Cribs

From 24th December throughout the Christmas period Christmas cribs will be exhibited in Prague's churches.

For more details:
www.krestanskevanoce.cz



JAZZ CLUB
REDUTA ★★★★★ since 1958
 Národní 20, Praha 1

Reduta hosts the politicians from more than 40 states, artists and elites of international commerce regularly for almost sixty years.

www.redutajazzclub.cz +420 224 933 487

WARHOL WARHOLA



GOAP Gallery
 Staroměstské náměstí 15, Praha 1
 denně 10.00–20.00
 daily 10 AM–8 PM
www.goap.cz

GO
 Λ P
 GALLERY

The story of how Andrew Warhola became Andy Warhol

Concerts



at one of Europe's most beautiful synagogues

*The Spanish Synagogue
 Prague 1, 7.00pm
 Concerts take place five days a week*

- The Best of Gershwin
- Bolero, Carmina Burana and Jewish songs
- The Best of World and Czech Music
- Hallelujah



For the current programme, visit
www.bmart.cz



Study in Prague

Undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate study programmes in English at top 7 Prague universities.



Art & Humanities



Business & Management



Engineering & Technology



Life Sciences & Medicine



Natural Sciences



Social Sciences

www.studyinprague.cz



studyprague



studyinpragueCZ



studyinprague

National Theatre



laterna
magika



LATERNA MAGIKA
ENJOY THE UNIQUE PERFORMANCE

www.laterna.cz
www.narodni-divadlo.cz/en

SYMFONICKÝ
ORCHESTR
HL. M. PRAHY
PRAGUE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



Enjoy the unique atmosphere of concerts of the Prague Symphony Orchestra, the representative orchestra of the city of Prague. Concerts take place in the Smetana Hall of the Municipal House.

www.fok.cz

Bethlehem Chapel in Prague

a place where Jan Hus preached and where
the Bohemian Reformation began



This national cultural landmark has been restored and made accessible to the public. Today it is the property of the Czech Technical University in Prague.

Hours:

Monday - Sunday: 10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Public transportation:

Metro line B, trams nos. 22, 18, 29, 2, 1, 23

Tram stop/metro station - Národní třída

Address:

Betlémské náměstí, 110 00 Prague 1

Phone: +420 224 248 595, E-mail: betlemska.kaple@cvut.cz

www.bethlehemchapel.eu



PRAGUE IN LEGENDS

The most famed Prague sights swathed in legend



PRÁH

330 Kč

www.prah.cz
 Martin Vopěnka: 603350055,
vopenka@prah.cz

ANA POPOVIC (USA)
BluesAlive COM
 15. – 17.11. 2018 / Šumperk

FLORENC
 HOSTEL / HOTEL

AFFORDABLE ACCOMMODATION IN THE CITY OF PRAGUE

HOSTEL FLORENC
 CENTRAL BUS TERMINAL
 PRAHA – FLORENC
 Pod Výtupnou 2, Praha 8

www.hostelflorenc.cz
 + 420 221 895 415
Info@hostelflorenc.cz

BREAKFAST

ŠKODA MUSEUM



FERDINAND PORSCHE BIRTH HOUSE

We invite you to visit a recently reconstructed house, the 1875 birthplace of Ferdinand Porsche, automobile designer and creator of the Volkswagen Beetle.



Open Fri-Sun from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., outside the opening hours after prior consultation.

Ferdinand Porsche Birth House
 Tanvaldská 38, Liberec – Vratislavice nad Nisou,
 +420 326 832 028, vratislavice@skoda-auto.cz
porsche-house.com, museum.skoda-auto.com

ŠKODA MUSEUM



ŠKODA
SIMPLY CLEVER

**You are invited to tour
the ŠKODA Museum in
Mladá Boleslav and an
excursion of the ŠKODA
AUTO production shops.**

Guided tours need to be
booked beforehand.



ŠKODA Museum, Tř. V. Klementa 294, Mladá Boleslav,
T +420 326 832 038, muzeum@skoda-auto.cz
museum.skoda-auto.com

Ještěd

a unique sight in
the Czech Republic.
Just an hour from
Prague.



hotel, restaurant
and TV transmitter

#regionliberec



up hill
and down dale
www.liberec-region.com



Welcome to the region that offers unique industrial architecture



- The Dolní Vítkovice district
(The Svět techniky, science and technology centre, Bolt Tower)
- Lanek Park Mining Museum
- The Třemešná–Osoblaha
narrow-gauge railway
- Technical Museum TATRA Kopřivnice



www.severnimorava.travel

From Czech History: 200 years of the National Museum



The most important Czech museum institution is celebrating the 200th anniversary of its founding in 2018. Its biggest “birthday present” is the most extensive reconstruction in the museum’s history. The renovated original building on Wenceslas Square opened to the public this autumn. Gradually, thanks to its connection with the nearby New Building, it will be presenting 80,000 items from its collections on an area of 12,000 square meters. Its beginnings date back to April 1818, when the decision was made to establish what is now the oldest museum institution in Bohemia. A group of enlightened noblemen were behind the efforts to found the museum with the support of the Czech academic community. Caspar Maria, Count Sternberg is particularly worthy of mention. A scholar in the field of paleontology, he donated his extensive collections, among other things, to the new museum. Members of the aristocratic House of Kolowrat were also among the museum’s founders and ongoing supporters. For example, Franz Anton II, Count of Thun-Hohenstein bequeathed his library of 35,000 volumes to the mu-

seum. An appropriate building had to be found for the growing collections. The first permanent address of the museum was the Sternberg Palace near Prague Castle, and the collections were moved to other sites as well, but ultimately the decision was made to erect a new building. The upper end of Wenceslas Square was chosen as a suitable location. Construction of the building in the Neo-Renaissance style was finished in 1901. Over the years, historical events have left their mark on the building. In May 1945 it was damaged by aerial bombing. Visible to this day is damage caused to the museum’s façade twenty-three years later. That was when Warsaw Pact troops occupying Prague fired machine guns and assault rifles at the façade. Although the National Museum has undergone repairs several times, large-scale renovations were not undertaken until just a few years ago. The museum expects the certification of the entire renovated facility in the spring of 2019, and by 2020 all of the planned exhibits should be open, covering nature and mankind in all of their breadth of topics. At present, an area of ca. 2,500 square meters is accessible. The first major exhibition concerns the 100th anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia. Until 30 June an exhibition will tell the story of what brought the Czechs and Slovaks together in a single republic and what divided them, until they split into two separate countries in 1993. Through 31 January, it will also be possible to see an exhibition titled 2 x 100, which is a selection of two hundred of the rarest exhibits from the more than 20 million items that the National Museum holds in its collections.

The institution manages its exhibits not only in its main building, but also at other sites in Prague and elsewhere. At the Náprstek Museum on Bethlehem Square, until the middle of February you can learn about the original inhabitants of South and North America and their traditions. In the New Building on Wenceslas Square, until 24 February you can learn about how the Celts lived. Children will enjoy the exhibition at the Czech Museum of Music on the street Karmelitská. It focuses on the connections between music and Czech fairytales, and it will last until 13 January. Until the end of March, the Ethnographic Museum will introduce the phenomenon of tramp-ing. To see it you must head to Kinského zahrada 98.

The National Museum accumulates collections of material documents of natural history, prehistory and history of Czech and foreign provenance, especially in the fields of mineralogy, geology, petrology, paleontology, hydrobiology, micology, botanics, entomology, zoology, anthropology, prehistory and protohistory, medieval archeology, classical archeology, Czech history, ethnography, numismatics (including non-European), history of theatre, history of physical education and sport, prehistory and ancient history of the Near East and Africa, non-European ethnography, Asian culture, musicology and bibliography.



Excursion to the Regions: the Jeseník Mountains

The borders of the Czech Republic largely consist of mountains as natural barriers. The Jeseník Mountains stretch to the northeast along the border with Poland. The Czech name of this mountain range comes from a German word for “slope”, and its slopes also attract skiers in the winter. But even those who are not fans of winter sports will find places of interest here.

The highest peak of the Jeseník Mountains is Praděd (1491 meters above sea level). Anyone not satisfied with the view from the very top can climb farther up on the observation tower and radio transmitter. About 1.5 kilometers from Praděd are Peter’s Stones (Petrovy kameny). According to legend, they are named for a young blacksmith who hid his beloved there when they were fleeing from her father, the caretaker of the manor. But they are also associated with history that is much less happy. They are said to have been the site of witches’ Sabbaths when the witches would meet with the devil, and supposed evidence of this was used during the seventeenth century at many witch trials. The witch hunt in the region lasted for more than seventy years, and nearly 250 people were executed in connection with it. These dark times are commemorated by, among other things, a permanent exhibition in the town Jeseník. The cellar of the local Water Fortress has been transformed into a period torture chamber. A medieval torture chamber has also been set up at the municipal museum in Zlaté Hory. It is part of a permanent exhibition commemorating the town’s mining past. The little town’s name means “Golden Mountains”, and gold was once mined there. People also panned for gold there in the streams. You can see what such a mining settlement looked like at the Zlaté Hory open-air museum, but it is closed to the public during the winter, unlike the ag-

ricultural open-air museum in the town Rapotín, which is also connected with a zoo. At the exhibition, you can examine the technology used for agriculture and other purposes from the seventeenth century. Fans of technical curiosities will also enjoy a visit to the Dlouhé stráně pumped storage hydro power plant. It is the world’s third-largest plant of its kind, and it is also open to the public. Advance reservations are required for tours. On the other hand, reservations are not required for those who would rather find out what is hidden in the region’s natural surroundings. There are several interesting ruins spread about the forests of the Jeseník region, such as the castles Rabštejn, Kaltenštejn, and Koberštejn. When going on an excursion to castle ruins, of course, one must take the weather into consideration.

Skiing in the Jeseník Mountains

You can cross the Jeseník Mountains on cross-country ski trails that measure a total of nearly three hundred kilometres. Those who prefer Alpine skiing will not be disappointed, either. They will find downhill ski slopes at the Ovčárna and Červenohorské sedlo ski resorts. Other winter activities include opportunities for excursions on snowshoes or with a dog sled, and visitors can also try ice fishing on a frozen pond.



Invitation to the Blues Alive Festival

The festival Blues Alive has become a regular feature of the autumn musical schedule in the Czech Republic. It takes place in Šumperk, a town known as the “gateway to the Jeseník Mountains”. The festival invites interesting blues figures, attracting hundreds of fans to come to the event from near and far. This year’s twenty-second annual festival will take place in accordance with tradition from 15 to 17 November, and it will be held in the spirit of American blues. The main evening concerts will feature such artists as the singer/songwriter Joan Osborne, who will be presenting her interpretations of Bob Dylan’s songs. Fantastic Negrito, a recent Grammy winner, will be coming, and the guitarist and singer Joe Louis Walker is returning to Šumperk after an eleven-year absence. Appearances by the Baptist preacher Rev. Sekou, who combines blues and gospel, and the group North Mississippi Blues Project promise to be special experiences. A group consisting of musicians from the last American area where the blues are still cultivated in their original historical style has been put together especially for Blues Alive.

Points of interest

- ▶ There are numerous beautiful parks and gardens in Prague, occupying approximately 5% of the total urban area. The most beautiful include the former Royal Preserve, now more frequently referred to by its popular name "Stromovka", the complex of gardens on the Petřín Hill, the Vrtbovská Garden (from November to March closed), the gardens at Letná, the Wallenstein Garden (Valdštejnská zahrada), and the Prague Castle gardens.
- ▶ There are ten islands on the Vltava (Moldau) River running through Prague (e.g. Střelecký, Císařský, Dětský). A few years ago, the prestigious traveler's server VirtualTourist.com declared the Prague island of Kampa the second most rewarding urban island in the world.
- ▶ Prague's astronomical clock (Pražský orloj), one of the best-preserved medieval astronomical clocks in the world, is a feature of the tower of the Old Town Hall. It was created by Mikuláš z Kadaně, a clockmaker to the royal court, in 1410.
- ▶ The Jan Žižka Monument on Vítkov Hill is one of the world's largest bronze equestrian statues. It weighs 16.5 metric tons and is 9 meters tall and 9.6 meters long.
- ▶ Charles Bridge was the only bridge in Prague right up until the 19th century. It is the second oldest bridge in use in the Czech Republic.

Useful information

- ▶ **Prague is the capital city** of the Czech Republic. It has approximately 1.3 million inhabitants on an area of some 500 sq km (193 sq mi). It originated around 1000 A.D. and for many years remained a group of independent villages. Under the rule of Charles IV (14th century) medieval Prague experienced its greatest development. At the turn of the 17th century the city gained further renown owing to Emperor Rudolf II. Between 1918 and 1992 Prague was the capital city of Czechoslovakia, and since January 1993 it has been the capital of the independent Czech Republic. Since 1 May 2004 the Czech Republic has been a member of the European Union, and on 21 December 2007 it became part of the Schengen Area.
- ▶ **Bank holidays** in the Czech Republic: 1 January – New Year, 30 March – Good Friday, 2 April – Easter Monday, 1 May – Labour Day, 8 May – Liberation Day, 5 July – The Day of Missionaries and Saints Cyril and Methodius, 6 July – Jan Hus Day, 28 September – Czech Statehood Day, 28 October – Independence Day, 17 November – Struggle for Freedom and Democracy Day, 24 December – Christmas Eve, 25 December – Christmas Day, 26 December – Boxing Day.
- ▶ **Traditional Czech dishes** are a meal of braised beef with cream sauce and bread dumplings and roast pork with dumplings and cabbage, while the traditional Christmas meal is carp. Main courses in restaurants usually cost (depending on the location) from CZK 150 to CZK 300.
- ▶ **Banks and Currency exchange rates**
Most banks in Prague are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays. One Euro buys approximately CZK 25,

one US dollar approximately CZK 21, and one pound sterling approximately CZK 28. We recommend not changing money on the street with strangers; use banks, money exchange offices and hotels. Listed exchange rates are for the purchase of hard currency.

- ▶ **Most shops are open** from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays, but business hours are limited on holidays. Stores with sales space in excess of 200 m² are closed on 1 January, Easter Monday, 8 May, 28 September, 28 October, and 25 and 26 December. There are exceptions for pharmacies, filling stations, shops on hospital grounds, and at airports and train stations.
- ▶ **Popular souvenirs** purchased in the Czech Republic include Czech cut glass, porcelain, Becherovka (a traditional bitter herbal liquor), mead, Slivovice (plum brandy), Bohemian garnets, amber, wooden marionettes, art and design pieces, folk art pieces, spa wafers and typical spa drinking cups.
- ▶ **Postal services**
The main post office is open daily from 2 a.m. until midnight. It is located at 14 Jindřišská Street in the very centre of the city, near metro station "Můstek", the interchange Metro station for the A and B lines.

Public transport information

- ▶ **There are three underground (Metro) lines** operating in Prague – green (A), yellow (B) and red (C). The metro system interconnects all the important places around the city, with tram and bus connections to destinations where the metro does not reach. The public transport network is reliable and covers the city thoroughly. The metro operates daily from 5 a.m. to midnight. Night tram and bus lines provide public transportation after midnight.

**Taxi to
the airport
for €18**



www.transport-in-prague.com





Fare

Tickets		Adult		Child		Senior	
Basic	90 min.	CZK 32	CZK 16	CZK 16			
Short-term	30 min.	CZK 24	CZK 12	CZK 12			
1 day	24 hrs	CZK 110	CZK 55	CZK 55			
3 days	72 hrs	CZK 310	•	•			

○ For children from 6 to 15 years ^(note) of age N.B. and seniors from 65 to 70 years ^(note) of age N.B. that have an opencard with a „Special fare endorsement“ (endorsement price is 120 CZK), the fare for travel in Prague (tariff zones P, 0 and B) is 0 CZK. Children from 6 to 10 years of age N.B. require only an identification card certified by its issuer (a corporate entity) with name, surname, date of birth and a photograph.

Public transport links to Václav Havel Airport Prague (Letiště)

Bus 119 – “Nádraží Veveslavín“ (metro line A) – “Letiště” – 17 min.

Bus 100 – “Zličín“ (metro line B) – “Letiště” – 16 min.

Airport Express Bus – Prague main railway station “Hlavní nádraží“ (metro line C, with SC, EC, IC and EN type rail links) – “Letiště” – 33 min.

Important telephone numbers:

The EU universal emergency telephone number

112

Fire brigade emergency number

150

Emergency medical service number

155

Municipal police emergency number

156

State police emergency number

158

Information (tel. numbers, information on traffic, cultural events, etc.)

1188

Useful Czech telephone numbers

1180

Prague contact centre

12444

Roadside assistance

261 104 123

Airport information – nonstop line

220 111 888

International country calling code for the Czech Republic

+420 (00420)

Useful links:

www.czech.cz

official website of the Czech Republic

www.praha.eu

web portal of the City of Prague

www.prague.eu

Prague tourist web portal

www.czechtourism.com

official travel site of the Czech Republic

www.kudyznudy.cz

ideas for trips

www.florenc.cz

website of the Florenc coach terminal

www.cd.cz

Czech Railways website

www.prg.aero

Prague Airport website

www.dpp.cz

website of the Prague public transport operator

www.idos.cz

website timetables of trains, buses and public transport in the Czech Republic and Europe

www.chmi.cz

website of the Czech Institute of Hydrometeorology – information on weather in the Czech Republic



PRAGUE CITY TOURISM INFORMATION CENTRES

- Old-Town Hall
- Rytiřská 12
- Wenceslas Square
- Václav Havel Airport Prague



PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION

- Václav Havel Airport Prague, Terminal 1 and 2
- Prague City Hall, Jungmannova 29/35, Prague 1

Metro stations:

- Můstek • Hlavní nádraží • Anděl
- Hradčanská • Nádraží Veveslavka



i-Prague 4/18

Quarterly journal

75,000 copies in English and

75,000 copies in German

The cutoff date for this issue was 16 October 2018. We are publishing the information available at that time.

Photos: Photo-archive of the National Museum; the Karlin Barracks; MeetFactory (Tomáš Souček); Jatká78; DOX Centre (Jan Slavík); Blues Alive Festival; Pixabay (CCO Creative Commons); Flickr (CC BY-SA 2.0); Wikimedia Commons; CzechTourism; business and advertising partners

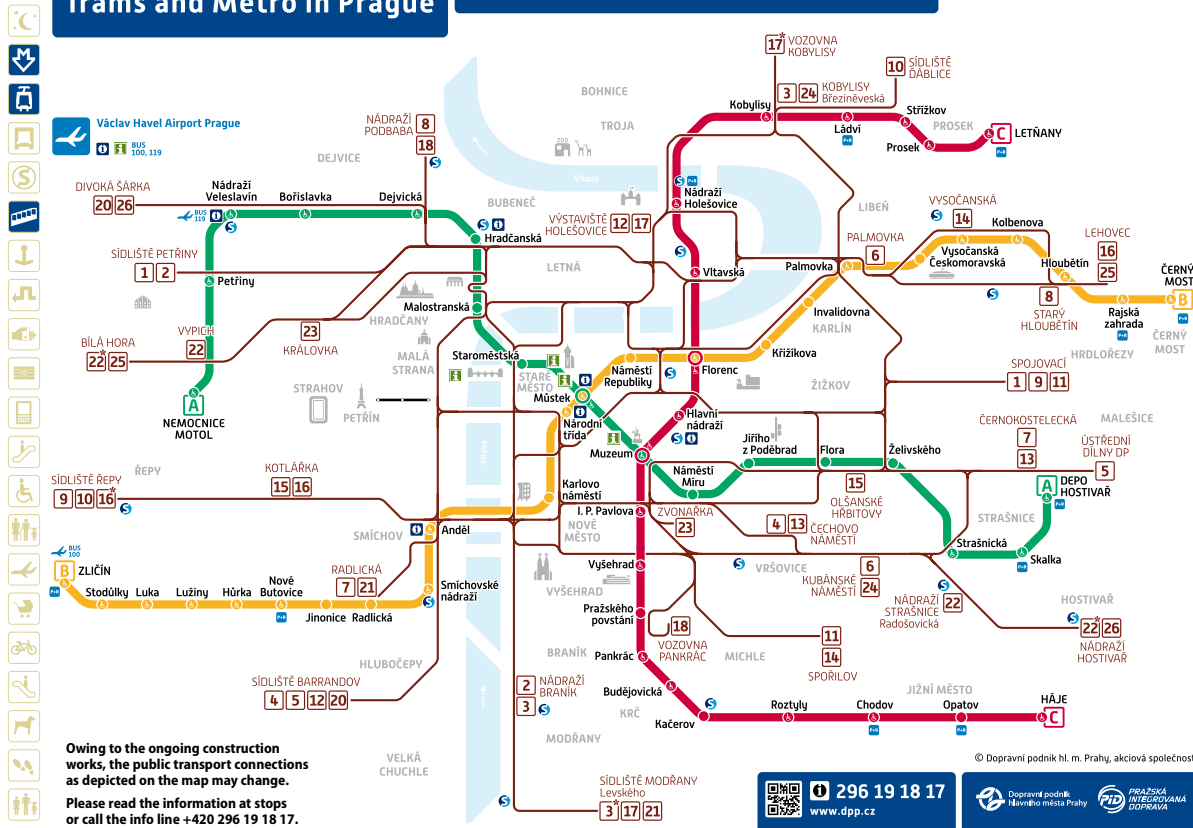
Design: AlineaPrint

MK ČR E 20878

vydavatel: Ing. Klára Vurbsová

Trams and Metro in Prague

Map – Daytime operation – Permanent situation – September 2018



- Metro lines with and without barrier-free access stops
- Metro transfer station
- Tram line with terminus

- Only selected connections run to these final stops
- Public transport buses to Václav Havel Airport Prague
- Funicular

- Park and Ride
- Public transport information; Tourist information centre
- Transfer to lines S and other railway lines

www.i-prague.info

for free distribution

